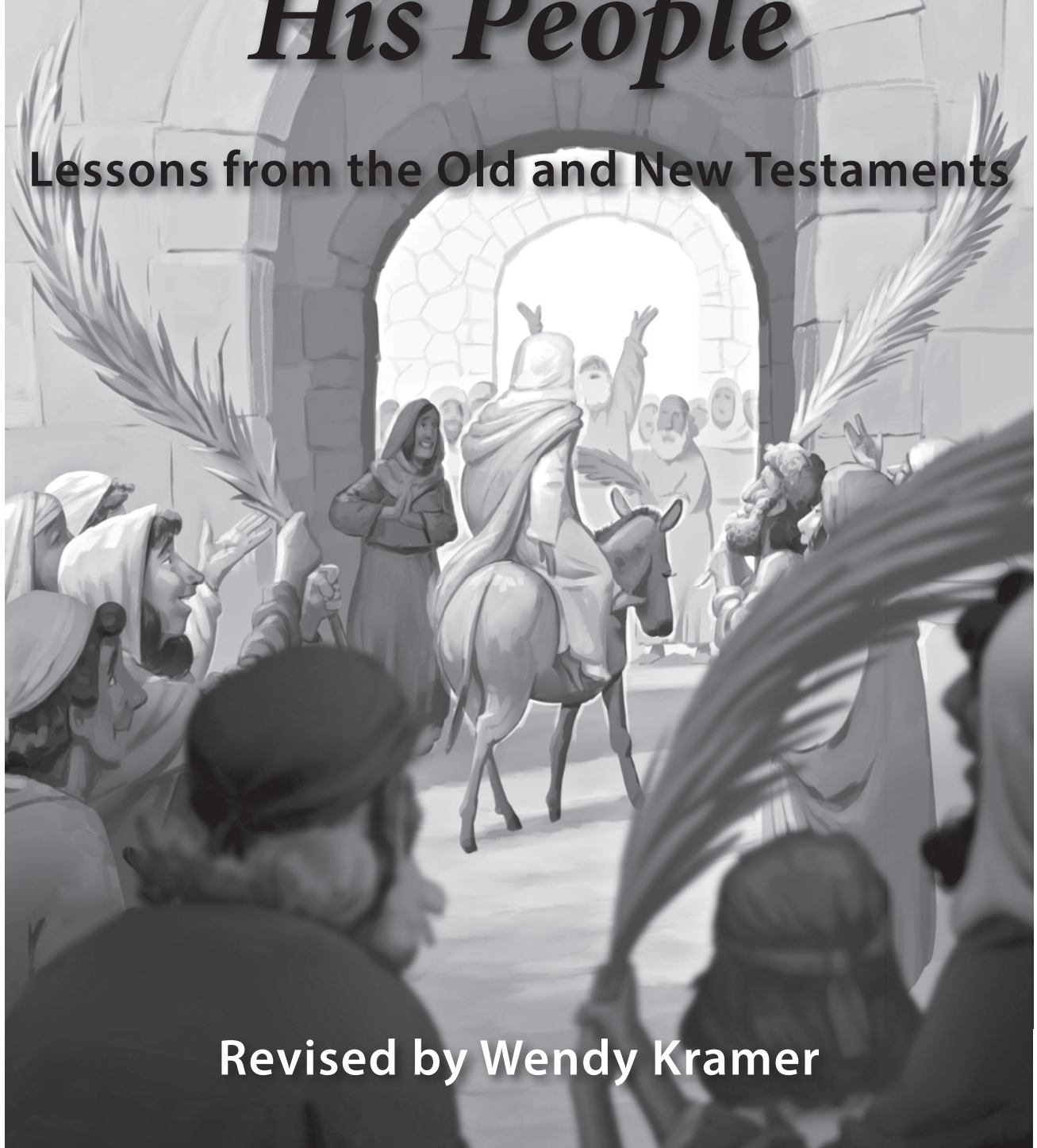


*Studying God's Word*

# *God's Plan for His People*

**Lessons from the Old and New Testaments**

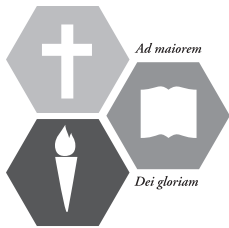


**Revised by Wendy Kramer**

Bible Stories adapted from *Studying God's Word Book D: Exploring the Truths of the Life of Christ* by Darrel A. Trulson.  
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## *Note to Parents and Teachers*

In Deuteronomy 6:5–7, it says: “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.”

