

JESUS Film Harvest Partners

New Believers Bible Studies



# Introduction

When asked for the most important law in the Old Testament, Jesus declared:

**‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments. (Matthew 22:37-40)**

As Jesus describes, disciples of Jesus Christ are people who love God with all their heart and soul and mind, and their neighbors as themselves. Being a disciple of Jesus Christ is not a one-time decision, but a lifestyle of continually growing closer to Jesus, and growing deeper in our love for others.

Becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ is not a quick or easy process. Because sin stains every part of a person’s life, becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ means the Christian allows God to transform and heal every part of his or her life. However, becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ is not just a negative process (getting rid of sin), it is also a positive process, as disciples are being filled with God. The writer of the Book of Hebrews refers to this negative and positive process in chapter 12 when he calls his readers to both “throw off” and “run with perseverance.”

**Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. (Hebrews 12:1-2)**

Becoming a disciple is a process without an end this side of death. All Christians are to grow continually as disciples of Jesus Christ. While becoming a disciple is a lifelong journey, the first two years of a new believer’s spiritual life are pivotal. In these first years new Christians need to build a solid foundation that will stand strong in times of trial and temptation. Unfortunately, if they do not build this solid foundation, their weak foundation will crumble during times of trial and temptation. (Matthew 7:24-27)

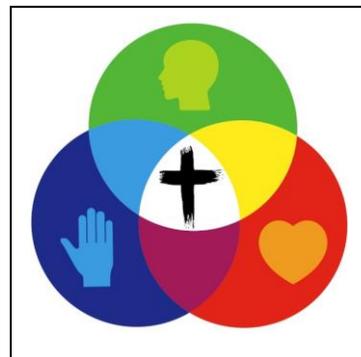
To help in this discipleship process, we have developed this two-year set of Bible Studies. This set of studies is a tool to help you, as the teacher, lead your students as they journey from being new Christians to becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ. These studies span the Bible from beginning to end, giving your students a thorough understanding of the story of God as revealed in the Bible.

These studies also take into account that becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ is about much more than learning facts from the Bible. Becoming a disciple requires being so open to the work of God in our lives that God is able to take the message of the Bible, and use it to transform the disciple’s whole life. Therefore, we have structured the Bible lessons to help the students understand and apply the scripture passage in all areas of their life by organizing them into three areas:

- **Head:** What does this text mean?
- **Heart:** Who does the text say we should be?

- **Hands:** How can we put the Word of God into action?

As the image on the right illustrates, it is at the intersection of understanding how the text applies to our Head, Heart, and Hands that Christians are equipped to become more like Jesus Christ.



The Bible lessons are organized into three parts.

#### 1. **Introductory Materials.**

- The **Lesson title** and **Bible passage references**. To help your students understand the whole scope of God’s story in the Bible, we have paired the main lesson text with a complementary text from another part of the Bible. For the Old Testament lessons, it is a New Testament text to make sure there is an element of the Gospel in every lesson. For the New Testament lessons, we have chosen either a New Testament or an Old Testament text.
- The **Lesson goals** are stated, organized around the “Head, Heart, and “Hands,” model.
- The **Lesson image**. Each lesson has an image that, depending on your students, can help them better internalize and understand the lesson.
- **Lesson in a verse**. This verse can be used both as a focus for you in preparing for the Bible study time, and as a memory verse for your students to work on through the week.

#### 2. **Background Materials:**

- The **Text Summary** is specifically tied to the image. Both of these items were developed by, and used by permission from, the Wesleyan Publishing House.
- The **Teaching from the Image** section highlights how certain parts of the image relate to the Bible text.
- The **Text Context** section gives background material and context for both the main and the complementary text.

#### 3. **The Bible Study.** While you, as the teacher, will know best how to organize the Bible study for your students, we have developed a basic outline with the following sections:

- **Pray:** Each study begins and ends with prayer, as recognition that this Bible study time will only be beneficial if you and the students are listening for God’s message to you. This prayer time also gives you and the students time to share prayer requests and answers to prayer.
- **Hear:** In this section the Bible texts are explored as the texts are read, given some context, and a student is invited summarize them.
- **Share:** Here is the heart of the lesson. While the Pray, Hear, and Apply sections are the same for each week, we have developed the Share section uniquely for each lesson. Organized by the Head, Heart, and Hands model, this section gives a brief application of the text, along with some follow-up questions for the students.
- **Apply:** in this closing section, the lesson focuses on how the students can apply the message to their daily life. The lesson ends in prayer, recognizing the student is not to live out the text under his or her own power and wisdom, but through the power and wisdom of God.

Finally, the intent of this two-year set of lessons is for you to use them from beginning to end to tell the whole story of God. However, we recognize you might also want to use them in shorter-term, or subject-focused, Bible Studies as well. Therefore, we have identified four “Tracks” around important themes that can be used for shorter or subject-focused Bible Study groups. The Tracks are:

- **10 Commandments Track** (10 lessons)
- **Fruits of the Spirit Track** (9 lessons)
- **Articles of Faith (Church of the Nazarene Membership) Track** (16 lessons)

For each of the lessons in these Tracks, we have imbedded a special paragraph and questions in the **Text Context** portion of the lesson to help you focus the lesson on the larger Track theme. The listing of specific lessons for the Tracks are located at the end of this introduction.

These Bible Studies have been prepared with much prayer and study to help new believers get a strong start on becoming disciples of Jesus Christ. Teacher, thank you so much for taking on such an important role for your students! The Kingdom of God will grow and expand in your community as you and your students understand more deeply, what it looks like to, in Jesus’ words:

**Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind...and...Love your neighbor as yourself. (Matthew 22:37-38)**

Yours in Christ,

The JESUS Film Harvest Partners Team

**Lesson #****Bible Lesson Name****Bible Text**

Lesson #	Bible Lesson Name	Bible Text
1	Creation & Beginnings	Genesis 1, 2
2	The Fall of Man	Genesis 3
3	Cain and Abel	Genesis 4:1-16
4	Noah Builds an Ark	Genesis 6
5	The Tower of Babel	Genesis 11:1-9
6	Sodom & Gomorrah Destroyed	Genesis 19:1-29
7	Promises to Abraham	Genesis 12:1-9
8	God Provides a Sacrifice	Genesis 22:1-19
9	Esau Trades His Birthright	Genesis 25:19-34
10	Jacob Wrestles with God	Genesis 32:22-32
11	Joseph's Dream	Genesis 37
12	Joseph in Prison	Genesis 40
13	Joseph Rules in Egypt	Genesis 41
14	Baby Moses Rescued	Exodus 2:1-10
15	The Burning Bush	Exodus 3
16	Ten Plagues in Egypt	Exodus 7:1-13
17	The First Passover	Exodus 11:1 - 12:13
18	Crossing the Red Sea	Exodus 13:17 - 14:31
19	Eating Manna in Desert	Exodus 16
20	Moses Strikes the Rock	Exodus 17:1-7
21	The Ten Commandments	Exodus 20:1-20
22	The Golden Calf	Exodus 32
23	Making of the Tabernacle	Exodus 39:32-43
24	Twelve Spies in Canaan	Numbers 13
25	The Bronze Snake	Numbers 21:4-9
26	Balaam's Talking Donkey	Numbers 22:21-41
27	Crossing the Jordan River	Joshua 3 - 4
28	Fall of the City of Jericho	Joshua 6
29	Achan's Sin & Punishment	Joshua 7
30	Gideon and the Midianites	Judges 7:1-22
31	Delilah Tricks Samson	Judges 16:4-31
32	Ruth & Naomi	Ruth 1
33	God's Call to Samuel	1 Samuel 3
34	Samuel Anoints Saul	1 Samuel 10
35	Samuel Anoints David	1 Samuel 15 - 16
36	David Kills Goliath	1 Samuel 17
37	David Spares Saul's Life	1 Samuel 26
38	Ark of the Covenant Returned	2 Samuel 6
39	Building the Temple	1 Kings 6:1-22
40	Elijah Fed by Ravens	1 Kings 17:1-6
41	Elijah on Mt. Carmel	1 Kings 18:16-46
42	Healing of Naaman	2 Kings 5
43	Joash - Child King	2 Kings 11
44	Rebuilding Wall of Jerusalem	Nehemiah 2:11-20
45	Esther Saves Her People	Esther 4
46	Psalms of David	Psalms 2, 23
47	Job - Suffering Servant	Job 1

48	Isaiah's Vision & Commission	Isaiah 6:1-8
49	Jeremiah Rescued from Well	Jeremiah 38:1-13
50	The Fiery Furnace	Daniel 3
51	Daniel & Lions Den	Daniel 6
52	Jonah & Great Fish	Jonah 1 - 2
53	Prophets Speak of God's Chosen One	Isaiah 52:13-53:12
54	Angel Visits Mary	Luke 1:26-56
55	Messiah is Born	Luke 2:1-38
56	Wise Men Visit Jesus	Matthew 2:1-12
57	Jesus at the Temple	Luke 2:40-52
58	John the Baptist's Proclamation	John 1:29-34
59	Jesus' Baptism	Matthew 3:1-17
60	Jesus' Temptation	Matthew 4:1-11
61	Jesus' First Disciples	Luke 5:1-11
62	The Paralyzed Man	Mark 2:1-12
63	Jesus Teaches Nicodemus	John 3:1-21
64	Samaritan Woman at Well	John 4:1-42
65	Sermon on the Mount	Matthew 5:1-20
66	Jesus Calms the Storm	Mark 4:35-41
67	Casting out Demons	Mark 5:1-20
68	Woman Touches Jesus' Garment	Mark 5:24b-34
69	Jairus' Daughter Healed	Mark 5:21-24; 35-43
70	Jesus Feeds 5,000	John 6:1-13
71	Jesus Walks on Water	Matthew 14:22-33
72	Transfiguration of Jesus	Matthew 17:1-9
73	Lost and Found Prodigal	Luke 15:11-32
74	Ten Lepers Healed	Luke 17:11-19
75	Rich Young Ruler Seeks God	Matthew 19:16-30
76	Jesus Knew of Coming Crucifixion	Luke 18:31-34
77	Blind Bartimaeus Healed	Mark 10:46-52
78	Zacchaeus Meets Jesus	Luke 19:1-10
79	Lazarus is Raised	John 11:1-54
80	Jesus Enters Jerusalem	Luke 19:28-44
81	Jesus Cleans the Temple	Luke 19:45-48
82	Widow Gives Her Offering	Mark 12:38-44
83	The Passover Supper	Luke 22:1-23
84	Jesus Prays in Gethsemane	Luke 22:39-46
85	Jesus is Arrested	Matthew 26:47-56
86	Peter's Denial of Jesus	Matthew 26:69-75
87	Crucifixion of Jesus	Matthew 27:1-66
88	The Risen Christ	Luke 24:1-12
89	Jesus Appears to Thomas	John 20:19-29
90	Great Fish Catch	John 21
91	Ascension & Wait for Holy Spirit	Acts 1:1-14
92	Day of Pentecost	Acts 2
93	The Community of Jesus the Messiah	Acts 2:41-47
94	Peter & John Heal Beggar	Acts 3
95	Ananias & Sapphira Lie	Acts 5:1-11

96	Story of Stephen	Acts 6:8-7:60
97	Philip & Ethiopian	Acts 8:26-40
98	Saul's Conversion	Acts 9:1-19
99	Saul Begins to Preach	Acts 9:19-31
100	Peter in Prison	Acts 12:1-19
101	Paul & Barnabas Sent Out	Acts 13:1-5
102	Paul Stoned in Lystra	Acts 14:8-20
103	Philippian Jailer Saved	Acts 15:40, 16:4-40
104	Burning the Scrolls	Acts 19:1-20
105	Paul Shipwrecked at Malta	Acts 27
106	Paul in Chains in Rome	Acts 28:17-31
107	Jesus Returns as King	Revelation 19:11-20:6
108	New Jerusalem	Revelation 21

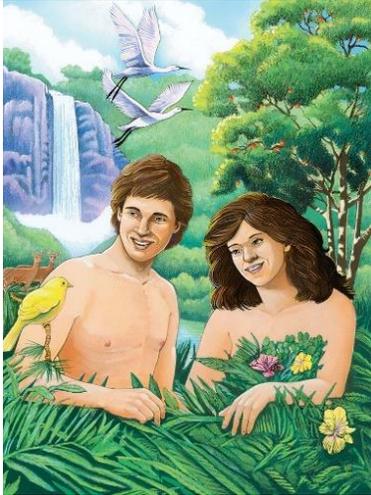
<b>10 Commandments Track</b>	Lesson # and Title	Scripture Text
Intro to the 10 Commandments	# 21: The Ten Commandments	Exodus 20:1-20
No Other Gods	# 50: The Fiery Furnace	Daniel 3
No Idols	# 22: Golden Calf	Exodus 32
No Blasphemy	# 41: Elijah on Mt. Carmel	1 Kings 18:16-46
Keep the Sabbath Holy	# 19: Manna in the Desert	Exodus 16
Honor Your Parents	# 32: Ruth and Naomi	Ruth 1
Do Not Murder	# 3: Cain and Abel	Genesis 3:1-16
Do Not Commit Adultery	# 12: Joseph in Prison	Genesis 40
Do Not Steal	# 29: Achan's Sin	Joshua 7
Do Not Lie	# 31: Delilah Tricks Solomon	Judges 16:4-31
Do Not Covet	# 51: Daniel in the Lion's Den	Daniel 6

<b>Fruit of the Spirit Track</b>	Lesson # and Title	Scripture Text
Love	# 32: Ruth & Naomi	Ruth 1
Joy	# 38: Ark of the Covenant Returned	2 Samuel 6
Peace	# 106: Paul in Chains in Rome	Acts 28:17-31
Patience	# 37: David Spares Saul's Life	1 Samuel 26
Kindness	# 94: Peter and John Heal Beggar	Acts 3
Goodness	# 13: Joseph Rules in Egypt	Genesis 41
Faithfulness	# 51: Daniel and the Lion's Den	Daniel 6
Gentleness	# 85: Jesus is Arrested	Matthew 26:47-56
Self-control	# 60 Jesus' Temptation	Matthew 4:1-11

<b>Articles of Faith Track</b>	Lesson # and Title	Scripture Text
I. The Triune God	# 1: Creation and Beginnings	Genesis 1, 2
II. Jesus Christ	# 62: The Paralyzed Man	Mark 2:1-12
III. The Holy Spirit	# 104: Burning the Scrolls	Acts 19:1-20

IV. The Holy Scriptures	# 65: Sermon on the Mount	Matthew 5:1-20
V. Sin, Original and Personal	# 2: The Fall of Humanity	Genesis 3
VI. Atonement	# 87: Crucifixion of Jesus	Matthew 27
VII. Prevenient Grace	# 97: Philip and the Ethiopian	Acts 8:26-40
VIII. Repentance	# 78: Zacchaeus	Luke 19:1-10
IX. Justification, Regeneration, Adoption	# 63: Nicodemus	John 3:1-21
X. Christian Holiness and Entire Sanctification	# 92: Day of Pentecost	Acts 2
XI. The Church	# 101: Paul and Barnabas Sent Out	Acts 13:1-5
XII. Baptism	# 59: Jesus' Baptism	Matthew 3:1-17
XIII. The Lord's Supper	# 83: The Passover Supper	Luke 22
XIV. Divine Healing	# 79: Lazarus is Raised	John 11
XV. Second Coming of Christ	# 91: Ascension and Wait for the Holy Spirit	Acts 1:1-14
XVI. Resurrection, Judgement, and Destiny	# 108: New Jerusalem	Revelation 21

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson (# 1 of 104)

