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The official children's Sabbath School curriculum of the
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

YEAR B
QTR 2

BIBLE STUDY GUIDE FOR JUNIORS & EARLITEENS

powerpoints®

God's Grace
Welcomes Us Home



powerpoints®

A Sabbath School Bible Study Guide for Juniors/Earliteens



GraceLink® Sabbath School Curriculum

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**WORLD SABBATH SCHOOL
DIRECTORS**

JIM HOWARD
DANIEL EBENEZER

**GENERAL CONFERENCE
ADVISOR**

TED N. C. WILSON

**BIBLE RESEARCH INSTITUTE
ADVISOR**

CLINTON WAHLEN

CREATIVE DIRECTOR
BRYAN GRAY

DESIGN
REVIEW AND HERALD®
DESIGN CENTER

CIRCULATION
REBECCA HILDE

ILLUSTRATIONS
STEVE CREITZ, LARS JUSTINEN
JUSTINEN CREATIVE GROUP

THE POWERPOINTS WRITERS

AUDREY BOYLE ANDERSSON	VASANTH KHANDAGLE
KATHLEEN BEAGLES	TOYA KOCH
JACKIE BISHOP	LINDA KOH
DEEANN BRAGAW	CAROL MABERLY
CHRISTINE GILLAN BYRNE	VIKKI MONTGOMERY
LINDA CARLYLE	TANDA MOYER
DWAIN ESMOND	JONATHAN MUSVOSVI
RENÉ EVANS	REBECCA O'FFILL
KATHY GODDARD	DANIELLE CHRISTINE PEREZ
LUANA GREULICH	VIRGINIA SMITH
BECKY GRICE	GARY SWANSON
JUDI HEWES	EILEEN DAHL VERMEER
PAT HUMPHREY	DEENA WAGNER
NANCY IRLAND	MARY WONG
NOELENE JOHNSON	RAY ZEEMAN
JOHN KAKEMBO	

THE POWERPOINTS PUZZLISTS

ROSIE CENTRONE
NERILIE HUMPHRIES
KEN STILES
JOHN HUDSON TINER



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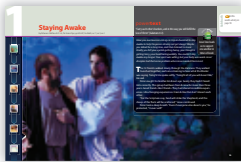
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our beliefs

1 The Word of God

I believe that God inspired through the Holy Spirit every writer of the Bible. Everything written in the Word of God is true, and can help me live a happy and healthy life.

2 The Godhead

I believe that the God who loves me is One God manifested in three persons—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Each works hard to teach me how to live a better, more meaningful life.

3 God the Father

I believe that God the Father is the power that keeps me—and every other creature in the universe—alive. He is kind and forgiving, and will never leave me.

4 God the Son

I believe that Jesus, God the Son, created this world and everything good in it. Two thousand years ago He came to this earth as a baby, grew up, and lived a sinless life. He then died on the cross so that I could someday live forever with Him in heaven.

5 God the Holy Spirit

I believe that God the Holy Spirit speaks to me through that still, small voice I hear in my thoughts whenever I feel afraid, sad, or lonely. He tells me that everything will be all right. The Holy Spirit also tries to teach me right from wrong by making me feel guilty when I sin and joyful each time I choose to obey God's laws of love.

6 Creation

I believe that God created the universe, and in a recent six-day creation He made "the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them" and rested on the seventh day. When He finished making the trees, animals, oceans, mountains, and people, God looked around at all that He had done and said joyfully, "This is very good!"

7 The Nature of Humanity

I believe that Jesus made people in the image of God. Each enjoys the freedom to think and act any way they choose. Even though sin and bad choices have brought pain and suffering to many, we're still children of God. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we can care for each other just as God cares for each one of us.

8 The Great Controversy

I believe that Satan is a real being who wants to destroy us all. He works hard each day to bring sin into our lives. God wants us to live each day with joy, happiness, and love. God and Satan are fighting for control over our lives and our futures. To help us overcome sin, Jesus sends the Holy Spirit and loving angels to guide and protect us.

9 The Life, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus

I believe that Jesus lived a perfect life in order to show us that it's possible to overcome sin. He died on the cross so I won't have to lose my heavenly home because of my sins. Then God the Father raised Jesus from the dead to show how He'll someday raise me from the dead if I die before Jesus returns.

10 The Experience of Salvation

I believe that when I allow Jesus into my heart, He helps me change from a sinner to a child of God, ready to live forever in heaven. He teaches me how to be like Him as I read my Bible and follow the loving guidance of the Holy Spirit. Because of Jesus, I can feel confident that I'm forgiven and that there's a home waiting for me in heaven.

11 Growing in Jesus

I believe that when someone invites Jesus into their heart, changes start to happen. What they read, watch on television or on the Internet, eat, and listen to, and the places they

go, even the words they say, will change. The pages of the Bible will become like a textbook for living, and they will talk to Jesus throughout each day. These changes keep happening, day after day, until Jesus comes. I also believe that we are called to follow Jesus' example by compassionately ministering to the physical, mental, social, emotional, and spiritual needs of humanity.

12 The Church

I believe that my church is a place where people who love Jesus can praise Him together with joy and anticipation. It's like attending a fun family reunion each week. Jesus loves His church and listens to every word spoken and every song sung.

13 The Remnant and Its Mission

I believe that before Jesus comes the second time, some people in my church will choose sin over salvation. Those who stay faithful to Jesus and to what the voice of the Holy Spirit tells them to do are called the remnant, and they will work extra hard to bring the love of God to the world. Though the remnant may be small in number, they will accomplish great things for God so that Jesus can return.

14 Unity in the Body of Christ

I believe that any church whose members worship God should welcome people from any nation, who speak any language, and whose skin is any color. We're all equal in God's sight. How we look and how we sound makes no difference. We're all children of the same heavenly Father.

15 Baptism

I believe that when I'm baptized, I'm telling everyone that I love God and want to live my life in service to Him. Baptism is like being buried as a sinner and then rising up to live a new life for Jesus.

16 The Lord's Supper

I believe that when Jesus ate His last meal with His disciples right before He was crucified, He taught us something wonderful. He said that the grape juice (wine) represented His spilled blood and that the bread represented His broken body. When I partake of "The Lord's Supper" at church, it helps me remember the sacrifice Jesus made for me on the cross.

17 Spiritual Gifts and Ministries

I believe that God has given us special talents that we can use to serve Him. We each enjoy different skills, such as music, preaching, teaching, art, giving Bible studies, visiting the sick, or making people feel welcome when they visit our church. Each spiritual gift is important to God's work.

18 The Gift of Prophecy

I believe that the people in God's church have needed help knowing how to live and what to look forward to in the future. So God appointed a woman named Ellen G. White to be His prophet and provide guidance, instruction, and correction for His people. Her writings also help us understand the important lessons found in the Bible.

19 The Law of God

I believe that God's Ten Commandments contain the best rules for living. Each is designed to protect me from sin and help me love God and others better. Each represents how much God loves me and how He wants me to live a happy, healthy life. Obeying the Ten Commandments is like saying "I love You" to God and others.

20 The Sabbath

I believe that God created the seventh-day Sabbath (Saturday) to be a holy day. He commands me to rest, worship Him, and serve Him by doing acts of kindness

for others on that day as a way of showing Him—and others—that I believe He is the Creator of all good things. God's holy Sabbath begins at sundown on Friday and ends at sundown on Saturday.

21 Stewardship

I believe that everything belongs to God: the trees, the flowers, the animals—even me. God has asked me to take care of what He created and to protect all things from harm—even me. So I will cherish God's creatures and creation. To show Him how proud I am to be His steward, I'll faithfully return a tithe (10 percent) of my time, talent, and money. I want God to bless this world and everything in it—even me.

22 Christian Behavior

I believe that anyone who loves Jesus should talk, act, eat, work, and play differently from those who don't love Jesus. As a child of God I need to think, feel, and act in harmony with the teachings of the Bible in all aspects of personal and social life. Everything I do should show others that Jesus lives in my heart and that I live by His rules of love.

23 Marriage and the Family

I believe that God designed marriage to be the lifelong union between a man and a woman. Our heavenly Father wants our earthly homes to be safe places where we learn about His love and forgiveness. When we love our brothers and sisters, parents and grandparents, uncles and aunts, we're experiencing a beautiful example of what it will be like to live in heaven with everyone who has chosen to love and obey God.

24 Jesus' Ministry in the Heavenly Sanctuary

I believe that God instructed Moses and the children of Israel to build a temple in the wilderness to explain what Jesus is doing right

now in the heavenly sanctuary. Jesus is our high priest who speaks to the Father on our behalf in the most holy place of the heavenly sanctuary. He forgives us, cleanses sin from our hearts, and prepares us for His kingdom.

25 The Second Coming of Jesus

I believe that very soon Jesus is going to return to this earth and take to heaven everyone who has chosen to love and obey Him. When He comes, those who hate Him will be destroyed. But everyone who has remained faithful to Jesus will leave this dark world and spend eternity with Him in His heavenly kingdom.

26 Death and Resurrection

I believe that Jesus can raise people from the dead. He did it before, raising Lazarus and the widow's son, and He will do it again when He comes the second time. So even though some of my family members are asleep in their graves, I'll see them again because of the power of God over death.

27 The Millennium and the End of Sin

I believe that someday sin and sinners will be gone forever. Even those who died hating God will fully understand the lies that Satan told them, and will agree that God's judgment is just. Without God's presence to shield them from harm, Satan and every sinner will be completely destroyed by fire.

28 The New Earth

I believe that after Satan and sinners are destroyed, my heavenly Father will create a brand-new world for us to enjoy. There will be no death, no tears, no pain, no suffering. All will be peace and love. Best of all I will enjoy this wonderful world forever together with my family and all who love God.

biblical timeline

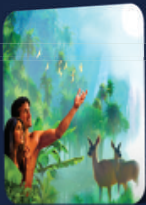
Is your life exciting and fun every single day? Probably not! But everyone experiences certain events that are memorable and even life-changing. Being born is certainly one of those major events in life! Starting school, performing your first music recital, learning to read, going on a mission trip, inventing a game that your friends love to play, or committing your life to Jesus by

being baptized may be other events you remember. Something terribly sad may also have happened that you can't forget.

The Bible is a little bit like your life. Even though it contains many stories, and all of them can teach us something about God and His love for us, only a few of the Bible stories contain events that are both memorable and life-changing. Those events

were turning points in the history of God's people. Once they took place, everything was different afterward.

Six of those life-changing stories are illustrated in the six pictures you see below. Very likely you can look at them and figure out what Bible stories they represent. The six pictures form a Bible-picture timeline that can help you make sense of the whole, big Bible story.



1600
YEARS

CREATION

Without it none of us would be here. That certainly changed everything forever!



900
YEARS

THE FLOOD

The world is very different now from what it was like before the Flood.



THE EXODUS FROM EGYPT

After God's people were led out of Egypt, they became a nation. They were no longer just individual families and tribes.

900
YEARS



THE CAPTIVITY IN BABYLON

God's people wandered far from the friendship God wanted to have with them, so He sent them into captivity in Babylon. Eventually they were able to return home, but never again did they have their own king. They were always under the power of some other kingdom.

In your Bible Study Guide you will find each weekly Sabbath School lesson marked as to where it fits in the big Bible story. Today we live between the first coming and the second coming of Jesus. We live very close to the Second Coming!

As you become more familiar with fitting the individual stories into the picture time line, you will better understand the Bible as one big story and become closer friends with Jesus. And when you see how the small stories fit around the six bigger stories, then the Bible will become even more meaningful to you. Hopefully you will realize more than ever that you are part of the big Bible story!



600
YEARS



THE FIRST COMING OF JESUS

At last the Messiah, Jesus, for whom God's people had been waiting thousands of years, came to this earth to rescue us from the power of sin. From then on, the message about His love and salvation began to go to the whole world.

2000
YEARS



THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS

This is the last major event foretold in the Bible. When Jesus comes, He will take us to heaven and end sin and suffering forever.

1000
YEARS

dear student

You are a gift from God, and He loves you very much! If the Lord knows each star by name and makes sure that it is in the proper place each night (Isaiah 40:26), how much more important are you?

Not every person is alike. Look around you. Everyone has different color eyes, hair, skin, and build (tall, short, big-boned, and thin). We all learn differently. Some people learn by listening, others by sight, and still others by touch. Some people use all three ways to learn.

Regardless of how you learn, the Lord wants you to love Him and serve Him with all your heart. You do that when you pray, learn about Him (in your lesson study), talk about Him to others, and do what is right.

Here is a great truth you should know about the Lord: Jesus isn't primarily concerned about how well you can read or write, or even how well you can speak. What Jesus cares about most is how much you love Him and want Him in your life. The greatest accomplishment in your life will be to show others how much God has blessed your life.

In school you use different ways to get the information that you want. Use those same ways to learn more about the Lord: Use your computer, iPod, or iPad to hear or study your lesson. Or have your parents read your lesson to you. Use the Bible on CD, or the audio podcast of your lesson at www.juniorpowerpoints.org/podcast.php?channel=1. It does not matter which way you get the information, as long as you are growing and maturing in the Lord.

Think about this when you meet Jesus face-to-face: He is not going to ask to see how well you write something. He will not ask you to read anything. His only pursuit is to read your heart to see how much you love Him. He wants to spend eternity with you!

This Bible study guide is **about** ...

Reflecting the Love of Jesus.

We demonstrate the love of Jesus to others by taking responsibility to support them in their trials.

Accepting God's Grace.

By receiving God's gift of salvation through grace we become citizens of God's kingdom.

Praising God for His Salvation.

We praise God that Jesus has won the victory against evil, sin, and death, and that soon He is coming to take us home to heaven.

Preparing to Live With Jesus

We share with others God's desire to live with us forever in the earth made new.

Welcome to *PowerPoints* about God's grace.

God's grace is power. It's the unlimited, for-sure, forever power that finds you and fills you up with everything you need to live a full and wonderful life in Him.



How to use this Bible study guide

The lessons and stories in this Bible study guide include principles that you can apply to your everyday life. They encourage you to communicate with God through prayer, reading from your Bible, and reflecting on what you read. That is how to grow in your relationship with Jesus. You will study the Bible lesson during the week, and in Sabbath School you will review it with your teacher and peers. This review process will help you gain a deeper spiritual understanding of the lessons.

A big part of your Sabbath School lesson is the study you do from the Bible and the discussions you have with your teachers and peers on Sabbath. Learn and review the power text during the week as you prepare for Sabbath School. As you memorize passages from the Bible you will become familiarized with the truths found in God's Word and you will learn to apply them to your life. As you study your Sabbath School lesson, engage your family members in discussion and share with them what you learned.

Most important, please take time to read, pray, and reflect on Jesus every day. Ask Him to help you apply what you study to what you do in real life. It isn't only what you know with your head, but it's also what you know with your heart, that helps you be a strong, growing Christian.

Happy growing in Jesus!

— The General Conference Sabbath School Department

PS: Write and tell us how you're growing in Jesus.

Sabbath School/Personal Ministries Department
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904



COMMUNITY

We share Jesus' love with others.

(LESSONS 1 THROUGH 5)

- Jesus' friends fall asleep.
- Jesus comforts others at the cross.
- The resurrection is proclaimed.
- Journey with Jesus to Emmaus.
- Jesus appears to Thomas.

GRACE

We are heirs of God's kingdom by grace.

(LESSONS 6 THROUGH 9)

- John has a vision of heaven.
- Jesus prepares heavenly homes.
- God writes His law on our hearts.
- Jesus defends us in the heavenly sanctuary.

WORSHIP

We praise God for His salvation.

(LESSONS 10 THROUGH 12)

- Home at last.
- Millennium—a time of praise and worship.
- End of sin—Satan destroyed.

GRACE IN ACTION

We prepare to live with Jesus in the new earth.

(LESSON 13)

- The new earth.

- 1** "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2).
- 2** "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Execute true justice, show mercy and compassion everyone to his brother'" (Zechariah 7:9).
- 3** "He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.' And they remembered His words. Then they returned from the tomb and told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest" (Luke 24:6-9).
- 4** "As His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue" (2 Peter 1:3).
- 5** "Jesus said to him, 'Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed'" (John 20:29).
- 6** "Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband" (Revelation 21:1, 2).
- 7** "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also" (John 14:1-3).
- 8** "But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people" (Jeremiah 31:33).
- 9** "My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world" (1 John 2:1, 2).
- 10** "And the Lord will deliver me from every evil work and preserve me for His heavenly kingdom. To Him be glory forever and ever. Amen!" (2 Timothy 4:18).
- 11** "And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God. They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying: 'Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints!'" (Revelation 15:2, 3).
- 12** "Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:9-11).
- 13** "And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, 'Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.' Then He who sat on the throne said, 'Behold, I make all things new.' And He said to me, 'Write, for these words are true and faithful'" (Revelation 21:3-5).



Staying Awake

Key References: Matthew 26:31-46; *The Desire of Ages*, chap. 74, pp. 685-697; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 9, pp. 73-77; *Our Beliefs*, nos. 7, 12, 14.



powertext

"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2).

Have you ever been on a long car trip and wanted to stay awake to help the person driving not get sleepy? If you had a hard time staying awake, then perhaps you understand the experience of Jesus' disciples when He needed them most.



Jesus' love leads us to support one another in times of need.

The 12 friends of Jesus walked quietly, listening carefully to the Master's words. "All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night," He said with sorrow in His voice.

The disciples were taken by surprise by Jesus' affirmation. This group had been friends now for more than three years. They had shared incredible, life-changing experiences. Surely they would be loyal to their Master.

Jesus continued talking: "For it is written: 'I will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' But after I have been raised, I will go before you to Galilee."

Peter could not keep silent. "Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble," he declared.

Jesus looked at Peter sadly. "Assuredly, I say to you that this night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times."

Peter protested. "Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!" (Matthew 26:31-35). The rest of the disciples supported this affirmation. Along with Peter, all the disciples thought themselves loyal friends to Jesus.

Jesus was leading the way to an olive grove named Gethsemane. At the edge of the grove Jesus paused. "Sit here while I go and pray over there," He said. He called for Peter, James, and John to go along with Him. He explained to them: "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me" (Matthew 26:36, 38). Then Jesus walked a little farther ahead. He fell down to the ground and began to pray.

1

Sunday

READ Read Matthew 26:29-46 and this week's story, "Staying Awake."

LIST Make a list of friends and classmates who are going through difficult times. Set aside time daily this week to pray for them. Plan to support them as you can.

LEARN Begin to learn the power text, Galatians 6:2.

PRAY Ask Jesus to enable you to watch and pray.

Monday

READ Read Acts 20:35.

CREATE From aluminum foil, a wire hanger, or paper and glue, make something that represents a burden or a worry. Place this object in your room, where it will remind you to be more caring for the needs of others.

DO What did you plan on doing for a friend or classmate this week? Do it.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Pray that you may meet someone else's needs.

Tuesday

READ Read Matthew 26:41.

WRITE In your Bible study journal,* write what it means to you to be watchful?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Pray for specific people who are hurting. Ask God for the courage and wisdom to reach out to them.

*NOTE: Your Bible study journal is found at the back of your *PowerPoints* Bible study guide. If you need additional space, use a notebook or open a special file on your computer. Writing out your thoughts and ideas every time you study the Bible helps you gain a deeper understanding of God's Word.

It was as if time stood still for Jesus. The time that would determine the future of the human race was near.

Because in the beginning Adam and Eve yielded to Satan's temptation the whole world became enslaved to Satan's dominion. But in His great mercy God devised the plan of salvation even before the creation of our world. Jesus, the Son of God, had accepted to be our substitute to save us if the human race should ever fall into sin. This was why Jesus came into our world.

He knew that to satisfy the requirements of God's law and save each believer from the penalty of sin He would have to sacrifice His own life: "According to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission. . . .

"... So Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation" (Hebrews 9:22, 28).

God is "of purer eyes than to behold evil" (Habakkuk 1:13). Because Jesus identified Himself with sinful humanity in order to save us, He felt the terrible weight of God's condemnation of sin. The devil tried to deter Jesus from His mission, suggesting that if Jesus became a substitute to save sinners, He would be eternally separated from His heavenly Father.

As Jesus could not feel the reassuring presence of His Father's glory, the terrible anguish was crushing His soul. He cried out in despair, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will" (Matthew 26:39).

In those moments of distress Jesus longed for words of comfort and encouragement from His friends. But He found Peter, James, and John sleeping. His disciples' indifference filled Jesus with deep sorrow. He asked them, "What! Could you not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The

spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak" (verses 40, 41).

Peter, James, and John awoke briefly from their slumber. Jesus returned to His place of prayer and pleaded in anguish. The destiny of the whole world was in the balance. Would Jesus drink the cup of suffering and humiliation? Would He,



Wednesday

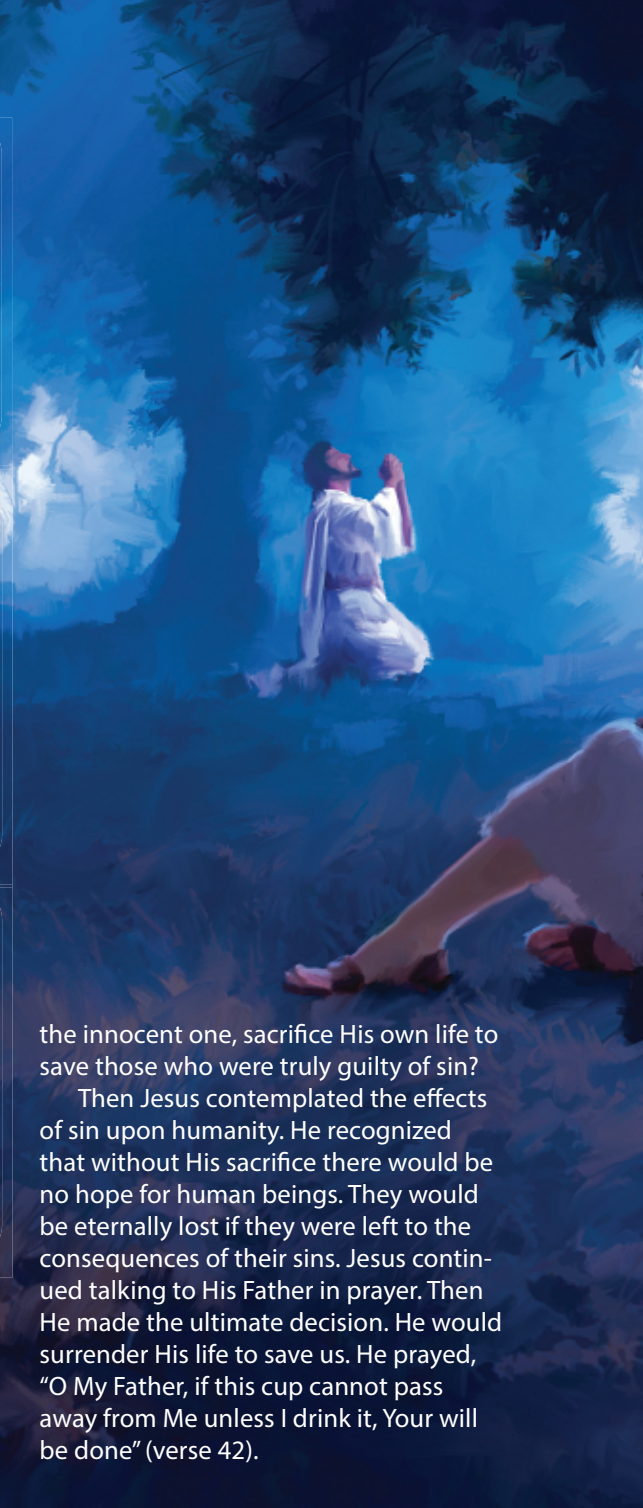
- READ** Read 1 John 3:18.
- LIST** Create a list of service organizations.
- DO** Talk to your parents about community service projects in which you can participate. Contact a community service organization and ask how you can help.
- REVIEW** Review the power text.
- PRAY** Ask Jesus for direction that you may know what is the right service project for you.

Thursday

- READ** Read Galatians 6:10.
- SING** Look in a songbook or hymnal to find a song that talks about the family of God and how we should care for one another. Sing the song.
- THINK** What do the lyrics of the song mean to you?
- ASK** Ask an adult about a time they helped someone or someone supported them in a time of need.
- REVIEW** Review the power text.
- PRAY** Thank God for people who have supported or encouraged you in the past.

Friday

- READ** Read Ecclesiastes 4:10.
- ACT** Act out the Bible story with your family for worship.
- REPEAT** Repeat the power text by memory.
- THINK** Have you seen someone fall lately? How can you help someone who is hurting?
- PRAY** Ask for forgiveness for letting someone down. Ask the Holy Spirit to continue to prompt you to watch and pray.



the innocent one, sacrifice His own life to save those who were truly guilty of sin?

Then Jesus contemplated the effects of sin upon humanity. He recognized that without His sacrifice there would be no hope for human beings. They would be eternally lost if they were left to the consequences of their sins. Jesus continued talking to His Father in prayer. Then He made the ultimate decision. He would surrender His life to save us. He prayed, "O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done" (verse 42).



If only the disciples had watched and prayed for their Master. Jesus longed for comfort. He staggered back to his disciples three times and found them sleeping each time. His best friends on earth couldn't stay awake when He needed them most.

The Father did not leave His Son alone in His hour of trial. He sent an angel from heaven to comfort Jesus and give Him strength for what was ahead. The angel assured Jesus that by sacrificing His life for sinful humanity, a

multitude of believers who would accept His sacrifice would be saved and inherit eternal life. Isaiah with prophetic insight recorded about Jesus: "He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied" (Isaiah 53:11). Jesus was ready for the ultimate sacrifice. He would pour out His life to save you and me. What amazing evidence of God's infinite love for us!

HELPING HANDS

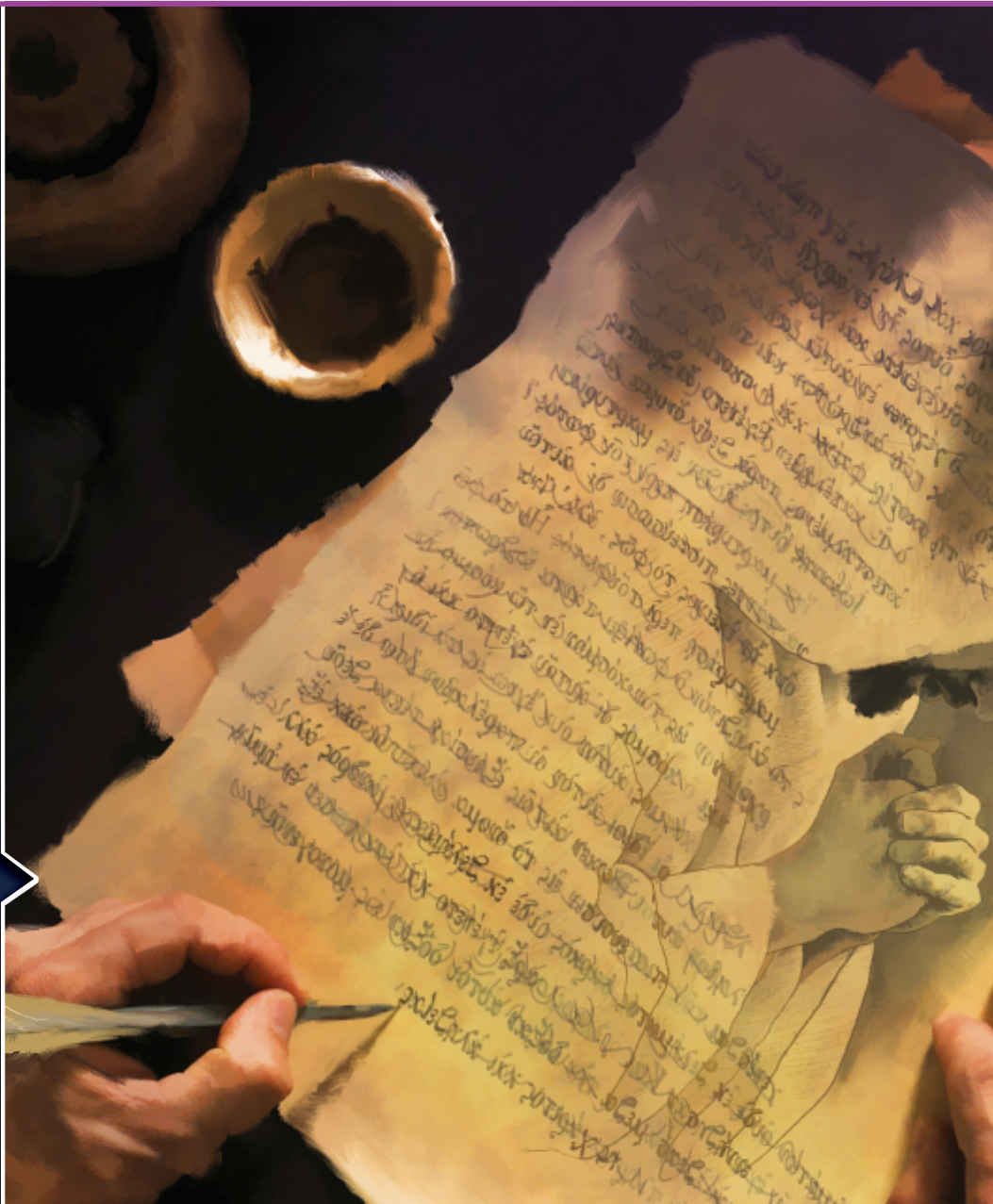
Instructions: Can you unscramble each word below to reveal a Bible verse that teaches us to be loyal to our brothers and sisters in Christ?

