



# LESSONS 1-13

BIBLE FIRSTS

# THE Answer

[www.apostolicfaith.org](http://www.apostolicfaith.org)

A Bible study resource for use at home and church.

**The Answer** is a Bible study course for fourth grade through junior-high level. Bible references are taken from the King James version of the Bible. A Teacher's Guide accompanies this series and is available online, on our app, and in print.

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## BIBLE FIRSTS

**D***id you know that ever* since the beginning of our world God has had a plan for everything? And with everything there is a first! This book will help you discover how “firsts” fit into God’s plan, and how you can be a child of God and part of His plan too.

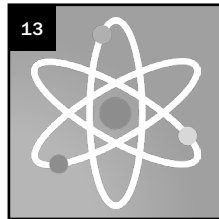
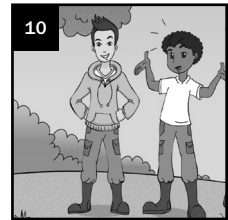
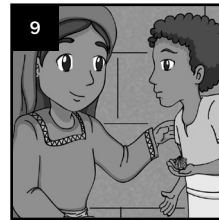
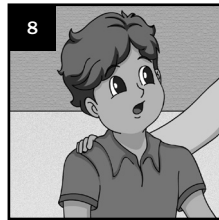
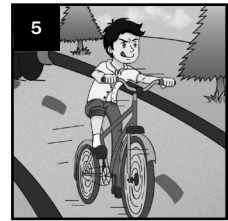
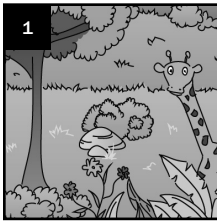
*In the construction of a building* there is a time for digging the first ditch, pouring the first concrete, nailing the first boards, and stringing the first wires. Every phase is necessary, and the sequence is also important. The foundation is poured before the walls are raised. The sheetrock can't go on until the wiring is done. On it goes until the building is completed! Each step is part of the plan.

*Let's explore God's plan together.* Bring your Bible to class each Sunday, and use this book to help you find *The Answer*.

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# THE Answer

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# THE STORY OF CREATION

LESSON 1 → Genesis 1:1-25

*How could Mr. Williams not believe? Bailee's perplexity led her to read again the story of creation from her Bible.*

**Q**uestions raced through Bailee's mind as she gathered her textbooks and left the science room. Did Mr. Williams believe the theory he had been talking about that morning? Did he really think the earth had once been a molten mass that gradually cooled off? How could he believe that animals evolved from a tiny piece of matter in the water—where did that tiny piece of matter come from? Did he honestly accept the thought that man had gradually developed from a monkey-like creature?

*Through the rest of the* afternoon, Bailee couldn't get her mind off the subject. When she got home from school, she went straight to her room. Tossing her coat over a chair, she sat down on the bed and reached for the Bible on her night stand. Opening it to the first verse, she read: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."

*That was better! It seemed so* much easier to believe that God created the heaven and the earth than to believe some freak explosion happened in space, and millions of years later the resulting mass became what we call Earth.

*In the second verse, something* else made sense to her. As the earth was formless, void, and filled with darkness, the Spirit of God moved on the waters. That's how she had felt last summer at youth camp. Inside of her had been darkness, and there hadn't seemed to be any form to her life. As she sat in the chapel service, she had felt the Spirit of God move. That night she had asked Jesus to change her life, and He did! She felt like a whole new person. Bailee knew the Spirit of God could move, so when the Bible said the Spirit moved on the waters, that made perfect sense to her!

*Somehow, it seemed exciting to* know that it was God who said,

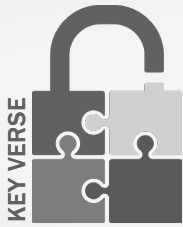
"Let there be light," and there was light. It wasn't just an accident, a sudden combination of gases, or whatever. It was God who had engineered the whole universe and ordered it into existence.

*Bailee read on. God made the* firmament. He wanted a sky in His plan, and so on the second day He created the heavens.

*The third day, God made the* oceans and dry land. God made the grass to grow, the herbs to produce seeds, and fruit trees to grow with seeds inside the fruit. He planned ahead so trees would produce the seeds to grow more trees. No way could that be an accident! Only God could create things with such order.

*Bailee read that God made the* stars, moon, and sun on the fourth day. How great to realize that God arranged these "for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years." It was good to know that God made the sun to





## GOD MADE EVERYTHING!

*All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made. — John 1:3*



light and warm the earth. As Bailee remembered lying in the sun at the beach, she was glad she could enjoy God's creation.

*The fifth day, God made the fish and birds. Some fish were made to live near the surface of the sea, and some near the bottom. God made big fish, such as sharks and tuna, to travel the seas. He made others to stay in one area. Some were to live in freshwater lakes and rivers. Still others, like the salmon, could live in both fresh water and salt water. There were*

birds to live in the mountains and birds to live in the jungles. Could all that variety have just happened? Oh, no!

*On the sixth day, God made all the cattle and creeping things and beasts. God created them to multiply and bring forth after their kind. Bailee chuckled to herself as she thought that she had never heard of a cow having a foal for a baby, or a cat having a puppy! It was just like the Bible said, every "living creature after his kind." The cows and the horses and the puppies*

weren't constantly changing or evolving into different kinds of animals either.

*As Bailee read the twenty-fifth verse of the first chapter of Genesis, she felt a good, solid assurance in her mind. The verse said, "... and God saw that it was good." That's just the way she felt too.*

*Everything about creation was good. It was orderly, and definitely no accident! As Bailee closed her Bible she told herself, "I'm so glad I believe it just that way!"*

# IT WAS VERY GOOD!

Our Bible tells us, “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth . . . and, behold, it was very good.” Some of the things God created are listed below, but you’ll need help to read them. Next to each set of unfinished words are three groups of letters. Choose the group that will fit into the starred space and become the ending of the first word and the beginning of the second word. Write the words on the lines provided. The first one has been done for you.

CAM \* EPHANT – AP EL CAR

1. Camel | Elephant

P \* GLE – EA SU TE

2. \_\_\_\_\_

ZEB \* M – SA ED RA

3. \_\_\_\_\_

CR \* L – OW AN OB

4. \_\_\_\_\_

FI \* EEP – IH SH UP

5. \_\_\_\_\_

APP \* AF – KO LE AL

6. \_\_\_\_\_

VIO \* TUCE – LET OPE CAM

7. \_\_\_\_\_

TURT \* OPARD – OP AN LE

8. \_\_\_\_\_

B \* S – APE EAR REA

9. \_\_\_\_\_

The lines below are numbered to represent three days of the Creation. Take the words from the list above and write them on the line over the day they were each created. Can you do this without looking in your Bible?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Day 3\_\_\_\_\_  
Day 5\_\_\_\_\_  
Day 6



# THE FIRST MAN

LESSON 2 → Genesis 1:26-31; 2:7,18-23

*Let's imagine that we can go back and watch God create the first man.*

**D**id you ever wish you could observe an exciting occasion without being noticed yourself? Did you ever wish you could go back in time for just a few minutes or hours to see how something really happened? Let's imagine that we can go back and watch God create the first man.

*We're going back . . . back . . . back to when the world was new. Nothing is more than six days old. Over there, a deer is grazing on the greenest grass we've ever seen. The deer's fur looks smooth and soft. Near him, a rabbit hops by as if it didn't have a care in the world. We are standing under a tree, and flowers of every color bloom around us.*

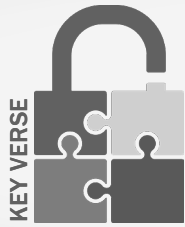
*A few feet away, our attention is caught by Someone bending near the ground. It is the great Creator himself. It is God! But what can He be doing? We know that every time God wanted to make something new, He spoke the words and it was done. Now why is He bent over? It looks as though He is doing something with the dirt.*

*Let's move a few steps closer. Now we can see better. He is working in the dust. No, He is working with the dust and making a shape. We strain our eyes to see better. Yes, the shape looks a little like God himself. How quickly His touch changes the features to look like a person. Now He is stepping back to look. We cannot resist moving nearer. We see a perfect man. But he is so still, no part of him moves. We hold our breath to see what will happen next.*

*God bends over him again and breathes into him the breath of life. The man begins to breathe . . . he moves his arms . . . he sits up and laughs as he puts his hand into God's. They stand up and walk away.*

*How exciting! Imagine, God just took that dust and made a man! We are so interested in what is happening that we wouldn't think of leaving now.*

*God names the man Adam. God said He didn't want Adam to be alone so He brought all of the animals to Adam, and Adam gave them their names. But God wanted someone special*



## WE ARE SPECIAL TO GOD!

*God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him. — Genesis 1:27*



for Adam, someone he could share God's creation with.

*As we watch, God has Adam lie down, and soon we can see that he is sound asleep. God bends over Adam, as He did when He created him. Again we move closer, fascinated. God has opened up Adam and taken out a rib! Carefully He fixes Adam's side. But what will He do with that rib?*

*We watch closely as God forms a woman from that rib. We cannot tell how it happens . . . it's as if God's touch does it without effort. We see a lovely woman.*

*But look, Adam is moving. He is waking up!*

What will he think of this new creation? Again we find ourselves holding our breath to see what will happen. Adam opens his eyes and sees her. He jumps to his feet and shouts for joy. He says, "She shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man."

*Our time is up and we cannot watch any longer.*

We must come back to the present time. But we will always remember what it was like when God created man in His own image. He breathed into man the breath of life and gave him a living soul that would never die.

**ONE OF A  
KIND**

God gave man something that none of His other creation has — a soul! Below is a verse from our text that tells us how God did this. Take the words listed below in the box and place them where they fit in the verse.

*breathed | nostrils | formed man | living  
soul | breath of life | dust of the ground*

And the LORD God \_\_\_\_\_ of the  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
into his \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_  
and man became a \_\_\_\_\_. – Genesis 2:7

# MASON'S B-DAY SURPRISE

LESSON 3 → Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-19



Mrs. Jones put the finishing touches on the cake as she planned the surprise.



## JESUS CAN KEEP US FROM SIN!

*The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations. — 2 Peter 2:9*

**M**rs. Jones hurriedly put the finishing touches on a big chocolate cake. Kenny and Brenda were due to arrive at any time for the surprise birthday dinner for her son, Mason. They would only be able to stay for an hour, so dinner would have to be ready to serve the minute they arrived. The ringing of the phone interrupted her thoughts. After quickly wiping her hands she answered it.

