

TalkEnglish

Level II

A Conversational English Program

from the

Book of John

Now the world had one language and a common speech.
~ Genesis 11:1 (NIV)

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Introduction

Welcome to TalkEnglish! TalkEnglish is a conversational English program that uses the Bible as the text for conversation. The Bible will allow you and your instructor to discuss many topics, from beliefs and morals to personal feelings, dreams, and challenges. The main topic of your conversations will be the life of Jesus Christ. During the program, you will learn more about the history of Jesus and his powerful impact on the world.

This workbook offers over twenty conversational English lessons. During these lessons, you will do many exciting activities to practice your English speaking skills:

- Read sections of the Bible
- Answer questions about what you read with your instructor
- Write answers to the questions in your journal
- Share your personal thoughts about the reading
- Share about your life as it relates to the reading
- Learn new vocabulary words
- Talk about the history of Jesus with *History Chat* activities
- Watch movies in English about what you are reading
- Pronounce new words with your instructor
- Pronounce new words with the *Pronunciation Guide*
- Practice pronunciation with the *TalkEnglish Pronunciation Teacher*
- Challenge your reading, writing, and speaking skills with *Homework Challenges*

Here are a few ideas to help you get the most out of your TalkEnglish experience and your conversations:

- Complete all the homework assignments in each lesson
- Pronounce the vocabulary words with your instructor
- Listen to your instructor read the text for the lesson in English. Underline words that you would you like to define or practice pronouncing
- Read the text in English yourself
- Let your instructor help you to pronounce words in the text
- Answer all the questions and complete all the activities
- Use your journal to take notes during your lesson
- Enjoy your time speaking English!

Our goal is that your confidence in speaking English and your ability to speak English will grow by the end of your lessons. We hope that you enjoy and value your journey with the TalkEnglish program.

NOTE: TalkEnglish is a conversational English language program to help you become more comfortable speaking English with other people. If you are learning English for the first time, or need more basic grammatical instruction, we suggest you enroll in certified ESL program to learn English.

First Session Checklist

Date of first session: _____ Time: _____

Location: _____

Please bring the following: (Go to www.talkenglishprogram.com)

- TalkEnglish Program Fee: \$_____ (if applicable)
(cash or check made payable to _____)
- *TalkEnglish: The Book of John – Level 2*
- *The Gospel of John* (2005) movie (located on the [Students](#) page of talkenglishprogram.com)
- *The Passion of the Christ* movie (located on the [Students](#) page of talkenglishprogram.com)
- A New Testament Bible, a complete Bible, OR a copy of the Book of John in your native language (located on the [Students](#) page of talkenglishprogram.com)
- Pencil or pen
- Highlighter
- English / foreign language dictionary
- A spiral, notebook, or journal
- A small mirror

Conversation Builders

TalkEnglish is a chance to build friendships while practicing conversation skills. During sessions or during times outside of your sessions, we encourage the reader and instructor to learn about each other. Here are some topics for discussion that you can use during your sessions or during other times that you are together:

How do you spell and pronounce your name?

Where were you born?

Tell me about your family.

Tell me about your friends.

What are your favorite sports or hobbies?

Tell me about your country.

Do you practice a religion? Tell me about it.

What are your favorite foods?

What are your favorite restaurants?

Tell me about your job.

Tell me about your schedule.

Show me pictures of your family.

Tell me about your education.

What kind of music do you enjoy?

Tell me about your parents.

Tell me about your children. Share about your childhood.

What is your favorite memory?

Tell me about the geography of your country.

Tell me about recent news in your country.

Tell me about celebrations or holidays in your country.

Lesson 1: What Is the Bible?

The Bible was written between 1500 B.C. and 90 A.D. Forty men wrote the Bible. These men were from Asia, Africa, and Europe. Some of the men were kings, *fishermen*, *poets*, doctors, *peasants*, *prophets*, and *religious* leaders. The books in the Bible were written in many different places – in the *wilderness*, in a *prison*, on an island, and on a *battlefield*. The Bible was written in three languages: *Hebrew*, *Aramaic* [an ancient language], and Greek.

All the teachings in the Bible *agree with one another*. The teachings of the Bible are *powerful*. People have tried to *burn* it. Other people have tried to *outlaw* it. Still the book *survives*. The Bible is the only book that told the future of Israel, other cities, and the *Savior*, Jesus.

The Bible is the most read book in history. The book has been written in 1,280 different languages, more than any other book. The Bible has changed millions of people's lives. The Bible is still changing lives today.¹

Vocabulary: (Use *Pronunciation Guide* for help)

fisherman	wilderness	ancient	to burn
poet	prison	to agree with	to outlaw
peasant	battlefield	one another	to survive
prophet	Hebrew	Powerful	Savior
religious	Aramaic		

Discuss other unfamiliar words.

OLD TESTAMENT BOOKS

Books of the Law

Genesis [jeh-nih-sis]	Job [job]
Exodus [ex-o-dus]	Psalms [sahlm]
Leviticus [leh-vih-tih-kus]	Proverbs [prah-verbz]
Numbers [nuhm-berz]	Ecclesiastes [eh-klee-zee-ah-steez]
Deuteronomy [dew-tuh-rah-no-mee]	Song of Solomon [sawng] [uv] [soh-luh-men]

Books of History

Joshua [jaw-shew-uh]
Judges [juh-jihz]
Ruth [rewth]
I Samuel [furst] [sam-yul]
II Samuel [seh-kund] [sam-yul]
I Kings [furst] [keengz]
II Kings [seh-kund] [keengz]
I Chronicles [furst] [krah-nih-kulz]
II Chronicles [seh-kund] [krah-nih-kulz]
Ezra [eh-zruh]
Nehemiah [nee-huh-my-uh]
Esther [es-tur]

Books of Poetry/Wisdom

Job [job]
Psalms [sahlm]
Proverbs [prah-verbz]
Ecclesiastes [eh-klee-zee-ah-steez]
Song of Solomon [sawng] [uv] [soh-luh-men]
Isaiah [i-zay-uh]
Jeremiah [jeyr-uh-my-uh]
Lamentations [lam-en-tay-shunz]
Ezekiel [eh-zee-kee-ul]
Daniel [dan-yul]

Works of the Major Prophets

Isaiah [i-zay-uh]
Jeremiah [jeyr-uh-my-uh]
Lamentations [lam-en-tay-shunz]
Ezekiel [eh-zee-kee-ul]
Daniel [dan-yul]

Works of the Minor Prophets

Hosea [ho-zay-uh]
Joel [jol]
Amos [a-mos]
Obadiah [o-buh-dy-uh]
Jonah [jo-nuh]
Micah [my-kuh]
Nahum [nay-hum]
Habakkuk [ha-buh-kuk]
Zephaniah [zeh-fuh-ny-uh]
Haggai [ha-gy]
Zechariah [zeh-kuh-ry-uh]
Malachi [ma-luh-ky]

Comprehension Activities:

1. Look at the books in the Old Testament and how they are put together.
2. Look at the books in the New Testament and how they are put together.
3. Try to pronounce the books of the New Testament.
4. Write the names of the books of the New Testament in your language.

NEW TESTAMENT BOOKS

The Gospels of Jesus

Matthew _____ [ma-thew]
 Mark _____ [mark]
 Luke _____ [lewkw]
 John _____ [jawn]

History of the Apostles

Acts _____ [akts]

Paul's Letters to the Churches

Romans _____ [ro-munz]
 I,II Corinthians _____ [co-rhin-thee-unz]
 Galatians _____ [guh-lay-shunz]
 Ephesians _____ [eh-fee-zhunz]
 Philippians _____ [fih-lih-pee-unz]
 Colossians _____ [kuh-law-shunz]
 I,II Thessalonians _____ [theh-suh-lo-nee-yunz]
 I,II Timothy _____ [tih-muh-thee]
 Titus _____ [ty-tus]
 Philemon _____ [fy-lee-mun]

Letters from Other Followers

Hebrews _____ [hee-brewz]
 James _____ [jajmz]
 I,II Peter _____ [pee-ter]
 I,II,III John _____ [jawn]
 Jude _____ [jewd]

Book of Revelation

Revelation _____
 [reh-vuh-lay-shun]

Personal Sharing:

1. What do you know and believe about the Bible?
2. What do you know and believe about the Jesus?
3. What questions do you have about the Bible, God, or Jesus? Do you have any other spiritual questions?
4. Do you read the Bible regularly? If not, would you like to start reading the Bible? Explain.
5. Share about your spiritual journey. Where are you now in your relationship with God?
6. What do you hope to learn from this course?
7. Discuss the terms "book," "chapter," and "verse" in the Bible.
8. Go through the *TalkEnglish: The Book of John* workbook. Locate all of the sections listed in the Table of Contents.

Homework

1. Please read the Introduction to this workbook.
2. Review this lesson using *Lesson 1* of the *TalkEnglish Pronunciation Teacher* found in the Students section of the TalkEnglish website: www.talkenglishprogram.com.
3. Go to Lesson 2. Write the definitions of the vocabulary words in your language.
4. Practice pronouncing the vocabulary words using the Pronunciation Guide.
5. Read the text box for Lesson 2. Write the definitions of other words you do not know.
6. Complete *Lesson 2* of the *TalkEnglish Pronunciation Teacher*.
7. *Homework Challenge*: (Look up words you don't know.)
 - a. Read in Historical References for John 1:1-51 the section "Law of Moses." Be prepared to share what you learned with your instructor. You will read more about the Law of Moses in the homework for Lesson 3.
 - b. Read in Who's Who in the Bible: New Testament the section "Paul" and "Peter." Paul and Peter wrote some of the New Testament books.

Lesson 2: Who is God's Son?

Hebrews 1:1-3a

¹In the past God spoke to our *forefathers* through the prophets at many times and in *various* ways, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he *appointed heir* of all things, and through whom he made the *universe*. ³The Son is the *radiance* of God's *glory* and the exact *representation* of his being, *sustaining* all things by his powerful word. (NIV)

Vocabulary: (Use Pronunciation Guide for help)

forefather	heir	radiance	representation
various	universe	glory	to sustain
to appoint			

Discuss other unfamiliar words.

Comprehension Questions: Write the answers to these questions in your journal.

1. In the past, God spoke to people through the _____ (verse 1).
2. Now God speaks to us through his _____ (verse 2).
3. God made the _____ through his _____ (verse 2).
4. How is God's Son like God the Father? (verse 3)
5. How can we know what God is like? (verse 3)
6. What does "his powerful word" mean? (verse 3)
7. "Sustain" means to hold together. What things do you think the Son is holding together by his "powerful word"?
8. The Son's powerful words can be found in the _____.

Personal Sharing:

1. Who is God to you? How would you describe God?
2. The Bible calls God a "Father." Do you think of God as a father? Explain.
3. The Bible says that the Son is holding all things together in this world. Is there something in your life that you need the Son to hold together? Explain and try to be specific.
4. Would you like for us to pray for #3? If yes, take a minute to pray.
5. How is what you learned today different from what you believe?

Homework:

1. Complete the *History Chat* if you did not complete it in this lesson.
2. Go to Lesson 3. Write the definitions of the vocabulary words in your language.
3. Pronounce the vocabulary words using the Pronunciation Guide.
4. Read the text box for Lesson 3. Write the definitions of other words you do not know.
5. Watch *Chapter 1:1-28* in *The Gospel of John* movie found on the Students page of the TalkEnglish website: www.talkenglishprogram.com.
6. Complete *Lesson 3* of the *TalkEnglish Pronunciation Teacher* found on the Students page.
7. *Homework Challenge:* (Look up words you don't know.)
 - a. Read in *Historical References* for John 1:1-51 the section "Lamb of God." Be prepared to share what you learned with your instructor.
 - b. Read in *Who's Who in the Bible: New Testament* the sections "Jesus" and "John (writer of the book of John)."

[History Chat](#)

Lesson 3: Who is Jesus?

John* 1:1-17

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him all things were made...⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of men.

⁵The light *shines* in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it...

¹⁰He was in the world, and *though* the world was made through him, the world did not *recognize* him.

¹¹He came to that which was his own, but his own did not *receive* him. ¹²Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the *right* to become children of God— ¹³children born not of *natural descent*, [or] of human decision or a husband's *will*, but born of God.

¹⁴The Word became *flesh* and made his *dwelling* among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of *grace* and *truth*...¹⁷...Grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. (NIV)

John: John was a fisherman in Galilee and one of the first followers of Jesus. He wrote the Book of John near the date 80 A.D.¹ John was *forced* to live and work in a *mine* on the island of Patmos because of his *faith* in Jesus.²

Vocabulary: (Use *Pronunciation Guide* for help)

to force	though	natural	dwelling
mine	to recognize	descent	grace
faith	to receive	will	truth
to shine	right	flesh	

Discuss other unfamiliar words.

Comprehension Questions: Write the answers to these questions in your journal.

- Before the world began, the _____ was with God, and the _____ was God (*verse 1*).
- The Word also means "God's spoken words." Through God's words, all things _____ (*verse 3*). What do you think this means? How do you think this happened?
- In the Word was _____ and that _____ was the _____ of men (*verse 4*). Describe light. Describe darkness. What do you think *verse 4* means?
- The light of the Word _____ in the darkness of our world. But the darkness has not _____ the light (*verse 5*). Do you think our world understands the light? Explain.
- The world was made through the Word, but the world did not _____ the Word (*verse 10*), and the world did not _____ the Word (*verse 11*).
- We have the _____ to become children of God if we _____ the Word and _____ in his name (*verse 12*). What do you think this means? Is everyone a child of God? Why or why not?
- What's the difference between "believe" and "receive"?
- When the Word came to the earth, he became _____ (*verse 14*). What does this mean?
- The Word is full of _____ and _____ (*verse 14*).
- What is grace? What is truth? (*verse 14*)
- Grace and truth came through _____ (*verse 17*).
- Jesus's words can be found in the _____.
- Reread Hebrews 1:1-3. What is the name of God's Son?

Personal Sharing:

1. John teaches that God's spoken word created the world. Do you believe this? Explain.
2. Reread John 1:12. What kind of relationship does God want to have with you?
3. Describe your father. How is/was your father different from God?
4. Are/were you close to your father? Explain.
5. John calls God's spoken words, the "Word." We have God's spoken words in the Bible. How can we hear God and know what he wants for our lives?
6. Have you ever heard God? Explain.
7. Do you feel close to God? Explain. How can we get closer to God?

Homework:

1. Complete the *History Chat* if you did not complete it in this lesson.
2. Read John 1:19-51 in a Bible written in your language or in English.
3. Go to [Lesson 4](#). Write the definitions of the vocabulary words in your language.
4. Pronounce the vocabulary words using the [Pronunciation Guide](#).
5. Read the text box for [Lesson 4](#). Write the definitions of other words you do not know.
6. Watch *Chapter 2:1-22 of The Gospel of John* movie found on the [Students](#) page of the TalkEnglish website: www.talkenglishprogram.com.
7. Complete *Lesson 4* of the *TalkEnglish Pronunciation Teacher* found on the [Students](#) page.
8. *Homework Challenge*: (Look up words you don't know.)
 - a. Read in *Historical References* for John 2:12-25 the section "[The Temple as a Marketplace](#)." Be prepared to share what you learned with your instructor.
 - b. Read in *Who's Who in the Bible: Old Testament* the sections "[Elijah](#)" and "[Isaiah](#)."
 - c. Read in *Who's Who in the Bible: New Testament* the sections "[John the Baptist](#)," "[Andrew](#)," "[Philip the Apostle](#)," and "[Joseph](#) (husband of Mary, Jesus's mother)."



[History Chat](#)

Lesson 4: Jesus Changes Water into Wine John 2:1-11

¹On the third day a *wedding* took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus's mother was there, ²and Jesus and his *disciples* had also been *invited* to the wedding. ³When the wine was gone, Jesus's mother said to him, "They have no more wine."

⁴"Dear woman, why do you *involve* me?" Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come."

⁵His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you"⁷Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the *jars* with water"; so they filled them to the *brim*. ⁸Then he told them, "Now *draw* some out and take it to the *master* of the *banquet*."

They did so, ⁹and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been *turned into* wine. He did not *realize* where it had come from, though the *servants* who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the [*groom*] aside ¹⁰and said, "Everyone brings out the *choice* wine first and then the *cheaper* wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have *saved* the best till now."

¹¹This, the first of his *miraculous signs*, Jesus *performed* in Cana of Galilee. He...*revealed* his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him. (NIV)

Vocabulary: (Use *Pronunciation Guide* for help)

wedding	brim	to realize	to save (something)
disciple	to draw	servant	miraculous sign
to invite	master	groom	to perform
to involve	banquet	choice (wine)	to reveal
jar	to turn into	cheaper	

Discuss other unfamiliar words.

Comprehension Questions: Write the answers to these questions in your journal.

- Jesus went to a _____ with his mother and disciples (verses 1,2), but there was a problem. What was the problem? (verse 3) What do you think the bride and groom were feeling?
- Jesus's mother told Jesus about the problem. But Jesus said to his mother, "Why do you _____ me?" (verse 4)
- Jesus said, "My time has not yet come" (verse 4). He meant that the time had not yet come for him to tell people that he is God's Son. But to help the people, Jesus turned _____ into _____ (verse 9).
- Jesus sent the new wine to the master of the _____ (verse 8).
- The master _____ the water, but the water had been _____ wine (verse 9). Why do you think Jesus made wine for the bride and groom?
- The master thought that the _____ had brought him the new wine (verses 9,10).
- Did Jesus correct the master's error? What do we learn about Jesus here?
- How did the master of the banquet describe the wine that Jesus had made? (verse 10)
- What do we learn about Jesus from the type of wine he makes?
- Because Jesus performed a _____ sign, the disciples put their _____ in him (verse 11).
- In this way, Jesus _____ his glory (verse 11).

Personal Sharing:

1. In this story, the bride and groom are probably embarrassed about not having enough wine. Maybe they are worried about what others think about them. So, Jesus helps them. In what areas of your life are you worried about what others think? Do you know that Jesus cares about this area of your life? How does Jesus want to help you? Explain.
2. Jesus makes "the best" wine to honor God and love others. What is one area in your life where you are not giving your best, but you want to give your best? Why do you want to give your best in this area?
3. We see in this story that Jesus does not do good acts so that others will honor him. Jesus does his best to honor God and to love people. In the area where you want to give your best (question #2), how can you give your best to show love for God and for other people?
4. Jesus gives good wine to the people at the wedding so they can know God and feel his love. What good things has God given you in your life? Why has God given you these things?

Homework:

1. Complete the *History Chat* if you did not complete it in this lesson.
2. Read John 2:12-25, John 3, and John 4 in a Bible written in your language or in English.
3. Go to [Lesson 5](#). Write the definitions of the vocabulary words in your language.
4. Pronounce the vocabulary words using the [Pronunciation Guide](#).
5. Read the text box for [Lesson 5](#). Write the definitions of other words you do not know.
6. Watch *Chapter 5:1-14 of The Gospel of John* movie found on the [Students](#) page of the TalkEnglish website: www.talkenglishprogram.com.
7. Complete *Lesson 5* of the *TalkEnglish Pronunciation Teacher* found on the [Students](#) page.
8. *Homework Challenge*: (Look up words you don't know.)
 - a. Read in *Historical References* for John 2:12-25 the section "[Passover](#)." Read in *Historical References* for John 4:1-26 the section "[The Relationship between Jews and Samaritans](#)" Be prepared to share what you learned with your instructor.
 - b. Read in *Who's Who in the Bible: Old Testament* the section "[Jacob](#)."
 - c. Read in *Who's Who in the Bible: New Testament* the sections "[Mary](#) (mother of Jesus)" and "[Nicodemus](#)."



[History Chat](#)

Lesson 5: Jesus Heals the Invalid John 5:2-15

²Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool...³Here a great number of *disabled* people used to lie – the blind, the *lame*, the *paralyzed*. ⁵One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. ⁶When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this *condition* for a long time, he asked him, “Do you want to get well?”

⁷“Sir,” the invalid replied, “I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is *stirred**. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.”

⁸Then Jesus said to him, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” ⁹*At once* the man was *cured*; he picked up his mat and walked.

The day on which this took place was a *Sabbath**, ¹⁰and so the *Jews** said to the man who had been healed, “It is the Sabbath; the law *forbids* you to carry your mat.”

¹¹But he [sick man] replied, “The man who made me well said to me, ‘Pick up your mat and walk.’”

¹²So they asked him, “Who is this fellow who told you to pick it up and walk?”

¹³The man who was healed had no idea who it was, for Jesus had *slipped away* into the crowd that was there.

¹⁴Later Jesus found him at the temple and said to him, “See, you are well again. Stop *sinning* or something worse may happen to you.” ¹⁵The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well. (NIV)

stirred: The people of this time believed that an *angel* came to the pool to stir the water. When this happened, the first person into the pool was healed.¹

Sabbath: Saturday, a day for Jews to *rest* and *honor* God. The Jews were to do no work on the Sabbath.

Jews: *Jewish* people. In the Bible Jewish people were called Jews, Hebrews, and Israelites, if the Jews lived in Israel.

Vocabulary: (Use *Pronunciation Guide* for help)

to heal	condition	to cure	to honor
invalid	to stir	Sabbath	to forbid
disabled	angel	Jew / Jewish	to slip away
lame	at once	to rest	to sin
paralyzed			

Discuss other unfamiliar words.

Comprehension Questions: Write the answers to these questions in your journal.

1. Jesus went to a pool where a great number of _____ people used to lie. One man had been an _____ for 38 years (verse 5). How do you think this man felt after being sick for 38 years?
2. Jesus asked the invalid, “_____?” (verse 6).
3. The man replied, “I have _____ to help me into the pool when the water is _____. While I am trying to get in, _____ goes down ahead of me (verse 7).
4. What did this man want, and how was he trying to solve his problem? What challenges was he facing? (verse 7)
5. What did the man believe about the pool? (See note for *moving*.) What did he believe about people? (verse 7)
6. The people believed that the angel would only heal the first person who got into the pool. What problem did this cause? (verse 7) In this situation, who could get healed and who would stay sick?

7. Jesus said to the invalid, "Stand up! _____ your mat and _____" (verse 8). What happened to the man when Jesus said this to him? (verse 9)
8. In what ways was Jesus's power different from the people's beliefs about the pool? Why do you think Jesus chose to heal one of the weakest men at the pool?
9. The Jewish leaders were angry with the invalid because this day was the _____ (verse 10). According to the Jewish leaders, how was the man sinning? Why was this a problem? (See note for *Sabbath*.)
10. The man did not know who healed him, but when he found out that it is Jesus, he left Jesus and _____ the Jews that it was Jesus who _____ him well. (verse 15)
11. According to the Jewish leaders, it was against Jewish Law to heal a person and tell them to pick up a mat on the Sabbath. The Jewish leaders punished anyone who disobeyed Jewish Law. Once the Jewish leaders knew that it was Jesus who had healed the man, they could punish Jesus. The healed man could have stayed with Jesus and followed him. Why do you think he left Jesus and told the Jewish leaders that it was Jesus who had made him well?
12. Jesus healed this man physically but tells the man to "Stop _____ or something _____ may happen to you!" (verse 14) Which was more important to Jesus, physical healing or spiritual healing? Why was this man not healed spiritually?

Personal Sharing:

1. Do you have a specific sickness or problem in your life? Where have you been trying to find answers to your problem? What challenges are you facing?
2. Do you believe Jesus can help you? Explain.
3. Have you or someone you know ever been healed by Jesus physically or spiritually? Tell us your story. (For more stories or to share your story, please visit <https://connectthenations.com/testify>.)
4. Would you like to pray to Jesus together now about your sickness or problem? If yes, what do you want Jesus to do for you?

Homework:

1. Read John 5:16-47 in a Bible written in your language or in English.
2. Go to [Lesson 6](#). Write the definitions of the vocabulary words in your language.
3. Pronounce the vocabulary words using the [Pronunciation Guide](#).
4. Read the text box for [Lesson 6](#). Write the definitions of other words you do not know.
5. Watch *Chapter 6:2-24 of The Gospel of John* movie found on the [Students](#) page of the TalkEnglish website: www.talkenglishprogram.com.
6. Complete *Lesson 6* of the *TalkEnglish Pronunciation Teacher* found on the [Students](#) page.
7. *Homework Challenge*: (Look up words you don't know.)
 - a. Read in *Historical References* for John 5:1-47 the section "[Sabbath and Sabbath Law](#)." Be prepared to share what you learned with your instructor.
 - b. Read in *Who's Who in the Bible: Old Testament* the section "[Moses](#)."

Lesson 6: Jesus – A prophet or the Son of God?

John 6:1-14

¹Some time after this, Jesus *crossed* to the far *shore* of the Sea of Galilee...²and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the miraculous signs he had performed on the sick. ³Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples...

⁵When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip*, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" ⁶He asked this only to *test* him, for he *already* had in mind what he was going to do.

⁷Philip answered him, "Eight months' *wages* would not buy *enough* bread for each one to have a bite!"

⁸Another of his disciples, Andrew*, Simon Peter's* brother, spoke up, ⁹"Here is a boy with five small *barley loaves* and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?"

¹⁰Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and the men sat down, about five thousand of them. ¹¹Jesus then took the loaves, *gave thanks*, and *distributed* to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.

¹²When they all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "*Gather* the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be *wasted*." ¹³So they gathered them and filled twelve *baskets* with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.

¹⁴After the people saw the miraculous sign that Jesus had done, they began to say, "Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world." (NIV)

Philip: Philip, born in Bethsaida near the Sea of Galilee, was a peasant and one of the first followers of Jesus. After Jesus's death, Philip taught the people in the place that is now Turkey.¹

Andrew: Andrew, born in Bethsaida, was a fisherman and one of the first followers of Jesus. He was the first to tell Peter about Jesus.²

Simon Peter (also Peter): Peter, born in Bethsaida, was a fisherman and one of the first followers of Jesus. Later Peter lived in Capernaum. He was thirty to forty years old when he met Jesus. Peter was the first to teach the people about Jesus after Jesus died. Peter is believed to have died for his faith in 67 A.D.³

Vocabulary: (Use Pronunciation Guide for help)

to cross	wage	loaf (loaves)	to gather
shore	enough	to give thanks	to waste
to test	barley	to distribute	basket
already			

Discuss other unfamiliar words.

Comprehension Questions: Write the answers to these questions in your journal.

- Jesus _____ the far _____ of the Sea of Galilee (verse 1).
- Crowds of people followed Jesus because of the _____ signs he _____ on the sick (verse 2).
- Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd _____ him. He said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" (verse 5).
- Jesus was not going to buy food for the people. He asked Philip this question only to _____ him (verse 6). Why do you think Jesus did this to Philip?
- Philip said, "Eight month's _____ would not buy _____ bread" for the people to eat (verse 7). Did Philip pass Jesus's test? Why or why not?

6. Andrew answered Jesus's question by saying. "Here is a boy with five small barley _____ and two small _____, but how far will they go _____ so many?" (verse 9) Did Andrew pass Jesus's test? Why or why not?
7. Jesus took the loaves and the fish, _____ thanks, and _____ the food to those who were _____ (verse 11). How many people did Jesus feed? (verse 10)
8. How many baskets of bread were left over after the people ate? (verse 13) How did this happen? (verse 14)
9. After Jesus performed this miraculous sign, the people call him "the _____ who is to come into the world" (verse 14).
10. Read again Hebrews 1:1-3a in Lesson 2. Is Jesus called "the Prophet" in Hebrews 1:1-3a? What is he called? (Hebrews 1:2)
11. A prophet is a messenger from God. How is the "Son" of God more than just a "messenger" of God? (Hebrews 1:1-3a) Why do you think this is important to understand? (Hebrews 1:2-3a)

Personal Sharing:

1. If you had to feed five thousand people, what would you do?
2. Do you believe that Jesus had the power to do this miracle? Explain.
3. Have you ever seen or experienced a miracle or some other supernatural event? Or do you know of someone who has? Tell us the story.
(For more stories or to share your story, please visit <https://connectthenations.com/testify>.)
4. Who do you believe Jesus is? Do you believe he's a prophet, the Son of God, or just a good man? Explain.
5. We learn that Jesus gives his time to serve others. He shares what he has with others, even if he has little. Why does Jesus do this?
6. Do you know someone who needs your help? How could you be like Jesus and help that person this week?

Homework:

1. Complete the *History Chat* if you did not complete it in this lesson.
2. Read John 6:15-71, John 7, and John 8 in a Bible written in your language or in English.
3. Go to Lesson 7. Write the definitions of the vocabulary words in your language.
4. Pronounce the vocabulary words using the Pronunciation Guide.
5. Read the text box for Lesson 7. Write the definitions of other words you do not know.
6. Watch *Chapter 9:1-12*, *Chapter 9:13-34*, and *Chapter 9:35-41* of *The Gospel of John* movie found on the Students page of the TalkEnglish website: www.talkenglishprogram.com.
7. Complete *Lesson 7* of the *TalkEnglish Pronunciation Teacher* found on the Students page.
8. *Homework Challenge*: (Look up any words you don't know.)
 - a. Read in *Historical References* for John 6:25-71 the section "References to 'Flesh' and 'Blood.'" Read in *Historical References* for John 7:1-25 the section called "Circumcision." Be prepared to share what you learned with your instructor.
 - b. Read in *Who's Who in the Bible: Old Testament* the sections "David" and "Abraham."
 - c. Read in *Who's Who in the Bible: New Testament* the section "Judas Iscariot."