" _____ ' _____ ,
 "RAEB NEO SNERHOAT SBRENUD,

 DAN OS LIFFLUL HET WAL
 _____ ."
 FO SHRICT."

Through Thick and Thin

Key References: Luke 23:26-56; Matthew 27:45-56; *The Desire of Ages*, chap. 78, pp. 741-764; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 9, pp. 105-109; *Our Beliefs*, nos. 9, 14, 12.



powertext

"Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Execute true justice, show mercy and compassion everyone to his brother'" (Zechariah 7:9).

Is it possible to trust God so much that you can forget about your troubles and show love and compassion to another person?

The story of Jesus being led to His crucifixion is one of trust in God. Jesus had studied the prophecies and He knew He would sacrifice His life to save humanity. Yet He trusted God to guide His life. Even though the immediate circumstances were frightening and agonizing, His trust in God allowed Him to go meekly to the cross, as a lamb. Prophet Isaiah described this beautifully: "He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth" (Isaiah 53:7).

Jesus trusted in His Father even when arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane. Thoughtful of His disciples' welfare, He asked for their freedom. Even though He had secured their freedom, His disciples ran away, trying to escape. They left their Master at a time He needed them most. Then Peter, one of His disciples, denied Him.

Jesus' trust in God did not waver even when He was being insulted, mocked, falsely accused, and twice tortured by the scourge whip!

After the second whipping, the cross was put upon Him. He had not taken any food or drink since the Passover meal with His disciples. In addition, the scourging had drained Him of His energy. Being too weak to lift up the cross, Jesus fell. Again the cross was placed upon Him, and again He fell under its weight. Still, Jesus continued to trust His Father.

The crowd that followed and watched as Jesus fell, bleeding and



Like Jesus, we can care for others even when we face difficulties.

Sunday

READ Read Luke 23:26-43 and this week's story, "Through Thick and Thin."

LEARN Begin to learn the power text, Zechariah 7:9.

THINK How would you feel if one of your close friends were dying? How would you reach out to that person?

PRAY Thank Jesus for being willing to suffer for us.

Monday

READ Read Luke 23:44-49.

THINK Why did Jesus accept the path of suffering and humiliation that led to His sacrificial death on the cross?

PLAN Plan ways to encourage someone this week.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God for ideas of how you can reach out and encourage someone today.

Tuesday

READ Read Matthew 27:45-56.

SING Sing the hymn "The Old Rugged Cross" at worship.

THINK What did people recognize when they saw the unusual things taking place in nature when Jesus died?

REVIEW Review the power text.

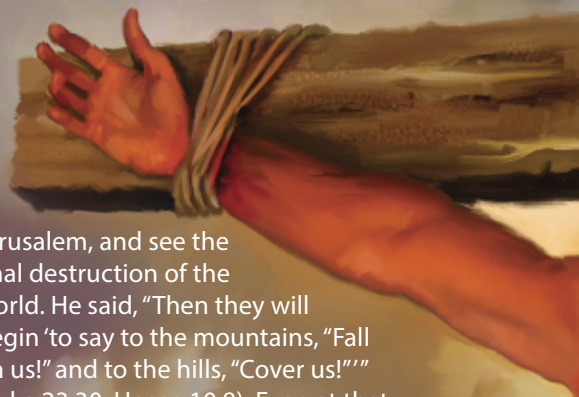
PRAY Thank God for the people who are close to us when we are going through difficult times.

in terrible pain, showed no compassion. They yelled and taunted Him, saying "Make way for the King of the Jews!"

A Cyrenian man by the name of Simon saw what was happening and stopped in astonishment. Seeing his compassion, the soldiers grabbed him and forced him to carry the cross for Jesus.

Women in the crowd who had seen Jesus fall under the weight of the cross began to wail and cry loudly. Though they were expressing pity for Him, Jesus knew they did not believe in Him as the Son of God. Desiring to lead them to the Father, He took one last opportunity to warn them of the coming destruction of Jerusalem: "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children" (Luke 23:28).

Jesus was able to look past the moment of torture, past the coming destruction of



Jerusalem, and see the final destruction of the world. He said, "Then they will begin 'to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us!' and to the hills, 'Cover us!'" (Luke 23:30; Hosea 10:8). Even at that trying time, right before His death, Jesus reached out in love and warning, "not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9).

Even on the cross, as the nails were piercing His hands and feet, Jesus thought of His persecutors. He did not protest; He



Wednesday

READ Read Matthew 27:37; Mark 15:26; Luke 23:38; and John 19:19.

THINK What is the significance of the sign that was placed at the top of Jesus' cross?

ASK Ask an adult to share about a time someone who was hurting cared for others.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank God for friends who reach out to you. Ask God to help you reach out to those who hurt.

Thursday

READ Read Luke 23:50-56.

THINK What risks did Joseph of Arimathea take in asking for the body of Jesus?

DO Do what you planned on Monday to comfort or encourage someone this week.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God for wisdom to carry out your plan.

Friday

READ Read 2 Corinthians 1:3, 4.

ACT Act out the Bible story for family worship.

SAY Repeat the power text by memory.

THINK Do you think the thief on the cross knew about Jesus beforehand, or believed in Him because of His conduct while being crucified?

PRAY Ask Jesus to give you the strength to do His will even when you are in distress.

desired no vengeance. Instead, He pitied them for the consequences that would result from their rejection of Him. He prayed, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do" (Luke 23:34). What a magnificent evidence of the depth of Jesus' care, love, and forgiveness for those who tortured Him. Jesus not only taught but showed in the deepest sense what it means to love our enemies. In that He is our supreme example.

Crucified with Him were two thieves, one on each side. Both heard the scorn and ridicule of the priests. Both heard Jesus pray forgiveness for His persecutors. Both witnessed His peaceful submission to unjust torture. As one thief joined in taunting Jesus, the other was convicted that Jesus was the Son of God. With him Jesus shared words of forgiveness, promise, and hope: "Assuredly, I say to you today . . . you will be with Me in Paradise" (Luke 23:43).

Finally, Jesus looked down at His heartbroken mother. In His dying hour He committed her to the care of His trusted disciple, John. What a remarkable evidence of filial love!

Jesus is our perfect example. Even in His hour of dying, He was still pleading for forgiveness for others; still lovingly offering salvation to a sorrowing thief; still ministering to those needing care. Wouldn't it be wonderful if every Christian followed the example of Jesus? "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 2:5).



BE LIKE ONESIMUS, THE "USEFUL ONE."

Instructions: Below is a list of names (with their meanings) with the first letter missing from each name. Reading down, the first letters spell out a Bible verse that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters in Christ. Can you find the Bible verse? This verse is from the King James Version.

___imothy, one who knows God

___osea, salvation

___uth, friendship

___rpah, fawn

___riah, God is my light

___abriel, God is my strength

___annah, graciousness

___eah, cow

___bed, worshipper, servant

___ashni, the second

___phraim, fruitful; increasing

___eth, appointed, substituted

___lijah, the Lord is my God

___hoda, a rose

___ashti, the desired one

___sther, star

___badiah, servant of the Lord

___athan, God has given

___noch, dedicated; disciplined

___dam, earthy; red

___ehemiah, God is consolation

___nesimus, profitable; useful

___homas, a twin

___ezekiah, Salvation

___sau, hairy

___achel, ewe

" _____
 _____."

3

Surprise at Sunrise

Key References: Luke 24:1-12; John 20:1-9; Mark 16:1-8; *The Desire of Ages*, chaps. 80-82, pp. 769-794; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 9, pp. 151-155; *Our Beliefs*, nos. 11, 9, 14.



powertext

"He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.' And they remembered His words. Then they returned from the tomb and told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest" (Luke 24:6-9).

Sabbath

Do the activity on page 32.



We can share our hope for eternal life because of Jesus' resurrection.

Have you ever cried yourself to sleep, only to wake up in the morning filled with hope?

In the closing events of the Crucifixion day, darkness wrapped around the cross where Jesus hung. The priests and mob stopped mocking Jesus. They heard Him cry, "It is finished!" (John 19:30). They heard a Roman centurion say, "Truly this was the Son of God!" (Matthew 27:54). Many in the crowd felt guilty of a great wrong, and the disciples saw their fondest hopes vanish.

"As the last rays of the setting sun ushered in the Sabbath, the Son of God lay in quietude in Joseph's tomb. His work completed, His hands folded in peace, He rested through the sacred hours of the Sabbath day" (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 769).

Just as the Creator of the universe, the Son of God, rested on the seventh day of the Creation week, so Jesus rested in the tomb on the Sabbath after He accomplished our salvation. In Jesus resides our hope for the future. He is our Creator, Redeemer, and soon-coming King. He conquered sin and death and purchased us with His own life. Thanks to Jesus, we are adopted into God's family and restored into His image.

During the Sabbath hours many sleepless eyes searched the prophecies. Some of the seekers wanted to understand the meaning of Passover fully. Others were seeking to find evidence that Jesus was not the Messiah. But there were earnest believers who sought to find comfort in the prophetic writings indicating that Jesus was truly the Messiah. Their searching convinced them all: prophecy had been fulfilled; the crucified Jesus was the Son of God.

Sunday

READ Read Luke 24:1-12 and this week's story, "Surprise at Sunrise."

LEARN Begin to learn the power text.

THINK Why is Jesus' resurrection meaningful to you?

DO Remember to share with someone the good news of Jesus' resurrection.

PRAY Ask Jesus to help you share the good news of His resurrection with others this week.

Monday

READ Read Matthew 5:15.

FIND Place a candle in your room to remind you of your light shining to others. How is your light shining?

THINK The two men in gleaming clothes reminded the women of Jesus' words. Who can help us remember what Jesus tells us (John 14:26)?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God to help you reflect Jesus' light to others.

Tuesday

READ Read John 14:26.

PLANT Near a window, fill a small container with soil. Plant and water some flower seeds in it. As the seeds start growing, think of the new life we have in Jesus.

SING Find a song about Jesus' resurrection in a songbook or hymnal. Sing or play it on a musical instrument.

DO This week tell someone that Jesus loves them.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Pray for courage to tell someone about Jesus' love and the gift of eternal life He offers to us by grace.

Like never before, people's attention was drawn to Jesus who was now resting in the tomb. This was the Passover weekend! Thousands of Jews were in Jerusalem. The people brought their sick and suffering ones to the Temple courts and were seeking Jesus, the Healer. But instead of the welcoming presence of Jesus, the crowds who were looking for Him were driven out of the Temple.

News spread everywhere about the trial, crucifixion, and death of Jesus. People earnestly searched the Holy Scriptures and inquired from the priests. The religious leaders of the time could

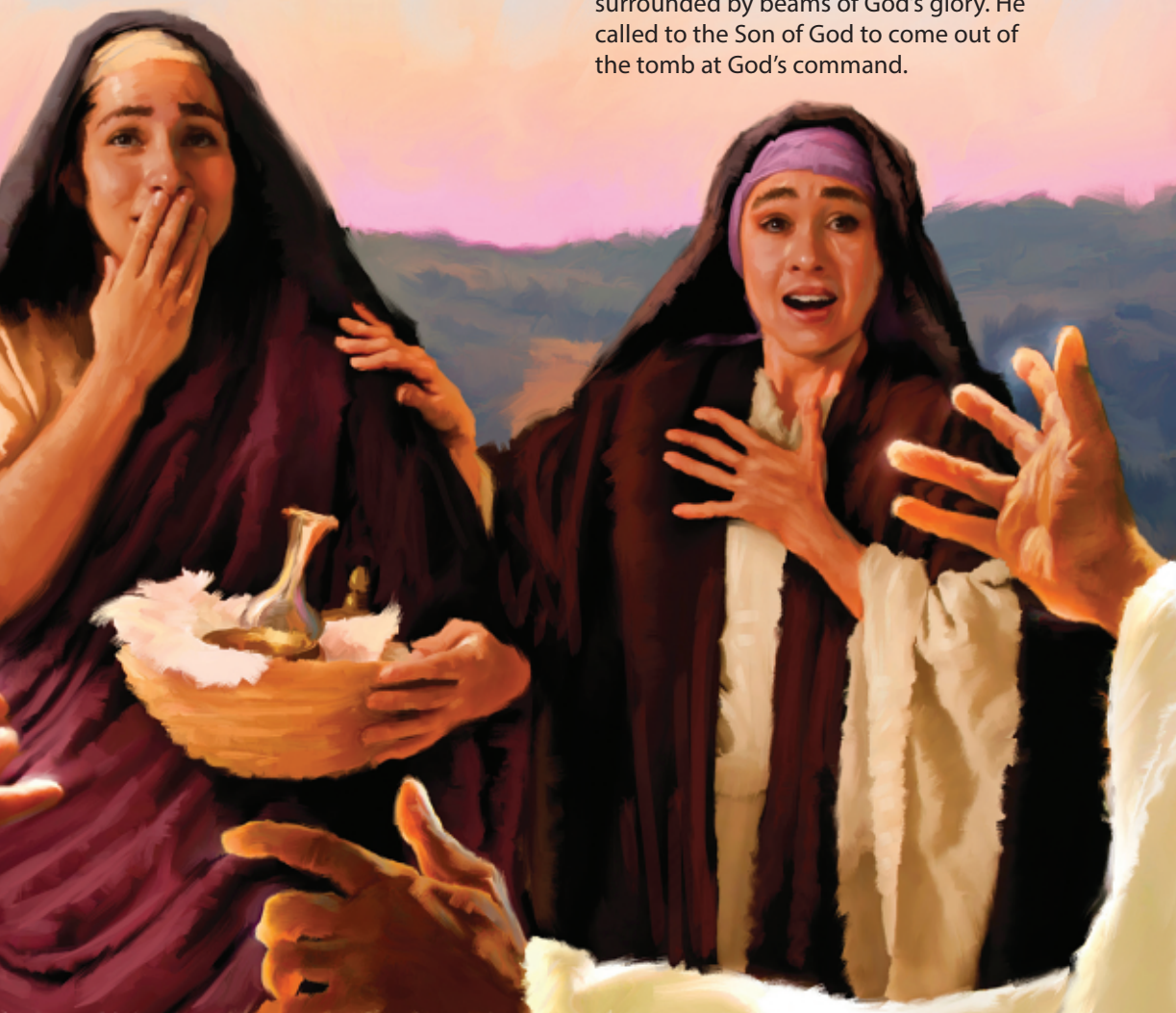


not explain the prophecies about the Messiah that pointed to His suffering and death. Many sincere seekers after the truth were convinced that indeed Jesus fulfilled the prophecies concerning the suffering and death of the Promised One.

The priests feared that Jesus would rise from the dead, just as He said He would, as the prophecies foretold. Pilate allowed them to place a guard of 100 sol-

diers at the tomb of Jesus. A large stone was rolled to the entrance of the tomb. Strong cords were attached to the stone to secure it in place. Then the stone was sealed with the Roman seal. Every effort was made to ensure that Jesus would remain in the tomb.

However, on the first day of the week, just before daybreak, there was an earthquake. An angel was sent from heaven surrounded by beams of God's glory. He called to the Son of God to come out of the tomb at God's command.



Wednesday

READ Read Luke 24:9-12.

DO Hold in your hand a stone and let it remind you of the Resurrection morning when the stone was rolled away and Mary Magdalene found the tomb empty.

DRAW Draw a picture of the disciples' faces when the women told them of the empty tomb.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Praise God for Jesus' resurrection.

Thursday

READ Read Psalm 22:22.

CREATE Design a bookmark of praise that you can share with family and friends. You may wish to quote something from the Bible or write a message of your very own. Make several to share.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Praise Jesus for His love and gift of eternal life.

Friday

READ Read Mark 5:19.

ACT Act out the Bible story with your family for worship.

SAY Say the power text from memory.

SHARE In family worship, share with one another your experiences of God's goodness, care, and blessing.

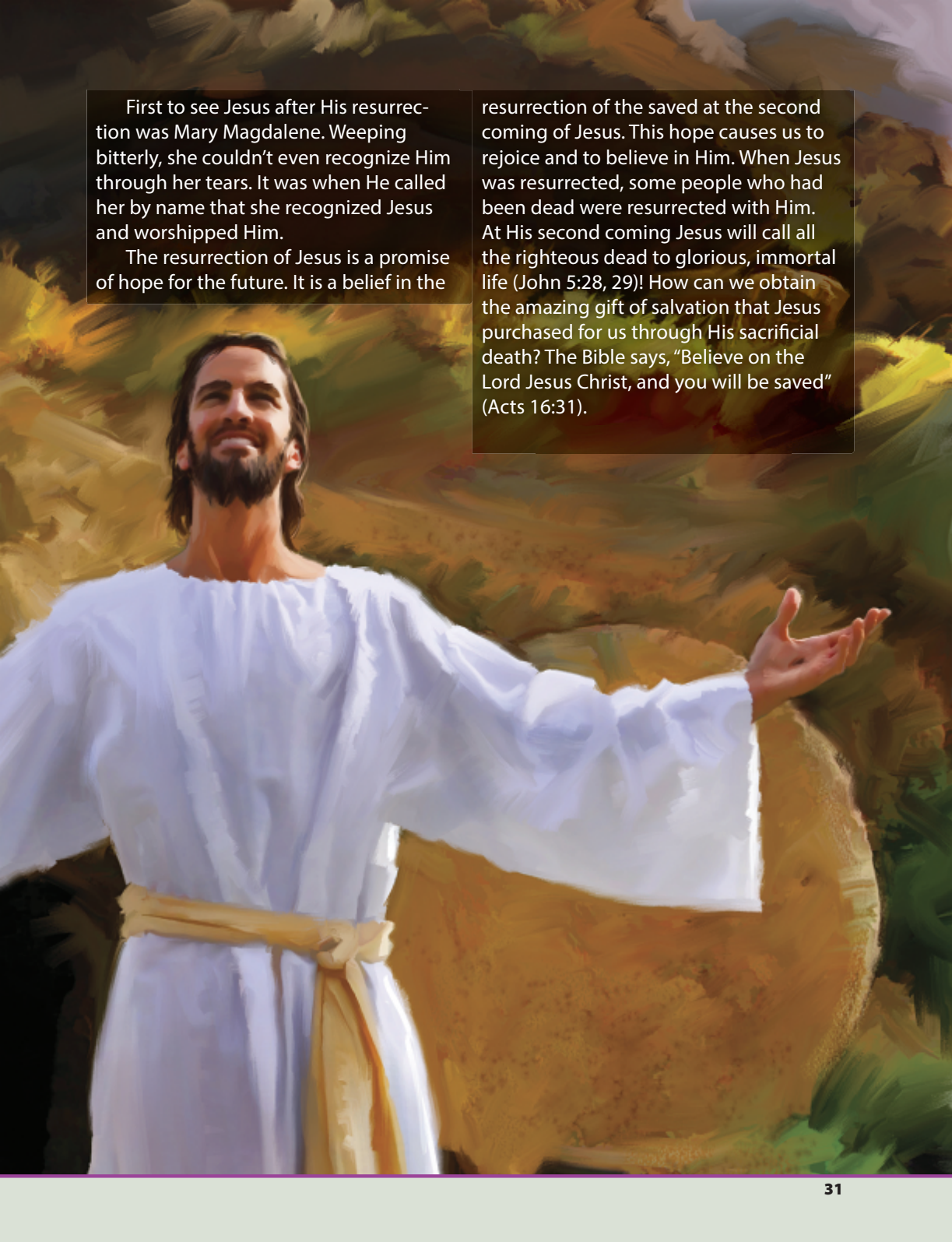
PRAY Thank Jesus for all He has done for you.

Death could not hold Jesus captive, because He never sinned. He is the resurrection and the life. As the stone was rolled away, Jesus, the Prince of the universe, arose and came out of the tomb. The hosts of angels that surrounded the tomb bowed low and adored their King.

The soldiers who had witnessed the glorious scene fainted. As heavenly glory faded, the soldiers hurried into the city, spreading the news to the people. The priests and elders gave large amounts of money to the soldiers telling them to say that Jesus' disciples stole Him away while the guards slept (Matthew 28:12, 13). But the truth could not be silenced. In fact, certain of the dead who were resurrected with Christ were seen by others and declared that He had risen (Isaiah 26:19).

Early on that Sunday morning women who had followed Jesus went to the

tomb. An angel greeted them and told them that Jesus had risen! After hearing the women's report, John ran to the tomb and also saw that it was empty. He believed that his Savior had risen (John 20:8).



First to see Jesus after His resurrection was Mary Magdalene. Weeping bitterly, she couldn't even recognize Him through her tears. It was when He called her by name that she recognized Jesus and worshipped Him.

The resurrection of Jesus is a promise of hope for the future. It is a belief in the

resurrection of the saved at the second coming of Jesus. This hope causes us to rejoice and to believe in Him. When Jesus was resurrected, some people who had been dead were resurrected with Him. At His second coming Jesus will call all the righteous dead to glorious, immortal life (John 5:28, 29)! How can we obtain the amazing gift of salvation that Jesus purchased for us through His sacrificial death? The Bible says, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31).

CAN YOU FOLLOW DIRECTIONS?

Instructions: Start with the phrase "Hot fat feet sew rings!" and follow the directions to end up with a Bible verse about good news bearers.

Beginning phrase

Hot fat feet sew rings!

Add "wbeau" after the first "o"

Add "i" after the first "t"

Add "ul" after the first "f"

Add "re" after the "a"

Add "he" after the second "t"

Add "oftho" after the word "feet"

Add "hob" after the "w"

Add "glad" after the "g"

Add "tiding" after the "d"

Rearrange the spaces

Write out the text: " _____

_____ ... _____"

Risen Man Breaks Bread

Key References: Luke 24:13-35; *The Desire of Ages*, chap. 83, pp. 795-801; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 9, pp. 156-164; *Our Beliefs*, nos. 1, 9, 5.



powertext

"As His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue" (2 Peter 1:3).



Jesus showed us how to share Him with others.

When hope combines with faith, you can't help getting excited and telling others!

What a heartbreaking weekend the followers of Jesus experienced! Jesus was arrested, tried, condemned and put to death. A few women had seen angels; Mary Magdalene said she saw Jesus Himself! John believed.

It was too much to understand all at once.

On the day of resurrection, two followers of Jesus left Jerusalem toward evening to return to their homes in Emmaus. This little town was located eight miles away from Jerusalem. As they walked, a stranger joined them, but they were completely focused on their sadness and disappointment. The subject that absorbed all of their attention was the event that had taken place over the weekend.

As we read this story in Luke 24:13-33, we know that the stranger who joined them was Jesus. We are amazed that they couldn't recognize Him! These two disciples were so focused on what had gone wrong that they failed to see that the person walking right beside them was their Lord! As they walked, Jesus longed to comfort these sorrowful disciples. He wished to help them understand the Scriptures that were fulfilled that weekend.

At the beginning of His ministry, Jesus had proclaimed: "The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted" (Luke 4:18). Indeed, these two disciples were brokenhearted.

Jesus asked them, "What kind of conversation is this that you have with one another as you walk and are sad?" (Luke 24:17).

So they told Him about their Master: "Jesus of Nazareth," they began explaining, "was a Prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people. . . . The chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to be condemned to death, and crucified Him." With hearts sore and with quivering lips they added, "But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, today is the third day since these things happened" (verses 19-21).

READ Read Luke 24:13, 14 and this week's story, "Risen Man Breaks Bread."

LEARN Memorize the power text, then rewrite it in your own words.

PRAY Thank God for one thing you learned about Him.

READ Read Luke 24:15, 16.

DESCRIBE Describe through words or illustrations in your Bible study journal what these two disciples might have talked about as they walked home.

THINK Why did Jesus not reveal who He was as He walked with the two disciples to Emmaus?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Pray that you will treat others with respect.

READ Read Luke 24:17-24.

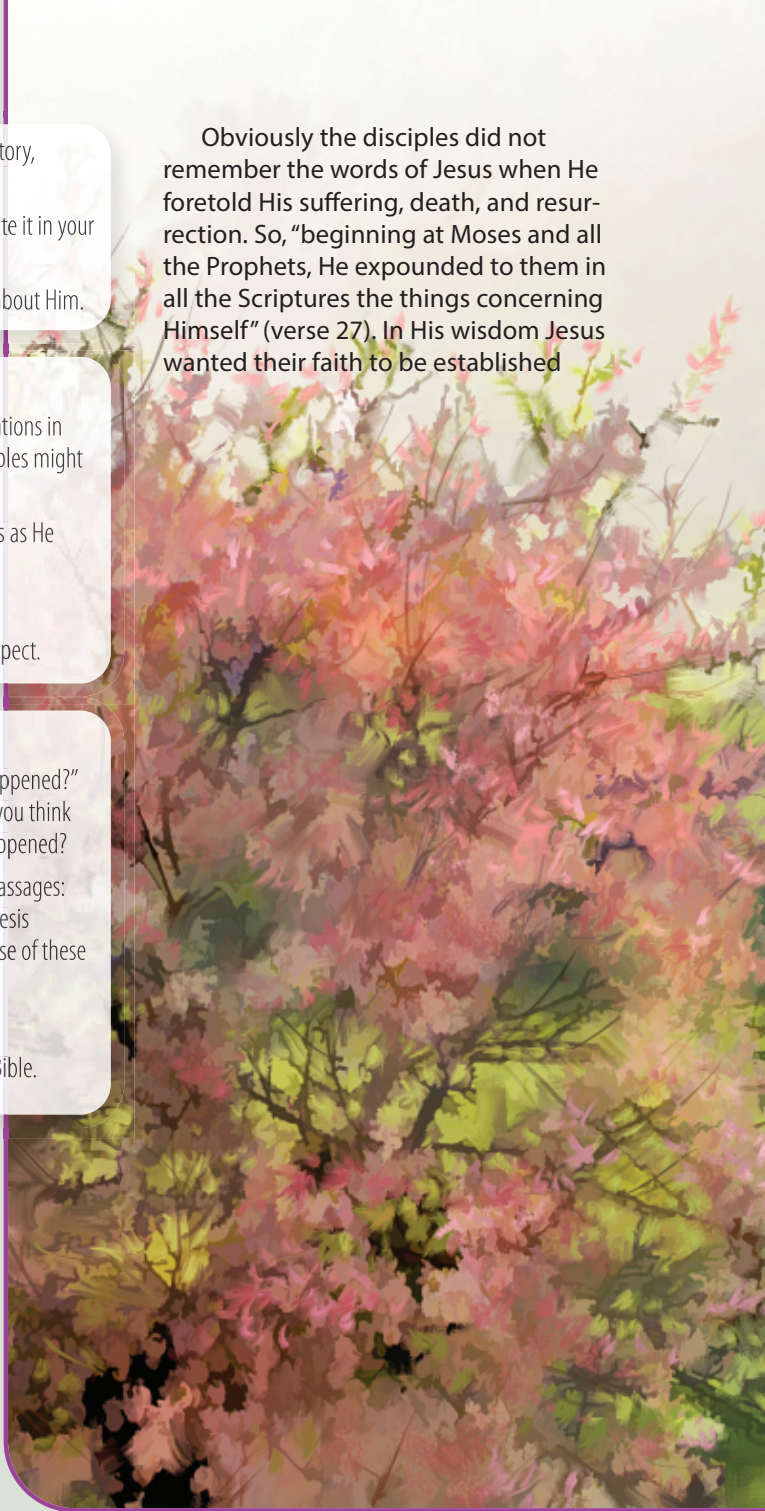
THINK Has anyone ever asked you "What happened?" when you knew they already knew? Why do you think Jesus pretended He didn't know what had happened?

SEARCH Find and read the following Bible passages: Genesis 3:9; Genesis 4:9; Genesis 16:7, 8; Genesis 18:1-15; 1 Kings 19:1-9. What was the purpose of these questions?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Pray for a clear understanding of the Bible.

Obviously the disciples did not remember the words of Jesus when He foretold His suffering, death, and resurrection. So, "beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself" (verse 27). In His wisdom Jesus wanted their faith to be established



upon the Scriptures, so He purposefully taught them the importance of the Old Testament as a witness to Him and His mission. Jesus performed no miracle here. He simply revealed the Savior through the Old Testament prophecies as clearly as we now see them fulfilled in Jesus throughout the New Testament.

Jesus showed how their expectation of a Messiah who would be an earthly king was not in harmony with the teaching of the Holy Scriptures. He explained to them that the Messiah had to die to redeem repenting sinners from their sins. Through His example, Jesus instilled

in His disciples the desire to search the Scriptures and share the good news about their risen Savior.

