
Greater Evangelism World Crusade Sunday School Lessons

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January – June 2009

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The Ministry of Greater Evangelism World Crusade

THE Ministry of Greater Evangelism World Crusade is a Pentecostal mission with its Headquarters in Port Harcourt, Rivers State of Nigeria. Amidst much persecution, opposition and difficulties, the Ministry pioneered indigenous Pentecostalism and evangelism in Rivers and Bayelsa States of Nigeria in the 1970's.

The Founder and International Director, **Apostle Geoffrey D. Numbere**, was born again on Sunday, **11 May 1969** at the University of Ife, Ibadan Campus, where he was then a student of Geology. On **3 March 1970**, he received the call of God for full-time service through a vision in which the Lord Jesus Christ took him up to three heavens, and showed him crowds and crowds of perishing souls. The Lord commissioned him to go and lift up the faces of those people to look up to Him and be saved.

“Amidst much persecution, opposition and difficulties, the Ministry pioneered indigenous Pentecostalism and evangelism in Rivers and Bayelsa States of Nigeria in the 1970's.”

Greater Evangelism World

Crusade was founded on **Saturday, 9 September 1972** during an all-night prayer meeting in Port Harcourt. The name, the logo, and the motto (“**To Know Jesus And To Make Jesus Known**”) were all given by the Lord through a vision.

In accordance with the vision given her by God, Greater Evangelism World Crusade has three main phases in her mission – Nigeria, Africa and the rest of the world. For many years, the thrust of Greater Evangelism World Crusade has been the virtually inaccessible Eastern Delta Region of Nigeria, reaching the un-reached for Jesus Christ by taking the Gospel to the down-trodden, underprivileged and forgotten people of the numerous islands and villages of Rivers and Bayelsa States. By God's grace, the Ministry has spread to various parts of Nigeria. Greater Evangelism World Crusade has affected many lives, leading thousands of people to salvation.

The Ministry is now in the second phase of the vision – reaching out to other African countries such as Sierra Leone; Uganda (especially the remote villages); Rwanda; Burundi; Kenya; the Republics of Congo, Chad, Central Africa and Cameroon (including the pygmies).

GEWC Sunday School Board

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Editorial

This edition features twenty-six Lessons. The New Year Lesson is on **Commitment** which is intended to help you to reflect on your commitment to obedience to God, using the challenging example of the Rechabites who totally obeyed the instructions of their father.

Our Easter Lesson on the **Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ**, our soon-coming LORD and Saviour, reminds us again of this historic life-transforming event that brought salvation to humanity. It challenges us to appreciate God's unfathomable love by surrendering our lives completely to him.

The first series of seven Lessons is on **Church History**, designed to help you know the background of your Christian faith. It is unfortunate that throughout the world such an important subject appears to have been reserved for Bible School students. We have seen the need to change this *status quo*, and empower all our members to know basic aspects of Church history that will also spur them to studying it in greater detail. This is part of the philosophy of the present Sunday School Board: to provide comprehensive Bible knowledge for everybody. Two of

the Lessons are on the **History of Greater Evangelism World Crusade**. This is very significant because of our beloved **International Director's 40th Anniversary** of his conversion that led to his call to establish the Ministry. This historic occasion will be celebrated in **May 2009**.

The second series of seven Lessons is on **Christian Living** with emphasis on holiness, prayer, fasting, witnessing, quiet time, and fellowship. These are all indispensable aspects of the lifestyle of every Christian.

The last series of ten Lessons on **Bible Books**, features Genesis to 1 Samuel. A graphic overview of each Book is presented under the following headings: meaning and statistics, writer, date of writing, main theme, and outline of the content. It is illuminating.

Remember to participate in our Bible reading project, **Daily Plan to Read the Whole Bible in One Year**, to help you become a Bible student, which will guide you to discover the truth (John 8:31-32).

God bless you. Amen. *Shalom!*

- **Pastor Leesi Ebenezer Mitee**
Chairman & Editor-in-chief

Sunday School Policy and Guidelines

Approved by the International Director

Compulsory Teaching of Every Sunday School Lesson

1. The aim of Sunday School is to provide adequate ***Bible knowledge*** and ***Christian education*** necessary for the growth and maturity of every Believer, including new converts.
2. Due to the importance of Sunday School Lessons, every Minister should ensure that each Lesson is taught in his/her Church. In order to achieve this, any Lesson missed must be taught in the local Church by the ***Minister*** or the ***Sunday School Superintendent*** as a Bible Study within the affected week or where several Lessons have been missed, as soon as possible. Genuine reasons why a Church may miss any Sunday School Lesson include:
 - (a) participation in a central programme that requires the attendance of the ***whole Church***, during which it may not be practicable to hold Sunday School, such as Central Healing Service; or
 - (b) late availability of Sunday School Lessons due to production problems.
3. Sunday School should be incorporated into every combined programme held on a Sunday morning, such as

Conferences, zonal programmes and all programmes held by various arms of the Church (for example, Men Fellowship, Women Fellowship, Youth Fellowship).

4. It is the responsibility of every Minister to make the necessary arrangements to enable the Members of his/her Church to acquire copies of *Greater Evangelism World Crusade Sunday School Lessons*, which shall be used during Sunday School Classes.

Sunday School Attendance

1. Every Member of the Ministry should attend Sunday School ***regularly*** and ***punctually*** as an integral part of Sunday Service. Sunday School starts at ***8:00 a.m.*** and ends at ***9:00 a.m.*** every Sunday. Every Church Worker is expected to attend Church by ***7:30 a.m.*** on Sundays (i.e. 30 minutes before the commencement of Sunday School) for a ***pre-Sunday School session*** of prayers, etc. All other Members of the Church are strongly ***encouraged*** to attend.
2. Every Member is expected to own a ***personal copy*** of all *Greater Evangelism World Crusade Sunday School Lessons*, which should be

brought to every Sunday School Class.

Sunday School Teachers Preparatory Classes

1. Every Church should hold weekly Sunday School Preparatory Classes for all Sunday School Teachers on any day of the week (*obviously, not on Sunday morning*). Every Sunday School Teacher is expected to study and understand each Lesson before each Preparatory Class. This includes reading and knowing all the Bible references in the Lesson.
2. All Bible references in each Sunday School Lesson should be read and understood during Preparatory Classes so that the Teachers can master them.

Sunday School Classes

1. Every local Church should hold Sunday School Classes where Sunday School Lessons shall be taught.
2. The duration of each Lesson is **one hour**.
3. The duration of each segment of a Lesson as indicated below is a useful **guide**.
4. Students are **encouraged** to study each Lesson before every Sunday School Class.
5. Opening Prayer & brief **Review** of the *last Lesson* (**5 minutes**). Students should be

able to remember the Memory Verse and answer some of the last Review Questions.

6. Reading of the Lesson Text(s) and recitation of the Memory Verse by the *students* (**8 minutes**).
7. **Reading** of Introduction & Lesson Outline by the *teacher* (**5 minutes**). This should be done in such a manner that the Lesson is *adequately communicated* to the class. **Digression is not allowed**.
8. Review Questions & Application (**30 minutes**). These are the main interactive sessions for **discussion** in which the students participate under the guidance of the teacher. Any **Application** that clearly requires the students to *meditate, think or reflect privately* is not meant to be discussed openly, but sufficient time should be allowed for it.
9. During the **discussion**, any Bible reference in the **Lesson Text** should be read by the students. We also include many **additional references** in some Lessons (e.g. doctrines) to make such Lessons complete. The teacher should **summarize** Bible passages in the *additional references* that cannot be read due to obvious **time constraints**.
10. Closing Prayer (**2 minutes**).
11. General Summary & Final Prayer (**10 minutes**). Here, all the classes come together.

Lesson 1

4 January 2009

New Year Lesson: Commitment

Text: Jeremiah 35:1-19

Memory Verse: Psalm 27:4

“One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.”

INTRODUCTION

Commitment in the context of this Lesson means a promise or determination to do something or behave in a particular way. The beginning of a new year is usually a time when most people make resolutions to live a better life. Very often such resolutions crash in no distant time, usually because there is no commitment attached to them. The story of the Rechabites is that of commitment to a cause (lifestyle).

time of Jehu from 812 – 815 BC (2 Kings 10:15-28) and was famous for his wisdom and devotion to the worship of Yahweh. Jonadab gave instructions to the Rechabites to live a puritan life.

Jonadab’s Instructions

The Rechabites were to live nomadic, simple but austere lives. They were not to drink wine, buy lands, cultivate vineyards or plant any other kind of seed. They were not to build, rent, or live in houses, but were to live in tents all their lives.

LESSON OUTLINE

The Rechabites

They were a nomadic tribe whose forefather, Rechab, was a Kenite (1 Chronicles 2:55) related to Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law (Judges 1:16, 4:17; 1 Samuel 15:6). Jonadab, his son or his lineal descendant, lived in the

Testing of the Rechabites

They were so committed to their father’s instructions that when Jeremiah took them to the Temple and offered them wine they refused. They rehearsed Jonadab’s instructions to Jeremiah, and told him, *“Thus have we obeyed the voice of Jonadab the*

son of Rechab our father in all that he hath charged us..."

Notable Aspects of the Incident

1. This incident came almost three hundred years after Jonadab.
2. Jeremiah was a renowned prophet. God ordained him as a "prophet to the nations" (Jeremiah 1:5).
3. The environment was the house of God. But they had no second thoughts as to what to do: theirs was a spontaneous response.
4. The laws they were obeying to the letter were those of a man (Jonadab), yet their commitment was total. On the contrary, Israel had the Law of God but they were not obeying Him.

Lessons from the Rechabites

1. Jonadab gave those laws so that his descendants could separate themselves from the Canaanites, from the Israelites and their frequent backsliding and apostasy, from the Baal worshippers with the immorality and idolatry which accompanied their drinking orgies. The commitment of the Rechabites made

them take an uncompromising stand no matter the circumstances surrounding them. Thus they were able to achieve their goals and sustain them for about 300 years. An uncommitted Christian can never achieve any goals or be an effective witness for Jesus.

2. Total commitment to a godly life brings blessings that outlive a child of God and pass down to generations after him (Exodus 20:6; 2 Samuel 7:11-16; Jeremiah 35:18-19)

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What made it possible for the Rechabites to obey laws that were almost 300 years old?
2. What reasons could they have easily given to break the rules given them when Jeremiah offered them wine?
3. What lessons can we learn from the behaviour of the Rechabites?

APPLICATION

Privately reflect on the areas in your life in which you did not live a committed Christian life in the past year. Like the Rechabites, prayerfully ask God to enable you to obey Him throughout this year.

Lesson 2

11 January 2009

Introduction to Church History

Texts: Luke 1:1-4; Acts 1:1-3

Memory Verses: Luke 1:3-4

“It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto thee in order, most excellent Theophilus, That thou mightest know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed.”

INTRODUCTION

Christians have a special interest in Church history because the very foundations of our faith are rooted therein (Luke 1:1-4; Acts 1:1-3). God became man and lived in time and space in the person of Jesus Christ. That is the mother of all histories. Church history is very important to the Christian who desires to know his spiritual ancestry, to emulate the good examples of the past, and avoid errors that were made. This will be our focus in Lessons 3 - 8.

LESSON OUTLINE

What is Church History?

Church history is the explained record of the origin, process, and impact of Christianity on human society, based on data collected from archaeology, documentary

records and living sources. It is the story of the stages of the Church since its inception. Note that God revealed in the Bible His interest in the keeping of historical records (Exodus 17:14; Numbers 5:23; Deuteronomy 17:18; Isaiah 30:8; Jeremiah 30:2; 36:2; Revelation 1:11).

Divisions of Church History

Early Church (4 BC- 590 AD)

This era of Church history shows the beginning of the *Apostolic Church* (referring to the Twelve Apostles of Jesus) from the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost around 30 AD to the time of the Old Catholic Imperial Church. The Church system immediately after the Apostolic Church was called “catholic” (Latin word which means *universal*) because it was not denominational, e.g. Roman, Anglican,

Methodist or Baptists as we have it today. It referred to any group of Believers in a locality e.g. the Church in Ephesus, in Smyrna, in Philadelphia, etc. It was called imperial because the churches then were mainly within the great Roman Empire. Up to 100 AD, there was rapid spread of the Church in the Empire. While it was a time of rapid growth, it was also a time of severe external persecution from the Roman State and internal heresies that threatened the Church and extended to a period of over 200 years (100-313 AD).

The Medieval or Middle Ages Church (590 – 1517 AD)

This period recorded the spread of the Church from the East to the West of Europe. It also recorded the invasion of Islam into Asia and North Africa that wiped away or weakened most of the Churches there between 632-732 AD. During that time, the Church central authority moved from Jerusalem to Rome, Constantinople, and Alexandria in Egypt. Between 1034-1305 AD, the Bishops of Rome gradually assumed supremacy over Bishops of Churches in other areas and developed the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church as it is today. All Church authorities became centred on the Pope and

the Church of Rome.

Modern Church (1517 and after)

Schisms and divisions occurred within the Roman Catholic Church, which resisted internal changes due to its strongly held dogmas. Protestants and Reformers such as **Martin Luther** and **John Calvin** rose with the gospel of justification by faith in the early 15th century. This brought light and salvation to many souls. National Protestant Churches like the Anglican, Lutheran and Presbyterian Churches sprung up between 1517-1545 AD. Great Protestant and Pentecostal revivals occurred in 17th to 19th centuries under various men of God, and gave birth to part of what we have today.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is Church history?
2. Why is it necessary for all Christians (*not only Bible School students*) to study Church history?
3. Comment on the divisions of Church history presented in this Lesson.