[History Chat](#)

Lesson 7: Jesus Heals the *Blind* Man John 9:1-38

¹As [Jesus] went along, he saw a man blind from birth...⁶...[Jesus] *spit* on the ground, made some *mud* with the *saliva*, and put it on the man's eyes. ⁷"Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool of Siloam*"...So the man went and washed, and came home seeing...

¹⁴Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man's eyes was a Sabbath.

¹⁵Therefore the Pharisees*...asked him how he had received his sight. "He put mud on my eyes," the man replied, "and I washed, and now I see."

¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath."

But others asked, "How can a *sinner* do such miraculous signs?"...

¹⁸ The Jews...sent for the man's parents. ¹⁹...They asked, "Is this the one you say was born blind? How is it that he can see?"

²⁰ "We know he is our son," the parents answered, "and we know he was born blind. ²¹But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don't know..." ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for already the Jews had *decided* that anyone who *acknowledged* that Jesus was the Christ would be put out of the *synagogue**...

²⁴A second time they [the Jews] *summoned* the man who had been blind...They said, "We know this man is a sinner." ²⁵[The healed man] replied, "Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!"...²⁸Then they *hurled insults* at him...And they *threw him out*...

³⁵Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶"Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him."

³⁷Jesus said, "You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you." ³⁸Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he *worshipped* him. (NIV)

Siloam pool: Siloam was a town outside of Jerusalem. People thought that the pool was *holy*¹.

Pharisees: A group of Jewish men who knew the details of the Jewish Law. Many of the Pharisees were Jewish leaders.²

synagogue: When a person was told never to come back to the synagogue, or Jewish temple, he was also *no longer* a friend of the Jews. This man could no longer work or buy food. The Jews would give the man some food and *goods*, but take all of his *belongings*.³

Vocabulary: (Use *Pronunciation Guide* for help)

blind	sinner	goods	insult
to spit	to decide	belonging	to throw out
mud	to acknowledge	to summon	Lord
saliva	synagogue	to hurl	to worship
holy	no longer		

Discuss other unfamiliar words.

Comprehension Questions: Write the answers to these questions in your journal.

- To heal the blind man, Jesus _____ on the ground, made some _____ with _____ and put it on the man's eyes (*verse 6*).
- The _____ asked the healed man how he _____ his sight (*verse 15*).
- The Pharisees were angry with Jesus because Jesus had healed the blind man on the _____ (*verse 16*).
- The Sabbath was a Jewish holy day. On the Sabbath, men were not to work. Do you think Jesus disobeyed the Sabbath? Why or why not?

5. The people did not think Jesus was a _____ because he did such miraculous signs (verse 16).
6. The healed man's parents would not tell the Jews who opened their son's eyes because they were afraid of the Jews. The Jews _____ that anyone who _____ that Jesus was the Christ would be put out of the _____ (verse 22). What does this mean? (see note for *synagogue*)
7. The healed man told the Pharisees again that Jesus had healed him. The Pharisees _____ insults at the man and _____ him out of the synagogue (verses 25-28).
8. Why do you think the man still followed Jesus?

Personal Sharing:

1. How would it feel to be blind since birth?
2. How do you think the man feels after Jesus heals him?
3. How is this man different from the man at the pool in Lesson 5?
4. If you are following Jesus, how has following him changed your life? Have you ever been afraid to share with others about Jesus? Explain. If you are not yet Jesus's follower, how would your life change if you were to follow Jesus? How would your friends, family, or government react if you became a follower of Jesus? Explain.
5. Read John 12:42-43. How can fear of man hurt our relationship with God. How can you grow to become more like the blind man?

Homework:

1. Complete the *History Chat* if you did not complete it in this lesson.
2. Go to [Lesson 8](#). Write the definitions of the vocabulary words in your language.
3. Pronounce the vocabulary words using the [Pronunciation Guide](#).
4. Read the text box for [Lesson 8](#). Write the definitions of other words you do not know.
5. Watch *Chapter 10:1-21* of *The Gospel of John* movie found on the [Students](#) page of the TalkEnglish website: www.talkenglishprogram.com.
6. Complete *Lesson 8* of the *TalkEnglish Pronunciation Teacher* found on the [Students](#) page.
7. *Homework Challenge*:
 - a. Write a paragraph about what you have been learning about Jesus and the Bible.
 - b. Make a list of questions you have about Jesus, God, or the Bible.



[History Chat](#)

Lesson 8: Jesus, the *Shepherd* John 10:1-18

¹[Jesus said,] "I tell you the truth, the man who does not enter the sheep *pen* by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a *thief* and a *robber*. ²The man who enters by the gate is the shepherd of his sheep. ³The *watchman* opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and *leads* them out. ⁴...His sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵But they will never follow a *stranger*; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice"...
⁷...I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be *saved*...¹⁰The thief comes only to *steal* and kill and *destroy*; I have come that they may have life, and have it *to the full*.
¹¹"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The *hired hand* is not the shepherd who owns the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he *abandons* the sheep and *runs away*. Then the wolf attacks the *flock* and *scatters* it. ¹³The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.
¹⁴I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep... ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own *accord*. I have *authority* to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This *command* I received from my Father" (NIV).

Vocabulary: (Use Pronunciation Guide for help)

shepherd	to lead	to destroy	to scatter
pen	stranger	to the full	accord
thief	hired hand	to abandon	authority
robber	saved	to run away	command
watchman	to steal	flock	

Discuss other unfamiliar words.

Comprehension Questions: Write the answers to these questions in your journal.

1. A man should enter a sheep pen through a _____ (verse 1).
2. The man who does not enter the sheep pen through the gate is a _____ and a _____ (verse 1).
3. The man who enters by the gate is the _____ of the sheep (verse 2).
4. The sheep know the shepherd because they know his _____ (verse 4). Why do you think the sheep know the shepherd so well?
5. Who is the gate? (verse 7)
6. If anyone enters the sheep pen through the gate, he will be _____ (verse 9). What does this mean?
7. Jesus wants his sheep to have life _____ (verse 10). What does this mean?
8. Who is the good shepherd? (verse 11)
9. If Jesus is the gate *and* the good shepherd, then who are the sheep?
10. What is the pen?
11. Who or what is the wolf?
12. When the hired hand sees the wolf, he _____ the sheep (verse 12). He runs away from the sheep because he _____ nothing for the sheep (verse 13).

13. The wolf attacks the _____ and _____ it (verse 12). Why is the wolf able to attack the sheep?
14. Jesus is the good shepherd. He _____ his life for the sheep (verse 15). What does this mean? How can we give our lives for Jesus's sheep? Give some examples.
15. The hired hand is paid to look after the sheep. Jesus protects his sheep without being paid (verses 15-18). Why do you think Jesus does this?

Personal Sharing:

1. Jesus wants to save us from the wolves in this world. Who or what are the wolves in your life?
2. How can Jesus be our shepherd today? If you are a follower of Jesus, describe what this looks like in your life. If you are not yet a follower of Jesus, what would it look like for Jesus to be your shepherd?
3. Jesus says that he will lay down his life for his sheep. How do you think Jesus and the Father feel about you?
4. Jesus wants to give you a full and good life. Do you feel like your life is full and good? Explain. Do you feel like Jesus has more for you in this life? Explain.
5. The church is a pen for the sheep. The church cares for the sheep and guards them. How do you see the church? Would you like to go to church this week? Explain. (If you need an online church experience, please visit <https://connectthenations.com/fellowship>.)

Homework:

1. Complete the *History Chat* if you did not complete it in this lesson.
2. Read John 10:19-42 and 11:1-16 in a Bible written in your language or in English.
3. Go to [Lesson 9](#). Write the definitions of the vocabulary words in your language.
4. Pronounce the vocabulary words using the [Pronunciation Guide](#).
5. Read the text box for [Lesson 9](#). Write the definitions of other words you do not know.
6. Watch *Chapter 11:1-27* and *Chapter 11:28-45* of *The Gospel of John* movie found on the [Students](#) page of the TalkEnglish website: www.talkenglishprogram.com.
7. Complete *Lesson 9* of the *TalkEnglish Pronunciation Teacher* found on the [Students](#) page.
8. *Homework Challenge*: (Look up any words you don't know)
 - a. Read in *Historical References* for John 10:22-42 the section "[Feast of Dedication / Hanukkah](#)." Be prepared to share what you learned with your instructor.
 - b. Read in *Who's Who in the Bible: Old Testament* the section "[Solomon](#)."
 - c. Read in *Who's Who in the Bible: New Testament* the sections "[Lazarus](#)," "[Martha](#)," and "[Mary](#) (sister of Martha and Lazarus)," and "[Thomas](#) (called Didymus)."



[History Chat](#)

Lesson 9: Jesus *Raises* the Dead John 11:17-44

¹⁷On his *arrival* [to Bethany], Jesus found that Lazarus* had already been in the *tomb* for four days...¹⁹and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the *loss* of their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home...

²³Jesus said to [Martha], "Your brother will *rise* again."

²⁴Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the *resurrection* at the last day."

²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies...²⁶...Do you believe this?"

²⁷"Yes, Lord," she told him, "I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God..."

²⁸And after she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. "The Teacher is here," she said, "and is asking for you." ²⁹When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him...

³²When Mary *reached* the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

³³When Jesus saw her *weeping*, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was *deeply moved in spirit* and *troubled*. ³⁴"Where have you laid him?" he asked...³⁵Jesus wept.

³⁶Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"

³⁷But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

³⁸Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb...³⁹"Take away the stone," he said...

⁴³...Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet *wrapped with strips of linen*, and a *cloth* around his face.

Jesus said to them, "Take off the *grave* clothes and let him go." (NIV)

Lazarus: Lazarus was the brother of Mary and Martha of Bethany. He was also a friend of Jesus.

Vocabulary: (Use *Pronunciation Guide* for help)

to raise	to rise	deeply	strip (of cloth)
arrival	resurrection	moved in spirit	linen
tomb	to reach	troubled	cloth
loss	to weep	to wrap	grave

Discuss other unfamiliar words.

Comprehension Questions: Write the answers to these questions in your journal.

1. On Jesus's _____ to Bethany, he found that Lazarus had been dead in the _____ for _____ days (verse 17).
2. Martha went to see Jesus, but Mary _____ (verse 20). Why do you think Mary did this?
3. Jesus told Martha that her brother would _____ again (verse 23).
4. Do you think Martha believed that Jesus was going to raise Lazarus from the dead the same day Jesus arrived? Why or why not? (verse 24)
5. Jesus answered Martha by saying, "I am the _____ and the life. He who _____ will live, even though he dies" (verse 25). What did Jesus mean by this?

6. When Mary _____ the place where Jesus was, she said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother _____ (verse 32). Mary and the Jews who had come along with her began to _____ (verse 33).
7. Do you think that Mary believed that Jesus could raise Lazarus from the dead that same day? Why or why not?
8. Did other people believe that Jesus could raise Lazarus from the dead? (verses 33,37) Why or why not?
9. Why do you think Jesus cried? (verse 35)
10. What did Jesus do for Lazarus? (verses 38-44) Why do you think Jesus did this?
11. How do you think Lazarus looked when he came out of the tomb? (verse 44)
12. How do you think Mary and Martha felt after Jesus had done this?
13. How do you think Lazarus lived his life after he was raised from the dead?

Personal Sharing:

1. Have you ever seen or heard of someone being raised from the dead? Tell us your story. (For more stories or to share your story, please visit <https://connectthenations.com/testify>.)
2. Do you believe that Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead? Why or why not?
3. What would you say or do if you had seen this miraculous sign?
4. Jesus promises that if we believe in him, we will never really die. We will live in heaven after we die. Do you believe this promise? Explain.
5. Today, Jesus can also raise us from the dead spiritually. Has Jesus ever raised you from the dead spiritually? If yes, describe. If no, what could that look like for you?

Homework:

1. Complete the *History Chat* if you did not complete it in this lesson.
2. Read John 11:45-57 in a Bible written in your language or in English.
3. Go to [Lesson 10](#). Write the definitions of the vocabulary words in your language.
4. Pronounce the vocabulary words using the [Pronunciation Guide](#).
5. Read the text box for [Lesson 10](#). Write the definitions of other words you do not know.
6. Watch *Chapter 12:1-11* of *The Gospel of John* movie found on the [Students](#) page of the TalkEnglish website: www.talkenglishprogram.com.
7. Complete *Lesson 10* of the *TalkEnglish Pronunciation Teacher* found on the [Students](#) page.
8. *Homework Challenge*: (Look up words you don't know.)
 - a. Choose one
 - 1) Visit a church service and write a paragraph about what you saw.
 - 2) Write a paragraph about heaven. What do you think heaven will be like?
 - b. Read in *Who's Who in the Bible: New Testament* the section "[Caiaphas](#)."

[History Chat](#)

Lesson 10: Jesus – *Worthy* of Honor John 12:1-11

¹Six days before the Passover*, Jesus *arrived* at Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ²Here a dinner was given in Jesus's honor. Martha *served*, while Lazarus was among those *reclining* at the table with him. ³Then Mary took about a *pint* of...*expensive* perfume; she poured it on Jesus's feet and *wiped* his feet with her hair. And the house was *filled* with the *fragrance* of the perfume.

⁴But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to *betray* him, *objected*, ⁵"Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was *worth* a year's wages." ⁶He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as *keeper* of the money bag, he used to *help himself* to what was put into it.

⁷"Leave her alone," Jesus replied...⁸You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."

⁹Meanwhile a large crowd of Jews found out that Jesus was there and came, not only because of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ¹⁰So the *chief priests made plans* to kill Lazarus as well, ¹¹for *on account of* him many of the Jews were going over to Jesus and putting their faith in him. (NIV)

Passover: A Jewish festival to remember how the Lord *protected* the Jews when he punished the Egyptians for making the Jews their *slaves* in 1875 B.C. (Exodus 12)

Vocabulary: (Use *Pronunciation Guide* for help)

worthy	to recline	fragrance	to help (himself)
to protect	pint	to betray	chief
slave	expensive	to object	priest
to arrive	to wipe	worth	to make plans
to serve	to fill	keeper	on account of

Discuss other unfamiliar words.

Comprehension Questions: *Write the answers to these questions in your journal.*

1. In Bethany, a dinner was given in Jesus's honor because Jesus had _____ Lazarus from the dead (*verse 1*).
2. At the dinner, Martha _____, while Lazarus was _____ at the table with Jesus (*verse 2*).
3. Mary showed her thanks to Jesus by pouring a _____ of _____ perfume on Jesus's feet (*verse 3*).
4. Then Mary _____ Jesus's feet with her _____. The house was _____ with the _____ of the perfume (*verse 3*).
5. Judas, who was later to _____ Jesus, _____ (*verse 4*). He said that the perfume was _____ a year's _____ and should have been given to the poor (*verse 5*).
6. Did Jesus agree with Judas? (*verses 7,8*) Why or why not?
7. Why do you think Mary wanted to give Jesus such expensive perfume?
8. In Luke 7:36-50, we learn that other men are also at this dinner. What do you think the other men said when Mary poured perfume on Jesus's feet and wiped it with her hair?
9. How do you think Mary felt about what the other men thought of her? Why did she still honor Jesus?
10. Jesus does want his followers to give to the poor, but what does he think is even more important? Why do you think he feels this way?

11. The _____ wanted to kill Lazarus for _____ of him many Jews were _____ Jesus and _____ their faith in him (*verses 10,11*).

Personal Sharing:

1. Describe Mary's friendship with Jesus. Why do you think she has this friendship with Jesus?
2. Mary understands how much Jesus loves her. Do you believe that Jesus feels the same way about you? For help, read some verses in [Appendix A: God's Love for Me](#).
3. Mary finds a special way to show her love for Jesus. Have you ever shown your love for Jesus (or God) in a special way? Explain. If not, do you want to? Explain.
4. Judas and the Jewish men at the table are angry at Mary for showing her love to Jesus. What would your friends or family say if you wanted to show your love for Jesus in front of others?
5. Mary doesn't let her fear of people stop her from loving Jesus. She wants to love and honor Jesus more than she wants to be loved or honored by people. In return, Jesus loves and honors Mary. In what ways do you fear what people think of you? How can Jesus help you?

Homework:

1. Complete the *History Chat* if you did not complete it in this lesson.
2. Read [Appendix A: God's Love for Me](#). Write the definitions of words you do not know in your own language. Write what you like about each verse.
3. Read John 12:12-43 in a Bible written in your language or in English.
4. Go to [Lesson 11](#). Write the definitions of the vocabulary words in your language.
5. Pronounce the vocabulary words using the [Pronunciation Guide](#).
6. Read the text box for [Lesson 11](#). Write the definitions of other words you do not know.
7. Watch *Chapter 8:1-30* and *Chapter 12:12-50* of *The Gospel of John* movie found on the [Students](#) page of the TalkEnglish website: www.talkenglishprogram.com.
8. Complete *Lesson 11* of the *TalkEnglish Pronunciation Teacher* found on the [Students](#) page.
9. *Homework Challenge: Choose one*
 - a. Visit a church service and write a paragraph about what you saw.
 - b. Write a paragraph about who or what is most important in your life.



[History Chat](#)

Lesson 11: Jesus Came to Save John 8:1-11; John 12:44-50

John 8:1-11 ¹But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives [in Jerusalem]. ²At *dawn* he *appeared* again in the *temple courts*, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. ³The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in *adultery*. They made her stand before the group ⁴and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. ⁵In the Law Moses* *commanded* us to *stone* such women. Now what do you say?" ⁶They were using this question as a *trap*, in order to have a *basis* for *accusing* him.

But Jesus *bent down* and started to write on the ground with his finger. ⁷..."If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her"...

⁹At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. ¹⁰Jesus *straightened up* and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one *condemned* you?"

¹¹"No one, sir," she said.

"Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin"... (NIV)

John 12:44-50 ⁴⁴Then Jesus cried out...⁴⁷"As for the person who hears my words but does not keep them, I do not *judge* him. For I did not come to judge the world, but to save it. ⁴⁸There is a judge for the one who *rejects* me and does not *accept* my words; that very word which I spoke will condemn him at the last day. ⁴⁹...The Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say it. ⁵⁰I know that his command leads to *eternal* life..." (NIV)

Moses: Moses, a Jewish leader from Israel. During Moses's time, the ruler of Egypt made the Jews slaves. The Lord told Moses to lead the Jewish people out of Egypt and out of slavery. The Lord gave Moses many commands for the Jews to follow, including the most important Ten Commandments (Exodus 20). All of these commands make up the Law of Moses*.

Law of Moses: A list of Jewish laws found in the first five books of the Old Testament. In the Law, death was the *punishment* for some sins. God did this to show the people that sin *separates* men from God and other men. The Law did not give *mercy*, but God showed mercy to men who turned to him. The Law was *strict* so that men would understand the gift of God's mercy (Romans 3:20-26). Here we see Jesus offer that gift of mercy to this woman.

Vocabulary: (Use Pronunciation Guide for help)

dawn	to separate	to trap	to condemn
to appear	mercy	basis	to judge
temple	strict	to accuse	to reject
court	to command	to bend down	to accept
adultery	to stone	to straighten up	eternal
punishment			

Discuss other unfamiliar words.

Comprehension Questions: Write the answers to these questions in your journal.

- The Pharisees and teachers brought in a woman caught in _____ (verse 8:3).
- The Law of Moses _____ the Jews _____ such a woman (verse 8:5).
- The Pharisees were questioning Jesus as a _____, in order to have a _____ for _____ him (verse 8:6). The Jewish leaders punished people who did not obey Jewish Law. Why did the Pharisees want to trap Jesus with regard to the Law? (see John 12:11, [Lesson 10](#))
- Jesus said, "If any one of you is _____, let him be the _____ at her (verse 8:7). What is sin? (See [Appendix B: What is Sin?](#) Look at some of the examples.)

5. The Pharisees that heard Jesus began to _____ one at a time (verse 9). Why?
6. Jesus said to the woman that he did not _____ her (verse 8:11). How do you think the woman felt about this?
7. Jesus told the woman to _____ of sin (verse 8:11). Why do you think Jesus said this? How was this going to change the woman's life? What challenges do you think she will face when she goes back home?
8. Jesus said that he did not come to _____ the world but to _____ it (verse 12:47). How is Jesus different from the Jewish leaders?
9. Jesus said that there is a judge for those who _____ Jesus and do not _____ his words (verse 12:48). What are some teachings of Jesus that we must believe and follow? (*Look at this lesson and previous lessons.*)
10. Jesus said that there will be a judge of all men on the last day. That _____ which he spoke will _____ men on the last day (verse 12:48). Where do we find the words of Jesus?
11. These words of Jesus lead to _____ life (verse 12:50).

Personal Sharing:

1. The woman in John 8 is saved from the sin of adultery. Do you want Jesus to have mercy over your sins? Which sins? (*Instructor shares first.*)
2. The Pharisees see themselves as good people. Were they good? Explain.
3. The woman saved from adultery sees herself as a sinner. Do you see yourself as a good person or as a sinner? Explain.
4. Discuss the term "Judgment Day." Do you feel ready for this day? Why or why not?
5. Read John 12:44-46. How can we be ready for Judgment Day?

Homework:

1. Complete the *History Chat* if you did not complete it in this lesson.
2. Go to [Lesson 12](#). Write the definitions of the vocabulary words in your language.
3. Pronounce the vocabulary words using the [Pronunciation Guide](#).
4. Read the text box for [Lesson 12](#). Write the definitions of other words you do not know.
5. Watch *Chapter 13:1-38* of *The Gospel of John* movie found on the [Students](#) page of the TalkEnglish website: www.talkenglishprogram.com.
6. Complete *Lesson 12* of the *TalkEnglish Pronunciation Teacher* found on the [Students](#) page.
7. *Homework Challenge*: (Look up words you don't know.)
 - a. Write your thoughts about Judgment Day. What do you think that day will be like? How will you prepare? What questions do you have about Judgment Day?
 - b. Read in *Historical References* for John 13:1-35 the section "[Satan](#)." Be prepared to share what you learned with your instructor.

[History Chat](#)

Lesson 12: Jesus's Greatest Command John 13:1-35

¹It was just before the Passover *Feast*. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full *extent* of his love.

²The evening *meal* was being served, and the *devil* had already *prompted* Judas Iscariot to betray Jesus. ³Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his *power*, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; ⁴so he got up from the meal, took off his *outer* clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵After that, he poured water into a *basin* and began to wash his disciples' feet, *drying* them with the towel that was wrapped around him...

⁸"No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet."

Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me."

⁹"Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!"

¹⁰Jesus answered, "A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet; his whole body is *clean*, though not every one of you..."

¹²"Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. ¹³"You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and *rightly* so, for that is what I am. ¹⁴Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. ¹⁵I have set you an *example* that you should do as I have done for you...¹⁷Now that you know these things, you will be *blessed* if you do them...³⁴A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

(NIV)

Vocabulary: (Use *Pronunciation Guide* for help)

feast	to prompt	basin	rightly
extent	power	to dry	example
meal	outer	clean	to bless
devil			

Discuss other unfamiliar words.

Comprehension Questions: Write the answers to these questions in your journal.

- Just before the Passover _____, Jesus knew that the time had come for him _____ this world and go to the Father (*verse 1*). How do you think he felt about this? Explain.
- Jesus _____ from the meal, took off his _____ clothing, and _____ a towel around his waist (*verse 4*). Then he poured water into a _____ and began to _____ his disciples' feet, _____ them with a towel (*verse 5*).
- Why did Jesus wash his followers' feet? (*verse 1*) What do we learn about Jesus?
- Jesus is the Son of God, not a servant. What do you think Jesus was teaching his disciples by washing their feet?
- Jesus said, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me" (*verse 8*). Why do people wash their feet? How does Jesus wash us today?
- Once Jesus finished washing the disciples' feet, he asked them to wash _____ feet (*verse 14*). How can we do this?

7. Jesus said that if we wash one another's feet then we will be _____ (verse 17). What does this mean?
8. Jesus gave his disciples a new command: _____ (verse 34). How can we do this? What is the difference between serving and loving?
9. If we want to be followers of Jesus, why should we obey this command? (verse 35) What do you think will happen if Jesus's followers do not follow this command?
10. I John 14:19-20 says, "We love because he first loved us. Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen" (NIV). Are we true followers of Jesus if we do not follow his command to love one another? Explain.

Personal Sharing:

1. How would you feel if you had to wash a person's feet? How would you feel if someone washed your feet?
2. How do you feel when others serve you? Why is allowing others to serve us an important part of following Jesus?
3. What makes you feel loved? What does love look like to you?
4. Jesus wants us to love and serve others the way he has loved and served us. Have you ever felt this love from Jesus? Explain.
5. Following Jesus includes washing one another's feet. How can you serve or show love to someone this week?
6. How do you want to grow in your love for others?

Homework:

1. Complete the *History Chat* if you did not complete it in this lesson.
2. Go to [Lesson 13](#). Write the definitions of the vocabulary words in your language.
3. Pronounce the vocabulary words using the [Pronunciation Guide](#).
4. Read the text box for [Lesson 13](#). Write the definitions of other words you do not know.
5. Watch *Chapter 14:1-14* of *The Gospel of John* movie found on the [Students](#) page of the TalkEnglish website: www.talkenglishprogram.com.
6. Complete *Lesson 13* of the *TalkEnglish Pronunciation Teacher* found on the [Students](#) page.
7. *Homework Challenge*:
 - a. Write about a time when you felt loved by someone.
 - b. What did that person do for you?



[History Chat](#)

Lesson 13: Jesus – The Way to the Father John 14:1-14; John 15:1-7

John 14:1-14 ¹"Do not let your hearts be troubled. *Trust* in God; trust also in me. ²In my Father's house are many rooms...I am going there to prepare a place for you. ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴You know the way to the place where I am going."

⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

⁶Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father *except* through me. ⁷If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

⁸Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us."

⁹Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. *Rather*, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. ¹¹Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or *at least* believe on the *evidence* of the *miracles* themselves. ¹²I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. ¹⁴You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it." (NIV)

John 15:1-7 ¹"I am the true *vine*, and my Father is the *gardener*. ²He *cuts off* every *branch* in me that *bears* no *fruit*, while every branch that does bear fruit, he *prunes* so that it will be even more *fruitful*...⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. If you *remain* in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; *apart* from me you can do nothing. ⁶If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is *thrown away* and *withers*; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you *wish*, and it will be done for you.

Thomas: Thomas, born in Antioch, was one of the first followers of Jesus. After Jesus's death, Thomas taught the people in or near the area now called Iran and possibly areas east of Iran. He is believed to have died for his faith in Edessa, Mesopotamia.¹

Vocabulary: (Use [Pronunciation Guide](#) for help)

trust	miracle	fruit	apart
except	vine	to prune	to throw away
rather	to cut off	fruitful	to wither
at least	branch	to remain	to wish
evidence	to bear		

Discuss other unfamiliar words.

Comprehension Questions: Write the answers to these questions in your journal.

1. In Lesson 12, we read that Jesus was going back to the Father. In Lesson 13, Jesus said to his followers, "Do not let your hearts be _____" (verse 1). What does it mean to be "troubled"? Why do you think Jesus's followers were troubled?
2. Jesus comforted his disciples by telling them, "_____ in God; _____ also in me" (verse 1). What is trust? How can we trust in Jesus?
3. Jesus also told them that he was going to _____ a place for them in his Father's _____ (verse 2). What did Jesus mean by "his Father's house"?

4. Thomas said that he did not know where Jesus was going and did not know the way. Jesus told Thomas the way when he said, "I am _____, and _____, and _____ (verse 6). Why does Jesus say, "the way, the truth, and the life" and not "a way, a truth, and a life"?
5. How is this teaching of Jesus different from what people believe today? What do you think is right? Why?
6. What did Jesus mean in verse 7 when he said, "From now on, you do know him [the Father] and have seen him"? (see verse 10 and Hebrews 1:3 in Lesson 2)
7. Jesus wanted his disciples to believe that the Father is in him, or _____ believe on the _____ of the _____ (verse 11).
8. Jesus promises that if we ask anything in his _____, he will _____ (verse 14). Why do you think Jesus will do this for us?
9. Jesus said that anyone who has faith in him will do what he has been doing (verse 12). How do you think Jesus's followers together will do even greater things than what Jesus did? How is this possible?
10. Jesus calls himself the true _____ and the Father is the _____ (verse 15:1). We are the _____ (verse 15:5).
11. Jesus _____ every branch in him that _____ no _____. But every branch that does _____ he _____ so that it will be even more _____ (verse 15:2). What does this mean?

Personal Sharing:

1. Do you believe in heaven? If so, describe heaven. How does Jesus describe heaven? (verse 2)
2. Jesus tells us how to get to heaven. What does he say? (verse 6) Do you believe this? Explain.
3. Jesus wants to trim and clean every area of our lives that are not bearing fruit. What areas of your life do you think are not bearing fruit? (i.e., activities, relationships, actions, reactions, thoughts, etc.)
4. What promise does Jesus give you if you allow him to clean you? Do you trust him with these areas of your life? Explain.
5. Read John 8:31-32 and 14:21. What can we do to know if Jesus's teachings are true?
6. How can you follow Jesus's teachings this week? Will you let him clean these areas of your life this week? If yes, what will that look like?

Homework:

1. Complete the *History Chat* if you did not complete it in this lesson.
2. Go to Lesson 14. Write the definitions of the vocabulary words in your language.
3. Pronounce the vocabulary words using the Pronunciation Guide.
4. Read the text box for Lesson 14. Write the definitions of other words you do not know.
5. Watch *Chapter 14:15-31* and *Chapter 16:1-14* of *The Gospel of John* movie found on the Students page of the TalkEnglish website: www.talkenglishprogram.com.
6. Complete *Lesson 14* of the *TalkEnglish Pronunciation Teacher* found on the Students page.
7. *Homework Challenge*:
 - a. Let Jesus clean at least one area of your life this week.
 - b. Write about what you did and how this makes you feel.