As the two disciples neared their home, they invited Jesus to stay and have supper with them. "Abide with us," they said, "for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent" (verse 29). Jesus accepted their invitation. As they were getting ready to share a simple meal, the guest raised His hands to bless the food. To the disciples' amazement, He blessed the food in the same way as they had seen Jesus do. Suddenly they saw His



Wednesday

READ Read Luke 24:25–27.

THINK If someone asked you, how would you explain from the Bible the prophecies concerning the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus?

DO Create an acrostic for the “Holy Spirit.”

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask the Holy Spirit to teach you about Jesus.

Thursday

READ Read Luke 24:28–32.

THINK Why do you think the disciples urged Jesus to stay for supper? What caused them to recognize Him?

REVIEW Review the power text.

APPLY In your Bible study journal, list several ways you could invite people into your circle of friends.

PRAY Ask God to give you opportunities to show His lovingkindness to others.

Friday

READ Read Luke 24:33–35.

REACT What would be your response to Jesus if He accepted the invitation to share a meal with you?

THINK When you hear really good news, with whom do you want to share?

SHARE Tell at least one person about Jesus today.

REPEAT Say the power text by memory.

PRAY Ask Jesus to help you share with enthusiasm the good news about His love.



nail-pierced hands. But as they fell down at His feet to worship Him, Jesus disappeared from their sight.

Looking with astonishment at the place that Jesus had occupied at the table, they exclaimed, “Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?” (verse 32).

With hearts on fire and full of excitement, they left the meal and started back for Jerusalem! They had to share this experience with the disciples still in Jerusalem! No more sadness! No more gloomy thoughts! No more disappointment! No more crying! Jesus had risen! It is the greatest message ever given—a message of hope for the entire world!

We can learn a lot from the story of Cleopas and his fellow believer. Jesus wants us to learn to keep our focus on Him. As we keep our eyes on Jesus, He will wipe away every tear. As we contemplate Him daily and place our trust in Him, He will fill us with joy and gladness. Then, with hope and faith renewed, we will want to tell others the good news about Jesus!



ALL WE NEED

Remove the word “love” every time you see it in the Bible verse below, and you will discover what God gives us to do His will.

“AlovendloveGolovedloveilovesloveablovelelovetolovemalovekelove
alloveigrloveaceloveabloveoundlovetolovewarlovedyloveoullovethlove
atloveyoloveuloveallovewaloveyslovehavloveloveingloveallovealllove
suloveefficloveiencyloveinlovealllovethloveingslovemaloveylovehalove
veloveanloveabunlovedancelovefoloverloveevloveerylovegolove
odlovewoloverklove”(2loveColoverinlovethilloveanslove
love9:love8love).

5

Believing Is Seeing

Key References: John 20:24-31; *The Desire of Ages*, chap. 84, pp. 806-808; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 9, pp. 165-169; *Our Beliefs*, nos. 10, 9, 7.



powertext

"Jesus said to him, 'Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed'" (John 20:29).

powerpoint



Our faith in Jesus is a witness to those around us.

Remember Cleopas and his friend who met Jesus on the road to Emmaus? Remember how excited they were to hear Him explain all the Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah?

As Cleopas and his friend entered the room that night in Jerusalem, they were so excited! They had much to share! Not only had they seen and spoken with their risen Lord Jesus, but He had helped them understand the entire Old Testament during one visit!

The other disciples were excited to share that "the Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon [Peter]!" (Luke 24:34). As they shared their experiences with amazement, suddenly they saw another Person standing before them.

They recognized their Master's voice as He said to them, "Peace to you" (Luke 24:36). He showed them His hands and side, the clear marks of His crucifixion. Then He asked for food.

The followers of Jesus watched Him eat; they listened to Him speak. Gradually their faith was restored and great joy took the place of doubting. With indescribable joy they welcomed their risen Savior.

As Jesus revealed Himself to His disciples, He brought back to their memory all that He had made known to them before His death. They finally understood that all things that were written in the books by Moses, in the prophets, and in the Psalms concerning the promised Messiah had to be fulfilled. What a wonderful Bible study that must have been! Learning how the prophecies about the Messiah found fulfillment in Jesus.

Yet one disciple was not in the room with the others when Jesus first met with them in the upper chamber. Thomas heard the reports of the others, and he received plenty of proof that Jesus had risen and met with his fellow disciples. As he heard the disciples share their experiences, he did not share their joy and excitement. He complained that Jesus had appeared to others, but not to him; Jesus had spoken to others, he murmured, but not to him. Thomas failed to believe that Jesus had risen from the dead, and, as a result, he missed

Sunday

READ Read John 20:24-31 and this week's story, "Believing Is Seeing."

LEARN Begin to learn the power text.

THINK What Bible promises helped you overcome your fears or doubts? What experiences built your faith in Jesus and helped you to trust Him always?

PRAY Ask God to help you experience His love.

Monday

READ Read Psalm 32:8.

THINK How have you experienced God instructing you and guiding you in the way you should go?

LEARN Find and read Bible verses that could help build your faith in God. Share the Bible promises you found with someone who is struggling with doubts.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God to help you strengthen someone's faith.

Tuesday

READ Read Psalm 78:52 and John 16:13.

ASK Ask someone to share experiences of God's leading. With an adult, discuss the role of the Holy Spirit in teaching and instructing us?

REVIEW Review the power text.

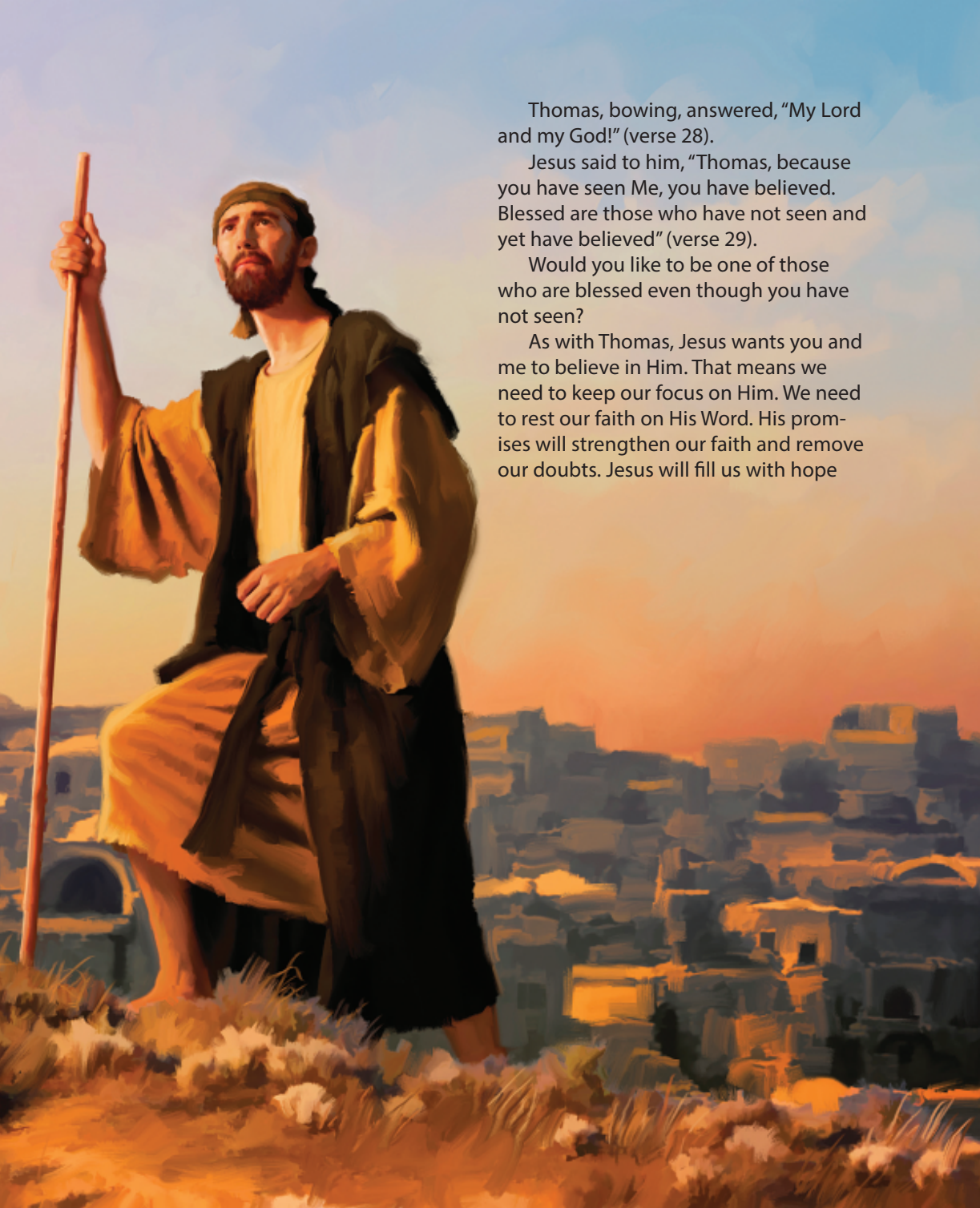
PRAY Ask God to help you see His leading in your life.

out on the blessing of recognizing Jesus as the Redeemer and Savior whose mission was to save everyone who would accept His sacrifice and believe in Him.

As Thomas brooded over his feelings of self-pity, he allowed doubt to control his mind. He repeatedly said, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe" (John 20:25). His attitude stood in stark contrast with the faith and joy exhibited by the rest of the disciples.

Then one evening, as Thomas met with the other disciples, Jesus came and stood among them. He said, "Peace to you," then turned to Thomas. "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing" (John 20:26, 27).





Thomas, bowing, answered, “My Lord and my God!” (verse 28).

Jesus said to him, “Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed” (verse 29).

Would you like to be one of those who are blessed even though you have not seen?

As with Thomas, Jesus wants you and me to believe in Him. That means we need to keep our focus on Him. We need to rest our faith on His Word. His promises will strengthen our faith and remove our doubts. Jesus will fill us with hope

Wednesday

READ Read Matthew 7:7-11.

WRITE Write in your Bible study journal something good that God has done for you. What does this tell you about how much God wants to help you?

SHARE Share with a friend one of the evidences that God cares for you.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank God for being involved in your life.

Thursday

READ Read Matthew 14:25-31.

THINK Think of stories from the Old Testament or New Testament about people who had doubts. Did they overcome their doubts? How?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRaise Sing a praise song about God's love and grace.

Friday

READ Read Proverbs 3:5, 6 at family worship.

DISCUSS Talk with your family about ways that God has helped your family experience His guidance.

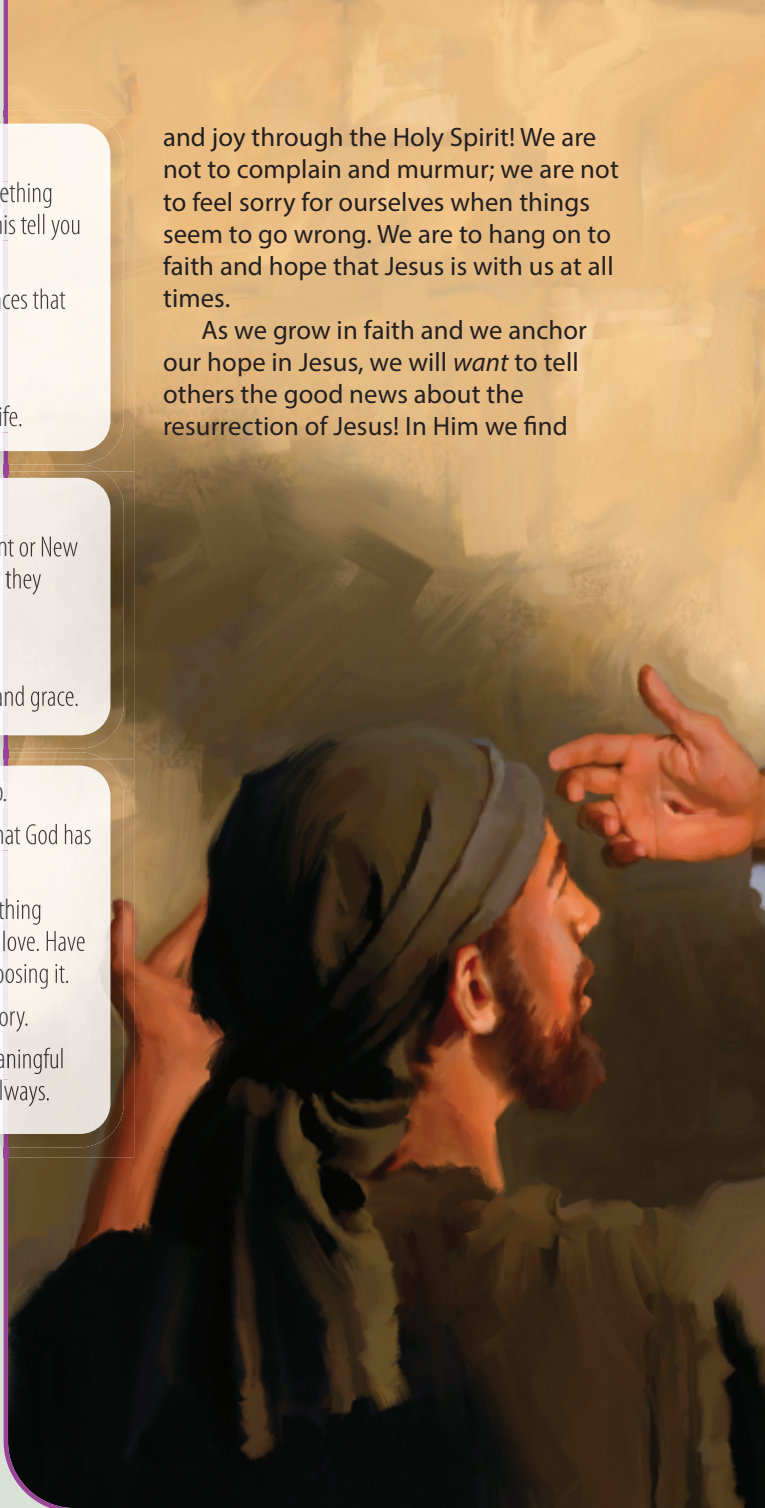
FIND Ask each family member to find something around the house that reminds them of God's love. Have each share their item and their reasons for choosing it.

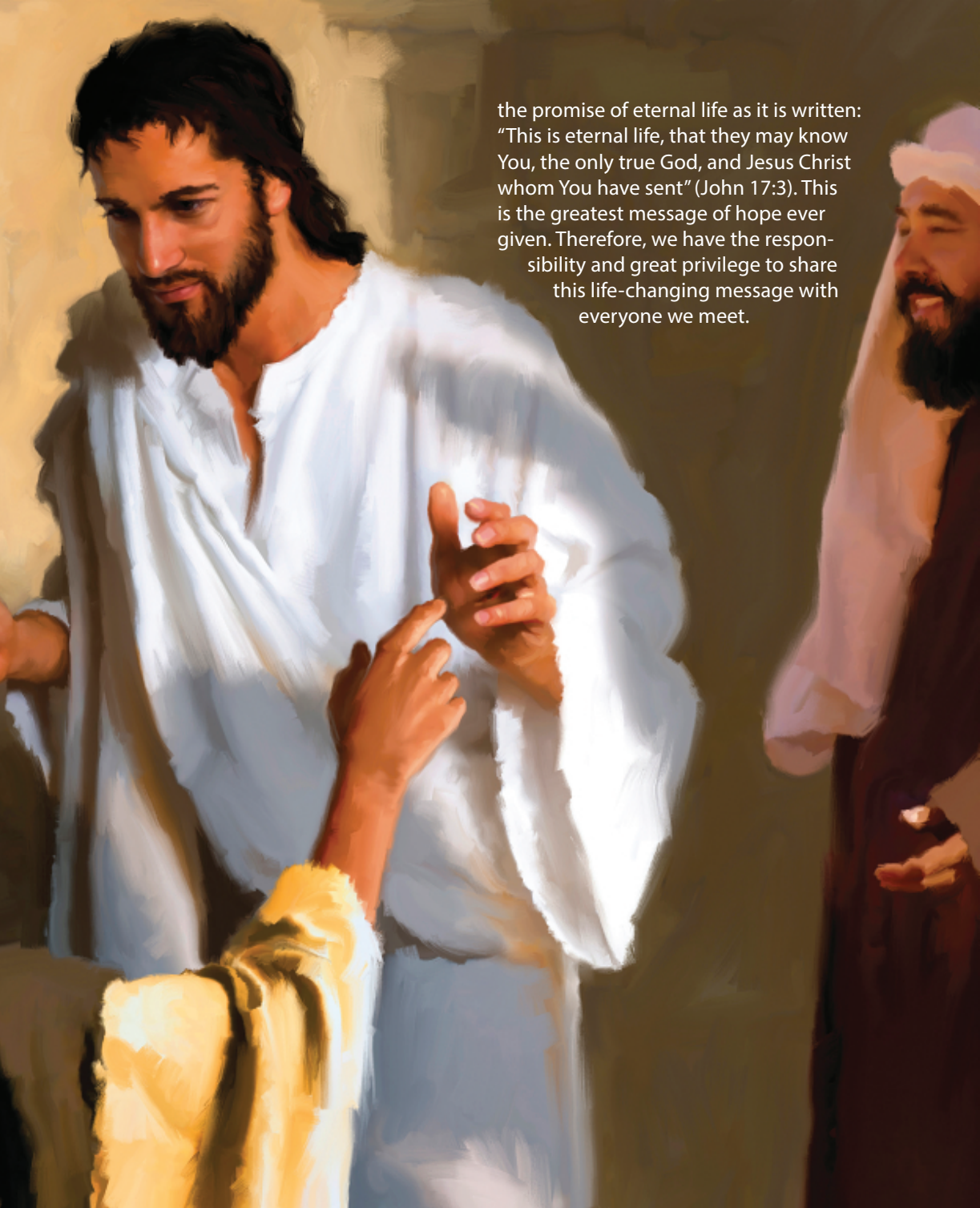
REPEAT Say the power text aloud from memory.

PRAY Thank God that He gives each one meaningful evidences of His love that we may trust Him always.

and joy through the Holy Spirit! We are not to complain and murmur; we are not to feel sorry for ourselves when things seem to go wrong. We are to hang on to faith and hope that Jesus is with us at all times.

As we grow in faith and we anchor our hope in Jesus, we will *want* to tell others the good news about the resurrection of Jesus! In Him we find





the promise of eternal life as it is written: "This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent" (John 17:3). This is the greatest message of hope ever given. Therefore, we have the responsibility and great privilege to share this life-changing message with everyone we meet.

TRUST JESUS

Imagine each strip on the right is placed on top of one of the strips of letters on the left in such a way that the letters would show through the light squares, or "windows," and spell a word. Words one to seven form a Bible verse about trusting Jesus. The example "JEOSUS" spells out "JESUS" when matched with the correct set of windows.

EXAMPLE

J	E	O	S	U	S
---	---	---	---	---	---



COLUMN 1

1	A	E	I	F	H	J
2	O	W	U	I	L	L
3	P	P	W	U	Q	T
4	K	V	T	M	L	Y
5	T	R	R	U	S	T
6	Y	I	N	M	S	B
7	Z	H	X	I	N	M

COLUMN 2

A						
B						
C						
D						
E						
F						
G						

6

The Gift of Heaven

Key References: Revelation 21; 22; *The Great Controversy*, chap. 42, pp. 662-678; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 10, pp. 167-175; *Our Beliefs*, nos. 28, 25, 18.



powertext

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

Sabbath

Do the activity on page 47.



Eternal life
is ours when
we accept God's
gift of grace.

"Oh, another dreary day. Nothing exciting is going to happen." When was the last time you felt like that? John the disciple probably did on the island of Patmos. But something exciting did happen one day—he saw a vision of heaven and the new earth! Imagine it.

It was the Sabbath day. John sat quietly, all alone on the rocky island of Patmos, where, as punishment for preaching the gospel and sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, he had been sent far away from everyone and everything. John was lonely. But he wasn't discouraged, for now he had all the time in the world to pray and worship God.

As John looked out over the rocky shore, suddenly a loud voice like a trumpet called out to him. "What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea" (Revelation 1:11).

John was startled. He turned quickly to see the source of the voice, and he saw seven golden lampstands. But what really caught his attention was the Person who was walking among the lampstands. It was a Man wearing a long white robe with a golden sash around His chest. He shone with a dazzling brightness, and His voice was like a thundering waterfall. *This must be Jesus*, John thought in awe.

Then Jesus, putting His hand on John's shoulder, spoke to him. "Do not be afraid," Jesus said. "I am the First and the Last. I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore" (verses 17, 18).

Sunday

READ Read Revelation 21:3-8 and this week's story, "The Gift of Heaven."

LEARN Begin to learn the power text.

CREATE Draw, paint, or write a description of the most beautiful bride and groom on their wedding day.

PRAY Ask God to help you wholeheartedly accept His gift of eternal life.

Monday

READ Read Revelation 21:9-14.

PHONE Call a friend and have a conversation about the things you look forward to enjoying in heaven.

SELECT Select a few hymns from *The Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal* that describe a beautiful picture of heaven. Read the words carefully to yourself, sing or play the hymns, or listen to them on recordings.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Pray for wisdom and creativity to share Jesus.

Tuesday

READ Read Revelation 21:15-27.

THINK How do you feel knowing that God is preparing a place for you in the Holy City?

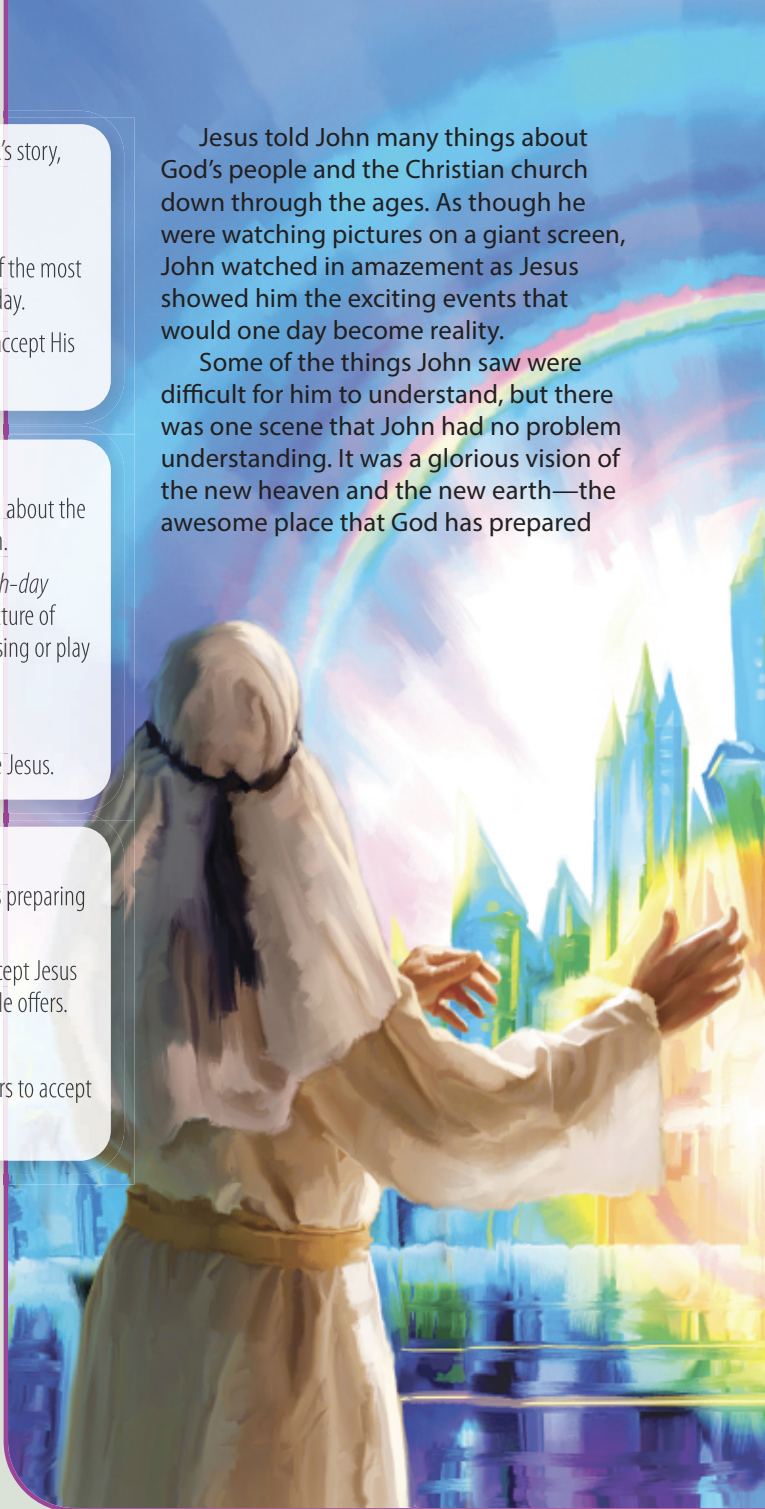
DO Find a way to encourage someone to accept Jesus as personal Savior and the gift of eternal life He offers.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God to use you to encourage others to accept His gift of eternal life.

Jesus told John many things about God's people and the Christian church down through the ages. As though he were watching pictures on a giant screen, John watched in amazement as Jesus showed him the exciting events that would one day become reality.

Some of the things John saw were difficult for him to understand, but there was one scene that John had no problem understanding. It was a glorious vision of the new heaven and the new earth—the awesome place that God has prepared

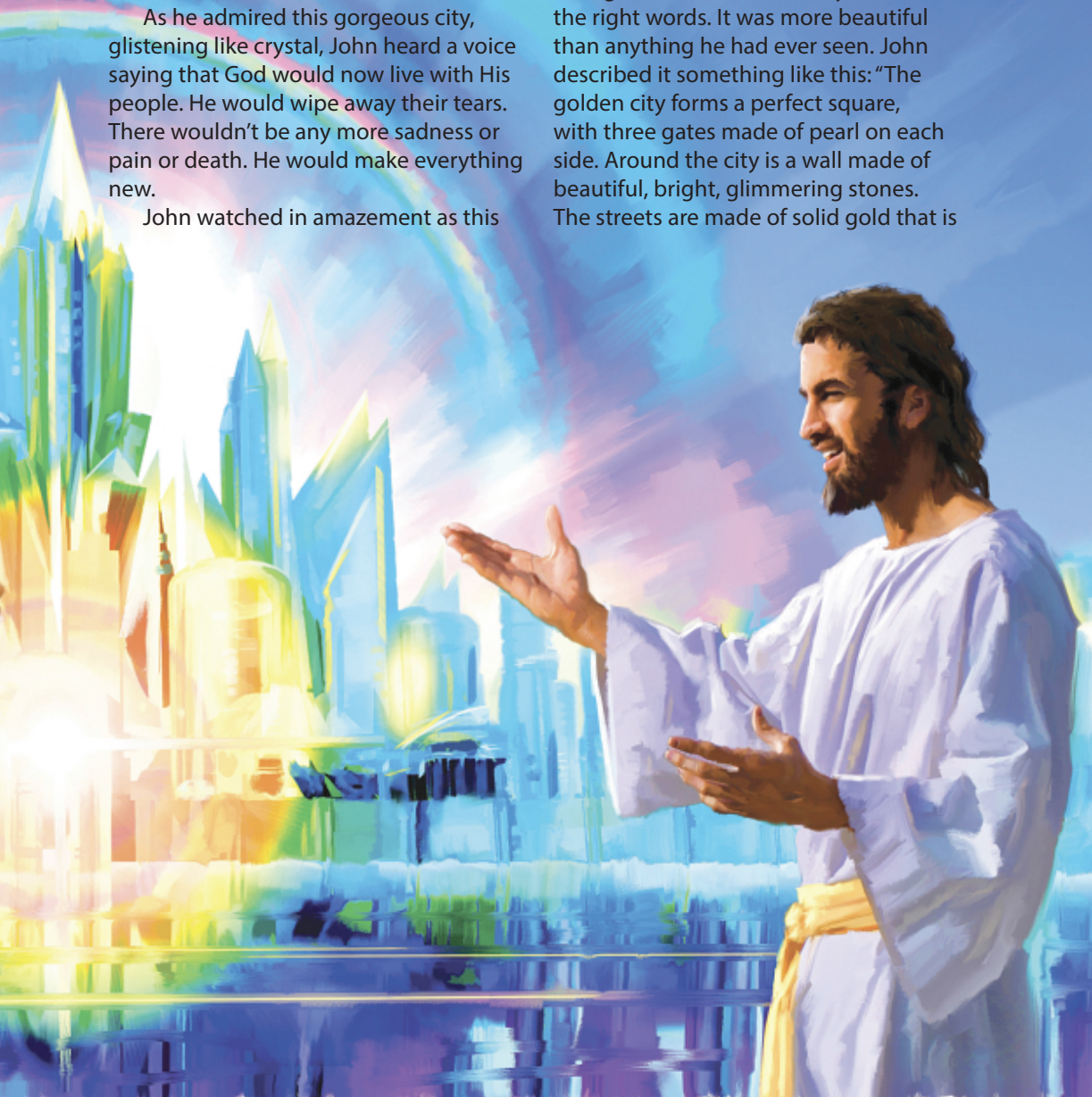


for His children. "I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband" (Revelation 21:2, NIV).