*Her son's breathless voice tumbled into her ear, "Mom, may I go over to Beckett's house on the way home from school? He has a new basketball hoop and we want to try it out. I don't have any homework and, after all, it is my birthday!"*

*Mrs. Jones glanced at the clock. "Mason, not tonight. You had band practice after school and I'm afraid there just isn't time before dinner. You'd better come right on home."*

*Mason hung up the phone and shook his head disappointedly at his friend. "Sorry, Beckett, but Mom says to come right home."*

*"Oh, c'mon Mason," Beckett urged him, "just for a few minutes! Your mom won't really care if you're a little late. Let's get a couple of other guys to join us."*

*An hour and a half later, Mason opened the front door of his house and slipped quietly inside, only to be greeted by the troubled eyes of his mother.*

*Mason looked at his feet, scuffing one sneaker over the other. "Uh . . . hi, Mom . . . um . . . wasn't that Uncle Kenny's car I saw pulling out of the driveway? . . . uh . . ."*

*"Yes, that was Uncle Kenny and Aunt Brenda, Mason," his mother replied sadly. "They couldn't stay any longer at a birthday party where the most important guest never arrived!"*

*Mason's eyes widened. "You mean . . . ?"*

*"Yes, Mason. Because we were planning a surprise party for you tonight, I told you to come straight home. But you didn't come. We waited as long as we could, but finally Uncle Kenny and Aunt Brenda had to go. You chose to do what you*

*wanted instead of obeying me. How does your thoughtlessness make you feel?"* Mason hung his head. He could not reply.

*Sometimes we may face situations like the one that confronted Mason. He was tempted to disobey— and he did.*

*How will we react? Will we resist the temptation, or will we give in and do what we know we shouldn't do?*

*Our Bible text for this lesson tells of two other people who faced temptation. Adam and Eve, the first people on earth, had been given a wonderful Garden in which to live. God gave them permission to eat the fruit of every tree there except one.*

*We might sometimes question the rules set down for us, but remember what happened to Adam and Eve. Satan tempted Eve to ignore God's order by questioning God's command and causing a doubt as to what would happen if she disobeyed. His words persuaded Eve. She took the first bite of the forbidden fruit, and then gave some to Adam, and he followed her example.*

*The first sin had been committed.*

*That sin did not happen when Satan tempted Eve to take the forbidden fruit. It happened when Eve yielded to the temptation and did what she knew was wrong.*

*Satan is still busy trying to trip up those who are walking with God. He wants to destroy the fellowship between God and man. He sends temptations our way hoping that we will do what he says.*

*But we don't have to give in! Our key verse tells us that God can deliver us from temptation. When the devil tries to get us to do something we know is wrong, we can turn to the Lord. He will give us strength to tell the devil to leave, that we won't follow him.*

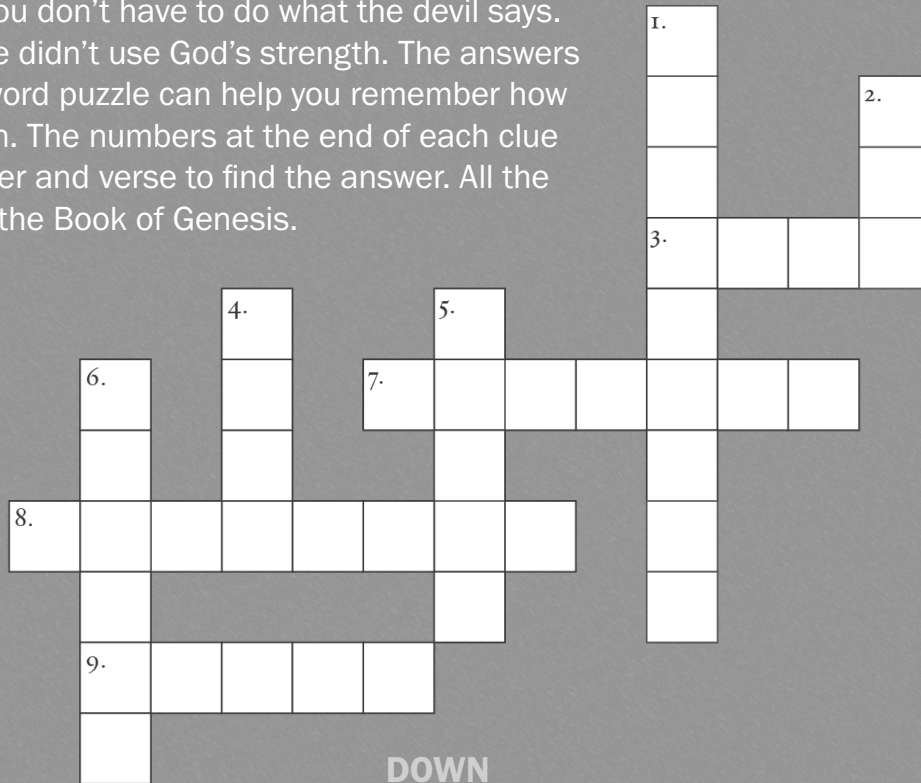
*Mason yielded to temptation and disobeyed his mother. Will you resist the devil when he comes to you with a temptation? The choice is yours.*



## Lesson 3 Activity

### USING GOD'S STRENGTH

The devil tries to tempt everybody. But God gives you strength so you don't have to do what the devil says. Adam and Eve didn't use God's strength. The answers to this crossword puzzle can help you remember how sin first began. The numbers at the end of each clue are the chapter and verse to find the answer. All the verses are in the Book of Genesis.



#### DOWN

1. Of what tree did God forbid Adam to eat? (2:17)

2. Who took the first bite of the fruit? (3:6)

4. What did God tell Adam and Eve they were formed from and would return to? (3:19)

5. God cursed the serpent and said that it would eat dust and go on its \_\_\_\_\_. (3:14)

6. God said the woman's seed would \_\_\_\_\_ the serpent's head. (3:15)

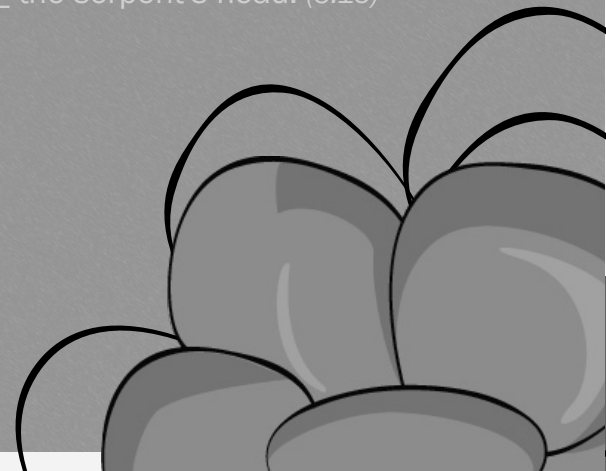
#### ACROSS

3. Eve desired to be \_\_\_\_\_. (3:6)

7. What was more subtle than any beast of the field? (3:1)

8. God told Eve He would greatly \_\_\_\_\_ her sorrow in childbearing. (3:16)

9. Adam's punishment was having to work the ground by the \_\_\_\_\_ of his face. (3:19)





# WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?

LESSON 4 → Genesis 6:5-22; 7:1-24

*Emma slipped in the front door hoping her mother wouldn't ask. . .*

**E**mma shut the front door quietly. Maybe if she could reach her bedroom without making noise, Mom wouldn't hear and ask where she'd been.

*It didn't work. Just as she reached the hall her mother appeared from the kitchen. "Emma! You're so late! Did you have to stay after school for something?"*

*"Uh . . . yeah!" Emma eagerly seized on the excuse offered her. "I . . . uh . . . well, I stopped to talk to Mr. Evert about Friday's history test." Once she got started with the lie, it was easy to elaborate. "I didn't understand some of the notes he gave us so I thought I'd better ask him before the test."*

*Her mother nodded. "All right, Dear. I was just a little worried. Well, dinner will be ready in about half an hour." She turned back toward the kitchen.*

*In her bedroom, Emma turned on the radio. But it couldn't drown out the voice of her conscience. You disobeyed your mom, it kept telling her. And you lied. Well, so what! she argued with herself. I wanted to go and Mom will never find out. Emma was so busy with*



her thoughts that she didn't hear the phone ring. She didn't know her lie was found out until her mom came in a few minutes later.

*"Emma, that was Mr. Archer from the coffee shop. He said you forgot your history book when you stopped in with*

your friends after school." Her mother looked at her sternly.

*Emma felt the hot color creep up over her face. "Oh . . ." was all she could say. After a long silence her mother said, "Emma, your father and I asked you not to go out after school without permission. And you said the*



## GOD MADE A WAY FOR ME TO BE SAFE!

*The seed of the righteous shall be delivered. — Proverbs 11:21*

reason you were late was that you were talking to Mr. Evert about your test.”

*Emma looked up angrily. “But it’s not fair! All the other kids go to the coffee shop after school.”*

*“I really can’t say anything about that,” her mother said quietly. “But I do have to say that you will be restricted in your activities for the next week. You disobeyed, and lied as well, and you will have to be punished.”*

*That wasn’t a very happy story, was it? But you know, it could have had a different ending. Let’s go back to where it says, “In her bedroom,” and substitute this:*

*In her bedroom, Emma turned on the radio. But it couldn’t drown out the voice of her conscience. You disobeyed your mom, it kept telling her. And you lied. Emma knew that was true. She knew it was wrong. It didn’t matter if all the other girls got to go to the coffee shop. What mattered was that she had been told not to and then did it anyway, and lied to cover it up.*

*Suddenly she was sorry. She knew her actions would make her parents sad, but even worse was how God felt. Slowly she knelt by her bed. “Dear God,” she prayed, “I disobeyed, and I lied. But I’m sorry, Lord. Please forgive me. I’m going to tell Mom what I did and ask her to forgive me too.”*

*A tap sounded on her door and her mother came in. “Emma, that was Mr. Archer from the coffee shop.” Then she noticed Emma was kneeling by her bed, tears on her cheeks.*

*“Why . . . Emma . . . ?”*

*Emma stood up, her eyes downcast. “Mom, please forgive me. I lied to you. I wasn’t talking to Mr. Evert after school; I went to the coffee shop. But I felt so miserable about it that I just had to get down and pray. I told God I’m sorry, but I want you to forgive me too.”*

*Her mother put a gentle arm around Emma’s shoulders. “Honey, I’m sorry you disobeyed. That*

*makes me sad, but I’m glad your heart was open to God’s correction. And of course forgive you.”*

*This second ending to our story had a different feeling, didn’t it? All of us must learn that if we do wrong and do not repent of it, we will be judged for that wrong and punished. But if we turn to God, He will forgive us.*

*A long time ago men were so wicked that God decided to destroy the earth with a flood. Noah, a man of God, built an ark for those who would obey God. But only his family listened to God’s warning. They were the only ones who escaped God’s punishment for those who refused to believe Him.*

*Today, we can see a lot of ugly things happening around us, just as they were before the Flood. People are doing things they know are wrong, thinking only of themselves and forgetting God. God couldn’t stand sin and wickedness in Noah’s time, and He is no different today!*

*God gives everyone a chance to escape the punishment for sin. We can read His warning in the Bible, but some people aren’t listening. God tells us that if we will repent and ask Him to come into our hearts, He will forgive us. Just as Noah and his family were delivered, we will escape the next time of punishment that will come on this world. Before that time, Jesus will come for those who have been forgiven. Heaven will be their home forever. Then God will send punishment to the people left on earth.*

*God’s Word is true. Will you receive judgment and punishment—or forgiveness and Heaven?*

## Lesson 4 Activity

### A WAY OF A ESCAPE

Sin will always bring punishment, but God has made a way for us to escape His punishment. He sent Jesus. God has always provided a way of escape for those who love Him. Over four thousand years ago He made a way for Noah to escape. Answer the questions below to find out why and how. The numbers at the end of each question are the chapters and verses where the answers can be found. They are all from the Book of Genesis.