[History Chat](#)

Lesson 14: Jesus Sends a Counselor John 14:15-27; 16:8-14

John 14:15-27 ¹⁵"If you love me, you will obey what I command. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you *forever*— ¹⁷the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. ¹⁸I will not leave you as *orphans*; I will come to you...²⁰On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹Whoever has my commands and *obeys* them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him...

²⁴He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me. ²⁵All this I have spoken while still with you. ²⁶But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will *remind* you of everything I have said to you. ²⁷*Peace* I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid..." (NIV)

John 16:8-14 ⁸When [the Counselor] comes, he will *convict* the world of guilt *in regard to* sin and *righteousness* and *judgment*. ⁹in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; ¹⁰in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father...¹¹and in regard to judgment, because the *prince* of this world now stands condemned. ¹²I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear.

¹³But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will *guide* you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears...¹⁴He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and *making it known* to you..." (NIV)

Vocabulary: (Use Pronunciation Guide for help)

counselor	to obey	to convict	judgment
forever	to remind	in regard to	to guide
orphan	peace	righteousness	to make known

Discuss other unfamiliar words.

Comprehension Questions: Write the answers to these questions in your journal.

- Jesus said that if we love him, we will _____ his commands (verse 14:15).
- If we obey Jesus, he promises to give us a _____ to be with us _____ (verse 14:16).
- What is a counselor?
- The Counselor is the _____ of truth (verse 14:17).
- The Counselor will live _____ us and will be _____ us (verse 14:17).
- How do we know if we love Jesus? (verse 21)
- What are some of Jesus's teachings? Make a list of them. (Review previous lessons and chapters in the *Book of John*, as well as *Appendix B: What is Sin?*)
- How does Jesus want us to show our love for him? (verse 14:21) Why do you think he asks us to do this?
- If we love Jesus, Jesus promises us that we will be _____ by the Father and that Jesus too will _____ us and _____ to us (verse 21). What do you think this means?
- Another name for the Counselor is the _____ (verse 14:26).
- The Holy Spirit will _____ us all things and will _____ us of everything that Jesus taught (verse 14:26).

12. Jesus said that the Holy Spirit will _____ the world in three ways: in regard to _____ and _____ and _____ (verse 16:8).
13. According to Jesus, how are people set free from sin and made righteous? (verse 16:9-11)
14. How do people today see sin, righteousness, and judgment today? How are people's views different from Jesus's view?

Personal Sharing:

1. Which commands of Jesus are hard for you to follow? How will Jesus help you?
2. If we choose to love Jesus and obey his commands, he promises to send us the Holy Spirit, live in us, set us free from sin and judgment, and show himself to us. What do these promises mean to you?
3. Have you ever thought about sin, righteousness, and Judgment Day? What thoughts have you had? Where do these thoughts come from? (verse 16:8)
4. Do you want to learn more about salvation, sin, and righteousness? If yes, you may complete Appendix B: What is Sin? after you complete Lesson 20.
5. Have you ever experienced the Holy Spirit in a special way? Tell us your story. (For more stories or to share your story, please visit <https://connectthenations.com/testify>.)

Homework:

1. Complete the *History Chat* if you did not complete it in this lesson.
2. Read John 14:28-31, John 15:9-27, John 16:1-7, and John 16:15-33 in a Bible written in your language or in English.
3. Go to Lesson 15. Write the definitions of the vocabulary words in your language.
4. Pronounce the vocabulary words using the Pronunciation Guide.
5. Read the text box for Lesson 15. Write the definitions of other words you do not know.
6. Watch *Chapter 17:1-26 of The Gospel of John* movie found on the Students page of the TalkEnglish website: www.talkenglishprogram.com.
7. Complete *Lesson 15* of the *TalkEnglish Pronunciation Teacher* found on the Students page.
8. *Homework Challenge*: Read in *Historical References* for John 16:28-40 the section "Ceremonial Uncleaness." Look up words you don't know. Be prepared to share what you learned with your instructor.



[History Chat](#)

Lesson 15: Jesus – How He Prayed John 17:1-23

¹After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: "Father, the time has come. *Glorify* your Son, that your Son may glorify you. ²For you *granted* him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. ³Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴I have brought you glory on earth by *completing* the work you gave me to do. ⁵And now, Father, glorify me in your *presence* with the glory I had with you before the world began.

⁶"I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me, and they have obeyed your word... ⁸For I gave them the words you gave me, and they accepted them. They knew with *certainty* that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. ⁹I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours... ¹¹...Holy Father, *protect* them by the power of your name—the name you gave me—so that they may *be one* as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me...¹⁷*Sanctify* them by the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

²⁰"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their *message*, ²¹that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: ²³I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete *unity* to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. (NIV)

Vocabulary: (Use *Pronunciation Guide* for help)

to glorify	presence	to be one	message
to grant	certainty	to sanctify	unity
to complete	to protect		

Discuss other unfamiliar words.

Comprehension Questions: Write the answers to these questions in your journal.

1. Jesus began his prayer by asking his Father to _____ his Son so that he might _____ the Father (verse 1).
2. Jesus then reminded himself that the Father had _____ him authority over all people so that he could give those who believe in him _____ (verse 2).
3. Jesus said that he had brought glory to God on earth by _____ the work the Father had given him (verse 4). He _____ the Father to the people that the Lord had given him, his disciples (verse 6).
4. Jesus's disciples then knew with _____ that Jesus had come from the Father, and they believed that the Father had sent him. How did this happen? (verse 6-8)
5. Jesus also prayed for his followers. He asked the Father to _____ his followers by the power of his _____ so that his followers might be _____ as he and the Father are _____ (verse 11). Why is Jesus's name important?
6. How can we be kept safe by the power of Jesus's name? (verses 6, 8) Why does Jesus want us to do this for us? (verses 11-12)
7. In John 14:14, Jesus said to his followers, "You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it" (NIV). Jesus's name means "The Lord saves."¹ Do you think Jesus says "Yes" to prayers prayed in his name that don't help people to be saved? Explain. Can you give an example?

8. The Bible says that the disciples spoke, preached, healed, baptized, raised the dead, and prayed all in the name of Jesus. Why do you think they did these things in his name?
9. According to Jesus, what is truth? (*verse 17*). Where do we find this truth? How many truths are there? Can we follow other truths and be followers of Jesus? Explain.
10. How can we be sanctified? (*verse 17*) ["Sanctify" means to be separated from a life of sin and to live a life for God.]
11. Jesus also prayed that people who believe in him through the _____ of his followers (*verse 20*) would have complete _____ (*verse 23*). What does true unity look like? (see *Acts 2:42-47*)

Personal Sharing:

1. Do you think the name of Jesus is powerful? What do some people do when they hear the name "Jesus"? How is the power of his name different from other names?
2. Can you give an example of a prayer you prayed, but the answer was "No"? Look again at Question 5. Why do you think this happened?
3. Looking at this lesson, what are some ways that you could grow in prayer?
4. We see the first church in the Bible in *Acts 2:42-47*. These followers are one, just as Jesus prayed. Do you want to be this kind of follower of Jesus? What would that look like?

Homework:

1. Complete the *History Chat* if you did not complete it in this lesson.
2. Go to [Lesson 16](#). Write the definitions of the vocabulary words in your language.
3. Pronounce the vocabulary words using the [Pronunciation Guide](#).
4. Read the text box for [Lesson 16](#). Write the definitions of other words you do not know.
5. Watch *Chapter 18:1-40* of *The Gospel of John* movie found on the [Students](#) page of the TalkEnglish website: www.talkenglishprogram.com.
6. Complete *Lesson 16* of the *TalkEnglish Pronunciation Teacher* found on the [Students](#) page.
7. *Homework Challenge*:
 - a. Write a prayer to the Lord.
 - b. If you want to grow in prayer, make a list of how you would like to grow.
 - c. (Optional) Enjoy praying to the Lord in Jesus's name every day this week.
 - d. Read in *Who's Who in the Bible: New Testament* the section "[Annas](#)" and "[Pilate](#)."



[History Chat](#)

Lesson 16: Jesus - Wrongly Accused John 18:1-38

¹When he had finished praying, Jesus left with his disciples and crossed the Kidron Valley. On the other side there was an olive *grove*, and he and his disciples went into it...³...Judas came to the grove, guiding a *detachment* of soldiers and some officials from the chief priests and Pharisees...

⁴Jesus, knowing all that was going to happen to him, went out and asked them, "Who is it you want?"

⁵"Jesus of Nazareth," they replied...

⁶When Jesus said, "I am he," they *drew back* and fell to the ground...¹⁰Then Simon Peter, who had a *sword*, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, cutting off his right ear...¹¹Jesus commanded Peter, "Put your sword away! Shall [Should] I not drink the cup the Father has given me?"

¹²Then the detachment of soldiers with its *commander* and the Jewish *officials* *arrested* Jesus. They *bound* him ¹³and brought him first to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year...¹⁶but Peter had to wait outside at the door...

¹⁷"You are not one of his disciples, are you?" the girl at the door asked Peter.

He replied, "I am not."

¹⁸It was cold, and the servants and officials stood around a fire they had made to keep warm. Peter also was standing with them, warming himself. ¹⁹Meanwhile, the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching.

²⁰"I have *spoken openly* to the world," Jesus replied. "I always taught in synagogues or at the temple...I said nothing in secret. ²¹Why question me? Ask those who heard me. Surely they know what I said."

²²When Jesus said this, one of the officials nearby *struck* him in the face...

²⁵As Simon Peter stood warming himself, he was asked, "You are not one of his disciples, are you?"

He *denied* it, saying, "I am not."

²⁶One of the high priest's servants...*challenged* him, "Didn't I see you with him in the olive grove?"

²⁷Again Peter denied it...

²⁸Then the Jews led Jesus from Caiaphas to the palace of the Roman governor...³⁸...[Pilate, the Roman governor said,] "I find no basis for a *charge* against him. (NIV)

Vocabulary: (Use *Pronunciation Guide* for help)

grove	commander	to bind	to deny
detachment	official	to speak openly	to challenge
to draw back	to arrest	to strike	charge
sword			

Discuss other unfamiliar words.

Comprehension Questions: Write the answers to these questions in your journal.

- Judas came to the _____, guiding a _____ of soldiers and some officials from the chief priests and the Pharisees (verse 3).
- When Jesus said, "I am he," the soldiers _____ (verse 6). Why do you think this happened?
- Peter then drew his _____ and _____ the high priest's servant, cutting off his ear (verse 10). Why do you think Peter did this?
- Jesus commanded Peter to _____ his sword _____ because Jesus was going to _____ the cup the Father had given him (verse 11). Peter wanted to keep Jesus from suffering, but how did Jesus see his own suffering? Why do you think he responded this way?
- The detachment of soldiers with its _____ and the Jewish _____ arrested Jesus. They _____ him and brought him to the high priest (verse 12).

6. When the young girl asked Peter if he was one of Jesus's disciples, Peter replied, " _____ " (verse 17). Why do you think Peter said this? How was Peter different from Jesus?
7. Peter's best friend was just taken to court, but Peter was standing with the _____ and _____ keeping himself _____ (verse 18). Why do you think Peter was doing this?
8. Inside the court, the Jewish high priest _____ Jesus about his disciples and his _____ (verse 19). Jesus replied, "I have _____ to the world...I said nothing _____ " (verse 20). What do we learn about Jesus? How is Jesus different from Peter?
9. In the meantime, Peter was still _____ himself (verse 25). Someone asked Peter if he was one of Jesus's disciples. Again, Peter replied, " _____ " (verse 25). If Peter had told the soldiers that he was a friend of Jesus, then he could have been crucified also. If you were Peter, what would you have done? How can we be like Peter today?
10. Peter loved Jesus, but he was afraid of people and afraid of suffering. How can we be like Peter?
11. Pilate, the Roman governor, said, "I find _____ for a _____ against him" (verse 38). Had Jesus done anything wrong? Why or why not?

Personal Sharing:

1. What does Jesus teach us about suffering? What purposes can suffering have in our lives?
2. Peter wanted to avoid suffering and cut off the soldier's ear to keep Jesus from suffering. How do you try to avoid or stop your own suffering? Give an example.
3. Think about your example. What purposes do you think God has in your suffering?
4. Unlike Peter, Jesus was honest about who he was and what was right and true, even when people caused him to suffer for this truth. Why is this hard to do?
5. How could sharing Jesus and his teachings with people cause you to suffer? How can we become more like Jesus in this way?

Homework:

1. Complete the *History Chat* if you did not complete it in this lesson.
2. Go to [Lesson 17](#). Write the definitions of the vocabulary words in your language.
3. Pronounce the vocabulary words using the [Pronunciation Guide](#).
4. Read the text box for [Lesson 17](#). Write the definitions of other words you do not know.
5. Watch *Chapter 19:1-37* of *The Gospel of John* movie found on the [Students](#) page of the TalkEnglish website: www.talkenglishprogram.com.
6. Complete *Lesson 17* of the *TalkEnglish Pronunciation Teacher* found on the [Students](#) page.
7. *Homework Challenge*: (Look up any words you do not know.)
 - a. Read in *Historical References* for John 19:1-18 the section "[Crucifixion](#)."
 - b. (Optional) Continue praying to the Lord every day this week.

[History Chat](#)

Lesson 17: Jesus Dies John 19:1-18

¹Then Pilate took Jesus and had him *flogged*. ²The soldiers *twisted* together a *crown* of *thorns* and put it on his head. They *clothed* him in a purple *robe* ³and went up to him again and again, saying, "Hail, king of the Jews!" And they struck him in the face.

⁴Once more Pilate came out and said to the Jews, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no basis for a charge against him." ⁵When Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe, Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!"

⁶As soon as the chief priests and their officials saw him, they shouted, "Crucify! Crucify!"

But Pilate answered, "You take him and crucify him. As for me, I find no basis for a charge against him."

⁷The Jews *insisted*, "We have a law, and according to that law he must die, because he *claimed* to be the Son of God."

⁸When Pilate heard this, he was even more afraid, ⁹and he went back inside the palace. "Where do you come from?" he asked Jesus, but Jesus gave him no answer...

¹⁴"Here is your king," Pilate said to the Jews.

¹⁵But they shouted, "Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him!"...

¹⁶Finally Pilate *handed* him *over* to them to be crucified.

So, the soldiers *took charge* of Jesus. ¹⁷Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the *Skull*... ¹⁸There they crucified him... (NIV)

Vocabulary: (Use Pronunciation Guide for help)

to flog	to clothe	to crucify	to hand over
to twist	robe	to insist	to take charge
crown	to hail	to claim	skull
thorn			

Discuss other unfamiliar words.

Comprehension Questions: Write the answers to these questions in your journal.

- At the end of Lesson 16, Pilate said he had no basis for a charge against Jesus, but the crowds wanted Pilate to punish Jesus. So, Pilate had Jesus _____ (verse 1).
- Then the soldiers twisted together a _____ and put it on Jesus's head. They put a purple _____ on Jesus to make him look like a king. Then they made fun of him (verses 2, 3).
- Then the soldiers _____ Jesus in the face (verse 3).
- The Jews wanted to _____ Jesus (verse 6) because he _____ to be the Son of God (verse 7).
- When Pilate heard this, he was afraid (verse 8). Why do you think Pilate was afraid to kill Jesus? (verse 7)
- Read Matthew 27:27-31. What else did the soldiers do to Jesus?
- Finally, Pilate _____ Jesus _____ to the Jews to be crucified. So, the soldiers _____ of Jesus (verse 16).
- Jesus had to _____ his own cross to the place of the _____ (verse 17). How do you think Jesus felt during this time? Why do you think he felt this way?

9. Jesus could have stopped the crucifixion and saved himself by telling the soldiers that he was *not* the Son of God. Why do you think Jesus chose not to do this?
10. There they _____ him (*verse 18*).

Personal Sharing:

1. The Jewish leaders misunderstood Jesus. They rejected him and even hated him, even though he had done nothing wrong. Have you ever been misunderstood, rejected, or hated? Describe.
2. On the cross, how do you think Jesus could relate to your situation and feelings?
3. Pilate and the Jewish leaders judged Jesus and had him crucified. In John 5:27, Jesus says that God the Father has given his Son Jesus all authority to judge people. Why is Jesus a better judge than Pilate, the Jewish leaders, or any man?
4. Even though Jesus was wrongfully judged, where did he find his strength and security? (*verse 7*) Where did Pilate look for his security? (*verse 12*) How can we be like Pilate? How can Jesus help us?
5. Read I Peter 2:21. Why did Jesus allow himself to experience this kind of suffering? Read 2:22-25. How do you think Jesus feels about you, your situation, and your life? What do you think he wants you to know, feel, and understand about yourself?
6. According to the Law, we deserve to be punished for our own sins. Why did Jesus take on this punishment for you? (I Peter 2:24-25) How can Jesus's death for your sins bring you healing? How does he hope you will respond?
7. How do you feel about Jesus? How do you want to respond to what he did for you? Talk about the next steps you can do to show your response.

Homework:

1. Complete the *History Chat* if you did not complete it in this lesson.
2. Go to [Lesson 18](#). Write the definitions of the vocabulary words in your language.
3. Pronounce the vocabulary words using the [Pronunciation Guide](#).
4. Read the text box for [Lesson 18](#). Write the definitions of other words you do not know.
5. Complete *Lesson 18* of the *TalkEnglish Pronunciation Teacher* found on the [Students](#) page.
6. Read [Appendix C: The Prophecies of Jesus](#). Read the introduction and the first fifteen examples of The Prophecies of Jesus. Look up any words you do not know.
7. *Homework Challenge*:
 - a. (Optional) Do the *History Chat* assignment this week with your instructor.
 - b. (Optional) Continue praying to the Lord every day this week.



[History Chat](#)

Lesson 18: Jesus *Fulfills* Prophecies John 19:23-37

²³When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four [parts] one for each of them, with the *undergarment* remaining...²⁴"Let's not *tear* it," they said to one another. "Let's decide by lot who will get it."

This happened that the *Scripture* might be fulfilled which said, "They divided my *garments* among them and *cast lots** for my clothing"...

²⁸Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." ²⁹A jar of wine *vinegar* was there, so they soaked a *sponge* in it...and lifted it to Jesus's lips.

³⁰When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he *bowed* his head and *gave up* his spirit.

³¹...Because the Jews did not want the bodies left on the crosses during the Sabbath, they asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken down... ³³But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴Instead, one of the soldiers *pierced* Jesus's side with a *spear*, bringing a sudden *flow* of blood and water...³⁶These things happened so that the Scripture would be fulfilled: "Not one of his *bones* will be broken," ³⁷and, as another Scripture says, "They will look on the one they have pierced." (NIV)

cast lots: In ancient times, a "lot" was a small rock or a piece of *wood*. Lots were also used like *dice*. The Jews believed that the Lord would give them answers to their prayers by the way the lots landed¹.

Vocabulary: (Use *Pronunciation Guide* for help)

to fulfill	to cast	vinegar	to pierce
undergarment	wood	sponge	spear
Scripture	dice	to bow	flow
to tear	to land	to give up (something)	bone
garment			

Discuss other unfamiliar words.

Comprehension Questions: Write the answers to these questions in your journal.

- They divided all of his clothes, except his _____ (verse 23). They did not want to _____ it. So, they _____ lots to see who would get it (verse 24).
- This happened that the _____ might be _____ (verse 24).
- So that more Scriptures would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am _____" (verse 28).
- There was a jar of wine _____, so the soldiers _____ a _____ in the wine and lifted it to Jesus's lips (verse 29).
- After Jesus tasted the wine vinegar, he said, "It is _____." Then he _____ his head and _____ his spirit (verse 30).
- Pilate ordered that the legs of the men [on the crosses] be _____ (verse 31). But the soldiers did not _____ Jesus's legs (verse 33).
- One soldier _____ Jesus's side with a _____, bringing a sudden _____ of blood and water (verse 34).
- The Scriptures had said that not one of Jesus's _____ would be broken (verse 36) and that they would _____ the one they had pierced (verse 37).

Complete the History Chat section about the Prophecies of Jesus.



Homework:

1. Read John 19:38-42 in a Bible written in your language or in English.
2. Go to [Lesson 19](#). Write the definitions of the vocabulary words in your language.
3. Pronounce the vocabulary words using the [Pronunciation Guide](#).
4. Read the text box for [Lesson 19](#). Write the definitions of other words you do not know.
5. Watch *Chapter 20:1-18* of *The Gospel of John* movie found on the [Students](#) page of the TalkEnglish website: www.talkenglishprogram.com.
6. Complete *Lesson 19* of the *TalkEnglish Pronunciation Teacher* found on the [Students](#) page.
7. *Homework Challenge*: (Look up words you don't know.)
 - a. Look up more scriptures about the prophecies of Jesus in [Appendix C](#). Write a paragraph about what you learn.
 - b. Read in *Who's Who in the Bible: New Testament* the sections "[Joseph of Arimathea](#)" and "[Mary Magdalene](#)."
 - c. (Optional) Continue praying to the Lord every day this week.

Lesson 19: Jesus is Resurrected John 20: 1-18

¹Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene* went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been *removed* from the *entrance*. ²So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple...and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

³So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. ⁴Both were running, but the other disciple *outran* Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He *bent over* and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter, who was behind him, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there...⁸Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. ⁹(They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.)

¹⁰Then the disciples went back to their homes, ¹¹but Mary stood outside the tomb *crying*. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb ¹²and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus's body had been...

¹³They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

"They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." ¹⁴At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

¹⁵"Woman," he said, "why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have *carried* him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary."

She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher).

¹⁷Jesus said, "Do not *hold on to* me, for I have not yet returned to the Father. Go *instead* to my brothers and tell them, 'I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

¹⁸Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her. (NIV)

Mary Magdalene: A woman whom Jesus healed from *evil* and *diseases*. She followed Jesus, gave money to Jesus, and stood by the cross while Jesus died. She brought *spices* to prepare his body to be *buried*.¹

Vocabulary: (Use Pronunciation Guide for help)

evil	to bury	to outrun	to carry
disease	to remove	to bend over	to hold on to
spice	entrance	to cry	instead

Discuss other unfamiliar words.

Comprehension Questions: Write the answers to these questions in your journal.

- Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and found that the stone had been _____ from the _____ (verse 1). She thought that someone had _____ the Lord out of the tomb (verse 2).
- Peter and the other follower _____ the tomb (verse 3). The other disciple _____ Peter and _____ the tomb first (verse 4).
- The other follower _____ and looked in at the _____ of _____ (verse 5). Jesus was not there.

4. Peter and the other disciples _____ their homes (*verse 10*), but Mary _____ outside the tomb _____ (*verse 11*). Why do you think she did this? Why didn't Mary go home?
5. A man asked Mary, "Why are you _____? Who is it you are _____?" Mary thought she was speaking to the _____ (*verse 15*).
6. Mary realized that she was talking to _____ (*verse 16*). How do you think Mary knew this? Describe Mary's relationship with Jesus.
7. Jesus told Mary not to _____ him. He told Mary to go _____ to tell the other disciples about him (*verse 17*).

Personal Sharing:

1. After everyone else went home, back to their daily lives, Mary couldn't stop looking for Jesus. She stayed at the tomb searching for him. She didn't want to go back to her daily life until she found him. How can we search for Jesus today? What does that look like?
2. Because Mary stayed at the tomb, searching for Jesus, Jesus appeared to her. Are you searching for Jesus? Explain. Have you experienced Jesus in a special way? If so, explain. (For more stories or to share your story, please visit <https://connectthenations.com/testify>.)
3. Mary Magdalene deeply loved Jesus. Nothing in her life mattered more than being close to Jesus. How do you feel about Jesus?
4. When Mary finds Jesus and realizes that he is alive, she tells others about him. Why did she do this?
5. Have you told anyone what you are learning about Jesus? If yes, who have you told? If no, would you like to tell someone what you are learning about Jesus? Explain.

Homework:

1. Complete the *History Chat* if you did not complete it in this lesson.
2. Go to [Lesson 20](#). Write the definitions of the vocabulary words in your language.
3. Pronounce the vocabulary words using the [Pronunciation Guide](#).
4. Read the text box for [Lesson 20](#). Write the definitions of other words you do not know.
5. Watch *Chapter 20:19-20 of The Gospel of John* movie found on the [Students](#) page of the TalkEnglish website: www.talkenglishprogram.com.
6. Complete *Lesson 20* of the *TalkEnglish Pronunciation Teacher* found on the [Students](#) page.
7. *Homework Challenge*:
 - a. Write about what you have learned about Jesus in the TalkEnglish program. What do you believe about him? Why do you believe this?
 - b. (Optional) Continue praying to the Lord every day this week.

[History Chat](#)

Lesson 20: Jesus Returns John 20: 19-31

¹⁹On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors *locked* for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were *overjoyed* when they saw the Lord.

²¹Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." ²²And with that he *breathed* on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you *forgive* anyone his sins, they are *forgiven*; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

²⁴ Now Thomas...was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the *nail marks* in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop *doubting* and believe."

²⁸ Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not *recorded* in this book. ³¹But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. (NIV)

Vocabulary: (Use *Pronunciation Guide* for help)

to lock

to forgive

nail

to doubt

overjoyed

forgiven

mark

to record

to breathe

Discuss other unfamiliar words.

Comprehension Questions: *Write the answers to these questions in your journal.*

1. After the disciples heard Mary's news, they _____ the doors for _____ of the Jews (verse 19). Why do you think they were afraid?
2. Jesus appeared to his disciples and said, "_____ be with you!" (verse 19). The disciples were _____ when they saw the Lord (verse 20). Why was Jesus able to offer his disciples peace?
3. Then Jesus showed his disciples his _____ (verse 20). Why do you think Jesus did this?
4. Jesus told his disciples that he was sending them (verse 21). What do you think Jesus was sending his disciples to do? (see also verses 22, 23)
5. Jesus said that if the disciples _____ anyone his sins, they would be _____ (verse 23). Jesus died as a sacrifice for our sins. He wants us to believe in him and receive his teachings, his sacrifice, and his Holy Spirit. What else does he want us to do? Why?
6. Thomas did not believe that Jesus was raised from the dead. He would not believe unless he saw the _____ in Jesus's hands (verse 25).
7. Jesus showed himself to Thomas. Jesus said to Thomas, "Put your _____ here; see my _____. Reach out your hand and put it here into my _____. Stop _____ and believe" (verse 27). How did Jesus react to Thomas's doubts?

8. Jesus also said to Thomas, "_____ you have seen me, you have believed; _____ are those who have not seen me _____ have believed" (verse 29). Who is Jesus talking about?
9. John wrote the Book of John so that you can _____ that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Then, by _____, you may _____ in his name (verse 31).

Personal Sharing:

1. Thomas doubted that Jesus rose from death. Do you doubt this? If yes, what would help you to believe? If no, why? What convinced you?
2. Jesus is offering you forgiveness for your sins if you believe in him and follow him. Have you ever received his forgiveness? If yes, explain. If not, do you want this? Explain.
3. As Jesus has forgiven us, he tells us to forgive one another. Read and discuss Matthew 6:14-15. Is there anyone in your life that you need to forgive? If so, why? How can Jesus help you?
4. Is there anyone in your life who needs to forgive you? If so, why? What do you think Jesus would want you to do?
5. John knew that Jesus had risen from the dead because John saw Jesus raised from death. Today, we can know Jesus and be close to him as we read the Bible (Romans 10:17), follow his teachings (John 8:31-32), pray (John 14:13-14), hear the faith of other Christ followers (II Corinthians 5:17-20), go to church (Hebrews 10:24-25), experience his Holy Spirit (I Corinthians 2), and see Jesus working in our lives. In what ways do you want to experience more of Jesus? What could you do for the next three weeks to help you to be closer to Jesus?
6. Take some time to share what you have learned from this program.

Go to the next page.

Congratulations! You have completed the TalkEnglish program.

We hope that you have enjoyed learning new English vocabulary, practicing your pronunciation of English words, and learning about Jesus Christ.

At this time in the course, you have a few options:

1. You may end the TalkEnglish sessions with your instructor. Congratulations for completing all 20 lessons!
2. You may complete the Appendix B: What is Sin? section of the TalkEnglish workbook.
3. You may end the TalkEnglish sessions but continue coming to church and/or Bible discussions with your instructor. You can also join more classes and attend an online House Church through the Connect the Nations program (<https://connectthenations.com>).

Whatever you decide, we are proud of you for completing the TalkEnglish course. We also hope that you will tell others about the program and invite them to participate. We wish well on your journey ahead!

Homework: (for optional *Appendix B: What is Sin?* lessons)

1. Read the Introduction found in Appendix B: What is Sin?. Write the definitions of words you do not know.
2. Continue reading the Bible in English and in your own language.
3. Continue praying to the Lord in Jesus's name every day.
4. Come to church for the next several weeks and meet more Christ followers.
5. Continue enjoying your journey of learning about Jesus and speaking English with new friends!

History Chat Activities

Lesson 2: Who is God's Son?

Historical References (*Homework Challenge*)

1. Share what you learned about the "Law of Moses" with your instructor. You will read more about the Law of Moses in the Lesson 3.
2. Ask questions about words or ideas you did not understand in your reading.

Lesson 3: Who is Jesus?

Map of Ancient Israel and Map of the World

1. Jesus was born in Bethlehem. He grew up in Nazareth. Find these two cities on the Map of Ancient Israel in the back of this workbook. Highlight these cities.
2. On the Map of the World, place a dot where you live. Place a dot where Jesus lived.
3. John fished at the Sea of Galilee. Find the Sea of Galilee on the Map of Ancient Israel. Highlight it.