Scripture makes it clear that the primary responsibility for teaching children lies with parents, however they choose to teach their children. This curriculum will be most effective if you discuss each reading and lesson with your students after they do the work. The thought questions included with the lessons provide an excellent opportunity for discussion between you and your students. In addition, you are encouraged to use the weekly readings for devotionals. Although these questions are not included with the curriculum, here are some questions that can be asked after each lesson:

1. What is something that this passage teaches you about God?
2. What is something you can pray for as a result of this passage?
3. What is one question you have from this passage?

When you discuss each passage with your students, they will be far more likely to think about the passage and how to apply it to their lives.

# Introduction

The *Studying God's Word Series* is designed to have the student encounter the biblical text firsthand. Many students grow up hearing Bible stories from their parents, or in Sunday school, homeschool, or Christian day-school curricula. The work that these people and programs do for children is valuable for their growth and maturity. The goal of this curriculum is to go beyond the stories of the Bible and to have students read the Bible itself.

The first book in this series, *God's Plan for His People: Lessons from the Old and New Testaments*, is a Bible lesson book designed specifically for third graders, though students of other age groups will enjoy the lessons, activities, and accompanying illustrations. This workbook focuses on lessons found within the Old and New Testaments. The main doctrines of Creation, the Fall, Judgment, and Redemption, as well as other significant biblical truths, are brought to life within these pages. The following books in this series follow the Scriptures chronologically, Genesis to Acts.

The New King James Version (NKJV) is the translation used for this course. We chose this version because the King James Version of the Bible is the most widely used English translation, and the New King James Version of the Bible is a little easier for students to read. While it is possible to complete this curriculum using other translations of the Bible, the questions in the workbook use the language and phrases of the NKJV. As a result, it may be difficult at times to find the answers to these questions without using the NKJV.

Each week, the workbook includes the following elements:

- ❑ **Day 1** has a lesson for students to read, followed by questions about the lesson.
- ❑ **Day 2** has students read the Bible passage for the week, followed by questions over the Bible reading.
- ❑ **Day 3** is designed for students to complete an activity (such as completing a word search or crossword puzzle; unscrambling words; decoding a Bible verse; solving a maze; or doing another activity, depending on the week), and to answer two or three thought questions.
- ❑ **Day 4** includes an exercise (such as reading a Bible passage and answering questions, answering review questions on previous lessons, doing a map study, or completing some other exercise, depending on the week).
- ❑ **Day 5** is set aside for students to review the week's material and take a ten-question quiz. Many of these questions are designed to bring out some of the important points in the biblical text.

On average, the student will read about one chapter of the Bible per week. A separate answer key for all workbook questions is available through Christian Liberty Press.

Finally, a separate quiz packet is available through Christian Liberty Press. There is one quiz per week—a total of thirty-six quizzes for the whole course. The quizzes cover material found in the textbook and Bible passages.

*The Staff of Christian Liberty Press  
Arlington Heights, Illinois*

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# 5,000 Hungry Mouths

## Week 20

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**Lesson Goal:** To understand how God wants us to give freely, and He will use it to bless others

**Background Text:** Matthew 14:13–21; Mark 6:30–44; Luke 9:10–17; John 6:1–14

**Memory Verse:** For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.  
(Philippians 2:13)

---

## Day 1

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### Lesson 20

---

If you were with Jesus while He was ministering to the people living in Israel, you would discover that it could be very tiring. Jesus spent long days preaching to and teaching the people and healing the sick. Jesus and His disciples had gone into the wilderness to get some rest, but a great crowd followed them. The people had seen or heard about Jesus and His miracles, so they followed Him everywhere He went.

When Jesus saw the multitude, He was immediately full of compassion for these lost sheep. He healed their sick and taught them about the kingdom of God. After many hours had passed, the disciples decided to send the crowd away to find food to eat.

However, Jesus continued to have compassion for the needs of these people. He did not want to send them away. Instead, He asked His disciples to give them some food. They told Jesus that all they had was five loaves of bread and two fish that a boy had brought. Then Jesus told His disciples to have the crowd sit down in groups of fifty, and He blessed the little bit of food that the boy had given. Jesus then broke the food and gave it to His disciples to pass out to the 5,000

The disciples served the bread and fish to the 5,000 men, as well as women and children.



men and also to the women and children who came with them. After all the people had eaten, there were twelve baskets of the leftover pieces of bread and fish!

The boy in this story had a small gift, but Jesus used it to bless thousands of people. We, too, can honor and obey God in all that we do and with all that we have. Jesus can use our small gifts in a great way to bless others.

### *Lesson 20 Questions*

---

Answer the following questions.