1. *Why was God going to destroy the earth and the people in it? (6:5)*

---

2. *Why did God save Noah and his family? (6:9)*

---

3. *How many people were saved in the ark? (7:13)*

---

4. *What kind of wood was used in making the ark? (6:14)*

---

5. *How many levels did the ark have? (6:16)*

---

6. *How many doors and windows did the ark have? (6:16)*

---

7. *How long was Noah in the ark before it began to rain? (7:10)*

---

8. *Who closed the door of the ark? (7:16)*

---

9. *How long did the waters last upon the earth? (7:24)*

---

10. *What two birds were sent out from the ark? (8:7-8)*

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# THE FIRST SKYSCRAPER

LESSON 5 → Genesis 11:1-9; 1 Corinthians 3:9-15

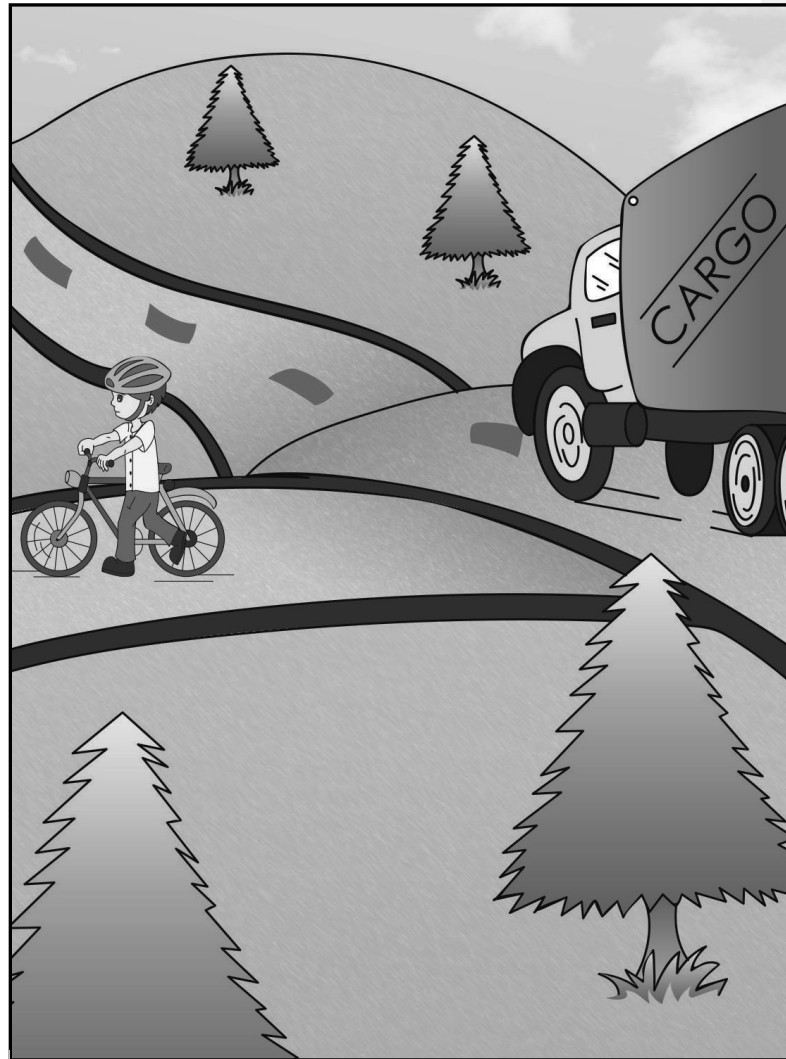
*A dramatic occurrence took place on the building site that day when work was halted on the first skyscraper.*

**S**kycrapers are tall, impressive buildings reaching high into the sky. The tallest one in the United States is the One World Trade Center in New York. It is 104 stories high! A lot of time and effort goes into planning and building a structure that tall.

*The Bible tells us about a group of people who decided to build a tower so tall it would reach high into the heavens. After the great Flood, God had commanded the people to replenish the earth. Some of the people obeyed God, but there was one large group of people who were not willing to be separated from one another. They moved to the land of Shinar—a beautiful, fertile valley watered by the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. At that time, everyone in the world spoke the same language. As these people talked among themselves they decided to build a city with a tall tower. They thought if they did that, other nations would see how great they were, and they wouldn't have to be scattered to many different places on the earth.*

*Soon they began to build. Some men formed the clay and baked the bricks. Some gathered material to use for mortar, while others carried the bricks to the bricklayers. They all worked hard as the first skyscraper began to rise.*

*One day God came down to see the city and the tower. He was very displeased. These people were trusting in their own power, not in God. He*



*decided to confuse their language so they could not understand one another's speech. Imagine! All of a sudden the people began to speak in different languages. What a mix-up that must have caused. When the bricklayer called for more brick, the man beside him could only shrug his shoulders. When he wanted mortar, no one knew what he was saying. Oh, the gesturing and the shouting! What confusion!*

*It was impossible to build with everyone speaking different languages, so they had to give up. After trying so hard to make sure they would always*



## LET'S DO THINGS GOD'S WAY!

*Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall. — Proverbs 16:18*



be together, the people had to take their families and possessions and find new homes in different parts of the world. Their plan failed because they had ignored God's command and had done things their own way.

*Do you know people who try to ignore God's Word and do things their own way? Here's a story of someone who thought rules weren't for him.*

*One day Owen and Carter were riding their bikes to school. Owen was very arrogant and proud and did things his way—legally or illegally. As the boys rode, Owen said, "Hey, Carter, I found a*

short cut to school. It's this way and it'll get us there five minutes faster!" As they turned the corner, Carter saw the street sign—ONE WAY.

*"Hey," he yelled, "this is a one-way street and we're going the wrong way!"*

*"I know," said Owen, "but it's a short street and so much faster. Who cares, anyway? We can go on any street we want. I dare anyone to try to stop us." Suddenly, a big truck was heading right for them. As they swerved away, they heard tires screeching. They missed the truck by inches!*

*When they stopped to catch their breath, Carter said, "That was too close for me! I'm turning back and getting off this street."*

*"Ah, you big chicken! That truck driver just didn't know how to drive." Owen shouted.*

*"Well, you can be too proud and stubborn to go back if you want, but I'm getting out of here." And with that Carter turned and took the regular route to school. He got to class just as the tardy bell rang.*

*About an hour later, Mr. Peterson, the principal, entered the classroom and asked to talk to Carter.*

*"Did you see Owen this morning?" Mr. Peterson asked. Before Carter could answer, Mr. Peterson continued, "Owen is in the emergency room and the police are coming here to talk to you. Someone said they saw you with him just before the accident. The police want to ask you some questions."*

*Thoughts began racing through Carter's mind. What happened? He was so glad he had turned around and gone the right way.*

*What do you think happened to Owen? And why?*

**A LETTER  
OF HOPE!**

Pretend you lived long ago when the people decided to build the tower of Babel. Write a letter telling them what you think of the idea of building the tower. Let them know the true and only way they can be happy.

Dear People of Babel,

Sincerely,

---

A black and white illustration of a man with a beard and curly hair, wearing a long robe with a sash and a shawl. He is standing in a desert landscape with rolling hills and sparse vegetation, looking up at a night sky filled with many stars.

# GOD'S PROMISE TO ABRAHAM

LESSON 6 → Genesis 12:1-3; 17:1-8

*The entire world has benefited from  
God's promise to Abraham.*



## GOD HAS MANY BLESSINGS FOR US IF WE FOLLOW HIM!

*I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward. — Genesis 15:1*

**I** *Imagine a warm, clear summer night with the stars twinkling like billions of diamonds in the sky.*

*Have you ever tried to count all those pinpoints of light? Picture a glistening stretch of beach. What would it be like to try to count every grain of sand? Impossible! But God once made a promise to a man that his descendants would be “so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable” (Hebrews 11:12). That man’s name was Abram, but God later changed it to Abraham. He was the first Hebrew. God chose Abraham to become the father of the Jewish nation and an ancestor of Jesus Christ.*

*Why did God bless Abraham in such an outstanding way? For an answer, we must go back to a time about four hundred years after Noah’s Ark, to a town called Ur of the Chaldees. Here we find a shepherd-farmer named Terah, and his three sons— Abram, Nahor, and Haran. They all had fields of grain and grassland for their sheep and cattle.*

*Now, the people of Ur had forgotten that God had destroyed the world with a flood because of sin. They had let sin into their lives and did not love or worship God. They worshiped idols, the sun, moon, stars, and even animals and rivers. The people of Ur actually gave their city the name of their moon-god, Ur. In the midst of all this evil, Terah’s son Abram dared to be different. He believed and worshiped the true and living God.*

*So often today it’s difficult to stand up to our friends at school for what we know is right. We may be called names or picked on if we’re different from the crowd. Abram wasn’t afraid to be different. He disagreed with his entire city, including his own family, because he knew the power and love of God. God’s Word says, “Come out from among them, and be ye separate” (2 Corinthians 6:17). Abram was willing to do that for God.*

*One day God spoke to Abram and told him to leave his family and home. God said he was to move to a land that God would show him. Abram was quick to obey God because he loved Him and wanted to please Him.*

*Can you imagine packing your belongings and leaving home, family, and friends to go to a place you’ve never seen, or even heard of? That is what Abram did. He gathered his possessions and set out with his wife, Sarai, and his nephew, Lot, to a strange land.*

*God led Abram to a land called Canaan and told him that because of his faithfulness, He would make his family a great nation and make his name famous. He also promised the land of Canaan to Abram’s family. The most special blessing of all was that through Abram’s family all the nations of the earth would be blessed.*

*Perhaps Abram didn’t fully realize what God meant by that promise. We now know that it was part of God’s plan that the Savior, Jesus Christ, would be one of his descendants. When God made that promise, He changed Abram’s name to Abraham, which means “father of many nations.” What wonderful blessings he received because he believed and followed God! His story did not end way back then hundreds of years ago. His example is a challenge to us today.*

*If we do as Abraham did—believe God and follow Him in whatever He asks us to do—what will God do for us?*



Lesson 6 Activity

**BELIEVE AND  
BE BLESSED!**

Abraham was blessed because he believed and followed God.  
Find the words listed below in the word-find. Remember that  
if we believe and follow God we, too, will be blessed.