Biblical Timelines

1. Go to the New Testament Biblical Timeline in this workbook.
2. Find the date when Jesus was born.
3. Find the date when Jesus began teaching.

Historical References (*Homework Challenge*)

1. Share what you learned about the "Lamb of God" with your instructor. You will read more about the Lamb of God in tonight's homework.
2. Ask questions about words or ideas you did not understand in your reading.

Lesson 4: Jesus Changes Water into Wine

Map of Ancient Israel

1. Go to the Map of Ancient Israel in that back of this workbook.
2. Find the city of Cana and the area of Galilee. Highlight them.

Historical References (*Homework Challenge*)

1. Share what you learned about "The Temple as a Marketplace" with your instructor.
2. Ask questions about words or ideas you did not understand in your reading.

Lesson 6: Jesus – A Prophet or the Son of God?

Map of Ancient Israel

1. Go to the Map of Ancient Israel in the back of this workbook.
2. Find Bethsaida, the city where Peter, Andrew, and Philip were born. Highlight it.
3. Find Capernaum, the city where Peter lived later in his life. Highlight it.

Historical References (*Homework Challenge*)

1. Share what you learned about "Sabbath and Sabbath Law" with your instructor.
2. Ask questions about words or ideas you did not understand in your reading.

Lesson 7: Jesus Heals the Blind Man

Historical References (*Homework Challenge*)

1. Share what you learned about "References for 'Flesh and Blood'" with your instructor. Discuss the idea of taking Communion at church.
2. Share what you learned about "Circumcision" and baptism with your instructor. Ask your instructor to share the story of his or her baptism.
3. Ask questions about words or ideas you did not understand in your reading.

Lesson 8: Jesus, the Shepherd

Historical References (*Homework Challenge*)

1. The *Homework Challenge* for Lesson 7 was to write a paragraph about what you are learning about Jesus and the Bible. Read and discuss what you wrote.
2. Allow your instructor to review what you wrote and help you with your English skills.

Lesson 9: Jesus Raises the Dead

Map of Ancient Israel

1. Go to the Map of Ancient Israel in that back of this workbook.
2. Find the city of Bethany near Jerusalem in the area of Judea. Highlight it.

Historical References (*Homework Challenge*)

1. Share what you learned about the "Feast of Dedication / Hanukkah" with your instructor.
2. Ask questions about words or ideas you did not understand in your reading.

Lesson 10: Jesus – Worthy of Honor

Historical References (*Homework Challenge*)

1. The *Homework Challenge* for Lesson 9 was to write a paragraph about church or about heaven. Read and discuss what you wrote.
2. Allow your instructor to review what you wrote and help you with your English skills.

Lesson 11: Jesus Came to Save

Map of Ancient Israel

1. Go to the Map of Ancient Israel in that back of this workbook.
2. Find the city of Jerusalem. Highlight it.

Biblical Timelines

1. Go to the Old Testament Biblical Timeline in this workbook.
2. Find the date when Jewish slavery in Egypt began.
3. Find the date when Moses was born.
4. Find the date where Moses led the Jews out of Egypt.
5. Find the date when the Jews made their home in Canaan (now present-day Israel).

Historical References (*Homework Challenge*)

1. The *Homework Challenge* for Lesson 10 was to write a paragraph about church or about whatever is most important in your life. Read and discuss what you wrote.
2. Allow your instructor to review what you wrote and help you with your English skills.

Lesson 12: Jesus's Greatest Command

Historical References (*Homework Challenge*)

1. Share what you learned about "Satan" with your instructor.
2. Ask questions about words or ideas you did not understand in your reading.
3. Another *Homework Challenge* for *Lesson 11* was to write a paragraph about Judgment Day. Read and discuss what you wrote.
4. Allow your instructor to review what you wrote and help you with your English skills.

Lesson 13: Jesus – The Way to the Father

Historical References (*Homework Challenge*)

1. The *Homework Challenge* for *Lesson 12* was to write about a time when you felt loved by someone. Read and discuss what you wrote.
2. Allow your instructor to review what you wrote and help you with your English skills.

Lesson 14: Jesus Sends a Counselor

Historical References (*Homework Challenge*)

1. The *Homework Challenge* for *Lesson 13* was to write about following one of Jesus's commands. Read and discuss what you wrote.
2. Allow your instructor to review what you wrote and help you with your English skills.

Lesson 15: Jesus – How He Prayed

Historical References (*Homework Challenge*)

1. Share what you learned in the "Ceremonial Uncleaness" section with your instructor.
2. Ask questions about words or ideas you did not understand in your reading.

Lesson 16: Jesus – Wrongly Accused

Historical References (*Homework Challenge*)

1. The *Homework Challenge* for *Lesson 15* was to write a prayer to the Lord. Discuss what you wrote, or talk about your prayers this past week.
2. (Optional) Talk about the needs in your life and in your instructor's life. Pray together about those needs.

Lesson 17: Jesus Dies

1. Watch *The Passion of the Christ* found on the Students page of www.talkenglishprogram.com (scene #16 through the end takes 1 hour).
2. Read Isaiah 53:4-6.
 - a. What did Jesus do for you?
 - b. How does Jesus's love for you make you feel?
 - c. What does Jesus's love for you make you want to do?

Lesson 18: Jesus Fulfills Prophecies

Appendix C: The Prophecies of Jesus

1. Go to *Appendix C: The Prophecies of Jesus* and read the Introduction.
2. Review and talk about some of these prophecies.

Biblical Timelines

1. Go to the New Testament Biblical Timeline in this workbook.
2. Find the date when Jesus died.
3. How long did Jesus teach here on earth?
4. How many people has Jesus affected in this short period of time?

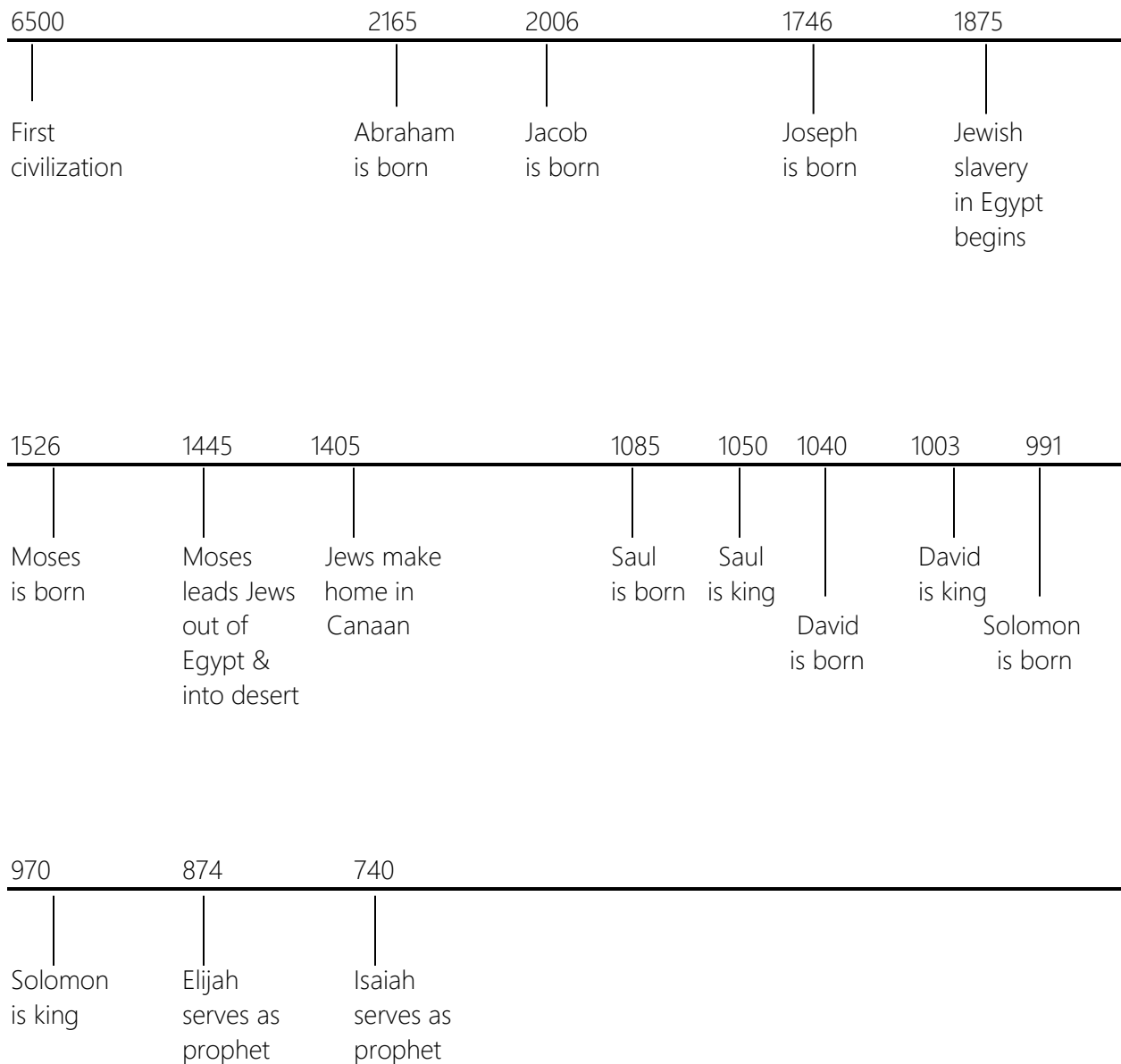
Lesson 19: Jesus is Resurrected

Historical References (Homework Challenge)

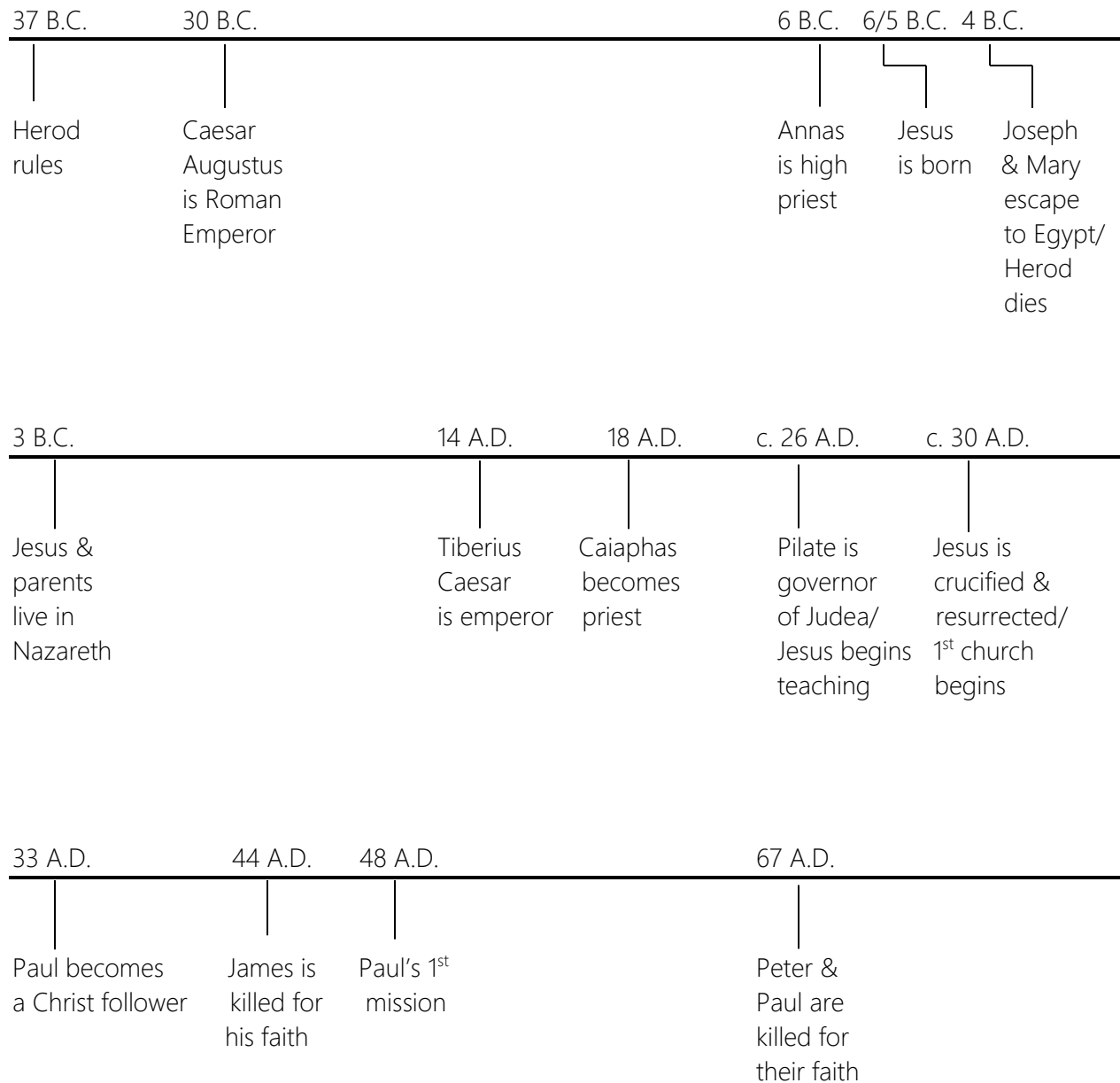
1. The *Homework Challenge* for *Lesson 18* was to write a paragraph about what you learned in the Prophecies of Jesus. Read and discuss what you wrote.
2. Ask questions about words or ideas you did not understand in your reading.

Biblical Timelines

OLD TESTAMENT (B.C.)



NEW TESTAMENT (B.C., A.D.)



HISTORICAL REFERENCES

John 1:1-51

Law of Moses

The Law of Moses is found within the first five books of the Bible. The Law of Moses is a set of religious, moral, social, and ceremonial laws. God gave this Law to Moses for the Jews to follow. The Law required Jews to make sacrifices to God. The Law also had fair and just punishments for crimes.

The Law was created to teach the Jews how to please the Lord. The Lord promised to protect the Jews from eternal judgment if they obeyed its rules. Therefore, the Law was a covenant, or eternal will and promise, for the Jews who obeyed. Through this covenant, God was able to show the Jews his faithfulness and love to those who loved him and kept his commands (Deuteronomy 7:7-12).¹ The entire Law of Moses was almost impossible for any man to follow, and its punishments were strict. God created the Law, though, as a tool to teach men about sin (Romans 3:20) and to help them understand God's mercy. The Law was never meant to offer men mercy. God is the only one who can offer true mercy. In the Old Testament, the Lord showed kindness to men who were sorry for their sins and returned to the Law as a way of life. This was the kind of relationship that the Lord desired, one that a caring and merciful father has with a child who is learning to obey the rules of his parent.

Sadly, the Jewish leaders misunderstood and misused the Law. During later times, they added more laws and made changes to the Law by making the rules stricter. They offered no mercy to men who did not obey their rules. They did this to gain control over other Jews. The Jewish leaders believed that obeying without ever failing was the only way to please God.² The Jewish leaders made God look like a cruel dictator, rather than a compassionate, forgiving, and loving father who cared for and protected his children.

In the New Testament, Jesus challenged the Jewish rulers for their beliefs and actions. He challenged them for boasting about their own righteousness and obedience to their own rules. Jesus tried to teach the Jewish leaders to be humble and to love both God and men more than their rules (Matthew 23). Jesus did not try to remove the Law, but he came to the earth to "fulfill" the Law. Jesus fulfilled the sacrifices of the Law by dying on a cross for the sins of all men. He fulfilled the Law by helping people to understand and follow God's heart behind the Law (Matthew 5:17). He showed them how the Law could help men to love God and to love one another. Later in the New Testament, a disciple of Jesus named Paul explained to the Roman church how God made the Law to teach men right from wrong (Romans 3:20) and to help them understand the difference between what is holy and what is unholy. Many of the Laws were Old Testament physical symbols of spiritual ideas that God would teach the people in the New Testament. Other Laws were symbols of what was going to be fulfilled through Jesus.

In the New Testament, Jesus replaced the punishments of the Law with grace and mercy for people who love the Lord and trust in the Lord's guidance (John 8:1-11). God showed his love and mercy for

his children by sending his only Son Jesus to die for our sins so that we would never be punished for our disobedience (Romans 3:20-24). Even today, God calls us to respond to Jesus's sacrifice with thanksgiving. God wants us to trust that we will receive forgiveness if we accept his Son's sacrifice in and follow his example of loving and obeying our Father in heaven.

Jesus's death is a gift. In dying, Jesus fulfilled all the sacrifices required by the Law of Moses so that we would no longer have to make physical sacrifices for our sins the way the Jews did in the Old Testament (Hebrew 7:26-28). In Jesus, men can find peace with their heavenly Father. As God's true children, we receive forgiveness for our sins and the promise of eternal life. In Christ, we are set free from the law of sin so that we can live a new life – a life of love for God and love for one another. The commands of Jesus are there to protect us and teach us how to live in this new way, yet we are eternally protected from condemnation as we grow and change to become more like Jesus.

Ten Commandments

The Ten Commandments in the Old Testament were the ten most basic commands of God's Law. The Ten Commandments taught men not to sin against other men or against God. For the Israelites to stay God's special people, they had to follow these ten laws found in Exodus 20:1-17. On Mt. Sinai, the Lord gave Moses the Ten Commandments on two stone plates.

Exodus 20:1-17

¹ And God spoke all these words:

² "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

³ "You shall have no other gods before me.

⁴ "You shall not make for yourself an idol [carved image] in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶ but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷ "You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

⁸ "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. ¹¹ For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore, the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

¹² "Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

¹³ "You shall not murder.

¹⁴ "You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵ "You shall not steal.

¹⁶ "You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

¹⁷ "You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."
(NIV)

Baptism (see also *Circumcision*)

Baptism in Greek [*baptisma*] means to place under water. In ancient times, people of many religions in the Eastern part of the world were placed under water, or washed, to be spiritually cleansed.¹⁻² Christian baptism in the New Testament also involves a person going down into water (Acts 8:38). Romans 6:1-10 describes baptism as a way for believers to participate in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. In the same way that Jesus died for our sins on the cross, we too die to our sins at baptism in response to Jesus's sacrifice and gift of forgiveness. When we come out of the water, we begin a new life of following Christ. When Paul decided to follow Jesus, Ananias said to him, "Get up! Be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on His Name" (Acts 22:16). Through baptism, Paul turned away from his sin and responded to Jesus's call to follow him as Lord and Savior.

Lamb of God

In the New Testament, "Lamb of God" is a name for Jesus. This name came from the Old Testament. In Exodus 12, the Egyptians were unkind to the Jews and made them slaves. The Lord wanted to punish the Egyptians for making the Jews slaves. The Lord then sent an angel to punish the Egyptians for making the Jews slaves. To protect the Jews from this punishment, the Lord asked the Jews to sacrifice a lamb and to put the lamb's blood on the doors of their homes. The angel would see the blood and pass over these houses. After this time, the Jews celebrated a time called Passover. Every year during Passover, the Jews ate a lamb to remember how God had "passed over" them and protected them when he punished the Egyptians.

In Leviticus 5:6, the Lord asked the Jews to sacrifice a lamb for their sins. If the Jews sacrificed a healthy lamb, then the Lord forgave the Jews for their sins. The Jews brought their best animals to the temple so that the sacrifice would be meaningful. The physical death of an animal was a way for God to show men how sin causes spiritual death and separates men from God forever. This type of an animal sacrifice was also a physical way that God could demonstrate how sin hurts other people and how sin hurts God. God wanted his people to feel sorry over their sins and sorry for the loss of their animal so that men would not want to continue sinning.

Most importantly, God wanted the Jews to understand the sacrifice he would later make for his children – the sacrifice of his one and only Son Jesus for the forgiveness of their sins. Jesus was a perfect sacrifice. The lambs and other animals were not perfect. For this reason, the animals did not have the power to *take away* sin. So, men had to sacrifice animals over and over again for their sins. Jesus was the final sacrifice for men's sins. Because he was a perfect sacrifice, he has the power to *take away* men's sins and the guilt of their sin. For this reason, no more sacrifices will ever have to be made for those who believe in Jesus, love him, and follow him (Hebrews 10:10-14).

Hebrews 9:11-28 explains more about why Jesus was sacrificed for the sins of man. In the Old Testament, the Lord promised the Jews protection from eternal punishment if they made animal sacrifices for their sins. This eternal protection was also called a covenant, or eternal will and promise.¹ Hebrews 9 says that a written will of a person can change up until the time of that person's death.

Once the person dies, though, the will is final and cannot be changed. God wanted his will to save men from their sins to be permanent. So, God himself had to die to make his will final. God sent himself in the form of his Son Jesus to die on a cross to make his will final. His will was to forgive his children for their sins and to free them from the punishment of sin. Through this act of self-sacrifice, God took away his own right to change his will or his mind about giving his children forgiveness for their sins. This shows God's amazing love for his children and his everlasting commitment to them. The name "Lamb of God" is now a symbol of this powerful, loving, and eternal promise to his children. This promise is for all men who put their faith in Jesus and follow Jesus's teachings.

John 2:12-25

The Temple as a Marketplace

In John 2, Jesus turned over tables in the marketplace of the temple. Jesus's actions may appear strong to many readers, but history helps to explain Jesus's actions. In the Bible, the temple was a holy place, a house of God, and a place of prayer and worship.¹ In John 2, the priests had turned the temple into a chance to make money.² Yet, the priests in John 2 were charging people more money than what the Law required in a region of Israel where many people were too poor to afford the sacrifices or fees.³ Jesus turned over tables in the marketplace of the temple to show God's anger toward the priests.

In John 2, the priests were trying to make money by selling animals for people to sacrifice (see *Historical References*: John 1:1-51 *Lamb of God*). Jesus knew that if men bought their sacrifices, then they would not feel as sorry for their sins. They might never understand the sacrifice that God was going to make for them through his Son. Without this understanding, these men could be saved. By selling animals, the priests were keeping salvation from the Jews, and Jesus was not going to allow this.

Passover

In Exodus 12, the Lord told the Jews that he was going to punish the Egyptians for making the Jews into slaves. To punish the Egyptians, the Lord planned to kill every first-born Egyptian son. To protect the Jews from this punishment, the Lord told the Jews to sacrifice a healthy lamb and to put the lamb's blood on the doors of their homes. The sign of the lamb's blood on the doors would tell the angel of the Lord to protect these Jews from the punishment that God is going to bring upon the Egyptians. Exodus 12:26-27 defines Passover as a yearly time when the Jews remember how the Lord "passed over" the Jewish people's homes when he punished the Egyptians.

John 3:1-21

Jewish Ruling Council

The Jewish ruling council, called the Sanhedrin, was the Jewish supreme court in Jerusalem. The Jewish ruling council had seventy-one members, including chief priests and over twenty-four classes of other priests. The council also included elders, scribes, lawyers, scholars of Jewish law, and other elderly, wise men. The head ruler over the council was the high priest.¹

John 4:1-26

The Relationship between Jews and Samaritans

Samaritans, from Samaria, were a religious group that called themselves Jews. In ancient times, though, the Samaritans worshipped many gods and idols. By Jewish Law, no Jew was to worship other gods or idols. The Samaritans also worshipped on Mount Gerizim, while the Jews worshipped in Jerusalem. The Samaritans did not use Jewish priests but had their own priests. For these reasons, the Samaritans were enemies of the Jews. Through the time of Jesus, the Jews did not talk with Samaritans, and they were unkind to them. So, when Jesus a Jew asked the Samaritan woman for a drink of water, she was surprised.¹ As Jesus spoke to this woman, he showed his love for all men and women and his desire for all people to be saved. He did not treat people differently because of their background or beliefs.

Jacob's Well

Jacob's Well is two miles southeast of Shechem in Palestine. According to tradition, Jacob's Well was dug by Jacob. The well is nine feet wide and seventy-five feet deep. The well is still there today but is now dry.¹

John 5:1-47

Sabbath and Sabbath Law

When the Lord created the world, he rested on the seventh day (Genesis 2:2). In the Ten Commandments, the Lord told the Jews also to rest and not to work on the seventh day of the week, just as the Lord had done. The Lord called the seventh day the Sabbath. In the Old Testament, the Sabbath was a holy day and a day of rest, sacrifice, and worship. The Sabbath was a day for man to celebrate his love for the Lord and to remember his Creator. He was to love the Lord that day and not himself. (Isaiah 58:13-14). The Sabbath also taught men to rely upon the Lord and not upon themselves. A day of rest was a gift of love from the Lord. Deuteronomy 5:12-15 says that the Lord also created the Sabbath to remind the Jews that they were no longer slaves to the Egyptians. The Jews were God's children who had been given the right to rest. In this way, the Lord wanted his

children to feel loved (Isaiah 56:2-7). The people were told not to cook (Exodus 16:23-24), build fires (Exodus 35:3), gather sticks (Numbers 15:32-36), carry heavy items, or carry burdens (Jeremiah 17:22).

If a man obeyed the Sabbath, then he was blessed and honored. If a man disobeyed the Lord's Sabbath, he was put out of Jewish society or put to death (Exodus 31:14, 35:2). A man who disobeyed the Sabbath showed ingratitude toward the Lord's gift. If men were not thankful for God's gifts and disregarded his commands, then they could forget God and lead others to do the same. Today, we may think that God's punishment for disobeying the Sabbath was harsh. But the Lord punished the Jews through death or separation from society to help them understand that without the Lord, they would die spiritually. If the Jews died spiritually, then they would be separated from God eternally. The Lord wanted his children to be saved,¹ so he taught the spiritual truths through physical examples.

In John 5:10, the Jews told the invalid that he was disobeying the Sabbath by carrying his mat. The mat was not heavy and was not a burden. When the man was sick, the mat gave him comfort. So, the sick man in this passage was not disobeying the Sabbath. In John 5:16-18, the Jewish leaders said that Jesus also disobeyed the Sabbath because he had healed the invalid. Yet, Jesus was not working. He was showing love to one of God's children and bringing honor to God. He helped the man to feel special and loved. In this way, Jesus was fulfilling the purpose of the Sabbath.

John 6:25-71

References to "Flesh" and "Blood"

In John 6:54, Jesus said, "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life" (NIV). What did Jesus mean? Jesus explained the phrase "Whoever eats my flesh...has eternal life" when he said, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world" (John 6:51, NIV). Here Jesus called his flesh "bread" from heaven, or also known as manna (see *Historical References: John 6:25-71, [Manna in the Desert](#)*). Bread from heaven is spiritual food, not physical food. So, Jesus was not talking about people eating his physical flesh or drinking his physical blood. He is referring to our spiritual dependence on Jesus for our spiritual food and drink.

John 1 says that Jesus is the Word of God and that the Word became flesh. So, the flesh refers to Jesus's body that he gave as a sacrifice on the cross for our sins. This bread is also the words of Jesus. The man who trusts in Jesus's sacrifice for his sins and lives on Jesus's words and teachings will have eternal life.

What did Jesus mean when he said, "Whoever...drinks my blood has eternal life"? The word "drink" comes from the Greek word *pino*. *Pino* not only means to drink but also means to take into the soul whatever makes a person spiritually strong.¹ Jesus wants men to take into their soul his death and the blood that he gave on the cross for their sins. Jesus wants men to be so impacted by his love and sacrifice for them that they would want to follow him, rather than feeling like they are required to follow him.

Jesus sacrificed his flesh and blood on the cross to put sin to death the power of sin in our lives. Romans 6:5-11 teaches us that if we also die to sin because of Jesus's sacrifice for us, then we become one with Jesus. Turning away from sin, we no longer live for sin but for Christ, depending on the blood of his sacrifice for our sins as our spiritual drink and feeding on his Word for our food. In this way, we become one in flesh and blood with Jesus.

Manna in the Desert

In the book of John, Jesus calls himself the true bread from heaven that gives eternal life to people who live on it. John 6:27, Jesus told the crowd, "Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you" (NIV). In reply, the Jews said to Jesus, "Our forefathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat'" (John 6:31, Psalm 105:40, NIV). The Jews were referring to the forty years when Moses led the Jews out of slavery in Egypt and into the desert toward the Promised Land of Israel (Exodus 16). During this time, God gave the Jewish forefathers physical food to eat called manna, or bread from heaven. In John 6:27, the Jews told Jesus that they did not need Jesus's bread because God had already given their forefather's manna. Yet, this manna spoiled the day after the Jewish forefathers received it because it was physical bread. The true bread of Jesus, spiritual bread of his flesh, lasts forever and never spoils. Jesus was offering the Jews this eternal bread: the bread of his sacrifice on the cross that would give them forgiveness for their sins and an eternal relationship with their heavenly Father.

John 7:1-25

Jewish Feast of the Tabernacles

The Feast of the Tabernacles (John 7:2) took place on the fifteenth day of the seventh month of the ancient Jewish calendar.¹ The Feast of the Tabernacles was a time for the Jews to celebrate their love for the Lord and to give him thanks. During this feast, the Jews met together to worship the Lord and did not work for seven days. God asked the Jews to sacrifice food, drink, and animals everyday as a way of showing their gratitude to God for blessing them. God also asked the Jews to sacrifice a goat for their sins and to make fellowship offerings. Fellowship offerings were signs of peace between the Lord and his people. When bringing a fellowship offering, a Jew would eat part of the sacrifice during the Feast as a way to show friendship or fellowship with the Lord.² During the feast, the people lived in huts. The huts helped the Jews to remember how their forefathers had lived in huts when the Lord led them out of slavery in Egypt and into the desert. The account of the Feast of the Tabernacles can be found in Numbers 29, Leviticus 23, and Deuteronomy 16.