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Creation and Beginnings</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Genesis 1-2</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>John 1:1-14</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Believe God created the heavens and the earth, and that God created them “good.” Also believe God created marriage as a special relationship between a man and a woman.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Celebrate that God creates good things. God declared, though, that humanity was “very good.” We have a special blessing, for we are created in God’s image.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> As God’s blessed creation, we are to care for creation and care for one another.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. (Genesis 1:14)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Long, long ago, God created everything. In just six days He created the sky, the water, and the land. He also made all of the trees, plants, animals and flowers. Then, God took the dust from the ground and created a man. He called this man Adam. God put Adam in a beautiful garden that He had made, the Garden of Eden. Adam was to take care of everything that God had created. God noticed that Adam was lonely. He decided to create someone who could help Adam and keep him company. God made Adam fall into a very deep sleep. While Adam slept, God took one of his ribs and made a woman. God gave the woman to Adam, and Adam named her Eve. God was very pleased with everything He had made. And on the seventh day, He rested.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Creation</b> (whole picture): God created this world out of nothing. Everything God made was good.</li> <li>2. <b>Day 1 – Sunshine:</b> God created light, and made day and night.</li> <li>3. <b>Day 2 – Sky:</b> God created the sky and clouds.</li> <li>4. <b>Day 3 – Land, Plants, Water:</b> God created the ground, and separated it from the waters. Upon the ground God made beautiful plants begin to grow.</li> <li>5. <b>Day 4 – Moon, Sun, and Stars:</b> (not represented in the picture)</li> <li>6. <b>Day 5 – Birds and Fish:</b> God created all kinds of animals that fly, swim, and run across the world.</li> </ol>

	<p><b>7. Day 6 – Man:</b> God created Adam, a human who was different from all the other parts of creation because God created Adam God’s image. God also made Eve so that Adam would have a companion and so the human race could continue. God commissioned Adam and Eve to rule over God's great creation</p> <p><b>8. Day 7 – Completion:</b> on the seventh day of creation God finished all work and rested. Everything God made was good.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Beginnings are very important. For if you do not begin well, you may never reach the right destination. Genesis 1 and 2 give us some essential facts about God, this world, and ourselves. If we are going to live blessed, joyful lives, we need to make sure we base our faith on the true and essential facts the first two chapters of Genesis reveal.</p> <p>First, God took what is chaotic (formless and void), and brought to it order. Each of the seven days of creation reveals the intention and joy God took in creating this world and all that is in it. God created everything “good.”</p> <p>Second, each day God looked at what God made and declared it was “good.” The world in which we live, though it now often bears scars from sin, was originally created “good.”</p> <p>Third, God created humanity differently than everything else. Humanity is not just another animal, not just one more living thing. Instead, humanity has the special blessing of being created in the “image of God.” We also see in the creation of the first man and woman that humanity is created to be in relationship with one another. Marriage is the special relationship God created for a man and a woman to enter into so they can enjoy marital relationship and continue the human race.</p> <p>As the Biblical story progresses we will see the special responsibilities and privileges that come with this image of God being placed on our lives.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> A second creation begins with the birth of Jesus Christ. Not a physical creation of the earth and heavens, but the spiritual creation of a new People of God. Through Jesus Christ, God will offer salvation, healing, and future blessing to all peoples. God created all things “good,” but sin brought pain and brokenness into the world. In Jesus Christ, God offers to bring healing to this fallen Creation.</p> <p><b>Articles of Faith Track: I. The Triune God.</b> Christianity is a monotheistic religion, meaning it believes in one God. This one God created this world as outlined in Genesis 1 and 2. The ultimate expression of God’s creation is humanity, which was created in God’s image. However, God is more than Creator, God is also Redeemer (in Jesus Christ) and Sustainer (in the Holy Spirit). Because of God’s love, when humanity fell into sin, God reached out to offer a path to forgiveness, salvation, and fellowship. The perfect and ultimate expression of God’s offer of salvation is through Jesus Christ, when God became flesh. Jesus ministered, died, and arose from the dead. After Jesus’ return to Heaven, God came to earth as the</p>

	<p>Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is God’s very presence in the lives of Christians, making the life of Jesus Christ real and alive in Christians. The Holy Spirit empowers Christians to live in the power, love, and holiness of God. Thus, God is one, but expressed in three ways, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. All these expressions are evidences of God’s loving desire to be in relationship with humanity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: The states of water is one analogy to the Trinity, how one substance, water, takes on three forms: steam, liquid, ice. What are some other ways to explain how God can be both one and expressed as three?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: What would life be like if God was only the Creator of the world, and not Redeemer and Sustainer as well?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: How can you share the love of God with others this week through the power of the Holy Spirit?</b></li> </ul>
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**Bible Study**

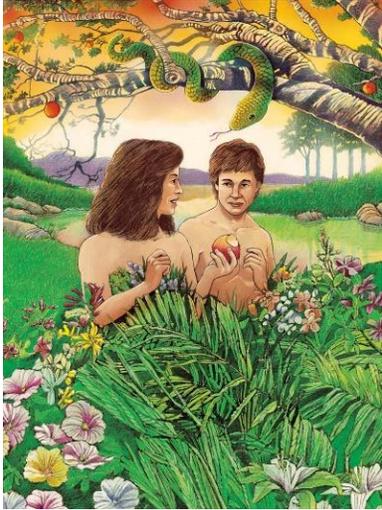
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
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<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
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<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>        God created this world to be a blessed home for humanity, a place where we could thrive, work, and enjoy our relationship with God and others. God also created marriage, which is a special relationship between a man and a woman in which they become “one flesh.”       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why is humanity special among all God’s creations, and what responsibilities does this place upon humanity?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What happens when a husband and wife do not put God first in their lives and marriage?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>        Because of all the blessings God has given to us in Creation, and in our relationships with one another, it is our responsibility to be good stewards of all God has entrusted to us. We will be tempted in this world to live our lives only for ourselves, to be selfish. However, as those created and saved by God, we are to live our lives for God, and to be a blessing to others.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What does it mean to you that humanity was created “very good?”</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why, as we see in John 1, do those whom God created not recognize God as their Creator?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul>
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	<p>We are to reflect the image of God to others. God loves, forgives, shows compassion, grace, and mercy. God stamps this image upon all lives, and though sin has tarnished this stamp, we can bear witness to the truth of God's holiness by living holy lives by God's power.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ <b>How can you care for God's creation?</b></li><li>✓ <b>What attributes of God do those around you most need to see in your life?</b></li></ul>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 2

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>The Fall</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Genesis 3</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Romans 1:16-32</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize Satan uses deception to cause us to doubt God’s love and goodness.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Reject a heart of selfishness that doubts God’s love and goodness and believes sin’s lies that we know better than God how to live our lives.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Watch your life closely so that you live under power of the Gospel and not under the power of sin.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. (Romans 1:16)	

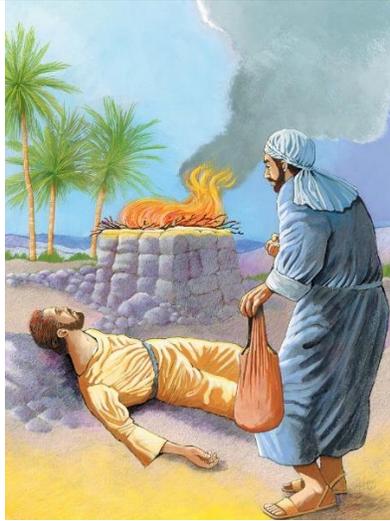
<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Adam and Eve lived in the Garden of Eden. God told Adam and Eve that everything in the garden was theirs. They could eat the fruit from any tree, except for the tree in the middle. It was the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Now, Satan had disguised himself as an evil snake. He told Eve that she could eat the fruit from the tree. He said that if she ate the fruit, she would be like God and would know what was good and evil. Eve was being tricked by the snake. She saw the fruit on the tree, and it looked delicious. Eve wanted to be wise like God, so she took a bite. Then, she gave some to Adam. Right away Adam and Eve knew that they had disobeyed God, and they were very afraid. God made them leave the Garden of Eden because they had disobeyed Him. Disobeying God’s commands is sin.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>The Garden:</b> God created a beautiful Garden in which Adam and Eve could live and enjoy fellowship with God and one another.</li> <li>2. <b>The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil:</b> was the only tree from which God told Adam he could not eat.</li> <li>3. <b>The Serpent:</b> Deceived Eve by making her doubt God’s goodness.</li> <li>4. <b>Eve:</b> the Serpent tricked her into believing God did not want her to have what looked good to her.</li> <li>5. <b>Adam:</b> Eve gave the fruit to Adam, and he was deceived too. He also ignored the command of God not to eat fruit from this one tree.</li> <li>6. <b>The Fruit:</b> Sin entered the world because Adam and Eve chose to break a known command from God.</li> </ol>

<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>The first two chapters of the Bible are full of blessings from God. As the third chapter opens though, so enters a threat, the serpent. Among all the blessings God gave, he also gave one restriction to Adam, he must not eat the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The serpent tempted Adam and Eve to believe God's blessings were too good to be true. Or, more accurately, God's blessings were too little to accept. The serpent tempted Adam and Eve to believe God was holding back from them, and that if they really wanted to experience all that life had to offer, then they needed to stop trusting God so much, and put more trust in themselves.</p> <p>Adam and Eve fell for this lie, and willfully broke a known law of God. This is what sin is, breaking a known law of God. And so on that day sin entered the world, and it has wreaked havoc and brought tremendous pain and suffering every day since.</p> <p>As a consequence of their rebellion, God ordered Adam and Eve to leave the Garden of Eden. While God's blessings and protection do not leave Adam and Eve, their lives are never the same again. Pain and toil become the immediate consequences of sin, but the effects of sin will dramatically grow.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> In the Apostle Paul's letter to the Romans he lists many ways in which sin grew over the history of the world. In the first chapter of Romans Paul makes clear God gave humanity the opportunity to know the Creator of heaven and earth. However, humanity chose instead to continue the sin of Adam and Eve, following their own desires instead of following God's commands.</p> <p><b>Articles of Faith Track: V. Sin, Original and Personal.</b> While God created this world and humanity as an expression of God's love, God did not force humanity to love in return. Instead, God created humanity with the ability to live either serving God or serving themselves. Adam and Eve chose to live for themselves when they fell for the lies of the Serpent who promised them they could be like God if they only disobeyed God.</p> <p>Because of this sin of Adam and Eve, sin entered the world and infects the life of every person born. Each person born is born with this Original Sin, this desire to live selfishly.</p> <p>When a person acts on this desire to live selfishly, they commit Personal Sin. This Personal Sin causes all manner of evil and harm to the person and to others as they live contrary to the laws and will of the Creator God. See Romans 1.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: Why do you think God allowed the Serpent to enter the Garden, and did not simply make sure Adam and Eve never faced temptation?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: How does sin in hearts corrupt the ways in which people view this world, themselves, and God?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: Why is Sin never content with only infecting a person's heart, but will always find expression in a person's actions?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	

<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  The power of sin has touched the life of every man and woman. The Christian theologian Augustine speaks of sin as “humanity curved in upon itself.” While, as creatures, we should focus our lives on living for our Creator and loving others, instead sin leads people to focus on themselves. Instead of what God wants, sinful humanity obsesses over their own thoughts, actions, and priorities. The result of such a life is great pain and brokenness for both that person and the people around them.  ✓ <b>How did the serpent trick Eve into eating the fruit?</b>  ✓ <b>What are some of the ways today in which Satan tricks people into believing they know better than God how to live their lives?</b> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  Christians have made the decision to follow God instead of themselves. They have repented of their sins, asked God to forgive them, and committed to making God the Lord of their life. Being a Christian, though, is not a one-time decision. It is a daily relationship with God. For just as Satan tempted Adam and Eve in the Garden, so Satan continues to tempt Christians. Therefore, Christians need to commit each day to the Lord, seeking to live a life of devotion to God.  ✓ <b>What are some ways in which you have experienced the pain that comes from living selfishly?</b>  ✓ <b>What are some ways in which you have experienced the joy of God’s great salvation in your life?</b> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  Living without sin is not possible under our own power or with our own good intentions. Only Christ can conquer sin in this world and in our lives. Therefore, Jesus calls us to live our lives by the power of the Gospel, under his Lordship and direction. This is not just for the sake of our hearts, but also for the sake of those around us whom we will harm if we allow sin to reign in our lives.  ✓ <b>What should we do if we have allowed sin to reign in our lives, even after becoming a Christian?</b>  ✓ <b>What steps can you take to protect yourself from falling into the traps of temptation Satan brings into the lives of all Christians?</b> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> </ul>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul> |
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## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 3

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Cain and Abel</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Genesis 4:1-16</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Matthew 5:21-26</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand that outward sins are manifestations of inward sins.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Seek heart purity and full surrender to God. When a Christian’s heart is full of light, their actions will be pure. When their heart is full of darkness, their actions will be destructive.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Pursue reconciliation with anyone with whom you are in conflict. Look at the situation from their perspective and from God’s perspective. Seek to understand how reconciliation can occur.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it.” (Genesis 4:7)	

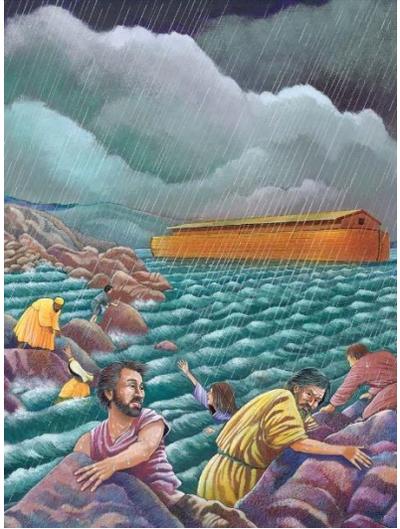
<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Adam and Eve’s first two sons were named Cain and Abel. Like many brothers, they were very different. Cain was the oldest and farmed the land. Abel was a shepherd who took care of sheep. Cain and Abel had been working in their fields for a long time, and they decided that they would give an offering to God. They wanted to thank God for His blessings. Cain offered a few of the things he had grown in his field. Abel, on the other hand, offered one of the best sheep from his flock. God was pleased with Abel’s offering, but He did not accept Cain’s offering. Cain was so jealous of his brother that he took Abel out into a field and killed him. God punished Cain for killing his brother. Cain could no longer live in his home and he would no longer be able to grow good crops.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Abel</b> (in brown) was the second born son of Adam and Eve. He kept flocks, and brought a good offering to God.</li> <li>2. <b>Cain</b> (in blue) was the first-born son of Adam and Eve. He was a farmer, and brought a bad offering to God.</li> <li>3. <b>The Fire on the Altar.</b> God accepted Abel’s good offering, but rejected Cain’s bad offering.</li> <li>4. <b>Cain’s Fist.</b> Cain was jealous of Abel because of God’s rejection of his offering. He lured Abel out into the fields one day and attacked and killed him. God punished Cain by making him leave the safety of being near his parents.</li> </ol>