LAND  
SEED  
ABRAM  
BLESS  
CURSE  
KINGS  
CANAAN  
FATHER  
NATION  
ABRAHAM  
KINDRED  
PERFECT  
COVENANT  
FAMILIES  
FRUITFUL  
MULTIPLY  
STRANGER

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

# A BURNING BUSH

LESSON 7 → Exodus 3:1-15; Isaiah 43:1-2

**T**he shepherd awoke with the sun on his face. Thanking the Lord for another new day, he arose and wrapped his cloak around him. It was time to begin moving the sheep on toward Mt. Sinai. As he walked among the sleeping animals, something caught his eye over to the side of the area where they had rested through the night. A bush was on fire!

*There was hardly enough food on this dry plain* for the sheep, as it was. A fire burning up the available pasture would be a disaster. He hurried over to investigate—something was strange here! Although there was fire, the bush was not burning up.

*Suddenly a Voice sounded forth from the very heart of the burning bush.* “Moses, Moses.” Startled, and not seeing anyone nearby, Moses answered, “Here am I.” The Voice called out again, “Don’t come any closer. Take off your shoes, for the place where you are standing is holy ground. I am the God of your father and the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.” The Almighty God was speaking to him! Moses hid his face, afraid to look on God.

*God spoke again. He told Moses that He had* heard the cry of the Children of Israel in Egypt and He knew they were in trouble. God promised to deliver them out of Egypt and to bring them to a land flowing with milk and honey. Then God said, “I will send you to Pharaoh, to bring my people, the Children of Israel, out of Egypt.

*Moses was stunned. “Who am I, that I should go* to Pharaoh and bring the Children of Israel out of Egypt?” Talk about an impossible job! Moses felt that he couldn’t go to the rulers of Egypt and tell them that he was taking the Israelites away. They would never let all of their slaves go just at his word. How could God ask this of him?

*God spoke again. “Certainly I will be with you,* and this will be a sign that I have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt,

*A great God speaks to a humble man through a burning bush.*



you will serve God upon this mountain.” All the Children of Israel at this mountain? God would bring them all to this very place? Moses felt unsure. “The people will ask who sent me. How will they know that I am the one to lead them? How do I know they will follow me?” Again the Voice spoke, “I AM THAT I AM . . . Say unto the children of Israel, I AM has sent me to you.”



## WE ARE NEVER ALONE BECAUSE WE LOVE JESUS!

*Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. — Matthew 28:20*



*Then God told Moses exactly what He wanted him to do. He was to meet with the elders of Israel and tell them what God had said. Together they would go to Pharaoh, and Moses would tell him all the words of God. The Lord told him that Pharaoh would not let the people go, and that He would smite Egypt with all His wonders. What were the wonders of God? How*

would these things come to pass? Moses felt so helpless.

*The Voice of God continued, “What is that in your hand? Throw it on the ground.” As Moses threw down his rod, it became a snake! Moses ran! The Voice spoke again, “Take it by the tail.” Moses obeyed. He reached down and grabbed the serpent by the tail. It became a rod again.*

*Once more God spoke, “Put your hand inside your coat.” Moses obeyed, but when he took it back out it was covered with leprosy—a dreaded disease! Then God said, “Put it back inside your coat.” Moses obeyed again, and this time when he took it back out, it was normal. Moses was beginning to realize that he must obey God’s commands.*

*He turned the sheep toward home. The call of God had come and changed the course of his life. Somehow Moses knew that things would never be the same. But God had promised to be with him. The Voice of God echoed in his mind just as it had sounded in the desert, “Certainly I will be with you . . . Certainly I will be with you . . . Certainly I will be with you . . .”*

*God’s call to Moses came in a dramatic and unusual way, didn’t it? He was called to a tremendous job, but do you know, God has a call for you too? It may not be to lead a whole nation hundreds of miles away to an unknown land. It probably won’t come through a Voice from a burning bush. But it is just as important as the call that God gave to Moses.*

*You may feel you can’t do what God has asked you to do. That was the way Moses felt. But just as God promised to be with Moses, He has promised to be with you and to help you in whatever He asks you to do. Trust Him! Then, as Moses, you can hear God say, “Certainly I will be with you.”*

# A“MAZE”ING MOSES!

The Book of Exodus tells the story of Moses. In the maze below, follow the life of Moses. See how he answers God's call. God was with him all the way. Compare this to God's special plan for you. Remember God will always be with you.

**START ★**



1. Baby Moses in bulrushes



2. Flees from Egypt



8. Returns to Egypt



4. Dinner with Jethro



3. Helps girls at well



7. God speaks from burning bush



9. Leads Israelites from Egypt



6. Herds Jethro's sheep



5. Marries Zipporah



10. Manna and quail in the desert



11. Mt. Horeb reunion with family

# THE WORDS OF GOD

LESSON 8 → Exodus 20:1-26; Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

*Gabe asked his father to explain to him the words of God.*

**G**ildeah sat at the edge of the fire lit circle, the evening meal his mother had set before him still untouched. The events of the past hours raced through his mind in a strange confusion. He looked across at his father who sat unmoving, the strain of concentration lining his face. Could his father help him understand what he had just heard?

*He rose to his feet, walked over to his father, and knelt down beside him. "Will you tell me, Father?" he asked in a low voice. "Can you explain to me the words of God? What are these Commandments that He has given to us through Moses?"*

*For a long moment his father remained motionless. In those moments of silence, Gildeah felt once more the awe and fear which had gripped him when the thunder had resounded across the wilderness where they had*





## WE LOVE TO OBEY GOD!

*Great peace have they which love thy law. — Psalm 119:165*

been encamped. In the gleam of the firelight he could almost see again the lightning which had slashed through the sky. It had seemed to come from the mountain where Moses and Aaron had gone up to hear the words of the Lord. At last his father spoke: "Moses has given to our people the Commandments of God. We were afraid when we saw the lightning, and heard the thundering and the noise of the trumpet, and saw the mountain smoking. We moved as far back from the mountain as we could while Moses continued to speak with God. Through him we know God's will for our people. We know the things we must do. We know the things we must not do. And we have God's promise that He will come to us and bless us if we keep His words."

*Several thousand years later:*

*"I just didn't know what to tell him, Dad,"* Gabe said slowly to his father. "When Jayden asked me why I wouldn't cheat on the test like everyone else, I told him we're supposed to obey God's Word. He asked what I meant, and I told him the Bible says we aren't supposed to steal, and I figured cheating is stealing someone else's answers . . ." His voice trailed off and he looked down at the untouched dinner on his plate.

*"I'm not sure what the problem is, Son."* His dad looked up from his own plate, a bit puzzled. "That sounds like a good explanation to me. Did he say more?"

*"Well, he asked why I thought it was so important to follow a bunch of rules that were written thousands of years ago. He knew that not stealing was one of the Ten Commandments. But he said the laws God gave Moses were for that time, so we don't have to obey them. That's the part I didn't know how to answer."*

*His dad smiled slightly. "Well, Jayden was right about one thing. The Ten Commandments were a part of the Law God gave Moses for the Israelites. But as for our not having to obey them . . . well,*

*the same guidelines for our actions and behavior were given again in the New Testament."*

*"All of them?" Gabe asked.*

*"All except the fourth Commandment. After Christ rose from the dead on the first day of the week, the early Christians made that their day of worship rather than the seventh day."*

*Gabe looked thoughtful. "But Dad, I don't remember ever reading a list of commandments in the New Testament. Where is it?"*

*"It wasn't given all at once like the Law was given to Moses for the Israelites. But each of the Commandments is restated in the teachings of Jesus or His disciples. In fact, in Matthew 5:17 Jesus said, 'Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.' You see, Gabe, when Jesus died on Calvary He was our perfect Sacrifice. There was no more need for people to keep the law regarding sacrificing animals to pay for their sins. But the laws which told how to live in harmony with God were still in effect. And we still must follow God's instructions if we want to be at peace with Him."*

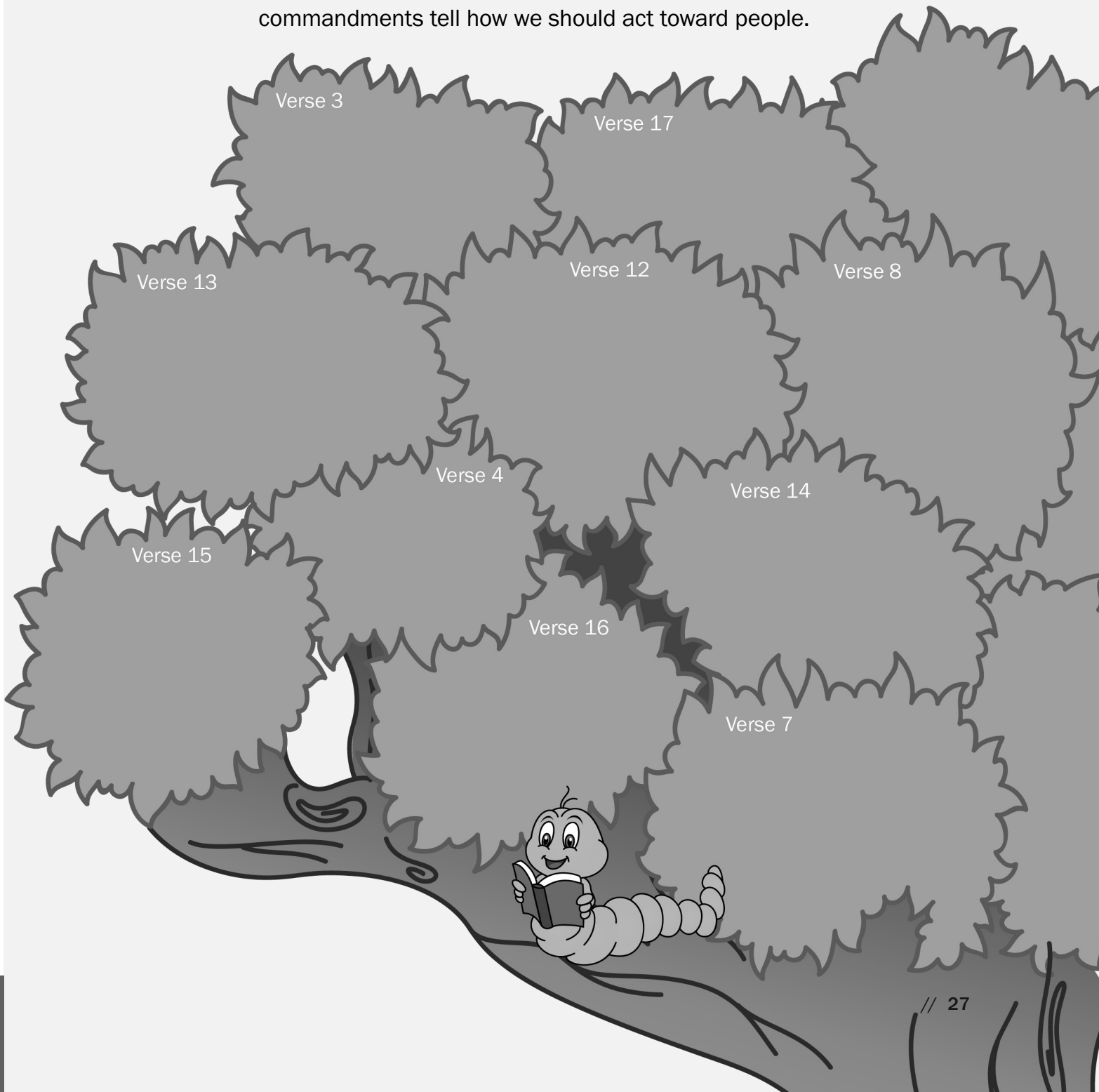
*Gabe looked seriously at his dad. "Instructions like . . . not stealing. Right, Dad?"*