As he admired this gorgeous city, glistening like crystal, John heard a voice saying that God would now live with His people. He would wipe away their tears. There wouldn't be any more sadness or pain or death. He would make everything new.

John watched in amazement as this

gorgeous city came down and rested right in the spot where Jerusalem had been before God cleansed the earth and made it new. The sight was so breathtaking that John could hardly find the right words. It was more beautiful than anything he had ever seen. John described it something like this: "The golden city forms a perfect square, with three gates made of pearl on each side. Around the city is a wall made of beautiful, bright, glimmering stones. The streets are made of solid gold that is



READ Read Revelation 21:19, 20.

FIND Find out what is the color of each of the precious stones mentioned in today's Bible reading.

DRAW Draw a picture of the 12 precious stones that will form the foundations of the city and color them the correct color.

REVIEW Review the power text, Revelation 21:1, 2.

PRAY Thank God for how beautiful heaven will be.

READ Read Revelation 22.

THINK Are you ready for Jesus' second coming and for eternal life in His kingdom? What does it mean to you that Jesus is the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End (Revelation 22:13)?

CREATE Illustrate a scene of heaven from Revelation 21-22 through a drawing, painting, collage, or sculpture.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank God for the biblical description of the wonderful things we will experience in heaven. Ask God to prepare you for eternal life in His kingdom.

READ Read Revelation 22:20, 21.

DISCUSS At family worship, talk about your first experiences in heaven.

WALK Take a walk and notice the nature around you.

NAME Name 10 things from nature that you will enjoy experiencing in heaven.

REPEAT Say the power text from memory.

PRAY Thank God for the beautiful earth He made, and for the even better new earth He is preparing for you.

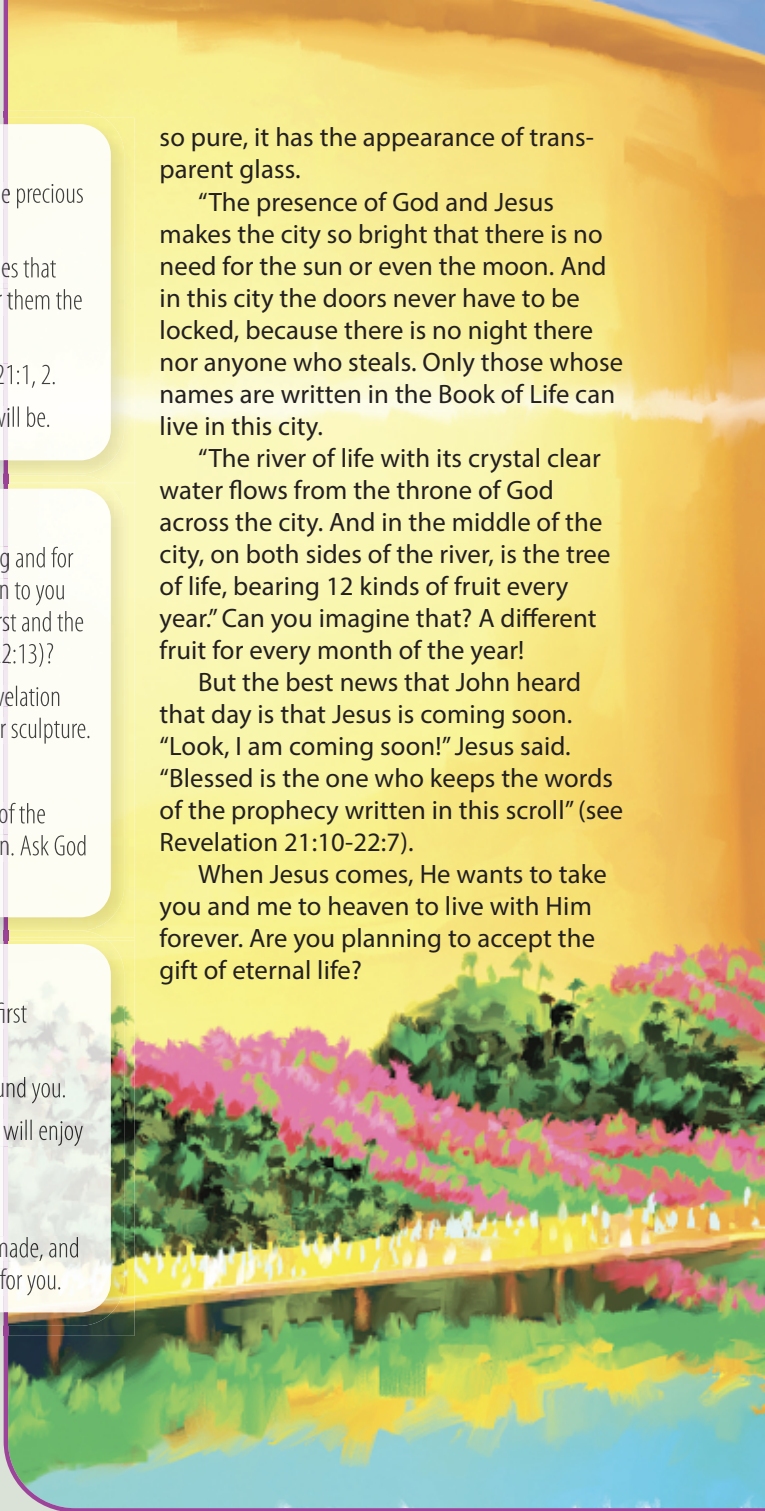
so pure, it has the appearance of transparent glass.

"The presence of God and Jesus makes the city so bright that there is no need for the sun or even the moon. And in this city the doors never have to be locked, because there is no night there nor anyone who steals. Only those whose names are written in the Book of Life can live in this city.

"The river of life with its crystal clear water flows from the throne of God across the city. And in the middle of the city, on both sides of the river, is the tree of life, bearing 12 kinds of fruit every year." Can you imagine that? A different fruit for every month of the year!

But the best news that John heard that day is that Jesus is coming soon. "Look, I am coming soon!" Jesus said. "Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy written in this scroll" (see Revelation 21:10-22:7).

When Jesus comes, He wants to take you and me to heaven to live with Him forever. Are you planning to accept the gift of eternal life?





HOME, SWEET HOME

Instructions: The letters in each vertical column go into the squares directly below them, but not necessarily in the order they appear. A blue square indicates the end of a word. When you have placed all the letters in their correct squares, you will be able to read the quotation (from the New International Version) across the diagram from left to right.

(P	3	:	2	O	a	N	I	V)
B	i	e	i	h	e	i	p	c	a	n
i	u	h	n	l	h	p	p	e	i	s
s	z	n		o	i	r	v	i	i	t
		t		s	u			n		

Heaven: A Sneak Preview

Key References: John 14:1-3; *Early Writings*, pp. 11-20; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 9, pp. 9-14; vol. 10, pp. 205-208; *Our Beliefs*, nos. 18, 28, 17.



powertext

"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also" (John 14:1-3).

Have you ever dreamed of a new house, or a room of your own? What color would it be? What would be in it? Can you imagine Jesus designing a place just for you?

There was so much Jesus wanted to tell His disciples before He left them. He knew how much they would miss Him after He was gone. Leaning close, He said, "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also" (John 14:1-3). John remembered these words of comfort Jesus had spoken and included them in the Gospel that he wrote. Many centuries later a young girl named Ellen Harmon accepted Jesus as her personal Savior and Friend. One day Jesus chose to give her a vision of what heaven is like.



By God's grace we
prepare to live
with Him forever.

Sunday

READ Read John 3:16 and this week's story, "Heaven: A Sneak Preview."

DRAW Draw a picture of heaven as Ellen White describes it. Write the power text below your drawing. Begin to learn it.

PRAY Thank God for eternal life available to us in Jesus.

Monday

READ Read Romans 5:21.

REVIEW Review the power text.

THINK Imagine how it will be when we get to heaven and live there forever, not having to return to this earth as Ellen did at the end of her vision.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank God for eternal life.

Tuesday

READ Read Isaiah 11:6-9.

TALK Phone a friend and share what you hope to do and see in heaven.

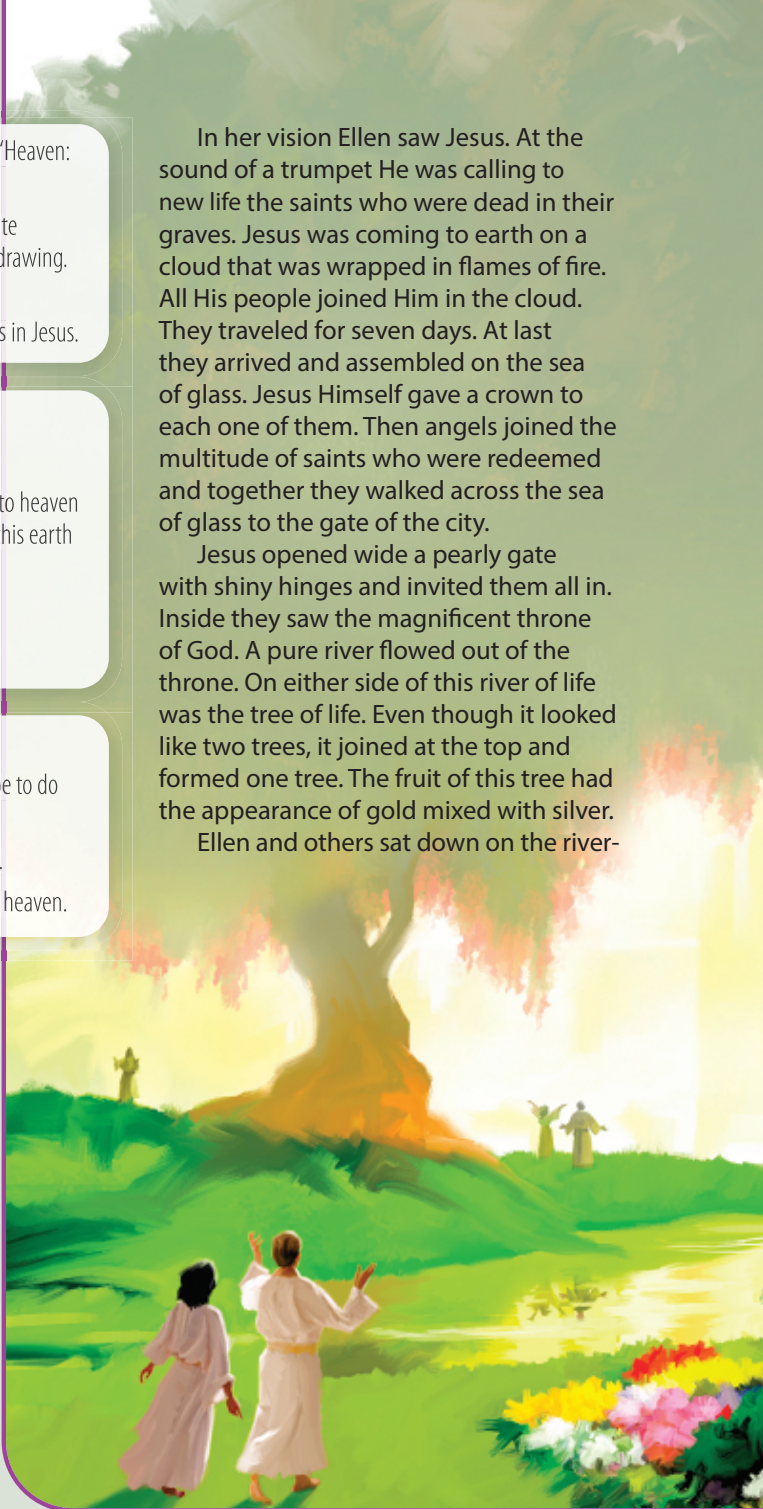
REVIEW Repeat the power text, John 14:1-3.

PRAY Pray that you may tell someone about heaven.

In her vision Ellen saw Jesus. At the sound of a trumpet He was calling to new life the saints who were dead in their graves. Jesus was coming to earth on a cloud that was wrapped in flames of fire. All His people joined Him in the cloud. They traveled for seven days. At last they arrived and assembled on the sea of glass. Jesus Himself gave a crown to each one of them. Then angels joined the multitude of saints who were redeemed and together they walked across the sea of glass to the gate of the city.

Jesus opened wide a pearly gate with shiny hinges and invited them all in. Inside they saw the magnificent throne of God. A pure river flowed out of the throne. On either side of this river of life was the tree of life. Even though it looked like two trees, it joined at the top and formed one tree. The fruit of this tree had the appearance of gold mixed with silver.

Ellen and others sat down on the river-



bank and tried to remember some of the troubles from their days on earth. But they couldn't recall them clearly. Compared to the glorious things they were seeing and feeling, any troubles they had experienced on the earth seemed insignificant.

Then, in Ellen's vision, she and the others went back to the new earth with Jesus. When they looked up, they saw the magnificent Holy City coming down from heaven. Outside of the city Ellen saw houses shining with the glimmer of silver, each sustained by pillars and adorned with pearls. These houses were for the human beings Jesus saved through His sacrifice. Each house had a special shelf for the crowns Jesus had given them. They set their crowns there when they wanted to go out and work in the garden. But even the work in the garden wasn't like it had been before. It wasn't sweaty and tiring. It was enjoyable.

In her vision Ellen saw a field full of

all kinds of wonderful flowers. She picked them, knowing that they wouldn't ever fade. In another field were all kinds of



Wednesday

READ Read John 5:24 and 1 John 5:13.

THINK When does eternal life actually begin? How does it feel to know that as a believer you have the seeds of eternal life in you?

FIND In whom does eternal life originate? 1 John 5:11; 1 John 5:20.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank God that He has planted in you the seeds of eternal life and that living with Jesus can begin now.

Thursday

READ Read 1 Corinthians 2:9 to an adult.

ASK Ask the adult to tell you what this text is saying about heaven. What things in this text excite you about going to heaven?

THINK How can you know that you have the key to heaven? John 3:16; Jude 21.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God to help you accept eternal life.

Friday

READ Read John 14:2: "In My Father's house are many mansions." On a separate sheet of paper, design your own home in heaven. What would you like to have in your house? With whom will you share your home?

REPEAT Say the power text aloud from memory.

PRAISE Thank God that His grace keeps us forever.

animals—lions, lambs, leopards, and wolves—all getting along just fine. She entered woods that were not dark and scary, as woods are now. It was sunny there, bright, and very safe.

On Mount Zion Ellen saw a majestic temple that was supported by seven pillars of transparent gold and decorated with most precious pearls. Surrounding the temple were seven other mountains where roses and lilies grew. Children climbed the mountains and picked the flowers. Sometimes they used their little wings instead of climbing.

Later in her vision Ellen heard Jesus call them all back to the city for supper. When they entered, they saw a table of silver that was miles and miles long. But they could still see the other end. It was already set with fruit from the tree of life, manna, almonds, figs, pomegranates, grapes, and lots of other fruit.

Ellen wanted to stay and eat, but Jesus told her that she must go back to earth and tell others what she had seen. When she awoke from her vision, everything seemed dreary in comparison. Sometimes after that she would be sad and lonely. She wanted to go back where everything had been joy and light.

Ellen saw heaven in a vision. When finally you and I see that land, we will stay and eat of the heavenly fruit. God's grace will keep us forever.

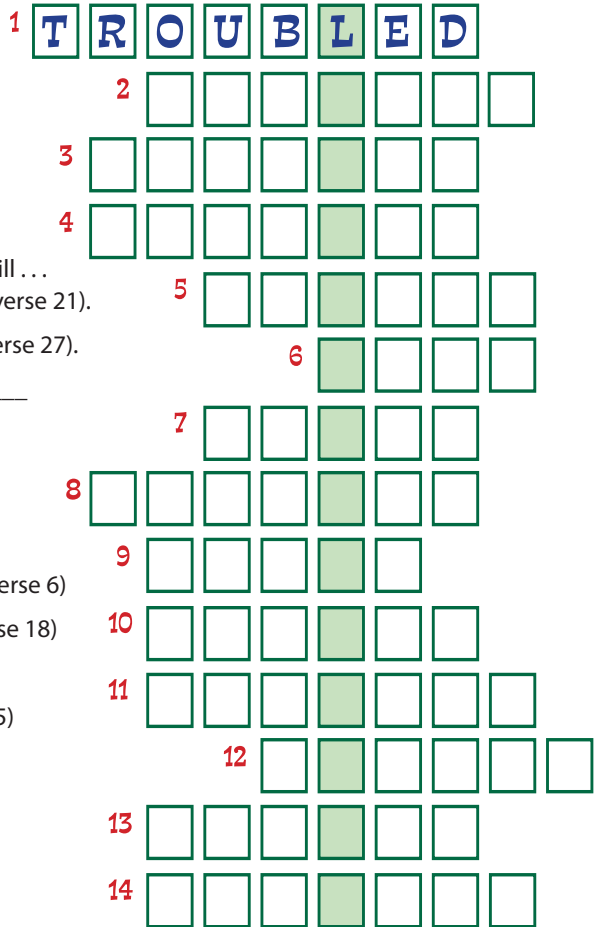


HOME AT LAST

Instructions: All of the single-word answers to this puzzle can be found in John 14.

Clues:

1. Concerned (verse 1)
2. Via, assisted by (verse 6)
3. Eternity, always (verse 16)
4. To accept as true (verse 11)
5. "He who loves Me . . . , and I will . . . manifest _____ to him" (verse 21).
6. "My peace I _____ to you" (verse 27).
7. Expression, put into _____ (verse 10)
8. Make ready (verse 2)
9. To give instruction, show how (verse 26)
10. Other than, but, apart from (verse 6)
11. Children without parents (verse 18)
12. Arriving, returning (verse 28)
13. A name meaning twin (verse 5)
14. Accept, get, obtain (verse 17)



Puzzle Clue: Because God L _ _ _ _ _ you, He has given you the gift of _ _ _ _ _ .
You are forgiven, and you are promised a _ _ _ _ _ with the righteous.

8

Citizens of the Love Kingdom

Key References: Exodus 20:1-17; Matthew 22:34-40; John 14:15; *Patriarchs and Prophets*, chap. 27, pp. 303-314; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 2, pp. 153-158; vol. 10, pp. 161-164, 128-131; *Our Beliefs*, nos. 19, 14, 11.



powertext

"But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people" (Jeremiah 31:33).

Sabbath

Do the activity on page 61.



When the apostle John and Ellen Harmon had their visions of heaven, do you think they wondered who would be there: who would be prepared to enter and become citizens of God's kingdom?

God is writing His law of love on our hearts to prepare us for citizenship in heaven.

Brad loved spending time with Uncle Darren, especially when they went out to eat at a restaurant! However, today would be exceptionally meaningful.

"I want to stop by the florist's before we go home," Uncle Darren said. "I want to get some flowers for Aunt Barb."

"Why?" Brad asked. "It's not her birthday or Mother's Day."

"I want to surprise her because she likes flowers," Uncle Darren smiled. "When you love somebody, you want to show that you love and appreciate that person," Uncle Darren explained. "You want to do what makes the other person happy. It's a lot like serving God. In fact, one of the best-known verses in the Bible is Luke 6:31. It's called the golden rule, and it teaches us to do unto others as we would want them to do unto us."

"Would you please explain?" Brad asked.

"Well, let me see . . ." Uncle Darren said thoughtfully. "Do you say 'thank you' when your mom serves a meal or cleans your room?"

"Usually," answered Brad.

"Do you say 'thank you' when the server brings you food or when you're invited to someone's house?" Brad nodded.

"Saying 'thank you' is showing gratitude," Uncle Darren explained. "You see, God's laws are really about how we are to honor God and love others."

READ Read Exodus 20:1-11 and this week's story, "Citizens of the Love Kingdom."

LEARN Begin to learn the power text, Jeremiah 31:33.

PRAY Praise God that His Word is a clear guide.

READ Read Exodus 20:12-17 and John 14:15.

THINK How do the first four commandments describe the relationship with God and the last six the relationship with others?

WRITE Rewrite the Ten Commandments as "10 Ways to Love." Use positive affirmations (i.e., Honor God).

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank God for His laws that make life happier.

READ Read Matthew 22:34-40.

THINK How do Jesus' two great commandments compare to the ones you rewrote yesterday based on Exodus 20:1-17?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God to teach you the principles of His kingdom and to "write" them on your heart.

Darren listened intently to Uncle Darren.

"Remember the first commandment in Exodus 20? God said, 'You shall have no other gods before Me.' We need to acknowledge God as the only one who deserves our worship and adoration. Anything else that absorbs most of our time, interest, and affections interferes with our love for God. Think about it: if Christians were respectful of God and behaved like Christ, we would be sure to make time for Him and others. We would enjoy serving Him by serving others. We would love Him most and show that love through our actions toward others.

"Through the second commandment we see God's intention to communicate with us as person to person. To worship an image or an object that represents God or Jesus is a violation of His law.

"The meaning of the third commandment is plain. We should never use God's name lightly, carelessly, or casually in our conversations. Our Creator is a holy God whose name we should always pronounce with utmost reverence and respect.

"The fourth commandment bears the seal of God and the mark of His authority as our Creator. The first word of this commandment calls us to remember the Lord's holy day of rest, the seventh-day Sabbath, and to reserve it for worshipping God and nurturing community. The faithful observance of the Sabbath as God's holy day of rest offers opportunities for spending more time with God in prayer, worship, and Bible study, as well as with others through fellowship and community outreach.

"God intended families to be reflec-

tions of His love to our world," Uncle Darren continued. "The fifth commandment is the only commandment followed by a promise. God honors those who respect and obey their parents, and promises to bless them with long life."

Brad looked down. "Mom says I take too long to obey, and that dishonors her. She says it wastes a lot of time."

"Ahhh." Uncle Darren looked kindly into the eyes of Brad, then added, "To honor our parents means to obey them even when we don't get our way, because they have our best interest at heart."

"'You shall not murder' means treating everyone with utmost respect, because all human beings are created by God in His image. Jesus also condemned the thoughts and feelings of hatred against others. We can overcome hatred by asking Jesus to fill us with His love. He has taught us by example how to love our enemies [see Matthew 5:44, 45]."

"The commandment 'You shall not commit adultery' emphasizes the importance of faithfulness between marriage partners, as well as respect and loyalty to our family members."

"'You shall not steal' means

you should not take what is not yours. God calls us to respect the property of others, but also to honor Him with the



Wednesday

READ Read Revelation 14:12.

THINK What do you think this verse is talking about? Have you experienced “patient endurance”?

MAKE Every country has a flag. Design a flag for heaven.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God to give you the courage to have patient endurance for Him.

Thursday

READ Read John 14:15.

THINK What were your New Year’s resolutions? Which resolutions involve your spiritual life? Which ones focus on becoming a better citizen of God’s kingdom of love?

TALK Talk to somebody about what it means to remain faithful to Jesus? (See Revelation 14:12.)

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask Jesus to help you focus on Him and remain true to Him in all that you do.

Friday

READ Read Jeremiah 31:33.

TALK Discuss with your family God’s commandments. What are the commandments that some people ignore?

THINK What are societies and people like without rules? How do rules really make us happier? How do they help us focus on others instead of ourselves?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank God that His law prepares us for citizenship in heaven.

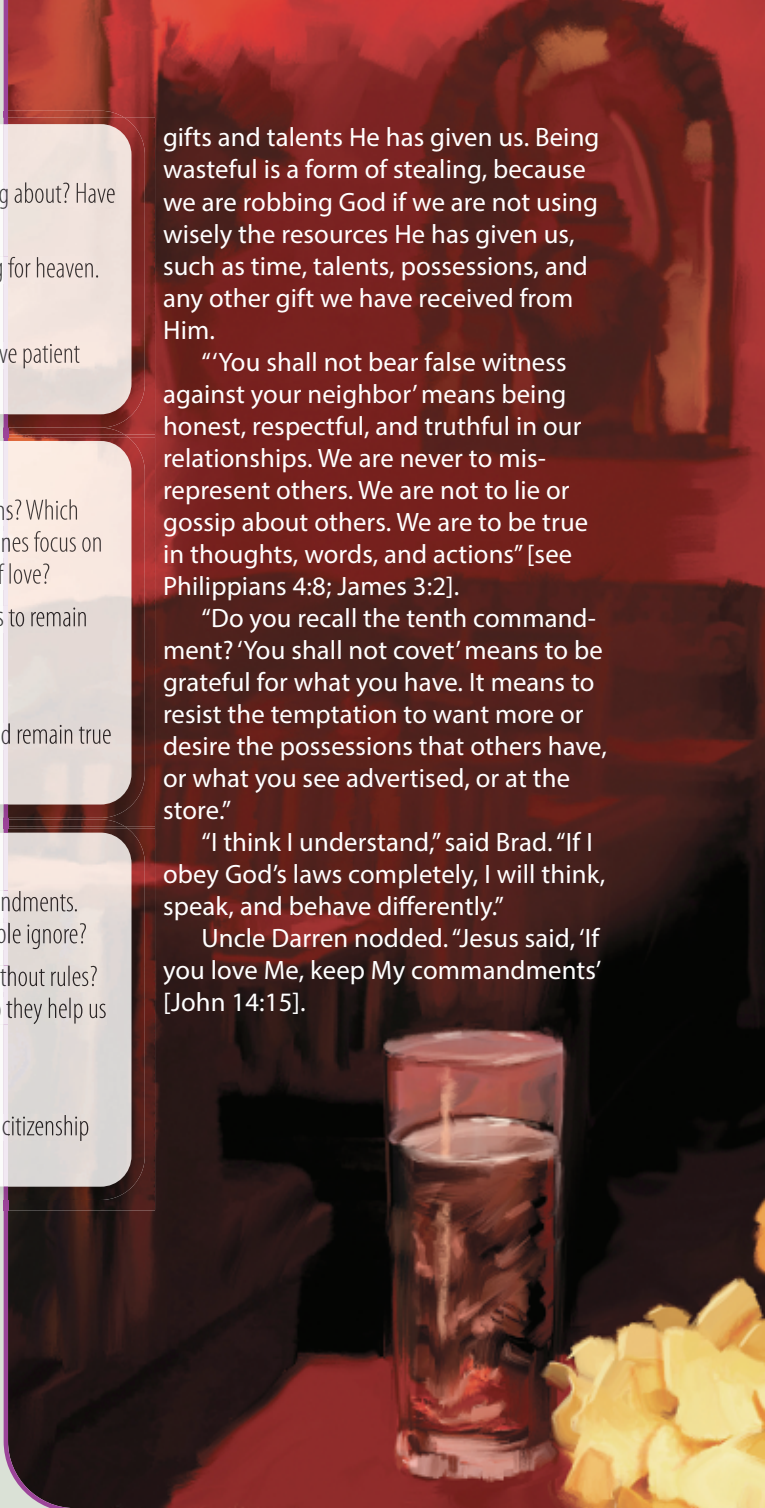
gifts and talents He has given us. Being wasteful is a form of stealing, because we are robbing God if we are not using wisely the resources He has given us, such as time, talents, possessions, and any other gift we have received from Him.

“‘You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor’ means being honest, respectful, and truthful in our relationships. We are never to misrepresent others. We are not to lie or gossip about others. We are to be true in thoughts, words, and actions” [see Philippians 4:8; James 3:2].

“Do you recall the tenth commandment? ‘You shall not covet’ means to be grateful for what you have. It means to resist the temptation to want more or desire the possessions that others have, or what you see advertised, or at the store.”

“I think I understand,” said Brad. “If I obey God’s laws completely, I will think, speak, and behave differently.”

Uncle Darren nodded. “Jesus said, ‘If you love Me, keep My commandments’ [John 14:15].



"Jesus kept God's law throughout His earthly life, leaving an example for us. The Holy Spirit will help us keep God's law, the Ten Commandments. As we honor God and bless others we prepare to one day become citizens of God's kingdom."



WE SHALL BE LIKE HIM

Instructions: Can you decipher this message to reveal the Bible verse?

KEY:

+ = a ^ = b 2 = c (= d @ = e % = f * = g 7 = h
 9 = i 3 = k 8 = l 4 = m & = n 5 = o \$ = p != r
 6 = s # = t ~ = u) = v < = w > = y] = 2 / = 3
 { = : ? = 1 x = j \ = 8

MESSAGE:

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9

Jesus Defends Us

Key References: Daniel 7:9, 10; Matthew 22:1-14; Hebrews 4:14-16; 7:23-26; 8:1, 2; 9:22-28; Revelation 5:9; 12:10; 21:27; *The Great Controversy*, chaps. 23; 24, pp. 409-432; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 10, pp. 157-160, 180-182; *Our Beliefs*, nos. 24, 10, 8.



powertext

"My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world" (1 John 2:1, 2).