<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>The effects of sin get more tragic. Satan tempted Adam and Eve to eat the forbidden fruit. They ate, and sin entered into their lives. While God still watched over their lives, their punishment meant they could no longer live in the Garden of Eden. Physical pain also entered their lives. Now sin manifested itself as not just eating a piece of fruit, but in the ultimate crime, murder.</p> <p>Adam and Eve had two sons. Cain, the first-born, brought God a bad offering. Abel, the second-born, brought God a good offering. The text does not give an explanation why one offering was good and the other offering was bad. However, God did warn Cain not to allow sin to control him (Genesis 4:6-7).</p> <p>Cain does not take God’s instructions to heart, and allowed the jealousy and anger within him to manifest in violence toward Abel. The effects of sin have tragically increased to murder.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Jesus makes clear sin is not just manifest in outward actions, but can also consume the heart. If Christians want to live a God-honoring holy life, they must go beyond simply living by Christian rules, and instead surrender their whole heart to God. In surrendering their heart to God, God can bring a purity and joy into their life that will result in the healing of fractured relationships, both human and divine.</p> <p><b>10 Commandments Track:</b> Murder is the ultimate sin, for it destroys another person who has been made in the image of God. Unlike other sins, there is no way for a person to make full restitution for murder.</p> <p>The sixth command applies to premeditated murder. Although the Hebrew term used here can also refer to accidental killing, the command here refers to premeditated murder. Deuteronomy 19, where Moses makes a clear distinction between accidental death and premediated murder, verifies this is the correct translation of this Hebrew term. In this Deuteronomy passage, Moses makes provisions for the safety of those who have accidentally killed someone, while affirming the death penalty for anyone who commits premeditated murder (Deuteronomy 19:1-13). This command does not apply to killing in war, judicial execution, or killing in defense of life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: What are ways in which people cause harm to others, even if they do not physically harm them?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: What are steps a Christian can take to be freed from hateful and bitter feelings towards others?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: What are steps a Christian can take to be reconciled to someone with whom they harbor hateful or bitter feelings?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  Jealousy and hatred find their ultimate expression in Cain’s murder of his brother Abel. Sometimes people mistakenly believe Christianity is simply about living by a set of rules, like the 10 Commandments. However, Christianity is about the Christian giving their heart, soul, and mind to God. Allowing God to bring healing and salvation to all parts of their life results in a life of joy and peace for the Christian. Rather than leaving behind a path of hurt and destruction, the Christian can leave behind a legacy of love and compassion. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Besides murder, what are some other ways in which inner hatred and jealousy are manifest in a person’s actions?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What do you think God means when he tells Cain he must “rule over” sin?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  All people are created and loved by God, whether they are Christians or not. Therefore, God calls Christians to love all people. This is not easy, for there are many differences between people’s values, actions, and behaviors. However, when Christians allow God to bring light into their hearts, they are able to love others as God loves them. If Christians do not allow God to bring light into their lives, then their hearts return to being full of darkness. To love all does not mean Christians must condone how others live. However, Christians must keep their hearts open to the healing work of God so that they are able to find ways to love people who are very different from them. Christians are to be known by their love. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What is required for a Christian to do in order to refuse to allow bitterness and anger to fester in their hearts?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why does Jesus teach that hating another person is just as sinful as actually killing them?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  Sometimes Christians must act in love towards others before they feel love toward others. So also, Christians are called to forgive and be reconciled to others before the other party asks for forgiveness or seeks reconciliation. As these examples show, love is not simply a feeling, love is an action. An action that begins in a person’s heart when God forgives them, and then is lived out in the Christian’s life. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What happens if a Christian seeks reconciliation with someone, but that person does not want to be reconciled? (Reconciliation takes two people, asking forgiveness only takes one).</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How does putting yourself in the other person’s position help the Christian see the conflict more fully?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 4

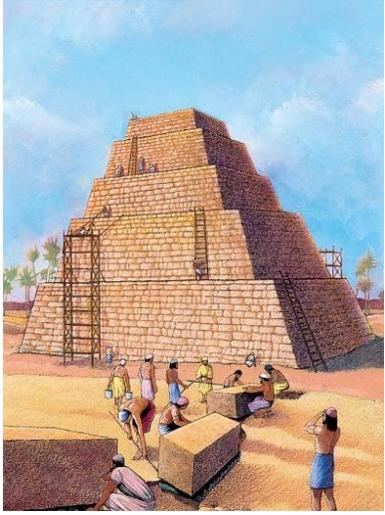
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Noah Builds an Ark</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Genesis 6</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>1 Peter 3:8-22</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand sin spreads quickly, causing great pain and destruction. With Noah, God decides to begin humanity over, establishing a covenant relationship with one family, hoping from this one family to create a people who will reject sin and serve God.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Recognize we are tempted to think we can control sin. No human can control sin. Great pain and destruction will grow wherever we allow sin to remain in our hearts.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> We must always live lives of righteousness, even among those who wish us harm.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	The LORD saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time. (Genesis 6:5)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	Noah was a good man. He had a wife and three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. God was very pleased with Noah, but He was angry with the other people on earth because they were very evil. God told Noah that He was going to destroy all of the human beings and animals that He had made. God was sorry that He had made them. God then told Noah to build a gigantic boat called an ark. The people just laughed at Noah as they watched him build the ark. Soon, they would stop laughing. When Noah finished, God told him to take his family and two of every living creature with him onto the ark. It rained very hard for forty long days and nights. The entire earth was flooded, but Noah and his family were safe in the ark. After the rain, God put a beautiful rainbow in the sky. This is to remind us that He will never flood the earth again.
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>The World:</b> God created everything, the rocks, waters, clouds, trees all for humanity to enjoy. However, instead of loving God, humanity chose to live selfish lives.</li> <li>2. <b>The Rain:</b> judgement from God because of the sins of humanity. These are sins against God and sins against each other.</li> </ol>

	<p>3. <b>The Rising Waters:</b> are consequences for humanity of choosing to live against the commands of the Creator of this world. Sin causes pain, suffering, and death.</p> <p>4. <b>The Ark:</b> is a provision God provided to protect a righteous man, Noah, his family, and the animals of the world. God told Noah exactly how to build the ark and when to get into the ark. Because Noah obeyed God’s commands he, his family, and the animals were saved.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>The Bible began with two chapters filled with the blessings of God through creation. Beginning with the third chapter though, the focus turned from God’s blessings to the destruction sin wrecks on God’s creation. By chapter 6 of Genesis, sin had become so prevalent that “every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time.” God decided to begin humanity over again.</p> <p>This time though, instead of simply telling humanity not to sin, God entered into a new kind of relationship with humanity – a covenant relationship. While normally a covenant is a formal relationship between two humans, or groups of humans, God choose to establish a covenant with those God created. In this divine/human covenant, God made promises to people, and called on those people to be faithful to the covenant.</p> <p>While God is beginning humanity over again after the Flood, he established a new covenant with Noah and all creation promising never to destroy humanity like this again.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> While God promised Noah and his offspring God will never destroy humanity again, that does not mean there are no longer consequences for sin. The People of God must still flee from sin, and live lives of righteousness. This kind of righteous life is only possible because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who broke the power of sin.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>In order to free humanity from the punishment of sin, God enters into covenant relationships in which God pledges to bless and protect those who are faithful to him. The first of these covenants God makes is to Noah and his offspring. The</p>

	<p>ultimate covenant God will make is through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. God created this covenant in order to make a way for humans to find salvation from their sins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why did God choose to save Noah’s family, and not just completely start over with an all-new humanity?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why is sin so destructive, why can it not be controlled by human strength and good intentions?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>All of us are born with the stain of sin in our lives. None of us can rid that stain with our good works or attempts at holiness. Our only hope for a life of peace with God and with others is to allow God’s forgiveness through Christ to wash us clean and bring us new life. Once saved, we can live lives of joy and peace in the power of the Holy Spirit, even in the midst of a sinful world, because we know our hearts are safe and secure with God.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some examples of the consequences of sin you see in the world around you?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Who have been some people in your life who have shown you, by their lives, that a life of joy and peace is possible in this world?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>The Apostle Peter calls on us to “always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks to give the reason for the hope that you have.” One of the reasons Christians have for hope is we know in Christ God saves us from the punishment for our sins. This give us strength and hope as we live among people living in sin.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some ways in which you can live with “gentleness and respect,” (1 Peter 3:15) and thus show others the love of God?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How can being baptized give testimony to the work God is doing in a Christian’s life?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 5

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>The Tower of Babel</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Genesis 11:1-9</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Acts 2:1-21</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize at Babel, humanity was trying to create a society in which they thought they could be their own gods.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Understand that pride is destructive and therefore sinful.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Humanity can work together to do great things (for example, develop vaccines), or they can work together to do terrible things (for example, wars). Find ways you use your gifts and talents to make this world a better place.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom. (Proverbs 11:2)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	In very early Bible times, all of the people spoke the same language. The people could talk to anyone in the world and they could understand each other. One day, a group of men got together. They decided that they would build a city with a tower that would reach to the sky. If the men did this, people would notice and tell them how great they were. God watched the men as they built the city and the tower. They worked very hard. Everything was going so well that the men thought they didn't need God anymore. They were very proud, and ignored God. God decided to mix up their language. This made it impossible for the men to continue building. God made all the men speak different languages so they couldn't understand each other. This is why the city was called Babel.
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Bricks:</b> Humanity began discovering new ways to build big buildings, like making bricks instead of just using stone.</li> <li>2. <b>The Tower:</b> Humanity decided they did not need God's protection, but thought if they built a huge Tower, then they would be a great people.</li> <li>3. <b>Working Together:</b> It is often good for men and women to work together. However, it is not good when they work together, not to glorify God, but are prideful, trying to make a name for themselves.</li> </ol>
<b>Text Context</b>	Noah's offspring multiplied through the generations. These generations came together to build a great city, Babel (also known as Babylon). Rather than scattering across the world though, as God had told them to do in the covenant He made with Noah and Noah's sons, they decided to stay in one area and create

	<p>a city where they could create a great name for themselves. The great symbol of their pride was the Tower of Babel.</p> <p>God frustrated the plans of humanity by making them speak in different languages. Now that they could not all come together to build this tower of pride, they did what God had originally ordered Noah and his sons to do, they scattered across the world.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> God’s desire for humanity is not for us to be confused and alienated from God or others. Instead, God wants all people to come to know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. In the second chapter of Acts, we hear of a reversal of the confusion God brought at the Tower of Babel. On the day of Pentecost people from many different lands heard Jesus’ disciples declaring the wonders of God in their own language through the gift of the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>Now, rather than having to travel to Jerusalem to hear about the wonders of God in one language, through the People of God, disciples of Jesus are going throughout the world to tell others the Gospel of Jesus Christ in their own languages.</p>
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<b>Bible Study</b>	
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<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
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<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
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<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>There is a difference between people coming together to do something to bring glory to God, and people coming together do to something to bring glory to themselves. Humanity is supposed to be living in a relationship with God where God blesses them and they honor God. Instead, these people are attempting to build a great building to declare their own glory, and are therefore breaking covenant with God. Instead of destroying this group of people though, God scatters them across the world, thereby fulfilling the covenant he made with Noah.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are the dangers of bringing glory to ourselves by showing others what we can do under our own power?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Sin is when we put ourselves before God, what are some modern ways people seek to bring glory to themselves instead of to God?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul>
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	<p>When we live our lives in right relationship with God, we live our lives with humility, not pride. God is the Creator and Savior, we are not gods ourselves. While we can take great joy in the abilities and talents God gives to us, we must never forget who is the giver of the gifts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why is pride such a strong temptation for so many people?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What is it about fear and insecurity that makes people so vulnerable to the temptation to sin?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>There are many things that divide people: languages, cultures, politics, finances (the list could go on and on). However, in Christ we can all be one. No matter what our differences are on a human level, we can all be part of the People of God. However, this takes a deep level of humility, and a conscious decision to live our life glorifying God, not ourselves.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are three ways this week you can show compassion and respect to people who are different from you?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Peter defended the disciples who were being mocked for being filled with the Holy Spirit. How can you defend a brother or sister in Christ this week who is being teased or persecuted because of their faith?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 6

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Sodom and Gomorrah Destroyed</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Genesis 19:1-29</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>2 Peter 2</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand that while God judges and punishes the sinful, he has provided a means for salvation for those who repent.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Recognize that in the midst of a sinful world, God calls Christians to have pure hearts.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Protecting others from harm and abuse is an important part of living for Christ.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	The Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials and to hold the unrighteous for punishment on the day of judgment. (2 Peter 2:9)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Lot was a man who lived in the city of Sodom. Most of the people who lived in this city and the city of Gomorrah were very wicked. So God decided to punish the people. He decided to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah by sending a fire that would burn the cities to the ground. Lot was a good man, and God wanted to spare his life. God sent two angels to Lot's house. The angels told Lot that God was going to destroy Sodom, so he would need to leave right away. The two angels led Lot, his wife, and his two daughters out of the city and told them to go to a safe place. As they were leaving, the angels told Lot and his family not to look back toward the cities. But Lot's wife disobeyed and looked back. As she watched the cities burn, she turned into a statue of salt.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Sodom and Gomorrah</b> were very evil cities. There were not even 10 righteous people in either of the cities.</li> <li>2. <b>Lot</b>, Abraham's nephew, and his family lived in Sodom. Lot was a righteous man.</li> <li>3. <b>Escape.</b> God sent angels to lead Lot and his family out of the city before destruction came.</li> <li>4. <b>Punishment.</b> God decided to destroy the cities because of their evil.</li> <li>5. <b>Lot's Wife.</b> The angels told Lot and his family not to turn back and look at the cities when they were being destroyed. However, Lot's wife did, and turned into a pillar of salt.</li> </ol>
<b>Text Context</b>	<p>God called a man named Abram (later called Abraham) to leave his family and travel to a land God would show him. At this promised place, Abraham would</p>

become the father of a new nation (Genesis 12). God made a covenant with Abraham to bless all peoples of the world through Abraham’s offspring. Abraham has obeyed, and has brought his nephew Lot with him on his way to this new land.

Conflict has arisen between Abraham and Lot, and Lot has gone to live in Sodom, a very wicked city. Sodom’s reputation of wickedness reaches God, so God sent angels to the city to confirm its wickedness. While the angels confirm how wicked the city is, they found one righteous man living in the city, Lot. They protected Lot and his family, and took them out of the city before the Lord’s punishment rained down upon the city.

After getting Lot and his family to safety, the angels commanded Lot and his family not to look back at the city as God destroyed it. However, Lot’s wife did look back, and turned into a pillar of salt.

**New Testament text:** The pain and destruction of sin is real. God will punish those who harm and abuse others, either during this life, or in the life to come. God will rescue the righteous from harm, either in this lifetime or in the life to come. Christians should not lose heart. Just because it often looks like the wicked are not punished and the righteous are not rescued in this lifetime does not mean that is the end of the story. There is a great judgement to come, and at that time, God will punish the wicked and reward the righteous.