*His father nodded. "That's right, Son."*

*Gabe thought about this for a moment, then picked up his fork. "Well, I'd better get some dinner into me! I feel a lot better now. I think I can explain it to Jayden if he asks me again."*

**TRUTH  
IN ACTION**

The bookworm is reading the Ten Commandments from the Bible. Can you help him learn them? In Exodus 20 you can find the verses shown on the tree. Write them on the correct leaves. Then circle the four commandments that tell how we should act before God. The other six commandments tell how we should act toward people.



# SERVICE TO GOD

LESSON 9 → Exodus 28:1-3; Hebrews 5:1-10

*Phinehas' mother explained to him his  
father's service to God.*







## OUR HIGH PRIEST IS IN HEAVEN!

*We have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God. — Hebrews 4:14*

**“Mother . . .”** *Phinehas called, running to his mother who was coming up the path to their home, balancing a jar of water on her head. “Mother, where is Father? I want to show him this beautiful stone I found. Look! Isn’t it pretty?” He held out his hand so she could admire his find, and then repeated impatiently, “Where is Father?”*

*“It is lovely, Phinehas, my son,” his mother replied in a gentle voice. “But your father is not here. Did you forget? Today is a very special day—the Day of Atonement. He went early to the Temple to perform his duties as high priest before the Lord and before the people. He will not be home before sunset.”*

*“Oh . . .” Disappointment clouded the young lad’s face. “I forgot, Mother.” He sighed, then held up the rock in his hand once more and studied it closely. “I did so want to show Father my rock now, while it is new.”*

*His mother set down the jar of water outside the door to their dwelling, and smiled at her son. “Why don’t you polish your stone very carefully, Phinehas? Come inside with me and I will give you a small cloth. Then, when you are done, you may put your rock on the shelf inside the door. When your father returns, you may show it to him.”*

*She picked up the water jar. Phinehas sighed again, and then slowly followed his mother inside. Watching her as she tore a strip of cloth for him, he asked, “Mother, why is my father a priest? Ebahu’s father isn’t. His father takes care of sheep. And Jothram’s father works in the fields. Ebahu and Jothram can go to their father any time they wish. But my father is so often at the Temple, and it is forbidden for me to go to him there. Why is it that he must be a priest?”*

*His mother sat on the bench beside the door, and drew her small son close to her side. “Phinehas, many years ago the Lord Jehovah called your grandfather Aaron to be the first high priest of our people. This is a very important thing, for*

*the high priest stands between God and the people. And Jehovah himself commanded that Aaron’s sons were to be the priests after him. Your father, Eleazar, has served our God as high priest for twelve years now.” She paused, and then hugged her young son gently. “And someday, my son, you will also take on the responsibilities of the priesthood.”*

*“I don’t understand, Mother,” said Phinehas as he looked up into her face. “What do you mean, that the high priest stands between Jehovah and the people? I have never seen Jehovah standing anywhere!”*

*His mother smiled. “No, you have not seen our God with your eyes, Phinehas. But His presence is with us, even if we cannot see Him. Jehovah is pure and holy, and man is not. Many times people do things which are not right in His sight. We call this sin, or a trespass against the Law of God.*

*“Because a price must be paid for sins, Jehovah gave His people a high priest to make offerings for the atonement of their sins. That is your father’s job, Phinehas. And someday . . . someday it will be your job also.”*

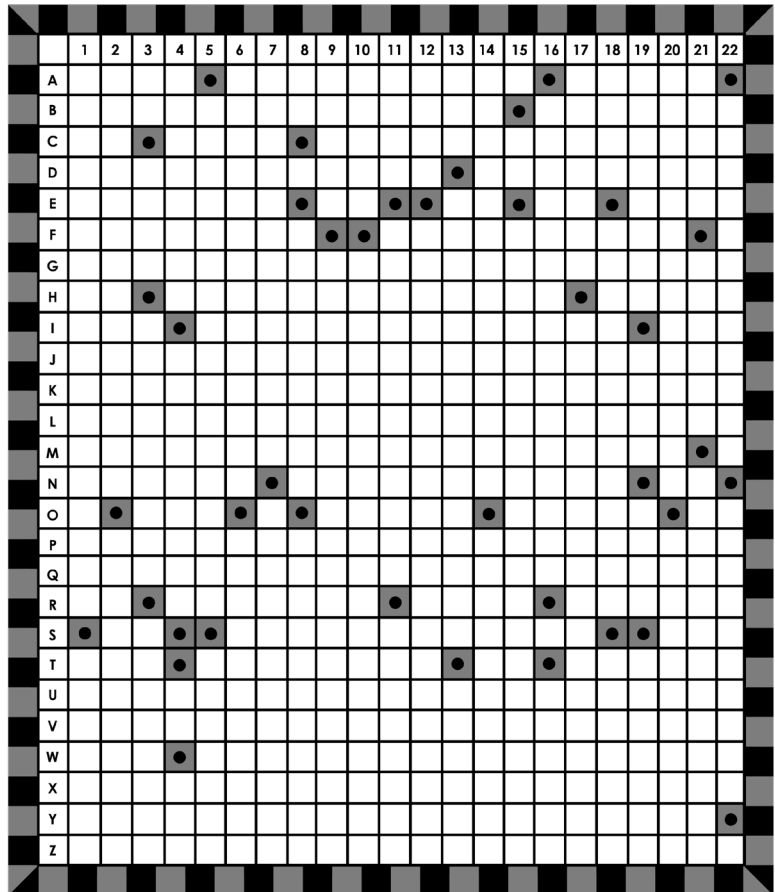
*Aaron, the first high priest of the Children of Israel, really did have a grandson named Phinehas. Perhaps he had some questions like these when he was a young boy, for the job he was called to do was a very important one.*

*Many years after the time of Phinehas, Jesus came to earth. He came as a little babe in Bethlehem, and grew up as the son of a carpenter. But He had a very important mission. He was to be our High Priest, and the offering He made to atone for sins was His own life. When Jesus came, He fulfilled the Law that had governed the Children of Israel for so many years. The sacrifices and atonements that had been required before were no longer necessary.*

*Today, Jesus is our High Priest. When we have sinned, we can go to Him. He will forgive us and take away our sin. He is a wonderful God.*

# **PERFECT SACRIFICE!**

There are twenty-two columns on the graph to the right. To find the answer to the puzzle, start with column one. Follow the column from top to bottom. When you come to a dot, check to see which letter is on that line and then write that letter on the first blank line below the graph. Continue down the column. Do the same with each column. Then see if you can find the verse in your Bible. If you don't already know how, have your teacher help you.



WHERE IS THIS VERSE  
FOUND?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# A HUMBLE JOB

LESSON 10 → 1 Samuel 9:1-2; 10:17-26; Isaiah 1:19; Matthew 18:4

*Noah and his friends didn't believe they would see Logan doing that . . .*

**I** *can't believe my eyes!" said a laughing voice.*

*"Hey, guys! Get a load of this! Logan Marshall is raking up garbage."*

*Logan looked up at Noah with a grin. "And why not? You were the one who suggested the plan of the Hiwanda Helpers here at youth camp. Every cabin*

*offered to take a turn at KP duty when the camp manager and his wife got sick, and it's our turn."*

*"Yeah, but you? Raking garbage? You can't tell me you ever lifted a spoon at home—except to feed your face. I thought for sure you'd find something 'supervisory' to do."*

*Logan shrugged. "Oh, I don't mind. The job has to be done, so why not me?"*

*"Well," muttered Noah as he turned away, "all I can say is, now I've seen everything."*

*But he hadn't! The next day the entire camp assembled at the flagpole, and an announcement was made that it was time for litter patrol. Since it was almost*





## WE MUST BE HUMBLE.

*Whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted. — Matthew 23:12*

swim time, nobody was excited about the project. The kids grabbed a few pieces of paper here and there, but most of them soon pronounced the job “good enough” and headed for their cabins to change.

*When Noah and a bunch of his buddies started for the lake, they saw Logan down by the barn, with a plastic litter sack in his hand—and not an empty one either. Obviously, he’d been busy working.*

*“This beats all!” exclaimed Noah. “I bet Logan never does a thing at home . . . I mean, they’re so rich, they probably have servants. I’m surprised he knows how to work!”*

*“Hey, listen!” said another of the guys. “Early this morning when I was headed for the showers, I saw Logan outside the kitchen. You know what he was doing? Peeling potatoes! That early!”*

*“Oh, you must have dreamed that one!” Noah said with a disbelieving chuckle. “No one, absolutely no one, gets up before the first wake-up call!”*

*“Nope, it was him, for sure,” insisted the other. “He even said good morning!”*

*“I know Mr. Wilson said he wanted us all to do our best. I mean, it was either pitch in or close camp. But I never thought I’d see anyone from the Marshall clan involved in this kind of grubby work!”*

*Camp passed quickly, and even the extra chores didn’t dampen the enthusiasm. Soon it was Friday night, when they had singing and awards around the campfire. Mr. Wilson, the youth director, was emcee for the occasion. “Well, I have a number of important achievements to acknowledge,” he began. “First, I would like to hear a round of applause for Ryan Kelly. Ryan actually made it to all the flag raisings at 7 o’clock. Congratulations, Ryan!” A loud burst of laughter and applause greeted this remark.*

*“Next,” he went on, “I would like to present the cleanest cabin award to Cabin C. They did*

a great job . . . I mean, they even shoveled a path through the litter every morning before inspection!”