Imagine that you are in a courtroom and you are on trial. The judge and the jury have to weigh the evidence and decide whether or not you are guilty. How would you feel if you were convicted of a violation of the law? How would you respond if your lawyer paid a very high cost for the fine (which you could have never paid) so that you could be free?

The Bible describes a court scene that is taking place in heaven. The prophet Daniel saw that court scene in vision in which the Ancient of Days, God the Father, was seated to judge the human race based on the records contained in the books. As "the court was seated, and the books were opened" Daniel saw "One like the Son of Man," who was "coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him" (Daniel 7:9, 10, 13, 14). The parallel passage in Daniel 8:14 describes this as the sanctuary being "cleansed."



By His grace
Jesus defends us
in the heavenly
sanctuary.



Sunday

READ Read Matthew 22:1-9 and this week's story, "Jesus Defends Us."

LEARN Begin to learn the power text, 1 John 2:1, 2.

SHARE Tell someone the good news that our names are written in the book of life.

PRAY Thank God that your name is in the book of life.

Monday

READ Read Matthew 22:10-14.

THINK What do the wedding clothes in this story represent? How do you respond when Jesus invites you to His feast? Have you accepted His robe of righteousness?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank Jesus for covering you with the robe of His righteousness.

Tuesday

READ Read Hebrews 4:14-16.

WRITE In your Bible study journal, write about a time when someone accused you but a friend stood up for you and defended you. Now write about how you feel knowing that Jesus is your friend who defends you.

REVIEW Review the power text.

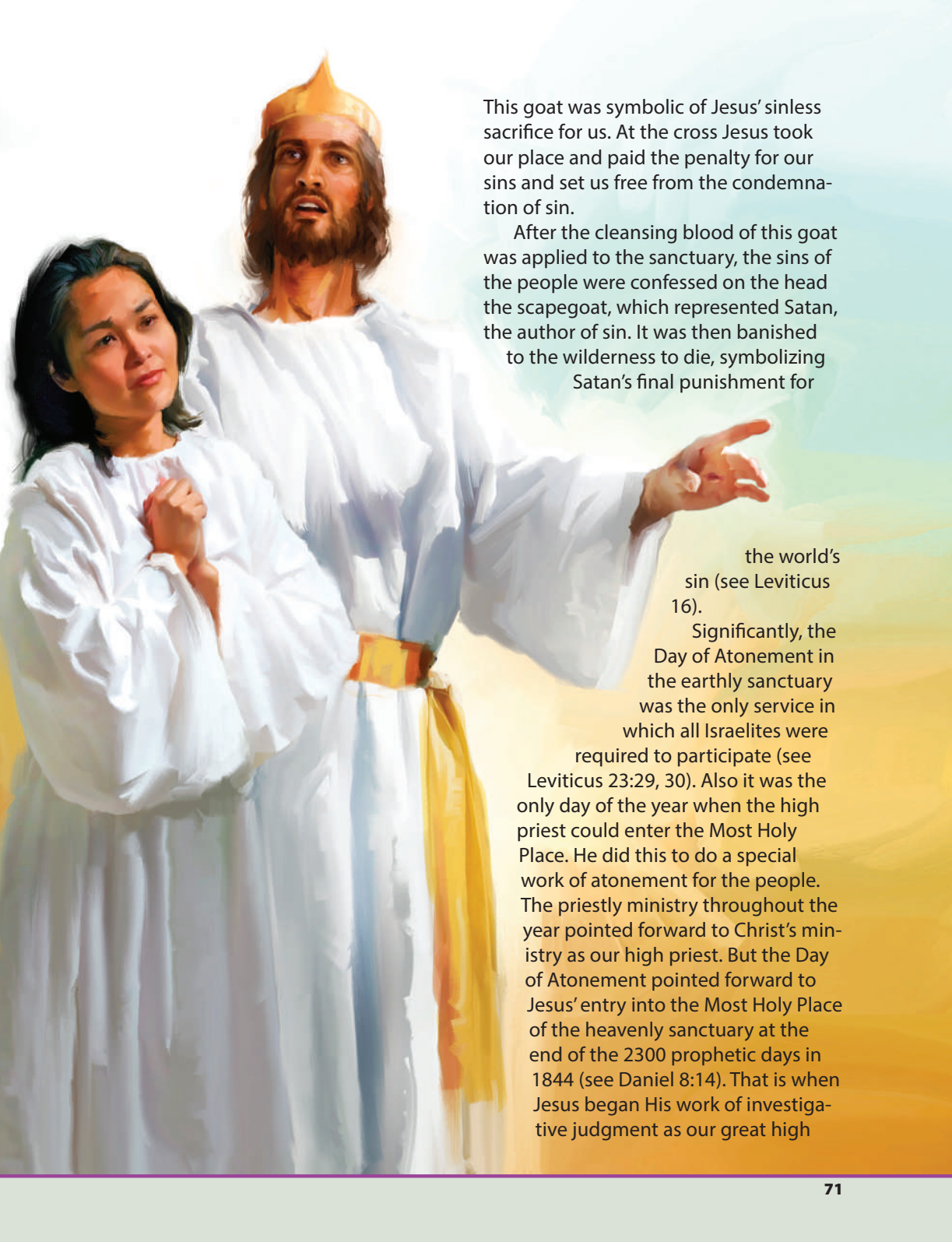
PRAY Thank Jesus that He understands and defends us.

Let's take a closer look at what this means. We can learn about the heavenly sanctuary by examining the earthly sanctuary. Moses made an earthly tabernacle after the pattern of the heavenly sanctuary (see Exodus 25:9, 40). When someone had sinned, that person came to the sanctuary and brought a pure, spotless animal, symbolizing Jesus, the pure, spotless Lamb of God (see Revelation 13:8). The person would lay the hands on the head of the lamb, confessing his or her sin, thus transferring it



lamb. That lamb would then be sacrificed in place of the sinner, pointing to Jesus' sacrifice that cleanses from sin (see Leviticus 1).

Once a year on the Day of Atonement the congregation of the children of Israel assembled at the sanctuary after they had confessed and repented of their sins. It was on the Day of Atonement that the sanctuary was "cleansed" from the people's sins. On that day two goats were brought to the tabernacle, and lots were cast to determine which goat was for the Lord and which was the scapegoat. The first goat, over which no sins were confessed, was sacrificed. Its blood was brought into the sanctuary to cleanse it from the blood of the animal sacrifices for sins made through the year.



This goat was symbolic of Jesus' sinless sacrifice for us. At the cross Jesus took our place and paid the penalty for our sins and set us free from the condemnation of sin.

After the cleansing blood of this goat was applied to the sanctuary, the sins of the people were confessed on the head of the scapegoat, which represented Satan, the author of sin. It was then banished to the wilderness to die, symbolizing Satan's final punishment for

the world's sin (see Leviticus 16).

Significantly, the Day of Atonement in the earthly sanctuary was the only service in which all Israelites were required to participate (see Leviticus 23:29, 30). Also it was the only day of the year when the high priest could enter the Most Holy Place. He did this to do a special work of atonement for the people. The priestly ministry throughout the year pointed forward to Christ's ministry as our high priest. But the Day of Atonement pointed forward to Jesus' entry into the Most Holy Place of the heavenly sanctuary at the end of the 2300 prophetic days in 1844 (see Daniel 8:14). That is when Jesus began His work of investigative judgment as our great high

Wednesday

READ Read Psalm 35:22-24.

REVIEW Review the power text.

THINK What are some Bible prophecies that came true?

PRAY Thank Jesus for keeping all His promises and for the Bible prophecies that came true.

Thursday

READ Read 1 John 4:16-18.

LEARN About what person in the Bible would you like to learn more? Read that person's story and write down three interesting facts about that person.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask Jesus to help you better to please Him.

Friday

READ Read 1 John 2:1, 2 again then say it by memory.

RECITE Act out the parable of the wedding garment.

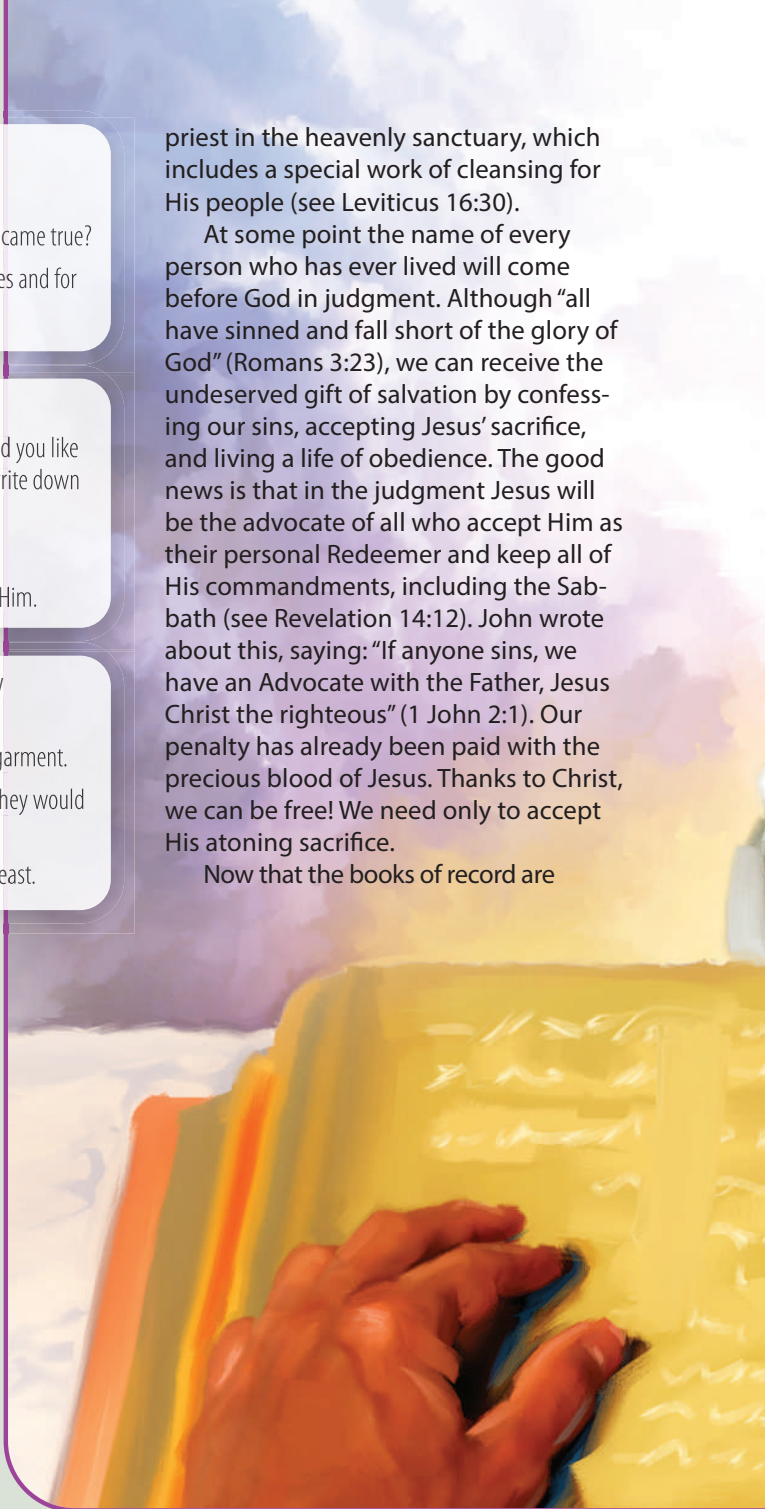
LEARN Ask each person what expectations they would have if they invited people to a banquet.

PRAY Thank God that you are invited to His feast.

priest in the heavenly sanctuary, which includes a special work of cleansing for His people (see Leviticus 16:30).

At some point the name of every person who has ever lived will come before God in judgment. Although "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23), we can receive the undeserved gift of salvation by confessing our sins, accepting Jesus' sacrifice, and living a life of obedience. The good news is that in the judgment Jesus will be the advocate of all who accept Him as their personal Redeemer and keep all of His commandments, including the Sabbath (see Revelation 14:12). John wrote about this, saying: "If anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (1 John 2:1). Our penalty has already been paid with the precious blood of Jesus. Thanks to Christ, we can be free! We need only to accept His atoning sacrifice.

Now that the books of record are



opened in the heavenly judgment, everyone's thoughts, words, and actions, including their sins, stand revealed. The names of those who by faith were obedient to God's law "are written in the Lamb's Book of Life" (Revelation 21:27) and will not be blotted

out (Revelation 3:5). The cases of those whose names are not recorded in the book of life or whose names were blotted out during this judgment will pass in review for judgment at a later time, during the millennium.

How important it is then to "fear God, and keep His commandments, for this is man's all. For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil" (Ecclesiastes 12:13, 14).

Our names may come up anytime in the judgment. How should we spend our time and utilize our resources? How should we use the gifts and talents God has given us? How can we open our hearts to Jesus and allow Him to change our lives? If we accept Jesus as our personal Savior, He will cover us with His robe of righteousness. To all who believe in Him Jesus promises "everlasting life" (see John 3:16).



A LIFE OF WORSHIP

Instructions: Take two letters that are next to each other from each word on a line, reading left to right, to form a new six-letter word in the circles. We have given you the first one to get you started. The letters in the shaded circles form the answer to this puzzle.

All of the answers can be found in Galatians 1 and 2.

1. Declare, display, show (Gal. 1:16)
2. Female parent (Gal. 1:15)
3. Truth, the story of Jesus' death (Gal. 1:11)
4. Not anymore, no _____ (Gal. 2:20)
5. For or direction of (Gal. 2:8)
6. Talk about God, sermon (Gal. 1:16)
7. God's house, place of worship (Gal. 1:13)
8. Objects, items (Gal. 1:20)

Puzzle Clue: Jesus, our Savior, will live in your heart, by grace, and e _____ you to live like He did.

1	READ GIVE ALSO	R	E	V	E	A	L
2	MOON MOTH OVER						
3	GOES SPOT TELL						
4	LOVE SING EVER						
5	TOOL WALK BIRD						
6	PRAY HEAR ACHE						
7	CHIN BURN CHAT						
8	THAW SPIN BUGS						

10

Just the Beginning of Praise

Key References: 1 Corinthians 15:51, 52; 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17; Revelation 14:1-5; *The Great Controversy*, chap. 40, pp. 635-652; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 10, pp. 196-200; *Our Beliefs*, nos. 25, 27, 10.



powertext

"And the Lord will deliver me from every evil work and preserve me for His heavenly kingdom. To Him be glory forever and ever. Amen!" (2 Timothy 4:18).



We will praise and worship God in heaven during the millennium.

Would you like to live to witness the second coming of Jesus and then go to heaven to be with Him? Stop and think for a few moments about that glorious event, when you will see Jesus face-to-face. What can you do right now to prepare for His coming?

Just when it seems as if the earth will be totally destroyed, the angry clouds will open, and every person on earth will see Jesus, "coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory" (Matthew 24:30), "with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God" (1 Thessalonians 4:16).

Graves will be opened, "and many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting contempt" (Daniel 12:2). Christ "will send His angels, and gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest part of earth to the farthest part of heaven" (Mark 13:27). The resurrected followers of Jesus will "rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord" (1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17).

Sunday

READ Read 1 Corinthians 15:51, 52 and this week's story, "Just the Beginning of Praise."

LEARN Learn the power text by making a tune for it.

WRITE Draw a large musical note and write on it the words of a praise song to Jesus.

PRAY Let your heart praise Jesus for His great love.

Monday

READ Read 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17.

WRITE Write down some of the events that will mark Jesus' second coming: _____

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask Jesus to prepare you for His coming.

Tuesday

READ Read Revelation 14:1-5.

THINK What does it mean that they had "His Father's name written on their foreheads" (verse 1)? How often do you share Jesus?

DISCUSS Ask an adult about the meaning of the character traits of the 144,000.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask Jesus to fill your mind with His Word.

On that day those who will be saved will no longer have the marks of sin—no sickness, no deformities, no disease. "We shall all be changed—in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet" (1 Corinthians 15:51, 52). Finally, we will be on our way to our new home in heaven: "[The] Father's house" filled with "many mansions" (John 14:2).

As we will enter the gates of the Holy City, our minds will hardly be able to comprehend the beautiful things we will see. Heaven is so different from what we know here on earth. In fact, the Bible says that "eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him" (1 Corinthians 2:9). Even the streets will be vastly different than what we have here on earth. They will be made of "pure gold"—so pure, in fact, they will look "like trans-



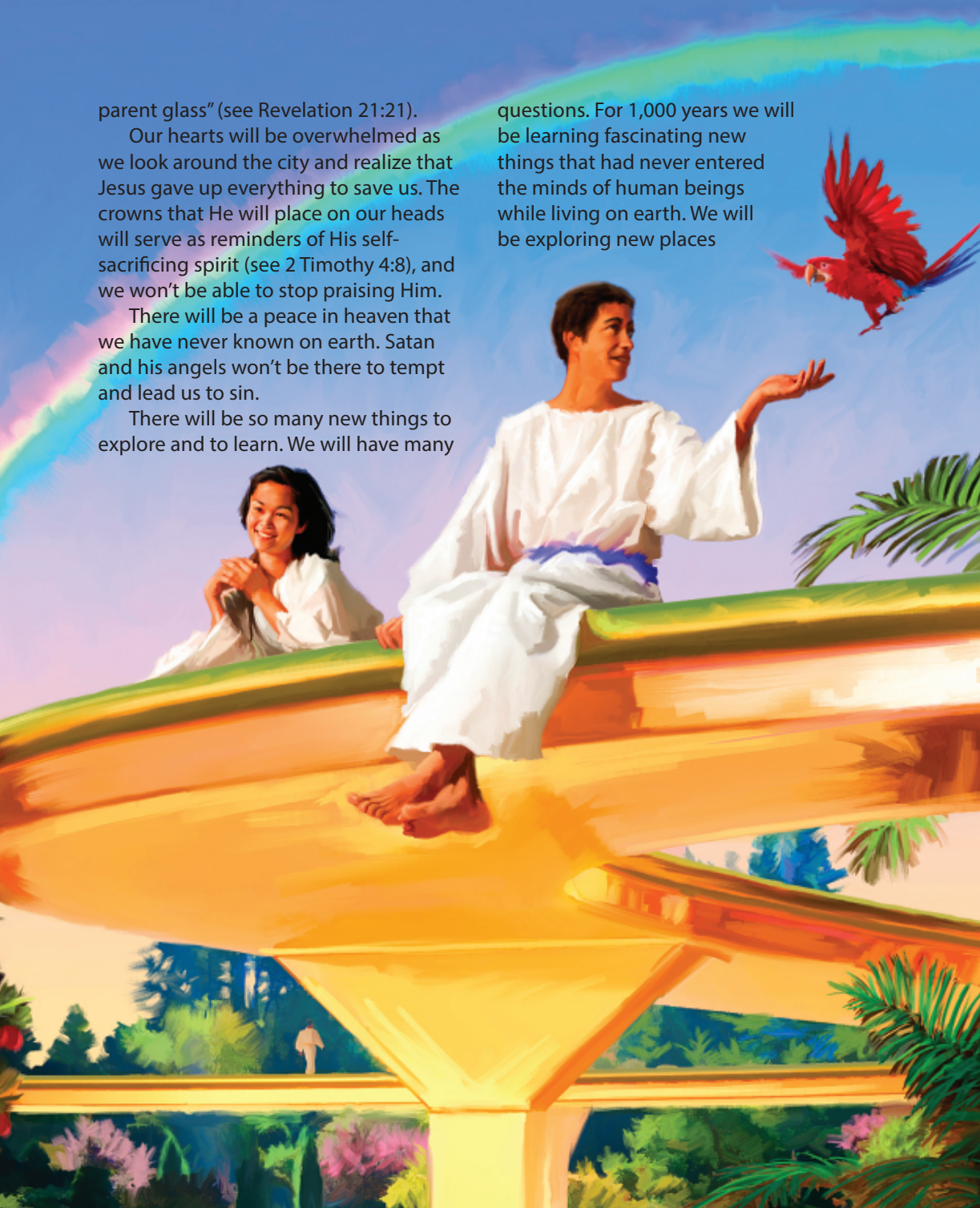
parent glass" (see Revelation 21:21).

Our hearts will be overwhelmed as we look around the city and realize that Jesus gave up everything to save us. The crowns that He will place on our heads will serve as reminders of His self-sacrificing spirit (see 2 Timothy 4:8), and we won't be able to stop praising Him.

There will be a peace in heaven that we have never known on earth. Satan and his angels won't be there to tempt and lead us to sin.

There will be so many new things to explore and to learn. We will have many

questions. For 1,000 years we will be learning fascinating new things that had never entered the minds of human beings while living on earth. We will be exploring new places



Wednesday

READ Read Revelation 1:7.

THINK How does this Bible passage explain that Jesus' coming will not be a secret rapture?

SHARE Plan to share with someone the promise of Jesus' soon return.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank Jesus for the promise of His soon return.

Thursday

READ Read John 14:1-3.

THINK How can you share with someone the promise that Jesus is can hardly wait to come and take us home?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank God for the gift of eternal life.

Friday

READ Read Revelation 22:20.

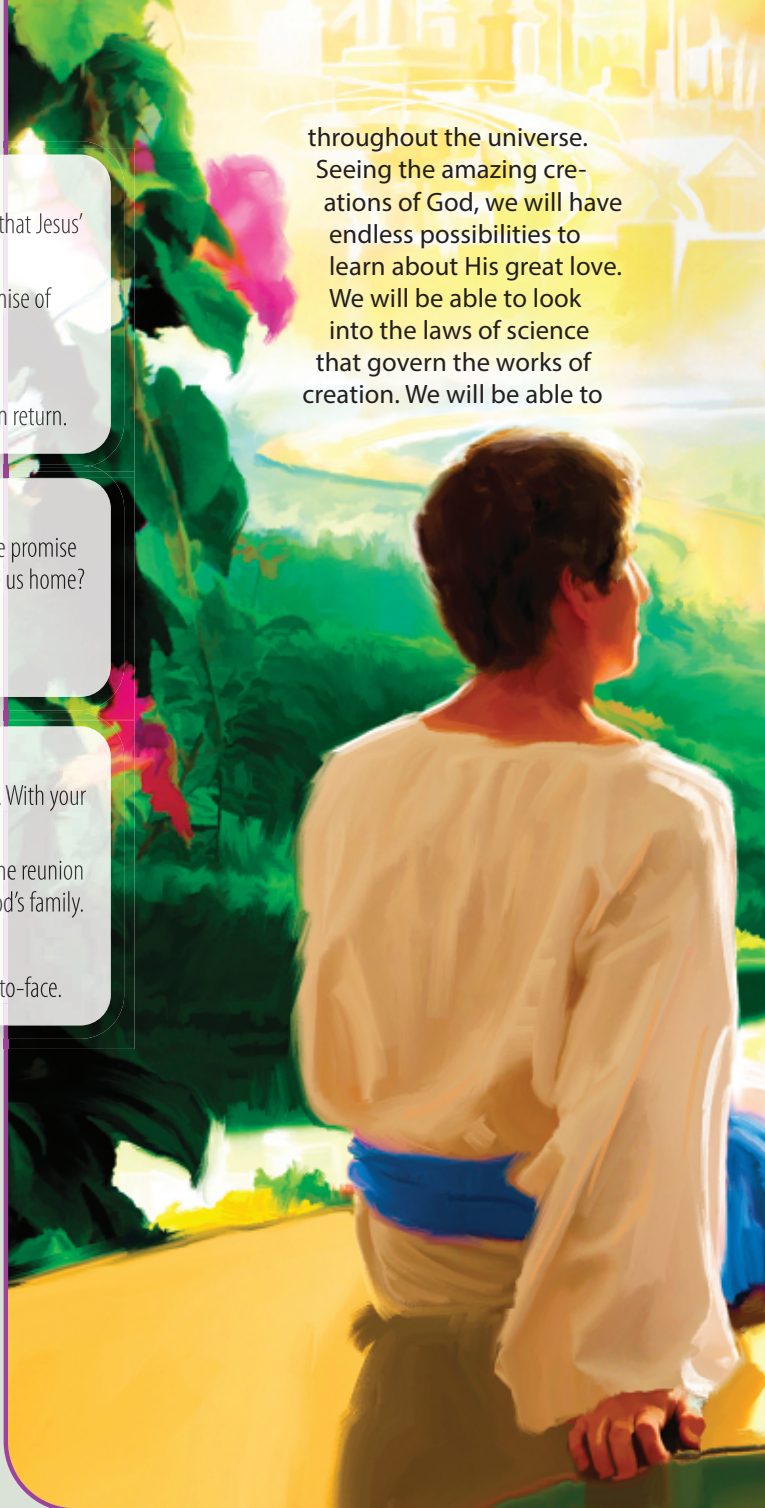
SING Sing songs of praise to God at worship. With your family, create a new song to praise Jesus.

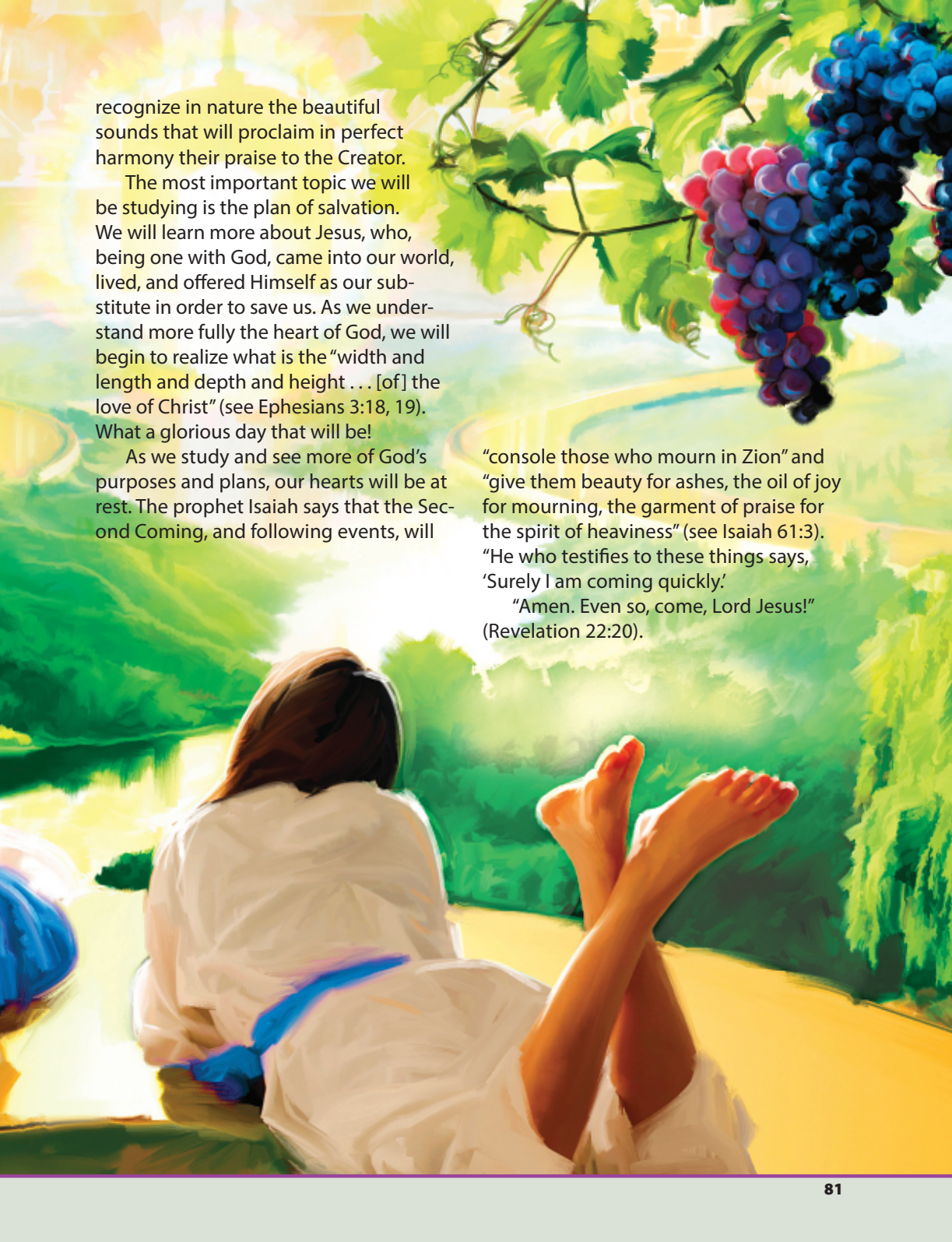
TALK Look at family photos and talk about the reunion you'll have in heaven with the members of God's family.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Praise God that you will see Him face-to-face.

throughout the universe. Seeing the amazing creations of God, we will have endless possibilities to learn about His great love. We will be able to look into the laws of science that govern the works of creation. We will be able to





recognize in nature the beautiful sounds that will proclaim in perfect harmony their praise to the Creator.

The most important topic we will be studying is the plan of salvation. We will learn more about Jesus, who, being one with God, came into our world, lived, and offered Himself as our substitute in order to save us. As we understand more fully the heart of God, we will begin to realize what is the “width and length and depth and height . . . [of] the love of Christ” (see Ephesians 3:18, 19). What a glorious day that will be!