1. For it is God who works in you both to \_\_\_\_\_ and to \_\_\_\_\_ for His good \_\_\_\_\_. (Philippians 2:13)
2. Jesus spent long days doing what? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Why did Jesus and His disciples go into the wilderness? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Why did the people follow Jesus everywhere He went? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Jesus had compassion for what? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. After many hours had passed, the disciples decided to do what? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What did Jesus want the disciples to do? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What did the boy give to Jesus and His disciples? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. What did Jesus do with the boy's gift? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. Can you estimate how many people were fed that day? Remember that there were 5,000 men plus women and children.
- 

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## Day 2

---

### *Bible Reading & Questions*

---

Read Matthew 14:13–21; Mark 6:30–44; Luke 9:10–17; John 6:1–14. Then match the correct answer to each question.

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| _____ 1. How did the people follow Jesus? (Matthew 14:13)  |               |
| _____ 2. When Jesus saw the multitude, He was moved with what? (Matthew 14:14)                     | a. Bethsaida  |
| _____ 3. Whom did Jesus heal? (Matthew 14:14)  | b. five       |
| _____ 4. Jesus compared the people to this kind of animal. (Mark 6:34)                             | c. on foot    |
| _____ 5. How many loaves did the disciples find? (Mark 6:38)                                       | d. sheep      |
| _____ 6. How many baskets of food were left over after the people had finished eating? (Mark 6:43) | e. twelve     |
| _____ 7. By what city did Jesus take His disciples? (Luke 9:10)                                    | f. the sick   |
| _____ 8. How many fish did the disciples say they had? (Luke 9:13)                                 | g. 5,000      |
| _____ 9. Jesus asked which disciple where they should buy bread? (John 6:5)                        | h. compassion |
| _____ 10. How many men did Jesus feed? (John 6:10)   | i. Philip     |
|  | j. two        |



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## Day 3

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### Activity

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Read Galatians 5:22–26 and Ephesians 5:9. Then find and circle the fruits of the Spirit listed in the word search puzzle. These words may be forward, backward, horizontal, vertical, or diagonal.

FAITHFULNESS	JOY	LOVE	SELF-CONTROL
GENTLENESS	KINDNESS	PEACE	TRUTH
GOODNESS	LONGSUFFERING	RIGHTEOUSNESS	

O	G	C	O	Z	Q	R	Q	S	Z	R	T	S	H	L
V	W	Z	Z	H	T	U	R	T	Y	V	S	L	U	D
E	K	I	N	D	N	E	S	S	L	S	M	I	B	C
I	N	X	V	S	C	T	S	F	E	Z	S	B	X	W
M	H	Y	C	A	I	J	S	N	U	H	B	K	J	P
V	H	F	E	H	O	Y	L	S	D	Q	L	O	V	E
D	X	P	Y	Y	F	U	L	W	E	Q	I	J	Y	R
V	H	N	Z	J	F	K	G	O	X	N	L	Y	E	W
U	S	T	B	H	F	E	X	W	H	G	D	B	Z	O
G	Q	Y	T	J	F	T	L	M	K	D	V	O	A	L
L	U	I	I	X	T	R	E	A	S	H	H	D	O	F
V	A	Y	O	G	E	N	T	L	E	N	E	S	S	G
F	L	O	N	G	S	U	F	F	E	R	I	N	G	D
W	S	S	E	N	S	U	O	E	T	H	G	I	R	E
B	G	C	Y	S	E	L	F	C	O	N	T	R	O	L

### Thought Questions

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1. Why do you think that people are drawn to Jesus? Why do they want to follow Him?

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2. How can your attitudes and actions point others to Christ?

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## Day 4

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### *Review Questions*

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Answer the following questions.

1. What did Jesus offer to the woman at the well? (Lesson 13)

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2. Jesus told His disciples that His food was what? (Lesson 13)

---

3. How many years did the man at the Pool of Bethesda have an infirmity? (Lesson 14)

---

4. When Jesus told His disciples that He wanted them to become fishers of men, what did He mean? (Lesson 15)

---

5. Grace and truth comes through whom? (Lesson 15)

---

6. What did the group of friends do to help their paralytic friend? (Lesson 16)

---

7. Jesus marveled when He heard the words of whom? (Lesson 17)

---

8. Since we have been justified through faith, what do we have?  
(Lesson 18)

---

9. Matthew 5:3–12 is a Bible passage that is sometimes called what?  
(Lesson 19)

---

10. What did the boy give to Jesus and His disciples to help feed the great multitude? (Lesson 20)

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### Feeding the 5,000



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## Day 5

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Spend some time reviewing what you have learned this week, and then take Quiz 20.