Circumcision

In John 7, Jesus tried to help the Jews see that he did not sin in healing a sick man on the Sabbath. He reminded the Jews that they circumcise male children on the Sabbath to purify the male children and fulfill the Law God had given them. Circumcision is a procedure that removes the top layer of skin that covers a male's sexual organ. In the Law of Moses, God gave his people this act of circumcision as a

physical sign of his promise to purify them spiritually. Jesus explained that by physically healing the sick man on the Sabbath, he not only healed the man physically, but he also purified the entire man spiritually. In this way, Jesus fulfilled God's heart behind the law of circumcision and its role on the Sabbath Day.

Old Testament Circumcision

Abraham was the first man to be circumcised (Genesis 17). Any man in his tribe also had to be circumcised to show that they were God's children and spiritual sons of Abraham. Men wanted to be sons of Abraham because God had given Abraham a special promise. Even though Abraham was ninety-nine years old, God had promised Abraham that he would be the father of many nations of Jewish people who would follow the Lord. In this way, all sons of Abraham were God's people. The sons of Abraham's sons would also be rulers of many Jewish tribes. If Abraham's descendants were not circumcised, then they were not considered Abraham's children. Therefore, every Jewish male baby was circumcised eight days after birth, making him a son of Abraham. In this way, circumcision was a symbol to these men that they were special among men and that they belonged to the Lord.

Circumcision had another spiritual meaning as well. Deuteronomy 30:6 says, "The Lord your God will circumcise your hearts and the hearts of your descendants, so that you may love him with all your heart and with all your soul, and live" (NIV). God used circumcision to remind the male Jews that they were to purify their hearts and live for the Lord. Jeremiah 9:25-26 says that circumcision was meaningless if men did not purify their hearts. For this reason, physical circumcision was just a physical sign of two spiritual concepts. (1) The man belonged to the Lord. The Lord loved him and accepted him as his own child. (2) Because of this divine love and acceptance, God asked his children to devote themselves to him as their Father, by loving him and following his commands.

New Testament "Circumcision"

In the Old Testament, all Jewish males were circumcised. Most men, though, had trouble keeping their hearts pure and devoted to the Lord. Jesus came and showed that he had the power to make men pure. In Romans 8:3-4, Paul said, "For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so, he condemned sin in sinful man, in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit" (NIV). Paul was saying that Jesus's sacrifice on the cross purified men's hearts because Jesus put sin to death on the cross. Now when men follow Jesus, Jesus gives them power to overcome sin. Because Jesus helps men to be pure and live for the Lord, men in the New Testament no longer have to be circumcised the way that the Jews were. The Christians experience a different kind of circumcision called baptism.

Paul said to the Christians in Colossians 2:11-12, "In him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature, not with a circumcision done by the hands of men but with the circumcision done by Christ, having been buried with him in baptism and raised with [Christ] through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead" (NIV). The phrase "having been buried with him in baptism" tells us the time when this spiritual circumcision happens: baptism. Baptism is not a physical

circumcision done by the hands of men; it is a spiritual one done by Christ. At baptism, Jesus removes man's sin and gives him a new heart and a new life. Once men believe in Jesus and receive his teachings as the final authority in their lives (John 1:12), baptism is a step that Jesus asks us to take to show that we are devoted to him, that we accept his sacrifice for our sins, and that we want to walk in agreement with his plan to purify our hearts and our lives.

Just as the Jew in the Old Testament had to purify himself and live for the Lord, the New Testament believer must also want to purify himself from sin and live for the Lord at baptism. Paul says in Romans 6:2-4 that "We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life" (NIV). Again, in Romans 8:13 Paul says, "For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live..." (NIV). Therefore, the believer at baptism must also decide to leave his life of sin and live for Christ. The baptized man knows that he will never be perfect, but he puts his trust and faith in the power of Jesus to save him, to make him clean, and to give him a new life.

John 9:1-34

Pool of Siloam

The Pool of Siloam was located across the Kidron Valley in the village of Siloam, just east of Jerusalem. The pool was made of stone, lime powder, and rock. The Pool of Siloam was a pool that men thought was sacred, and many people from Jerusalem used the pool.¹

Accusation of Sin for Being Blind at Birth

In John 9, Jesus healed a blind man and put mud on the man's eyes. He then tells him to go wash in the Pool of Siloam. The Pharisees were angry that Jesus had healed this man. They did not honor God for the healing. Instead, the Pharisees told the blind man that he had been a sinner since birth (John 9:34). The Pharisees believed that a person born with a deformity had sinned in the womb. They believed that God punished this person by making them deformed. This belief is not found anywhere in the Bible.¹

John 10:22-42

Feast of Dedication / Hanukkah

Today the Feast of Dedication is known as Hanukkah.¹ In John 10:22-23, Jesus walked around Solomon's Colonnade at the temple during the Feast of Dedication. Solomon's Colonnade was a porch on the east side of the Jewish temple in Jerusalem. The Jews believed that the Colonnade had

been the entrance to the inner court of the ancient holy temple built by King Solomon, who began ruling in 970 B.C.²

In 169 B.C., the Greeks conquered Jerusalem. After that time, the Greeks worshipped Zeus in Solomon's holy Jewish temple. They also killed any Jew who tried to worship God or make sacrifices to God instead of Zeus. According to Jewish text, the Greek leader Antiochus IV roasted a pig on the altar of the Lord in 167 B.C. A small group of Jews led by Judas Maccabeus became angry and miraculously conquered the powerful Greeks in 164 B.C.³ For eight days, the Jews rebuilt the altar of the Lord. The Feast of Dedication celebrates this victory and the revival of Jewish worship to the Lord in Jerusalem.⁴

When Jesus walked around Solomon's Colonnade during this festival, he could have been remembering the importance of this celebration. He could have been remembering his role to protect the Lord's people against other people who want to conquer them. As Jesus walked around the Colonnade he said, "I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand" (John 10:28-29, NIV).

John 12:12-19

Daughter of Zion

Zion is another name for Jerusalem. The first temple for Jewish worship was built in Jerusalem at the top of the highest hill. The Jews believed that God lived on Mount Zion. The Jews who lived in Jerusalem were called "Daughters of Zion." Zion was also the place where Jesus was crucified for the sins of man.¹

John 13:1-35

Satan

Satan is another name for enemy. Satan also means "one who resists."² Other names for Satan are "Lucifer," "the devil," "the serpent," "the dragon," "the prince of this world," and "father of all lies." Revelation 12:9 says that God threw Satan down to the earth with his demons when Satan became arrogant and evil. In the New Testament, Satan is able to give people illnesses (Luke 13:16). He also causes people to rebel and sin against God and each other. He causes people not to have self-control over sexual temptation (I Corinthians 7:5). Satan has the power to do miraculous signs that lead people away from the truth (II Thessalonians 2:9). Satan wants to destroy and hurt Christians. He can enter men's hearts, as he did with Judas (Luke 22:3). By entering men's hearts, he can cause men to destroy themselves and other men. Satan even has the power to fill the hearts of believers with evil, as he did with Ananias (Acts 5:3). Satan can pretend that he is an angel of light to make people think that he is good (II Corinthians 11:14). When a person first hears the word of God, Satan can take away the seed of God's word from that person's heart (Mark 4:15). Satan can keep Christians from

preaching the Gospel (I Thessalonians 2:18). Satan also has the power to tempt believers away from Jesus to follow evil ways (I Timothy 5:15). When a man holds on to anger and unforgiveness, the man gives Satan power over his life (Ephesians 5:26-27).¹

Jesus came to earth to destroy the work of the devil. Only through Jesus can a man overcome the devil. The armor of God protects a Christian from Satan's power. The armor of God is built through faith, prayer, truth, salvation, the Holy Spirit, and the word of God. A man can use the armor of God to fight the devil and overcome him (Ephesians 6:10-18). Jesus gives his followers strength during these trials (Luke 22:31-32). When Christ returns to earth, he will conquer Satan. Christ will throw Satan into a fiery pit where Satan will be tortured forever. Then Christ will rule for eternity, and no one will challenge him (Revelation 20:7-10). The man who follows Christ and fights against Satan using God's armor will also live with Christ for eternity.

John 16:28-40

Ceremonial Uncleaness

In John 18:28, the Jews took Jesus from the Jewish high priest Caiaphas to the Roman governor Pontius Pilate to begin Jesus's trial. The Jews wanted Jesus to be crucified because Jesus claimed to be the Son of God. The Jewish high priest Caiaphas does not have the legal right to crucify a man. Therefore, the Jews took Jesus to the Roman governor Pontius Pilate who had that right.

It was the week of Passover (see *Historical References*: John 2:12-25, Passover). The Jews wanted to be able to celebrate the Passover with their Jewish friends and family. If the Jews entered the home of the Roman governor, who was not Jewish, and they touched men who were not Jewish, then they would be ceremonially unclean. If they were ceremonially unclean, then they would not be able to celebrate the Passover.¹

In the Old Testament, the Law stated that the Jews were not to touch or eat anything unclean. If they did, they had to separate themselves from the other Jews for a time. Examples of unclean objects were dead bodies, people with leprosy, human bones or graves, bodily fluids, and certain foods (Leviticus 22:4-8). God made these laws to teach the Jews a lesson about holiness (Leviticus 18:23-26). The Jews could not physically see or touch holiness and unholiness. Therefore, God made certain physical objects "clean" and other objects "unclean" so that the Jews could see and touch these objects. God made objects holy and unholy so that the Jews could better understand the difference between these ideas.²

In John 18, the Jews did not enter the Roman governor's home because they wanted to be clean and be able to eat the sacrificed lamb at Passover. These Jews did not understand that by sending Jesus to the cross, they were killing the true Lamb who could forgive their sins. They did not understand that the man they were crucifying was the only one who could make them truly clean (see *Historical References*: John 1:1-51, Lamb of God). Even today, men who turn away from Jesus turn away from the

greatest gift that the Lord has ever given to his children, a chance to be made clean, to be forgiven for sins, and to gain eternal life.

John 19:1-37

Casting Lots

In ancient times, a “lot” in Hebrew was a pebble. In the Roman society, a “lot” was a piece of wood.¹ The Jews believed that they could learn the Lord’s will or receive an answer to a prayer by “casting lots.” Men cast lots when they wanted to make a serious decision,² such as choosing a king or leader.

Lots were placed in jars with a narrow neck so that only one lot could come out at a time. The jar was then filled with water, shaken, and poured out. The Jews would know the answer to a prayer based on how the lots came out of the jar. Sometimes, the lots were placed in jars with larger necks. A person would place their hand in the jar without looking into the jar. Then he would pull out one lot at a time to know the answer to a prayer. In other cases, lots were rolled like dice.³ The only example in the New Testament of Christians casting lots is in Acts 1:24-26. Here the apostles asked the Lord who should replace Judas Iscariot as an apostle. (Other references for casting lots are found in Numbers 26:55, Joshua 7:14, I Samuel 10:20-21, I Chronicles 24:3-5, 24:19, Esther 3:7, Proverbs 16:33, and Luke 1:9).

Crucifixion

To crucify Jesus, Roman soldiers strapped a 110-pound wooden beam across Jesus’s bloody shoulders. They forced Jesus to carry the wooden beam across the streets of the city and up the hill of Golgotha. At the top of the hill, the soldiers spread Jesus’s arms across the beam. They beat a large, thick iron nail through the bones of Jesus’s wrists. Then the soldiers pulled Jesus’s legs down the cross. They placed his left foot over his right foot and beat nails through the arches of his feet. They then lifted the cross and set it into the ground. Jesus’s body slumped into the nails of his feet, and he hung from the nails in his wrists. The nails pushed against the nerves in Jesus’s wrists and feet, shooting sharp pain through his legs, arms, shoulders, and brain. To breathe, Jesus had to push against the nails in his feet to lift his body. The wood scratched his back, which had just been flogged. After several hours, Jesus could no longer hold up his body. He had trouble breathing. Carbon dioxide filled his lungs. Fluid filled his chest and crushed his heart. Jesus tried to breathe, but he could not. With his last breath, he said, “It is finished” (John 19:30, NIV) and then, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit” (Luke 23:46, NIV).¹

Who's Who in the Bible

OLD TESTAMENT

Abraham

Abraham was the father of the Israel's Jewish nation. He was born in 2165 B.C. in southern Ur. Ur was a city along the Euphrates River in ancient Sumer, now known as Iraq. Abraham lived among the Chaldeans.¹ The Chaldeans were an educated people who practiced sorcery and worshipped spiritual beings.²

Abraham's wife was Sarah. Sarah was not able to have children. But the Lord had special plans for Abraham and Sarah. When Abraham was one hundred years old and Sarah was ninety, God promised Abraham that he would have many children belonging to the Lord. Abraham's children would be the Lord's special people. God would save these special people on the Day of Judgment. The Lord made all male Jewish children get circumcised eight days after their birth. This circumcision showed that the child was a son of Abraham and a son of God. God used circumcision to help the Jews remember the promise of the Lord: that they would be saved on Judgment Day. God also wanted the Jews to remember that they should be pure and live their lives for him (see also *Historical References*: John 7:1-25, [Circumcision](#)).

Abraham's life teaches us about faith in God's promises. Abraham had faith when the Lord told him that he would have a nation of children when Abraham was one hundred years old. Abraham had faith and obeyed the Lord when the Lord told him to leave his family and go to a foreign country. Abraham had faith when the Lord told him to sacrifice his son Isaac. In every situation, Abraham obeyed the Lord and believed that God would help him somehow. For example, just before Abraham was to sacrifice his son Isaac, God stopped him and gave Abraham a ram to sacrifice. God tested Abraham's faith, and Abraham loved and trusted the Lord.³ The account of Abraham can be found in Genesis 11:27-25:12.

David

David was born in 1040 B.C., and his father's name was named Jesse. David's prayers to God are written in the Book of Psalms. Because David loved God, the Lord made him king over Israel in 1003 B.C. As a young boy, David was a strong shepherd. By himself, David killed a bear and a lion to save his sheep. The Lord led Samuel the prophet to find David and make him king. David was to take the place of Saul, an evil king of Israel. Before the Lord made David king, Samuel brought David to Saul's palace where David served Saul. David often played the harp for Saul to calm Saul's evil spirit.

An ancient Phoenician tribe lived between Judea and Egypt when David was serving Saul. During this time, the Phoenicians attacked the Israelites. To protect the Israelites, David killed the Philistines' nine-foot champion Goliath with a rock and a sling shot. The Israelites praised David, and Saul became jealous of David. He tried many times to kill David, but David ran away from Saul and hid in various

cities, towns, and caves. Twice David could have killed Saul. But both times he set Saul free. David and his men won many battles against Israel's enemies. Saul became so ashamed that he eventually took his own life.

When Saul died, David became king over Judah and Israel. He won many more battles. When the Israelites were fighting against the Ammonites, though, David stayed home. On his rooftop, David saw a woman named Bathsheba, who was bathing. During this time, Bathsheba's husband was fighting in a battle, so David committed adultery with her. Bathsheba became pregnant with David's child. When David learned that Bathsheba was pregnant with his child, he had Bathsheba's husband killed on the battlefield. The Lord sent a man named Nathan to tell David that he had sinned. David agreed that he had sinned and said, "I have sinned against the Lord" (II Samuel 12:13, NIV).

Immediately, the Lord forgave David, but the Lord still punished David and his family for his sin. The Lord did not let David and Bathsheba's son live. Also, David's other son Absalom was killed when he tried to overthrow David as king. David still won many more battles for the Israelites, and he praised God for these victories. But David began to rely on the strength of his army, instead of God. Again, David saw his sin and prayed to God for forgiveness. The Lord had mercy on David and blessed him. The Lord even made David's son Solomon the king. After David ruled for forty years, David died thanking the Lord for his friendship. The account of David can be found in I and II Samuel.

Elijah

Elijah was a prophet from Gilead, or Jordan. He lived between 800 and 900 B.C. He taught the people to worship the one true God and no other gods. Elijah did miracles to show people the power of God. He spoke against the king of Israel Ahab because Ahab worshipped the false god Baal. Elijah said there would be a drought that would punish the Israelites for worshipping Baal. What he said came true. Elijah also helped the people to worship God, instead of Baal. Elijah helped the people to understand God's love for them. He taught the people to see the Lord as a loving God. Elijah helped many people, but some people still worshipped Baal. Later Elijah showed Ahab's wife Jezebel her sin. This made her mad, and she wanted to kill Elijah. So, Elijah ran away to Mount Horeb, or Mount Sinai. There the Lord spoke to Elijah in a peaceful whisper. The Lord encouraged Elijah and told him how to get away from Jezebel. Elijah was able to get away and was taken by the Lord up to heaven in a whirlwind.¹ Accounts of Elijah are found in I and II Kings.

Isaiah

Isaiah was a prophet who prophesied from 758-698 B.C. about Judea and Jerusalem.¹ Born into a wealthy family, Isaiah told the political leaders of Judah how to please God. He told these leaders not to be friends with leaders of foreign countries that did not worship the Lord. Isaiah preached against the sin of these foreign countries and against the sin of the Israelites.²

The book of Isaiah was written in the eighth century B.C. The book of Isaiah contains many prophecies about the coming Messiah that later come true in the life of Jesus. Isaiah 53 is an

excellent example of a description of Jesus written hundreds of years before Jesus's birth. Isaiah 53 contains descriptions about Jesus's life, his death, and his mercy for men. The book of Isaiah also declares that the Messiah will help people to be saved. In this book, Isaiah predicts the coming of the Messiah, as well as the coming of his kingdom, his mercy, and his judgment of all mankind. To prepare people for the Messiah, Isaiah tells people to confess their sins and change their ways. According to tradition, Isaiah was sawed in two for his faith in 680 B.C.³

Jacob

Jacob was born near 2006 B.C. He was a shepherd with his father Isaac, his mother Rebekah, and his older brother Esau. As the older brother, Esau had some rights and blessings that the younger son

Jacob did not have. Esau went away from home. He became hungry and returned home. For food, Esau sold his rights as an elder son to his brother. After Jacob traded food for Esau's rights as the older son, Jacob pretended to be his brother Esau. Jacob's father Isaac was blind. Pretending to be Esau, Jacob came to his father and asked his father to give him the blessing that belonged to the older son Esau. Jacob's father gave Jacob the blessing. Esau was very angry with Jacob, so Jacob was sent away from the family to get a wife. On his journey, Jacob fell in love with a woman named Rachel. Rachel's father, Laban, made Jacob work for him for seven years to marry Rachel. However, Laban wanted Jacob to marry Rachel's older daughter Leah. When the seven years were over, Laban gave Jacob his daughter Leah instead of Rachel.¹

Jacob's life is a story of struggle. He struggled with his relationship with his brother Esau, and he struggled with Laban for years to win Rachel as his wife. Jacob even wrestled with the Lord to receive the Lord's blessing. This time Jacob won, and the Lord blessed him. Before Jacob met the Lord, Jacob had used lies to win his struggles. But the Lord taught Jacob to struggle righteously for what Jacob wanted. The Lord taught Jacob to use humility and kindness to win over other men, rather than lying. When Jacob wrestled with the Lord and won, the Lord gave Jacob the new name Israel.² Israel means "He shall be a prince of God."³ The name Israel was also the name given to the Jewish people who belonged to the Lord. The story of Jacob's life can be found in the book of Genesis 26-35.

Joseph

Joseph was born near 1746 B.C. in the region of Padan-aram. Padan-aram is in Mesopotamia, or modern-day Iraq. Joseph was the son of Jacob and Rachel. Joseph also had several brothers. At the age of seventeen, Joseph had poor relationships with his brothers because he spoke badly about his brothers to his father Jacob. His brothers were also jealous of Joseph because he was their father's favorite son. Joseph had a dream about how he would rule over his brothers someday, and he told his brothers about the dream. His brothers became angry and wanted to kill Joseph. They did not kill him but threw him into a dry well instead. Then they sold him as a slave to an Egyptian named Potiphar. Potiphar's wife accused Joseph of seducing her. Therefore, Potiphar sent Joseph to prison. In prison, Joseph received a gift from the Lord: He was able to interpret dreams. The Pharaoh, or Egyptian ruler, heard of Joseph's gift and asked Joseph to interpret one of the Pharaoh's dreams.

Joseph said to the Pharaoh that the dream told the future of Egypt. Egypt was going to have seven years of feasting and then seven years of famine.

Because Joseph was able to interpret Pharaoh's dream, the Pharaoh made Joseph the second highest leader over Egypt. During Egypt's feast, Joseph saved much food for the famine. During the famine, Joseph fed the hungry Egyptians with the food he had saved. At that time, Joseph's father sent Joseph's brothers to get food from Egypt. The brothers went to the Pharaoh's palace and spoke to Joseph about their needs. The brothers begged Joseph for food, but they did not recognize him. In doing this, the brothers fulfilled the dream that Joseph had when he was a boy: that he would rule over his brothers. Joseph felt mercy for his brothers and his father. He told his brothers who he was, and Joseph became his brothers' friends. Joseph's life is a story of a young, arrogant boy who grows up to be a loving man of God. The account of Joseph can be found in Genesis 37-50.

Moses

Moses was a Jewish Israelite born in 1526 B.C. He was born in the city of Goshen in Egypt. Moses was born into the tribe of Levite. The Levitical tribe is a tribe of Jewish priests. Near the time that Moses was born, the Pharaoh, or Egyptian ruler, made the Israelites slaves in Egypt. The Pharaoh was very cruel to them. He decided to kill all the male Israelite babies to keep the Israelites from becoming too powerful. So Moses's mother hid Moses in a basket. She sent him down the Nile River to keep him from being killed. The Pharaoh's daughter found Moses. She kept him as her own child. Moses never forgot his true home and family, and later became a leader of the Israelites.

The Lord came to Moses in the form of a burning bush on Mount Sinai. There the Lord told Moses to lead the Israelites out of slavery and away from Egypt. With much trouble, Moses did lead the Israelites out of slavery. The Israelites travelled away from Egypt for forty years and wandered through the desert. During this time, Moses told the Israelites about the Ten Commandments, the ten most basic required commands of God (Exodus 20). He also taught them the rest of God's Law found within the first five books of the Old Testament. In the desert, Moses had many challenges with the people he was leading. Moses found strength in the hope of God's promise that God would lead him to a better life, a better land, and an eternal life. Moses and his journey with the Israelites through the desert teach us about leadership, perseverance, and faith. The account of Moses can be found in Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, and Joshua.

Solomon

Solomon was the son of David and Bathsheba when David and Bathsheba were married. David made Solomon king near the time that David was to die. Solomon brought sacrifices to the Lord at the Lord's altar in Jerusalem. He built the first temple of the Lord where he kept the Ark of the Covenant. The Ark of the Covenant held the Ten Commandments. Solomon's father David had begun to build the temple but was not able to finish it.

One night the Lord came to Solomon. He told Solomon to pray for whatever he wanted. Solomon asked for wisdom about how to rule God's people and how to know right from wrong. Because

Solomon did not ask for wealth and power, the Lord gave Solomon what he had asked for: wisdom, as well as wealth and power. The Lord wanted to honor Solomon for his prayer to lead God's people. Solomon is one of the writers of the book of Proverbs, a book of wisdom. The book tells men how to live good lives and how to receive eternal life. The book also tells men how to avoid sin.¹ Many scholars also believe that Solomon wrote the book Song of Songs. Song of Songs is a love story between Solomon and a woman who became his wife.² Yet Solomon loved foreign women that the Lord had said not to marry. Solomon had 700 wives and 300 concubines who led Solomon away from the Lord to worship other gods. Solomon died without living fully for the Lord. The Lord came to Solomon twice to guide him, but Solomon did not obey what the Lord said. The Lord punished Solomon by taking part of the kingdom from his family. The accounts of Solomon can be found in II Samuel, I Kings, and II Chronicles.

NEW TESTAMENT

Andrew

Andrew was born in Bethsaida in the region of Galilee. Andrew was Simon Peter's brother and one of Jesus's twelve apostles, or messengers.¹ He was a fisherman and a follower of John the Baptist, who also taught about Jesus. Andrew was one of the first disciples of Jesus. He told his brother Simon Peter about Jesus. Andrew was the disciple who found a boy with five loaves of bread and two fish and gave them to Jesus to feed five thousand people. He was present in Acts 1 when Jesus appeared to the disciples after his death.²

Annas, Father-in-law of Caiaphas

Annas was a Jewish high priest from 7-14 A.D. He was the first Jewish official to question Jesus in court. After questioning Jesus, Annas sent Jesus to his son-in-law Caiaphas. Caiaphas was made high priest on or near 25 A.D. Annas was possibly not a ruling high priest at the time of Jesus. Annas had been removed from the position by the Romans. In Jewish courts the Jews still saw Annas as a high priest with legal authority because they believed that a high priest held his position for life. In Jesus's case, Annas was probably serving as a substitute high priest or president of the Sanhedrin, the Jewish ruling council.¹ Annas had five sons who were all high priests.²

Caesar

"Caesar" was the name given to Roman emperors after the death of Julius Caesar in 44 B.C. In the New Testament, these emperors ruled over Judea. Under this leadership, the Jews had to pay taxes to Caesar. If the Jews were Roman citizens, they had the right to appeal their court cases to Caesar if they disagreed with a lower court's decision. The names of Caesars in the New Testament are Augustus (63 B.C.-14 A.D.), Claudius (10 B.C.-54 A.D.), Tiberius (42 B.C.-37 A.D.), and Nero (36-68 A.D.).

Caiaphas (also Caiphas)

Caiaphas was the son-in-law of Annas and was high priest from 27-36 A.D. Caiaphas ruled under Emperor Tiberius (see *Who's Who in the Bible*, [Caesar](#)). Caiaphas was a member of the Sadducees, a ruling political party of the Sanhedrin, the Jewish ruling council. He was the second Jewish official to question Jesus after Annas. Caiaphas wanted to kill Jesus because he was afraid that Jesus would overthrow the Roman government. Caiaphas did not want to feel guilty for his actions, so he said that it would be good for a man to die for the people. He knew that the Old Testament had spoken of this idea, so he used it to justify killing Jesus.¹ However, Caiaphas did not have the authority to kill Jesus. Only a high Roman civil official could put a man to death. Therefore, Caiaphas sent Jesus to the Roman governor, Pilate.² What Caiaphas did not know was that he was putting to death the Messiah (John 11:49-53). Caiaphas's use of the Scriptures to justify putting Jesus to death is an example of what Jesus had said about the Jewish teachers of his day: "You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life" (John 5:39-40, NIV).

Christ (see [Jesus](#))

Clopas (also Cleopas, Cleophas, and Alphaeus)

Clopas was the father of the apostle James the Less, not the same as the apostle James, the son of Zebedee. Clopas's wife's name was Mary. In the New Testament Mary is called Mary, the wife of Clopas.¹ She was possibly the sister of Mary, Jesus's mother.² In the New Testament, James the Less was also called Jesus's brother, from the Greek word *adelphos*. However, *adelphos* can also mean "brethren," a much broader term. James and his brothers might have been cousins of Jesus, not brothers. They were not sons of Jesus's mother, Mary. They were sons of Clopas and his wife Mary.³

Jesus

In Hebrew, Jesus means "Jehovah [God] is salvation."¹ Jesus is the Son of God, the Savior of all men,² and God in the flesh. He is the Messiah, or the anointed one of God.³ An anointed man has been dedicated to the service of God.⁴ In the Old Testament, the prophets spoke to the Jews about the coming Messiah, and Jesus was the fulfillment of those prophecies (see [Appendix C: The Prophecies of Jesus](#)). Other names of Jesus include "Christ," "Savior," "Immanuel," "Light of the World," "Lamb of God," "Son of David," "Redeemer," "the Chosen One," "King of kings," and "Lord of lords,"⁵ "the Teacher," and "Son of Man."

Jesus was born of God through his mother Mary, a virgin, in or around 6 B.C. Mary gave birth to Jesus in a manger in Bethlehem with her husband Joseph by her side. Jesus grew up in Nazareth and began his ministry at the age of thirty. The words of Jesus can be found in the first four books of the New Testament: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. More of Jesus's teachings can be found in the other books of the New Testament. These books were letters and accounts written by the apostles and early followers of Christ.⁶

During Jesus's ministry, he travelled throughout Phoenicia, Galilee, Samaria, and Judea, which would include modern Israel, the West Bank, Syria, the southern border of Lebanon, and Jordan. He taught people how to receive forgiveness from God for their sins, to receive eternal life in heaven, and to live a life that pleases the Lord. Jesus was crucified for the sins of man in Jerusalem at the age of thirty-three in 30 A.D. His body was buried in a tomb and raised to heaven three days after his death. His death, burial, and resurrection provided a way for men to be saved. Jesus taught that for men to be saved, they must put their faith in him as the Son of God and follow his teachings throughout their lives.⁷

John (writer of the book of John)

John was one of Jesus's twelve apostles, or messengers. He was the son of Zebedee and Salome and the brother of James the apostle.¹ They had a family fishing business in Galilee near or in Bethsaida.