As we study and see more of God’s purposes and plans, our hearts will be at rest. The prophet Isaiah says that the Second Coming, and following events, will

“console those who mourn in Zion” and “give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness” (see Isaiah 61:3). “He who testifies to these things says, ‘Surely I am coming quickly!’

“Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!” (Revelation 22:20).

SING A NEW SONG

Instructions: Match the reference and verse.

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| A. Revelation 20:1-6 | D. Revelation 15:2-4 |
| B. 1 Corinthians 2:9 | E. Psalm 90:1-4 |
| C. Revelation 14:1-5 | F. Revelation 2:17 |

1. "Prepared for those who love Him." _____
2. "Being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb . . ." _____
3. "A new name written which no one knows except him who receives it." _____
4. "In Your sight are like yesterday . . ." _____
5. "And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years." _____
6. "For all nations shall come and worship before You." _____

1

A Thousand Years in Heaven

Key References: Revelation 19:6-9; 20:1-6; *The Great Controversy*, chap. 41, pp. 653-661; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 10, pp. 196-200; *Our Beliefs*, nos. 27, 3, 10.



powertext

"And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God. They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying: 'Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints!'" (Revelation 15:2, 3).

Would you like to live in heaven with Jesus for 1,000 years? The millennium is the first 1,000 years we'll spend in heaven with Jesus. Let's explore the millennium and what will be happening during that time with the Bible as our guide.

Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him" (1 Corinthians 2:9). The Bible provides some beautiful descriptions of God's heavenly kingdom. In reality only when we get to heaven will we begin to understand and experience how glorious is the place that God is preparing for us. The most wonderful and fulfilling experience of all will be seeing Jesus face-to-face and being able to spend time in His presence throughout eternity: "They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads" (Revelation 22:4). The joy of the saved will be great as they will declare, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God" (Revelation 21:3).

powerPoint



We will praise
God forever for His
justice and mercy.

Sabbath

Do the activity on page 88.

Sunday

READ Read Galatians 6:7–10 and this week's story, "A Thousand Years in Heaven."

LEARN Start memorizing the power text.

PRAY Thank God for the privilege to worship Him already here on earth and one day praise Him in heaven.

Monday

READ Read Revelation 22:4.

THINK How will you express your joy and gratitude when you will see Jesus face-to-face?

SHARE Share with someone this week what you learned about heaven.

REVIEW Review the power text.

SING Sing "When He Cometh," hymn 218 in *The Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal*.

PRAY Thank Jesus that He counts you along with each one of His children as one of His precious jewels!

Tuesday

READ Read Revelation 20:1–4 and 1 Corinthians 6:3.

THINK During the 1,000 years, how will the saints be involved in judgment? Whom will they judge?

DISCUSS Ask an adult about the significance of the events before, during, and after the millennium. What will happen on the earth? What will happen in heaven?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank God that He is just and fair, and that in the end He will destroy sin and its consequences forever.

About the great multitude of those who will be saved, John wrote, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd



them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes" (Revelation 7:14-17). On that day Jesus will "see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied" (Isaiah 53:11). He will rejoice to see His redeemed children "faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy" (Jude 24).

Then God's children will more fully understand the unfolding of human history and the great controversy between Christ and Satan. We will study the plan of salvation with great interest and learn

more about the price that God paid to save us. We will recognize the work of the holy angels who influenced us to obey God and to resist Satan's temptations. We will be grateful for the work of the Holy Spirit, who convicted us of sin and led us to Jesus. The consequences of each



Wednesday

READ Read Revelation 20:6.

THINK How will the saints reign with Jesus during the millennium? What does it mean that they will be “priests of God” and that they “shall reign with Him”?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank God that He will live with us forever.

Thursday

READ Read Isaiah 33:22.

THINK What are the attributes of Christ listed in this passage? How does the Bible introduce Jesus in each of these roles?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God to help you honor Him in all you do.

Friday

READ Read Psalm 66:1-4 and 98:7-9.

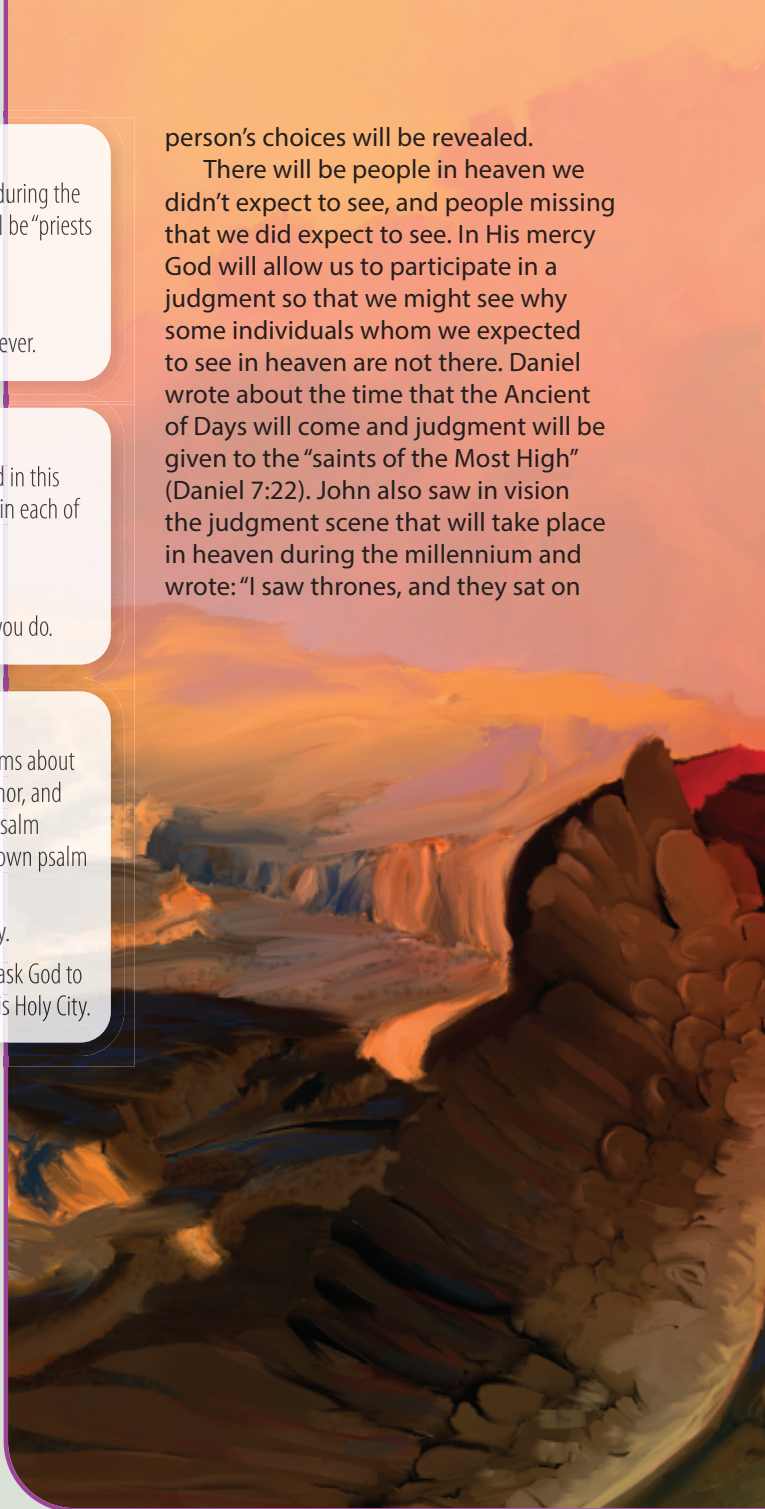
THINK What can you learn from David’s psalms about our amazing God who is worthy of praise, honor, and worship? How does He judge the earth (see Psalm 98:9)? In your Bible study journal, write your own psalm of praise and read it to your family at worship.

REPEAT Repeat the power text from memory.

PRAY Kneel for prayer with your family and ask God to prepare you to worship Him face-to-face in His Holy City.

person’s choices will be revealed.

There will be people in heaven we didn’t expect to see, and people missing that we did expect to see. In His mercy God will allow us to participate in a judgment so that we might see why some individuals whom we expected to see in heaven are not there. Daniel wrote about the time that the Ancient of Days will come and judgment will be given to the “saints of the Most High” (Daniel 7:22). John also saw in vision the judgment scene that will take place in heaven during the millennium and wrote: “I saw thrones, and they sat on



them, and judgment was committed to them. . . . Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years" (Revelation 20:4-6).

Then Jesus and the saved will judge Satan and his evil angels: "Do you not know that we shall judge angels? How much more, things that pertain to this life?" (1 Corinthians 6:3). "And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day" (Jude 6).

Everyone's lives and actions will be evaluated according to the standard presented in God's eternal law and the Holy Scriptures. The books of record will reveal the decisions and actions of those who lost their salvation because they rejected God's gift of grace. Everyone will reap either the reward or the punishment according to their deeds. Then the whole universe will acknowledge the justice, fairness, mercy, and longsuffering patience of God. All created beings will recognize that God did everything in His power to save everyone who would believe in Him (see John 3:16).



NO MORE SIN

Instructions: Fill in the blanks using the words in the word list.

according	Book of Life	deceive
fire	first	forever
judged	opened	reign
standing	surrounded	released
thousand	throne	works

"But the rest of the dead did not live again until the _____ years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he who has part in the _____ resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall _____ with Him a thousand years.

"Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be _____ from his prison and will go out to _____ the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea. They went up on the breadth of the earth and _____ the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And _____ came down from God out of heaven and devoured them. The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night _____ and ever.

"Then I saw a great white _____ and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, _____ before God, and books were _____. And another book was opened, which is the _____. And the dead were judged _____ to their works, by the things which were written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were _____, each one according to his _____" (Revelation 20:5-13).

12

Everyone Will Bow

Key References: Revelation 20:7-10; 21:6-8; *The Great Controversy*, chap. 42, pp. 662-674; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 10, pp. 201-204; *Our Beliefs*, nos. 27, 8, 10.



powertext

"Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:9-11).

Sabbath

Do the activity on page 89.

powerpoint



We worship God,
who defeated
Satan and will end
sin forever.

Last week we explored a little about what life will be like during the time of the millennium after Jesus comes again. This week we will learn what will happen as the millennium comes to an end.

During the millennium Satan and his angels will be alone on the earth for 1,000 years. The Bible refers to this as "the bottomless pit" (see Revelation 20:3). It means that Satan will have no one to deceive during the millennium.

They will spend 1,000 years thinking of the consequences of their rebellion in heaven. They will have 1,000 years to contemplate their eternal fate and the plan of salvation that God so graciously provided. At the end of the millennium the Holy City, the New Jerusalem, will descend from heaven. As the New Jerusalem will approach the earth, Jesus will call to life all those who were dead on the earth during the millennium. Looking at Jesus, they will realize that they are standing in the presence of the King of kings. Above the throne of God everyone will see the major scenes of the plan of salvation, starting from the fall of Adam and Eve, to the scenes of Jesus' life, ministry, and self-sacrificial death on the cross for the salvation of lost humanity. Satan and his agents will recognize the evil course of their actions and the part they played in opposing the work of God. The entire universe will acknowledge God's justice and fairness in judgment.

Sunday

READ Read Isaiah 13:11 and this week's story, "Everyone Will Bow."

LEARN Begin to memorize the power text.

PRAY Ask Jesus to give you opportunities to reach out to others with the good news of His rescue plan. Pray that God may use you this week to encourage someone.

Monday

READ Read Revelation 20:7-10.

THINK No trace of sin will be left except one reminder. Can you think of what that is? (The scars on Jesus' hands, feet, and side.) Why will Jesus always have those scars?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank God for His promise that one day Satan and sin will be destroyed forever.

Tuesday

READ Read Revelation 21:6-8.

CREATE Imagine life without sin and its consequences. Draw an image to describe life in the New Jerusalem.


REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank Jesus for His intervention on our behalf.

Satan and the vast crowd of his followers will stand before God's judgment seat condemned. They will be guilty of high treason against God's government. No one will defend them. They will be without excuse. The sentence of eternal death will be pronounced against them, and they will acknowledge that indeed "the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23).

They will be eyewitnesses to Jesus' coronation and will recognize with wonder the heavenly atmosphere of harmony and perfect happiness that exists in God's presence, where the saved praise Him. Acknowledging God's supremacy, they will bow down and worship Him.

How far Lucifer has fallen! He who



once was the highest-ranking angel and could be in the presence of the Father will incite the last battle against Him. The multitude of people from every nation who rejected God will follow Satan as their commander. They will organize themselves for battle and surround the Holy City with the plan to overtake it.

Above the chaos, Jesus will rise on a

white throne. He will open the books of record, and those who had rejected His appeals will realize the extent of their sin. "Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened.

And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books" (Revelation 20:11, 12).

God's character will be shown fully to the world. The wicked will see, too late, that they have chosen the wrong path and the wrong king. They will see, along

Wednesday

READ Read Daniel 6:25–27.

THINK Think about all the ways people are rescued (from drowning, from fire, etc.) and who rescues them.

HELP Find ways to reach out to people who seem to be lost. What can you do today to show them Jesus' love?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank God for being your rescuer.

Thursday

READ Read Luke 18:16.

THINK Whom did Jesus say the kingdom of God, or heaven, belongs to? You are God's representative of His kingdom on this earth. Why does everything you say and do matter?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank God that you can be part of His kingdom.

Friday

READ Read Revelation 21:7.

THINK What is God's promise to the person who overcomes sin by His grace? For family worship, take turns naming things God's children will enjoy when there will be no more sin nor any of its consequences.

REPEAT Say the power text from memory.

PRAY Ask God to give you the strength to do His will. Praise Him for winning the victory over Satan and sin.

with the Redeemed, that God is love. They will declare: "Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints!" (Revelation 15:3).

As the multitude of the lost will realize their mistake, they will look with loathing at the leader they once admired. They will see his selfishness, and they will hate him for it. Still, they will not surrender to the love and forgiveness of God. They will move forward to take the Holy City of God. When they will surround the Holy City, fire will come down from heaven and will destroy them (see Revelation 20:9).

After the universe is cleansed from sin and sinners, everyone will bow down to worship Jesus. The whole universe will declare that He is King of kings: "At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:10, 11).


Sin will never come into the universe again. The struggle between Satan's government and God's government will be over forever. There will be "no more curse" (Revelation 22:3), "no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away" (Revelation 21:4). The Redeemed, along with their Creator, will be able to look at everything and see that it is good, just as in the first creation of the world. The whole universe will be at peace and will declare that "God is love" (1 John 4:16).




EVERYONE WILL BOW

Instructions:

Unscramble each of the clue words.

Take the letters that appear in  boxes and write them in the boxes below for the final message.

PLHAA

				
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NBINNGEGI

								
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NDE

		
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TARWE

				
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RSSTHTI

						
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BLNIENEUVIG

									
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SILRA

				
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HETIR

				
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Revelation 21:5-8

13

Earth's Makeover

Key References: Isaiah 11:6-9; 65:17-19; 2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21; 22:1-5; *The Great Controversy*, chap. 42, pp. 674-678; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 10, pp. 205-208; *Our Beliefs*, nos. 28, 2, 11.



powertext

"And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, 'Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.' Then He who sat on the throne said, 'Behold, I make all things new.' And He said to me, 'Write, for these words are true and faithful'" (Revelation 21:3-5).

Sabbath

Do the activity on page 102.

powerpoint



We will live with Jesus forever on the new earth.

Last week we learned about the terrible final scenes of the great controversy. Satan, sin and sinners will be finally destroyed. Then the earth will be re-created to be the home for God's people. Let's take a look at what life will be like in the earth made new.

After a complete elimination of sin and Satan, the people of God will finally have a permanent home. Although we will have lived here before, it will be very different than the earth we once knew. Everything will be renewed, alive, and free from the consequences of sin.

The Bible provides a beautiful description of our home on the new earth.

In the center of the city we will see the throne of God, sparkling a brilliant sapphire blue (see Ezekiel 1:26; Ezekiel 10:1). From the base of the throne there will be a river of pure, clean water—"clear as crystal." As we will walk along its meandering path, we will come to a unique and beautiful tree. From the bottom, it will look like two trees on either side of the river. When we will look up, however, we will see that the two trunks are joined and form, in actuality, one tree. We will be told that this tree has "twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month," and that its leaves are "for the healing of the nations" (Revelation 22:1, 2).



Sunday

READ Read Isaiah 11:6-9 and this week's story, "Earth's Makeover."

LEARN Begin to learn the power text.

CARE This week, try to look for ways to protect our planet. Keep a list of how you will accomplish this.

PRAY Ask God for wisdom to care for the environment.

Monday

READ Read Isaiah 65:17-19.

THINK How is the new earth described in this passage?

DRAW Draw a picture that illustrates how every created being will live in peace and harmony on the new earth.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank God for the perfect peace of the new earth.

Tuesday

READ Read 2 Peter 3:13.

WRITE In your Bible study journal, write a letter to Jesus that tell the reasons you look forward to the new earth.

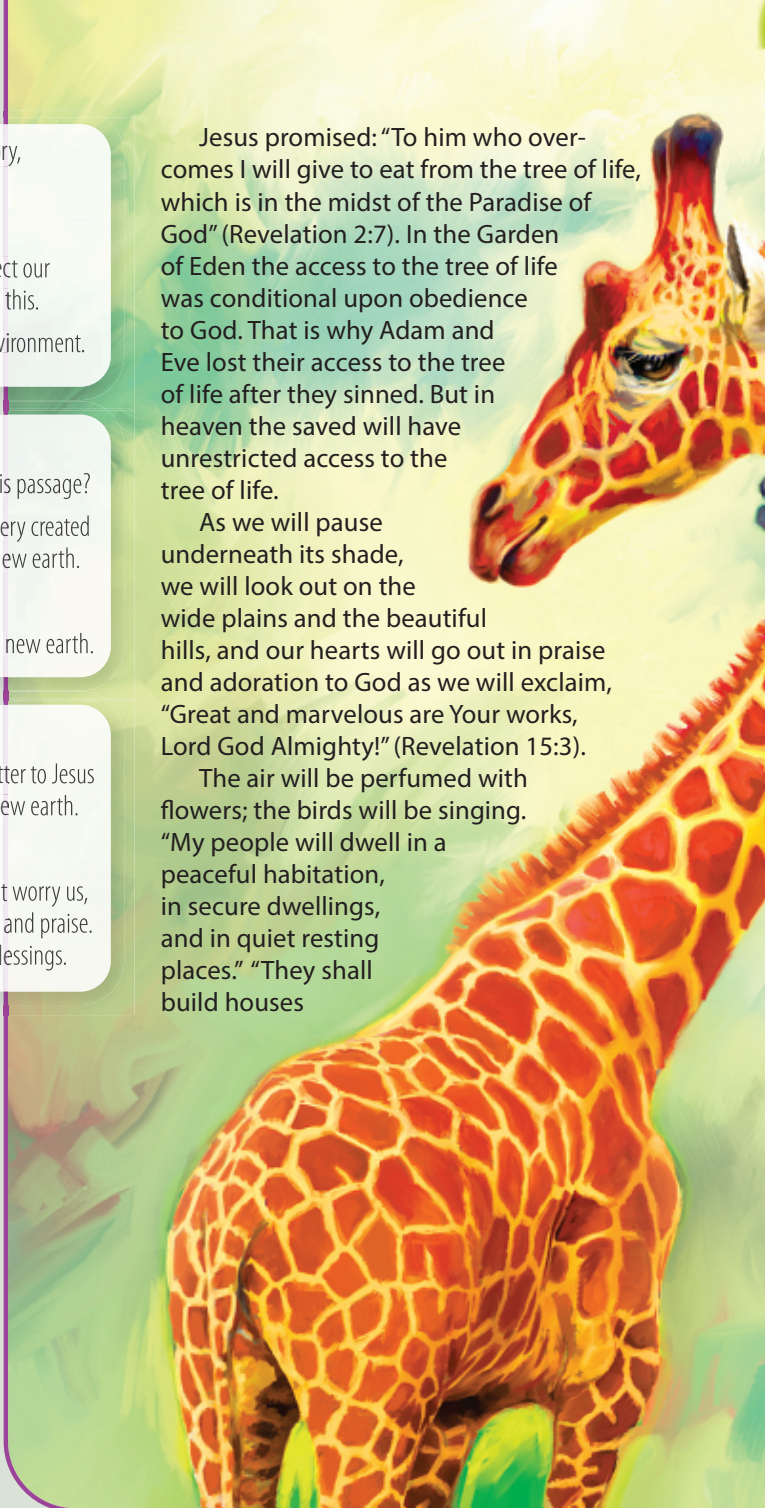
REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Now we ask God for a lot of things that worry us, but in heaven our prayers will all be of thanks and praise. Today tell Jesus how grateful you are for His blessings.

Jesus promised: "To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God" (Revelation 2:7). In the Garden of Eden the access to the tree of life was conditional upon obedience to God. That is why Adam and Eve lost their access to the tree of life after they sinned. But in heaven the saved will have unrestricted access to the tree of life.

As we will pause underneath its shade, we will look out on the wide plains and the beautiful hills, and our hearts will go out in praise and adoration to God as we will exclaim, "Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty!" (Revelation 15:3).

The air will be perfumed with flowers; the birds will be singing. "My people will dwell in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places." "They shall build houses





and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat" (Isaiah 32:18; Isaiah 65:21, 22).

Our hearts will be at peace. As we continue our journey, the Bible calls our attention to another wonderful characteristic of heaven. "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, . . . and a little child shall lead them" (Isaiah 11:6). We will not be afraid of wild animals or of danger, because the spirit of God's love will be in every one of them.

On the new earth there will be no need of the sun, moon, or stars, as there will be no night there. The light from God's glory will outshine the light of the sun and of the moon. "They need no lamp nor light of the

Wednesday

READ Read Revelation 21:1-4.

WRITE In your Bible study journal, write why you are especially grateful for some of the things listed in these verses.

SHARE This week, share with someone the good news about God's kingdom. Be enthusiastic about what brings you joy.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank Jesus for the gift of eternal life in His kingdom.

Thursday

READ Read Revelation 21:9-14.

SHARE With help from an adult, bake something that you will share with your neighbor. Find a way to tell your neighbor about heaven. You may express how pleasant it would be if you could be neighbors in heaven as well.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank God that His grace opens for us heaven's gates.

Friday

READ Read Revelation 22:1-5.

TALK With your family, talk about what the 12 fruits of the tree of life may be like.

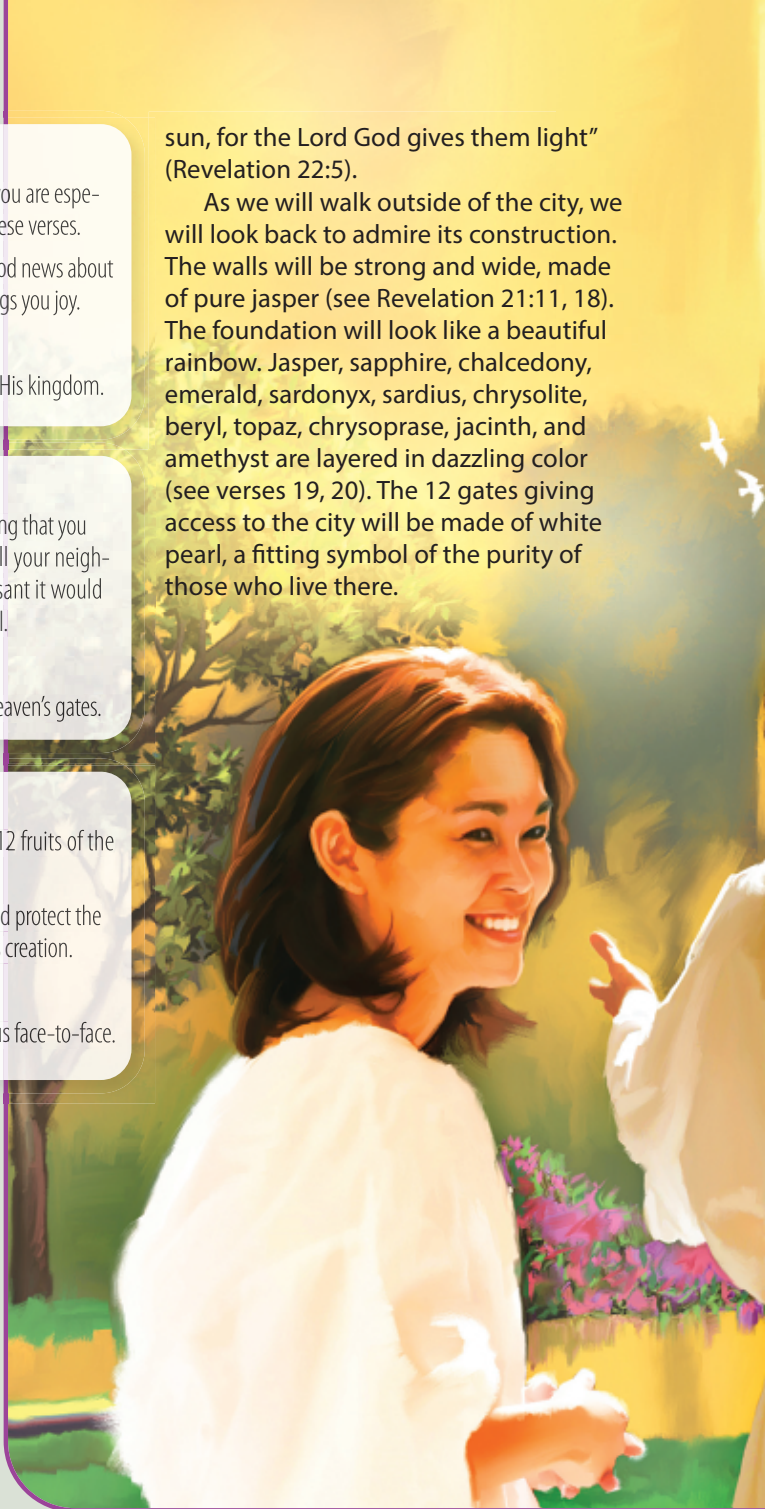
SHARE Share with your family how you helped protect the planet. Discuss how you can each care for God's creation.

REPEAT Say the power text from memory.

PRAY Thank God that one day you'll meet Jesus face-to-face.

sun, for the Lord God gives them light" (Revelation 22:5).

As we will walk outside of the city, we will look back to admire its construction. The walls will be strong and wide, made of pure jasper (see Revelation 21:11, 18). The foundation will look like a beautiful rainbow. Jasper, sapphire, chalcedony, emerald, sardonyx, sardius, chrysolite, beryl, topaz, chrysoprase, jacinth, and amethyst are layered in dazzling color (see verses 19, 20). The 12 gates giving access to the city will be made of white pearl, a fitting symbol of the purity of those who live there.



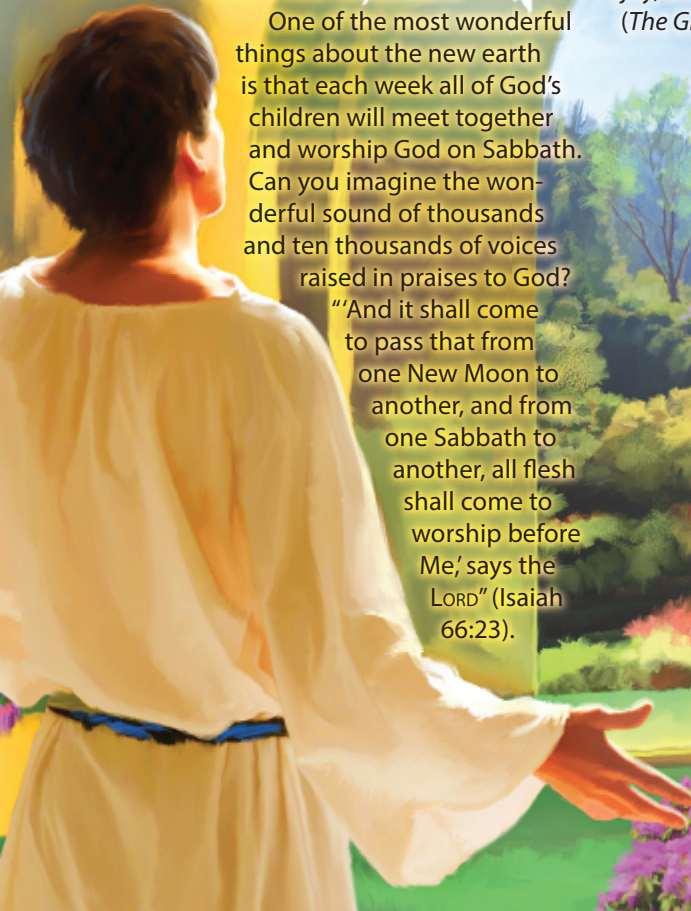
The Bible guides our attention beyond the magnificent structure of the New Jerusalem to the beautiful landscape outside. We see our friends and family building homes, planting gardens, and enjoying each other's company (see Isaiah 65:21).