**Bible Study**

<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
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<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
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<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>            In spite of all the consequences of sin already being experienced in the world, sin continues to grow in Abraham and Lot’s day. The sin of Sodom and Gomorrah is so bad that God decides the cities must be destroyed. However, Lot’s family is the one righteous family in the city of Sodom, and God provides for their escape from the destruction the cities will endure.           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>At what point do you think there is no hope for a city, and that it is better for it to be destroyed than to continue existing?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why did Lot offer hospitality to these strangers who had come to the city gates?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul>
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	<p>It is important we base our values and morals on God’s laws and commands, and not on the values and morals of our world. Sin is causing much pain and destruction to our world, but Christians are called to live differently from others, to live holy lives that bear witness to the hope and joy that comes from Jesus Christ.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can you protect your heart and mind from believing the lies that Satan wants you to believe?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>It is easy to try to ignore those who need help, however, what is it about Jesus’ death and resurrection which should stir the hearts of Christians to not ignore those who need help?</b></li> </ul> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of into Action?</b></p> <p>Because God loves all people, we cannot ignore those around us who are in trouble just because they might not look like us or believe like we us. God calls Christians to love and protect strangers as well as our loved ones.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>In what ways can you offer to protect and encourage those who are in danger in your community?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What steps can you take to protect yourself from evil people and influences?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson #7

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Promises to Abraham the Prophet</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Genesis 12:1-9</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Hebrews 11:8-16</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Celebrate Abraham's great faith and trust in God, that enabled him to step out in faith to follow God's call upon his life.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Be courageous when God calls you to step out in faith, for the God who was faithful to Abraham will be faithful to you as well.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be ready this week to both hear a word from God on how to help others, and in faith take steps to obediently fulfill that call.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. (Hebrews 11:8)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	One day God spoke to Abraham and called on him to step out in faith and travel to a new land that God would reveal to him. God's call to Abraham was not just to step out in faith, but also included promises God would fulfill if Abraham was obedient. God promised Abraham would be the father of a great nation, that Abraham would be a great blessing to others, and that all people on earth would be blessed through Abraham. So, at age 75, even though he had no children, and he and his wife were passed the age of producing children, Abraham believed God could give him a son to begin this new family.
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Abraham.</b> He heard a call of God upon his life and in faith believed God would fulfill the promises God had made if Abraham stepped out in faith to follow God's call.</li> <li>2. <b>Sarai.</b> A key promise to Abraham was to give him offspring, however Abraham's wife Sarai is passed the age of being able to produce a child. God's promises to Abraham would not just bless Abraham but Sarai as well, for after so many years of praying for a child, she would bear a child in her old age.</li> <li>3. <b>Lot and Flocks.</b> Abraham took all his possessions with him, including flocks of animals and his nephew, Lot.</li> </ol>
<b>Text Context</b>	God, the Creator of heaven and earth chooses to make another covenant with a human, as he did with Noah. This time though, the covenant is more than just a promise to never wipe out

humanity again. This time, the covenant to one man will result in the creation of a special nation that will bless the entire world.

God here is continuing God’s redemptive work to reconcile a sinful humanity to a holy God. And once again, it is God who takes the first steps.

However, it is not a covenant offered without any risk. Abraham is not called to just receive the promises, but is called to step out in faith and live his life believing the promises are sure. God’s promise to make Abraham into a great nation is impossible in human terms, for Abraham’s wife Sarai is too old to bear children. However, Abraham believes God is powerful enough to do the impossible.

Thus, as Abraham steps out in faith, he begins cooperating with God to bring about a people who will bless the whole world. Abraham will not prove himself to be perfect in this journey, but God does not call us to perfection, he calls us to faithfulness and obedience. And for all the mistakes Abraham will make, he never loses faith in God nor turns his back on God’s call upon his life.

**New Testament text:** Abraham was not just a great man of faith for the Jews to respect, he was also a great man of faith for Christians to respect. Just as Abraham believed in God’s promises, so all people are called to believe in God’s promises fulfilled in Jesus and believe in God for salvation. And just as God was faithful to Abraham, we can be confident God will be faithful to us as well.

**Bible Study**

<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
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<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
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<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>The Creator of Heaven and Earth has not created all that is, and then retreated away from this creation. Neither, when sin entered the world did God retreat away from sinful humanity. Instead, God proves God’s great love, compassion, and desire to be reconciled to humanity by creating relationships with sinful humanity. We should celebrate that the heart of our Creator is to love, forgive, and show compassion to us.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How are you a beneficiary of Abraham’s faithful response to God’s promises to him?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What would be some of your questions for God if you were in Abraham’s situation, with God making these bold promises?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>Following God is not for the fainthearted or the cowardly. Following God calls us to not only believe God will fulfill the promises made, but to step out in faith and live our lives as if those</p>
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	<p>promises have already been fulfilled. Thankfully God understands our fears and doubts, and will not turn away from us because of those. Instead, God is full of patience and compassion, and will take those fears and doubts and, if we are willing, replace them with trust and confidence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the reasons people give for not wanting to live out God’s call upon their lives?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why does it require great courage to, while waiting for God to fulfill the promises made to us, step out in faith to obediently follow God’s call upon our lives?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>The most important step on a new journey is the first step. You may have already taken that first step – great! Now what is the next step God is calling you to take? You may have not taken that first step, what is holding you back? The only path to having true joy and peace in this world is to surrender our lives fully to God and accept the salvation Jesus won for us on the cross.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What is the next step God is wanting you to take in your spiritual journey?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Who are those around you who are struggling to take the next step toward God, and how can you minister to them and encourage them to take that next step?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 8

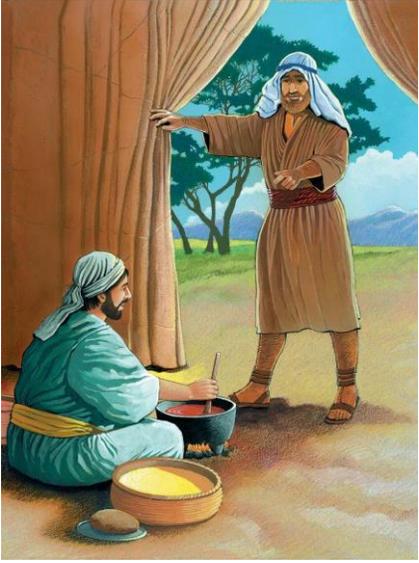
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>God Provides a Sacrifice</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Genesis 22:1-19</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Hebrews 11:17-19</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand faith in God is not just an intellectual decision, but is to affect our heart and actions as well.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Believe what we love most will determine our values and actions. We must foster a love of God in our hearts first, and then seek to live out that love.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be prepared, the love of God will call us to live out our faith in very practical ways, sometimes calling us to great generosity and humility.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. (Hebrews 11:17)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>One day, God spoke to Abraham and told him to do a very difficult thing. God told Abraham to take his son, Isaac, and sacrifice him on an altar. He was testing Abraham. God wanted to see if Abraham would do anything He asked. Abraham told Isaac that they needed to travel to Mount Moriah and offer a sacrifice to God. As they traveled, Isaac asked his father where the lamb was that they would burn as a sacrifice. Abraham told him that God would provide the lamb. When they reached the mountain, Abraham tied up his son and placed him on the altar he had built. Abraham pulled out his knife. And just as he was about to kill Isaac, an angel stopped Abraham and said, “Don’t kill your son.” Abraham looked up and saw a ram caught in a bush. God had sent the ram for Abraham to sacrifice instead of his son.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Abraham.</b> As a test of Abraham’s faith, God told him to sacrifice Isaac as a burnt offering. Isaac was Abraham’s only son by his wife, Sarah. Isaac was the only one through whom God could continue fulfilling his covenant promises to Abraham. Abraham was too old to have any more children.</li> <li>2. <b>Altar.</b> Abraham obeyed God, traveled to a mountain God showed him, built an altar, and prepared for the sacrifice.</li> <li>3. <b>Knife.</b> Abraham believed, even if he sacrificed Isaac, that God would raise Isaac from the dead (Hebrews 11:19).</li> <li>4. <b>Ram.</b> As Abraham was about to sacrifice Isaac, God called out and told him to stop. God provided a ram, caught in some thicket, to use as the sacrifice instead of Isaac. Because Abraham had faith in God, God blessed him.</li> </ol>

<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>God called Abraham into a covenant relationship (Genesis 12:1-3), and then expanded or reaffirmed that covenant several times (see Genesis 15, 17). Central to the covenant is God’s promise to make Abraham a father of a great nation. With the birth of Isaac (Genesis 21), God is begins to fulfill this foundational promise.</p> <p>However, God wanted to test Abraham’s faith, and see if Abraham loved God’s blessings more than he loved God himself. God called on Abraham to sacrifice Isaac as a burnt offering. Though God had never called for a child sacrifice before, child sacrifices were not uncommon in Abraham’s day among the other religions. Abraham must decide if he will obey God with such a costly sacrifice. Abraham decided to obey God and began the process for making the sacrifice.</p> <p>Just before Abraham sacrificed Isaac, God told him to stop, and provided a ram instead for the sacrifice. God then praised Abraham for his great faith and reaffirmed the covenant He had made with Abraham.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> While God will never tempt us to sin, as the writer of Hebrews reminds us, God will sometimes test our faith. Abraham is a great man of faith because he had faith in the goodness of God. In this passage the writer of Hebrews states that Abraham was willing to sacrifice Isaac because Abraham had so much faith in God’s goodness, he knew God would raise Isaac from the dead if he went through with the burnt offering.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>God had made some wonderful promises to Abraham in the covenants God established. One day God decided to test Abraham, and see if Abraham loved the blessings more than he loved the God who gave the blessings. To have faith in God is more than simply believing God exists or that God loves you. Having faith in God means being willing to obey God, no matter what God asks. Because Christians believe God is perfectly good, they know God will never ask them to do something that will ultimately do harm to others.</p> <p>✓ <b>Why are people sometimes tempted to love God’s blessings more than they love God?</b></p>

	<p>✓ <b>According to the Book of Hebrews, Abraham believed even if he sacrificed Isaac, God would raise Isaac from the dead. At what point during the journey to the mountain do you think Abraham came to this conclusion: early on the journey or late on the journey?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  We often do not realize how much we love or desire something until we are faced with the prospect of that person, dream, or possession being taken away from us. As much as Abraham loved the blessing God gave to him, and was thankful for God’s miraculous gift, God wanted to make sure Abraham’s heart was not directed more toward the blessing than the One who had given the blessing. As human beings, God created us to love. The stain of sin causes us to love what is not worthy of our love, it causes us to desire what is not worthy of our desires.</li> </ul> <p>✓ <b>What are the types of things people today are investing their love into, that are not worthy of their love?</b></p> <p>✓ <b>What are some examples of ways in which inward sins, such as loving and desiring sinful things, can lead people to commit outward sins?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  It is heartbreaking to lose a loved one to a premature death. Such a tragedy can lead to many tough questions, significant doubts, and anger. One of the ways in which we can minister God’s grace to people at these times is not to offer quick and easy answers to their pain. Instead, we can faithfully and quietly sit with them and grieve with them. This is just one example of a way in which Christians can put their love for God into action for the benefit of others.</li> </ul> <p>✓ <b>Whom do you know who is going through a time of loss, with whom you can mourn?</b></p> <p>✓ <b>What is a practical help you can give to someone who is struggling with his or her faith?</b></p>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 9

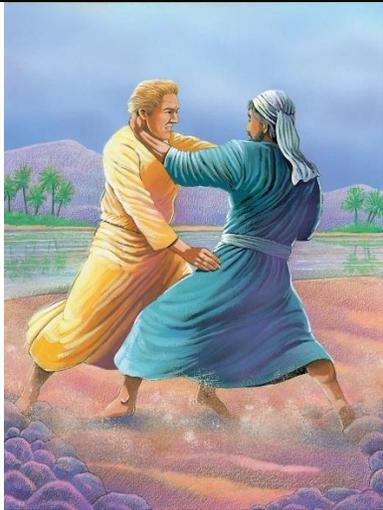
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Esau Trades His Birthright</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Genesis 25:19-34</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>1 Peter 5:1-11</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Refuse the temptation to treat what is urgent more highly than what is important. Esau traded away his precious birthright for a single meal because he was overcome with hunger.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Keep your desires submitted to God. For great pain and regret come when we allow our impulsive and selfish desires, rather than our values, to direct our actions.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Constant growth in our spiritual lives, as well as accountability to trusted mature Christians, is essential to keep us from confusing what is urgent with what is important.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Resist the devil, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings. (1 Peter 5:9)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	Isaac and his wife, Rebekah, had twin sons. Their names were Jacob and Esau. Jacob was quiet and liked to stay around the tents. Esau was the oldest and liked to hunt. In Bible times, the oldest son of a family would get a birthright. This was a very special honor. When a father died, the oldest son would get many of his father's things and would be the new leader of his family. One day, Esau went hunting. He came home tired and very hungry. Jacob had made a large pot of stew. It smelled really good. Esau asked Jacob if he could have a bowl. Jacob said, "If you give me your birthright, I'll give you a bowl of my stew." Esau was so hungry that he didn't care about his birthright. He just wanted to eat. So he traded his birthright for a bowl of stew. Esau had given up a valuable gift that he could never get back.
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Esau and Jacob.</b> Isaac had twin sons, Esau the first-born, and Jacob the second-born. Even though Esau was only born seconds before Jacob, as the first-born he possessed the birthright, and would receive the family inheritance from his father.</li> <li>2. <b>Esau</b> was a man who liked to be outside hunting. One day Esau came in from hunting famished, and asked Jacob for some red stew he was cooking.</li> <li>3. <b>Jacob</b> said he would only give Esau food if he paid for it with his birthright.</li> </ol>

	<p><b>4. Stew.</b> Esau was impulsive, caring more about eating than protecting his honored position in the family. Therefore, he sold his birthright for one meal. Because Esau made this foolish decision, God’s covenant blessings made to Abraham would now flow through Jacob instead of Esau.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>God’s covenant to Abraham moves to a third generation. Just as Abraham’s wife was barren, so also Isaac’s wife is barren. In addition, just as Abraham prayed for God to open her womb, so Isaac prayed for Rebecca’s womb. God answered Isaac’s prayer and granted her twins. Esau was the firstborn, and as such was to receive a greater portion of the inheritance when Isaac died (Deuteronomy 21:15-17).</p> <p>One day Jacob, the younger son, took advantage of Esau’s impulsiveness. Esau was famished, having been in the fields hunting. Esau asked Jacob for food, believing he was about to starve. Jacob refused to give him food to eat unless he sold his birthright to Jacob for the food. Esau, overcome with hunger, believes he will die if he did not eat immediately, and so sold his birthright for a single meal.</p> <p>This event, though it might seem small, had tremendous ramifications. For now, as the one with the first-born status, Jacob would receive the vast majority of Isaac’s possessions. Genesis 27 recorded Jacob was not content with just taking Esau’s birthright, but used deception to steal away Esau’s blessing from Isaac as well. Thus, the covenants God made with Abraham, along with the blessings associated with those covenants, will carry down through Jacob’s lineage instead of Esau’s.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> The Apostle Peter calls on the younger Christians to learn from mentors and to watch their actions. Being impulsive is rarely good, instead Peter calls upon the Christians to “be alert and of sober mind.” If we will remain humble and growing in Christ, we will avoid falling into sin.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>Part of what it means to live for God is to make sure we make good and right decisions. When we make impulsive decisions, or decisions that only serve to satisfy selfish desires, we often cause great harm and pain to ourselves and others.</p>

	<p>Instead, we must “be alert and of sober mind.” (1 Peter 5:8a) It is not enough for us to know the right decisions to make; when we are under pressure we must make those right decisions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How do wrong desires lead people to make wrong decisions?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>In what ways can more mature Christians help younger Christians make good decisions?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>While all Christians are equal in the fact that we are all saved by faith in Jesus Christ, we are not equal in spiritual maturity. Spiritual maturity is a life-long process through which Christians become more like Jesus Christ. We have many tools to grow in maturity, including Bible study, prayer, and mentoring from more spiritually mature Christians. There is great joy in growing stronger in our Christian faith, just as there is great danger in remaining as spiritual children if we refuse to grow up. One of the marks of a growing Christian is the constant submission of their desires to Jesus Christ.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why would some Christians would want to remain spiritually immature, rather than take the steps necessary to mature?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some dangers of remaining spiritually immature?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>Three of the great blessings Christians have for spiritual growth are Bible study, prayer, and fellowship with other Christians. By taking advantage of all of these blessings, we can find great help and wisdom in living holy lives, and find great support in resisting temptation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Are your Bible study habits helping you grow as a Christian? If not, seek advice from some mature Christians on better Bible study habits.</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Are you growing in your prayer life? If not, seek advice from some mature Christians on better prayer habits.</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Do you have mature Christian friends who are investing themselves into your spiritual growth? If not, seek out some mature Christians and ask one to become your mentor.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 10