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# Standing on Faith

## Week 21

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**Lesson Goal:** To learn to trust Jesus when we have troubles

**Background Text:** Matthew 14:22–33; Mark 6:45–52; John 6:15–21

**Memory Verse:** I will never leave you nor forsake you. (Hebrews 13:5b)

---

## Day 1

---

### Lesson 21

---

It is easy to trust the Lord when the sun is shining and things are going well. What happens, though, when the storm clouds start to come and problems overwhelm our lives?

After Jesus fed the 5,000, the disciples got into a boat and were crossing the Sea of Galilee. Then, in the middle of the sea, they began to be tossed by the waves because a great wind was blowing. Early in the morning, they saw Jesus walking on the water. Peter said, “Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water” (Matthew 14:28). Then Jesus called to Peter to come out of the boat and walk to Him on the water. Peter trusted Jesus as long as his attention was focused upon the Savior. However, once he looked around and saw the wind and the waves, he became frightened and began to sink. Did Peter sink into the water because Christ stopped helping him? No! Peter sank because he stopped trusting the Lord.

Like Peter, we too are sometimes faced with problems. For some boys and girls, their parents get a divorce, a close friend suddenly dies, a bully keeps on annoying them, or maybe they end up becoming very sick. Yet Jesus is always there with us. No matter what goes wrong, the Lord will

**The disciples saw Jesus walking on the water.**



help us get through any difficulty. When we are afraid and begin to have doubts, we need to look to the Lord and ask Him to help us from sinking into a sea of worry and sin (Psalm 56:3).

Like Peter, if we focus our attention upon our problems and not the Lord Jesus, we will lose our hope and courage. Psalm 46:1 says, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." As we trust the Lord, He will give us the strength to stand and not give up or become fearful in the midst of our trials.

### ***Lesson 21 Questions***

---

Answer the following questions.

1. I will never \_\_\_\_\_ you nor \_\_\_\_\_ you.  
(Hebrews 13:5b)
2. The disciples got into a boat and were crossing what body of water?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What happened in the middle of the sea? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What did Jesus tell Peter to do? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. As long as Peter trusted Jesus, what happened? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What happened when he looked around and saw the wind and the waves?  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Did Peter sink into the water because Christ stopped helping him? Explain your answer.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What problems may boys and girls your age face? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. When we are afraid and begin to have doubts, what should we do?

\_\_\_\_\_

10. What does God tell us in Psalm 46:1? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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## Day 2

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### *Bible Reading & Questions*

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Read Matthew 14:22–33, Mark 6:45–52, and John 6:15–21. Then circle the correct answers to the following questions.

1. What did Jesus urge His disciples to do? (Matthew 14:22)
  - a. get into the boat
  - b. feed the 5,000
  - c. heal the sick
  - d. walk on water
2. Jesus went up on the mountain to do what? (Matthew 14:23)
  - a. heal the sick
  - b. talk to people
  - c. pray
  - d. sleep
3. Who went out on the water to meet Jesus? (Matthew 14:29)
  - a. John
  - b. Philip
  - c. James
  - d. Peter
4. What did Peter cry out? (Matthew 14:30)
  - a. I am drowning!
  - b. Pull me out!
  - c. Lord, save me!
  - d. Help me walk on water!
5. What did the disciples think when they saw Jesus walking on the water? (Mark 6:49)
  - a. Jesus was a ghost.
  - b. Jesus had come to save them.
  - c. They were dreaming.
  - d. The storm had stopped.
6. What did Jesus do when He saw the disciples were troubled? (Mark 6:50)
  - a. Jesus calmed the storm.
  - b. He told Peter to come to Him.
  - c. He got into the boat.
  - d. He talked with them.

7. Why did the disciples not consider the miracle of the loaves?  
(Mark 6:52)
  - a. They forgot about the loaves.
  - b. Their hearts were hardened.
  - c. They were too scared.
  - d. They were amazed.
8. What did Jesus perceive? (John 6:15)
  - a. The people were tired and hungry.
  - b. He needed to be alone with His disciples.
  - c. The people wanted to force Him to become king.
  - d. It was getting late in the day.
9. Toward which city were the disciples going in their boat?  
(John 6:17)
  - a. Capernaum
  - b. Nazareth
  - c. Jerusalem
  - d. Bethlehem
10. While they were crossing the sea, where did the disciples see Jesus? (John 6:19)
  - a. drawing near the boat
  - b. walking on the sea
  - c. getting into the boat
  - d. both a and b