*On it went—gentle fun being poked at this one and that one, and joining in the laughter with each announcement. At last Mr. Wilson said, “I have a real commendation to make. Each year we pick a ‘Camper of the Year.’ We try to pick someone who has made a real contribution to the success of the camp. “This year when our camp manager got sick, the suggestion was made to set up our own group of helpers who would take over some of the meal preparation, cleanup, and camp patrol. This was a great suggestion, and we determined that the award for Camper of the Year should be related to this.”*

*Noah smiled at several of his buddies. He figured he knew what was coming—after all, he was the one who suggested the plan, right?*

*“With that thought as the basis for our decision, I’d like to announce that our choice this year is Logan Marshall!”*

*Logan looked surprised. “But, what about Noah?” he said to the guys next to him. “Shouldn’t he get the award? The Hiwanda Helpers was his idea.”*

*A cheer went up around him. Mr. Wilson wasn’t the only one who saw Logan’s help even with the grubbiest jobs, and his faithfulness in doing whatever needed to be done. Even Noah added his approval with his applause.*

*“In our chapel service we studied Saul, who was chosen as the first king of Israel for his humility and obedience to God. Logan has also shown these two qualifications—humility to do the least-liked jobs, and obedience to do his best at whatever he is asked to do. Logan, please accept this plaque as this year’s winner!”*

*As Logan accepted, Mr. Wilson held out his hand and said, “Thank you, Logan, for a job well done.”*

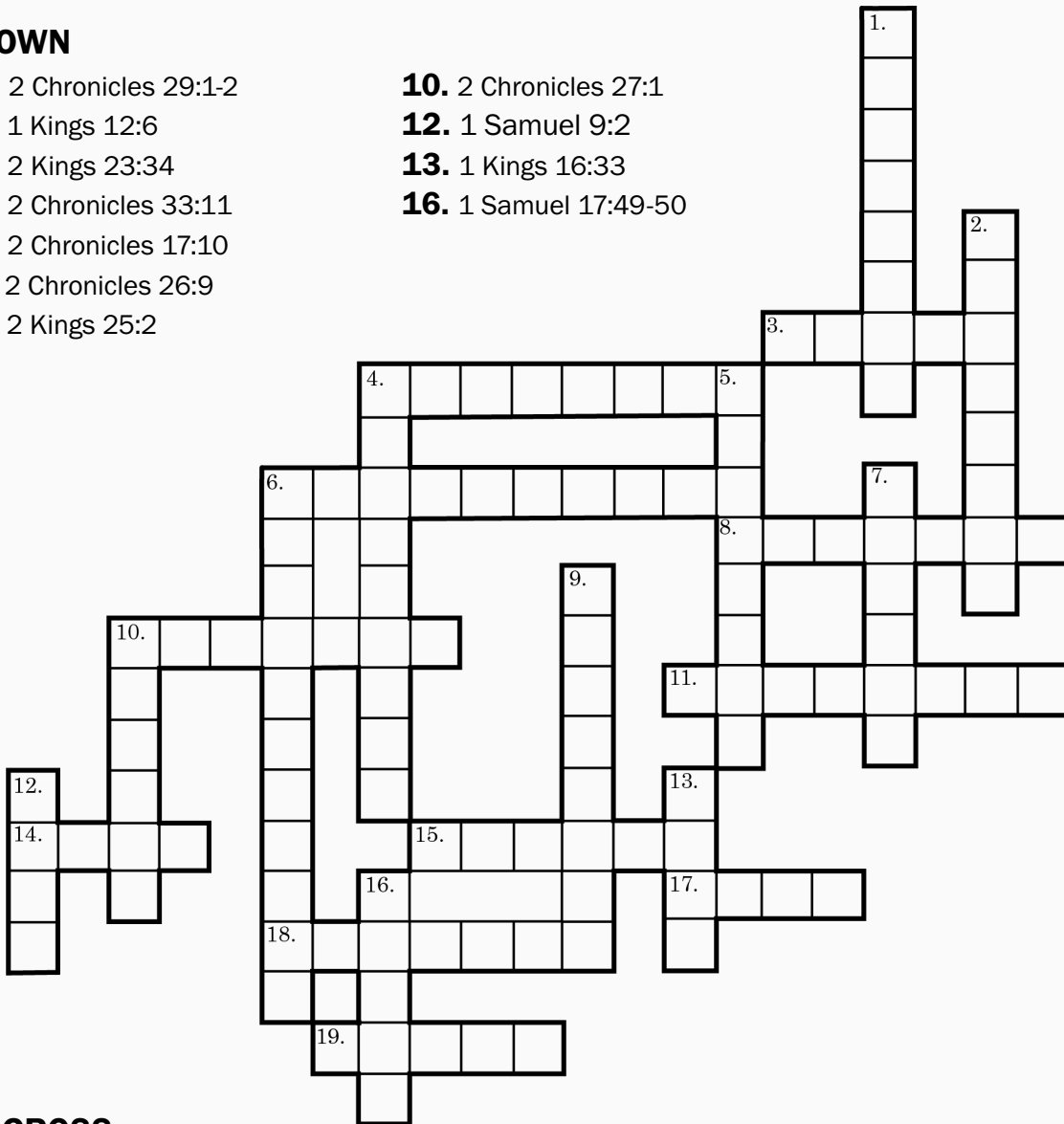
# ROYAL ROLL CALL!

Saul was the first king of God's people. Complete the crossword puzzle below to find Saul's name and nineteen other kings' names in the Old Testament Scriptures.

## DOWN

1. 2 Chronicles 29:1-2
2. 1 Kings 12:6
4. 2 Kings 23:34
5. 2 Chronicles 33:11
6. 2 Chronicles 17:10
7. 2 Chronicles 26:9
9. 2 Kings 25:2

10. 2 Chronicles 27:1
12. 1 Samuel 9:2
13. 1 Kings 16:33
16. 1 Samuel 17:49-50



## ACROSS

3. 2 Chronicles 24:1-2
4. 1 Kings 12:26
6. 2 Kings 24:12
8. 2 Chronicles 25:1-2

10. 2 Chronicles 21:4
11. 2 Kings 23:31
14. 2 Chronicles 28:24-25
15. 2 Chronicles 35:23

17. 1 Kings 16:33
18. 2 Chronicles 22:1
19. 1 Kings 16:20

# HAVING AND GIVING

LESSON 11 → Malachi 3:8-12; Matthew 25:35-40; Luke 21:1-4



**J**ackson and Oliver were walking home from school. It was cold! “Let’s stop at Starbuck’s and get some hot chocolate to drink,” Jackson suggested.

*“I can’t,” Oliver replied. “I don’t have any of my allowance left*

***The poor widow who gave God all she had knew the secret about having and giving.***

and I don’t get paid till tonight.” He looked at Jackson with a puzzled expression. “Hey, how come you always seem to have

money? I know you get the same allowance I do and you even have to give some to your church!”



## IT MAKES US FEEL GOOD WHEN WE GIVE TO OTHERS!

*It is more blessed to give than to receive. — Acts 20:35*

*Jackson smiled. “You don’t understand, Oliver. I don’t have to give any to my church, but I give God ten cents of every dollar I earn because I know it belongs to Him. We call it tithing.”*

*“I don’t understand why you think it belongs to God.”*

*“Well,” Jackson said slowly, “God gives me the strength to work so He’s really giving me the allowance. It’s only right that I give part of it back to Him or else I’d be robbing God. When I tithe, God blesses me and it always seems like my money lasts longer.”*

*Oliver shook his head. “I don’t know . . . You must love God an awful lot to give away your money.”*

*“You’re right about that, Oliver. I do love Him a lot. But I don’t feel like I am giving away my money—it belongs to God. I’m just giving back to Him what is actually His in the first place.”*

*Tithing is giving a tenth of our earnings to God.* God started this plan way back in the time of Abraham. In fact, Abraham was the first person to tithe. He didn’t give just money, but also a tenth of all the goods he gained. Often the people of Bible times gave from the firstfruits of their harvest—the first tenth of their livestock and crops were given to the Lord. In Leviticus 27:32 we find, “And concerning the tithe of the herd, or of the flock, . . . the tenth shall be holy unto the LORD.” Today, the tithes of God’s people help keep His church operating.

*Some people think we only need to tithe if we have lots of money, but this is not so.* A true story was told of a young couple who were having trouble paying their bills. They didn’t pay tithes because they felt they didn’t have enough money. When things got worse instead of better, they realized it was because they were robbing God. With the next paycheck, they chose to tithe first. Their money ran out before the bills were all paid. But that month they received an envelope in the mail containing enough money to pay their bills! So you see, it pays to give God what is His.