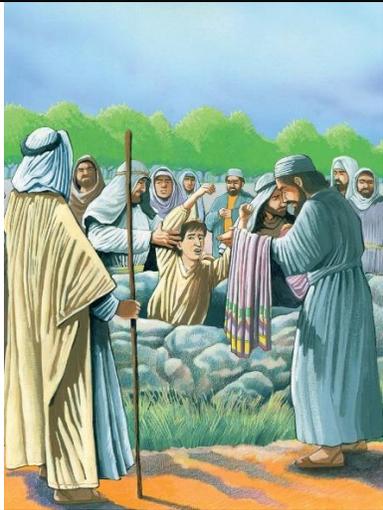
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Jacob Wrestles with God</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Genesis 32:22-32</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Luke 18:1-8</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand Christians are to be bold in their prayers to God.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Reflect on how honest and open your prayers are to God. Do you truly believe God listens and answers your prayers?</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Practice different positions for prayer (standing, sitting, kneeling, bowing, etc.), seeing which ones help you concentrate more on God during prayer.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Then the man said, “Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with humans and have overcome.” (Genesis 32:28)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Long after Jacob bought Esau’s birthright and moved away, Jacob decided to go back home. He hadn’t seen his brother, Esau, in twenty years. As Jacob and his family traveled one night, they came to a river. Jacob sent his family across while he stayed on the other side. A man came to Jacob that night and started wrestling with him. The two men wrestled until the next morning. The man touched Jacob’s hip and injured it, but they kept wrestling. Jacob had prayed for a blessing from God, and he knew this man could give him the blessing. What Jacob didn’t know was that he was wrestling with God! God was pleased with Jacob and blessed him by giving him a new name. God called him Israel.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Jacob</b> (in blue) was returning to his homeland. He was afraid his brother, Esau, might hurt him because Jacob had tricked him out of his birthright and blessing. Therefore, Jacob sent his possessions and valuables toward Esau before he encountered him. He spent the night alone before being confronted by his brother.</li> <li>2. <b>A Man</b> (in yellow) wrestled with Jacob during the night. We do not know who that man was, an actual man, an angel, or maybe even God. However, he and Jacob wrestled all night.</li> <li>3. <b>Jacob’s Hip.</b> When the man realized he could not overpower Jacob, he touched Jacob’s hip and caused it to wrench out of place. Jacob still did not stop wrestling with the man. Instead, he made the man give him a blessing before he would let him go. The man did, as well as changed Jacob’s name. Jacob, which means trickster, was now to be called Israel, which means</li> </ol>

	<p>“struggles with God.” The People of God are still known to this day as the Israelites.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Jacob, whose name means “trickster,” lived up to his name again and again. He tricked his older brother, Esau, out of both his birthright and his blessing as the first-born. Esau was so angry after being tricked out of his blessing Jacob had to flee for his life. In the new land where Jacob settled, he thrived. Jacob got married and greatly increased in his wealth. Part of the way Jacob became wealthy was by tricking his father-in-law.</p> <p>When his father-in-law understood Jacob tricked him, Jacob fled with all his family and possessions. He decided to flee back to his homeland, and take his chances with his brother Esau. To try to decrease his brother’s anger and thirst for revenge, Jacob sent his family and possessions first, as well as offering Esau a large gift. Jacob prayed to God for safety.</p> <p>During the night before Jacob met Esau, a man came and wrestled with Jacob. The text is not clear on who this man is, whether a literal man, an angel, or God. Jacob wrestled with this man until he forced the man to bless him. In addition to this blessing, the man also changed Jacob’s name so he would no longer be known as “the trickster,” but now as Israel, which means, “he struggles with God.”</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Much like Jacob’s persistence in wrestling this man, Jesus tells a parable about a persistent woman who demanded justice. Jesus told the parable to teach his followers that they needed to be persistent in their prayers, and not give up.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>There are many questions this text raises it does not answer. Who was this man who wrestled with Jacob? What is Jacob supposed to have learned about this wrestling match? Though there are these and more questions left unanswered, what the text does make clear is that God continues to bless Jacob, whether he deserves it or not. God has made covenants with Jacob’s forefathers, and God will be true to his promises, whether Jacob makes good decisions or not. In chapter 32 Jacob has prayed to God asking for safety and reminding God of his covenants</p>

	<p>(Genesis 32:9-13). One of the characteristics of Jacob is he is very bold. While being bold can be problematic, at other times it can be a virtue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Is God’s grace “fair?” In other words, does Jacob, or anyone, deserve God’s blessings?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What lessons do you think Jacob has learned since he fled from Esau?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>God sees in a Christian’s heart not just who they are, but who they can become. It took Jacob a long time to become someone who sought to honor God in their life. Yet, God did not wait until Jacob honored him before God would bless Jacob. So also, God will send blessings into the lives of people before they become Christians. For it is through God’s grace and blessings we are able to believe God’s love for us. Christians can be bold in their prayers because they know God will always do what is best for them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the ways God blessed you before you became a Christian?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>If God is always being graceful to both Christians and non-Christians, why do many non-Christians never decide to become Christians?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>There are many actions Christians can take to aid them in developing a deep prayer life. A Christian can pray for their town while walking its streets. A Christian can try different prayer positions (sitting, bowing, standing, etc.) to see which ones help them focus on God most.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What positions of prayer have you found the most helpful?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some ways you can turn your prayers into actions this week?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 11

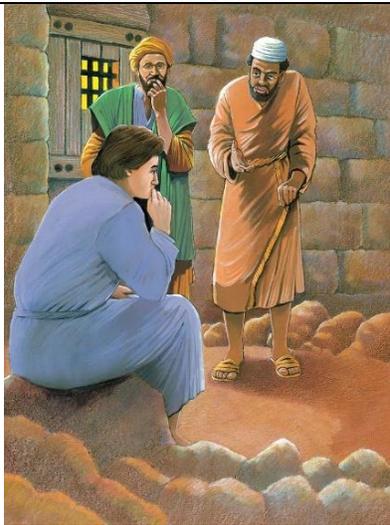
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Joseph's Dream</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Genesis 37</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Matthew 2:13-18</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Be aware that God sometimes speak to Christians through dreams, but we need to be wise in how we share those dreams.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Carefully search your heart to see if the seeds of jealousy (or any other sin) have begun to take root in your heart.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Recognize your responsibility to support and protect people who are suffering.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson in a Verse:</b>	His brothers said to him, "Do you intend to reign over us? Will you actually rule us?" And they hated him all the more because of his dream and what he had said. (Genesis 37:8)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	Jacob loved all twelve of his sons, but he loved Joseph more than the others. Jacob made a special coat for Joseph. This coat was so beautiful and so colorful that it could have been worn by a king. Joseph's brothers were angry that their father loved Joseph more than he loved them. They were very jealous and wanted to kill Joseph. One day, Joseph went out in the field to find his brothers. When he got there, his brothers grabbed him, ripped off his coat, and threw him into a well. Judah, Joseph's brother, talked the others into selling Joseph instead of killing him. Some Midianites who were passing by bought Joseph and took him to Egypt. The brothers took Joseph's coat, covered it with goats' blood, and took it home to their father. They let Jacob believe that Joseph was killed by a ferocious animal.
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Joseph</b> was his father, Jacob's, favorite son. God spoke to Joseph through dreams.</li> <li>2. <b>Ornate Robe.</b> One way Jacob showed everyone Joseph was his favorite was by giving him an ornate and expensive robe.</li> <li>3. <b>The Brothers.</b> Joseph was the 11<sup>th</sup> of 12 sons of Jacob, and the older 10 brothers all hated Joseph. They hated him because Jacob love him more than them, and they also hated him because he told them about his dreams which were about how they would all bow down to him one day.</li> <li>4. <b>The Well.</b> One day, when Joseph came to check on the brothers, they recognized their opportunity to get rid of Joseph. They took off his robe, and put him in a well to die. Later they decided to sell Joseph as a slave rather than have him die in the well. They put animal blood all over the ornate robe, took it home to Jacob, and told him that Joseph had been killed by a wild</li> </ol>

	<p>animal. God, however, protected Joseph and would make his dreams come true one day.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>God’s covenant promises continue through Abraham’s descendants, now from Jacob’s generation to the next generation. Once again, though, it appears God is not going to continue the covenant promises through the first-born son, but another son. In this passage the 11<sup>th</sup> born son, Joseph, is the one to whom God gives dreams, not the first-born. These dreams signal to Joseph and others that he would become great, and even his father, Jacob, would bow down to him.</p> <p>Not surprisingly, his brothers became very jealous of Joseph and conspired together to make sure his dreams did not come true. Using treachery, they sold Joseph into slavery and deceived their father, telling him a wild animal killed Joseph.</p> <p>Not all the sons were happy with this course of events. Ironically, Rueben, the first-born, tried to save Joseph.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Like the Old Testament Joseph, God also spoke to the New Testament Joseph through a dream. Both Josephs end up going to Egypt. The Old Testament Joseph because of the hatred of his brothers. The New Testament Joseph because of the hatred of King Herod. In both cases though, God is at work, frustrating the plans of sinful humans, in order to bring about the fulfillment of the covenant promises.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>There are no hero’s in this passage. The brothers, obviously, should not have treated Joseph or Jacob as they did. Jacob should not have played favorites with his sons, publically showing everyone he loved one son more than all the others. Joseph probably should have kept his dreams to himself. In future passages Joseph will become the hero, but for now, this Bible passage is filled with sinners, a clueless father, and a naive son. There is, however, a hint of something better to come.</p> <p>✓ <b>What kinds of damage happens when parents favor one child over another, and when siblings allow jealousy to fester?</b></p>

	<p>✓ <b>Should Joseph have been so open about the dreams God gave to him?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b> Here is another example of how inner sinful thoughts and feelings find expression in sinful behaviors. While it may be natural for a certain level of sibling rivalry to exist, Joseph’s brothers allowed sin to so grow in their hearts that the conspired together to commit terrible sins.</li> </ul> <p>✓ <b>Why do you think Ruben, the first-born, tried to save Joseph, but only after he allowed the other brothers to throw Joseph into the well?</b></p> <p>✓ <b>What are some of the long-term effects of sin that get passed on from one generation to another?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b> Jacob should not have showed so much favoritism to Joseph. Joseph should have been more careful with whom he shared his dreams. The brothers should have been more open to understanding that God rarely keeps his covenant promises through the first-born son.</li> </ul> <p>✓ <b>What can parents do to not show favoritism, and thus cause trouble among siblings?</b></p> <p>✓ <b>What can siblings do to protect themselves from becoming jealous and allowing hatred to take root in their hearts?</b></p>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 12

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Joseph in Prison</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Genesis 40</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Romans 5:1-11</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Following God and living a life of integrity will lead to hardships in this life, but these hardships will not compare to the greatness of the grace and glory of Jesus in our lives.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Developing a mature Christian faith requires enduring trials and temptations that will bring a purity to our heart, mind and soul.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Rather than pulling back from others when we are enduring hardships, sometimes the best response is reach out to help others while we are suffering.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. (2 Corinthians 4:17)	

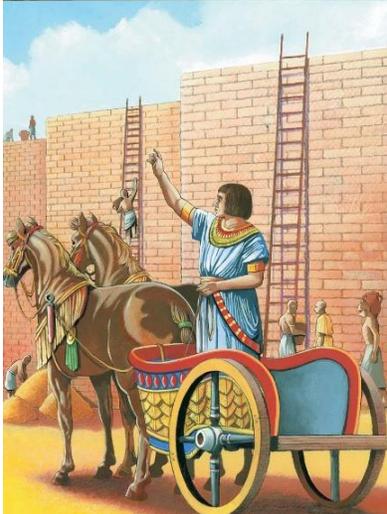
<b>Text Summary</b>	Jacob loved one of his sons, Joseph, more than he loved his others. His brothers became jealous because of this special status, as well as Joseph's dreams that one day all his brothers and his father would bow down to him. Joseph was sold by his brothers into slavery where he was wrongly accused of wrongdoing and then thrown into jail in Egypt. However, through the gift of interpreting dreams God had given to Joseph, he was eventually released from jail and placed in a position where he could bless the Egyptians.
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Joseph.</b> Jacob had 12 sons, the 11<sup>th</sup> one was named Joseph, to whom God gave the gift of being able to interpret dreams.</li> <li>2. <b>Jail.</b> Joseph's brothers were jealous of him, and sold him into slavery. Joseph ended up in jail in Egypt.</li> <li>3. <b>Cupbearer and Baker.</b> While in jail he met Pharaoh's cupbearer and baker, with whom Pharaoh was angry. They both had dreams they could not interpret, and so Joseph offered to help.</li> <li>4. <b>Revealed Meaning of Dreams.</b> With God's help, Joseph revealed to the cupbearer his dream meant Pharaoh would soon release him. However, Joseph revealed to the baker his dream meant Pharaoh would soon have him killed. Eventually Pharaoh had some disturbing dreams. The restored cupbearer remembered Joseph in jail, and had Joseph brought before Pharaoh. Joseph was able to interpret Pharaoh's dreams, and was released</li> </ol>

	<p>from jail and placed in a position of great power in Egypt because of the abilities God had given to him.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>The covenant God made with Abraham now reaches the fourth generation, through the twelve sons of Jacob (renamed Israel). Just as there was significant conflict between Isaac’s sons Esau and Jacob, so there is significant conflict among Jacob’s sons. In particular, Jacob’s 11<sup>th</sup> son, Joseph, endured great suffering at the hands of his brothers who were jealous of the favoritism Jacob showed toward Joseph. Throughout Joseph’s life, he faced great sufferings, but through it all God worked to preserve the covenants God made by protecting Israel’s family.</p> <p>Joseph received dreams from God, and the gift of interpreting dreams. His first dreams (Genesis 37:1-11) signaled he would be the greatest of his brothers. Telling others about these dreams caused his brothers to become jealous and sell Joseph into slavery.</p> <p>While in prison in Egypt Joseph interpreted the dreams of two prisoners of Pharaoh (Genesis 40). Eventually, when Pharaoh had troubling dreams, one of these prisoners, whose release Joseph foretold, told Pharaoh about Joseph (Genesis 41). Pharaoh brought Joseph from prison and told him to interpret his troubling dreams. Joseph was able to interpret the dreams because of God’s wisdom. Because of this, Pharaoh released Joseph and made him the second most powerful ruler in Egypt.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Through the sufferings and resurrection of Jesus Christ, humanity has gained access to salvation. In addition, just as Jesus had to suffer in order to bring us salvation, so Jesus’ followers must expect to endure sufferings. This suffering, though, is not a useless hardship. Instead, God uses the suffering to make us more like Jesus.</p> <p><b>The 10 Commandments Track:</b> Genesis 39 gives the reason why Joseph ends up in prison in Genesis 40. After his brothers sold him into slavery, one of Pharaoh’s officials, Potiphar, bought him. Rather than sulk at his hardships, Joseph stood out as a strong worker, and with God’s help, had success in all he did. Potiphar’s wife was an evil woman and tried to seduce Joseph. Joseph, however, remained strong in the face of temptation, honoring the command not to commit adultery. Rather than be humbled by Joseph’s integrity, Potiphar’s wife was angry and accused Joseph of trying to seduce her. Believing his wife, Potiphar had Joseph thrown into prison.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head:</b> Why do some people have no concern for other people’s feelings, but only focus on getting what they want at any cost?</li> <li>✓ <b>Heart:</b> While Joseph had every reason to be angry and bitter about his circumstances in Egypt, why do you think he worked diligently for Potiphar?</li> <li>✓ <b>Hands:</b> How can Christians strive to work with integrity, even when their employers do not honor Christian values?</li> </ul>