## Day 3

### Activity

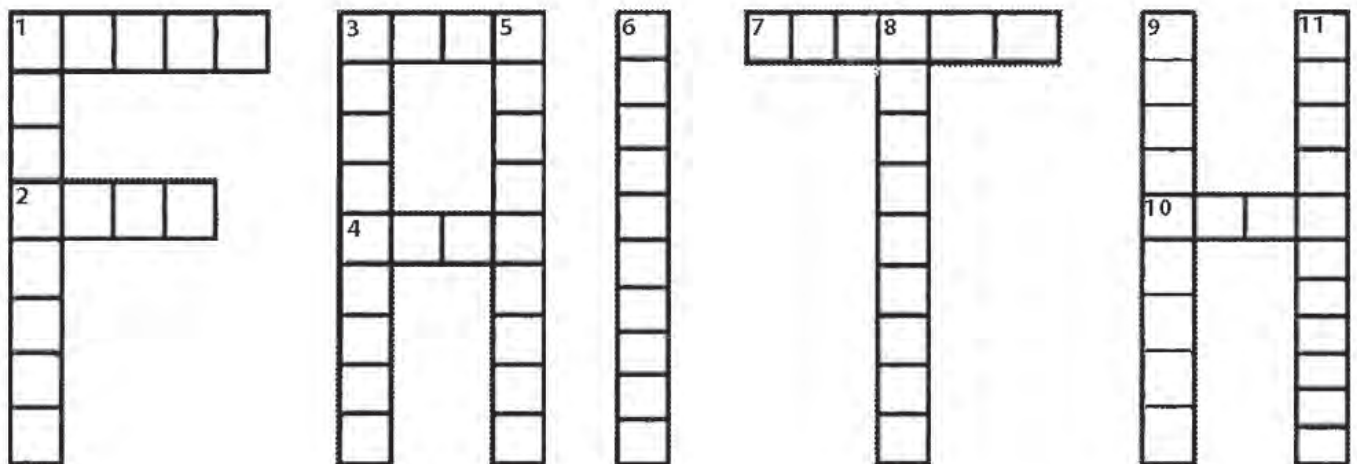
Read Matthew 14:22–33; Mark 6:45–52; John 6:15–21 to complete the crossword puzzle.

#### ACROSS

1. The disciples had not understood about the loaves, because their \_\_\_\_\_ was hardened. (Mark 6:52)
2. Peter had come \_\_\_\_\_ out of the boat. (Matthew 14:29)
3. The disciples got into the boat. What is another word for *boat*? (Matthew 14:22)
4. Jesus perceived that they were about to come and \_\_\_\_\_ Him by force. (John 6:15)
7. When evening came, the boat was in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the sea. (Mark 6:47)
10. Jesus stretched out His \_\_\_\_\_ and caught Peter. (Matthew 14:31)

#### DOWN

1. The disciples' hearts were \_\_\_\_\_. (Mark 6:52)
3. Jesus did this with His hand. (Matthew 14:31)
5. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ that they were about to come and take Him by force. (John 6:15)
6. When he saw that the wind was \_\_\_\_\_, he was afraid. (Matthew 14:30)
8. Now when evening came, His \_\_\_\_\_ went down to the sea. (John 6:16)
9. The disciples in the boat came and \_\_\_\_\_ Him, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God." (Matthew 14:33)
11. But \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus said to His disciples, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." (Mark 6:50)





## *Thought Questions*

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1. Why do you think it is easy to trust in the Lord when things are going well, but hard when things are going badly?

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2. Describe a time when something bad happened to you or a friend or someone else. How did that person respond?