John's family members were business partners with Peter and his brother Andrew. John most likely wrote his account of Jesus in Ephesus in 78 A.D.² In his account, John refers to himself as the one that Jesus loved. Jesus also gave John and his brother James the name "Sons of Thunder."³

John personally knew the high priest Caiaphas. Therefore, either John had a political role, or his family was wealthy and could have been friends with the Caiaphas and his family. Because John knew the high priest, he was able to go with Jesus into court before Jesus died. When Mary Magdalene told John and Peter that Jesus had risen from the dead, Peter and John raced to the tomb together. When John, Peter, and the other disciples were in a boat, John was the first to see the risen Jesus walk on water.⁴

After Jesus's death, John spent his life preaching and teaching about Jesus. In his old age, John was exiled because of his faith. He was sent to the island of Patmos to work in the mines. Later John was able to return to Ephesus and died near 100 A.D.⁵ The book of John was most likely written between 70 and 90 A.D. John the apostle might have been the writer of I, II, and III John as well, but the authorship of these books has not been confirmed.⁶

John the Baptist

John the Baptist was Jesus's cousin by marriage. He was born six months before Jesus. Both of John's parents, Zacharias and Elisabeth, were part of a family of priests. From birth, John the Baptist was set apart for the service of God. Dressed like an ancient prophet, he wore camel hair. He lived by himself in the wilderness west of the Dead Sea on a diet of locusts and honey. Many people came to John to hear his teachings about the coming of Jesus. John told the people to prepare for meeting the Messiah by turning from sin and being baptized. Because of his strong teaching against sin, John the Baptist was placed in prison and beheaded.¹

Joseph (husband of Mary, Jesus's mother)

Joseph was the husband of Mary, Jesus's mother. Joseph was a righteous man and a descendant of David. He lived in Nazareth, located in Galilee. Joseph was not the biological father of Jesus. Mary was a virgin who gave birth to Jesus through God's power (Luke 1). Joseph decided to divorce Mary quietly when he learned that she was pregnant before their wedding. An angel told Joseph not to divorce Mary because she was carrying the Messiah, so Joseph obeyed the Lord. The Lord sent another angel to Joseph in the middle of the night to tell Joseph to flee with Mary and Jesus to Egypt. Herod, a Roman Jewish king of Israel, was looking for this baby whom people thought was the Christ. Herod wanted to kill this child because Herod thought that the child would someday overpower him. Joseph obeyed the angel and fled to Egypt. Joseph again obeyed an angel who told him to leave Egypt and go to Israel to raise his family there after Herod had died.

Joseph raised his family in Nazareth. Years later, some Jews did not believe that Jesus was the Christ because Jesus had grown up in Nazareth. Many people thought that he had been born there, and the Christ was supposed to have been born in Bethlehem. Jesus was, in fact, born in Bethlehem and only grew up in Nazareth. During Jesus's young life, Joseph treated Jesus as his son even though

Joseph was not Jesus's biological father. Joseph is thought to have died before the time that Jesus began teaching. In Mark 6:3, when the Jews refer to Jesus's family, they only refer to his mother and brothers (or cousins). By this time, Joseph was probably already dead. Jesus's mother and brothers are the only family members mentioned in the rest of the Gospels.¹

Joseph of Arimathea

Joseph of Arimathea was a wealthy, righteous man. He was a member of the Jewish ruling council. He became a disciple of Jesus but did not openly confess his faith in Jesus because he was afraid of the Jews. However, he did openly disagree with the council to have Jesus crucified. With the help of Nicodemus, Joseph also took Jesus's body down from the cross. He prepared Jesus's body for burial and laid Jesus in a tomb (see *Who's Who in the Bible*, [Nicodemus](#)). Joseph was able to do this by asking permission from Pilate, the Roman governor. So, Joseph openly showed Pilate and all the Jews at Jesus's death that he cared for Jesus.

Judas (not Iscariot)

Judas (not Iscariot) was known as Judas Lebbaeus. He was also known as Thaddaeus or Jude the apostle.¹ Judas was also the half-brother of James the Less, the brother or cousin of Jesus. Judas was the leader of the Jerusalem church and the writer of the book of Jude. The book of Jude was written to preach against false teaching, specifically Gnosticism.²

Judas Iscariot

Judas Iscariot, son of Simon Iscariot, was probably a peasant from Kerioth. Kerioth was a town south of Judea, now present-day Israel and the West Bank. Judas was one of the first followers of Jesus and John the Baptist. Early into Jesus's ministry, though, Judas did not put his full faith in Jesus (John 6:64).

Jesus still put Judas in charge of the money collected for the ministry. Throughout Jesus's ministry, the disciples received money that they gave to the poor. Once a peasant, Judas was now a keeper of large sums of money. As a result, Judas became greedy. When Mary, sister to Martha and Lazarus, poured expensive perfume over Jesus's feet to honor Jesus, Judas became angry. He said that the money should have been given to the poor. Judas did not say this not because he cared for the poor. He wanted to use the money for himself. At other times, Judas took for himself money that the disciples had collected.¹

When the Jewish leaders wanted to kill Jesus, Judas told the Jewish leaders that he would help them to find Jesus for thirty pieces of silver. Later Judas felt guilty for his sin, but he did not confess his sin or ask God for forgiveness. Instead, he hid his sin and killed himself by hanging himself from a tree. Jesus and Jesus's friends could have helped Judas. But Judas lived a life of greed, lies, and mistrust. As a result, he died and lost his chance at eternal life.

Lazarus

Lazarus was the brother of Mary and Martha of Bethany and was a friend of Jesus. Lazarus was possibly the youngest in his family. His family was probably middle class. Because Jesus had raised Lazarus from the dead, the Jews wanted to kill both Jesus and Lazarus. Lazarus is probably not the same poor man named Lazarus mentioned in the parable in Luke 16:19-31.¹

Martha

Martha was the sister of Mary and Lazarus from Bethany. She was probably the oldest of the three. Martha, Mary, and Lazarus were friends of Jesus. She was often hurrying, trying to cook and serve food to Jesus. While Martha hurried, Mary sat quietly at Jesus's feet. Mary enjoyed spending time with Jesus and learning from him.¹ The first time Mary did sit at Jesus's feet while Martha served, Martha became angry and told Jesus to tell Mary to help her. Martha's service to Jesus seemed righteous, but Jesus told Martha in Luke 10:41-42, "Martha, Martha...you are worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her" (NIV). Jesus was probably not challenging Martha on her service, but on her attitude about serving. Martha's attitude when she served caused her so much stress that she missed spending time with Jesus. She became angry toward others who were not serving with her. While the Bible does promise reward for those who work hard for the Lord, Jesus made it clear to Martha that the way she was serving would not be rewarded.

Martha's heart changed over time. In a scene where Lazarus had just died, many people came to mourn Lazarus in the house of Martha and Mary. When Jesus entered the city, Martha immediately

and gladly left her home and her duties to greet Jesus. Later, Martha served a table full of men, while Mary poured perfume on Jesus's feet. Martha never complained about Mary or showed any stress. She seemed to have learned to show her love for Jesus through serving quietly. She offered her gift to the Lord in peace and did not try to make Mary feel guilty for not serving with her. Serving the Lord had become her own special gift to him that she could enjoy giving, simply out of love.

Mary (sister of Martha and Lazarus)

Mary was the sister of Martha and Lazarus from Bethany. Martha, Mary, and Lazarus were friends of Jesus. Mary was known for her deep love for Jesus. When her family invited Jesus to their house, she sat at his feet listening to him teach. Jesus honored Mary's actions by saying in Luke 10:42, "Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her" (NIV). After Jesus raised her brother Lazarus from the dead, Mary again sat at Jesus's feet. In Luke 7, she cried and kissed Jesus's feet. Then she poured expensive perfume on his feet and wiped them with her hair. Jesus again honored Mary's love for him by saying to her, "Your sins are forgiven" (7:48, NIV). Mary is a beautiful example of the kind of relationship Jesus wants to have with us.

Mary (mother of Jesus)

Raised in the town of Nazareth, Mary became the mother of Jesus and the wife of Joseph. During her engagement to Joseph, Mary saw and heard the angel Gabriel. He told her that she was going to give birth to the Son of God (Luke 1). Yet Mary was a virgin, and she wondered how all of this would happen. Gabriel told her that this would all happen through the power of the Holy Spirit. Upon learning this, Mary traveled 100 miles to the home of her cousin Elisabeth and stayed with her for three months. When Elisabeth first saw Mary, Elizabeth miraculously knew through the power of the Holy Spirit that Mary would be the mother of the Christ. Yet, when her future husband Joseph learned of Mary's pregnancy, he decided to divorce her quietly. Through a dream, an angel told Joseph to wed Mary because she was to give birth to the Lord's child. Joseph responded in faith and married Mary. Mary gave birth to Jesus in a stable full of animals with Joseph by her side.

Mary, however, did not clearly understand Jesus's role in the world. She often questioned Jesus's lifestyle and ministry. At some point, Mary even thought that Jesus was insane. Yet, Mary kept her memories of Jesus in her heart. These memories reminded her of the special place that her son had with God. Mary was present at Jesus's death on the cross. Later, we see her praying together with the disciples after Jesus had risen from the dead. She was present when Jesus appeared to the disciples after his death and stayed with them for forty days. Mary was also present when the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples powerfully on the Day of Pentecost and gave them the ability to do miracles. Mary is not present in the Bible after Pentecost and most likely died near that time.¹

Mary (wife of Clopas)

Mary was Clopas's wife and the mother of the apostle James the Less and Simon the Zealot. She had two other sons, Joses and Jude, and three daughters whose names are not found in the Bible. Mary, the wife of Clopas, was possibly the sister of Mary, Jesus's mother. We first meet Mary, the wife of

Clopas, at Jesus's death on the cross with Jesus's mother and Mary Magdalene by her side. We then see Mary again at the tomb with Mary Magdalene. She and Mary Magdalene had brought spices to the tomb but found the tomb empty. An angel appeared to the women to tell them that Jesus had risen from the dead.¹

Mary Magdalene

Jesus cured Mary Magdalene of seven evil spirits. She first appears in Luke 8 as a woman who was helping to support Jesus's ministry with her own money. She and the other women are supporting Jesus, revealing that they likely had enough wealth to be able to make such sacrifices. Mary Magdalene was present with Jesus at his death on the cross. She was also present when Jesus's body was taken down from the cross, prepared for burial, and placed in a tomb. Mary Magdalene brought spices to place on Jesus's body before his burial. The next day, she returned to the tomb with Mary, wife of Clopas. She brought more spices but found the tomb empty. An angel appeared to the women, telling them that Jesus had risen from the dead. After his death, Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene before appearing to anyone else.¹

Nicodemus

Nicodemus was a Pharisee and a member of the Jewish ruling council. One night, after it was dark, he went to Jesus to learn more about his teachings. Nicodemus likely visited Jesus at night because he was afraid of the Jews. During his first meeting with Jesus, Nicodemus questioned him about what it meant to be "born again" and why this was important to be saved. Later, though, Nicodemus tried to protect Jesus from the Jewish ruling council who wanted to punish Jesus for his teachings. Yet, Nicodemus did not stand up against the Jewish leaders when they dismissed his attempt to protect Jesus. It appears that Nicodemus was still trying to protect his relationship with the Jewish leaders. After Jesus's death, however, Nicodemus went with Joseph of Arimathea during the daytime to prepare Jesus's body for burial. He brought with him one hundred pounds of aloes, a plant used for healing wounds, and myrrh, a fragrant sap used during burials. After preparing Jesus's bloody body, Nicodemus and Joseph wrapped the body in linen and spices and placed Jesus in his tomb. In this way, Nicodemus openly showed his true love for Jesus after his crucifixion.

Paul

Paul was probably born near the time of the birth of Christ in Tarsus. Tarsus was a major city in the Roman-governed province of Cilicia, located in southeastern Turkey. Paul was a circumcised Jew. He was a descendant from an elite Jewish tribe. Paul had been educated in Jerusalem under strict training to become a Pharisee, or Jewish teacher. He closely followed the Law of Moses. He knew three languages, including Greek, Hebrew, and Aramaic. As a Jewish Pharisee, Paul arrested and killed Christians. Yet, on his way to arrest Christians in Damascus, the capital of Syria, Paul was blinded by a light from heaven. At that same time, Paul heard the voice of the risen Jesus. Jesus asked Paul why Paul was persecuting him. Paul remained blind for three days.

During this time, Paul came to believe in Jesus and became his servant. Jesus sent a man named Ananias to heal Paul's eyes and to baptize Paul for his faith. Immediately Paul began teaching and preaching about Jesus in the temples. He gave many proofs that Jesus was the Christ. He travelled to Arabia in 40 A.D. and did not even meet any of the apostles for three years. After three years, he finally met Peter and James, Jesus's brother, or cousin. Paul stayed with Peter for fifteen days. Not wasting any time, Paul left Peter and James to preach the good news of Jesus to as many as possible. He travelled to Syria and back to Cilicia, the place where Paul was born.

Paul devoted his life to helping people become Christians and to teaching Christians how to follow Jesus. Several times Paul was put in prison for his faith, where he wrote many of the letters in the New Testament. These letters encouraged many churches and guide Christians even to this day. During his missionary journeys, he was flogged, beaten, exiled, shipwrecked, and stoned. He was in constant danger as he traveled from place to place to teach about Christ. At times, Paul went without food, water, sleep, clothes, and warmth so that he could help others all over world to know Jesus. Paul possibly died for his faith in 67 A.D. under the reign of Nero, emperor of Rome.¹

Peter

Peter was the name that Jesus gave to Simon. Peter was also known as Simon Peter. Peter and his brother Andrew were fishermen with their father Jonas. Peter's family members were business partners with John and James, the sons of Zebedee. Peter grew up in Bethsaida, a city located at the north end of the Sea of Galilee and just east of the Jordan River. With his wife and possibly his mother-in-law, Peter later lived in Capernaum. Capernaum is a city at the north end of the Sea of Galilee and just west of the Jordan River.

Originally, Peter was a follower of John the Baptist. He was nearly thirty to forty years old when he met Jesus. Peter did not, however, immediately leave everything to follow Jesus. After meeting Jesus for the first time, Peter returned to his fishing business. At Capernaum, Jesus asked Peter and his brother Andrew to be his followers. Then Jesus asked James and John (sons of Zebedee) to be his followers as well. At that point, all these men left their nets and boats and followed Jesus at once. In this way, they showed their growing faith in Jesus as the Messiah.¹

Peter and these men, along with Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the Less, Simon the Zealot, Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, were Jesus's twelve first apostles, or messengers. Jesus promised Peter the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Peter, however, was also the apostle who challenged Jesus when Jesus told his followers that Jewish leaders would kill the Son of Man. Peter told Jesus that he would never be killed in that way. In response to Peter's challenge, Jesus challenged Satan for working through Peter to make such a false claim. Peter was also the apostle who denied Jesus three times when Jesus was taken by Jewish authorities and led to the cross.

Yet Peter loved Jesus. He saw his sin when he denied being a follower of Jesus when Jesus was being tried in a court for claiming to be the Messiah. Sorrowful, Peter returned to the Jesus wholeheartedly. When Peter heard that Jesus had risen from the dead, he and John were the first disciples to run to

the tomb to see the news for themselves. In the book of Acts, Peter preached the first message about Jesus's resurrection to Jews from every nation and urged them to follow Jesus. Three thousand people were baptized that day. He was the first to tell non-Jews, or Gentiles, about the Christ. Peter spent the rest of his life helping Christians to follow Jesus and helping non-believers to become Christians. He was put in prison for his faith but miraculously escaped. According to early Christian writers, Peter was later crucified for his faith by Nero, emperor of Rome, in approximately 67 A.D. Origen, an early Christian writer, wrote that Peter asked to be crucified upside down because he did not feel worthy enough to be crucified in the same way as Jesus.²

Philip the Apostle

Philip was born in Bethsaida in the region of Galilee and was one of the twelve apostles, or messengers, of Jesus. Philip was a peasant and follower of John the Baptist. He was one of the first disciples of Jesus and the first to tell Nathanael about the Christ. Philip saw Jesus's first miracle when Jesus turned water into wine at a wedding in Cana. He was also present when Jesus fed five thousand people with five loaves of bread and two fish.

Philip struggled with his faith that Jesus was the Son of God near the time of Jesus's death (John 14). Philip was present, however, in Acts 1 when Jesus appeared to the disciples after he had died and was raised from the dead. Historically, Philip is known to have preached in Phrygia, a region in modern day Turkey. He is thought to have died at Hierapolis, located in southern Turkey. (Philip the apostle is not the same person as Philip the evangelist in the book of Acts.)¹

Pilate (Pontius Pilate)

Pilate was the Roman governor of Judea during the time of John the Baptist and Jesus (26-36 A.D.). Pilate enjoyed the pleasures of life but was an evil leader. He hated the Jewish people and killed many of them during his rule. The Jewish leaders wanted to crucify Jesus for saying that he was the Son of God, but they did not have the authority to punish a person by crucifixion, so they sent Jesus to Pilate, who did have that authority. While Pilate was questioning Jesus, Pilate's wife, Claudia Procula, sent him a message saying, "Have nothing to do with that righteous man; for last night I suffered greatly in a dream because of him" (Matthew 27:19, NIV). Pilate found no legal reason for punishing Jesus and tried to free him several times. But the Jewish crowd told Pilate that he would be disobeying Caesar, the highest Roman leader, if he did not kill Jesus since Jesus called himself a king. Pilate was afraid of killing an innocent man who was possibly the Son of God, but he was more afraid of Caesar. Instead of listening to God, he listened to the angry Jewish crowd and ordered that Jesus be crucified. Pilate washed his hands in front of the crowd and said that he was innocent of Jesus's blood. Pilate had a sign placed above Jesus's head on the cross that said, "Jesus of Nazareth – King of the Jews." According to tradition, Pilate killed himself in 36 A.D. because of charges against him for warring against the Samaritans.¹

Simon or Simon Peter (see [Peter](#))

Thomas (called Didymus)

Thomas was born in Antioch and was one of Jesus's first twelve apostles, or messengers. Traditionally, Thomas is often called "Doubting Thomas" because he had difficulty coming to faith in Jesus. At times, he showed that he did not understand Jesus's teachings (John 14:5). Thomas also wanted proof that Jesus was the Christ. When the disciples told Thomas that they had seen the risen Lord, Thomas said, "Unless I see in his hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe" (John 20:15, NIV).

Thomas seemed to have a dark personality as well. When Jesus told his disciples that he was going to die, Thomas said in John 11:16, "Let us also go, that we may die with him" (NIV). After Jesus's death, Jesus appeared to Thomas so that Thomas could see for himself that Jesus had risen from the dead. Thomas responded with faith when he said, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28, NIV). In the book of Acts, Thomas was present when Jesus was taken up to heaven after visiting the disciples for forty days. Thomas is thought to have preached in Parthia, previously called Persia, and possibly farther east. He is thought to have died for his faith in Edessa, Mesopotamia.¹

Zebedee

Zebedee had two sons, James and John, and a wife named Salome. As a family, they had a fishing business in Galilee, near or in Bethsaida.¹ Salome was friends with Jesus's mother, Mary Magdalene, and Mary wife of Clopas. Salome was present at the death of Jesus on the cross, and she visited his tomb after his death. She asked Jesus if her two sons could sit at the right side of Jesus's throne in heaven. Jesus told Salome that he was not able to make that promise. Only the Lord knew who would sit by his throne in heaven.² Both of Zebedee and Salome's sons, however, were apostles of Jesus. Her son John even wrote one or more books in the Bible. Jesus also gave them both the name "Sons of Thunder." Zebedee and his wife were wealthy enough to have servants.³ John, Zebedee's son, also knew the high priest Caiaphas and possibly held a political position.

Appendix A: God's Love for Me

The following verses are paraphrased for the purpose of learning English.

*To read these scriptures in your language, go to the **Students** page of www.talkenglishprogram.com, and click **Read the Bible** under the **Class Tools**.*

God created me and formed me. He draws me to Him. He will be with me in danger, and I do not ever need to be afraid. God wants to save me from sin because he honors me and cares for my life. I am precious to him. (Isaiah 43:1-5)

The Lord has great plans for my life. He will bring me good, not harm. Through God I have hope for my future. When I pray to him, he will stop what he is doing and listen to me. God promises to help me find him when I seek him with all of my heart. (Jeremiah 29:11-14, Deuteronomy 4:29)

If I devote myself to the Lord, he will take away my sins and clothe me with his goodness. He will make me clean so that Satan can never accuse me of wrong. If I follow the commands of the Lord, then the Lord will give me a place to serve in his kingdom. He will make me a light for my brothers and sisters and for those who do not know him. (Zechariah 3:1-6)

The Lord delights in me because I devote myself to him. If I delight in him, he will give me what I desire in my heart. (Psalm 18:19; Psalm 37:4-5)

The Lord is my place of safety when I trust in him. He will protect me and answer my prayers. He will bring me honor and save my soul when I die because I bring honor to his name. (Psalm 91:1-4, 9-16)

If I put my trust in Jesus and allow him to change my life, then I will be God's child. I can have a new life. I will be born of God, not of any man. He will be my Father. No one in the world will have the power to take away from me my relationship with God. (John 1:12-13)

The Lord will protect me when I trust him and am generous to others. (Psalm 37:25-26)

The Lord is my spouse when I am lonely or rejected. (Isaiah 54:4-6, Jeremiah 3:14)

If I praise the Lord, he will give me a family when I am lonely. God calls me his beautiful child. Because I love righteousness, he places me above my friends and gives me joy. (Psalm 45:7, 10-12; Psalm 68:4-6)

The Lord draws close to me when I am sad and humble. (Psalm 34:17-18)

God wants me to understand Jesus's deep love for me. He wants me to believe in Jesus's power to work miracles in my life. (Ephesians 3:16-20)

The Lord chose me and saved me through Jesus Christ. He always does what is best for me because he loves me. Nothing can separate me from the love that God has given to me through Jesus. (Romans 8:1, 28-39)

Appendix B: What is Sin?

Introduction

What is sin? Sin is an action or thought that hurts God, people, or ourselves. Sin is the opposite of love. God is love (1 John 4:16). There is no sin in God, and everything he does is out of love for us. Love reflects the heart of God. 1 Corinthians 13 says that love is patient and kind. Love doesn't compare people to each other but sees tremendous value in each person. Love isn't proud, boastful, or rude. It never tries to be better than someone else. Love isn't selfish, but considers what is best for another person and works toward their good. Love isn't easily angered and doesn't focus on the wrongs and faults of others. Love rejects evil but also rejoices when a person is honest and walking in the truth. Love speaks truth and points others toward truth. Love helps and protects others. Love trusts the hearts of others. Love hopes for the best and acts out of that hope. Love never gives up, closes the door, or ignores people. Love is hard, but it never leads to failure, even if that love is never returned (13:1-8).

For this reason, we might be afraid to love; we might be afraid of rejection. But perfect love pushes away fear because this fear keeps us from knowing God, who is love, and from being like him in this world (1 John 4:16-18). So, how can we love like this? We can only love this way when we know how much God loves us. Out of his great love for us, God sent his Son to die on a cross so that we might receive forgiveness for our sins. This is why Proverbs 10:12 says "...love overlooks all wrongs" (ERV). Through Jesus, God overlooks all that we have done that is wrong and offers us his love instead. In this, we realize how much God truly loves us. He accepts us as his children when we believe in Jesus as God's Son, as our Lord and Savior, and receive his sacrifice as payment for our sins (John 1:12-13; 1 John 4:9-10). John reminds us that when we believe in Jesus as the Son of God, God begins to live in us through his Holy Spirit. In this way, the Spirit that now lives in us causes us to love. John says that "whoever lives in love, lives in God, and God in him" (4:16, NIV). This love that is from God completes us and makes us confident on the Day of Judgment, as we see this love growing and reigning in our hearts. Without this love in our lives and in our hearts, we do not truly know God (4:7-21). But this love that we share with others is evidence that God is in us. Because God is love, love is the most important quality we can possess and nurture in our lives (1 Corinthians 13:13). The two greatest commands of God are to love others and to love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength (Mark 12:30-31). And this is possible when we realize how much our heavenly Father dearly loves us.

When we understand love, we can begin to understand that we cannot love and sin at the same time. If we want to know whether an action or thought is sin, then we can ask ourselves, "Does this thought or action show love to God, others, and myself the way God defines love? Is anyone hurt by this action or thought in a way that may push them away from God, instead of toward him?" We can also study the words of Jesus and obey him so that we can know more about how to love the way God defines love (1 John 2:5). We must then choose to love or to sin. If we choose to love, we will not sin.

In this section, you are given a list of sins found in the Bible and asked to look up the definitions of these words so that you understand what the Lord says is sin and not love. The next step is seeing these sins in your life so that you can understand in a personal way how God wants to change your heart and help you to choose love. Through this study, we will see how our hearts are so different from God's heart. But this is also why Jesus came! He said, "Healthy people don't need a doctor. It is the sick people that need a doctor" (Luke 5:31). Jesus is here today to help us, not condemn us (John 12:47). Yet to receive his help, we must first see our deep need for him in our lives. We must know that we need his grace and forgiveness for our sins, and acknowledge how much we need his love.

Why is forgiveness important? Forgiveness for sins is important because sin separates us from God (Isaiah 59:2, Habakkuk 1:13). God cannot bring us into heaven if we are clothed in sin (Revelation 21:22-27). And all of us have sinned (Romans 3:23). All of us have hurt God, other people, and ourselves. We all need our sins to be washed away so that we can be made clean and pure for God. Through faith in Jesus, we are made pure, even though we are sinners (Colossians 2:13-14). Through this purity that only God can provide through his Son, not of our own righteousness, God is then able to live in us and continue to transform us to be more like him in love.

Jesus not only allows us to be forgiven for our sins, but he also sets us free from sin in heaven and on earth (Romans 8:1-2). Because he lives in us through his Spirit, we can fight against sin here on earth. Romans 6:11 says, "...you should see yourselves as being dead to the power of sin. And see yourselves as being alive for God through Christ Jesus" (ERV). For this reason, we turn away from sin and follow the Spirit of Christ: "But don't let sin control you in your life here on earth. You must not be ruled by the things your sinful self makes you want to do" (6:12). Many people think they cannot change. And sometimes, we think other people can't change. But through Christ, everyone can change, and there is true hope for all mankind.

These questions and verses will help you to see sin in your life, understand the importance of confessing sin, learn how to receive forgiveness, and start a new life of love through Jesus:

Personal Sharing:

1. God's plan for healing involves the support of a healthy, confessing community. Read I John 1:5-10. Why is an open and confessing community of Christ followers important for our ability to overcome sin? (vs. 5-7) Talk about what this type of community could look like.
2. Read verses 8-10 again. Why is confessing our sins important? (v. 8, 10)
3. What does Jesus promise us if we confess our sins? (vs. 7, 9) How should we respond when others confess sins to us?
4. What are the dangers of being in a Christian community where people do not confess openly and regularly?
5. How can confessing our sins and helping others to confess show love?
6. Read Psalm 32:5. Who is the first person we confess to and why?
7. Read James 5:16. Who else should we confess to and why? What should we do when someone confesses sin to us?
8. Read Romans 3:22-26. Even if we confess our sins and choose to love, how are we made righteous? (v. 22) Why is this true? (v. 23-24) How does confessing our sins express our faith in Jesus? (Reread I John 1:8-10)
9. Read Acts 22:16 and I Peter 3:21-22. What is baptism? Talk about what these verses mean.
10. Read Acts 8:38 and Matthew 3:16. What does baptism look like?
11. Read Romans 6:1-10. What do we do with our sin at baptism? (v. 2) Why? (v. 4) In baptism, what does going down into water and coming up out of water symbolize? (4, 10)
12. Read John 3:19-22. How is confessing our sins an important part of dying to our sins? Why are we tempted not to confess sin? How does confessing our sin and telling our story bring glory to Jesus? (v. 21) How could your story help others?
13. Read Colossians 1:19-23 How does Jesus's sacrifice for us free us from the shame and guilt of sin?
14. How does ongoing faith, confession, and obedience play a role in Jesus's promise to save us? (v. 23, see also John 15:4).
15. Read I John 5:1-5. How do we show God that we love him? How does confessing our sins to one another help us to love God and each other? How can we show God that we love him through biblical baptism? In turn, how does he show us love at baptism?
16. For further study, read Colossians 2:9-15, Acts 2:38, Mark 16:16.

To begin walking in Jesus's plan to turn away from sin and choose love, we must first understand what God calls sin in the Bible. The next step is to be able to see sin in our own lives. Below are some steps to help you to discover sin in your life and make decisions to choose love over sin. Pray to Jesus for help, and he will give you strength and guidance. Share openly with other Christ followers about what you are learning and let them help you and pray for you. Ask them to share from their own lives about their own struggles and victories over sin. During the next few sessions, complete the following steps:

Step 1: Understand God's Love for You

1. Our ability to turn away from sin and love others begins when we understand God's deep love for us. Take some time to read a few verses from two handouts: The Promises of God and My Identity in Christ. These handouts are found through our Connect the Nations program at <https://www.connectthenations.com/transform>.
2. Read a few verses before you begin each step and remember how much God cares for you. He does not want to condemn you, but he cares for you as his child. His heart is to help you to overcome sin and to grow to be more like him in his love. His desire is to help you to love him as your Father, to love others as he loves you, and to love even yourself in a way that reflects his love for you.

Step 2: Define Sin

1. Read the list of sins below.
2. Write the definitions of words you do not know.

Step 3: Make a List

1. Circle or write down the sins that you see in your life right now and in your past.
2. Look up the scriptures beside the sins that you think will be the hardest for you to change and the hardest for you to talk about.
3. In your journal, write about how you see these sins in your life.