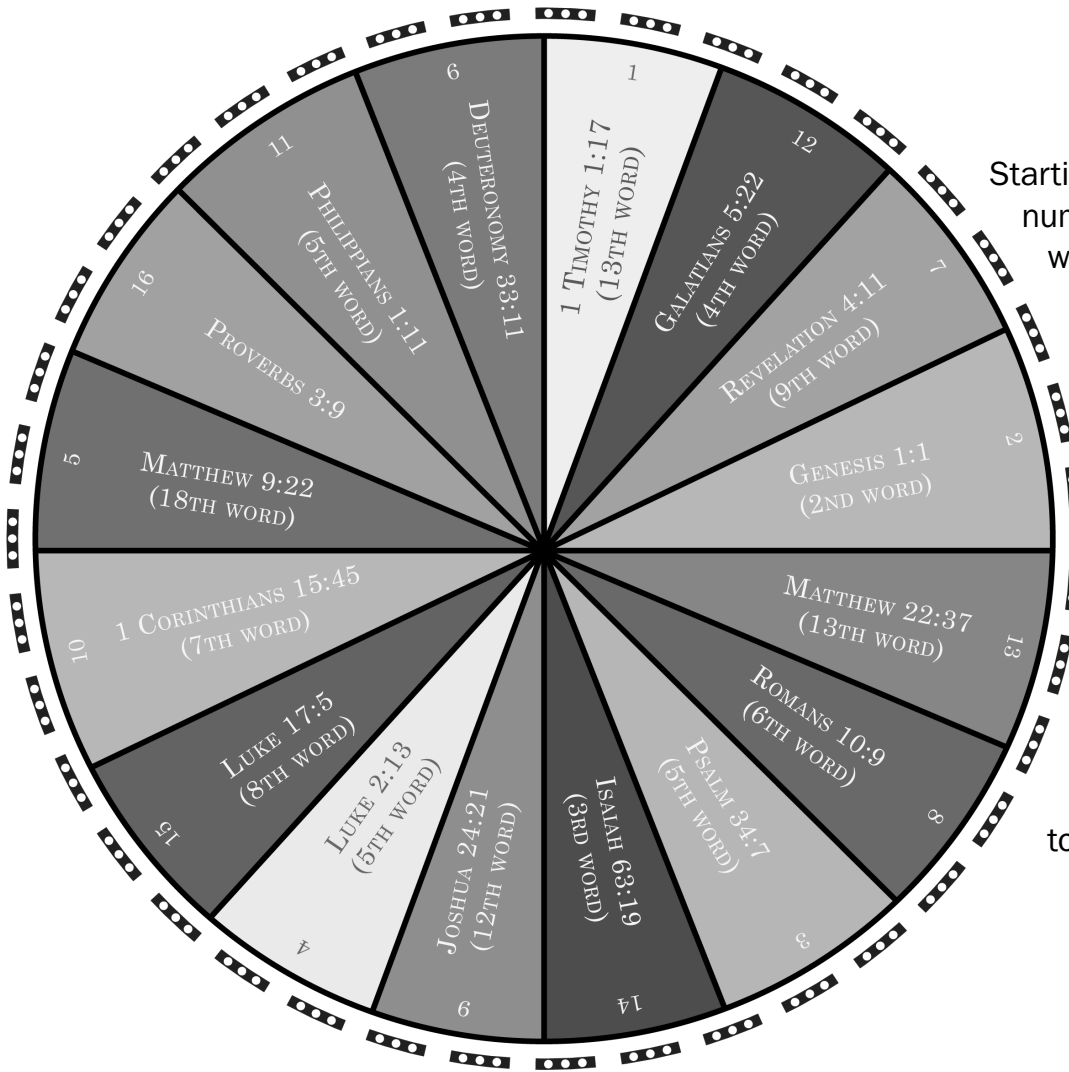
*The blessings we receive from God are not based on how much we give.* The Gospels of Mark and Luke both tell the story of men coming into the Temple and putting large amounts of money into the treasury. They gave only a small portion of their wealth and had plenty left over. As Jesus watched them, He also saw a poor widow come and drop two mites (small copper coins worth less than four cents) into the treasury. This was not much compared with the great amount the rich men had put in, but it was all she had. Jesus told His disciples later that “this poor widow hath cast in more than they all” (Luke 21:3). Maybe others didn’t notice, but God did.

*God is interested in more than our money, though.* He knows what we give in other ways. Not only does He want us to give tithes and offerings of our earnings, but also of our time and talents. Who gave us our health and strength? Or our abilities, our mental powers, and our talents? The Lord, of course! It just makes sense to give this back to Him.

*Think for a moment—you have twenty-four hours each day.* How much of that time should belong to God? Certainly a part of it should. But you might ask, “How do I give time to God?” The moments spent prayer, studying your Bible, doing things for others, attending church and Sunday school—this is the part you are giving to God. How does it balance with the way you spend the rest of your time? Are you giving God as much as you should in this area?

*We need to realize that it’s not just how much or what we give that the Lord notices.* It’s also how we give. In 2 Corinthians 9:7 it says, “God loveth a cheerful giver.” In the story about Jackson, he didn’t have to give—He wanted to! He was a cheerful giver! In the story of the widow it wasn’t the size of her gift, but her willingness that counted. How do you feel about giving to the Lord? Do you give freely, from a thankful heart? That’s the way to enjoy God’s blessings!

**GIVING TO GOD!**



Starting with number one, write on the lines below, each word according to the clue given. Go through all 16 clues. When you have finished you will have a verse that agrees with today's lesson.

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# WHY BE THANKFUL?

LESSON 12 → Psalm 103:1-22

*“I don’t even like squash or green peppers,” Ava said.  
“So why should I be thankful?”*

**T**hanksgiving was only a day away, and inside the McNeil’s house was a bustle of activity. On Wednesday, with school finally over, Ava came bursting through the door to find her mother busily arranging a centerpiece on the table.

*“What’s that?” asked Ava. “What are the fruits and vegetables doing on the table?”*

*“This is called a horn of plenty,” explained her mother. “It is displayed at Thanksgiving time to remind people of all the things we have to be thankful for.”*

*“But I don’t even like squash or green peppers,” said Ava. “Why do I have to remind myself to be thankful for them?”*





## THANK YOU, JESUS!

*O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.*  
— Psalm 107:1

*“Oh, no, Ava, I didn’t mean that we are thankful only for these fruits and vegetables,” said her mother. “When we look at the horn of plenty filled with all these things, it’s supposed to remind us of everything we enjoy each day of the year—our home, our family, and all the other good things God has given us. So every time you walk through the dining room and see this horn of plenty, try to think of something else you have to be thankful for.”*

*Ava looked thoughtful. “That won’t be too hard, Mom. God has done a lot for me, and for all of our family.”*

*What do you suppose were some of the things that God had done for Ava that she was thankful for? Were they things with which God has also blessed you? Did you ever stop to think that every good thing that you have in your life has been given to you by God? Your family, your home, your friends, your church, and everything that is important to you is a gift of God.*

*When you want to give a special gift to a close friend, you spend a lot of time choosing or making that gift. You want it to be just right. And you can hardly wait for your friend to open it! You want him to say, “Oh, thank you! I just love it!” But if he doesn’t seem to like it or doesn’t show any appreciation, you are going to feel disappointed.*

*That is how God feels. He lets us enjoy this world and all the beautiful things in it, and He wants us to thank Him for it.*

*We should take time every day to thank God for our blessings. We do this through prayer. When we eat a meal, we should thank God for the food He has given us. The meal may have been fixed just the way we like it, but it is God who provided the food.*

*In the Bible we read about ten men who had a terrible disease called leprosy. They had to leave their families and friends and live outside the*

*city. Since there was no cure, they had no hope of ever being well.*

*One day, as Jesus was going toward their city, He saw the lepers. They saw Him, too, but they couldn’t go close to Him, so they called out, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” Jesus told them to go and show themselves to the priest. As they turned to go, they were healed!*

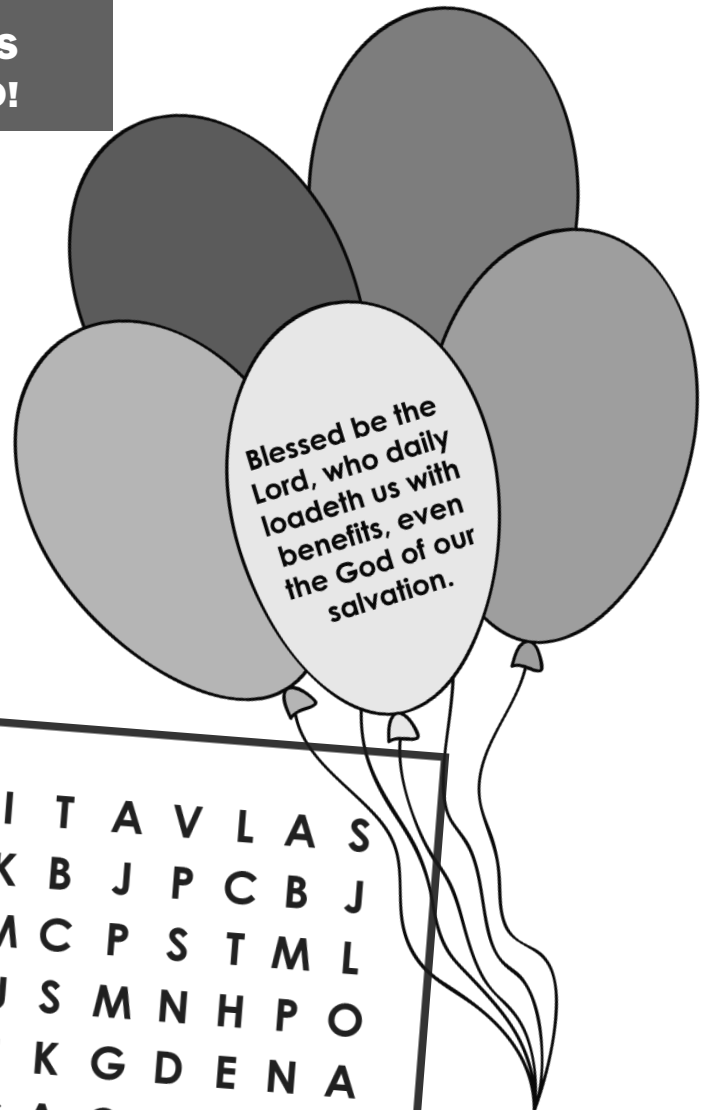
*One of the men, when he saw that he was healed, returned and fell at Jesus’ feet, giving Him thanks. Jesus asked him, “Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine?” Though Jesus had healed all of them, only one thanked Him. The man who did, received an extra blessing the others didn’t receive. Oh, if only the others had also taken time to thank Jesus for what He had done!*

*We, too, are blessed when we pray to Jesus and thank Him for all He does for us. We don’t ever want to be too busy to say thank you! When we tell Him how much we appreciate the good things He gives us, He just keeps adding blessings to our lives.*

*Let’s thank God for His goodness, not just one day of the year, or just on Sundays when we come to church, but every day of the year. God has given so much to all of us!*

# THANKS TO GOD!

Read the verse on the balloon, then find all its words in the word-find (the verse is from Psalm 68:19). What are some of the benefits with which the Lord has “loaded” you today? List or draw a picture of them in the other balloons or white space on this page. It always feels good to thank Jesus for His blessings. Have you thanked Him today?





**Y**ou don't remember your first birthday, do you? How about the day you got your first tooth, or the first time you rolled over by yourself, or sat without someone holding you? Although these events may have been long forgotten, you might remember some other "firsts" that were momentous occasions in your life. How about your first day of school? your first airplane ride? your first bike? Perhaps your mom kept a baby book for you in which she wrote down these special milestones.

*Maybe a photo album at your house shows a pictorial record of events in your life, as seen through the eye of a camera.*

*During the past few weeks we've been studying some firsts recorded in the Bible. These were important events, so let's check and see how well we remember.*

## QUARTER REVIEW

LESSON 13 → Review Quarter Texts

Below are some scrambled words taken from our lessons this quarter. Using the text given, figure out what the word is and write it in the blank space next to it.