APPLICATION

What you have gained from this Lesson, and how you intend to know more of Church history?

Lesson 3

18 January 2009

The Origin of the Church

Texts: Matthew 16:13-20; Acts 2:1-11

Memory Verse: Matthew 16:18

“And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

INTRODUCTION

The Lord Jesus Christ is the foundation upon which the Church is built, and He is the Head of the Church. The account of the founding and early spread of the Church by the Apostles under the leadership of the Holy Spirit is the main subject of the first twelve chapters of the Acts of the Apostles (indeed, the *Acts of the Holy Spirit*). We shall trace the origin and spread of the Early Church as well as the oppositions she faced.

LESSON OUTLINE

Place and Date of Birth of the Church

The Church had its birth in Jerusalem. Jerusalem was the centre of Judaism - the Jewish religion. It was a centre of bitter enmity against Christ, yet it was where the Christian Church had its beginning. The religious rulers

(*Sanhedrin*) supervised the temple worships and constituted the powerful council that always opposed Jesus and His followers.

The Jews held the Feast of Pentecost 50 days after the Passover (Deuteronomy 16:9-12). The Church was born on the Day of Pentecost about 30 AD. It coincided with the 50 days after Jesus' resurrection and 10 days after His ascension. The descent of the Holy Spirit upon about 120 disciples, who gathered at the upper room, marked the beginning of the Church on earth (Acts 1:12-15, 2:1-11).

The Jerusalem Church: A Jewish Church at Birth

The Church at birth was Jewish without Gentiles as members. The 120 disciples that had the outpouring of the Holy Spirit were all Jews (Acts 10:45-47). All the people that witnessed her birth were Jews including pilgrims who

came from all parts of the Mediterranean world to observe the Feast of Pentecost of that year. The first converts to Christianity came from those Jewish observers (Acts 2:5-11; 3:26). Soon after this, the Church grew and spread beyond Jerusalem, as the had Lord said (Acts 1:8).

The Rapid Growth of the Early Church

The growth of the Early Church was rapid. Peter preached his first sermon on the day the Church was born and 3,000 people believed and were baptized (Acts 2:14). He also preached to the multitudes that gathered because of the healing of the lame man at the Beautiful Gate, and about 5,000 souls were added to the Church (Acts 4:4). Multitudes were later mentioned as becoming a part of that Church, which included priests of the Jewish temple that became obedient to the faith (Acts 6:7). The rapid growth of the Church was the direct result of the increase in the preaching of the Word (Acts 5:42; 6:7).

Oppositions against the Early Church

The Church soon came under intense opposition from the *ecclesiastical body* called the Sanhedrin who supervised the religious

life of the State. They and the high priest became envious of the rapid growth of the Church. Peter and John were arrested and charged before their council twice (Acts 4:1-7, 15-17). Deacon Stephen, the first martyr of the Church died in their hands (Acts 6:9-15, 57-60).

Persecutions also came from the *political class* against the young Church. Herod Agrippa I killed James the brother of John and also arrested Peter whom God miraculously delivered (Acts 12). The Church in Jerusalem temporarily scattered because of Stephen's death, but the "scattered Church" published abroad the gospel to other parts of the country (Acts 8:1-4). Thus, persecutions helped the growth and spread of the Early Church instead of killing her.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the date and birthplace of the Church.
2. Discuss the rapid growth of the Church.
3. Discuss the oppositions against the Church and its effects.

APPLICATION

How has this Lesson challenged or encouraged you regarding the Gospel work in your local Church?

Lesson 4

25 January 2009

The Mission to the Gentiles

Texts: Acts 9:15; 10:34-48; 11:1-21

Memory Verse: Acts 11:1

“And the apostles and brethren that were in Judaea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God.”

INTRODUCTION

The Early Church was slow in understanding the universal nature of Christianity even though Philip and Peter were the first to give the gospel to the first Gentile converts. The Church was growing rapidly in number only from Jewish converts, but they were reluctant to carry the gospel to the Gentiles. The story of how the Early Church spread the gospel to the Gentiles is the main subject of this Lesson.

LESSON OUTLINE

Gospel to the Jews First

As earlier mentioned, the Church was born in Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost, with the Jews as her first converts (Acts 2:14, 22). The Apostles were comfortable spreading the Gospel in and around Jerusalem. It was the persecution that arose after Ste-

phen's death in 35 AD that forced the Believers to move out of Jerusalem into Judea and Samaria (Acts 8:1) with the Gospel, thus fulfilling the second part of Jesus Christ's command in Acts 1:8.

The Gospel to the Gentiles

Philip the Evangelist was the first to preach outside Jerusalem to Samaria (Acts 8:4-40). Apostle Peter was led or forced by God to preach to the first Gentile family that became Christians (Acts 10:34-48). He was even queried by some Jewish Believers for daring to enter the home of Gentiles and eating with them (Acts 11:1-18). However, some unnamed Believers who went from Cyprus and Cyrene to Antioch began preaching to the Gentiles about Jesus Christ, and a large number of the Gentiles believed and turned to the Lord, and constituted the first Gentile Believers' Church. It was from Antioch that great missionary

work to the Gentiles started when the Holy Spirit commissioned Barnabas and Paul for it (Acts 13:1-3). Paul invested his life, time, and energy in this mission from 46 AD until 59 AD when he was imprisoned in Rome for the Gospel (Romans 15:16-23).

Paul's Missionary work to the Gentiles

Beginning from Acts 13, Luke the narrator of Acts of the Apostles, focussed attention on the work of Apostle Paul in moving the Gospel to the third phase of Jesus' command – "*to the utmost part of the earth*" (Acts 1:8). What Paul started is still the unfinished work we are called to carry on today. Paul's missionary style was to target important cities of that time like Salamis (Acts 13:5) and Iconium, from where he went to the surrounding towns one after the other. Wherever he went, he would first go to the Jewish synagogue to preach to the Jews there before preaching to the Gentiles (Acts 13:44-49). Although he had the ministry to the Gentiles, he did not overlook his own kinsmen (Acts 13:14).

Problems Associated with the Mission to the Gentiles

One problem that followed the admission of the Gentile Belie-

ers into the Church was whether salvation was by grace alone or also by observation of Jewish customs and religious rites such as circumcision, keeping of Sabbaths, etc. Paul insisted that it was by grace and faith alone, but other Jewish Christians taught otherwise. This problem was brought to the Council of Jerusalem around 49 or 50 AD) where the issue was settled in favour of Paul's arguments (Acts 15:5-21). But this problem somehow persisted after the Council's decision and those that preached "another gospel" troubled the Gentile Churches with the demand of law instead of grace, e.g. the Galatian Churches (Galatians 1:6-10).

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Which group of people were the first converts of the Early Church?
2. Discuss the roles of Philip, Peter, and Paul in taking the gospel to the Gentiles.
3. Discuss the problems associated with the mission to the Gentiles.

APPLICATION

What do you consider to be our role in the "third phase" of Jesus' command to take the Gospel to "the utmost part of the earth," which Paul started?

Lesson 5

1 February 2009

Persecutions against the Early Church

Texts: Acts 7:54-60; 8:1-4; 12:1-19

Memory Verse: Acts 8:1

“And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.”

INTRODUCTION

Right from her inception, the Church had faced both external and internal problems in every period of her history. The internal problem of heresy and external problem of persecution from the Jews and the Roman State, respectively, plagued the Church from the first to fourth century (64-382 AD). In this Lesson, we shall study the persecution of the Early Church.

LESSON OUTLINE

Meaning of Persecution

In our context, “persecution” refers to wicked acts of hatred, cruelty, and violence against Christians with the intention of silencing, humiliating, discriminating against, torturing, or killing them merely because of their

faith in Jesus and their obedience to the commands of God as revealed in the Holy Bible.

Persecution by the Jews

The Jews were the first persecutors of Christians shortly after the birth of the Church in Jerusalem. The persecutions were first directed against the leaders of the Church such as Stephen, James, and Peter (Acts 6:5-15; 7:1-60; 12:1-19), which later spread to all members of the Church throughout the Roman Empire (Acts 8:1-3). Saul (Paul) was one of the chief persecutors of the Church, but after his conversion he was in turn severely persecuted.

Persecution by the Roman State

The Roman government started the systematic persecution of Christians simply because they refused to worship their Emperors.

We shall highlight some instances.

1. **The Church in Pergamum** (Revelation 2:12-13). Pergamum had a temple dedicated to Roma (a goddess). Christians there were persecuted for refusing to worship **Emperor Augustus** and the said goddess.
2. **The Church in the Thyatira** (Revelation 2:18-19). Christians in this city were persecuted because they refused to worship the Emperors and the sun god Apollo Tyrimnaios.
3. **The Church in Smyrna** (Revelation 2: 8-11). The city had temples dedicated to the goddess Roma and the Emperor. Many Christians there were imprisoned, tortured and killed for upholding their faith.
4. **Emperor Nero** (54-68 AD) mischievously blamed Christians for a disastrous fire in Rome in 64 AD. He tortured and killed many of them, including Peter and Paul.
5. **Emperor Trajan** (98-117 AD) was the first to pass laws against Christianity; he burned Ignatius (Bishop of Antioch) at the stake.
6. **Emperor Pius** (137-161 AD) persecuted the Church and killed Polycarp (Bishop of Smyrna) for his refusal to renounce Christ and worship the Emperor.

7. In the third century, **Emperors Diocletian** and **Galerius** persecuted Believers throughout the Roman Empire: tortured, imprisoned and killed them by any possible cruel method.
8. Persecutions abated when Galerius passed an Edict in 311 AD and gave Christians freedom to worship their God. After his conversion, **Emperor Constantine** capped this freedom by the total stoppage of persecution of Christians in 315 AD.

Results of the Persecutions

Miraculously, the persecutions aided the spread and rapid growth of Christianity, tested and refined the faith of many Believers. This proved that God was with the Church (Matthew 16:13-18).

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is persecution?
2. Discuss how the Jews and Roman Emperors persecuted the Early Church.
3. What were the results of persecutions in the Early Church?

APPLICATION

Based on this Lesson, as a Believer, how are you challenged by the faith, endurance and patience of the early Christians?

Lesson 6

8 February 2009

Heresies in the Early Church

Texts: Colossians 2:2-23; 1 Timothy 4:1-3; 2 Peter 2:1-3

Memory Verse: 2 Peter 2:1

“But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.”

INTRODUCTION

Irenaeus of Lyons said, “Error never shows itself in its naked reality in order not to be discovered. On the contrary it dresses elegantly, so that the unwary may be led to believe that it is more truthful than truth itself.” The Church had always faced the problem of heresies and fought against it to preserve sound doctrine. Apostle Peter warned us against “damnable heresies” (2 Peter 2:1-3). We shall focus on some of the heresies in the Early Church and how to avoid them.

LESSON OUTLINE

The Meaning of Heresy

As we studied in Lesson 22 of 30 November 2008, “heresy” is from the Greek word *hairesis* (pronounced *hah'-ee-res-is*). It simply means **false doctrine**: any teach-

ing, belief, ideology or philosophy that is contrary to the truth revealed in the Bible, which is the supreme authority for every correct doctrine (2 Timothy 3:16).

Sources of Heresies in the Early Church

Heresies in the Early Church came mainly from Jewish and Gentile converts who brought into Christianity their own previously held Jewish or pagan beliefs. It also came through misinterpretation of the Scriptures.

Examples of Heresies in the Early Church

Circumcision as a requirement for Salvation in Jesus

Some Jewish Christians taught non-Jewish Christians that “*Except ye be circumcised . . . ye cannot be saved*” (Acts 15:1). Paul

and Barnabas confronted them, which prompted a special meeting of the Council at Jerusalem to decide the matter (Acts 15:2-21). The Council decided that circumcision was not a requirement for salvation (Acts 15:22-31). Paul also countered this heresy and others relating to observance of the law (Romans 4; 1 Corinthians 7:18-19; throughout Galatians).

The Heresy of the Nicolaitans

The doctrine of the Nicolaitans included sexual immorality without any restrictions whatsoever, and that physical sins committed in the body had no effect on the spirit. Apostles John (Revelation 2:6, 15) and Paul (1 Corinthians 3:16-17; 5:1-13; 6:15-20; 7:1-2; Galatians 5:19, 21) confronted these heresies.

The Heresy of Gnosticism

Among other heresies, gnostics taught that Jesus did not have a physical body, therefore he could not have been crucified. This was the greatest heretical assault on the foundation of Christianity. Apostle John countered this heresy in 1 John 4:1-3.

The Heresy of Hymenaeus and Philetus

Hymenaeus and Philetus taught

the Brethren in the Early Church that “*the resurrection is past already.*” This heresy denied the resurrection of Jesus or future resurrection for the rapture (contrary to Matthew 28:1-10; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). Paul confronted this heresy in 2 Timothy 2:16-18.

How to Avoid Heresy

1. Study the Bible to know the truth, like the Berean Christians (Acts 17:10-12; John 8:32; 2 Timothy 2:15).
2. Do not allow heretics to deceive or influence you (Galatians 1:6-9; Titus 3:10-11; 1 Corinthians 15:33).
3. Earnestly pray and depend on God to help you discern heresies and false teachers (Matthew 7:15-23; 1 Corinthians 12:10-11).