Step 4: Go Deeper

1. In your journal, answer the **Go Deeper** questions for that section: Sins of Anger, Rebellion, Selfishness, Impurity, or False Beliefs.
2. Sometimes working through bad memories or tough times in our past helps us to see ways we have sinned and understand more about why we sin. Talk through these situations with a Christian friend, and talk about what love would look like instead.
3. Pray together over these sins. Ask Jesus for his help and forgiveness.

Step 5: Make Decisions

1. Study II Corinthians 7:10-11 and I Corinthians 13:4-8.
2. What does Jesus want you to do about the sins in your life? What do you want to do?
3. Do you want to live a life of turning from sin and turning to Jesus? What will help you to continue in this way? Review the Personal Sharing questions about having times with the Lord when you share your struggles and sins with him, about living in a Christian community that confesses sin to one another, and about being baptized. What next steps do you want and need to take in your new life in Christ

Sins of Anger

Hatred (Titus 3:3-5, I John 3:14-15, 4:19-21)

bitterness (Ephesians 4:31-32)	not loving others, even enemies (Matthew 5:43-48)
revenge (Romans 12:19-21)	self-hatred (I John 3:1-3)
unforgiveness (Matthew 6:14-15)	murder, including threats of murder (Revelation 21:1-8, I Corinthians 3:16-17)

Causing conflict (Titus 3:10-11)

arguing (II Timothy 2:22-26)	grumbling (James 5:9)
angry shouting (Ephesians 4:26,29-31)	complaining (Philippians 2:14-15)
saying hurtful words (Colossians 3:7-8,12-14)	coarse joking (Ephesians 5:1-2,4)
not resolving conflict (Matthew 5:23-24, Matthew 18:15-17)	cursing or cussing (Colossians 3:8,15-17)
gossip (II Corinthians 12:20)	causing divisions (Titus 3:9-11)
focusing on faults (Jude 1:16, James 1:5)	suining other believers (I Corinthians 6:1-8)
not showing compassion (Colossians 3:12)	divorce (Matthew 5:32, Mark 10:10-12)
prejudice (I Corinthians 12:25-26, James 1:9-10)	
slander (I Corinthians 5:9-13)	

Sins of Rebellion

(The root of some of these sins may be selfishness, rather than rebellion)

Indulgence (Galatians 5:13, 24)

loving pleasure over God (II Timothy 3:1-4)	obsessions (Ephesians 2:3-4)
misusing the body (I Corinthians 6:19-20, I Corinthians 3:16-17)	excessive gambling (Luke 15:11-32)
overeating / unhealthy eating (Proverbs 23:1-3)	excessive web surfing (Ephesians 5:15-16)
under-eating and bulimia (I Peter 4:6)	excessive exercising (Ephesians 6:10-18)
smoking (II Corinthians 7:1)	excessive stock watching (I Timothy 6:10)
cutting to harm the body (II Peter 5:7)	excessive TV/video watching (Luke 11:34-36)
laziness (Hebrews 6:10-12)	excessive isolation (Philippians 2:4-7)
lack of discipline (II Timothy 1:7, Galatians 5:22-23)	excessive working
loss of control from a substance (I Peter 1:13)	orgies, reveling, and rowdy partying
i.e. alcohol, illegal or harmful drugs, pain medication or caffeine (II Peter 5:8)	drinking alcohol frequently or late into the night (Ephesians 5:18-20) ¹⁻⁸

Foolishness (Mark 7:17-23, Ephesians 5:15-17)

rashness (II Timothy 3:1-5)	acting without careful thought (James 1:19-26)
recklessness (Proverbs 12:8, I Peter 4:1-4)	a costly, unwise expense (Luke 12:13-21) ¹⁻²
foolish speech (Ephesians 5:4)	

Depravity (Romans 1:29, 13:2-5)

wanting to physically hurt a person
(I Corinthians 3:16-17)
damaging property

lack of shame when breaking the law¹, including
all traffic laws (Romans 13:1-2)
loss of concern about doing wrong toward others

Disrespect (I Peter 2:13-17)

disrespecting authority or parents (Romans 1:30)
not paying taxes or bills (Romans 13:5-7)
not following rules, i.e. of work, school, or
government (II John 1:6)

rudeness (I Corinthians 13:4-5)
insulting others (I Peter 3:8-9)
rebellious against authority (Romans 13:1-5,
I Timothy 2:1-4, Titus 3:1-2)¹⁻³

Sins of Selfishness

Selfish Ambition (Galatians 5:20-26)

selfishness (Philippians 2:3-4)
envy (Romans 13:9)
wanting someone's possessions, success,
wealth, status, position, talents, abilities,
physical features, spirituality, or situation
ingratitude (Colossians 3:15-17)

living to please yourself (II Timothy 3:2)
jealousy* (Romans 2:6-8)
fearfully guarding a possession
fearfully guarding a relationship
not sharing (Romans 12:9-13)
being competitive – wanting to be better than
others (James 3:14-16)¹⁻⁶

*The Lord calls himself a "jealous God." Here he uses a Hebrew word that is used only for God. This word means that God is righteously protective of his children, his name, and his commands.⁷

Arrogance (Proverbs 8:13, Galatians 5:26, II Timothy 3:4)

pride (Jeremiah 13:17)
not willing to seek God (Psalm 10:4)
not willing to see your own sin or need for mercy
(Psalm 36:2, Luke 5:31-32)
not praying in humility (Matthew 6:5-15)
impatience, interrupting (James 1:19)
self-righteousness (Luke 18:9-14)
thinking that your thoughts are more important
than God's Word (Luke 8:21)
not caring about who God is (Romans 1:28)
wanting to be right more than loving others
(II Timothy 2:23)
putting yourself above other people (Luke 14:10)
looking down on others (Romans 12:16)

not letting others serve you (Galatians 6:2)
boasting (I Corinthians 13:4)
not wanting to admit wrong (Jeremiah 6:15)
not willing to suffer (I Peter 2:21-23)
not willing to be disciplined, rejected, or
humbled (Philippians 2:5-8)
thinking we are made righteous through rules
and our own obedience (Mark 7:1-8, Romans 4)
wanting to look good in front of others
(I Corinthians 1:18-31)
not wanting to serve others (Mark 10:45)
thinking too highly of yourself (Romans 12: 3-5)
not being merciful to someone who sins (Luke
6:35-36)¹⁻³

Heartlessness (I Peter 1:22, 3:8)

not showing care, kindness, pity, or concern (Ephesians 4:32)
 abortion (can also be fear or faithlessness)
 not caring how our actions or words hurt others

not being friendly or affectionate (Proverbs 18:1)
 not willing to apologize when we have hurt someone¹⁻³

Deceit (Revelation 21:8, 22:15)

lying (Colossians 3:9)
 not sharing your true feelings (Ephesians 4:25)
 not telling the whole truth about a situation (I Corinthians 13:6, Acts 5:1-11)
 hiding sin (Proverbs 28:13)

not willing to confess sin (John 3:20-21)
 hiding our faith (John 18:20, Luke 12:1-12)
 hiding a thought or action (I John 1:6-7)
 cheating/swindling/fraud (Luke 9:8, I Corinthians 6:7-11)
 stealing (Ephesians 4:28)¹

Greed (I Corinthians 5:11-13, I Corinthians 6:9-11, Ephesians 5:3, 5-7)

loving money (II Timothy 3:1-2)
 focusing on being rich (I Timothy 6:9)
 not sharing (Romans 12:9-13)
 not paying what you owe someone when you are able to pay them (James 5:1-5)
 overspending (Luke 12:13-21)

charging high prices or interest (Proverbs 28:8)
 going into debt because you are angry or not content (Romans 13:8, Philippians 4:11-12)
 secretly taking money from someone by cheating them (I Corinthians 5:11)
 not being generous (II Corinthians 9:6-11)¹⁻²

Faithlessness (Romans 1:31, Revelation 17:14)

lacking belief or trust in God (Revelation 21:8)
 breaking promises or faith with someone
 suicide

not being dependable (Luke 16:10-12)
 faithless through suffering (Revelation 2:10, 13:10)¹⁻³
 allowing fear to control our behavior

Sins of Impurity

Impurity (Galatians 5:19-21, Ephesians 4:17-24)

lust (Matthew 5:27-30)
 sensuality, (i.e. kissing or dancing in a sexual way) outside of marriage (Ephesians 5:3)
 touching a person in a sexual way outside of marriage (Matthew 5:30)
 sexual thoughts or uncontrolled feelings outside of marriage (Exodus 20:17)

pornography (Ephesians 5:3)
 using impure language (Colossians 3:8)
 dressing to make another person have sexual thoughts outside of marriage* (Mark 9:42)
 dating or entering into marriage with an unbeliever (II Corinthians 6:14-18)
 masturbation (Matthew 5:30)

* We should consider others when we dress. Men and women can think impure thoughts when they see a person wearing very short, tight, or revealing clothing, wearing immodest bathing suits or tops, or exposing too much flesh, etc. Sensitivity can vary by person and by culture. While we don't want to promote a legalistic view of clothing, we should be thoughtful of others and not cause one another to struggle.

Sexual Immorality (I Corinthians 5:11-13)

sex outside of marriage (Revelation 22:15)	sex with animals
adultery (Matthew 5:32, Matthew 19:19, Mark 10:11-12)	sex with a family member (I Corinthians 5:1-2)
raping another person (Deuteronomy 22:25)	sex with more than one person
prostitution (I Corinthians 6:16)	homosexuality (Romans 1:26-27, I Timothy 1:10, I Corinthians 6:9-20)
child abuse	sex with animals ¹

Sins of False Beliefs

Idolatry (I Corinthians 5:11-13, I Corinthians 6:9-11, Revelation 21:8, 22:15)

worshipping anything or anyone other than God, his Son, and his Holy Spirit (Revelation 19:9-10, John 14:6)	following traditions or philosophies that do not honor God and his Word (Colossians 2:8)
putting faith in anything or anyone other than God, his Son, and his Holy Spirit (Colossians 2:18)	giving power to anything or anyone other than God, his Son, and his Holy Spirit, including statues or idols
valuing anything or anyone above God, his Son, and his Holy Spirit (Romans 1:21-26)	allowing anything or anyone to keep us away from Jesus's teachings or worshipping the Lord (i.e. job, hobby, relationship, fear of people)
worshipping objects or images (Exodus 20:4-5a)	

Witchcraft (Revelation 9:21, 21:8, 22:15; Deuteronomy 18:10-12)

sorcery, wizardry (Acts 19:19)	communication with the dead
astrology (faith in the stars or cosmos)	Day of the Dead practices ^{***}
horoscopes	magic, magic spells, magic arts
worshipping Satan and his demons	Santeria
associating with any spiritual realm other than God's realm in the Bible	mediums and fortune telling
faith in supernatural forces or unexplained powers not associated with God	Ouji boards
transcendental meditation	good luck charms, objects, or pictures
some beliefs in yoga, Tai Chi, & Asian Arts	tarot cards and palm reading
spiritual energy channeling: "calling in" or controlling energy through the mind	signs and omens
warding off evil spirits with anything other than the name of Jesus and the power of his Spirit (Luke 9)	faith in fate and luck
	using the body's energy or other objects for the purposes of divination* (I Samuel 15:23) ¹

* Divination is "seeking hidden knowledge through supernatural means."²

** Energy is a scientifically approved concept. What we spiritually believe about energy and how we interact with energy, though, is important to consider.

*** Some Christ followers do not accept the practices of Halloween because of its association with Day of the Dead.

Other False Beliefs

having false beliefs about the nature, love, or purity of God
turning to people for truth instead of turning to God and his Word
believing that God is not in control over our situations or that he will help us in our troubles

having false beliefs about ourselves – not believing the truth about ourselves (i.e. about our sin or about God's love for us)
believing that we must control our situations, rather than depending on God for his help

Go Deeper

Sins of Anger

1. Think of a time in the past or recently when you felt angry or pulled away from another person who hurt you. Maybe you felt sad, hurt, afraid, accused, misunderstood, neglected, disrespected, offended, disappointed, disregarded, judged, embarrassed, or even abandoned. What happened? How did you feel? How long did you feel this way?
2. What thoughts did you have about the person who hurt you? How did you respond?
3. Do you see some examples of Sins of Anger that describe your thoughts or actions?
4. Is there anyone in your life that you try to avoid or need to forgive? What happened? Can you see any Sins of Anger in how you have treated this person?
5. In the situations you described, have you had an honest conversation with the person or people who have hurt you? Why or why not? When's the last time you talked with this person?
6. Read Matthew 18:15-17. What steps have you taken so far to resolve the situation and restore the relationship? What next steps can you take?
7. The Bible teaches us to love our enemies. If the person is unwilling to restore the relationship, then in what ways can you show them love?
8. From this study, do you see yourself more as a conflict avoider or a conflict causer? Explain.
9. How has your sin of anger hurt people (i.e. people in your family, at school, at work, at church)? Make a list of names of the people you have hurt. Write about ways you can resolve situations, restore relationships, and show love to the people you hurt.
10. In the areas you discussed, what would loving God, others, or yourself look like?

Sins of Rebellion

1. Think of a time when you were angry because you wanted something that you couldn't have, perhaps because of lack of money, skill, rest, opportunity, or justice. Perhaps someone (i.e. a parent, spouse, child, friend, teacher, boss, minister, leader, boss, or God) said "No" to you, and this made you feel angry, hurt, frustrated, or disappointed. What happened? How did you feel? How did you respond?
2. When you feel angry or hurt, do you escape through drugs, alcohol, smoking, over/under eating, too much internet, TV, videos, gaming, isolation, sleep, spending money, or even work? Do you hide your feelings, shut down, or just stop talking to a person who hurt you? Explain.
3. When you feel angry or hurt, do you act out recklessly (i.e. reckless driving, speeding, hitting, cussing, throwing things, verbally abusing others, cursing, using harsh words, criticizing others, harming yourself, breaking the law, etc.)? Explain.
4. Do you resist schedules given to you by others and follow your own schedule instead?
5. Do you struggle with laziness? When someone asks you to do something, do you usually do it or do you ignore it or put it off until later? Explain.
6. Do you usually follow the rules or break the rules? Explain.
7. Do you see any other Sins of Rebellion that describe any of your thoughts or actions?
8. How has your rebellion hurt people in your life? (i.e. in your family or at school, work or church)? Make a list of names of the people you have hurt. Write about ways you can resolve situations, restore relationships, and show love to the people you hurt.
9. In the areas you discussed, what would loving God, others, or yourself look like?

Sins of Selfishness

1. Can you think of a time in your life when you worried about what others thought of you? (i.e. friends, family members, ministers, leaders, teachers, bosses, etc.)
2. Can you think of a time when you felt insecure that another person was better than you (i.e. in school, at work, at church, at home, etc.)?
3. Can you think of a time when you felt better or more righteous than another person?
4. How did you feel and act during these times? Did you sin? (see *Sins of Selfishness*)
5. How much time in your life do you spend living for yourself instead of God and others?
6. Have you ever lied to make yourself look good or to hide a sin? Are there sins in your life that you want to hide now? Why or why not?
7. Do you typically want to be the leader or teacher and struggle being a good follower or student? Do you often criticize your leaders or focus on their faults?
8. Do you seek your value in controlling or criticizing others, rather than serving and loving them?
9. Do you struggle wanting men's approval or honor more than God's? Explain.
10. Do you struggle receiving constructive criticism or being corrected? How do you respond?
11. What are your thoughts about money? Do you have any debt? Do you overspend?
12. On a scale of 1-10, how much do you need God's forgiveness for your sins? Do you see yourself as a sinner or a righteous person? The sin of pride keeps us from seeing ourselves as sinners and seeing our sin. If you are having trouble seeing your sin, then pray to the Lord to help you, and study Luke 7:36-50.
13. How has your sin of selfishness hurt God and hurt people in your life?
14. In the areas you discussed, what would loving God, others, or yourself look like?

Sins of Impurity

1. Think of a time when you did not feel loved or accepted by an adult, especially a mother or father? Explain why. How did you feel?
2. Sometimes we seek love that we are missing in our lives through impurity or sexual immorality. Have you ever experienced that? Explain.
3. In what ways do you feel insecure about yourself? What have you done to make yourself feel more secure? Have you ever tried to find security through impurity or sexual immorality?
4. Have you ever been insecure in a relationship and tried to keep it through impurity or sexual immorality?
5. Have you ever used impurity or sexual immorality to feel important or valued by others?
6. When have you felt high levels of stress in your life? Were you impure or sexually immoral during that time?
7. Are there any other Sins of Impurity that you see in your life right now or in your past?
8. How has your impurity or sexual immorality hurt people in your life?
9. Have you ever been a victim of someone else's impurity or sexual immorality (i.e. sexual abuse, rape, etc.)? How did that make you feel? How has that experience affected your own views about sexual relationships or your behavior?
10. In the areas you discussed, what would loving God, others, or yourself look like?

Sins of False Beliefs

1. Is there anyone or anything that keeps you from worshipping God, his Son, or his Holy Spirit?
2. Is there anyone or anything that keeps you from following Jesus's teachings?
3. Do you have any religious beliefs apart from the Bible? Explain.
4. Do you believe that God deeply loves you and is always working for your good? In what ways can you grow in your trust in his care for your life?
5. Do you see yourself the way God sees you? In what ways can you grow in having a healthy view of yourself that reflects God's deep love for you?
6. In your life, how did you develop these beliefs? Why have you held on to these beliefs?
7. Are you unsure if some of your religious beliefs are right? If you are unsure, then find verses in the Bible to discover what is true.
8. Do see any of your beliefs, religious practices, or actions listed in the Sins of False Beliefs?
9. In the areas you discussed, what would loving God, others, or yourself look like?

Return to the Appendix B Introduction and complete [Step 5](#).

Appendix C: The Prophecies of Jesus¹

Read this section and look up words you don't know.

The Bible says in Jeremiah 28:9, "But the prophet who prophesizes peace will be recognized as one truly sent by the Lord only if his predictions come true" (NIV). The Bible is filled with prophecies in the Old Testament that came true. Many of these prophecies were about Jesus.

The last Old Testament prophet Malachi died in 400 B.C.,² over 400 years before the birth of Jesus. Malachi was the last of many prophets of the Old Testament. These prophets wrote at least three hundred prophecies between 1500 B.C. and 400 B.C. about the coming Savior that are recorded on documents, such as the Dead Sea Scrolls, all written long before the birth of Jesus. Some prophecies were not predictions, but they were symbols of things that would happen in the future through Jesus. Former mathematician and astronomer, Professor Peter Stoner calculated a 1 in 10²⁸ chance of any man fulfilling even eight of the three hundred Old Testament prophecies.³ These prophecies and symbols were all fulfilled through Jesus. The prophecies of Jesus are important archeological pieces of evidence that prove Jesus is the Savior of the world.

When Jesus came to the world, he reminded the Jewish people about these prophecies so that they could believe he is the Son of God and Savior of the world (Luke 24:44, John 5:46-47). The followers who wrote about Jesus in the New Testament also spoke of how Jesus had fulfilled these prophecies (Acts 3:18, Romans 1:2, I Peter 2:5-6).

Below is a list of many Old Testament prophecies about the coming Savior. Read the first fifteen prophecies and scriptures found in the Old Testament and New Testament to see how Jesus fulfilled these prophecies.

Prophecies about the Savior	Old Testament Prophecy of the Savior	New Testament Fulfillment through Jesus
Born in Bethlehem	Micah 5:2	Matthew 2:1
Ancestor of David (<i>also called "The Branch"</i>)	Jeremiah 23:5; Zechariah 3:8-9	Luke 3:23, 31; I Peter 2:24
Came after a messenger	Isaiah 40:3	Matthew 3:1-2
Came with power	Isaiah 40:10	Luke 24:19
Performed miracles	Isaiah 35:4-6	Matthew 9:35
Hated by men	Isaiah 53:3	Luke 20:19; John 8:59
Left by followers when attacked	Zechariah 13:7	Mark 14:4-50
Spit on and mocked when saving men	Isaiah 50:6	Matthew 26:67-68
Clothes divided, lots thrown for them	Psalms 22:18	John 19:23-24
Given vinegar when thirsty	Psalms 69:21	Matthew 27:34; John 19:29
Looked upon when stabbed	Zechariah 12:10	John 19:34-37
Paid for the sins of men	Isaiah 53:12b	Hebrews 9:27-28
Crucified and beaten for man's sins	Isaiah 53:5; 40:2	Matthew 27:27-31, 35-37
Raised from the dead	Psalms 16:9-10	Acts 2:29-32
Men in the future will eat together, worship him, and teach about him	Psalms 22:29-31	Acts 2:42-47; Acts 5:42

Here are *more examples* of prophecies about Jesus found in the Bible:

Prophecies about the Savior	Old Testament Prophecy of the Savior	New Testament Fulfillment through Jesus
Born of a virgin	Isaiah 7:14	Luke 1:26-33
In danger at birth	Psalms 22:9	Matthew 22:13
Born of God to be His Son	Isaiah 9:6 Psalms 2:7-8	Matthew 3:17
Ancestor of Jesse	Isaiah 11:1	Luke 3:32
Ancestor of Jacob	Numbers 24:17	Luke 3:34
Ancestor of Abraham	Genesis 22:18	Galatians 3:16; Luke 23:34
Given gifts	Psalms 72:10	Matthew 2:1,11
Lived before creation	Genesis 1:26 "us"	John 1:1-3, 14
Called "Lord"	Psalms 110:1	Luke 20:41-44; 2:11
Called "Immanuel"	Isaiah 7:14	Matthew 1:20-23
Called a prophet	Deuteronomy 18:18	Matthew 21:11
Called a priest	Psalms 110:4	Hebrews 3:1, 5:5-6
Called a judge	Isaiah 33:22	II Timothy 4:1
Called "King"	Isaiah 33:22; Psalms 2:6	Matthew 27:37
Called a cornerstone	Psalms 118:22	I Peter 2:7
Called a light	Isaiah 60:3	Acts 13:47-48; John 1:4-10
Called a vine	Psalms 80:14-15	John 15:1-5
Blessed by the Holy Spirit	Isaiah 11:2	Matthew 3:16-17
Passionate for God's temple	Psalms 69:9	John 2:15-17
Began his ministry in Galilee	Isaiah 9:1-2	Matthew 4:12-17
Spoke in parables (moral stories)	Psalms 78:2	Matthew 13:34
Announced himself at the temple	Malachi 3:1-2	Luke 4:14-21
Rose to heaven	Psalms 80:17; 68:18	Acts 1:9
Seated on God's right side	Psalms 80:17; 110:1	Acts 7:55
Hurt by a friend	Psalms 41:9	Matthew 10:4
Sold for 30 pieces of silver	Zechariah 11:12	Matthew 26:15
30 pieces of silver thrown into temple	Zechariah 11:13	Matthew 27:3-5
Accused by false people	Psalms 35:11	Matthew 26:59-61
Silent when hurt	Isaiah 53:7	Matthew 27:12-14
Insulted when dying	Psalms 22:7-8	Matthew 27:31
Treated like a sinner	Isaiah 53:12	Matthew 27:38
Forgave sinners	Isaiah 53:12	Luke 23:34
Hated without a reason	Psalms 69:4	John 19:6; 15:18-25
Left by friends	Psalms 38:11	Matthew 26:55-56
Insulted by men shaking their heads	Psalms 109:25	Matthew 27:39
Stared at by men when hurt	Psalms 22:17	Luke 23:35
Cried, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (NIV) when hurt	Psalms 22:1	Matthew 27:46
Gave his soul to God when hurt	Psalms 31:5	Luke 23:46
Bones were never broken	Psalms 34:20	John 19:33
Darkness covered the land at his death	Amos 8:9-10	Matthew 27:45
Buried like a rich man	Isaiah 53:9	Matthew 27:57-60 ³

Pronunciation Guide

abandon	<i>[uh-ban-dun]</i>	bury	<i>[/beh-ree]</i>
accept	<i>[ak-sept]</i>	carry	<i>[/keh-ree]</i>
accord	<i>[uh-kord]</i>	cast	<i>[kast]</i>
accuse	<i>[uh-kewz]</i>	certainty	<i>[/ser-tin-tee]</i>
acknowledge	<i>[ak-naw-lij]</i>	challenge	<i>[/cha-linj]</i>
adultery	<i>[uh-duhl-tur-ree]</i>	charge	<i>[charj]</i>
already	<i>[al-reh-dee]</i>	cheaper	<i>[/chee-per]</i>
agree with	<i>[uh-gree][with]</i>	chief	<i>[cheef]</i>
ancient	<i>[ayn-chint]</i>	choice	<i>[choys]</i>
angel	<i>[ayn-jel]</i>	claim	<i>[klaym]</i>
apart	<i>[uh-part]</i>	clean	<i>[kleen]</i>
appear	<i>[uh-peer]</i>	cloth	<i>[klawth]</i>
appoint	<i>[uh-poynt]</i>	clothe	<i>[kloth]</i>
Aramaic	<i>[air-ih-may-ik]</i>	command	<i>[kuh-mand]</i>
arrest	<i>[uh-rest]</i>	commander	<i>[kuh-man-der]</i>
arrival	<i>[uh-ry-vul]</i>	complete	<i>[kuhm-pleet]</i>
arrive	<i>[uh-ryv]</i>	condemn	<i>[kuhn-dem]</i>
at least	<i>[at][leest]</i>	condition	<i>[kuhn-dih-shun]</i>
at once	<i>[at][wuns]</i>	convict	<i>[kuhn-vikt]</i>
authority	<i>[aw-thor-ih-tee]</i>	counselor	<i>[/kown-seh-lor]</i>
banquet	<i>[/bayn-kwet]</i>	court	<i>[kort]</i>
barley	<i>[/bar-lee]</i>	cross	<i>[kraws]</i>
basin	<i>[/bay-sin]</i>	crown	<i>[krown]</i>
basis	<i>[/bay-sis]</i>	crucify	<i>[/kroo-sih-fy]</i>
basket	<i>[/bas-kit]</i>	cry	<i>[/kry]</i>
battlefield	<i>[/ba-tul-feeld]</i>	cure	<i>[kyur]</i>
be one	<i>[bee][wun]</i>	cut off	<i>[kut][awf]</i>
bear	<i>[bair]</i>	dawn	<i>[dawn]</i>
belonging	<i>[beh-law-ning]</i>	doubt	<i>[dowt]</i>
bend down	<i>[bend][down]</i>	decide	<i>[dih-syd]</i>
bend over	<i>[bend][o-ver]</i>	deeply	<i>[/dee-plee]</i>
betray	<i>[beh-tray]</i>	deny	<i>[deh-ny]</i>
bind	<i>[bynd]</i>	descent	<i>[deh-sent]</i>
bless	<i>[bless]</i>	destroy	<i>[deh-stroy]</i>
blind	<i>[blynd]</i>	detachment	<i>[deh-tach-mint]</i>
bone	<i>[bon]</i>	devil	<i>[/deh-vul]</i>
bound	<i>[bownd]</i>	dice	<i>[dys]</i>
bow	<i>[bow]</i>	disabled	<i>[dih-say-buld]</i>
branch	<i>[branch]</i>	disciple	<i>[dih-sy-pul]</i>
breathe	<i>[breeth]</i>	disease	<i>[diz-eez]</i>
brim	<i>[brihm]</i>	distribute	<i>[dih-strih-byoot]</i>
burn	<i>[bern]</i>	draw	<i>[draw]</i>

draw back	<i>[draw][bak]</i>	hand over	<i>[hand][o-ver]</i>
dry	<i>[dry]</i>	heal	<i>[heel]</i>
dwelling	<i>[dweh-ling]</i>	Hebrew	<i>[hee-brew]</i>
enough	<i>[eh-nuf]</i>	heir	<i>[air]</i>
eternal	<i>[ee-tur-nul]</i>	help himself	<i>[help][him-self]</i>
evidence	<i>[eh-vih-dens]</i>	hold on to	<i>[hold] [awn] [too]</i>
evil	<i>[ee-vul]</i>	holy	<i>[ho-lee]</i>
example	<i>[eg-zam-pul]</i>	honor	<i>[ah-ner]</i>
except	<i>[ek-sept]</i>	hired hand	<i>[hy-yurd] [hand]</i>
expensive	<i>[ek-spen-siv]</i>	hurl	<i>[hurl]</i>
extent	<i>[ex-tent]</i>	in regard to	<i>[in][ree-gard][too]</i>
faith	<i>[fayth]</i>	insist	<i>[in-sist]</i>
feast	<i>[feest]</i>	instead	<i>[in][sted]</i>
fill	<i>[fil]</i>	insult	<i>n. [in-sult] v. [in-sult]</i>
fisherman	<i>[fih-she-man]</i>	invalid	<i>[in-vuh-lid]</i>
flesh	<i>[flesh]</i>	invite	<i>[in-vyt]</i>
flock	<i>[flawk]</i>	involve	<i>[in-vahlv]</i>
flog	<i>[flawg]</i>	jar	<i>[jar]</i>
flow	<i>[flo]</i>	Jew	<i>[jew]</i>
forbid	<i>[for-bid]</i>	Jewish	<i>[jew-wish]</i>
force	<i>[fors]</i>	judge	<i>[juj]</i>
forefather	<i>[for-fah-ther]</i>	judgment	<i>[juj-ment]</i>
forever	<i>[for-eh-ver]</i>	keeper	<i>[kee-per]</i>
forgive	<i>[for-giv]</i>	lame	<i>[laym]</i>
forgiven	<i>[for-gih-vehn]</i>	land	<i>[land]</i>
fragrance	<i>[fray-grins]</i>	lead	<i>[lead]</i>
fruit	<i>[frewt]</i>	linen	<i>[lih-nun]</i>
fruitful	<i>[frewt-ful]</i>	loaf	<i>[lof]</i>
fulfill	<i>[ful-fil]</i>	loaves	<i>[lovz]</i>
gardener	<i>[gard-ner]</i>	lock	<i>[lahk]</i>
garment	<i>[gar-ment]</i>	Lord	<i>[lord]</i>
gather	<i>[ga-ther]</i>	loss	<i>[laws]</i>
give thanks	<i>[giv][thanks]</i>	make known	<i>[maik][non]</i>
give up	<i>[giv][up]</i>	make plans	<i>[maik][planz]</i>
glorify	<i>[glor-ih-fy]</i>	mark	<i>[mark]</i>
glory	<i>[glor-ree]</i>	master	<i>[ma-ster]</i>
goods	<i>[gewdz]</i>	meal	<i>[meel]</i>
grace	<i>[grays]</i>	mercy	<i>[mer-see]</i>
grant	<i>[grant]</i>	message	<i>[meh-sij]</i>
grave	<i>[grayv]</i>	mine	<i>[myn]</i>
groom	<i>[groom]</i>	miracle	<i>[meer-uh-kuhl]</i>
grove	<i>[growv]</i>	miraculous sign	<i>[mir-a-kew-lus][syn]</i>
guide	<i>[gyd]</i>	moved in spirit	<i>[moovd][in][speer-it]</i>
hail	<i>[hayl]</i>	mud	<i>[mud]</i>