<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  God’s covenant promises to Abraham and his decedents flow through Joseph into the fourth generation. Joseph had dreams from God, and God gave him the ability to interpret the dreams of others. While living a life of integrity led to great sufferings for Joseph, his faithfulness in using God’s gifts eventually led him to a position where he could be of great blessing to others. Including being a key part of making sure God’s covenant promises would extend to a fifth generation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>We can avoid some kinds of suffering by living lives of integrity, but what are the kinds of sufferings Christians can face by living lives of integrity?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the resources Christians have to remain faithful to God in the midst of sufferings?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  While we always want to avoid pain and suffering, the Bible continually reveals, in order to be faithful to God, often times we must endure hardships. However, God can use those hardships to make us more mature as Christians. Therefore, we must fight against the temptation to fall away from Christ when sufferings come, and to fight against the bitterness that can come from sufferings. Instead, we must allow God to use those sufferings to produce Christian virtues in our lives. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some ways in which you have seen sufferings eventually lead to some of the Christian virtues Paul writes about in Romans 5:3-4?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How will our hearts change if we fail to believe God can bring good through our sufferings?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  The dreams Joseph received and the interpretations he shared about other people’s dreams sometimes led to blessings, but other times led to sufferings. We are often tempted to not reach out and help others for fear we could suffer as well. However, it is not by pulling back from others that Christ’s Good News is spread to those in need. Instead, it is in helping others through their pain that Jesus expresses his love and healing to those who most need love and healing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can we discern when God is calling us to help others?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How can we discern what sufferings God is calling us to endure, verses us unwisely putting ourselves in harm’s way for no good reason?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> </ul>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul> |
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## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 13

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Joseph Rules in Egypt</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Genesis 41</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Romans 8:26-39</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize God uses the jealousy of Joseph's brothers to send Joseph to Egypt to provide a means through which God would save his family from a coming famine.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Understand God can use the pain and hardships we endure to bless others, but only if we keep our heart open to the healing work of Jesus.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> In tough times refuse to be discouraged, for God often places us in situations we would have never expected to be in, in order to bring grace to people who are not expecting grace.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance. (Genesis 45:7)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>One night, the pharaoh of Egypt had a strange dream. It was about seven thin cows eating seven fat cows. Pharaoh wanted to know what his dream meant. Then his cupbearer remembered a man in prison who could interpret dreams. His name was Joseph. Pharaoh sent for Joseph and told him about the dream. Joseph said that for seven years Egypt would grow wonderful crops. For the next seven years, there would be a terrible famine. Pharaoh believed Joseph and made him a ruler in Egypt. Joseph's job was to make sure the Egyptians stored a lot of food during the seven good years. They needed to have enough food to eat during the seven year famine. During the famine, Joseph's family went to Egypt to buy some food. Joseph was glad to see his family because he had not seen them for many years. God was faithful to Joseph.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Joseph</b> was a descendant of Abraham. Although his brothers were jealous of him and sold him into slavery, because Joseph used the gifts God gave him, he was able to become the second most powerful person in Egypt.</li> <li>2. <b>Ruler in Egypt.</b> Through Joseph's God-given gift of being able to interpret dreams, he was able to warn Pharaoh a great famine was coming. Therefore, Pharaoh put Joseph in charge of preparing Egypt to save grain now so they would have enough to survive the famine. Joseph led the effort of building large buildings to house all the grain.</li> </ol>

	<p><b>3. Silos.</b> The famine did come as Joseph revealed it would. However, because of the preparations Joseph made, the Egyptians had plenty of food. Eventually Joseph’s brothers would come to Egypt desperate for food, and God would provide food to them through Joseph. Therefore, what the brothers had meant for evil, God was able to turn around and use for good, both for the Egyptians and in order to keep his covenants going to a new generation.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Amazingly, through the wicked behavior of Joseph’s brothers, Potiphar’s wife, and the forgetfulness of the Pharaoh’s chief cupbearer, Joseph still ended up at the exact right place at the exact right time to save Egypt and his father’s family from a coming famine.</p> <p>It was not God’s will that Joseph’s brothers sold him into slavery, nor that Potiphar’s wife tried to seduce him. However, God was able to work through those sinful behaviors and used the gift of interpreting dreams to place Joseph in a situation in which he could be a great blessing to others.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> No one imagined what a great salvation could come through the death of the Messiah. However, God worked through the sinful choices of others to bring about this great salvation. For when God is at work, nothing, absolutely nothing, can separate Christians from God’s love.</p> <p><b>Fruit of the Spirit Track: 6. Goodness.</b> Christians must live out their faith in God in their daily lives. This term “goodness” means having a high moral character, of being of high quality. Christians are tempted to live down to the moral standards of the community in which they live, but the scriptures call Christians to live up to the high moral standards God has revealed in the scriptures. Sometimes, as in the case of Joseph, to live with high moral standards results in persecution, not praise. However, the Christian living to honor God, even though they may suffer temporary trials, will earn a great reward from God. For Joseph, that reward came both in this life and in the life to come. For others, the reward will only come on the other side of death, when we see Christ face to face.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: What are some of the dangers of accepting Christ as your Savior, but not actively live out that relationship in your daily life?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: In what ways can living a life of high moral standards save a Christian from many kinds of broken relationships and heartbreaks?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: What will it look like to live a life of goodness in your community this next week?</b></li> </ul>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  The covenant God made with Abraham continues now into the fourth generation in a most surprising way. God worked through the blessings he gave Joseph, and he worked through the sinful choices of others, to bring protection to Abraham’s offspring and to the Egyptians. It took over ten years for Joseph to be released from slavery and jail and recognize the way in which God was able to take bad things and turn them into good. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the parallels between Joseph’s life and the life of Jesus, as God worked through them to save others?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think Joseph kept living a life of integrity, even when others kept betraying him?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  It is one thing to know in our head that God can bring good from sufferings. However, it is another thing to wait faithfully for those good things to come. In between the time of when the sufferings begin and when we see the good that God brings from them, we must work to keep our hearts pure and open to the healing work of God. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some resources God has given Christians to help protect our hearts from becoming hardened when we face sufferings?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are ways in which God can use the sufferings we experience to help us minister to others who are suffering?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  A life of significance is usually never an easy life. Instead, through the crucible of suffering, a strong character is formed in a person. Joseph shows through his life a devotion to God, even when he could not see or understand how God was going to rescue him from so many of his troubles. While Joseph waited for God to bring good from his hardships, he still lived a life that blessed others. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some practical habits we can develop that will help protect us from becoming bitter or fall away from God when sufferings come?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What is a way in which we can share with others some of the wisdom and insights we have learned as God has brought us up out of sufferings to see the good that has come from the sufferings?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 14

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Baby Moses Rescued</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Exodus 2:1-10</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Matthew 2:13-23</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Head:</b> Celebrate the fact that God can be trusted, because God continues to be faithful to the covenants by providing a rescuer for the Israelites when they cried out to from their slavery in Egypt.</li> <li>● <b>Heart:</b> Affirm that racism is wrong. God created all peoples and Jesus died to save all peoples.</li> <li>● <b>Hands:</b> Put into practice the conviction that it is our responsibility to stand up for, and protect those being oppressed, no matter how different they may be from us.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh’s daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, “I drew him out of the water.” (Exodus 2:10)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>The new pharaoh of Egypt thought there were too many Hebrew people in his land. The Israelites were also called Hebrews. So, Pharaoh ordered that all of the Hebrew baby boys be killed. When Moses was born, his mother wanted to hide him so that he wouldn’t be killed. As Moses grew, his mother found it difficult to hide him. She had to quickly think of another way to save her little boy. She made a small basket to put Moses in and put it into the Nile River. Her daughter, Miriam, watched the basket to make sure that nothing happened to the baby. When Pharaoh’s daughter went down to the river to take a bath, she found the small basket. In it, she discovered a little Hebrew baby. Pharaoh’s daughter decided to keep the baby boy. Moses didn’t grow up with his real family, but he was safe.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>The Nile River.</b> After Joseph died, a new Pharaoh came to power who did not respect how God saved Egypt through Joseph. Joseph’s family had come to live in Egypt, and were becoming a very large people, known as the Hebrews. Pharaoh became afraid of how large the Hebrews were becoming, and ordered that all the males be drowned in the Nile.</li> <li>2. <b>Baby Moses.</b> One Hebrew mother decided not to drown her baby, but placed it in a basket in the Nile. The baby’s name was Moses.</li> </ol>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. <b>Basket.</b> The basket floated down the Nile until it came to where Pharaoh’s daughter was bathing. She saw the basket, felt sorry for the Hebrew baby, and had her attendants get the baby.</li> <li>4. <b>Pharaoh’s Daughter.</b> Moses’ older sister had been watching all this from a distance and asked Pharaoh’s daughter if she should get a Hebrew mother to nurse and care for the baby. Pharaoh’s daughter agreed.</li> <li>5. <b>Moses’ Sister.</b> Therefore, Moses’ sister took him home with her and his mother cared for him until he was older.</li> <li>6. <b>Water.</b> God saved Noah’s family from the flood in the Ark, God saved Moses from the Nile in a basket. God would use Moses to free the Hebrews from their slavery by having them pass through the Red Sea. Baptism is a Christian sacrament, symbolize being saved from their sins by God by being dipped in water.</li> </ol>
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<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>God continued being faithful to the covenant made with Abraham by protecting the Israelites. Many generations of God’s people have lived in Egypt after Joseph; however, God’s people are no longer living in freedom and blessing, but in slavery. Their cries have risen to heaven, and God begins providing a way of freedom for them through saving the infant Moses from death.</p> <p>Fearful of the growing number of Israelites living in Egypt, the Pharaoh demanded all the newborn male Israelite babies be killed at birth. One mother refused this order and kept her baby safe at home for three months. When she could no longer hide the baby, she placed him in a basket in the Nile hoping he would be saved. The Hebrew term used here for “basket” is the same used in the Noah account in Genesis 6 for the ark he was building. In both accounts, God provided a means for delivering God’s people from destruction.</p> <p>Pharaoh’s daughter saw the baby, had compassion on him, and adopted the baby to be her own. Thus, God saved Moses from death so he could grow up and deliver the Israelites from slavery in Egypt.</p> <p><b>Supplementary text:</b> Like Moses, God provided a means of safety to the infant Jesus whose life is in danger by another ruler, like Pharaoh, who was fearful of losing power.</p>
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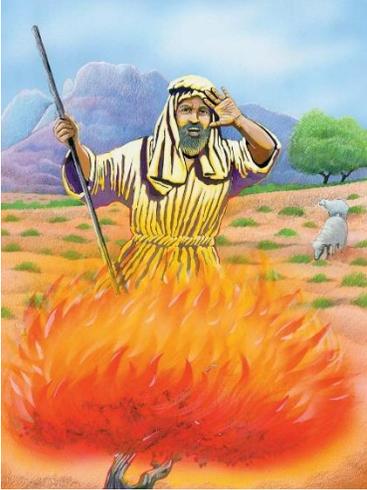
**Bible Study**

<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  God continues to protect the Israelites, being true to the covenant with Abraham. While God sent the Israelites to Egypt in Joseph’s day to save them from a famine, now, generations later, Pharaoh is oppressing them and using them as slaves in Egypt. God sees their suffering and begins raising up one of Abraham’s descendants who will deliver the Israelites from their slavery. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why is there so much conflict between people groups in Bible times and today?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How does the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and the status of all Christians as the People of God, demonstrate racism is a sin?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  We can do great harm to others in trying to protect ourselves when we allow our hearts to be filled with fear. This happens on national levels with one race oppressing another race, but also happens in our own personal relationship level when people allow fear to breed racism in their hearts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can we make sure the differences we have with others do not become hindrances to us loving them in Christ?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What steps can we take to engage people who are different from us, and seek to understand their values and priorities?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  In the midst of Pharaoh demanding the deaths of Hebrew baby boys, God is able to use Pharaoh’s daughter to be part of the salvation history of God’s people Israel. We need to remember that sometimes God’s blessings and protection will flow into our lives by people who are not following God or seeking to honor God with their lives. In addition, that God will use us to protect and bless those who are in need of protection, whether or not they are Christians. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>If God can use people who do not believe to bless and protect others, how then can you as a follower of Jesus Christ bless and protect those who do not say they follow God?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How can you stand up for and protect those in your community who are being oppressed, even if they are very different from you?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

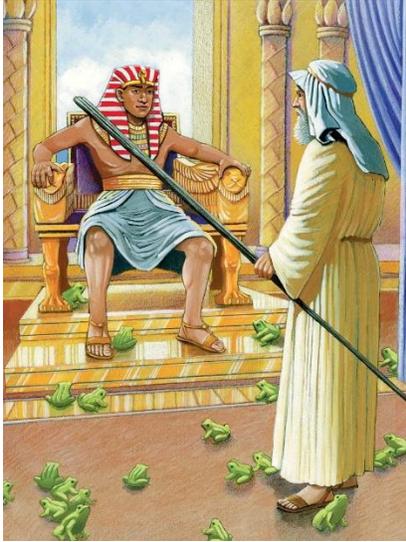
## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 15

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>The Burning Bush</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Exodus 3:1-4:18</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Acts 7:17-37</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand God heard the cries of his people suffering in Egypt, commissioned Moses to confront Pharaoh, to lead the Israelites out of Egypt, and to the Promised Land.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Recognize Christians may experience God’s call upon their lives as threatening. Moses was afraid of what God was calling him to do.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Commit to living according to the commands of God so you can gain the faith to trust when God’s call upon your life sounds risky.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	The LORD said, “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering.” (Exodus 3:7)	
<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>When Moses grew up, he left Egypt and Pharaoh’s palace to live in Midian. One day Moses was out in the fields watching his flock of sheep when he saw a bush on fire. Moses went to take a closer look. He had never seen a bush on fire that didn’t burn up. God called out to Moses from the burning bush, “Moses! Moses!” Moses was afraid to look at God but he said, “Here I am.” God told Moses to go to Egypt and tell Pharaoh to free the Israelites that he was keeping as slaves. Moses was scared, and had many questions for God. “I’m not an important person, so why would Pharaoh listen to me? Will the Israelites believe that God sent me to free them from slavery?” God told Moses not to be afraid because He would be with him. Moses trusted God. He did what God asked, even though he was afraid.</p>	
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Moses</b> was an Israelite who, though raised in Egypt, is now shepherding sheep far away from Egypt. The Egyptians are enslaving the Israelites.</li> <li>2. <b>Burning Bush.</b> God causes a bush to catch on fire, but the bush did not burn up.</li> <li>3. <b>On fire, but not burning up.</b> Moses was amazed at the sight, and went closer to see strange sight.</li> </ol>	