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## Day 4

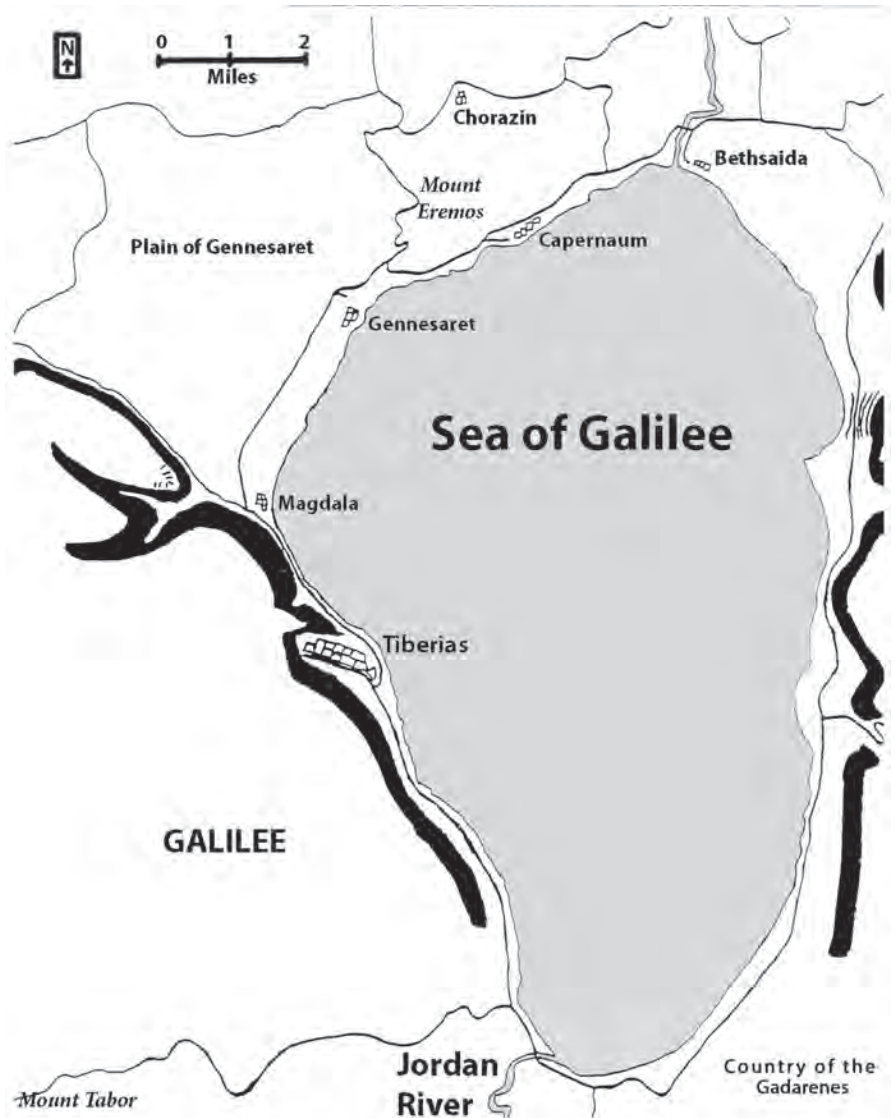
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### Map Study 2

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In this map study, you will learn the places and cities around the Sea of Galilee where Jesus ministered.

1. Circle the name of the place where Peter and Andrew were casting their net. (Matthew 4:18)
2. Draw a rectangle around the name of the city where Jesus spoke to the centurion. (Matthew 8:5)
3. Draw a house near the city where Jesus healed the paralytic. (Mark 2:1)
4. Draw a small boat near where the disciples sailed. (Luke 8:26)
5. Draw a mountain near Mount Eremos, which is the traditional site of the Sermon on the Mount. (Matthew 5-7)
6. Draw a box around the city where Jesus healed many who were sick. (Matthew 14:34-36)
7. Certain Greeks came up to worship at the feast and wanted to see Jesus. Draw a triangle around the city from which Philip came. (John 12:20-21)



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## Day 5

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Spend some time reviewing what you have learned this week, and then take Quiz 21.

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# The Glory of Christ

## Week 22

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**Lesson Goal:** To learn to obey everything God has taught us in the Bible

**Background Text:** Matthew 17:1–13; Mark 9:2–13; Luke 9:28–36

**Memory Verse:** This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him! (Matthew 17:5b)

---

---

## Day 1

---

### Lesson 22

---

Upon a high mountain, three of the disciples received their first glimpse of the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ. Many Bible students believe that this mountain was Mount Tabor, which is southwest of the Sea of Galilee. It was difficult for these disciples to understand that Christ was the living God. They knew that He was a very godly teacher and could do wonderful miracles, but they had not fully comprehended that Jesus was the Son of God and an equal member of the Trinity.

Several days earlier, Peter had admitted that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God (Matthew 16:16). Now the Lord gave him the opportunity to see what his statement truly meant. Before the disciples' eyes, Christ was changed: "His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light" (Matthew 17:2).

As we study the life and work of the Lord Jesus, we cannot forget that Jesus is both man and God. Philippians 2:6–11 explains that even though Christ was God, He became a man, so that He could suffer and die for our sins. Even as a man, He was still God; but He humbled Himself and eventually died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead, proving that He had conquered sin and death.

During Christ's transfiguration, a bright cloud overshadowed Jesus and the disciples. Then God the Father spoke out from the cloud and said, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!" (Matthew 17:5). The disciples were so afraid that they fell on their faces, but Jesus comforted them by saying,



“Do not be afraid” (Matthew 17:7). Because Jesus is God, we are to obey everything He has taught us in the Bible.