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is heresy?
2. Mention the sources of heresy in the Early Church.
3. Discuss the heresies in the Early Church mentioned in this Lesson.
4. Mention some of the heresies in the Church today.

APPLICATION

Share with the class the precautions you **personally** take in order to avoid being a victim of heresy.

Lesson 7

15 February 2009

The History of Greater Evangelism World Crusade (1)

Texts: *Greater Evangelism World Crusade: Landmarks in Her Vision and History* (3rd edition), Chapter 2; **Deuteronomy 4:9; 6:10-12**

Memory Verse: Acts 26:19

“Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision.”

INTRODUCTION

The study of the history of a people or organization helps one to understand their origins. It is for this purpose that we have devoted two studies to the history of the Ministry of Greater Evangelism World Crusade (GEWC). This unique Ministry is centred on a vision given by God to **Apostle Geoffrey Dabibi Numbere** (the Founder and International Director of GEWC) when the Lord commissioned him.

1. To know the origins of a people, group, or organization.
2. For memorial, to remember and recollect important events (Exodus 16:32-34).
3. For testimonies that would explain the peculiarities of the group to future generations (Exodus 16:32-34; Deuteronomy 6:20-25).
4. To perpetuate a concept or vision to future generations (Deuteronomy 6:6-7, 20-25).
5. To prevent deviation, forgetfulness or ignorance of the origins of a group or people (Deuteronomy 4:9; 6:10-12; Joshua 24:31; Judges 2: 7, 10-17).

LESSON OUTLINE

Meaning and Importance of History

For this study, the *Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary* definition of history as “a written or spoken account of past events” is very relevant. The importance of history includes the following:

The Vision and Commission of Apostle Numbere

Apostle Numbere was born again on Sunday, **11 May 1969** at the Chapel of the Ibadan Campus of the University of Ife (now Obafemi Awolowo University),

where he was then a Geology student. Shortly after his conversion, a prophet of God, **Pastor S. G. Elton**, came to the campus. An elderly British missionary, Pastor Elton was a father and mentor to virtually all the indigenous pioneer Pentecostal and evangelical Ministries that God raised up in Nigeria in the early 1970's.

Pastor Elton prophesied over Apostle Numbere that God called him to serve Him and to be an instrument of deliverance to his people in Rivers State. But Numbere, being a young convert, did not understand and therefore did not take him seriously. On **3 March 1970**, while he was on his knees praying, he had an hour-long vision in which the Lord Jesus Christ appeared to him and took him up to three heavens. At the Lord's prompting, he looked down and saw a vast open plain field, jam-packed with human beings in a stooping kneeling position with their faces on the ground (like the posture of Muslims in prayer). As they went up the plain, the crowds increased with each tier. At the second tier as he saw the crowd, he became afraid and began to run away as fast as he could. The Lord allowed him to run out his strength. Then he picked him up, brought him to His side and took him up to the third tier. The Lord then told him that

He was sad because the souls He created were perishing, and commissioned him to, ***“Go raise their faces that they may look up to me that they might live.”***

The vision so gripped his heart that he could no longer concentrate on his studies. He did not disobey the heavenly vision (Acts 26:19), and had to leave the University to fulfil his call. Thereafter he went to **Gumel**, a wilderness and a Muslim enclave in **North-ern Nigeria**, where he founded a Church which he handed over to the Evangelical Church of West Africa (ECWA). He returned to **Port Harcourt** (Capital of **Rivers State**) after a three-year sojourn in the North.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What does history mean? Discuss its importance.
2. What are the consequences of a group or people not knowing their history?
3. Who is the Founder of Greater Evangelism World Crusade? Discuss his call and commission.

APPLICATION

Discuss today's trend whereby many people are opening Churches as a money-making business (2 Peter 2:1-2).

Lesson 8

22 February 2009

The History of Greater Evangelism World Crusade (2)

Texts: *Greater Evangelism World Crusade: Landmarks in Her Vision and History* (3rd edition); **2 Timothy 4:1-5**

Memory Verse: **2 Timothy 4:5**

“But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.”

INTRODUCTION

In our last Lesson we studied how Apostle Geoffrey Dabibi Numbere received his vision from God into full-time ministry. This Lesson deals with the founding of Greater Evangelism World Crusade and the fulfilment of that vision. As would be expected in the light of our Memory Verse (2 Timothy 4:5), the history of the Ministry has been eventful with all manner of challenges, but God gave us the victory.

LESSON OUTLINE

The Birth of Greater Evangelism World Crusade

We concluded the last Lesson with Apostle Numbere’s return from Northern Nigeria to Port Harcourt. There, he became a street preacher, standing in market places, entrances to banks, government offices and other

corporations, preaching and weeping as he pleaded with people to repent and give their lives to Christ. Gradually, a few people (mostly teenagers and young school leavers) began to believe his message, and followed him.

On Saturday, **9 September 1972**, during an all-night prayer meeting with his converts, the Lord gave him the name “**Greater Evangelism Crusade**” in a vision. A few days later, the Lord gave him the motto, “***To Know Jesus And To Make Jesus Known.***” On December 6th 1972 (again while on His knees praying), he received the **emblem**: *the globe, with a cross spanning it and dropping on Africa, with Nigeria in the centre.* The words of the Ministry’s **anthem** are as follows: “*To know Jesus and to make Jesus known; To make Jesus known to the whole wide world. To know Jesus and to make Jesus known; I will make Jesus known everywhere.*”

Phases of the Vision

The vision of the emblem and the logo tallied with the vision Apostle Numbere had during his call: the vision would be in three main phases, namely Nigeria, Africa, and the rest of the world.

Nigeria

Amidst much persecution, Apostle Numbere and his little group first crusaded every part of the city of Port Harcourt, then the city suburbs, and from there to the rural areas. The terrain was rough and tough, the weather often inclement, and many of the communities very hostile. But those pioneer members were undaunted. They pressed on, taking the Gospel to every hamlet, every nook and cranny; to the downtrodden, underprivileged and forgotten people of the old Rivers State. In **1986** the Ministry launched missions to other States of Nigeria, and now has branches in Abuja (the Federal Capital Territory of Nigeria) and the following States: Akwa Ibom, Cross River, Benue, Lagos, Oyo, Abia, Imo, Anambra, Kaduna, Edo, Delta, and Niger.

Africa

God opened the doors of Africa to the Ministry in **1994**, the first of which was Uganda. Through the

evangelical efforts of dedicated men and women who have come to believe in the vision, the Ministry has been able to also reach out to Rwanda, Burundi, Kenya, Central Africa Republic, Cameroun, Benin Republic, Sierra Leone, and Liberia.

The Rest of the World

Apostle Numbere has taken the Gospel to various parts of the world, including the United States of America; Europe (United Kingdom, Germany, Sweden); and the Far East (South Korea). But the Ministry's focus now is on the Africa phase as she makes concerted efforts to reach out to all the countries in Africa.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. On what date was the Ministry founded?
2. (a) What is the motto of the Ministry? (b) Describe the emblem of the Ministry.
3. Discuss the three phases of the vision of the Ministry.
4. Sing the Ministry's anthem.

APPLICATION

1. What have you learnt from the history of the Ministry?
2. How do you contribute to the fulfilment of the Ministry's vision?

Lesson 9

1 March 2009

Introduction to Christian Living

Text: Colossians 3:1-17

Memory Verse: Colossians 3:1

“If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.”

INTRODUCTION

All men are sinners. Therefore, as far as relationship with God is concerned, we are considered dead. In that state, one is controlled by satan and lives according to his dictates. But the moment we become born again, we come into life and a new way of living through the work of the Holy Spirit (2 Corinthians 5:17). In our series on Christian living, we shall focus on holiness, prayer, fasting, witnessing, quiet time, and fellowshiping.

relating with God and serving Him, and our relationship with men and our environment as a result of our faith in Christ.

Basis of Christian Living

Abiding in Christ

Abiding in Christ is the secret of victorious Christian living. Just as every branch bears the fruit of the tree, so also the Christian who abides in Christ bears the fruit of Christ’s life for the world to see (John 15:5; Romans 6:22; Galatians 2:20).

LESSON OUTLINE

Meaning of Christian living

Christian living underscores the implications of our Christian faith in our daily life and service. Christianity is not just a religion; it is a way of life in Christ Jesus. A changed life brings about a changed way of living. Christian living embraces our new way of

Living by the Word of God

The Word of God abiding in the Believer helps him to grow and bear fruits. Jesus Christ Himself emphasized the importance of the Word of God for a successful Christian living (Matthew 4:4; John 15:7). Just as we need food for physical growth, so the Word of God nourishes us to spiritual

development (1 Corinthians 3:2; 1 Peter 2:2; John 6:63).

Living by the Holy Spirit

At the new birth, one's heart becomes the home of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit indwelling the Believer's heart helps him to live a Christ-like life (Romans 8:14; 1 Corinthians 6:19).

Goals of Christian Living

Holiness is the supreme goal of Christian living. It implies separation from the common and profane for a divine use. God had declared us holy in Christ. He is making us holy by the Holy Spirit now, and we shall be perfectly holy at the second coming of Christ (Leviticus 11:44-45; Hebrews 12:14).

Prayer helps the Believer enlist the help of the Almighty God over his needs and that of others. It is essential to Christian living as the air is to human living (Matthew 6:5-6; Psalm 55:17).

Fasting draws us from the natural into the spiritual frame of mind. It keeps our spiritual keenness high and stimulates spiritual growth through prayer and study of the Word (Matthew 6:16-18, 17:21).

Witnessing is a major aspect of

Christian service. Soul winning is a vocation of all who have been saved. It involves a definite effort to lead a definite person to accept a definite Saviour at a definite time (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 1:8).

Quiet Time involves spending personal time with God on a regular basis, which helps us establish a growing relationship with Him. Every Christian, young or old in the Lord, needs to know God in a personal way.

Fellowshipping is essential because when we receive Christ, we enter into a special fellowship with God and members of His family. The harmony of this family is the responsibility of every member. The Church provides us the opportunity for Christian growth and service (1 John 1:3, 6; Acts 2:1; Hebrews 10:25).

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is Christian living?
2. What is the basis of a victorious Christian living?
3. Discuss the goals of Christian living.

APPLICATION

Prayerfully, **privately** evaluate your spiritual development and growth in Christ since you believed.

Lesson 10

8 March 2009

Christian Living: Holiness

Texts: Leviticus 11:44-45; 1 Peter 1:13-18

Memory Verse: Hebrews 12:14

“Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord”

INTRODUCTION

Holiness is an attribute of God. Indeed it is the very essence of God. It is the “crown” of all His attributes as His power and glory are embedded in His holiness. The call of Believers to His family is a call unto holiness. Holiness is possible because God impacts it into the lives of His children as they come into Christ and live in submission to the indwelling Holy Spirit. In this Lesson, we shall learn the meaning, means and aspects of holiness.

LESSON OUTLINE

Meaning of Holiness

Holiness means separation from all sin and immoral living and consecration to God. It involves personal moral cleanness of life and conduct. It is evidenced by purity of life and morals both in the heart and outward appearance.

Peter said in 1 Peter 1:15, “so be ye holy in all manner of conversation [living].” Holiness is the will of God for His children and it is the supreme goal of Christian living (1 Thessalonians 4:3).

God’s Means of Making Us Holy

His Word

God uses His Word to sanctify or make us holy. Studying and applying God’s Word in our lives purifies and makes us holy (John 15:3; 17:17; 1 Peter 1:22-23.)

His Holy Spirit

God’s Holy Spirit in us is the Spirit of holiness. He leads the Believer in the path of righteousness and produces the fruit of holiness in us. Divine holiness is imparted to the human soul in spiritual regeneration and becomes the source of a holy character in us (Romans 8: 1-3, 14-15;

Galatians 5:22-25; 2
Thessalonians 2:13).

*His Church (the Local Assembly
of Believers)*

God uses the local Church assembly to nurture and mature His children spiritually. There are biblical standards for the community of God's children and every member is expected to abide by them. This makes members to be accountable to one another in their local Church. The Ministers and Elders ensure that these standards are maintained through sound teachings (Acts 20:28; 1 Timothy 3:15).

Aspects of Holiness

Positional holiness is imparted into a person the moment he believes in Christ. God sees Believers as being holy "in Christ." We only need to live out this in reality in our daily experiences (1 Corinthians 1:30; 6:11; Hebrews 10:10).

Experiential holiness is a process of gradually becoming more and more holy in our behaviour day by day. The Holy Spirit is at work in us making us to be like Christ. The Believer co-operates with Him by putting sins away from his daily life. The Bible calls this "perfecting holiness in the fear of God" (2 Corinthians 7:1; 1 Peter 1:13-17).

Ultimate or perfect holiness will be attained by the Believer when Christ returns to take us home; we shall then be like Him. Then the work of our sanctification will be completed (1 Thessalonians 5:23; 1 John 3:2, Jude 1:24).

Why Holiness is Necessary

1. Fellowship with God (Psalms 15:1-5; 66:18).
2. Effective service unto God. The Spirit of God is holy and can only dwell in and use a vessel that is holy and completely set apart (sanctified) for Him.
3. Victorious Christian living and fruit bearing (Matthew 7:17-18).
4. We can only make heaven by being holy (Hebrews 12:4).