We will have the opportunity to spend personal time with Jesus, talking with Him about anything that will preoccupy us. We will constantly learn, explore, and experience the beautiful things that God created throughout the universe. We will experience life in a whole new dimension.

One of the most wonderful things about the new earth is that each week all of God's children will meet together and worship God on Sabbath. Can you imagine the wonderful sound of thousands and ten thousands of voices raised in praises to God?

"And it shall come to pass that from one New Moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, all flesh shall come to worship before Me," says the LORD" (Isaiah 66:23).

The peace, harmony, and true love that will exist there will be superior to anything we have ever experienced. Ellen White, describing that time, says, "The great controversy is ended. Sin and sinners are no more. The entire universe is clean. One pulse of harmony and gladness beats through the vast creation. From Him who created all, flow life and light and gladness, throughout the realms of illimitable space. From the minutest atom to the greatest world, all things, animate and inanimate, in their unshadowed beauty and perfect joy, declare that God is love" (*The Great Controversy*, p. 678).



A NEW EARTH

Instructions: Unscramble the words to find out what the new earth will be like.

ETH	LFWO	SALO	LSALH	LWDEL	HITW
HET	MBLA.	NDA	THE	NOLI	LALHS
TEA	WRSAT	EKLI	ETH	XO.	DNA
HET	NAEWDE	HIDCL	HLASL	TPU	SIH
NDAH	NI	HET	PIRVES	NDE.	YHTE
HALSL	ONT	RTUH	ONR	TODSYRE.	

Isaiah 11:6-9

ANSWERS

Puzzle 1 Answer

"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2).

Puzzle 2 Answer

"Through love serve one another" (Galatians 5:13).

Puzzle 3 Answer

"How beautiful are the feet of those who . . . bring glad tidings . . ." (Romans 10:15).

Puzzle 4 Answer

"And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work" (2 Corinthians 9:8).

Puzzle 5 Answer

1d, 2a, 3b, 4c, 5f, 6g, 7e

"And again: **'I will put My trust in Him'**" (Hebrews 2:13, first part).

Puzzle 6 Answer

(See side panel)

"But our citizenship is in heaven" (Philippians 3:20, NIV).

Puzzle 7 Answer

LOVES, GRACE, HOME

Clue Answers: 1. TROUBLED, 2. THROUGH, 3. FOREVER, 4. BELIEVE, 5. MYSELF, 6. GIVE, 7. WORDS, 8. PREPARE, 9. TEACH, 10. EXCEPT, 11. ORPHANS, 12. COMING, 13. THOMAS, 14. RECEIVE

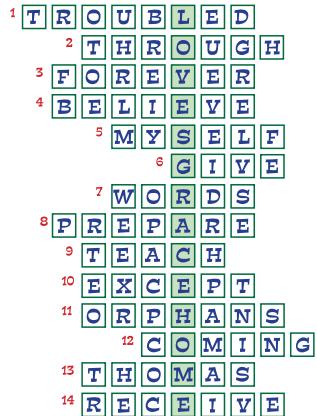
Puzzle 8 Answer

"But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord" (2 Corinthians 3:18).

Puzzle 6



Puzzle 7



ANSWERS

Puzzle 9

1	READ GIVE ALSO	R	E	V	E	A	L
2	MOON MOTH OVER	M	O	T	H	E	R
3	GOES SPOT TELL	G	O	S	P	E	L
4	LOVE SING EVER	L	O	N	G	E	R
5	TOOL WALK BIRD	T	O	W	A	R	D
6	PRAY HEAR ACHE	P	R	E	A	C	H
7	CHIN BURN CHAT	C	H	U	R	C	H
8	THAW SPIN BUGS	T	H	I	N	G	S

Puzzle 9 Answer

EMPOWERS

Clue Answers: 1. REVEAL, 2. MOTHER, 3. GOSPEL, 4. LONGER, 5. TOWARD, 6. PREACH, 7. CHURCH, 8. THINGS

Puzzle 10 Answer

1.	"Prepared for those who love Him" (1 Corinthians 2:9).	B
2.	"Being firstfruits to God and to the Lamb . . ." (Revelation 14:1-5).	C
3.	"A new name written which no one knows except him who receives it" (Revelation 2:17).	F
4.	"In Your sight are like yesterday . . ." (Psalm 90:1-4).	E
5.	"And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years" (Revelation 20:1-6).	A
6.	"For all nations shall come and worship before You" (Revelation 15:2-4).	D

Puzzle 11 Answer

thousand, first, reign, released, deceive, surrounded, fire, forever, throne, standing, opened, Book of Life, according, judged, works

Puzzle 12 Answer

A NEW HEAVEN AND EARTH

Clue Answers: ALPHA, BEGINNING, END, WATER, THIRSTS, DEATH, GIVE, UNBELIEVING, AND, FIRE, LIARS, THEIR

Puzzle 13 Answer

"The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb" (Isaiah 11:6).

"And the lion shall eat straw like the ox" (Isaiah 11:7).

"And the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper's den" (Isaiah 11:8).

"They shall not hurt nor destroy" (Isaiah 11:9).

- 1** "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2).
- 2** "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Execute true justice, show mercy and compassion everyone to his brother'" (Zechariah 7:9).
- 3** "He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.' And they remembered His words. Then they returned from the tomb and told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest" (Luke 24:6-9).
- 4** "As His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue" (2 Peter 1:3).
- 5** "Jesus said to him, 'Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed'" (John 20:29).
- 6** "Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband" (Revelation 21:1, 2).
- 7** "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also" (John 14:1-3).
- 8** "But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people" (Jeremiah 31:33).
- 9** "My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world" (1 John 2:1, 2).
- 10** "And the Lord will deliver me from every evil work and preserve me for His heavenly kingdom. To Him be glory forever and ever. Amen!" (2 Timothy 4:18).
- 11** "And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God. They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying: 'Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints!'" (Revelation 15:2, 3).
- 12** "Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:9-11).
- 13** "And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, 'Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.' Then He who sat on the throne said, 'Behold, I make all things new.' And He said to me, 'Write, for these words are true and faithful'" (Revelation 21:3-5).



our suggestions for parents

Dear Parents,

Every child is a gift from the Lord, and unique in His purpose for the kingdom. Children can touch the lives of others unlike any other person. Children show us the Lord in many ways—if we will stop to notice. Scripture even calls us to become like little children in order to enter the kingdom of heaven (Luke 18:16, 17). Since the Lord created every child unique, not all children learn the same way. It is important that we, as mature adults, embrace these differences in order to expand their knowledge of God.

The Lord pursues each child with tender love. The most important thing you as a parent can do is spend time with your children, modeling your trust in the Lord. Below are some suggestions for parents that you can use with your children to help them understand the Lord's message in their Sabbath School Bible study guide.

- Have family worship, modeling your commitment to the Lord. Include a brief thought for your growing child/youth to think about during the day.
- Read the Bible together. If some of the words are too difficult, take turns reading and let them read the words they know.
- Study the lesson with your child/children during the week in preparation for Sabbath School. Knowing that the lesson will be reviewed on Sabbath in their classes will strengthen in them a sense of accountability and will facilitate a deeper spiritual understanding of the content.
- Download the audio lessons at www.juniorpowerpoints.org/podcast.php?channel=1 so your child/youth can hear the lesson on their own. Use DVDs and CDs that will help children understand the lessons (e.g., Bible stories, *Your Story Hour*, and even the Bible on CD—this works great with children who struggle with reading in their Bible courses). Technology is great for students in general, and it will be particularly

beneficial for students with special needs, providing tools that will assist them in becoming more independent learners.

- If you have a child with special needs, you may be interested to search for ideas, accommodations, and tools available for them at <http://www.juniorpowerpoints.org/article/4/resources#.VGUZIYdSxx4>.
- Talk with your children about the lesson. For example, where do they see the lesson being applied in their daily lives? Whom did they see reflect Jesus today? How has the power text (memory verse) helped them with issues they're facing?
- Use a simple activity with the lesson. The children's lessons themselves contain some excellent ideas for family worship activities.
- Think about how your child learns best, and adapt the lesson to that way of learning. It could be auditory (listening), visual (seeing), or tactile (manipulating and touching), or it may be all three ways (multi-sensory)! Use what works.
- Talk with their Sabbath School teachers and let them know what you are doing at home, so they can reinforce it in Sabbath School. In return, support their efforts by encouraging your children to memorize the power text and to make it a habit to bring their Bible to church on Sabbath. By doing this, you provide positive affirmation of their good efforts, a feeling that each child needs to experience to grow spiritually.
- Talk with the pastor when your child is ready to make a commitment to the Lord. Let him or her know what studies you have done with your child, and ask what he or she would recommend prior to baptism.

Our children are important to the Lord, and He wants each one to be successful. It is our privilege to see that we return to God what He has given us.

Lesson 1

Year B Qtr 2

Staying Awake

(Jesus' friends fall asleep)

1 Core teaching of this lesson
Jesus' love leads us to support one another in times of need.

2 Power text (memory verse)
"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain
Our Beliefs, no. 7, The Nature of Humanity: "[We] are born with weaknesses and tendencies to evil. But God in Christ reconciled the world to Himself" (www.adventist.org).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture
New Testament, The Four Gospels:
Matthew 26:31-46

5 Ellen White reference
The Desire of Ages, chap. 74, pp. 685-697: "The human heart longs for sympathy in suffering. This longing Christ felt to the very depths of His being. . . . If He could only know that His disciples understood and appreciated this, He would be strengthened" (p. 687).

6 The Bible Story reference
The Bible Story, vol. 9, pp. 73-77 ("Night in a Garden")

7 Family worship ideas
Use the following **texts** to explore the core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—Galatians 6:2 (power text)
Sunday—Matthew 26:29-46
Monday—Acts 20:35
Tuesday—Matthew 26:41
Wednesday—1 John 3:18
Thursday—Galatians 6:10
Friday—Ecclesiastes 4:10

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- How could the disciples have supported Jesus in His time of sorrow?
- How do I respond to others' needs?
- Who do I know that needs prayer?
- How have my friends or family members helped me in difficult times?
- In what ways can I help others?
- How can I encourage a friend or relative who is in need right now?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- Make a list of volunteer organizations. As a family, discuss how to get involved in one of them.
- Give everyone the opportunity to share a story about when they helped someone or someone helped them.
- Individually, think of a time you let down someone in your family and write them a note.

8 Coming up next week!
Despite His suffering, Jesus comforted others at the cross. We can show concern for others, even when we face difficult situations ourselves.

Lesson 2

Year B Qtr 2

Through Thick and Thin (Jesus comforts others at the cross)

1 Core teaching of this lesson

Like Jesus, we can care for others even when we face difficulties.

2 Power text (memory verse)

"Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Execute true justice, show mercy and compassion everyone to his brother'" (Zechariah 7:9).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain

Our Beliefs, no. 9, The Life, Death, and Resurrection of Christ: "In Christ's life of perfect obedience to God's will, His suffering, death, and resurrection, God provided the only means of atonement for human sin" (www.adventist.org).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

New Testament, The Four Gospels: Luke 23:26-56; Matthew 27:45-56

5 Ellen White reference

The Desire of Ages, chap. 78, pp. 741-764: "Christ pitied them in their ignorance and guilt. He breathed only a plea for their forgiveness,—'for they know not what they do'" (p. 744).

6 The Bible Story reference

The Bible Story, vol. 9, pp. 105-109 ("Nailed to a Cross")

7 Family worship ideas

Use the following **texts** to explore the core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—Zechariah 7:9 (power text)

Sunday—Luke 23:26-43

Monday—Luke 23:44-49

Tuesday—Matthew 27:45-56

Wednesday—Matthew 27:37;
Mark 15:26; Luke
23:38; John 9:19

Thursday—Luke 23:50-56

Friday—2 Corinthians 1:3, 4

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- What things concern me when I am going through a painful experience?
- What would be the advantage if I reached out to others rather than focusing on my own pain?
- What could I do to help a friend who is dying?
- Do I trust that God hears my prayers for those who are suffering?
- What resources are available to assist others who are hurting?
- How could I assist a stranger in need?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- Plan how you will care and encourage someone in need this week.
- Share a time someone who was struggling himself/herself helped you.
- Sing together the classic hymn "The Old Rugged Cross."

8 Coming up next week!

Jesus' followers tell others about His resurrection. We can share our hope for eternal life with our family, friends, and people in the community.

Lesson 3 Year B Qtr 2

Surprise at Sunrise

(The resurrection is proclaimed)

1 Core teaching of this lesson

We can share our hope for eternal life because of Jesus' resurrection.

2 Power text (memory verse)

"He is not here, but is risen!

Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.' And they remembered His words. Then they returned from the tomb and told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest" (Luke 24:6-9).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain

Our Beliefs, no. 11, Growing in Christ: "We give ourselves in loving service to those around us and in witnessing to His salvation" (www.adventist.org).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

New Testament, The Four Gospels: Luke 24:1-12; John 20:1-9; and Mark 16:1-8

5 Ellen White reference

The Desire of Ages, chaps. 80-82, pp. 769-794: "Jesus lives, and because He lives, we shall live also. From grateful hearts, from lips touched with holy fire, let the glad song ring out, Christ is risen!" (p. 794).

6 The Bible Story reference

The Bible Story, vol. 9, pp. 151-155 ("Most Glorious Morning")

7 Family worship ideas

Use the following **texts** to explore the core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—Luke 24:6-9 (power text)

Sunday—Luke 24:1-12

Monday—Matthew 5:15

Tuesday—John 14:26

Wednesday—Luke 24:9-12

Thursday—Psalm 22:22

Friday—Mark 5:19

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- Why was Jesus' resurrection the best news for the disciples?
- What does Jesus' resurrection mean to me?
- How could I bring hope to someone who is struggling with guilt over sins?
- How can I help someone accept God's love and forgiveness?
- How can I strengthen my relationship with God and be a light to others?
- How will I share the hope of eternal life with someone else today?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- Share the great news of Jesus' resurrection with someone you know.
- Light a candle to shine throughout worship time to remind you of your light shining to others.
- Sing or play "This Little Light of Mine" for worship.

8 Coming up next week!

Jesus meets with two of His followers on the road to Emmaus. God is personally interested in our salvation.

Lesson 4

Year B Qtr 2

Risen Man Breaks Bread (Journey with Jesus to Emmaus)

1 Core teaching of this lesson

Jesus showed us how to share Him with others.

2 Power text (memory verse)

"As His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue" (2 Peter 1:3).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain

Our Beliefs, no. 1, The Holy Scriptures: "The Holy Scriptures are the supreme, authoritative, and the infallible revelation of His will. They are the standard of character, the test of experience, the definitive revealer of doctrines, and the trustworthy record of God's acts in history" (www.adventist.org).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

New Testament, The Four Gospels: Luke 24:13-35

5 Ellen White reference

The Desire of Ages, chap. 83, pp. 795-801: "Had the disciples failed to press their invitation, they would not have known that their traveling companion was the risen Lord" (p. 800).

6 The Bible Story reference

The Bible Story, vol. 9, pp. 156-160 ("Mysterious Stranger"); vol. 9, pp. 161-164 ("Burning Hearts")

7 Family worship ideas

Use the following **texts** to explore the core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—2 Peter 1:3 (power text)

Sunday—Luke 24:13, 14

Monday—Luke 24:15, 16

Tuesday—Luke 24:17-24

Wednesday—Luke 24:25-27

Thursday—Luke 24:28-32

Friday—Luke 24:33-35

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- How do I feel knowing that Jesus walks along with me and teaches me?
- What is my understanding of the Bible prophecies regarding Jesus?
- To whom do I turn when I am disappointed or hurt?
- What comfort does the study of God's Word bring me?
- What motivates me to share the Good News about Jesus with others?
- Whom can I tell about Jesus today?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- Create an acrostic with the words Holy Spirit.
- Pray for the willingness to share your knowledge about Jesus with others.
- Discuss with your family who is a person with whom you can share Jesus.

8 Coming up next week!

Jesus appears to doubting Thomas. God wants us to learn to trust Him.

Lesson 5

Year B Qtr 2

Believing Is Seeing (Jesus appears to Thomas)

1 Core teaching of this lesson

Our faith in Jesus is a witness to those around us.

2 Power text (memory verse)

"Jesus said to him, 'Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed'" (John 20:29).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain

Our Beliefs, no. 10, The Experience of Salvation: "Led by the Holy Spirit we sense our need, acknowledge our sinfulness, repent of our transgressions, and exercise faith in Jesus as Saviour and Lord, Substitute and Example. This saving faith comes through the divine power of the Word and is the gift of God's grace" (www.adventist.org).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

New Testament, The Four Gospels: John 20:24-31

5 Ellen White reference

The Desire of Ages, chap. 84, pp. 806-808: "Should the world now follow the example of Thomas, no one would believe unto salvation; for all who receive Christ must do so through the testimony of others" (p. 807).

6 The Bible Story reference

The Bible Story, vol. 9, pp. 165-169 ("Why Thomas Doubted")

7 Family worship ideas

Use the following **texts** to explore the core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—John 20:29 (power text)

Sunday—John 20:24-31

Monday—Psalm 32:8

Tuesday—Psalm 78:52; John 16:13

Wednesday—Matthew 7:7-11

Thursday—Matthew 14:25-31

Friday—Proverbs 3:5, 6

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- What can I learn from Thomas's encounter with Jesus?
- What doubts do I need to overcome?
- Do I accept others' witness of God's love?
- In what areas of my life do I need to trust God more?
- What specific things do I need to do that would strengthen my faith?
- How could I strengthen the faith of a person who has doubts?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- For worship, let each family member share a faith-building experience.
- Share with a friend your experience of God's love, care, and providence.
- Talk about how God has guided and blessed your family.

8 Coming up next week!

Heaven is more wonderful than we can imagine. God's love gives us hope and encouragement.

Lesson 6 Year B Qtr 2

The Gift of Heaven (John has a vision of heaven)

1 Core teaching of this lesson

Eternal life is ours when we accept God's gift of grace.

2 Power text (memory verse)

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

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain

Our Beliefs, no. 28, The New Earth: "On the new earth, in which righteousness dwells, God will provide an eternal home for the redeemed and a perfect environment for everlasting life, love, joy, and learning in His presence" (www.adventist.org).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

New Testament, The Revelation of Jesus Christ: Revelation 21; 22

5 Ellen White reference

The Great Controversy, chap. 42, pp. 662-678: "There the grandest enterprises may be carried forward, the loftiest aspirations reached, the highest ambitions realized; and still there will arise new heights to surmount, new wonders to admire, new truths to comprehend, fresh objects to call forth the powers of mind and soul and body" (p. 677).

6 The Bible Story reference

The Bible Story, vol. 10, pp. 167-170 ("The Voice Behind You"); vol. 10, pp. 171-175 ("Overcomers for Christ")

7 Family worship ideas

Use the following **texts** to explore the core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—Revelation 21:1, 2 (power text)

Sunday—Revelation 21:3-8

Monday—Revelation 21:9-14

Tuesday—Revelation 21:15-27

Wednesday—Revelation 21:19, 20

Thursday—Revelation 22

Friday—Revelation 22:20, 21

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- How does the Bible describe heaven?
- What did John see about heaven?
- Why do I wish to get to heaven?
- When I get to heaven, whom do I want to meet first?
- How should I live until Jesus comes?
- Whom could I tell about heaven?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- Phone a friend and share why you look forward to living in heaven.
- List 10 things from nature that you will enjoy experiencing in heaven.
- As a family, share with someone the good news about heaven.

8 Coming up next week!

Jesus is preparing us a home in His kingdom. We will live with Him forever.

Lesson 7

Year B Qtr 2

Heaven: A Sneak Preview (Jesus prepares heavenly homes)

1 Core teaching of this lesson

By God's grace we prepare to live with Him forever.

2 Power text (memory verse)

"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also" (John 14:1-3).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain

Our Beliefs, no. 18, The Gift of Prophecy: "The Scriptures testify that one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit is prophecy. This gift is an identifying mark of the remnant church and we believe it was manifested in the ministry of Ellen G. White. Her writings speak with prophetic authority and provide comfort, guidance, instruction, and correction to the church" (www.adventist.org).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

New Testament, The Four Gospels: John 14:1-3

5 Ellen White reference

Early Writings, pp. 11-20:

"Sometimes I think I can stay here no longer; all things of earth look so dreary. I feel very lonely here, for I have seen a better land. Oh, that I had wings like a dove, then would I fly away and be at rest!" (p. 19).

6 The Bible Story reference

The Bible Story, vol. 9, pp. 9-14 ("Jesus Friend of Children"); vol. 10, pp. 205-208 ("All Things New")

7 Family worship ideas

Use the following **texts** to explore the core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—John 14:1-3 (power text)

Sunday—John 3:16

Monday—Romans 5:21

Tuesday—Isaiah 11:6-9

Wednesday—John 5:24; 1 John 5:13

Thursday—1 Corinthians 2:9

Friday—John 14:2

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- How do I live, knowing that God has prepared a home for me in heaven?
- What is "life forever with Jesus"?
- How is heaven more amazing than my most cherished dreams?
- How do I receive God's kingdom into my heart each day?
- How does my character become formed for heaven?
- With whom can I share what I know about our home in heaven?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- Discuss Ellen White's vision of heaven.
- Tell someone about heaven this week.
- Discuss together 1 Corinthians 2:9.

8 Coming up next week!

We are citizens of God's kingdom. By His grace God transforms us into people fit for His kingdom.

Lesson8 Year B Qtr 2

Citizens of the Love Kingdom (God writes His law on our hearts)

1 Core teaching of this lesson

God is writing His law of love on our hearts to prepare us for citizenship in heaven.

2 Power text (memory verse)

"But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people" (Jeremiah 31:33).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain

Our Beliefs, no. 19, The Law of God: "Salvation is all of grace and not of works, and its fruit is obedience to the commandments" (www.adventist.org).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

Old Testament, The Books of Moses: Exodus 20:1-17; New Testament, The Four Gospels: Matthew 22:34-40; John 14:15

5 Ellen White reference

Patriarchs and Prophets, chap. 27, pp. 303-314: "Ten precepts, brief, comprehensive, and authoritative, cover the duty of man to God and to his fellow man; and all based upon the great fundamental principle of love. 'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself.' Luke 10:27 (p. 305).

6 The Bible Story reference

The Bible Story, vol. 2, pp. 153-158 ("Ten Golden Rules"); vol. 10, pp. 161-164 ("God Is Love"); vol. 10, pp. 128-131 ("Love at Its Best")

7 Family worship ideas

Use the following **texts** to explore the core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—Jeremiah 31:33 (power text)

Sunday—Exodus 20:1-11

Monday—Exodus 20:12-17; John 14:15

Tuesday—Matthew 22:34-40

Wednesday—Revelation 14:12

Thursday—John 14:15

Friday—Jeremiah 31:33

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- How is God's law a law of love?
- What does the law require of citizens?
- Why is it important to obey God's law?
- How is the law of God like a shield?
- How do I prepare to live in heaven?
- Does my life show that I obey God?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- Sing a hymn about God's law.
- Discuss how societies would be like without rules.
- Share how God's law helps us focus on others rather than on ourselves.

8 Coming up next week!

Jesus defends us against Satan's accusations. By grace He welcomes us to His kingdom in heaven.

Lesson 9

Year B Qtr 2

Jesus Defends Us

(Jesus defends us in the heavenly sanctuary)

1 Core teaching of this lesson

By His grace Jesus defends us in the heavenly sanctuary.

2 Power text (memory verse)

"My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world" (1 John 2:1, 2).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain

Our Beliefs, no. 24, Christ's Ministry in the Heavenly Sanctuary: "In [the sanctuary] Christ ministers on our behalf, making available to believers the benefits of His atoning sacrifice offered once for all on the cross" (www.adventist.org).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

Old Testament, The Major Prophets: Daniel 7:9, 10; New Testament: Matthew 22:1-14; Hebrews 4:14-16; 7:23-26; 8:1, 2; 9:22-28; Revelation 5:9; 12:10; 21:27

5 Ellen White reference

The Great Controversy, chaps. 23; 24, pp. 409-432: "The cleansing of the sanctuary therefore involves a work of investigation—a work of judgment" (p. 421).

6 The Bible Story reference

The Bible Story, vol. 10, pp. 157-160 ("Keep Up Your Courage!"); pp. 180-182 ("The Throne of God")

7 Family worship ideas

Use the following **texts** to explore the core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—1 John 2:1, 2 (power text)
 Sunday—Matthew 22:1-9
 Monday—Matthew 22:10-14
 Tuesday—Hebrews 4:14-16
 Wednesday—Psalm 35:22-24
 Thursday—1 John 4:16-18
 Friday—1 John 2:1, 2

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- How does Jesus defend my cause?
- Why do I need to accept Jesus' grace?
- How do I thank Jesus for saving me?
- How should I live, knowing that Jesus is defending my cause in heaven?
- How can I live to please God?
- How can I share with others what I know about Jesus' intercessory work?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- Act out the parable of the wedding garment from Matthew 22:1-14.
- Discuss how it would feel if none of the wedding guests came.
- Discuss the outcomes of accepting or rejecting Jesus' righteousness, which alone can cover us in the judgment.

8 Coming up next week!

Jesus will return to take us to His heavenly home.

Lesson 10

Year B Qtr 2

Just the Beginning of Praise (Home at last)

1 Core teaching of this lesson
We will praise and worship God in heaven during the millennium.

2 Power text (memory verse)
“And the Lord will deliver me from every evil work and preserve me for His heavenly kingdom. To Him be glory forever and ever. Amen!” (2 Timothy 4:18).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain

Our Beliefs, no. 25, The Second Coming of Jesus: “The second coming of Christ is the blessed hope of the church, the grand climax of the gospel. The Saviour’s coming will be literal, personal, visible, and worldwide. When He returns, the righteous dead will be resurrected, and together with the righteous living will be glorified and taken to heaven” (www.adventist.org).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

New Testament: 1 Corinthians 15:51, 52; 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17; Revelation 14:1-5

5 Ellen White reference
The Great Controversy, chap. 40, pp. 635-652: “Before the ransomed throng is the Holy City. Jesus opens wide the pearly gates, and the nations that have kept the truth enter in” (p. 646).

6 The Bible Story reference
The Bible Story, vol. 10, pp. 196-200

(“When Jesus Comes”)

7 Family worship ideas
Use the following **texts** to explore the core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—2 Timothy 4:18 (power text)

Sunday—1 Corinthians 15:51, 52

Monday—1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17

Tuesday—Revelation 14:1-5

Wednesday—Revelation 1:7

Thursday—John 14:1-3

Friday—Revelation 22:20

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- What do I think about the wonderful things waiting for me in heaven?
- How do I picture heaven?
- What wonderful experiences make me think of heaven?
- How will I say “Thanks” to Jesus when I see Him face-to-face?
- What is something I am eagerly anticipating to experience in heaven?
- With whom will I share today what I have learned about heaven?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- Create a new song or poem for Jesus.
- Look at family photos and talk about the reunion you’ll have in heaven.

8 Coming up next week!
The millennium is the period of 1,000 years that we will spend in heaven after Jesus’ second coming.

Lesson 11

Year B Qtr 2

A Thousand Years in Heaven

(Millennium—a time of praise and worship)

1 Core teaching of this lesson

We will praise God forever for His justice and mercy.

2 Power text (memory verse)

"And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God. They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying: 'Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints!'" (Revelation 15:2, 3).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain

Our Beliefs, no. 27, The Millennium and the End of Sin: "The millennium is the thousand-year reign of Christ with His saints in heaven between the first and second resurrections" (www.adventist.org).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

New Testament, The Revelation of Jesus Christ: Revelation 19:6-9; 20:1-6

5 Ellen White reference

The Great Controversy, chap. 41, pp. 653-661: "At this time the righteous reign as kings and priests unto God" (p. 660).

6 The Bible Story reference

The Bible Story, vol. 10, pp. 196-200 ("When Jesus Comes")

7 Family worship ideas

Use the following **texts** to explore the core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—Revelation 15:2, 3 (power text)

Sunday—Galatians 6:7-10

Monday—Revelation 22:4

Tuesday—Revelation 20:1-4;

1 Corinthians 6:3

Wednesday—Revelation 20:6

Thursday—Isaiah 33:22

Friday—Psalm 66:1-4; Psalm 98:7-9

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- What does it mean that the saints will reign with God for 1,000 years?
- How can I resist Satan's deceptions?
- What habits or behaviors do I need to change to be fit for heaven?
- How can I be sure that nothing keeps me from being loyal to God?
- How is God's plan of redemption just?
- How can I help someone recognize and resist Satan's deceptions?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- Explore how nature glorifies God.
- Share ways you could recognize and resist Satan's deceptions.

8 Coming up next week!

God will bring the New Jerusalem to earth. Satan and sin will be destroyed forever. Everyone will acknowledge that Jesus is Lord.