	<p>4. <b>Taken Aback by God’s voice.</b> God called to Moses from the bush. He called Moses to go back to Egypt and free the Israelites from their suffering and slavery. Moses was afraid of what God commanded him to do. God gave Moses many reassurances, and performed other miracles even more special than a burning bush that did not burn up. Eventually Moses agreed to do what God called him to do.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>The Egyptians have enslaved the Israelites, the People of God. The Israelites cried out to God for deliverance. God heard the Israelite’s cries for rescue and prepared to deliver them through Moses.</p> <p>God saved Moses from death as a baby when his mother placed him in a basket and put it in the Nile. She did this instead of throwing him in Nile as Pharaoh had ordered all Israelites to do with their newborn sons. Pharaoh’s daughter saw him floating in the basket and rescued him. She raised him as an Egyptian.</p> <p>However, though raised as an Egyptian, Moses knew he was also an Israelite. One day Moses saw an Egyptian beating an Israelites and Moses intervened by killing the Egyptian. When word got out of the murder, Moses fled Egypt and became a shepherd in Midian.</p> <p>God caused a bush to be on fire, but not burn up. Moses went to see this wonder, and from the bush, God called out to Moses. God called Moses to go back to Egypt and demand Pharaoh release the Israelites. Although the burning bush was an amazing sight, Moses doubted he would have success. Moses raised many objections to God. For every one of Moses’ objections, God gave reassurances, and even performed more miracles to increase Moses’ faith.</p> <p>Eventually Moses agreed to obey God’s call on his life.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Stephen was the first martyr of the Christian faith. Acts 7 records Stephen’s defense when he defended his preaching about Jesus before the Sanhedrin, a ruling body in Israel. In his defense, Stephen tells how Jesus is the fulfillment of the promises God gave in the Old Testament through Moses who said God would raise up another prophet like Moses. Stephen declares the prophet Moses spoke about was Jesus of Nazareth.</p>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  Egypt is enslaving God’s people, and the Israelites cry out to God. God decides to free them from slavery and take them to a blessed land where they can live and worship in freedom. God chooses Moses to be the one to free the Israelites and lead them to the Promised Land. Moses, though, was afraid of God’s call upon his life. God had to reassure Moses that what God had called him to do, God would give him the power to do. God is true to these promises, and eventually Moses would lead the Israelites to the Promised Land.  ✓ <b>Why was Moses in a unique situation to be able to be both a leader of the Israelites and make demands of Pharaoh?</b>  ✓ <b>Why do you think Moses need God to perform so many miracles before Moses would agree to obey God?</b></li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  Like Moses, many Christians are afraid at times to obey God’s commands. While the commands are rarely as bold as telling a dictator to free an enslaved people, oftentimes Christians still risk persecution. As this interaction between Moses and God shows, God is willing to work with our doubts and does not reject Christians just because they may lack faith.  ✓ <b>What are some examples of ways in which being faithful to God’s call upon a Christian’s life can lead to persecution and suffering?</b>  ✓ <b>What promises do Christians have that can encourage them when enduring persecution and suffering for being faithful to God?</b></li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  God still hears the cries of suffering from people and still sends Christians to help relieve their suffering. To help others, though, Christians will often need to risk their own safety or comfortable life. However, just as Christ suffered in the flesh, so God also at times calls Christians to not just believe in their hearts, but also put their beliefs into action.  ✓ <b>How can you prepare yourself to hear God’s call upon your life?</b>  ✓ <b>What are some steps you can take to help others who are suffering?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 16

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Ten Plagues in Egypt</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Exodus 7:1-13</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Luke 12:4-12</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Search your heart and discern your level of courage. Courage is required for Christians to carry out God’s will. God’s presence and power will empower your courage.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Believe God will never leave you or forsake you, so when fear grips your heart, do not lose hope.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be courageous this week, even in the midst of trials and temptations.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	I tell you, everyone who confesses Me before men, the Son of Man will also confess him before the angels of God. (Luke 12:8)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>The Egyptians forced the Israelites to work for them as slaves. The Israelites cried out to God and asked Him to free them from slavery. God heard their cry and sent Moses and Aaron to Egypt. They were to tell Pharaoh to free the Israelites. If he refused, God would send a plague to Egypt. Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh many times and told him to free the Israelites. Each time they went, Pharaoh would refuse and say, “No!” God was true to His word. Pharaoh refused to free the Israelites nine different times, so God sent these nine plagues to Egypt: the waters turned to blood; frogs; gnats; flies; the death of livestock; boils; deadly hail; locusts; and complete darkness in Egypt, all day and night. After all this, Pharaoh still would not let the Israelites go free.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Moses</b> returns to Egypt to tell Pharaoh he must free the Israelites who Pharaoh enslaves in Egypt. Moses has his staff, as God commands, ready to use it to perform his first miracle of turning it into a snake.</li> <li>2. <b>Palace.</b> Summoning much courage, Moses stands before the ruler of Egypt and warns if Pharaoh does not let the Israelites go free, then God will send plagues upon Egypt.</li> <li>3. <b>Pharaoh</b> refuses to honor God, instead he sees himself as not needing to submit Moses’ God.</li> <li>4. <b>Frogs.</b> The second of the plagues is the plague of frogs, when frogs filled the land. During each plague, Pharaoh said he would free the Israelites, but when Moses prayed and the plague subsided, Pharaoh hardened his heart and went back on his word.</li> </ol>

<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Moses returned to Egypt at God’s command, in order to rescue the Israelites from slavery and to take them to the Promised Land. God overcame Moses’ fears by doing miracles for Moses. Now Moses performs miracles on God’s behalf to show Pharaoh God’s great power. Pharaoh believed in many gods, he even believed he had divinity. Therefore, he did not believe he needed to submit to Moses’ “god.” However, as Moses demonstrated in all the plagues of God upon Egypt, Moses’ God is the only true God who has power over all creation.</p> <p>There is debate among Biblical scholars concerning the reports of Pharaoh’s hardened heart. At times the Bible says God hardened Pharaoh’s heart (ex. Exodus 9:12), at other times it says Pharaoh hardened his own heart (ex. Exodus 8:15), and finally, there are times in which the Bible just reports Pharaoh’s heart was hardened (Exodus 7:13), not identifying any actor causing the action. In general, the reports of God’s hardening of Pharaoh’s heart come during the last four plagues, after references to Pharaoh hardening his own heart during the earlier plagues. One interpretation of this is, after Pharaoh continually acted sinfully, God gave Pharaoh over to his sinfulness. (see Romans 1:18-32)</p> <p>At first, Pharaoh refused to submit to God’s command through Moses. Therefore, over the course of time God sent a series of ten plagues on Egypt. Pharaoh finally relented after the 10<sup>th</sup> plague.</p> <p><b>Additional text:</b> Jesus warned his followers they must be willing to speak for God in front of others. Being a follower of Jesus may result in persecution and sufferings, but it is better to suffer for Jesus’ sake than to reject Jesus’ commands, and thus be rejected by Jesus.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>God hears the cries of the enslaved Israelites and sends Moses to rescue them from Egypt with great signs and wonders. Pharaoh would not honor God’s word spoken through Moses, and the Egyptians suffered because of that disobedience. They suffered through the 10 plagues God sent on Egypt. God’s answer to the Israelite’s cries though do not come without a cost to Moses. Moses must have the courage that God will protect him and deliver on the promises made to Moses.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some consequences of sin that affect more than just the individual who sinned?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How does pride cause a person to either doubt God’s word to them, or doubt that God’s will is better than their own will?</b></li> </ul> <p>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></p> <p>We must guard our hearts. Falling away from God is rarely ever a simple one-time decision. Instead, people often make many small disobedient decisions over time that result in an eventual inability to hear God’s voice at all. These disobedient decisions are when we rely on our own wisdom and strength more than on God’s wisdom and strength for direction. The key to guarding our hearts is believing God will never leave us or forsake us.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can a Christian protect their heart from believing the lies Satan makes, that God does not want us to be happy? (See Genesis 3:1-7)</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How does a Christian gain the courage to speak up for God’s concerns when the result might be persecution?</b></li> </ul> <p>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></p> <p>There are times in which Jesus call us to be courageous and speak up for God’s concerns or to provide for those who are in need. Like the Israelites in Egypt, God still hears the cries of those who are suffering, and still sends Christians to set them free from their oppression.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What types of people in your town are living under physical or spiritual oppression?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What gifts, talents, and/or abilities has God given you that you can use to help others who are in need?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 17

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>The First Passover</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Exodus 11:1-12:13</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Luke 22:1-23</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Celebrate God’s provision of salvation to all those who faithfully follow God’s instructions.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Commit to having a soft heart open to God’s instructions, not a hardened one like Pharaoh’s.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Celebrate the Lord’s Supper with honor and joy, for it is the Christian’s Passover meal to celebrate our salvation through Jesus Christ.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the LORD’s Passover. (Exodus 12:11)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>God had sent nine plagues upon Egypt because Pharaoh had refused to free the Israelites from slavery. God decided to send one more plague upon Egypt. God had Moses tell Pharaoh and the Israelites that around midnight He would go through the country. The firstborn son of every family living in Egypt would die. God gave instructions to the Israelites living in Egypt. Each Israelite family was to sacrifice a lamb or a goat. They were to take the blood and put it on the top and sides of their doorframe. When God passed by each house, He would look for the blood. If He saw the blood, He would pass over the house and the firstborn son would be saved. If He didn’t see the blood, the firstborn son would die. When Pharaoh realized that his son had been killed, he was finally willing to free the Israelites.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Israelites.</b> God gave instructions to the Israelites on how to protect themselves from the last of the 10 Plagues on Egypt, the Plague of the First Born.</li> <li>2. <b>Blood.</b> Each household needed to sacrifice one sheep or goat. They were to take the animal’s blood and using hyssop, mark the doorposts of their homes. They also were to cook the animal and eat it.</li> <li>3. <b>Marking the Home.</b> If the Israelites follow the Passover instructions and mark the doorframes of their homes, then they would not suffer from the Plague of the Firstborn.</li> </ol>
<b>Text Context</b>	<p>For nine plagues, Pharaoh refused God’s command through Moses to let the Israelites leave Egypt. God gave Moses instructions on what would be the final plague, the Plague of the Firstborn. In this plague every firstborn son in Egypt</p>

	<p>would die, of both animals and humans. After this plague, Pharaoh finally relented and let the Israelites leave Egypt.</p> <p>God also gave Moses instructions to pass onto the Israelites to protect them from the Plague of the Firstborn and be ready to leave Egypt. For protection from the final plague, the Israelites must sacrifice a sheep or goat, prepare it for a meal, and put marks of its blood on the doorframes of their homes. This Passover was to be a recurring festival the Israelites will celebrate annually.</p> <p>In the Passover God continued to be faithful to the covenants made to the Patriarchs of Israel. God provided salvation to the Israelites from Egypt so they could journey to the Promised Land, build a Temple, and worship God freely.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Jesus instituted a new Passover meal for his disciples on the night of his betrayal. In the first Passover God provided freedom from slavery to Egypt, in the second Passover God provided freedom from slavery to sin. The Lord’s Supper, The Eucharist, and Communion are some of the names used to refer to this new Passover meal.</p>
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<b>Bible Study</b>	
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<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
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<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
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<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  God provides Moses with instructions for both life and death. The instructions for Pharaoh will announce the last Plague, and result in the deaths of the firstborn males in Egypt because of Pharaoh’s refusal to obey God’s commands. However, God also provides instructions for life, for salvation from slavery. People today who follow God’s instructions for life find freedom from sin. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>People often know the right things to do, but do not do them. What causes people to rebel against God’s commands?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why are there are consequences for the sins we have committed, even after we have asked forgiveness for the sins?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  All Egypt suffered the consequences of Pharaoh’s pride that caused Pharaoh’s heart to harden and refuse to do what was best for the Egyptians. So also, people today have hearts that have been hardened by sin and the consequences of sin. Even</li> </ul>
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	<p>Christians, if they are not careful to keep their hearts open to God, can fall into temptations that will result in hardened hearts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can people with hardened hearts receive healing?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>In what ways can even Christians experience hardening of their hearts?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>The Christian faith is not only about beliefs; it is a faith made alive in the actions of Christians. Celebrating the Lord’s Supper is one of the actions God calls Christians to practice. In the Last Supper, Christians celebrate the freedom God has brought to them through the sacrifice of the perfect Lamb of God, Jesus Christ. The Lord’s Supper is a time for honest reflection on the quality of our Christian faith, and a time of joyful celebration for the salvation Jesus has provided for Christians.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What can you do to prepare your heart for taking The Lord’s Supper?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How can regularly celebrating the Lord’s Supper be a source of strength and inspiration for Christians?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 18

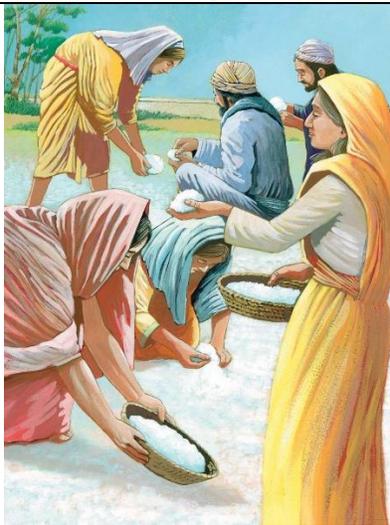
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Crossing the Red Sea</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Exodus 13:17-14:31</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Romans 6:1-14</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand God saved the Israelites from slavery in Egypt through Moses, and then God saved all humanity from slavery to sin through Jesus.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> In Baptism, Christians bear witness to an inward grace given by God. Christians have died to sin and made alive in Christ. God calls Christians to live out that change by surrendering our heart to God so he can bring healing and holiness.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Christians are to be baptized, and are to live out their baptism by faithfully following Jesus.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	We were therefore buried with Christ Jesus through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. (Romans 6:4)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Pharaoh finally let the Israelites go free. But, after they left, Pharaoh realized that most of his workers were gone. Pharaoh changed his mind about letting the Israelites go free. He sent his entire army out to force the Israelites to go back to Egypt. The Israelites had walked to the edge of the Red Sea. They looked back and saw the Egyptian army following them. Moses told the Israelites not to be afraid. The Lord would save them. Moses raised his staff and stretched his hand over the Red Sea. At once the water rolled back and the sea divided. The Israelites hurried across the dry ground. They were amazed to see the walls of water on both sides of them. The Egyptians chased the Israelites into the sea. When all of the Israelites had crossed, Moses lifted his hand and all of the water went back into place. None of the Egyptians survived.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>The Israelites.</b> God freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt through his servant Moses.</li> <li>2. <b>The Egyptians</b> changed their mind about letting the Israelites leave and chased after them.</li> <li>3. <b>Moses.</b> God told Moses to raise his hands over the Red Sea, and the waters would part.</li> <li>4. <b>Waters.</b> The waters parted, dry ground appeared, and the Israelites walked to safety.</li> </ol>

	<p><b>5. Egyptians Overwhelmed.</b> The Egyptians pursued the Israelites through the sea. God told Moses to raise his hands again, and the waters flowed back, and over the Egyptians. All the Egyptians died.</p> <p><b>6. The Israelites</b> were now safe from the Egyptians.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>God completed the rescue of the Israelites from their slavery in Egypt through their crossing of the Red Sea. After the Plague of the Firstborn, Pharaoh ordered the Israelites out of Egypt. Soon after their departure though, Pharaoh changed his mind and sent his army to force the Israelites to return to their slavery in Egypt.</p> <p>The Israelites saw the approaching Egyptians army and cried out to Moses, complaining they were going to die. Moses told the Israelites to have courage and to stand firm. God worked yet another miracle, one in which we would hope would give the Israelites the courage they needed to never doubt God or Moses again. Unfortunately, the Israelites still often complained to Moses. Amazingly, they often declared their wishes to go back to Egypt.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> The New Testament writers understood baptism as a type of salvation like the Israelites experienced in the Red Sea. Baptism is the outward sign of the inward grace of salvation from our sins through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Just as God delivered the Israelites from slavery to Egypt, through Moses, so God delivers Christians from slavery to sin, through Jesus.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>God’s continues to be true to the covenants made to the Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God delivers the People of God from their slavery in Egypt. Using Moses as an intermediary, God guides the Israelites out of Egypt and to the Promised Land. This salvation through the waters of the Red Sea is a foreshadowing of the salvation Jesus Christ will bring through the waters of baptism.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do the Israelites, just rescued from slavery and told they are on their way to a Promised Land, begin complaining to Moses?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What were some of the gifts and talents Moses must have possessed in order to carry out God’s call upon his life?</b></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  After hundreds of years of slavery in Egypt, the Israelites do not know how to embrace their new freedom faithfully. When they see the Egyptian army pursuing them, they become terrified. Even after God demonstrated his great power through Moses bringing plague after plague, they are full of fear and begin complaining to Moses. Moses declares the Israelites need to stand in faith and wait upon God's deliverance. In the Christian life also, there is more to salvation than just simply forgiveness for the guilt of our sins. God also wants to save us from the power of sin at work in our lives so we may live lives of full devotion to God.</li> <li>✓ <b>Why are Christians tempted to sin, even after becoming Christians?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>In what ways are Christians today tempted to fear and doubt, even after God saves them from their sins?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  Baptism is a sacrament of the Church. It is an outward sign of an inward grace God has brought into the life of the believer. While Christians only need to be water baptized once, Christians are to remember their baptism when watching others' baptisms. In remembering, they celebrate when God freed them from the guilt of their sins, and began bringing spiritual power into their lives.</li> <li>✓ <b>In what ways should a Christian's life be lived differently after their baptism?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some examples you have seen of God freeing people from slavery to sin?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 19