Genesis 1:6	tnfmareim	
Genesis 2:17	lkedowgen	
Genesis 6:17	ysdeter	
Exodus 20:6	stnmnmnadcoe	
Exodus 28:3	sratocnece	
Malachi 3:8	ttsehi	



## IT'S BEEN FUN LEARNING ABOUT BIBLE FIRSTS!

Choose your favorite verse from this unit and study it again this week.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

R	E	
C		T
N	O	I

2. \_\_\_\_\_

O	M	E
C		O
	E	V

3. \_\_\_\_\_

G	M	E
D		N
U	J	

4. \_\_\_\_\_

S	B	E
T		N
I		E

5. \_\_\_\_\_

H		T
T		R
G	N	E

6. \_\_\_\_\_

T	Y	H
		U
L	I	M

### WHAT'S THE WORD?

To the left is a word puzzle in the shape of squares. All the words have been used somewhere in the lessons this quarter. To solve the puzzle, try to find where each eight-letter word begins, and fill in the empty box with the correct missing letter. Write each word on the lines provided. (Hint: The words go clockwise.)

## READ THAT BOOK!

The text given in each lesson was from the Bible. To the right is a little test to see how well you can find things in your Bible. Use it to find the correct spelling for each Bible book described. Put the numbered letters in the corresponding spaces below. Try each day to do what it says!

Shortest Book in the Bible: \_\_\_\_\_<sub>2</sub>

Longest Book in the Bible: \_\_\_\_\_<sub>3</sub>

First Book in the Bible: \_\_\_\_\_<sub>11</sub>

Last Book in the Bible: \_\_\_\_\_<sub>9</sub>

First Book titled with a woman's name: \_\_\_\_\_<sub>5</sub>

Book that could mean work: \_\_\_\_\_<sub>12</sub>

Book referring to mathematics: \_\_\_\_\_<sub>7</sub>

Two books that refer to royalty: \_\_\_\_\_<sub>13</sub>

Book that suggests singing: \_\_\_\_\_<sub>10</sub>

Longest single word title of book: \_\_\_\_\_<sub>8</sub>

Book referring to people who make decisions: \_\_\_\_\_<sub>4</sub>

Two newspaper books: \_\_\_\_\_<sub>6</sub>

Book that refers to people who live in Italy: \_\_\_\_\_<sub>1</sub>

1 2 3 4

5 6 2 7 8 7 9 2

8 5 8 10

11 12 4 10 7 12 12 13

## WHAT'S ON THE MENU?

Autumn is a special time of year—a time when the weather gets cooler, nature changes colors, and crops are harvested. Below is a menu for a harvest feast. Use your Bible and look up the Scriptures and find out what's on the menu.

Genesis 25:28

Genesis 25:30

Genesis 43:11

Numbers 11:5

Numbers 11:32

Numbers 13:23

Deuteronomy 14:4

Deuteronomy 22:6

Deuteronomy 28:40

Judges 7:13

1 Samuel 17:17

Job 10:10

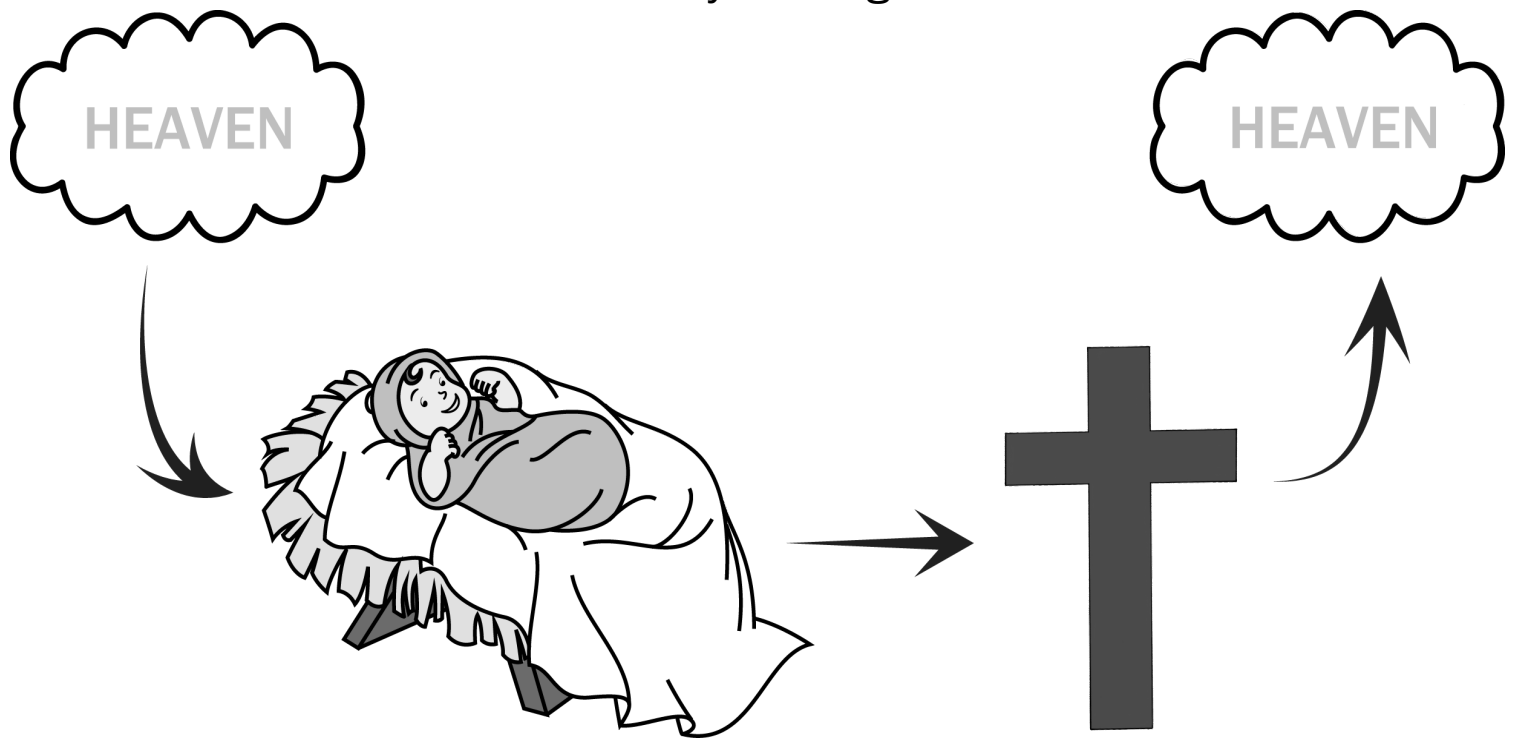
Proverbs 27:27

Isaiah 7:15



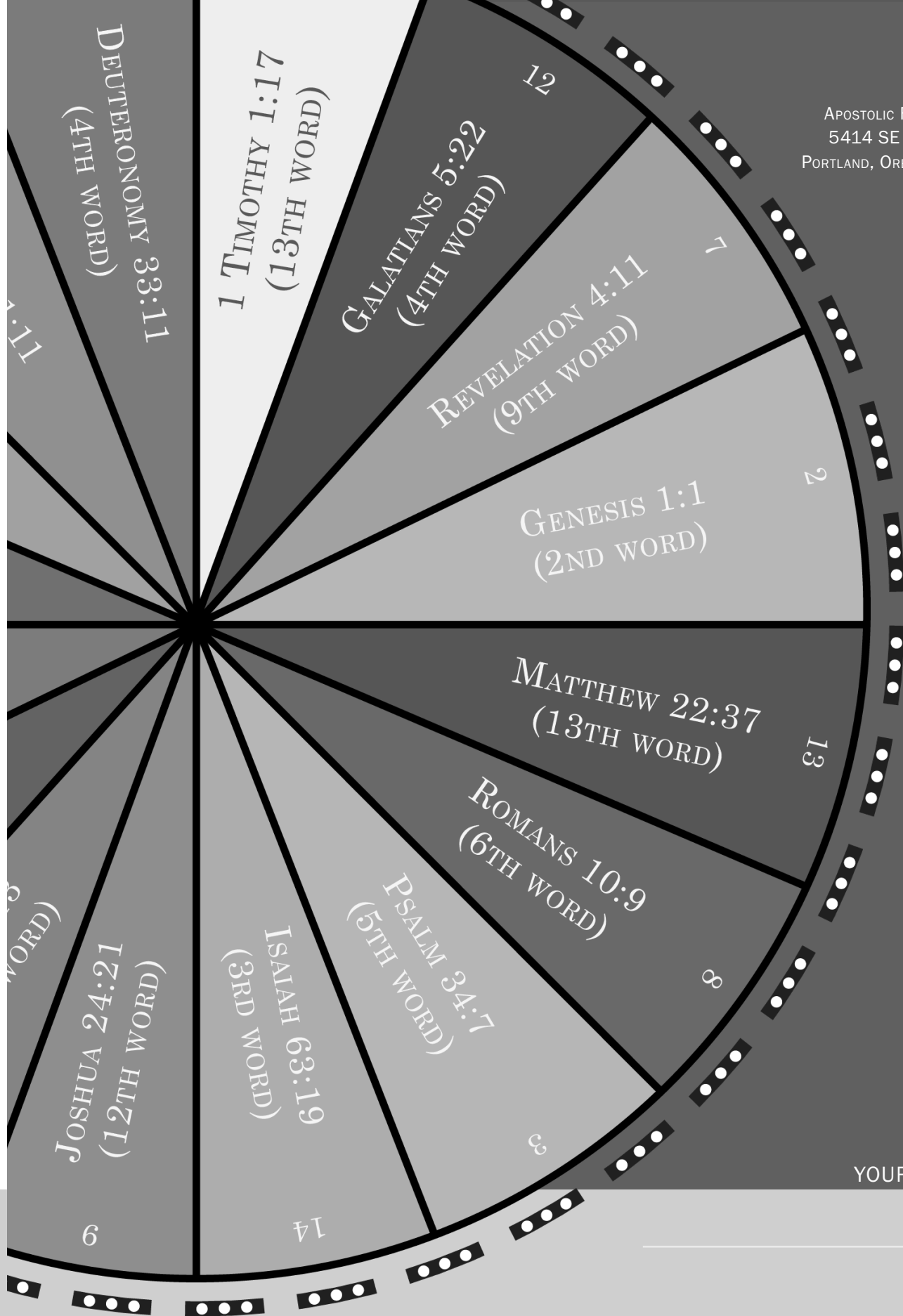
# MEET JESUS!

Would you like to meet the greatest Man who ever lived on this earth? He went from Heaven . . . to the Cross . . . back to Heaven . . . in only a few short years of His life. But no other person could ever do what He did for us. It's really exciting!



Read about prophecies . . . miracles . . . healings . . . His teachings . . . in *The Answer* next quarter.

APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH  
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YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_