**Moses and Elijah appeared and talked with Jesus.**

## *Lesson 22 Questions*

Answer the following questions.

1. This is My beloved \_\_\_\_\_, in whom I am well \_\_\_\_\_.  
Hear Him! (Matthew 17:5b)
2. Of what did the disciples receive the first glimpse? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What is the name of the high mountain where many Bible students believe the transfiguration took place?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What did Peter admit in Matthew 16:16? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. How was Jesus changed on the mountain? (Matthew 17:2) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. What must we not forget about Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What does Philippians 2:6–11 explain? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Jesus humbled Himself and eventually did what? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. During Christ's transfiguration, what did God the Father say?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. Because Jesus is God, what must we do?  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## Day 2

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### *Bible Reading & Questions*

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Read Matthew 17:1–13; Mark 9:2–13; and Luke 9:28–36. Then fill in the blanks with the correct words to finish the following statements.

- Now after six days Jesus took \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ his brother, and He led them up on a high mountain by themselves. (Matthew 17:1)
- And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their \_\_\_\_\_ and were greatly \_\_\_\_\_. But Jesus came and touched them and said, "Arise, and do not be afraid." When they had lifted up their \_\_\_\_\_, they saw no one but Jesus only. (Matthew 17:6–8)
- Now as they came down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, "Tell the \_\_\_\_\_ to no one until the \_\_\_\_\_ of Man is \_\_\_\_\_ from the dead." (Matthew 17:9)

4. Christ's \_\_\_\_\_ became shining, exceedingly \_\_\_\_\_, like \_\_\_\_\_, such as no launderer on \_\_\_\_\_ can whiten them. (Mark 9:3)
5. Then Peter said, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; and let us make three \_\_\_\_\_: one for You, one for \_\_\_\_\_, and one for \_\_\_\_\_." (Mark 9:5)
6. And a cloud came and \_\_\_\_\_ them; and a \_\_\_\_\_ came out of the \_\_\_\_\_, saying, "This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!" (Mark 9:7)
7. So they kept this word to themselves, \_\_\_\_\_ what the rising from the \_\_\_\_\_ meant. (Mark 9:10)
8. Then Jesus told the disciples, "Indeed, Elijah is coming first and \_\_\_\_\_ all things. And how is it written concerning the Son of Man, that He must \_\_\_\_\_ many things?" (Mark 9:12)
9. Moses and Elijah \_\_\_\_\_ in glory and spoke of His \_\_\_\_\_ [death], which He was about to accomplish at \_\_\_\_\_. (Luke 9:30–31)
10. But Peter and those with him were heavy with \_\_\_\_\_; and when they were fully \_\_\_\_\_, they saw His \_\_\_\_\_ and the two men who stood with Him. (Luke 9:32)

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## Day 3

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### *Activity*

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As we study and obey the Bible, we need to learn the necessary role that it plays in our lives. The following verse is important in understanding this. On the scroll below draw a picture to represent each of the missing words.



### *Thought Questions*

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1. Why do you think Jesus wanted to show Peter, James, and John His transfiguration? (See Matthew 18:16)

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2. Do you agree with Peter that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God? (Matthew 16:16) Explain your answer.

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## Day 4

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### *Bible Reading & Questions*

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Read Matthew 17:1–13; Mark 9:2–13; Luke 9:28–36. Read each statement and indicate whether it is **True (T)** or **False (F)**.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Jesus took Peter, James, and John on a high mountain where He was transfigured before them. (Matthew 17:1–2)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Peter said, “Let us make here three temples: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” (Matthew 17:4)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. And a cloud came and overshadowed them; and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!” (Mark 9:7)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. When Jesus and the disciples came down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, “Tell this vision to everyone you meet.” (Matthew 17:9)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Jesus warned the disciples that “the Son of Man is also about to suffer.” (Matthew 17:12)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Jesus’ clothes became shining, exceedingly white, like snow, such as no launderer on earth can whiten them. (Mark 9:3)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Suddenly, when the disciples looked around, they saw no one. Only Jesus was with them. (Mark 9:8)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. The disciples asked Him, saying, “Why do the scribes say that Moses must come first?” (Mark 9:11)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Moses and Elijah appeared in glory and spoke of His decease, which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. (Luke 9:30–31)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. When Peter, James, and John were fully awake, they saw Jesus’ glory and the two men who stood with Him, Moses and Elijah. (Luke 9:32)

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## Day 5

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Spend some time reviewing what you have learned this week, and then take Quiz 22.



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# Who Is the Greatest?