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is holiness?
2. Discuss God's ways of making us holy mentioned above.
3. Discuss the aspects of holiness outlined in this Lesson.
4. Why is holiness necessary for every Believer?

APPLICATION

How can you co-operate with the Holy Spirit and the Church in the process of making you more like Christ?

Lesson 11

15 March 2009

Christian Living: Prayer

Texts: Luke 11:1-12; Philippians 4:4-7

Memory Verse: Philippians 4:6

“Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.”

INTRODUCTION

One of the privileges that the children of God have is access to God through prayer. Through Christ, God has an open channel of communication for His children to reach Him, everywhere and every time. The Bible teaches us a lot about prayer and in this lesson we shall learn what prayer is, how we should pray, and hindrances to prayer, etc.

LESSON OUTLINE

Meaning of Prayer

The *Complete Christian Dictionary for Home and School* (1992 edition) defines prayer as “An act of worship by which we offer up praises and thanksgiving to God and bring our requests before Him.” It is a means of communication with our heavenly Father through our Lord Jesus Christ, in which we express our dependence upon Him, and ask Him for the

good things He wants us to ask Him both for ourselves and others.

How We should Pray

Prayer should be directed to God the **Father**. It is not an address to oneself or to any other person(s) (Acts 12:5; Philippians 4:6). We are to make our requests “known unto God.” Prayer should be made in the name (authority) of **Jesus Christ**. His name is the stamp that carries our prayer to God. God listens to our prayer because of what Christ did on our behalf (John 16: 23-24; Hebrews 2:17-18; 4:14-16). We must depend on the **Holy Spirit** Who helps us to pray aright (Romans 8:26-27; James 4:3).

Wrong Ways of Praying

1. Prayer is not be a command to God. We should not command God (give Him orders), rather we should plead with Him or talk to Him in reverence.

2. The use of repetitive words or vain talking in prayers should be avoided (Matthew 6:7-8).
3. Prayers of revenge popularly called “dangerous prayers” are devilish prayers and should not be prayed by a Christian (Matthew 5:43-45; Luke 6:27-28; James 3:8-10).

Patterns of Prayer

Adoration is the act of showing reverence, honour and obedience to God, praising Him for His greatness and goodness. Beginning our prayer with adoration prepares us to ask Him of our needs (Psalms 89:7-8; Isaiah 6:1). **Confession** and **repentance** help us to acknowledge our sins, ask God for forgiveness, and turn away from them, which bring us into fellowship with God (Psalm 66:18; Proverbs 28:13). **Thanksgiving** is our expression of thanks to God for His blessings that we have received (Psalm 126:3; Philippians 4:6). **Supplications** enable us to bring our specific requests, petitions and intercessions to God for His help. Supplications should be for ourselves, and also for others (Philippians 4:6; 1 Timothy 2:1).

When and Where to pray

There is no fixed time and place for prayer, but to ensure that the

Believer lives a life of prayer, morning, noon and evening prayer times should be observed (Psalms 55:17; Luke 18:1). Prayer could be made everywhere, but we must observe private and family prayer. Congregational prayers are done in public (Matthew 6:5-8; 1 Timothy 2:8).

Hindrances to Prayer

1. Sin (Psalm 66:18; Isaiah 1:15; 59:1-3).
2. Selfishness (James 4:2, 3).
3. Unforgiving spirit (Matthew 5:23-24; 6:9-15).
4. Faithlessness (James 1:6-8).
5. Impatience with God. We may need to wait for God’s time (James 5:1).
6. Satanic oppositions may delay answers to prayer, but will not prevail against our prayer (Daniel 10:12-13).

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is prayer?
2. Discuss the patterns of prayer highlighted in this Lesson.
3. Discuss the wrong ways to pray, when and where to pray.
4. What can hinder prayer?

APPLICATION

Share your personal commitment to prayer based on what you have learnt from this Lesson.

Lesson 12

22 March 2009

Christian Living: Fasting

Texts: Isaiah 58:3-14; Matthew 6:16-18; Mark 9:14-29

Memory Verse: Mark 9:29

“And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.”

INTRODUCTION

Fasting was observed in both Old and New Testaments. The Mosaic Law specifically required fasting for the Day of Atonement, which is called “the day of fasting” (Jeremiah 36:6). Fasting was also done on other occasions by individuals or the nation. In this Lesson, we shall study some of the fundamental aspects of fasting that will enlighten us on its nature and spur us into a life of biblical fasting.

LESSON OUTLINE

Meaning of Fasting

Biblical fasting means abstaining from food or drink voluntarily in order to be in God’s presence to pray and seek His face for diverse needs.

Types of Fasting

There are different types of fast-

ing. A *normal fast* involves abstaining from all forms of food, but not from water. A *partial fast* involves restriction of diet and there are many variations of it. Examples include the following: Daniel and his three friends ate only vegetables and drank water during their period of special training (Daniel 1:12-16); Daniel’s twenty-one day fast (Daniel 10:2-3). An *absolute fast* involves total abstinence from food and drink (including water), e.g. Moses (Exodus 34:28; Deuteronomy 9:9-18), Ezra (Ezra 10:6), and Paul (Acts 9:9).

Who should (and When to) Fast

All Believers should fast (Matthew 6:16-18). Fasting should be done individually and as a group (Joel 2:15-17). There is need for us to fast when we are worried (Daniel 6:18), in need (Ezra 8:21), in danger (Esther 4), in trouble (Acts 27:9, 33); for spiritual growth, etc.

How Long should one Fast?

A person's desires and need coupled with state of health usually determine the duration and frequency of fasting. Be *careful* of the present trend whereby some Church leaders impose *very long fasts* (e.g. 40 days, 90 days) on their members. Remember the two field team members of our Ministry who went to fast for 90 days: one died while the other sustained a permanent brain damage after fasting for 56 days!

Some Precautions on Fasting

Medically, it is advisable for those with serious illnesses to discuss their condition with *qualified medical personnel* with good knowledge of fasting before undertaking long fasts, in order to be guided properly. Remember, people are destroyed because of ignorance (Hosea 4:6), an example of which we mentioned above.

As much as possible, avoid eating a large meal that is hard to digest before and after a fast. It is wise to allow time for the digestive system to be ready for food again. It is advisable to break fasts (especially long fasts of three days and above) with herbal teas and natural fruit drinks that do not contain sugar or other sweeteners. Eat *warm* food (neither cold nor hot).

Purpose of Fasting

1. It is a Christian obligation (Matthew 6:16-18).
2. It is a spiritual exercise that enables the Believer to discipline the flesh and stimulate spiritual growth through prayer and study of the Word (1 Timothy 4:8).
3. It helps us humble our soul before God (Psalms 35:13).
4. To demonstrate to the Lord the depth of our sincerity in seeking and depending on Him for help (Ezra 8:21-23).
5. For health reasons: fasting detoxifies (removes impurity) and refreshes the body system.
6. Jesus taught that some problems, e.g. those involving demonic powers, may only be solved when prayer is backed by fasting (Mark 9:14-29).

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What does fasting mean?
2. Discuss types of fasting.
3. Discuss (a) who should fast; and (b) how long one should fast.
4. Discuss the precautions on fasting.
5. Discuss the purpose of fasting.

APPLICATION

Share your decision today concerning your attitude to fasting.

Lesson 13

29 March 2009

Christian Living: Witnessing

Texts: Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16; Acts 1:8-9

Memory Verse: Mark 16:15

“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.”

INTRODUCTION

It is a mandate from God to Christians that the Gospel be preached everywhere throughout the whole wide world (Mark 16:15), which is called the **Great Commission**. God does not delight in the death of any unbeliever: He desires that all should come to repentance. Salvation can only come by the hearing of the Word of God. In essence, for us to make impact on the world, witnessing is an indispensable tool. This Lesson will help us to understand some of the basic aspects of witnessing.

LESSON OUTLINE

Meaning of Witnessing

“Witnessing” (derived from the statement of Jesus in Acts 1:8) is the act of telling people about God’s love which He revealed through sending His only begotten son Jesus Christ to die for the

salvation of human beings, with the specific aim of leading them to accept Him (Jesus) as Saviour and Lord (John 3:16).

Types of Witnessing

1. **Personal witnessing** involves sharing the Gospel with someone on an individual basis, e.g. your friend or a stranger. This has the advantage of a personal contact as well as being cheap to undertake in financial terms.
2. **Group witnessing** refers to sharing the Gospel with several people *en masse*, e.g. at open-air crusades, rallies, during pulpit preaching, and morning calls. This has the advantage of the possibility of mass conversion on the same occasion.

Importance of Witnessing

All men have sinned and are condemned to eternal damnation.

Therefore, it is important that people be told that there is salvation in Christ Jesus. We have to preach the Gospel so that people will hear this good news, believe and be saved (Romans 3:23; 10:14-17; Acts 4:12).

How to Witness

1. Be courteous and make yourself accessible to people.
2. Get to the person you want to witness to. Do not wait for them to come to you before you witness to them.
3. Open up a friendly discussion with greetings.
4. Introduce yourself and your mission – to share the gospel message.
5. Possibly begin with a word of prayer.
6. State the fact of sin (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6).
7. State the fact of man's vain effort to save himself (Philippians 3:9; Isaiah 64:6).
8. State God's provision for salvation (John 3:16; Romans 5:8).
9. State how to be saved (Acts 2:38; Romans 10:9-10).
10. Invite the person to receive Jesus Christ into his/her heart (Acts 16:31-32).
11. Leave a gospel tract and your Church address with the person(s) if you have any.
12. Take the person's contact

address for follow-up.

Benefits of Witnessing

1. It leads souls to repentance and makes them members of God's family.
2. There is rejoicing in heaven when a sinner repents (Luke 15:7).
3. There is reward for soul winners: "*And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever*" (Daniel 12:3).

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What does witnessing mean?
2. Discuss the different types of witnessing.
3. How should Christians witness?
4. Why should Christians witness?
5. What are the benefits of witnessing?

APPLICATION

1. When last did you engage in personal witnessing?
2. Why do many Christians neglect witnessing?
3. Discuss practical steps we can take to ensure that we engage in regular and effective witnessing.

Lesson 14

5 April 2009

Christian Living: Quiet Time

Texts: Genesis 24:63-67; Mark 1:32-37; Luke 22:41-45

Memory Verse: Mark 1:35

“And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.”

INTRODUCTION

The hustle and bustle of society tends to deviate man’s attention from God. We need quiet time to enable us to renew ourselves in the presence of our Father. S. D. Gordon said, “The one who shuts himself in with God and the Book [Bible] and persistently day by day, prays over wide horizons, is the one living the true Christian life.” Quiet time in God’s presence is quite rewarding. In this Lesson, we shall focus on the benefits of having a quiet time with God and how to cultivate a quiet time life-style.

LESSON OUTLINE

Meaning of Quiet Time

“Quiet time” is the time set aside by a Believer to commune with God alone. It involves worshipping and praising God, studying and meditating on His Word, and

talking with Him in prayer. It is different from family devotions, or public prayer time involving other people.

Examples of Quiet Time

Although not much was said in the Scriptures about **Isaac’s** meditative life, it appears he was a quiet man who enjoyed quiet times with God. He was observing such a time in the field when his wife Rebekah was brought to him (Genesis 24:63-67).

David communicated with God almost always (Psalms 55:17). He had his regular quiet time with God, and desired to reach the point when his soul would be saturated with the presence of the Lord always, including when he was in bed, and at various times (called *watches*) in the night (Psalm 63:1, 5-6).

Jesus had precious times of communion with God His Father in

early hours of the morning or at night, during which He separated Himself from the crowd and even His Disciples (Mark 1:35; Matthew 14:22-25; Luke 6:12-13).

How to Observe Quiet Time and Cultivate its Lifestyle

1. Self discipline is very essential for one to have a regular, effective quiet time; there are no shortcuts to it.
2. Set aside a specific time everyday when there will be no interference. The best time is early in the morning before others are out of bed (Psalm 63:1; Mark 1:35). Observing a specific time helps to develop the habit.
3. Where necessary, create awareness (possibly by putting up a sign) to your household that you are having a quiet time.
4. Have a notebook to write down anything God ministers to you as you study your Bible, during worship or prayer. Look for God's promises to claim, good examples to follow, and sins to avoid.
5. Use a good *daily devotional* in addition to your personal Bible study programme.

Benefits of Quiet Time

1. It brings you into closer fel-

lowship with God, and you will hear Him speak to you. God visited Adam and Eve in the cool of the day (Genesis 3:8).

2. It is usually a time of intensive prayer, because the level of your concentration will be high. Effective prayer is a key to victorious Christian living.
3. You will come to know the Word of God which is the offensive weapon in the Christian's armour (Ephesians 6:17). As a result, you will receive and understand deep spiritual truth necessary for Christian maturity.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is quiet time?
2. Discuss the examples of quiet time mentioned in this Lesson.
3. Discuss how to observe effective quiet time and cultivate its lifestyle.
4. What are the benefits of quiet time?

APPLICATION

1. Do you have quiet time regularly? Share your experiences.
2. Discuss possible causes of inability of Christians to have quiet time regularly, and suggest what we can do to change the situation for the better.

Lesson 15

12 April 2009

The Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Texts: Luke 23:1-56; Matthew 28:1-10

Memory Verses: Matthew 28:5-6

“And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.”