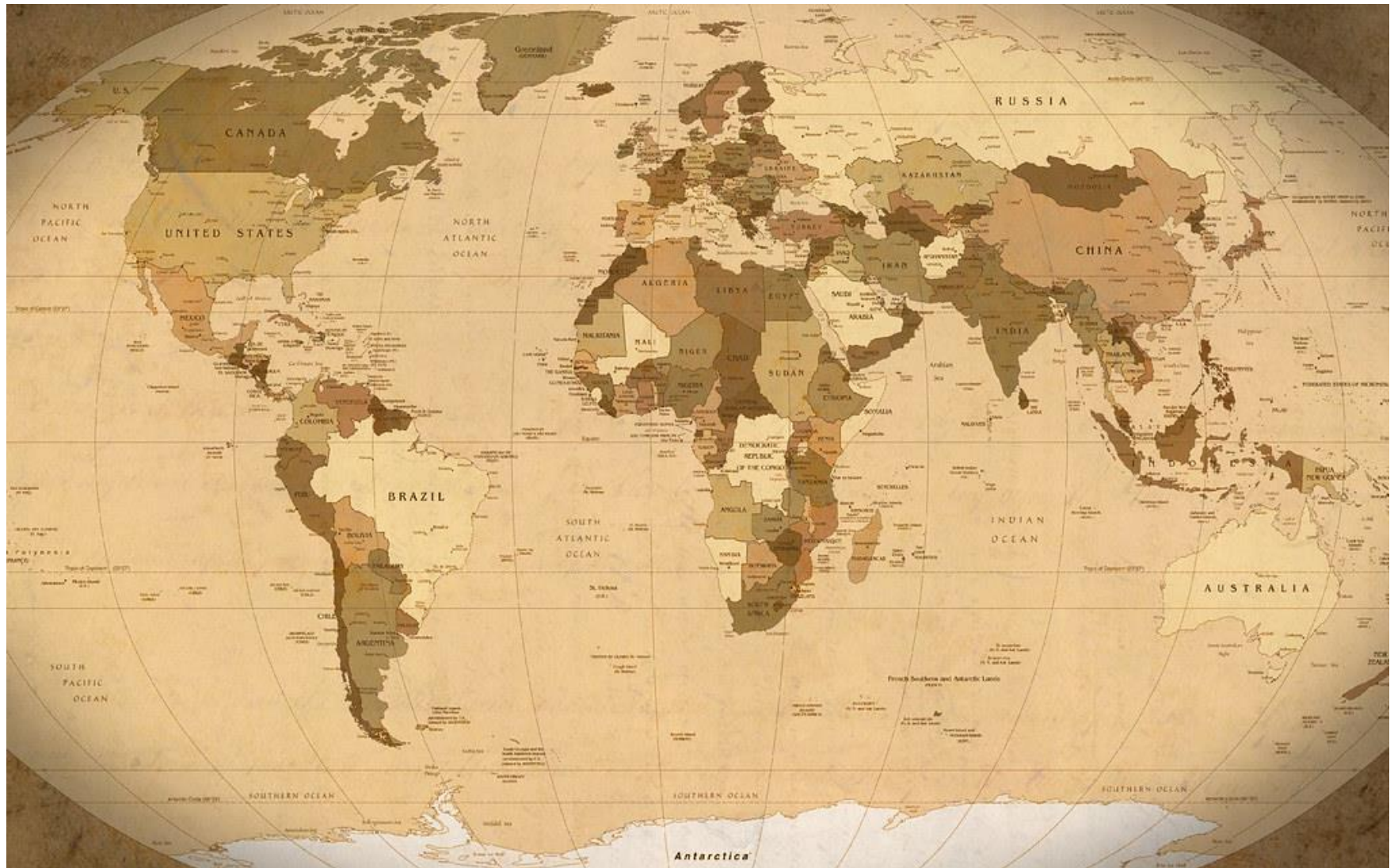
nail	<i>[nail]</i>	remind	<i>[reh-mynd]</i>
natural	<i>[na-cher-ul]</i>	remove	<i>[reh-moov]</i>
no longer	<i>[no][law-nger]</i>	representation	<i>[rep-ree-zen-tay-shun]</i>
obey	<i>[o-bay]</i>	rest	<i>[rest]</i>
object	<i>[uhb-jekt]</i>	resurrection	<i>[reh-zur-rek-shun]</i>
official	<i>[o-fih-shul]</i>	reveal	<i>[reh-veel]</i>
on account of	<i>[awn][uh-kownt][uhv]</i>	right	<i>[ryt]</i>
one another	<i>[wun][uh-nuh-ther]</i>	righteousness	<i>[ry-chus-nis]</i>
orphan	<i>[or-fin]</i>	rightly	<i>[ryt-lee]</i>
outer	<i>[ow-ter]</i>	rise	<i>[ryz]</i>
outlaw	<i>[owt-law]</i>	robber	<i>[rah-bur]</i>
outran	<i>[owt-ran]</i>	robe	<i>[rob]</i>
overjoyed	<i>[o-vur-joyd]</i>	run away	<i>[run][uh-way]</i>
paralyzed	<i>[pair-uh-lyzd]</i>	Sabbath	<i>[sa-beth]</i>
peace	<i>[pees]</i>	saliva	<i>[suh-ly-vuh]</i>
peasant	<i>[peh-zint]</i>	sanctify	<i>[saynk-tih-fy]</i>
pen	<i>[pen]</i>	save	<i>[sayv]</i>
perform	<i>[per-form]</i>	saved	<i>[sayvd]</i>
pierce	<i>[peers]</i>	Savior	<i>[say-vyor]</i>
pint	<i>[pynt]</i>	scatter	<i>[ska-ter]</i>
priest	<i>[preest]</i>	Scripture	<i>[skrip-chur]</i>
prison	<i>[prih-zun]</i>	separate	<i>[seh-puh-rayt]</i>
prompt	<i>[prahmpt]</i>	servant	<i>[ser-vent]</i>
protect	<i>[pro-tekt]</i>	serve	<i>[serv]</i>
poet	<i>[po-et]</i>	shepherd	<i>[sheh-perd]</i>
power	<i>[pow-wer]</i>	shine	<i>[shyn]</i>
powerful	<i>[pow-wer-ful]</i>	shore	<i>[shor]</i>
presence	<i>[preh-sins]</i>	sin	<i>[sin]</i>
prophet	<i>[prah-fit]</i>	sinner	<i>[sih-ner]</i>
protect	<i>[pro-tekt]</i>	skull	<i>[skul]</i>
prune	<i>[prewn]</i>	slave	<i>[slayv]</i>
punishment	<i>[puh-nish-ment]</i>	slip away	<i>[slip][uh-way]</i>
radiance	<i>[ray-dee-ins]</i>	speak openly	<i>[speek][o-pen-lee]</i>
raise	<i>[rayz]</i>	spear	<i>[speer]</i>
rather	<i>[ra-ther]</i>	spice	<i>[spys]</i>
reach	<i>[reech]</i>	spit	<i>[spit]</i>
realize	<i>[ree-uh-lyz]</i>	sponge	<i>[spundj]</i>
receive	<i>[ree-seev]</i>	steal	<i>[steel]</i>
recline	<i>[ree-klyn]</i>	stir	<i>[stir]</i>
recognize	<i>[reh-kug-nyz]</i>	stone	<i>[ston]</i>
record	<i>[reh-kord]</i>	straighten up	<i>[stray-ten][up]</i>
reject	<i>[reh-jekt]</i>	stranger	<i>[stray-nger]</i>
religious	<i>[reh-lih-jus]</i>	strict	<i>[strikt]</i>
remain	<i>[ruh-main]</i>	strike	<i>[stryk]</i>

strip	[strip]		
summon	[suh-mun]		
survive	[ser-vyv]		
sustain	[suh-stayn]		
sword	[sord]		
synagogue	[sih-nuh-gahg]		
take charge	[taik][chargj]		
tear	[tair]		
temple	[tem-pul]		
test	[tehst]		
thief	[theef]		
thorn	[thorn]		
though	[tho]		
throw away	[thro][uh-way]		
throw out	[thro][owt]		
to the full	[too][thuh][ful]		
tomb	[toom]		
trap	[trap]		
troubled	[truh-buld]		
trust	[trust]		
truth	[trooth]		
turn into	[tern][in-too]		
twist	[twist]		
undergarment	[un-der-gar-ment]		
unity	[ew-nih-tee]		
universe	[ew-nih-vers]		
various	[var-ree-us]		
vine	[vyn]		
vinegar	[vih-neh-ger]		
wage	[wayj]		
waste	[wayst]		
watchman	[watch-mun]		
wedding	[weh-ding]		
weep	[weep]		
wilderness	[wil-der-nes]		
will	[wil]		
wipe	[wyp]		
wish	[wish]		
wither	[wih-ther]		
wood	[weud]		
worship	[wer-ship]		
worth	[werth]		
worthy	[wer-thee]		
wrap	[rap]		

Map of Ancient Israel¹



Map of the World



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Comprehension Questions Answer Key

<p>Lesson 1 All answers may vary.</p> <p>Lesson 2</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. prophets 2. Son 3. universe / Son 4. The Son is the exact representation of God. 5. We can know what God is like through his Son. 6. "His powerful word" is the words spoken by the Son. 7. The Son is holding together the universe, our lives, our government, our health, etc. 8. Bible <p>Lesson 3</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Word / Word 2. were made / God spoke, and things appeared. 3. life / life / light / Light is bright and helps us to see. We feel safe in the light. In darkness we can't see. We don't know where we are going. We feel unsafe. / True life and the way we should live can be found in God's Word. 4. shines / understood / No, most people are living in darkness. They live in a wrong way, not by God's Word. 5. recognize / receive 6. right / receive / believe / When we accept God's Words, God receives us as his children, he becomes our Father. We have a relationship with God. / No, we must receive the Word and believe in his name. 7. We believe with our minds, but we receive with our hearts. Receive means to accept with joy. 8. flesh / to become human. 9. grace / truth 10. Answers may vary. See a dictionary for help. Here "grace" means mercy. 11. Jesus Christ 12. New Testament or Bible 13. Jesus Christ 	<p>Lesson 4</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. wedding / There was no more wine. / They probably felt ashamed and embarrassed. 2. involve 3. water / wine 4. banquet 5. tasted / turned into / Jesus loved the bride and groom and wanted to take away their shame. 6. groom 7. No / Jesus is humble. 8. The master called Jesus's wine "the best" wine. 9. Jesus gave his best. He gives us good things to show us his love. 10. miraculous / faith 11. revealed <p>Lesson 5</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. disabled / invalid / The man probably felt hopeless, discouraged, and sad. Perhaps he is used to being sick and does expect to be well again. Being sick is a normal part of his life. 2. Do you want to be well? 3. no one / stirred / someone else 4. The man wanted to get well and believed that the pool would make him well. But he was not strong enough to get into the pool, and he could find anyone to help him. Other people around him are only trying to help themselves. 5. The man believed that the pool would heal him. When an angel stirred the water, then the first person into the water would be healed. The man believed that he needed people to help him. Without people's help, he couldn't be healed. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Every person was trying to heal himself and didn't care about other people who needed help. Everyone was trying to be first, like a competition. In this situation, only the strongest people would get healed. The weakest people would stay sick. 7. Pick up / walk / The man was healed immediately. He was able to pick up his mat and start walking. 8. Jesus's words had the power to heal the man immediately. Jesus helped the weakest man at the pool to show that his power did not depend on the strength of this man, on the pool, on an angel, or on people. Jesus's words alone cured the man completely. He can heal even the weakest of men. 9. Sabbath / The Jewish leaders thought that carrying a mat on the Sabbath was "work." No one was to work on the Sabbath. The man had disobeyed Jewish Law. 10. told / had made 11. The man did not want the Jewish leaders to punish him, so he told them that Jesus had made him well. 12. sinning / worse / Jesus said that sinning is worse than having a physical problem. Being healed spiritually is more important because spiritual healing leads to eternal life. Physical healing ends after this life. / This man was still trying to follow Jewish Law and please the Jewish leaders instead of following Jesus. Jesus could have offered him forgiveness for his sins, but the man sought spiritual approval from the leaders instead. <p>Lesson 6</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. crossed / shore 2. miraculous / performed 3. coming toward
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<p>4. test / Jesus was testing Philip's faith.</p> <p>5. wages / enough / Philip did not pass the test because he did not believe Jesus could feed all the people.</p> <p>6. loaves / fish / among / No, Andrew did not pass the test because he did not believe that Jesus could feed all the people.</p> <p>7. gave / distributed / seated / Jesus fed five thousand men.</p> <p>8. Twelve baskets of bread were left over. / Jesus performed a miraculous sign.</p> <p>9. Prophet</p> <p>10. No, Jesus is called God's Son.</p> <p>11. The Son is the heir of all things. The Son created the universe. The Son is the exact representation of God. The Son sustains all things through his word. A messenger only delivers messages. / We must understand the power and role God has given Jesus, his Son.</p> <p>Lesson 7</p> <p>1. spit / mud / the saliva</p> <p>2. Pharisees / received</p> <p>3. Sabbath</p> <p>4. No, Jesus did not disobey the Sabbath because he was not working when he healed the blind man. He was loving a person and honoring God.</p> <p>5. sinner</p> <p>6. had decided / acknowledged / synagogue / "Put out" of the synagogue means to be taken out of the synagogue. The person was no longer a friend of the Jews. He could not work or buy food. The Jews took all of the man's belongings.</p> <p>7. hurled / threw</p> <p>8. The blind man was thankful that Jesus had healed him. The man believed that Jesus is the Son of God. He loved Jesus more than his own life (his job, food, Jewish friends, belongings, etc.)</p> <p>Lesson 8</p> <p>1. gate</p>	<p>2. thief / robber</p> <p>3. shepherd</p> <p>4. voice / The sheep know the shepherd's voice because the shepherd spends time with the sheep and feeds them.</p> <p>5. Jesus</p> <p>6. saved / The person will be saved from sin. The person will go to heaven.</p> <p>7. to the full/ Life to the full is a life of loving God. It is a life of joy, peace, love, spiritual blessings, friendships, and the hope of heaven. Jesus also fills his followers with the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>8. Jesus</p> <p>9. his followers</p> <p>10. The pen is the church or the kingdom of God.</p> <p>11. Satan or the devil, evil people, sin, etc.</p> <p>12. abandons / cares</p> <p>13. flock / scatters / The hired hand abandoned the sheep.</p> <p>14. lays down / Jesus laid down his life for others through serving, teaching, healing, feeding, caring, and finally dying so that those who follow him would receive forgiveness for their sins. / We too can give our time and strength worshipping God, caring for the church, serving, and loving other believers, helping non-believers to know Jesus, and serving non-believers so they might experience Jesus's love for them. When we lay down our lives, we give our lives completely to Jesus – our dreams, our careers, our homes, our money, our thoughts, our time. We are even willing to die for his name. Everything is for his glory and for the service of others that they world may know him.</p> <p>15. Jesus loves his sheep and wants them to be saved. He trusts God with his life.</p> <p>Lesson 9</p> <p>1. arrival / tomb / four</p> <p>2. stayed at home / Mary stayed</p>	<p>home because she was sad that Jesus had not healed Lazarus before he died.</p> <p>3. rise</p> <p>4. resurrection / No, Martha believed that Jesus could only raise Lazarus on the last day.</p> <p>5. resurrection / believes in me / Jesus is the resurrection because he is the way for men to be saved and raised to heaven on the last day. Jesus is true life because when we believe in him, we live the life God designed for us here on earth, and we receive eternal life.</p> <p>6. reached / would not have died / weep</p> <p>7. No, Mary did not believe that Jesus could raise Lazarus from the dead. If she did, then she would not be weeping.</p> <p>8. No, the other people would not be weeping if they believed that Jesus could raise Lazarus from the dead. They believed that Jesus could have saved Lazarus before he died, but not after he was already dead.</p> <p>9. Jesus cried because his friends did not believe that he could perform this miraculous sign.</p> <p>10. Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. / Jesus loves Lazarus and his family, and he also wants to show the people his power to raise someone from the dead, something only God can do.</p> <p>11. Lazarus was probably white and weak. He was wrapped in strips of linen and had a cloth around his face.</p> <p>12. Mary and Martha were very happy and thankful.</p> <p>13. Lazarus followed Jesus and was thankful to him. He probably lived to honor Jesus every day of his life.</p> <p>Lesson 10</p> <p>1. raised</p> <p>2. served / reclining</p> <p>3. pint / expensive</p> <p>4. wiped / hair / filled / fragrance</p> <p>5. betray / objected / worth / wages</p> <p>6. No, Jesus honored Mary's gift and</p>
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<p>her worship of him.</p> <p>7. Mary loved Jesus and was thankful that he had raised Lazarus from the dead.</p> <p>8. The other men probably looked down on Mary because she was touching a man's feet and crying over a man who is not her husband or relative.</p> <p>9. Mary did not care about what the other men thought of her. She cared more about honoring Jesus because she believed that he is the Son of God.</p> <p>10. Jesus thinks that honoring God and worshipping him is more important than giving to the poor. / Jesus knows that the poor cannot save people, only he can.</p> <p>11. chief priests / on account / going over to / putting</p> <p><u>Lesson 11</u></p> <p>1. adultery</p> <p>2. commanded / to stone</p> <p>3. trap / basis / accusing / The Pharisees wanted to trap Jesus because many people were leaving the Jewish leaders and following Jesus.</p> <p>4. without sin / first to throw a stone / See Appendix B.</p> <p>5. leave / They knew that they had sin in their lives too.</p> <p>6. condemn / The woman was very thankful because Jesus saved her from being stoned.</p> <p>7. leave her life / Jesus told the woman not to sin again because her sin hurt God, others, and herself. She would also not go to heaven if she continued in adultery. / The woman would have had to leave a relationship with a man she loved and return to an angry husband who could mistreat her. If she had to go back to her family, her family might have shamed her. But she would be set free from her sin and forgiven by God through Jesus.</p> <p>8. judge / save / Jesus loved people</p>	<p>and wanted to help them. The Jewish leaders wanted to judge people and find them doing something wrong.</p> <p>9. reject / accept / We must believe that Jesus is the Son of God and love him. We must have faith in his power. We must leave our lives of sin, follow Jesus's teachings, and love one another.</p> <p>10. very word / condemn / the New Testament of the Bible</p> <p>11. eternal</p> <p><u>Lesson 12</u></p> <p>1. feast / leave / Jesus probably felt sad about leaving his friends but happy to return to the Father.</p> <p>2. got up / outer / wrapped / basin / wash / drying</p> <p>3. Jesus did this to show his followers his love and to teach them to serve one another. We see that Jesus is humble servant of all men who wants to wash us, make us clean, and teach us how to love others.</p> <p>4. Jesus was teaching his disciples to love and serve one another. Also, he was teaching them that no person is more important than another person.</p> <p>5. People wash their feet to be clean. / Jesus washes us with his blood and through his Word. He helps us to turn from sin and turn toward following him.</p> <p>6. one another's / We can wash one another by helping each another to follow Jesus, encouraging one another, and pointing each other toward his teachings. We can encourage one another to continue doing good and serving others. We can also serve and love one another in humility.</p> <p>7. blessed / If we serve one another, we will have better friendships. We will be doing good in our lives, not evil. "Blessed" might also mean that we will be rewarded in heaven.</p> <p>8. Love one another / Out of love can help one another not to sin,</p>	<p>encourage one another, forgive one another, spend time together, call one another, take care of each other when sick, etc. Serving is doing. Love is deeply caring and showing genuine concern for a person.</p> <p>9. If we love another, all men will know that we are followers of Jesus. / If we do not love one another, the world will not want to be Christians. They will not think being Christian is very important.</p> <p>10. No, I John 4:19-21 says that Jesus commands us to love one another. If we truly love Jesus, we will love one another.</p> <p><u>Lesson 13</u></p> <p>1. troubled / Jesus was their friend. They loved him and would miss him. They wanted Jesus to stay with them to help them spiritually.</p> <p>2. Trust / trust / Trust is confidently depending on someone or something for security or for a certain outcome. / We can trust that Jesus is our Savior, trust him with our lives, trust that his teachings are truth and life, trust his teachings instead of sin, and trust that if we put of our faith in him and follow him, then we will receive eternal life. Trust that his promises are true.</p> <p>3. prepare / house / Jesus's "Father's house" is heaven.</p> <p>4. the way / the truth / the life / "The" means that there is only one way, one truth, and one true life. Jesus is that way and that truth. If we follow him, then we receive eternal life. Jesus is the only way to that life.</p> <p>5. Answers may vary.</p> <p>6. Jesus and the Father are the same person because Jesus is God's spoken words in human form. For this reason, Jesus is called God's Son and is the perfect copy of the Father.</p> <p>7. at least / evidence / miracles</p>
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<p>8. name / do it / Jesus wants us to believe in him and know that he is with us.</p> <p>9. Jesus was one man, but his followers are many. They can tell more people about Jesus. Jesus will also give his followers strength and power through prayer and the Holy Spirit. God will also work through his church. As followers, we can work together to bring glory and honor to God through Jesus.</p> <p>10. vine / gardener / branches</p> <p>11. cuts off / bears / fruit / bear fruit / prunes / fruitful / To bear fruit can mean to do good, to serve others, to bring glory to God, and to help others to know Jesus. Jesus wants to cut out things in our lives that are not bearing fruit for God.</p> <p>Lesson 14</p> <p>1. obey</p> <p>2. Counselor / forever</p> <p>3. A counselor is an advisor. See a dictionary for help.</p> <p>4. Spirit</p> <p>5. with / in</p> <p>6. We know that we love Jesus if we obey his commands.</p> <p>7. Jesus taught us to believe in him, to love the Lord with all our hearts, to love and serve other people, to pray, to forgive others, to give mercy, to turn from sin, to worship the Father and the Son, to share our love for Jesus openly, etc. (See also Appendix B Introduction and list of sins.)</p> <p>8. Jesus wants us to love him by knowing and obeying his commands. His commands show us how to love God and love others.</p> <p>9. loved / love / show himself / We will truly know Jesus.</p> <p>10. Holy Spirit</p> <p>11. teach / remind</p> <p>12. convict / sin / righteousness / judgment</p> <p>13. We must believe in Jesus for</p>	<p>salvation, turn from sin, and depend on him for righteousness.</p> <p>14. Answers vary.</p> <p>Lesson 15</p> <p>1. glorify / glorify</p> <p>2. granted / eternal life</p> <p>3. completing / revealed</p> <p>4. certainty / Jesus revealed himself to his followers. They obeyed his teachings and accepted his words. Then they knew with certainty that Jesus had come from the Father.</p> <p>5. protect / name / one / one / Jesus's name has the power to protect us. His name brings salvation.</p> <p>6. We can obey Jesus's teachings and accepts his words. We can believe in Jesus as the Son of God and trust in him for our salvation. / Jesus wants to protect us and help all of his followers to be one with each other and with the Father. Their unity will protect them.</p> <p>7. No. Jesus wants all men to be saved. Example: "Please give me this relationship," but this relationship will lead this person away from God. So, Jesus would not say "Yes" to this prayer.</p> <p>8. The disciples understood the power of Jesus's name. Jesus's name also brings salvation. His followers wanted people to be saved through their works.</p> <p>9. God's word is truth. / We find the truth in the Bible. / No, we cannot follow Jesus and believe that there are other truths. This does not agree with what Jesus teaches. If there <i>are</i> other truths, then the Bible and Jesus's teachings are false because they say there is only one truth.</p> <p>10. We can be sanctified by following the truth, Jesus's teachings, and God's Word in the Bible.</p> <p>11. message / unity / Answers may vary – See Acts 2:42-47</p> <p>Lesson 16</p> <p>1. grove / detachment</p>	<p>2. fell to the ground / The soldiers were struck by the power of Jesus's words and claim to be Jesus, the Son of God.</p> <p>3. sword / struck / Peter wanted to protect Jesus. He feared the soldiers and did not want them to hurt Jesus.</p> <p>4. put / away / drink / Jesus was going to follow his Father's plan for him, even if it was hard. / Jesus always obeyed the Father. He also would do anything for the salvation of men, even if it meant dying.</p> <p>5. commander / officials / bound</p> <p>6. I am not. / Peter wanted to protect his life and was afraid of the soldiers. / Jesus was not afraid of men and trusted God's plan for his life, even if it meant his death.</p> <p>7. the servants / officials / warm / Peter wanted to be like the crowd so they would not think he was a follower of Jesus. Peter also wanted to protect himself more than he wanted to protect Jesus.</p> <p>8. questioned / teachings / spoken openly / in secret / Jesus is honest about who he is, even if it caused him pain. Peter was afraid of being honest about his faith in Jesus and did not want to suffer.</p> <p>9. warming / I am not / Answers may vary.</p> <p>10. We try to fit in with society and act like we don't know Jesus. We are afraid of what people will think if share our faith. We are afraid of persecution.</p> <p>11. no basis / charge / No. Jesus was innocent. He spoke the truth and hurt no one. He only loved people and tried to help them.</p> <p>Lesson 17</p> <p>1. flogged</p> <p>2. crown of thorns / robe</p> <p>3. struck</p> <p>4. crucify / claimed</p> <p>5. Pilate was afraid that he would be killing the Son of God. He asked where Jesus is from because of the</p>
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<p>Old Testament prophecy that says that the Messiah must be born on Bethlehem (see Appendix C, the first prophecy listed).</p> <p>6. See Matthew 27:27-31</p> <p>7. handed / over / took charge</p> <p>8. carry / Skull / Jesus might have felt hurt, tired, weak, and sad. Jesus might have wanted to give up because he was in so much pain. He might have felt sad and hurt that people did not believe him after all the good he had done for them. But Jesus never gave up. He knew who he was and why he came to the earth: to die for the sins of man, and he trusted God.</p> <p>9. Jesus knew he was not lying about being the Son of God. Also, if he had given up, no one would be saved. Jesus wanted all men to be saved.</p> <p>10. crucified</p> <p>Lesson 18</p> <p>1. undergarment / tear / cast</p> <p>2. Scriptures / fulfilled</p> <p>3. thirsty</p> <p>4. vinegar / soaked / sponge</p> <p>5. finished / bowed / gave up</p> <p>6. broken / break</p> <p>7. pierced / spear / flow</p> <p>8. bones / look on</p> <p>Lesson 19</p> <p>1. removed / entrance / taken</p> <p>2. started for / outran / reached</p> <p>3. bent over / strips / linen</p> <p>4. went back to / stood / crying / Mary loved Jesus and wanted to be with him. She cared more about finding Jesus than going home.</p> <p>5. crying / looking for / gardener</p> <p>6. Jesus / Mary knew Jesus by his voice and by the way he said her name. / Mary and Jesus were close friends. Mary deeply loved Jesus and wanted to be with him. This was more important to her than anything else.</p> <p>7. hold on to / instead</p>	<p>Lesson 20</p> <p>1. locked / fear / The disciples were afraid that the Jews would think that the disciples had stolen Jesus's body.</p> <p>2. Peace / overjoyed / Jesus had all authority as the Son of God. They didn't have to be afraid of anyone, and through him they could have peace with God and peace over the situations in their lives.</p> <p>3. hands / Jesus wanted to prove to the disciples that he had risen from the dead.</p> <p>4. Jesus was sending the disciples out into the world to tell people about him and to teach people how to receive forgiveness for their sins.</p> <p>5. forgive / forgiven / Jesus wants us to forgive others so they might understand that Jesus's love and forgiveness.</p> <p>6. nail marks</p> <p>7. finger / hands / side / doubting / He helped Thomas to believe.</p> <p>8. Because / Blessed / and yet / us</p> <p>9. believe / believing / have life</p>	
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Notes

Lesson 1

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Lesson 3

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Lesson 18

¹ Easton, Matthew George, "Entry for 'Lot,'" *Easton's Bible Dictionary*, <<http://www.biblestudytools.com/dictionaries/eastons-bible-dictionary/lot.html>> (30 May 2010).

Lesson 19

¹ Smith, William, Dr., "Entry for 'Mary Magdalene,'" *Smith's Bible Dictionary*, <<http://www.biblestudytools.com/dictionaries/smiths-bible-dictionary/mary-magdalene.html>> (17 May 2010).

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