## *Week 23*

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**Lesson Goal:** To learn to humble ourselves in God's Kingdom

**Background Text:** Matthew 18:1–6; Mark 9:33–42; Luke 9:46–48

**Memory Verse:** Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. (Matthew 18:4)

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## **Day 1**

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### *Lesson 23*

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We tend to put a lot of emphasis on being the best. We want to get the highest test score. We want to win the championship ball game. We want to earn the most money.

The truth is that all talents, abilities, and blessings come from God. We are to use and enjoy these earthly gifts; but in God's point of view, the most important thing is that we love and trust Him with all our being (Mark 12:30).

The Lord knew that His disciples did not fully understand His Kingdom. They were dreaming of an earthly, temporal one when David's kingdom would be reestablished. They had been with Jesus as crowds gathered and as He performed miracles. So, in their limited understanding, His disciples wondered which of them would be the greatest one in Jesus' Kingdom.

Jesus surprised His disciples. He called a little child and set him in the middle of them. Jesus said, "Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 18:4). He did not say the one who became rich, famous, or powerful would become the greatest; but one who would become like a servant and be like a small child would be great. "Whoever receives one little child like this in My name receives Me" (Matthew 18:5).

Fame, riches, and power are not equal to greatness in God's Kingdom. Instead, the one who humbly depends on Jesus as Savior and who becomes a joyful servant—out of love and gratitude—is the greatest in God's Kingdom.

## *Lesson 23 Questions*

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Answer the following questions.

1. Therefore whoever \_\_\_\_\_ himself as this little child is the \_\_\_\_\_ in the kingdom of heaven. (Matthew 18:4)
2. We human beings usually put a lot of emphasis on what?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. In God's point of view, what is the most important thing? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Jesus' disciples did not fully understand His Kingdom. They were dreaming of what?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What did Jesus' disciples wonder about His Kingdom?  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. How did Jesus surprise His disciples? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. According to Matthew 18:4, what must you do to become the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What must we do to receive Christ? (Matthew 18:5) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Greatness in God's Kingdom is not equal to what? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. According to the last paragraph in Lesson 23, what must a person do to become the greatest in God's Kingdom?  
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## Day 2

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### *Bible Reading & Questions*

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Read Matthew 18:1–6; Mark 9:33–42; and Luke 9:46–48. Then read each statement and indicate whether it is **True (T)** or **False (F)**.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The disciples came to Jesus and asked if He would do more miracles. (Matthew 18:1)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Jesus called a little child to Him and set him in the midst of them. (Matthew 18:2)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better if he were stoned. (Matthew 18:6)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The disciples disputed among themselves as to who would be the greatest. (Mark 9:34)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Jesus sat down, called the fourteen, and said to them, “If anyone desires to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all.” (Mark 9:35)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Jesus said, “Whoever receives one of these little children in My name receives Me.” (Mark 9:37)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Peter said, “Teacher, we saw someone who does not follow us casting out demons in Your name.” (Mark 9:38)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Jesus said, “For he who is not against us is on our side.” (Mark 9:40)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Jesus said, “For whoever gives you a cup of water to drink in My name, because you belong to Christ, assuredly, I say to you, shall be punished.” (Mark 9:41)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Jesus said that he who is least among you will not be great. (Luke 9:48)

# Day 3

## Activity

Look at the pictures of children doing good things. They are being servants as they help around the house and do their chores. In the space next to each picture, write a word or two describing what the child or children are doing. The first one is done for you.



picking fruit



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## Thought Questions

1. What does it mean to humble one's self in God's Kingdom?

\_\_\_\_\_

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2. Why do you think Jesus used the example of a little child to show how to humble one's self in His Kingdom?

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## Day 4

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### *Bible Reading & Questions*

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Answer the following questions, using the Scripture verses given.

1. How should we esteem others? (Philippians 2:3) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Being found in appearance as a man, what did Jesus do?  
(Philippians 2:8)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Riches and honor and life are by what means? (Proverbs 22:4)  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. How did Jesus teach His disciples to be humble? (John 13:14)  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. How did Mephibosheth, Jonathan's son, humble himself before  
King David? (2 Samuel 9:6–8)  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. How should Jesus' disciples act? (Luke 22:26) \_\_\_\_\_
7. What comes before honor? (Proverbs 15:33) \_\_\_\_\_
8. What does God give to the humble? (1 Peter 5:5) \_\_\_\_\_
9. Why should we humble ourselves under the mighty hand of  
God? (1 Peter 5:6)  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. Why did God humble the Israelites forty years in the wilderness?  
(Deuteronomy 8:2b)  
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## Day 5

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Spend some time reviewing what you have learned this week, and then take Quiz 23.