INTRODUCTION

The arrest, trial, crucifixion, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ marked the climax of His earthly ministry. His teachings emphasize the Kingdom way of life. His miracles point to the Kingdom victory over pain and human sufferings. But His death and resurrection saves us from sin and eternal damnation, and reconciles us with God our Maker. He is not in the grave, for He is risen! Oh, how refreshing!

LESSON OUTLINE

The Arrest and Trial of Jesus

Soon after the Passover and institution of the Lord’s Supper (Matthew 26:20-30) Jesus left for the Garden of Gethsemane just across the Kidron Valley from Jerusalem. There He was arrested by a band of great multitudes armed with swords and led by **Judas Iscariot**,

(one of the twelve Apostles) who betrayed his master with a kiss.

Jesus had prayed through in agonizing prayer, seeing and sensing the reality of God’s heavy judgment on sin which He was about to bear (Matthew 26:38-44). It is good we live a life of prayer, praying even before the arrival of trouble.

The trial of Jesus took place mostly in the night. Before the Jewish Sanhedrin, he was accused of “blasphemy” - that He claimed to be the Son of God (Matthew 26:63-66). There He was condemned to death. But only the Roman authorities had the power to condemn to death (Matthew 27:1-2), hence He was taken to Pilate.

Before Pontius Pilate, his accusation was changed to “treason” - that He claimed to be the king of the Jews. They did this to put Him

in conflict with the Roman authorities, because it would be such a political threat that Pilate would not ignore. It was on this charge that Jesus was condemned finally to death (Matthew 27:37).

The Crucifixion and Burial

Jesus was crucified on Friday and buried the same day. That was the worst that satan could do, but it turned to be the best for the redemption of mankind. The tomb was sealed, and soldiers posted to guard it to forestall any attempt by the disciples of Jesus to remove His body and then claim that He resurrected as He had said (Matthew 27:62-66).

His Resurrection

While the perpetrators of His death went to celebrate, the kingdom of darkness below had the worst trouble they had never experienced before. Jesus broke the holds of death and tore the bars of the grave asunder. Early on Sunday morning (*the first day of the week*), the grave stones and seals gave way. The earth shook and quaked as the angel of the Lord rolled away the stone from the door of the grave and sat upon it. This was done to enable witnesses access the now empty tomb. The radiance of the angel struck fear upon the soldiers that

watched over the tomb, and they became as dead men. The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

Evidence of His Resurrection

1. The empty tomb (Matthew 28:6).
2. He appeared to Mary Magdalene at the garden where He was buried and spoke to her (John 20:11-18).
3. His appearance to Cleopas and another disciple traveling on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-31).
4. His appearance to His disciples including Thomas who inserted his fingers into the nail wounds for evidence (John 20:19-25).
5. After forty days, He ascended to Heaven in *bodily form* (Acts 1:1-11).

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the betrayal, arrest and trial of Jesus.
2. Discuss the resurrection of Jesus and its importance.
3. Discuss the proofs of Jesus' resurrection.

APPLICATION

1. **Privately** reflect on the death of Jesus for your sins.
2. How do you appreciate Him for such great love?

Lesson 16

19 April 2009

Christian Living: Fellowshiping

Texts: Acts 2:41-47; 1 John 1:3-7; Hebrews 10:19-25

Memory Verse: Acts 2:46

“And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart.”

INTRODUCTION

The idea of fellowship with one another affords brethren the opportunity of encouraging one another to do well in the faith (Proverbs 27:17). By this, good virtues are both exhibited and emulated. Historically, Christians of old were able to handle trials and temptations more easily as a united force. There is tremendous power in togetherness and unity.

LESSON OUTLINE

Meaning of Fellowshiping

Unger’s Bible Dictionary defines fellowship as “companionship, a relation in which parties hold something in common, familiar interaction.” Fellowshiping then means the act of brethren seeking and being frequently in one another’s company as members of God’s family.

Types of Christian Fellowshiping

Fellowshipping with God

Fellowshipping emphasizes relationship. Jesus Christ brought us into relationship with God Who seeks the Believer’s fellowship and worship (John 4:24). Believers should seek to be in an unbroken fellowship with God everywhere and every time. We achieve this when we walk in the spirit and share communion and fellowship with God (2 Corinthians 13:14).

Congregational Fellowship

This type of fellowshiping takes place in the house of God. The Believers in the Early Church had this kind of continual fellowship (Acts 2: 46). This includes fellowship for instructions in the doctrines (teachings) of Christ; the celebration of the Holy Communion; worship and prayers. This

fellowship is essential for mutual edification and Christian growth (Acts 2:1-4; Ephesians 4:11-16). Negligence of congregational fellowship can cause spiritual weakness and backsliding (Hebrews 10:24-25).

Interpersonal Fellowship

Christian love, sharing and fellowship go beyond the congregational Church fellowship. The love and warmth of Christian fellowship is sweetly shared at interpersonal house to house level. Here a better understanding of one another, their joys, pains, hopes, and aspirations are shared and prayed for (Acts 2:46b; Galatians 6:2). That was one important secret behind the phenomenal growth and success of the Early Church. It is the reason behind present-day home Church or house fellowship.

How to Cultivate the Habit of Fellowship

1. Obey God's command not to avoid fellowshiping (Hebrews 10: 25).
2. Ask God to help you to love people because it is only when you love people that you can desire to be in their company joyfully (John 13:34-35; 1 Peter 2:17).
3. Make out time to visit brethren

(Matthew 25:35-36; James 1:27).

4. Be hospitable (Romans 12:13; Hebrews 13:2).
5. Bear one another's burden (Galatians 6:2).
6. Personal determination is necessary to help you attend Church programmes regularly and punctually.

Benefits of Fellowshiping

1. We become fruitful when we fellowship with God (John 15:4-5).
2. It helps us to fulfil Jesus' prayer for unity of the believers (John 17:21).
3. Fellowshiping helps us to check our shortcomings and live a life of obedience so that we can make heaven.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is fellowshiping?
2. Discuss the types of fellowshiping outlined in this Lesson.
3. How can we cultivate a good fellowshiping attitude?
4. Discuss the benefits of fellowshiping.

APPLICATION

Prayerfully, **privately** make a commitment to an effective fellowshiping life from today.

Lesson 17

26 April 2009

Introduction to Bible Books

Texts: Exodus 17:14; Deuteronomy 31:24-30; 2 Timothy 3:14-17

Memory Verse: 2 Timothy 3:16

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

INTRODUCTION

This Lesson is an introduction to the Books of the Bible. We shall study Genesis to 1 Samuel in the next eight Lessons. We had discussed the concept of Bible Book study in *Volume 18 Number 1* (2007). In order to derive maximum benefit from the book study, we strongly encourage you to read the whole of each Book before the Lesson on it. Note that God commands us to study His Word so that we can know the truth and obey Him (Joshua 1:8; John 8:31-32).

LESSON OUTLINE

Statistics of Bible Books

The Bible is a divine library consisting of 66 Books. It has 1,189 chapters, 31,102 verses, and about 788,280 words. This is based on the *King James Version* that has become the *universal* standard for Bible statistics, being

the oldest version of the Bible still generally acceptable to Christians since 1611 (about 400 years ago). Note that the above statistics are for the **Christian Bible**, which is different from the **Hebrew Bible** (only the 39 Old Testament Books) and the **Catholic Bible** (more than 70 Books including the *apocrypha*).

Arrangement of Bible Books

Bible Books are arranged under two sections: the Old Testament and the New Testament representing the Dispensations of Law and of Grace, respectively. The **39 Old Testament Books** are arranged in the following order: **Genesis**, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, 1 Kings, 2 Kings, 1 Chronicles, 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel,

Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and **Malachi**.

The **27 New Testament Books** are arranged in the following order: **Matthew**, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Romans, 1 Corinthians, 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 Thessalonians, 2 Thessalonians, 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews, James, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, Jude, and **Revelation**.

Duration of Reading the Bible

It will interest you to know that you can **listen** to the entire Bible from Genesis to Revelation (788,280 words) in just **72 hours** at the rate of 183 words per minute! This is possible because there are **audio Bibles** on cassette and CD (compact disc). Surely, you will no more be scared to read the whole Bible at least once every year by using our ***Daily Bible Reading Plan*** on pages 61-64 of this book (Joshua 1:8; Matthew 22:29; John 8:31-32).

The Writers of Bible Books

We do not know exactly how many persons wrote the Books of the Bible; some scholars suggest that they were more than 40. They

came from different walks of life including kings, prophets, fishermen, a tax-collector, a medical doctor, and a lawyer. God inspired them to record His Word (Exodus 17:14; Deuteronomy 31:24-30; 2 Timothy 3:14-17), which took a period of over 1,500 years. Yet their different Books form **one** Book with an amazing unity!

Central Theme of the Bible

The central message that runs throughout the Bible is God as the Creator of man and everything that exists, His justice and love, His master plan of salvation, and eternal destruction for sinners who reject Jesus Christ His only Son (Genesis 1-3; John 3).

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. How many Books are there in (a) the Bible; (b) Old Testament; and (c) New Testament?
2. Mention the Old and New Testament Books in their order.
3. Discuss the duration of reading the Bible.
4. Discuss the central theme of the Bible.

APPLICATION

Have you ever read the whole Bible verse by verse? If **yes**, share your experience. If **no**, why?

Lesson 18

3 May 2009

Bible Books: Genesis

Text: Genesis 1:1-31

Memory Verse: Genesis 1:1

“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.”

INTRODUCTION

Many scientists have devoted colossal resources to studying the origin of life and the universe, only to come up with various ridiculous theories and ideas including that of evolution! *Genesis* contains the only authentic, indisputable record of the truth that God created every form of life and the universe. It also presents challenging examples of obedience to God; God’s guidance, blessings, and protection; and the danger of sin.

LESSON OUTLINE

Meaning and Statistics of Genesis

“Genesis” means *beginning* or *origin*. It is referred to as the *Book of Beginnings* because it contains the authentic records of the origin of the universe, the human race, society, sin, God’s master plan of salvation, the nation of Israel, etc .

Genesis is in the Old Testament, and the first Book of the Bible. It has 50 chapters, 1,533 verses, and about 38,262 words.

The Writer of Genesis

A Levite named **Moses** the son of Amram and Jochebed (Exodus 2:1-10; 6:16-20) wrote the first five Books of the Bible referred to as *the Pentateuch* or *the Law*: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. God instructed Moses to record events (Exodus 17:14). Other writers of Bible Books attested to the fact that he wrote *the Law* (Joshua 8:31, 23:6; 2 Kings 14:6; Ezra 6:18). **Jesus** referred to the authorship of Moses in John 5:45-47 and mentioned the “*book of Moses*” in Mark 12:26.

Date of Writing of Genesis

Although the exact date is unknown, it is widely believed that Moses might have written Genesis about 1440 BC (nearly

3,500 years ago).

Main Theme of Genesis

Just as its name suggests, the main theme of Genesis is God (*Elohim*) as the *Originator*, the Creator of man and everything that exists. This is the very opening statement in the Bible: “*In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth*” (Genesis 1:1). He is the Self-Existent Eternal Creator, the One without beginning or end, the Alpha and Omega.

Outline of Genesis

1. The creation of the universe (Genesis 1:1-25).
2. The creation of man (Genesis 1:26-31; 2:7-25).
3. The fall of man (Genesis 3).
4. Noah and the Great Flood (Genesis 6-10).
5. The tower of Babel (Genesis 11:1-9).
6. The call of Abraham (Genesis 11:27-13:18).
7. Melchizedek (Genesis 14:1-20).
8. The destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah and the death of Lot’s wife, etc (Genesis 18:16-19:38).
9. The birth of Isaac (Genesis 21:1-21).
10. Abraham’s obedience to God’s command to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice (Genesis 22:1-19).
11. Isaac’s marriage to Rebekah (Genesis 24).
12. Esau and Jacob (Genesis 25:19-34; 27:1-46).
13. Jacob at Bethel (Genesis 35:1-15).
14. Joseph and his brothers (Genesis 37).
15. Joseph in Egypt (Genesis 39-45). Note his victory over sexual temptation and the false accusation against him.
16. The settlement of Jacob and his household (Israel) in Egypt (Genesis 46-50).

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the meaning of *Genesis*?
2. Mention the first Book of the Bible.
3. Who wrote *Genesis*?
4. What is the main theme of *Genesis*?
5. Briefly state important lessons we can learn from some of the topics under the *Outline of Genesis* listed above.

APPLICATION

1. Share the good impact of any topic or story in *Genesis* on your life. How do you intend to maintain it?
2. Mention any bad attitude or sin in *Genesis*. How can we avoid it?

Lesson 19

10 May 2009

Bible Books: Exodus

Texts: Exodus 14:1-31; 15:1-27

Memory Verse: Exodus 15:2

“The LORD is my strength and song, and He is become my salvation: He is my God, and I will prepare Him an habitation; my father’s God, and I will exalt Him.”

INTRODUCTION

Deliverance from slavery or bondage is one of the most exciting, unforgettable experiences in anyone’s life. This explains why countries all over the world commemorate their day of independence with pomp and pageantry. *Exodus* records God’s deliverance of Israel from their bondage and untold persecution in Egypt for over 400 years. This Lesson will build our faith in God for our own deliverance and teach us to obey His laws.