Lesson 12

Year B Qtr 2

Everyone Will Bow

(End of sin—Satan destroyed)

1 Core teaching of this lesson

We worship God, who defeated Satan and will end sin forever.

2 Power text (memory verse)

"Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:9-11).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain

Our Beliefs, no. 27, The Millennium and the End of Sin: "The unrighteous dead will then be resurrected, and with Satan and his angels will surround the city; but fire from God will consume them and cleanse the earth. The universe will thus be freed of sin and sinners forever" (www.adventist.org).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

New Testament, The Revelation of Jesus Christ: Revelation 20:7-10; 21:6-8

5 Ellen White reference

The Great Controversy, chap. 42, pp. 662-674: "Satan's work of ruin is forever ended. For six thousand years he has wrought his will, filling the earth with woe and causing grief throughout the universe. . . . Now God's creatures are forever delivered from his presence and temptations" (p. 673).

6 The Bible Story reference

The Bible Story, vol. 10, pp. 201-204 ("Good Wins at Last")

7 Family worship ideas

Use the following **texts** to explore the core teaching with your children:

Sabbath—Philippians 2:9-11 (power text)

Sunday—Isaiah 13:11

Monday—Revelation 20:7-10

Tuesday—Revelation 21:6-8

Wednesday—Daniel 6:25-27

Thursday—Luke 18:16

Friday—Revelation 21:7

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- What will God destroy forever at the end of the millennium?
- What will Jesus' scars remind us?
- How am I affected by sin in the world?
- How could I live a pure life with Jesus?
- How can I prepare for life on the new earth when sin will be destroyed forever?
- How could I help someone who is struggling with the results of sin?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- Discuss how to help others renounce the world of sin and its allurments.
- Share what it means that you are God's ambassador.
- Talk about preparing for life on the new earth, where sin will be no more.

8 Coming up next week!

God will make all things new. We will live with God forever on the new earth.

Lesson 13

Year B Qtr 2

Earth's Makeover (The new earth)

1 Core teaching of this lesson

We will live with Jesus forever on the new earth.

2 Power text (memory verse)

"And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, 'Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.' Then He who sat on the throne said, 'Behold, I make all things new.' And He said to me, 'Write, for these words are true and faithful'" (Revelation 21:3-5).

3 Key doctrine that this lesson helps to support and explain

Our Beliefs, no. 28, The New Earth: "God Himself will dwell with His people, and suffering and death will have passed away" (www.adventist.org).

4 Where this lesson is found in Scripture

Old Testament, Major Prophets: Isaiah 11:6-9; 65:17-19; New Testament: 2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21; 22:1-5

5 Ellen White reference

The Great Controversy, chap. 42, pp. 674-678: "The great controversy is ended. . . . From the minutest atom to the greatest world, all things, animate and inanimate, in their unshadowed beauty and perfect joy, declare that God is love" (p. 678).

6 The Bible Story reference

The Bible Story, vol. 10, pp. 205-208 ("All Things New")

7 Family worship ideas

Use the following **texts** to explore the core teaching with your children:

- Sabbath—Revelation 21:3-5 (power text)
- Sunday—Isaiah 11:6-9
- Monday—Isaiah 65:17-19
- Tuesday—2 Peter 3:13
- Wednesday—Revelation 21:1-4
- Thursday—Revelation 21:9-14
- Friday—Revelation 22:1-5

Use the following **questions** as discussion starters with your family:

- Why do I await life on the new earth?
- What do I wish to learn from Jesus?
- What place will the new earth be?
- Whom do I want to meet and talk to on the new earth?
- With whom can I share the knowledge that the earth will be made new?
- How can I care for the earth and the people around me?

Choose from the following **activities** to help energize your time together:

- Look for ways to protect our planet.
- Show pictures of different jewels and talk about the New Jerusalem.
- As a family, discuss how God is going to re-create the earth.

8 Coming up next week!

We are created with a purpose. God wants us to partner with Him as He fulfills His plan in our lives.



ourbeliefs

taken from *Seventh-day Adventists Believe*

1 The Holy Scriptures

The Holy Scriptures, Old and New Testaments, are the written Word of God, given by divine inspiration. The inspired authors spoke and wrote as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. In this Word, God has committed to humanity the knowledge necessary for salvation. The Holy Scriptures are the supreme, authoritative, and infallible revelation of His will. They are the standard of character, the test of experience, the definitive revealer of doctrines, and the trustworthy record of God's acts in history. (Ps. 119:105; Prov. 30:5, 6; Isa. 8:20; John 17:17; 1 Thess. 2:13; 2 Tim. 3:16, 17; Heb. 4:12; 2 Peter 1:20, 21.)

2 The Trinity

There is one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, a unity of three coeternal Persons. God is immortal, all-powerful, all-knowing, above all, and ever present. He is infinite and beyond human comprehension, yet known through His self-revelation. God, who is love, is forever worthy of worship, adoration, and service by the whole creation. (Gen. 1:26; Deut. 6:4; Isa. 6:8; Matt. 28:19; John 3:16; 2 Cor. 1:21, 22; 13:14; Eph. 4:4-6; 1 Peter 1:2.)

3 The Father

God the eternal Father is the Creator, Source, Sustainer, and Sovereign of all creation. He is just and holy, merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. The qualities and powers exhibited in the Son and the Holy Spirit are also those of the Father. (Gen. 1:1; Deut. 4:35; Ps. 110:1, 4; John 3:16; 14:9; 1 Cor. 15:28; 1 Tim. 1:17; 1 John 4:8; Rev. 4:11.)

4 The Son

God the eternal Son became incarnate in Jesus Christ. Through Him all things were created, the character of God is revealed, the salvation of humanity is accomplished, and

the world is judged. Forever truly God, He became also truly human, Jesus the Christ. He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived and experienced temptation as a human being, but perfectly exemplified the righteousness and love of God. By His miracles He manifested God's power and was attested as God's promised Messiah. He suffered and died voluntarily on the cross for our sins and in our place, was raised from the dead, and ascended to heaven to minister in the heavenly sanctuary on our behalf. He will come again in glory for the final deliverance of His people and the restoration of all things. (Isa. 53:4-6; Dan. 9:25-27; Luke 1:35; John 1:1-3, 14; 5:22; 10:30; 14:1-3, 9, 13; Rom. 6:23; 1 Cor. 15:3, 4; 2 Cor. 3:18; 5:17-19; Phil. 2:5-11; Col. 1:15-19; Heb. 2:9-18; 8:1, 2.)

5 The Holy Spirit

God the eternal Spirit was active with the Father and the Son in Creation, incarnation, and redemption. He is as much a person as are the Father and the Son. He inspired the writers of Scripture. He filled Christ's life with power. He draws and convicts human beings; and those who respond He renews and transforms into the image of God. Sent by the Father and the Son to be always with His children, He extends spiritual gifts to the church, empowers it to bear witness to Christ, and in harmony with the Scriptures leads it into all truth. (Gen. 1:1, 2; 2 Sam. 23:2; Ps. 51:11; Isa. 61:1; Luke 1:35; 4:18; John 14:16-18, 26; 15:26; 16:7-13; Acts 1:8; 5:3; 10:38; Rom. 5:5; 1 Cor. 12:7-11; 2 Cor. 3:18; 2 Peter 1:21.)

6 Creation

God has revealed in Scripture the authentic and historical account of His creative activity. He created the universe, and in a recent six-day creation the Lord made "the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them" and rested on the seventh

day. Thus He established the Sabbath as a perpetual memorial of the work He performed and completed during six literal days that together with the Sabbath constituted the same unit of time that we call a week today. The first man and woman were made in the image of God as the crowning work of Creation, given dominion over the world, and charged with responsibility to care for it. When the world was finished, it was "very good," declaring the glory of God. (Gen. 1; 2; 5; 11; Ex. 20:8-11; Ps. 19:1-6; 33:6, 9; 104; Isa. 45:12, 18; Acts 17:24; Col. 1:16; Heb. 1:2; 11:3; Rev. 10:6; 14:7.)

7 The Nature of Humanity

Man and woman were made in the image of God with individuality, the power and freedom to think and to do. Though created free beings, each is an indivisible unity of body, mind, and spirit, dependent upon God for life and breath and all else. When our first parents disobeyed God, they denied their dependence upon Him and fell from their high position. The image of God in them was marred, and they became subject to death. Their descendants share this fallen nature and its consequences. They are born with weaknesses and tendencies to evil. But God in Christ reconciled the world to Himself and by His Spirit restores in penitent mortals the image of their Maker. Created for the glory of God, they are called to love Him and one another, and to care for their environment. (Gen. 1:26-28; 2:7, 15; 3; Ps. 8:4-8; 51:5, 10; 58:3; Jer. 17:9; Acts 17:24-28; Rom. 5:12-17; 2 Cor. 5:19, 20; Eph. 2:3; 1 Thess. 5:23; 1 John 3:4; 4:7; 8, 11, 20.)

8 The Great Controversy

All humanity is now involved in a great controversy between Christ and Satan regarding the character of God, His law, and His sovereignty over the universe. This conflict originated in heaven when a created being,

ourbeliefs continued

endowed with the freedom of choice, in self-exaltation became Satan, God's adversary, and led into rebellion a portion of the angels. He introduced the spirit of rebellion into this world when he led Adam and Eve into sin. This human sin resulted in the distortion of the image of God in humanity, the disordering of the created world, and its eventual devastation at the time of the global flood, as presented in the historical account of Genesis 1-11. Observed by the whole creation, this world became the arena of the universal conflict, out of which the God of love will ultimately be vindicated. To assist His people in this controversy, Christ sends the Holy Spirit and the loyal angels to guide, protect, and sustain them in the way of salvation. (Gen. 3: 6-8; Job 1:6-12; Isa. 14:12-14; Ezek. 28:12-18; Rom. 1:19-32; 3:4; 5:12-21; 8:19-22; 1 Cor. 4:9; Heb. 1:14; 1 Peter 5:8; 2 Peter 3:6; Rev. 12:4-9.)

9 The Life, Death, and Resurrection of Christ

In Christ's life of perfect obedience to God's will, His suffering, death, and resurrection, God provided the only means of atonement for human sin, so that those who by faith accept this atonement may have eternal life, and the whole creation may better understand the infinite and holy love of the Creator. This perfect atonement vindicates the righteousness of God's law and the graciousness of His character; for it both condemns our sin and provides for our forgiveness. The death of Christ is substitutionary and expiatory, reconciling and transforming. The bodily resurrection of Christ proclaims God's triumph over the forces of evil, and for those who accept the atonement assures their final victory over sin and death. It declares the Lordship of Jesus Christ, before whom every knee in heaven and on earth will bow. (Gen. 3:15; Ps. 22:1; Isa. 53; John 3:16; 14:30; Rom. 1:4; 3:25; 4:25; 8:3, 4; 1 Cor. 15:3, 4, 20-22; 2 Cor. 5:14, 15, 19-21; Phil. 2:6-11; Col. 2:15;

1 Peter 2:21, 22; 1 John 2:2; 4:10.)

10 The Experience of Salvation

In infinite love and mercy God made Christ, who knew no sin, to be sin for us, so that in Him we might be made the righteousness of God. Led by the Holy Spirit, we sense our need, acknowledge our sinfulness, repent of our transgressions, and exercise faith in Jesus as Saviour and Lord, Substitute and Example. This saving faith comes through the divine power of the Word and is the gift of God's grace. Through Christ we are justified, adopted as God's sons and daughters, and delivered from the lordship of sin. Through the Spirit we are born again and sanctified; the Spirit renews our minds, writes God's law of love in our hearts, and we are given the power to live a holy life. Abiding in Him, we become partakers of the divine nature and have the assurance of salvation now and in the judgment. (Gen. 3:15; Isa. 45:22; 53; Jer. 31:31-34; Ezek. 33:11; 36:25-27; Hab. 2:4; Mark 9:23, 24; John 3:3-8, 16; 16:8; Rom. 3:21-26; 5:6-10; 8:1-4, 14-17; 10:17; 12:2; 2 Cor. 5:17-21; Gal. 1:4; 3:13, 14, 26; 4:4-7; Eph. 2:4-10; Col. 1:13, 14; Titus 3:3-7; Heb. 8:7-12; 1 Peter 1:23; 2:21, 22; 2 Peter 1:3, 4; Rev. 13:8.)

11 Growing in Christ

By His death on the cross Jesus triumphed over the forces of evil. He who subjugated the demonic spirits during His earthly ministry has broken their power and made certain their ultimate doom. Jesus' victory gives us victory over the evil forces that still seek to control us, as we walk with Him in peace, joy, and assurance of His love. Now the Holy Spirit dwells within us and empowers us. Continually committed to Jesus as our Saviour and Lord, we are set free from the burden of our past deeds. No longer do we live in the darkness, fear of evil

powers, ignorance, and meaninglessness of our former way of life. In this new freedom in Jesus, we are called to grow into the likeness of His character, communing with Him daily in prayer, feeding on His Word, meditating on it and on His providence, singing His praises, gathering together for worship, and participating in the mission of the church. We are also called to follow Christ's example by compassionately ministering to the physical, mental, social, emotional, and spiritual needs of humanity. As we give ourselves in loving service to those around us and in witnessing to His salvation, His constant presence with us through the Spirit transforms every moment and every task into a spiritual experience. (1 Chron. 29:11; Ps. 1:1, 2; 23:4; 77:11, 12; Matt. 20:25-28; 25:31-46; Luke 10:17-20; John 20:21; Rom. 8:38, 39; 2 Cor. 3:17, 18; Gal. 5:22-25; Eph. 5:19, 20; 6:12-18; Phil. 3:7-14; Col. 1:13, 14; 2:6, 14, 15; 1 Thess. 5:16-18, 23; Heb. 10:25; James 1:27; 2 Peter 2:9; 3:18; 1 John 4:4.)

12 The Church

The church is the community of believers who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. In continuity with the people of God in Old Testament times, we are called out from the world; and we join together for worship, for fellowship, for instruction in the Word, for the celebration of the Lord's Supper, for service to humanity, and for the worldwide proclamation of the gospel. The church derives its authority from Christ, who is the incarnate Word revealed in the Scriptures. The church is God's family; adopted by Him as children, its members live on the basis of the new covenant. The church is the body of Christ, a community of faith of which Christ Himself is the Head. The church is the bride for whom Christ died that He might sanctify and cleanse her. At His return in triumph, He will present her to Himself a glorious church, the faithful of all the ages, the purchase of His blood, not

having spot or wrinkle, but holy and without blemish. (Gen. 12:1-3; Ex. 19:3-7; Matt. 16:13-20; 18:18; 28:19, 20; Acts 2:38-42; 7:38; 1 Cor. 1:2; Eph. 1:22, 23; 2:19-22; 3:8-11; 5:23-27; Col. 1:17, 18; 1 Peter 2:9.)

13 The Remnant and Its Mission

The universal church is composed of all who truly believe in Christ, but in the last days, a time of widespread apostasy, a remnant has been called out to keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. This remnant announces the arrival of the judgment hour, proclaims salvation through Christ, and heralds the approach of His second advent. This proclamation is symbolized by the three angels of Revelation 14; it coincides with the work of judgment in heaven and results in a work of repentance and reform on earth. Every believer is called to have a personal part in this worldwide witness. (Dan. 7:9-14; Isa. 1:9; 11:11; Jer. 23:3; Dan. 7:9-14; Micah 2:12; 2 Cor. 5:10; 1 Peter 1:16-19; 4:17; 2 Peter 3:10-14; Jude 3, 14; Rev. 12:17; 14:6-12; 18:1-4.)

14 Unity in the Body of Christ

The church is one body with many members, called from every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. In Christ we are a new creation; distinctions of race, culture, learning, and nationality, and differences between high and low, rich and poor, male and female, must not be divisive among us. We are all equal in Christ, who by one Spirit has bonded us into one fellowship with Him and with one another; we are to serve and be served without partiality or reservation. Through the revelation of Jesus Christ in the Scriptures we share the same faith and hope, and reach out in one witness to all. This unity has its source in the oneness of the triune God, who has adopted us as His children. (Ps. 133:1; Matt.

28:19, 20; John 17:20-23; Acts 17:26, 27; Rom. 12:4, 5; 1 Cor. 12:12-14; 2 Cor. 5:16, 17; Gal. 3:27-29; Eph. 2:13-16; 4:3-6, 11-16; Col. 3:10-15.)

15 Baptism

By baptism we confess our faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and testify of our death to sin and of our purpose to walk in newness of life. Thus we acknowledge Christ as Lord and Saviour, become His people, and are received as members by His church. Baptism is a symbol of our union with Christ, the forgiveness of our sins, and our reception of the Holy Spirit. It is by immersion in water and is contingent on an affirmation of faith in Jesus and evidence of repentance of sin. It follows instruction in the Holy Scriptures and acceptance of their teachings. (Matt. 28:19, 20; Acts 2:38; 16:30-33; 22:16; Rom. 6:1-6; Gal. 3:27; Col. 2:12, 13.)

16 The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is a participation in the emblems of the body and blood of Jesus as an expression of faith in Him, our Lord and Saviour. In this experience of communion Christ is present to meet and strengthen His people. As we partake, we joyfully proclaim the Lord's death until He comes again. Preparation for the Supper includes self-examination, repentance, and confession. The Master ordained the service of foot washing to signify renewed cleansing, to express a willingness to serve one another in Christlike humility, and to unite our hearts in love. The communion service is open to all believing Christians. (Matt. 26:17-30; John 6:48-63; 13:1-17; 1 Cor. 10:16, 17; 11:23-30; Rev. 3:20.)

17 Spiritual Gifts and Ministries

God bestows upon all members of His

church in every age spiritual gifts that each member is to employ in loving ministry for the common good of the church and of humanity. Given by the agency of the Holy Spirit, who apportions to each member as He wills, the gifts provide all abilities and ministries needed by the church to fulfill its divinely ordained functions. According to the Scriptures, these gifts include such ministries as faith, healing, prophecy, proclamation, teaching, administration, reconciliation, compassion, and self-sacrificing service and charity for the help and encouragement of people. Some members are called of God and endowed by the Spirit for functions recognized by the church in pastoral, evangelistic, and teaching ministries particularly needed to equip the members for service, to build up the church to spiritual maturity, and to foster unity of the faith and knowledge of God. When members employ these spiritual gifts as faithful stewards of God's varied grace, the church is protected from the destructive influence of false doctrine, grows with a growth that is from God, and is built up in faith and love. (Acts 6:1-7; Rom. 12:4-8; 1 Cor. 12:7-11, 27, 28; Eph. 4:8, 11-16; 1 Tim. 3:1-13; 1 Peter 4:10, 11.)

18 The Gift of Prophecy

The Scriptures testify that one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit is prophecy. This gift is an identifying mark of the remnant church, and we believe it was manifested in the ministry of Ellen G. White. Her writings speak with prophetic authority and provide comfort, guidance, instruction, and correction to the church. They also make clear that the Bible is the standard by which all teaching and experience must be tested. (Num. 12:6; 2 Chron. 20:20; Joel 2:28, 29; Amos 3:7; Acts 2:14-21; 2 Tim. 3:16, 17; Heb. 1:1-3; Rev. 12:17; 19:10; 22:8, 9.)

ourbeliefs continued

19 The Law of God

The great principles of God's law are embodied in the Ten Commandments and exemplified in the life of Christ. They express God's love, will, and purposes concerning human conduct and relationships and are binding upon all people in every age. These precepts are the basis of God's covenant with His people and the standard in God's judgment. Through the agency of the Holy Spirit they point out sin and awaken a sense of need for a Saviour. Salvation is all of grace and not of works, and its fruit is obedience to the Commandments. This obedience develops Christian character and results in a sense of well-being. It is evidence of our love for the Lord and our concern for our fellow human beings. The obedience of faith demonstrates the power of Christ to transform lives, and therefore strengthens Christian witness. (Ex. 20:1-17; Deut. 28:1-14; Ps. 19:7-14; 40:7, 8; Matt. 5:17-20; 22:36-40; John 14:15; 15:7-10; Rom. 8:3, 4; Eph. 2:8-10; Heb. 8:8-10; 1 John 2:3; 5:3; Rev. 12:17; 14:12.)

20 The Sabbath

The gracious Creator, after the six days of Creation, rested on the seventh day and instituted the Sabbath for all people as a memorial of Creation. The fourth commandment of God's unchangeable law requires the observance of this seventh-day Sabbath as the day of rest, worship, and ministry in harmony with the teaching and practice of Jesus, the Lord of the Sabbath. The Sabbath is a day of delightful communion with God and one another. It is a symbol of our redemption in Christ, a sign of our sanctification, a token of our allegiance, and a foretaste of our eternal future in God's kingdom. The Sabbath is God's perpetual sign of His eternal covenant between Him and His people. Joyful observance of this holy time from evening to evening, sunset to sunset, is a celebration

of God's creative and redemptive acts. (Gen. 2:1-3; Ex. 20:8-11; 31:13-17; Lev. 23:32; Deut. 5:12-15; Isa. 56:5, 6; 58:13, 14; Ezek. 20:12, 20; Matt. 12:1-12; Mark 1:32; Luke 4:16; Heb. 4:1-11.)

21 Stewardship

We are God's stewards, entrusted by Him with time and opportunities, abilities and possessions, and the blessings of the earth and its resources. We are responsible to Him for their proper use. We acknowledge God's ownership by faithful service to Him and our fellow human beings, and by returning tithe and giving offerings for the proclamation of His gospel and the support and growth of His church. Stewardship is a privilege given to us by God for nurture in love and the victory over selfishness and covetousness. Stewards rejoice in the blessings that come to others as a result of their faithfulness. (Gen. 1:26-28; 2:15; 1 Chron. 29:14; Haggai 1:3-11; Mal. 3:8-12; Matt. 23:23; Rom. 15:26, 27; 1 Cor. 9:9-14; 2 Cor. 8:1-15; 9:7.)

22 Christian Behavior

We are called to be a godly people who think, feel, and act in harmony with biblical principles in all aspects of personal and social life. For the Spirit to re-create in us the character of our Lord we involve ourselves only in those things that will produce Christ-like purity, health, and joy in our lives. This means that our amusement and entertainment should meet the highest standards of Christian taste and beauty. While recognizing cultural differences, our dress is to be simple, modest, and neat, befitting those whose true beauty does not consist of outward adornment but in the imperishable ornament of a gentle and quiet spirit. It also means that because our bodies are the temples of the Holy Spirit, we are to care for them intel-

ligently. Along with adequate exercise and rest, we are to adopt the most healthful diet possible and abstain from the unclean foods identified in the Scriptures. Since alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and the irresponsible use of drugs and narcotics are harmful to our bodies, we are to abstain from them as well. Instead, we are to engage in whatever brings our thoughts and bodies into the discipline of Christ, who desires our wholesomeness, joy, and goodness. (Gen. 7:2; Ex. 20:15; Lev. 11:1-47; Ps. 106:3; Rom. 12:1, 2; 1 Cor. 6:19, 20; 10:31; 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1; 10:5; Eph. 5:1-21; Phil. 2:4; 4:8; 1 Tim. 2:9, 10; Titus 2:11, 12; 1 Peter 3:1-4; 1 John 2:6; 3 John 2.)

23 Marriage and the Family

Marriage was divinely established in Eden and affirmed by Jesus to be a lifelong union between a man and a woman in loving companionship. For the Christian a marriage commitment is to God as well as to the spouse, and should be entered into only between a man and a woman who share a common faith. Mutual love, honor, respect, and responsibility are the fabric of this relationship, which is to reflect the love, sanctity, closeness, and permanence of the relationship between Christ and His church. Regarding divorce, Jesus taught that the person who divorces a spouse, except for fornication, and marries another commits adultery. Although some family relationships may fall short of the ideal, a man and a woman who fully commit themselves to each other in Christ through marriage may achieve loving unity through the guidance of the Spirit and the nurture of the church. God blesses the family and intends that its members shall assist each other toward complete maturity. Increasing family closeness is one of the earmarks of the final gospel message. Parents are to bring up their children to love and obey the Lord. By their example and their words they are to teach

them that Christ is a loving, tender, and caring guide who wants them to become members of His body, the family of God, which embraces both single and married persons. (Gen. 2:18-25; Ex. 20:12; Deut. 6:5-9; Prov. 22:6; Mal. 4:5, 6; Matt. 5:31, 32; 19:3-9, 12; Mark 10:11, 12; John 2:1-11; 1 Cor. 7:7, 10, 11; 2 Cor. 6:14; Eph. 5:21-33; 6:1-4.)

24 Christ's Ministry in the Heavenly Sanctuary

There is a sanctuary in heaven, the true tabernacle that the Lord set up and not humans. In it Christ ministers on our behalf, making available to believers the benefits of His atoning sacrifice offered once for all on the cross. At His ascension He was inaugurated as our great High Priest and began His intercessory ministry, which was typified by the work of the high priest in the holy place of the earthly sanctuary. In 1844, at the end of the prophetic period of 2300 days, He entered the second and last phase of His atoning ministry, which was typified by the work of the high priest in the most holy place of the earthly sanctuary. It is a work of investigative judgment, which is part of the ultimate disposition of all sin, typified by the cleansing of the ancient Hebrew sanctuary on the Day of Atonement. In that typical service the sanctuary was cleansed with the blood of animal sacrifices, but the heavenly things are purified with the perfect sacrifice of the blood of Jesus. The investigative judgment reveals to heavenly intelligences who among the dead are asleep in Christ and therefore, in Him, are deemed worthy to have part in the first resurrection. It also makes manifest who among the living are abiding in Christ, keeping the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, and in Him, therefore, are ready for translation into His everlasting kingdom. This judgment vindicates the justice of God in saving those who believe in Jesus. It declares

that those who have remained loyal to God shall receive the kingdom. The completion of this ministry of Christ will mark the close of human probation before the Second Advent. (Lev. 16; Num. 14:34; Ezek. 4:6; Dan. 7:9-27; 8:13, 14; 9:24-27; Heb. 1:3; 2:16, 17; 4:14-16; 8:1-5; 9:11-28; 10:19-22; Rev. 8:3-5; 11:19; 14:6, 7; 20:12; 14:12; 22:11, 12.)

25 The Second Coming of Christ

The second coming of Christ is the blessed hope of the church, the grand climax of the gospel. The Saviour's coming will be literal, personal, visible, and worldwide. When He returns, the righteous dead will be resurrected and, together with the righteous living, will be glorified and taken to heaven, but the unrighteous will die. The almost complete fulfillment of most lines of prophecy, together with the present condition of the world, indicates that Christ's coming is near. The time of that event has not been revealed, and we are therefore exhorted to be ready at all times. (Matt. 24; Mark 13; Luke 21; John 14:1-3; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Cor. 15:51-54; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 5:1-6; 2 Thess. 1:7-10; 2:8; 2 Tim. 3:1-5; Titus 2:13; Heb. 9:28; Rev. 1:7; 14:14-20; 19:11-21.)

26 Death and Resurrection

The wages of sin is death. But God, who alone is immortal, will grant eternal life to His redeemed. Until that day death is an unconscious state for all people. When Christ, who is our life, appears, the resurrected righteous and the living righteous will be glorified and caught up to meet their Lord. The second resurrection, a resurrection of the unrighteous, will take place a thousand years later. (Job 19:25-27; Ps. 146:3, 4; Eccl. 9:5, 6, 10; Dan. 12:2, 13; Isa. 25:8; John 5:28, 29; 11:11-14; Rom. 6:23; 1 Cor. 15:51-54; Col. 3:4; 1 Thess. 4:13-17; 1 Tim. 6:15, 16; Rev. 20:1-10.)

27 The Millennium and the End of Sin

The millennium is the thousand-year reign of Christ with His saints in heaven between the first and second resurrections. During this time the wicked dead will be judged; the earth will be utterly desolate, without living human inhabitants, but occupied by Satan and his angels. At its close Christ with His saints and the Holy City will descend from heaven to earth. The unrighteous dead will then be resurrected and with Satan and his angels will surround the city; but fire from God will consume them and cleanse the earth. The universe will thus be freed of sin and sinners forever. (Jer. 4:23-26; Ezek. 28:18, 19; Mal. 4:1; 1 Cor. 6:2, 3; Rev. 20; Rev. 21:1-5.)

28 The New Earth

On the new earth, in which righteousness dwells, God will provide an eternal home for the redeemed and a perfect environment for everlasting life, love, joy, and learning in His presence. For here God Himself will dwell with His people, and suffering and death will have passed away. The great controversy will be ended, and sin will be no more. All things, animate and inanimate, will declare that God is love, and He shall reign forever. Amen. (Isa. 35; 65:17-25; Matt. 5:5; 2 Peter 3:13; Rev. 11:15; 21:1-7; 22:1-5.)

Seventh-day Adventists accept the Bible as their only creed and hold certain fundamental beliefs to be the teachings of the Holy Scriptures. These beliefs, as set forth here, constitute the church's understanding and expression of the teaching of Scripture. Revision of these statements may be expected at a General Conference session, when the church is led by the Holy Spirit to a fuller understanding of Bible truth or finds better language to express the teachings of God's Holy Word.

www.adventist.org/beliefs/fundamental/index.html.