LESSON OUTLINE

Meaning and Statistics of Exodus

“*Exodus*” means departure, referring to the movement of the people of Israel from Egypt to the promised land (Canaan). It is in the Old Testament, and the 2nd

Book of the Bible. *Exodus* has 40 chapters, 1,213 verses, and about 32,685 words.

The Writer of Exodus

As we mentioned in our Lesson on Genesis, **Moses** was the writer of Exodus. Exodus contains internal evidence of Moses’ authorship: “*And the LORD said unto Moses, Write this for a memorial in a book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua . . .*” (Exodus 17:14). **Jesus** confirmed his authorship when He referred to “*the book of Moses*” (Mark 12:26) and “*the law of Moses*” (Luke 24:44; John 7:23). God also mentioned it in Malachi 4:4.

Date of Writing of Exodus

The exact date is unknown, but many Bible scholars suggest that Exodus might have been written about 1440 BC (nearly 3,500 years ago).

Main Theme of Exodus

The main theme of Exodus is God's deliverance of the nation of Israel from slavery and bondage in Egypt and His revelation of how to walk with Him in obedience to His commands. It reveals the awesome power of God in bringing deliverance or salvation to His people, no matter the magnitude of the situation.

Outline of Exodus

1. Oppression of the people of Israel by the Pharaoh of Egypt (Exodus 1).
2. The birth and early years of Moses (Exodus 2).
3. The call of Moses (Exodus 3-4).
4. Moses and Aaron before Pharaoh (Exodus 5-6).
5. The 10 Plagues (Exodus 7-12:29).
6. The deliverance and exodus of the people of Israel from Egypt (Exodus 12:30-42).
7. The ordinance of the Passover (Exodus 12:43-51).
8. The pillar of cloud and the pillar of fire (Exodus 13:17-22).
9. The miracle of crossing of the Red Sea (Exodus 14).
10. The Song of Moses (Exodus 15).
11. The miracle of the Manna (Exodus 16).
12. The miracle of water out of the rock at Meribah (Exodus 17:1-7).
13. The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20).
14. The Ark of the Covenant (Exodus 25:10-22).
15. The Priests' garments (Exodus 28).
16. The consecration of Aaron and his Sons (Exodus 29:1-9).
17. The golden calf made by Aaron (Exodus 32).
18. Building of the Tabernacle and the glory of God over it (Exodus 26-27; 35-40).

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the meaning of *Exodus*?
2. Mention the second Book of the Bible.
3. Who wrote *Exodus*?
4. What is the main theme of *Exodus*?
5. Briefly state important lessons we can learn from some of the topics under the *Outline of Exodus* listed above.

APPLICATION

1. Share the good impact of any topic or story in *Exodus* on your life. How do you intend to maintain it?
2. Mention any bad attitude or sin in *Exodus*. How can we avoid it?

Lesson 20

17 May 2009

Bible Books: Leviticus

Text: Leviticus 20:1-27

Memory Verse: Leviticus 20:26

“And ye shall be holy unto me: for I the LORD am holy, and have severed you from other people, that ye should be mine.”

INTRODUCTION

Many people appear to find it very difficult to enjoy reading Leviticus, due to the detailed description of offerings and the daily duties of the Priests and Levites. Yet underneath this “boring” record lies the profound truth of holiness unto God as the secret of true worship. Our study of Leviticus will teach us God’s requirement that His people be holy and live a lifestyle distinct from those of unbelievers.

verses, and about 24,541 words.

The Writer of Leviticus

There is internal evidence that **Moses** wrote the Book of Leviticus. The first verse of the Book introduces the fact that God gave the message to Moses concerning the law of offering (Leviticus 1:1). The last verse (Leviticus 27:34) concludes, *“These are the commandments, which the LORD commanded Moses for the children of Israel in mount Sinai.”*

LESSON OUTLINE

Meaning and Statistics of Leviticus

“Leviticus” refers to the service or activities of the Levites who were descendants of the tribe of Levi set apart for ministering in the sanctuary, as assistants to the priests. It is in the Old Testament, and the 3rd Book of the Bible. *Leviticus* has 27 chapters, 859

Date of Writing of Leviticus

Although the exact date is unknown, it is widely believed that Moses might have written Leviticus about 1400 BC (3,409 years ago).

Main Theme of Leviticus

The central theme of Leviticus is the **holiness** of God and His demand for this virtue (holiness)

from everyone who wants to worship and serve Him (Leviticus 20:26). God also demands that every vessel or instrument in His sanctuary be kept holy unto Him. He forbids sexual immorality (Leviticus 18) and stipulates very severe penalties for it (Leviticus 20).

Outline of Leviticus

1. Burnt offerings (Leviticus 1).
2. Meat (or cereal) offerings (Leviticus 2).
3. Peace offerings (Leviticus 3).
4. Sin offerings (Leviticus 3).
5. Trespass offerings (Leviticus 4-6:7).
6. Laws of the various offerings (Leviticus 6:8-7:38).
7. Consecration of the Priests (Leviticus 8-9).
8. The sin of Nadab and Abihu (Leviticus 10).
9. Laws governing clean and unclean creatures (Leviticus 11).
10. Purification of women (Leviticus 12).
11. Laws governing "leprosy" (Leviticus 13-14).
12. Discharges from the body (Leviticus 15).
13. The Day of Atonement (Leviticus 16).
14. The Tabernacle as the place for offering sacrifice (Leviticus 17).
15. Laws prohibiting sexual immorality (Leviticus 18); penalties for sexual immorality (Leviticus 20).
16. Laws on different aspects of holiness (Leviticus 19).
17. Holiness of the Priests (Leviticus 21).
18. Holiness of the various offerings (Leviticus 22).
19. The appointed Feasts (Leviticus 23-25).
20. Laws against idolatry, etc (Leviticus 26).
21. Laws governing vows, dedicated things, tithes, etc (Leviticus 27).

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the meaning of *Leviticus*?
2. Mention the 3rd Book of the Bible.
3. Who wrote *Leviticus*?
4. What is the main theme of *Leviticus*?
5. Briefly state important lessons we can learn from some of the topics under the *Outline of Leviticus* listed above.

APPLICATION

1. Share the good impact of any topic or story in *Leviticus* on your life. How do you intend to maintain it?
2. Mention any bad attitude or sin in *Leviticus*. How can we avoid it?

Lesson 21

24 May 2009

Bible Books: Numbers

Text: Numbers 9:15-23; 23:1-24

Memory Verse: Numbers 23:19

“God is not a man, that He should lie; neither the son of man, that He should repent: hath He said, and shall He not do it? or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it good?”

INTRODUCTION

Our Memory Verse is one of the most reassuring scriptures in the Bible on God’s faithfulness or trustworthiness: He will surely do whatever He has promised. However, to appropriate God’s promises, we must satisfy His demand for holiness and complete obedience. For instance, 24,000 Israelites died in the wilderness because of idolatry and sexual immorality (Numbers 25) despite God’s promise of taking them to the land of Canaan.

LESSON OUTLINE

Meaning and Statistics of Numbers

“*Numbers*” mainly refers to the two censuses (population numbering) of Israel that God commanded Moses to undertake while they were in the wilderness on their way to Canaan (Numbers

1-4; 26:1-65). Note that *Numbers* is the English title of the Book based on the Greek translation of the Old Testament (the *Septuagint*) while “*In the Wilderness*” is the title in the Hebrew version. It is in the Old Testament, and the 4th Book of the Bible. *Numbers* has 36 chapters, 1,288 verses, and about 32,896 words.

The Writer of Numbers

Moses is generally accepted as the writer of Numbers, supported by the following internal evidence: “*And Moses wrote their goings out according to their journeys by the commandment of the LORD: and these are their journeys according to their goings out*” (Numbers 33:2).

Date of Writing of Numbers

Although the exact date is unknown, it is widely believed that Moses might have written

Numbers about 1400 BC (3,409 years ago).

Main Theme of Numbers

As mentioned earlier, the central theme of the Book of Numbers is the faithfulness of God, which He manifested to Israel through His guiding presence and protection in the wilderness (Numbers 9:15-23; 23:1-24). Even today God is with us (Matthew 1:23; 28:20; Hebrews 13:5).

Outline of Numbers

1. The first numbering of the people of Israel (Numbers 1).
2. The law and vow of a Nazarite (Numbers 6:1-21).
3. The Priestly Benediction (Numbers 1:22-27).
4. Dedication of the Tabernacle and its altar (Numbers 7:1-89).
5. The Passover (Numbers 9:1-14).
6. The Cloud over the Tabernacle to guide Israel on their journey (Numbers 9:15-23).
7. The miracle of quails (Numbers 11).
8. The sin of Aaron and Miriam (Numbers 12).
9. The Twelve Spies and Israel's rebellion (Numbers 13-14).
10. The rebellion of Korah and his colleagues (Numbers 16).
11. Aaron's rod (Numbers 17).
12. The sin of Moses by striking

the rock and the death of Aaron and Miriam (Numbers 20).

13. The fiery serpents and Israel's victory in battles (Numbers 21).
14. Balak and Balaam (Numbers 22-25).
15. Israel's punishment for idolatry and sexual immorality (Numbers 25).
16. The second numbering of the people of Israel (Numbers 26).
17. God chose Joshua as successor of Moses (Numbers 27:12-23).

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the meaning of *Numbers*?
2. Mention the 4th Book of the Bible.
3. Who wrote *Numbers*?
4. What is the main theme of *Numbers*?
5. Briefly state important lessons we can learn from some of the topics under the *Outline of Numbers* listed above.

APPLICATION

1. Share the good impact of any topic or story in *Numbers* on your life. How do you intend to maintain it?
2. Mention any bad attitude or sin in *Numbers*. How can we avoid it?

Lesson 22

31 May 2009

Bible Books: Deuteronomy

Text: Deuteronomy 30:1-20

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 30:19

“I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.”

INTRODUCTION

One cardinal principle of God that runs throughout the Bible is that everyone has the freedom to choose between obeying or disobeying Him. It is pathetic that human beings have always leaned towards disobeying God despite His loving warning and the obvious consequences, e.g. Adam (Genesis 2:16-17; 3:1-25). Deuteronomy contains a frightening pronouncement by God that obedience brings blessing and life while disobedience brings curse and death.

LESSON OUTLINE

Meaning and Statistics of Deuteronomy

“Deuteronomy” means *the second law*, referring to the second giving of the law by Moses. It is in the Old Testament, and the 5th Book

of the Bible. *Deuteronomy* has 34 chapters, 959 verses, and about 28,352 words.

The Writer of Deuteronomy

There is internal evidence that **Moses** wrote Deuteronomy (Deuteronomy 1:1; 31:9, 19, 22, 24). Jesus referred to Moses as the author of Deuteronomy (Matthew 19:1-8; Mark 10:1-5). Those who oppose Moses’ authorship claim that he could not have written about his own death in Deuteronomy 34. However, the simple explanation is that the last **8 verses** of Deuteronomy (34:5-12) were probably written by **Joshua** whom God had already chosen as the successor of Moses (Numbers 27:12-23; Deuteronomy 31:1-8).

Date of Writing of Deuteronomy

Although the exact date is unknown, it is widely believed

that Moses might have written Deuteronomy about 1400 BC (3,409 years ago).

Main Theme of Deuteronomy

The main theme of the Book of Deuteronomy is the truth that obedience to God's commands brings blessing, peace and a fulfilling life while disobedience attracts God's anger, curse, and death (Deuteronomy 28:1-68). The choice of whether to obey God and live or disobey Him and die is entirely up to each individual (Deuteronomy 30:19).

Outline of Deuteronomy

1. Moses rehearsed God's promise of Canaan and Israel's journey in the wilderness (Deuteronomy 1-5).
2. The commandment to love God and serve Him (Deuteronomy 6:1-25).
3. The commandment to be holy and separate from the heathen (Deuteronomy 7:1-11).
4. The blessings of obedience to God's commands (Deuteronomy 7:12-26).
5. The beauty of the land of Canaan and the danger of forsaking God (Deuteronomy 8).
6. Exhortation to fear God and serve Him (Deuteronomy 10:12-22).
7. The greatness of God and the blessings of Canaan (Deuteronomy 11).
8. The blessings of obedience to God and curses for disobedience (Deuteronomy 27-30).
9. Moses commissioned Joshua as his successor (Deuteronomy 31).
10. Moses' farewell song or declaration (Deuteronomy 32).
11. The death of Moses (Deuteronomy 34:1-8).
12. Joshua succeeded Moses (Deuteronomy 34:9-12).

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the meaning of *Deuteronomy*?
2. Mention the 5th Book of the Bible.
3. Who wrote *Deuteronomy*?
4. What is the main theme of *Deuteronomy*?
5. Briefly state important lessons we can learn from some of the topics under the *Outline of Deuteronomy* listed above.

APPLICATION

1. Share the good impact of any topic or story in *Deuteronomy* on your life. How do you intend to maintain it?
2. Mention any bad attitude or sin in *Deuteronomy*. How can we avoid it?

Lesson 23

7 June 2009

Bible Books: Joshua

Text: Joshua 23:1-16

Memory Verse: Joshua 21:45

“There failed not ought of any good thing which the LORD had spoken unto the house of Israel; all came to pass.”

INTRODUCTION

Like the Book of Numbers, Joshua also emphasizes the absolute faithfulness or trustworthiness of the LORD God Almighty. David declared this truth in Psalm 138:2 thus: *“I bow before your holy Temple as I worship. I praise your name for your unfailing love and faithfulness; for your promises are backed by all the honor of your name”* (New Living Translation). This Lesson should reassure us and strengthen our faith in God.

LESSON OUTLINE

Meaning and Statistics of Joshua

“Joshua” or *Jehoshua* means *Jehovah the Saviour*, from which came the name *Jesus*. Joshua is in the Old Testament, and the 6th Book of the Bible. It has 24 chapters, 658 verses, and about 18,854 words.

The Writer of Joshua

It is generally accepted that **Joshua** the son of Nun, the successor of Moses who led Israel into Canaan, wrote almost the whole Book of Joshua (Joshua 24:26). The portion containing the account of his death and what happened afterwards (Joshua 24:26-33) and few other portions are believed to have been added by someone else.

Date of Writing of Joshua

Although the exact date is unknown, it is widely believed that the Book of Joshua might have been written between 1400 BC and 1375 BC (not less than 3,384 years ago).

Main Theme of Joshua

As revealed by our Memory Verse and Joshua 23:14, the central message of the Book of Joshua is God’s faithfulness to His people

who are in a covenant relationship with Him. This teaches us that the problem is never with God, but always with those who walk with Him. Therefore, we must do everything to obey Him always in order to appropriate His blessings, promises, and provisions.

Outline of Joshua

1. Spiritual preparations for the final journey into Canaan (Joshua 1).
2. The spies to Jericho and their encounter with Rahab the harlot (Joshua 2).
3. Crossing the River Jordan (Joshua 3-4).
4. Circumcision and the Passover at Gilgal (Joshua 5).
5. The miraculous fall of Jericho (Joshua 6).
6. The sin of Achan (Joshua 7).
7. The destruction of Ai (Joshua 8:1-29).
8. The defeat of the Amorites during which the sun stood still (Joshua 10).
9. List of kings that Israel defeated under the leadership of Moses and Joshua (Joshua 12).
10. God's allocation of the territories of Canaan among the tribes of Israel (Joshua 13-19).
11. The cities of refuge for those who killed anybody unintentionally (Joshua 20).
12. God's faithfulness in giving Israel the land of Canaan just as He had promised (Joshua 21:43-45).
13. Joshua's exhortation and farewell address to Israel (Joshua 23-24:28). Note Joshua's popular quote: ". . . **choose you this day whom ye will serve . . . but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD**" (Joshua 24:15).
14. The death of Joshua and a brief mention of some of the events thereafter (Joshua 24:29-33).

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the meaning of *Joshua*?
2. Mention the 6th Book of the Bible.
3. Who wrote *Joshua*?
4. What is the main theme of *Joshua*?
5. Briefly state important lessons we can learn from some of the topics under the *Outline of Joshua* listed above.

APPLICATION

1. Share the good impact of any topic or story in *Joshua* on your life. How do you intend to maintain it?
2. Mention any bad attitude or sin in *Joshua*. How can we avoid it?

Lesson 24

14 June 2009

Bible Books: Judges

Text: Judges 3:1-31

Memory Verse: Judges 2:16

“Nevertheless the LORD raised up judges, which delivered them out of the hand of those that spoiled them.”

INTRODUCTION

“Trust and obey, For there’s
no other way To be happy in
Jesus, But to trust and obey.”

That is the refrain to the popular hymn composed by Rev. John H. Sammis presumably in 1886 from the testimony of a new convert (in D. L. Moody’s service) who said, “. . . I am going to **trust**, and I am going to **obey**.” The Book of Judges contains classic examples of how obedience to God brings joy and victory while disobedience attracts sorrow and defeat. We should decide to obey God.

LESSON OUTLINE

Meaning and Statistics of Judges

“*Judges*” refers to the leaders of Israel after the death of Joshua whom God chose to deliver them from their enemies, guide them spiritually to return to Him and obey His laws, and administer

justice. Their names are mentioned on the next page. Eli and Samuel were also judges. The Book of Judges is in the Old Testament, and the 7th Book of the Bible. It has 21 chapters, 618 verses, and about 18,966 words.

The Writer of Judges

The author of the Book of Judges is unknown. Some scholars suggest that Prophet **Samuel** might have written some portions of the Book.

Date of Writing of Judges

Although the exact date is unknown, it is widely believed that the Book of Judges might have been written between 1050 BC and 1000 BC (not less than 3,009 years ago).

Main Theme of Judges

The central message of the Book of Judges is the truth we have

already discussed: *obedience* to God brings peace, joy, prosperity, victory, and security, whereas *disobedience* brings destruction, defeat, oppression, and death (Judges 3:1-31). Whenever the people of Israel forsook God and went into sin including idolatry, He allowed their enemies to defeat them. But whenever they repented, God raised up Judges who led them to defeat their enemies (Judges 2:10-23).

Outline of Judges

1. Idolatry of Israel and the intervention of Judges (Judges 2:6-23).
2. Othniel as Judge (Judges 3:1-11).
3. Ehud as Judge (Judges 3:12-30).
4. Shamgar as Judge (Judges 3:31).
5. Deborah and Barak as Judges (Judges 4-5).
6. Gideon as Judge (Judges 6-8:32).
7. Abimelech as Judge (Judges 8:33-9:57).
8. Tolar and Jair as Judges (Judges 10:1-5).
9. Jephthah as Judge (Judges 10:6-12:6).
10. Ibzan, Elon, and Abdon as Judge (Judges 12:7-15).
11. Samson as Judge: his miraculous birth (Judges 13); his marriage to a Philistine woman whom her father later gave to Samson's best friend (Judges 14-15); his affairs with the harlot at Gaza (Judges 16:1-3); his affairs with **Delilah** that led to his death (Judges 16:4-31).
12. An idol worshiper called Micah hired a Levite as his priest (Joshua 17-18).
13. The Levite and his concubine who was raped by the men of Gibeah, which resulted in a war between the tribe of Benjamin and the other tribes of Israel (Joshua 19-21).

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the meaning of *Judges*?
2. Mention the 7th Book of the Bible.
3. Who wrote *Judges*?
4. What is the main theme of *Judges*?
5. Briefly state important lessons we can learn from some of the topics under the *Outline of Judges* listed above.

APPLICATION

1. Share the good impact of any topic or story in *Judges* on your life. How do you intend to maintain it?
2. Mention any bad attitude or sin in *Judges*. How can we avoid it?

Lesson 25

21 June 2009

Bible Books: Ruth

Text: Ruth 1:1-22; 4:9-22

Memory Verse: Ruth 1:16

“And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God.”

INTRODUCTION

The Moabites were the descendants of **Lot** (the nephew of Abraham) as a result of the sexual immorality between him and his first daughter (Genesis 19:30-38). They were a godless people against whom God made numerous pronouncements of woe. Although Ruth came from such a cursed background, she forsook her gods and culture, adopted Israel as her country, and decided to worship the LORD God Almighty. What a shining example of true repentance, which should challenge us!

LESSON OUTLINE

Meaning and Statistics of Ruth

“Ruth” means *compassionate friend*. It is in the Old Testament, and the 8th Book of the Bible. *Ruth* has 4 chapters, 85 verses, and about 2,574 words.

The Writer of Ruth

The author of the Book of Ruth is unknown. Some scholars suggest that Prophet **Samuel** might have written it.

Date of Writing of Ruth

There are wide differences of opinion on when the Book of Ruth was written. However, if it was written during the same period as the Book of Joshua, as some scholars claim, then it might have been written between 1050 BC and 1000 BC (not less than 3,009 years ago).

Main Theme of Ruth

The central message of the Book of Ruth is God’s reward for anyone who is willing to forsake their ways and belong to Him (Ruth 1:11-19). Ruth’s decision to follow Naomi, leave the gods of her people in Moab to serve the God

of Israel (Ruth 1:15-17) led to divine circumstances which made her an ancestress of **Jesus Christ**.

Outline of Ruth

1. Elimelech left Bethlehem with Naomi (his wife) and Mahlon and Chilion (his two sons) to live in Moab because of famine in the territory of the tribe of Judah. Elimelech died in Moab. Mahlon and Chilion married Moabite women, Orpah and Ruth, but died in Moab (Ruth 1:1-5).
2. Ruth's decision to return to Bethlehem with Naomi her mother-in-law (Ruth 1:6-22).
3. Ruth's miraculous encounter with Boaz, a close relative of Elimelech her father-in-law, while she was gathering grains that fell from the reapers on Boaz's farm (Ruth 2).
4. Naomi sent Ruth to Boaz to initiate the process whereby he could marry Ruth (Ruth 3) according to the law that governed the duties of close relatives including **levirate marriage** (Genesis 38:4-10; Deuteronomy 25:5-10).
5. Boaz married Ruth with the approval of the elders and his people who witnessed the ceremony and blessed them (Ruth 4:1-12).
6. God blessed the marriage of Boaz and Ruth with a son

whom their neighbours named Obed (Ruth 4:17).

7. **Obed** became the great ancestor of **David** through whose lineage **Jesus Christ** was born (Ruth 4:17-22; Matthew 1:5-17; Luke 3:23, 31-38). It is very significant that Jesus descended from a marriage between a **Jew** (Boaz) and a **Gentile** by birth (Ruth). Also note that **Rahab**, the harlot who was saved from the destruction of Jericho and brought to Israel (Joshua 2 & 6), was the mother of Boaz (Matthew 1:5).

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the meaning of *Ruth*?
2. Mention the 8th Book of the Bible.
3. Who wrote *Ruth*?
4. What is the main theme of *Ruth*?
5. Briefly state important lessons we can learn from some of the topics under the *Outline of Ruth* listed above.

APPLICATION

1. Share the good impact of any topic or story in *Ruth* on your life. How do you intend to maintain it?
2. Mention any bad attitude or sin in *Ruth*. How can we avoid it?

Lesson 26

28 June 2009

Bible Books: 1 Samuel

Texts: 1 Samuel 2:1-11; 8:1-22

Memory Verse: 1 Samuel 2:8

“He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the LORD’s, and He hath set the world upon them.”

INTRODUCTION

Perhaps the best illustration of the sovereignty of God is that He is the Potter and we (human beings) are the clay. As every potter has absolute discretion and control with regard to how he wants to mould and use the clay, so does God over our lives. Therefore, we must surrender our lives unto God and trust His perfect will and purpose for us (Jeremiah 18:1-6; 29:10-14) in order to enjoy His peace, guidance, and have hope for the future despite our present circumstances.

LESSON OUTLINE

Meaning and Statistics of 1 Samuel

“*Samuel*” means *heard of God*, referring to how God heard Hannah’s prayer and gave her a son (1 Samuel 1:1-20). *1 Samuel*

is in the Old Testament, and the 9th Book of the Bible. It has 31 chapters, 810 verses, and about 25,048 words.

The Writer of 1 Samuel

1 Samuel and 2 Samuel were originally one Book in the Hebrew Bible. They were later divided into two by the translators of the Greek Old Testament called the *Septuagint*. From 1 Chronicles 29:29, the authors of 1 and 2 Samuel included **Samuel**, **Nathan**, and **Gad** because the story of David runs throughout both Books (except 1 Samuel 1-15). However, Samuel could not have written about his own death and the events thereafter (1 Samuel 25-31).

Date of Writing of 1 Samuel

Although the exact date is unknown, it is widely believed

that the Books of 1 Samuel and 2 Samuel might have been written between 931 BC and 722 BC (not less than 2,731 years ago).

Main Theme of 1 Samuel

As revealed in our Memory Verse (1 Samuel 2:8), the central message of 1 Samuel is the rulership or sovereignty of God over human affairs. Instances of this truth include the miraculous birth of Samuel to Hannah who was barren; the death of Eli the Priest and his wicked sons whom God replaced with Samuel; God's warning about the danger of replacing Him with earthly kings; and the replacement of king Saul with king David whom God divinely protected.

Outline of 1 Samuel

1. Hannah's prayer for a son, her vow to God, and the birth of Samuel (1 Samuel 1).
2. Hannah's thanksgiving to God for the birth of Samuel (1 Samuel 2:1-11).
3. The sins of the sons of Eli and God's warning (1 Samuel 2:12-36; 3:10-21).
4. The call of Samuel (1 Samuel 3:1-9).
5. The death of Eli and his children (1 Samuel 4).
6. Saul chosen and anointed king of Israel (1 Samuel 9-11).

7. Saul's disobedience and loss of his kingship (1 Samuel 15).
8. David anointed king of Israel to replace Saul (1 Samuel 16).
9. David killed Goliath (1 Samuel 17).
10. The loving friendship of David and Jonathan (1 Samuel 18:1-4; 19:1-7; 20:1-42).
11. Saul's fruitless attempts to kill David out of jealousy (1 Samuel 18:5-30; 19:8-24).
12. David's exile for his security (1 Samuel 21-24; 27-30).
13. The shameful death of Saul and his sons (1 Samuel 31).

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the meaning of *Samuel*?
2. Mention the 9th Book of the Bible.
3. Who wrote *1 Samuel*?
4. What is the main theme of *1 Samuel*?
5. Briefly state important lessons we can learn from some of the topics under the *Outline of 1 Samuel* listed above.

APPLICATION

1. Share the good impact of any topic or story in *1 Samuel* on your life. How do you intend to maintain it?
2. Mention any bad attitude or sin in *1 Samuel*. How can we avoid it?

Daily Plan for Reading the Whole Bible in One Year (January - June)

This Daily Bible Reading Plan is for January – June. The second part (July – December) will be published in the next edition of our *Sunday School Lessons* (July – December).

Prayerfully determine to, and depend on God to help you, maintain daily consistency in order to achieve your goal of reading through the whole Bible in one year. It promises to be a most refreshing experience; and you will be

equipped with God's Word.

To avoid distractions, you need a quiet time when reading the Bible. Read it prayerfully, slowly, and with understanding. Put what you read into practice daily: obey God's commands and follow good examples; claim God's promises; avoid sins and bad examples. Always meditate on God's precious Word day and night (Joshua 1:8; Psalm 1:1-3). It is a rewarding exercise. God bless you.

Day	Date	Old Testament	New Testament
1	1 Jan	Genesis 1-2	Matthew 1
2	2 Jan	Genesis 3-5	Matthew 2
3	3 Jan	Genesis 6-8	Matthew 3
4	4 Jan	Genesis 9-11	Matthew 4
5	5 Jan	Genesis 12-14	Matthew 5:1-20
6	6 Jan	Genesis 15-17	Matthew 5:21-48
7	7 Jan	Genesis 18-19	Matthew 6:1-18
8	8 Jan	Genesis 20-22	Matthew 6:19-7:6
9	9 Jan	Genesis 23-24	Matthew 7:7-29
10	10 Jan	Genesis 25-26	Matthew 8:1-27
11	11 Jan	Genesis 27-28	Matthew 8:28-9:17
12	12 Jan	Genesis 29-30	Matthew 9:18-38
13	13 Jan	Genesis 31-33	Matthew 10:1-23
14	14 Jan	Genesis 34-35	Matthew 10:24-42
15	15 Jan	Genesis 36-37	Matthew 11
16	16 Jan	Genesis 38-39	Matthew 12:1-21
17	17 Jan	Genesis 40-41	Matthew 12:22-50
18	18 Jan	Genesis 42-43	Matthew 13:1-23
19	19 Jan	Genesis 44-45	Matthew 13:24-43
20	20 Jan	Genesis 46-48	Matthew 13:44-14:12
21	21 Jan	Genesis 49-50	Matthew 14:13-36
22	22 Jan	Exodus 1-2	Matthew 15:1-28
23	23 Jan	Exodus 3-5	Matthew 15:29-16:12
24	23 Jan	Exodus 6-7	Matthew 16:13-17:13
25	25 Jan	Exodus 8-9	Matthew 17:14-18:14
26	26 Jan	Exodus 10-12	Matthew 18:15-35
27	27 Jan	Exodus 13-14	Matthew 19:1-15
28	28 Jan	Exodus 15	Matthew 19:16-20:16
29	29 Jan	Exodus 16-17	Matthew 20:17-34
30	30 Jan	Exodus 18-19	Matthew 21:1-32
31	31 Jan	Exodus 20-21	Matthew 21:33-22:14
32	1 Feb	Exodus 22-23	Matthew 22:15-46
33	2 Feb	Exodus 24-25	Matthew 23
34	3 Feb	Exodus 26-27	Matthew 24:1-35

Greater Evangelism World Crusade Sunday School Lessons

Day	Date	Old Testament	New Testament
35	4 Feb	Exodus 28	Matthew 24:36-51
36	5 Feb	Exodus 29-30	Matthew 25:1-30
37	6 Feb	Exodus 31	Matthew 25:31-46
38	7 Feb	Exodus 32-33	Matthew 26:1-30
39	8 Feb	Exodus 34-35	Matthew 26:31-56
40	9 Feb	Exodus 36-37	Matthew 26:57-75
41	10 Feb	Exodus 39-39	Matthew 27:1-26
42	11 Feb	Exodus 40	Matthew 27:27-44
43	12 Feb	Leviticus 1-3	Matthew 27:45-66
44	13 Feb	Leviticus 4-5	Matthew 28
45	14 Feb	Leviticus 6-7	Mark 1:1-20
46	15 Feb	Leviticus 8	Mark 1:21-45
47	16 Feb	Leviticus 9-10	Mark 2:1-22
48	17 Feb	Leviticus 11-12	Mark 2:23-3:12
49	18 Feb	Leviticus 13-14	Mark 3:13-35
50	19 Feb	Leviticus 15	Mark 4:1-20
51	20 Feb	Leviticus 16-18	Mark 4:21-41
52	21 Feb	Leviticus 19-21	Mark 5:1-20
53	22 Feb	Leviticus 22-23	Mark 5:21-43
54	23 Feb	Leviticus 24	Mark 6:1-29
55	23 Feb	Leviticus 25	Mark 6:30-56
56	25 Feb	Leviticus 26-27	Mark 7:1-23
57	26 Feb	Numbers 1-2	Mark 7:24-8:13
58	27 Feb	Numbers 3-4	Mark 8:14-26
59	28 Feb	Numbers 5-6	Mark 8:27-9:13
=	29 Feb	Repeat 28 Feb	Repeat 28 Feb
60	1 Mar	Numbers 7-8	Mark 9:14-32
61	2 Mar	Numbers 9-10	Mark 9:33-50
62	3 Mar	Numbers 11-13	Mark 10:1-31
63	4 Mar	Numbers 14-15	Mark 10:32-52
64	5 Mar	Numbers 16-17	Mark 11:1-26
65	6 Mar	Numbers 18-19	Mark 11:27-12:17
66	7 Mar	Numbers 20-21	Mark 12:18-44
67	8 Mar	Numbers 22-23	Mark 13
68	9 Mar	Numbers 24-26	Mark 14:1-26
69	10 Mar	Numbers 27-28	Mark 14:27-52
70	11 Mar	Numbers 29-31	Mark 14:53-72
71	12 Mar	Numbers 32-33	Mark 15:1-20
72	13 Mar	Numbers 34-36	Mark 15:21-47
73	14 Mar	Deuteronomy 1-2	Mark 16
74	15 Mar	Deuteronomy 3-4	Luke 1:1-25
75	16 Mar	Deuteronomy 5-7	Luke 1:26-56
76	17 Mar	Deuteronomy 8-10	Luke 1:57-80
77	18 Mar	Deuteronomy 11-12	Luke 2:1-20
78	19 Mar	Deuteronomy 13-15	Luke 2:21-52
79	20 Mar	Deuteronomy 16-17	Luke 3
80	21 Mar	Deuteronomy 18-21	Luke 4:1-13
81	22 Mar	Deuteronomy 22-24	Luke 4:14-44
82	23 Mar	Deuteronomy 25-27	Luke 5:1-16
83	24 Mar	Deuteronomy 28	Luke 5:17-39
84	25 Mar	Deuteronomy 29-30	Luke 6:1-16
85	26 Mar	Deuteronomy 31-32	Luke 6:17-49
86	27 Mar	Deuteronomy 33-34	Luke 7:1-35

Greater Evangelism World Crusade Sunday School Lessons

Day	Date	Old Testament	New Testament
87	28 Mar	Joshua 1-2	Luke 7:36-50
88	29 Mar	Joshua 3-4	Luke 8:1-21
89	30 Mar	Joshua 5-6	Luke 8:22-39
90	31 Mar	Joshua 7-9	Luke 8:40-56
91	1 Apr	Joshua 10-12	Luke 9:1-17
92	2 Apr	Joshua 13-15	Luke 9:18-36
93	3 Apr	Joshua 16-19	Luke 9:37-62
94	4 Apr	Joshua 20-22	Luke 10:1-24
95	5 Apr	Joshua 23-24	Luke 10:25-42
96	6 Apr	Judges 1-2	Luke 11:1-13
97	7 Apr	Judges 3-4	Luke 11:14-36
98	8 Apr	Judges 5-6	Luke 11:37-54
99	9 Apr	Judges 7-8	Luke 12:1-21
100	10 Apr	Judges 9	Luke 12:22-48
101	11 Apr	Judges 10-11	Luke 12:49-59
102	12 Apr	Judges 12-13	Luke 13:1-21
103	13 Apr	Judges 14-16	Luke 13:22-35
104	14 Apr	Judges 17-18	Luke 14:1-24
105	15 Apr	Judges 19-21	Luke 14:25-15:10
106	16 Apr	Ruth 1-4	Luke 15:11-32
107	17 Apr	1 Samuel 1-2	Luke 16
108	18 Apr	1 Samuel 3-7	Luke 17:1-19
109	19 Apr	1 Samuel 8-10	Luke 17:20-18:14
110	20 Apr	1 Samuel 11-13	Luke 18:15-43
111	21 Apr	1 Samuel 14-15	Luke 19:1-27
112	22 Apr	1 Samuel 16-17	Luke 19:28-48
113	23 Apr	1 Samuel 18-19	Luke 20:1-19
114	23 Apr	1 Samuel 20-22	Luke 20:20-21:4
115	25 Apr	1 Samuel 23-25	Luke 21:5-38
116	26 Apr	1 Samuel 26-28	Luke 22:1-38
117	27 Apr	1 Samuel 29-31	Luke 22:39-65
118	28 Apr	2 Samuel 1-3	Luke 22:66-23:25
119	29 Apr	2 Samuel 4-6	Luke 23:26-49
120	30 Apr	2 Samuel 7-8	Luke 23:50-24:12
121	1 May	2 Samuel 9-11	Luke 24:13-35
122	2 May	2 Samuel 12-14	Luke 24:36-53
123	3 May	2 Samuel 15-17	John 1:1-18
124	4 May	2 Samuel 18-19	John 1:19-51
125	5 May	2 Samuel 20-21	John 2
126	6 May	2 Samuel 22	John 3:1-21
127	7 May	2 Samuel 23-24	John 3:22-36
128	8 May	1 Kings 1	John 4:1-26
129	9 May	1 Kings 2-3	John 4:27-54
130	10 May	1 Kings 4-6	John 5:1-30
131	11 May	1 Kings 7-8	John 5:31-47
132	12 May	1 Kings 9	John 6:1-24
133	13 May	1 Kings 10-11	John 6:25-59
134	14 May	1 Kings 12-14	John 6:60-71
135	15 May	1 Kings 15-17	John 7:1-24
136	16 May	1 Kings 18-19	John 7:25-8:11
137	17 May	1 Kings 20-21	John 8:12-30
138	18 May	1 Kings 22	John 8:31-47
139	19 May	2 Kings 1-3	John 8:48-59

Greater Evangelism World Crusade Sunday School Lessons

Day	Date	Old Testament	New Testament
140	20 May	2 Kings 4-5	John 9
141	21 May	2 Kings 6-7	John 10:1-21
142	22 May	2 Kings 8-9	John 10:22-42
143	23 May	2 Kings 10-12	John 11:1-16
144	24 May	2 Kings 13-15	John 11:17-57
145	25 May	2 Kings 16-17	John 12:1-19
146	26 May	2 Kings 18-19	John 12:20-50
147	27 May	2 Kings 20-22	John 13:1-30
148	28 May	2 Kings 23-25	John 13:31-14:14
149	29 May	1 Chronicles 1-2	John 14:15-31
150	30 May	1 Chronicles 3-4	John 15:18-16:16
151	31 May	1 Chronicles 5-6	John 16:17-33
152	1 June	1 Chronicles 7-8	John 17
153	2 June	1 Chronicles 9-10	John 18:1-27
154	3 June	1 Chronicles 11-13	John 18:28-19:16
155	4 June	1 Chronicles 14-16	John 19:17-42
156	5 June	1 Chronicles 17-19	John 20:1-18
157	6 June	1 Chronicles 20-22	John 20:19-31
158	7 June	1 Chronicles 23-25	John 21
159	8 June	1 Chronicles 26-29	Acts 1
160	9 June	2 Chronicles 1-4	Acts 2:1-21
161	10 June	2 Chronicles 5-7	Acts 2:22-47
162	11 June	2 Chronicles 8-11	Acts 3
163	12 June	2 Chronicles 12-15	Acts 4:1-31
164	13 June	2 Chronicles 16-19	Acts 4:32-5:11
165	14 June	2 Chronicles 20-22	Acts 5:12-42
166	15 June	2 Chronicles 23-25	Acts 6
167	16 June	2 Chronicles 26-28	Acts 7:1-53
168	17 June	2 Chronicles 29-30	Acts 7:54-8:8
169	18 June	2 Chronicles 31-32	Acts 8:9-40
170	19 June	2 Chronicles 33-34	Acts 9:1-31
171	20 June	2 Chronicles 35-36	Acts 9:32-43
172	21 June	Ezra 1-3	Acts 10:1-23
173	22 June	Ezra 4-6	Acts 10:24-48
174	23 June	Ezra 7-8	Acts 11:1-18
175	24 June	Ezra 9-10	Acts 11:19-30
176	25 June	Nehemiah 1-3	Acts 12
177	26 June	Nehemiah 4-6	Acts 13:1-12
178	27 June	Nehemiah 7-8	Acts 13:13-52
179	28 June	Nehemiah 9-10	Acts 14
180	29 June	Nehemiah 11-13	Acts 15:1-21
181	30 June	Esther 1-4	Acts 15:22-35

Source: Adapted (i.e. rearranged and presented in a different format) from "The Entire Bible in a Year" in The Full Life Study Bible – New International Version, 1992, edited by Donald C. Stamps and J. Wesley Adams, published by Life Publishers International, USA.