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Eating Manna in the Desert</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Exodus 16</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>John 6:25-59</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Appreciate God’s plan not to just save the Israelites from bondage, but to provide the daily sustenance they need as well.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Regularly search your heart and discern if any part of your life does not conform to God’s will for your life.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Affirm God’s call on the People of God to work, using their gifts and talents. God provides what we need, but we are responsible to use our God-given gifts and talents to receive those and to bring glory to the Kingdom of God.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. (John 6:35)	

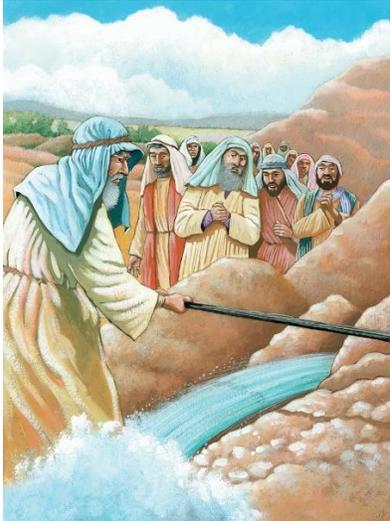
<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>After the Israelites left Egypt, they traveled in the desert for over a month. The Israelites were very hungry. They went to Moses and told him that they would have been better off if they would have gone back to Egypt. At least there they had all of the food and water they needed. They were going to starve to death in the desert. God told Moses that He would rain down bread for the Israelites to eat. The Israelites called this bread “manna.” God told the people that each morning they were to gather enough manna to last for that day. Most of the Israelites obeyed, but some of the people gathered more manna than they needed. Those who gathered too much found maggots in their manna the next morning. The Israelites learned that God would provide what they needed, and that they should follow God’s instructions.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Wilderness.</b> God rescued the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and the Israelites have been traveling in the wilderness for two months.</li> <li>2. <b>The Israelites</b> began to grumble to Moses about their lack of food. They are in the wilderness and cannot find enough food for themselves. They are afraid they will all die, forgetting all the mighty miracles God has performed to bring them this far. They also quickly forgot their suffering under Egypt as slaves, and claim their lives were better as slaves then, than now as the Children of God.</li> <li>3. <b>Manna.</b> God heard their grumbling and sent them manna and quail to eat. The manna was like thin flakes that appeared as a layer on the ground in the</li> </ol>

	<p>mornings. God also provided quail each day as meat. For their 40 years in the wilderness, God provided manna and quail six days a week. The Israelites were to gather twice as much food on Fridays so they did not have to work on Saturday, the Sabbath. No manna or quail came on the Sabbath.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>The Israelite’s journey from Egypt to the Promised Land did not happen quickly. Two months after their rescue from slavery, they were still marching in the wilderness, and their food and water were almost all gone.</p> <p>They began fearing for their lives, thinking they would starve to death in the wilderness. While they had witnessed God’s mighty strength in the plagues God sent to Egypt, and walked through the Red Sea on dry land, their hunger was still making them fearful. They began to grumble.</p> <p>God instructed Moses what to say to the people. God would indeed provide food for them, but they must follow certain guidelines. Not all of the Israelites obeyed the guidelines. Unfortunately, this would not be the last time the Israelites grumbled against Moses and God, and this would not be the last time they disobeyed God’s commands. However, God remained true to the covenants, and while at times the Israelites needed to suffer the consequences of their sins, God always provided for their basic needs.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Jesus used the imagery of bread to teach the crowds that he offered them everything they needed. The crowds did not understand what Jesus meant at first, they thought Jesus might provide manna from heaven like Moses had done. The religious leaders also did not understand how Jesus could claim to provide bread from heaven; they could not understand how someone born on earth could claim to have come from heaven. Like the Israelites in Moses’ day, the religious leaders of Jesus’ day grumbled against God’s servant.</p> <p><b>The 10 Commandments Track:</b> The fourth commandment, like the first two, set Israel apart from all her neighbors. Israel, in believing the Creation account, is to follow God’s pattern of work in creation: work six days and rest one. Everything in Israel is to rest on the Sabbath, not just the head of the household, but the spouse, children, servants, animals, and foreigners in the land. When we create times of rest, we honor God.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: How should Christians understand and live out the Sabbath commandment today?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: How can times of Sabbath rest on one day bring blessings to the other six days?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: When you rest from work this week, with what will you fill that time that will help you express your love and gratitude for God?</b></li> </ul>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  Trusting God does not come easily, especially when your life is on the line. The Israelites had cried out to God for deliverance from slavery, and God rescued them with his mighty power. God wanted the Israelites to trust that he would use his mighty power not to only rescue them, but to sustain them. However, the Israelites grumbled because of their fear and lack of trust in God’s provision. It would take a long time before the Israelites learned to trust God. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How are Christians, who cannot see God or hear God audibly speak, supposed to trust God to provide all their needs?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Besides a lack of trust, what other issues can cause a Christian to grumble against God?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  God does not call Christians to trust him blindly. God has been working in each Christian’s life, even before they became a Christian. God calls Christians to trust because God has proven himself worthy of trust. Often times though, because of the size of problems in their lives, Christians are tempted to focus more on their problems than on God, the one who wants to help them solve their problems. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Is there any part of your life that does not conform to God’s will for you?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Think of some people in your life who have a deep trust in God, how do you think they developed that trust?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word into Action?</b>  While God provided manna, the Israelites still had to take action to collect the manna, and had to follow guideline on when and how much to gather. They were not to be selfish by collecting too much, and they were not to be fearful by trying to gather on the Sabbath. God gives blessings, but God often also gives guidelines with those blessings so that Christians do not use those blessings selfishly. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some ways Christians can record the ways in which God provides for them?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Think about those people in your life who have a deep trust in God, make a plan to speak with them this week and ask them how they developed such a deep trust.</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> </ul>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul> |
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## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 20

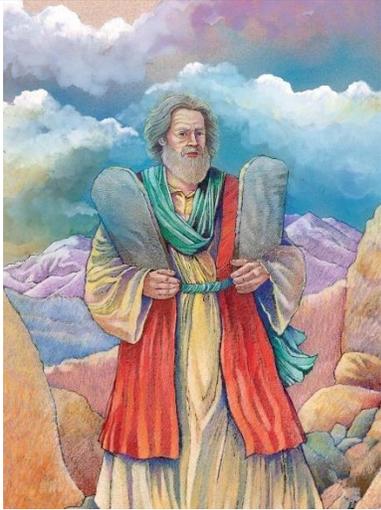
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Moses Strikes the Rock</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Exodus 17:1-7</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>James 4:1-10</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand following God requires trust God knows your needs and will provide for them.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Discern the extent to which you trust God to provide for your needs. Are you in conflict with anyone because of any selfish desires on your part?</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Commit to seeking God’s power and strength for providing for your needs, and refuse to allow any quarrels between you and other Christians.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	So they quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses replied, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the LORD to the test?” (Exodus 17:2)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	Moses and the Israelites kept wandering in the desert wherever God would lead them. After walking for many long days, the Israelites camped at a place called Rephidim. They were very thirsty and couldn’t find any water to drink. Some of the Israelites got angry and told Moses to give them water to drink. Moses asked God what he should do. The Israelites were very angry and Moses was afraid that they might kill him. God told Moses to walk ahead of the people and take some of the older leaders with him. Then, God said he needed to take the walking stick that he used to strike the Nile River. God told Moses that He would stand in front of him by a rock at Mount Sinai. Moses was to hit the rock with the stick. When Moses hit the rock, water came pouring out of it. The Israelites had plenty of water to drink.
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>The Wilderness.</b> Moses has been leading the Israelites out of Egypt and into the Promised Land. The wilderness in which they are traveling does not provide food for the people, so God has been providing food for them.</li> <li>2. <b>The Israelites</b> begin quarrelling with Moses because they cannot find water. They are exhausted from their journey, and are scared they might die of thirst in the wilderness. They do not yet have the trust and faith in God they need.</li> <li>3. <b>Moses</b> goes to God in prayer and tells of the threat he feels to his life because of their anger and thirst. God tells Moses to strike a rock with the same rod he used to part the Red Sea, and water will come out of the rock. Moses did as God instructed, and water came from the rock. Moses was angry at the</li> </ol>

	<p>people’s lack of faith and called the place where they quarreled with him Massah and Meribah, which mean “testing” and “quarrelling.”</p>
<b>Text Context</b>	<p>Life was hard for the Israelites in their Egyptian slavery. They cried out to God and God rescued them with a mighty hand. The Israelites were supposed to see these mighty works and trust that the God who heard their cries and rescued them would be the same God who would provide for them as they journeyed to the Promised Land. The Israelites, however, did not yet trust God like that. Instead, they became angry with Moses over a lack of food. Although they did not yet trust God as they should, God provided manna and quail for them six days a week.</p> <p>The Israelites quarrel with Moses again, lamenting this time about water. They believed they were going to all die in the desert because there was not enough water for them. As with the food issue, Moses went to God with their complaints, and God responded by providing for the people. God told Moses to provide water for the people by striking a rock with the same staff with which he parted the Red Sea. The people were supposed to understand that the same God who protected them from the Egyptians by parting the Red Sea was the same God who could provide water for them – even from a rock! They did not.</p> <p>Unfortunately, this quarrelling and complaining to Moses that life was better for them back in their slavery in Egypt would still be a regular practice for the Israelites.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> James made clear quarrelling and conflicts among Christians came because Christians did not trust God to provide for them. In Moses’ day it was the Israelites quarrelling to Moses, in James’ day, it was the Christians quarrelling with one another. In both cases, the People of God needed to learn to control their desires, and believe God would provide for all their needs. They must learn to trust God.</p>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>Trusting does not come easily or naturally for anyone. To trust someone requires a person to take a risk the other person is trust-worthy. To trust God requires a Christian to believe God is trust-worthy. While many Christians would quickly say</p>

	<p>they trust God with everything, when crises come, when there is a lack of food or money, or when conflicts with others come, often times Christians will not submit to God. Instead, they will act in harmful ways to get what they think they need. Oftentimes Christians could avoid much hardship and conflict in their lives if they were both trusting and patient, waiting on God’s perfect timing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How would you respond to someone who says, “It is hard to trust God when my stomach is growling?”</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Like the Israelites, why do Christians not always trust God, even when God has proven his love to them in mighty ways in the past?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>Trusting God means trusting for both spiritual and physical needs. When Christians do not trust God for these needs, conflict and quarrelling result, as the Bible passages show. While God does not expect Christians to have perfect trust all the time, God also does not want any lack of trust to result in conflict with other Christians. All Christians should be growing in their obedience to God and their trust in God.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Besides thirst, what are some other reasons why a Christian would struggle trusting God to provide for their needs?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How can a Christian make sure they are making requests to God with right motives, and not with wrong motives?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>Trusting God does not mean Christians simply sit back and wait for God to give everything needed. God calls on Christians to participate in providing for their needs and the needs of others. Discernment is required for Christians to know the difference between when they are following God’s will for them, or when they are stepping outside of God’s will in a lack of trust.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can regular Bible study help a Christian grow in their trust of God?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How could this story have been different if the Israelites went to God in prayer with their needs instead of going to Moses and quarrelling with him?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 21

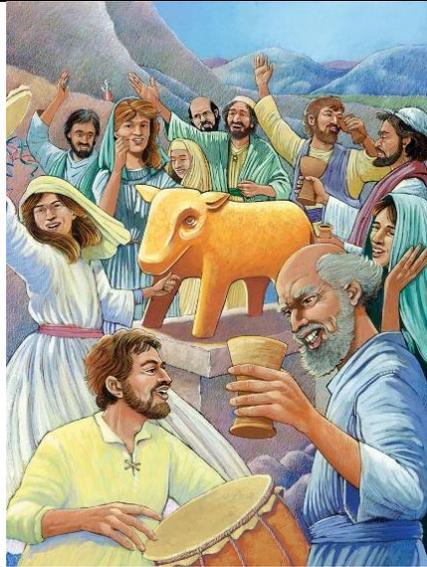
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>The 10 Commandments</b>	
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Exodus 20:1-20</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Luke 10:25-28</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize our responsibility as Christians to honor our Creator and Savior with how we live our daily lives.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Ask God to search your heart and discern if there is anything you are worshipping or serving other than God.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Find ways this week to love and honor God by serving others.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	He answered, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind”; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” (Luke 10:27)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>The Israelites had been traveling in the desert for three long months. They finally came to a place called Sinai. The Israelites were very tired and set up their camp at the edge of a mountain called Mount Sinai. This mountain is also known as God’s holy mountain. God told Moses to climb to the very top of Mount Sinai. He had some rules for the Israelites that would help them to know what was right and wrong. They are called the Ten Commandments. God wrote these rules on two tablets that were made of stone. Moses took the tablets with him back down the mountain so he could show them to the Israelites. These were some of the rules: Have no other gods before me; Do not take God’s name in vain; Honor your father and mother; Do not murder; Do not steal; Do not lie.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Mount Sinai.</b> After delivering Israel from slavery in Egypt, God brought them to Mount Sinai.</li> <li>2. <b>Mountain Top.</b> Moses traveled up Mount Sinai where God gave the 10 Commandments to Moses on two tablets.</li> <li>3. <b>Tablets.</b> Moses then went down the mountain and taught the commandments to Israel. The 10 Commandments are: “You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Honor your father and your mother. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. You shall not covet.”</li> </ol>

	<p>4. <b>Mountain in Smoke.</b> The Israelites were afraid when they saw Mt. Sinai consumed with smoke, thunder, and lightening. Moses told them not to be afraid, that God wants to use God’s power to protect them.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p><b>Text Context and 10 Commandments Track:</b>  After their deliverance from Egypt and crossing of the Red Sea, the Israelites have camped at the base of Mount Sinai. Along the way, God provided food for them, water for them, and victory in battle over the Amalekites. Now God provided the foundational 10 Commandments upon which the People of God were to live their lives before God and with each other.</p> <p>The basis for why the Israelites should be obedient to these 10 Commandments is God’s gracious deliverance of Israel from slavery in Egypt. The Israelites were not to follow the 10 Commandments in order to be loved and accepted by God, they already were loved and accepted. God proved this love by rescuing them from slavery in Egypt. The Israelites were to be obedient to these commandments as a response to God’s love and care that had already been expressed to them.</p> <p>These foundational commands were not miscellaneous rules that must be followed simply because God commanded them to be followed. Instead, they were an expression of God’s love for Israel in that, if they were followed, would result in great blessings for the Israelites in their relationship with God and with one another. God made a covenant with Israel and would be faithful to the covenant. The 10 Commandments, if followed, would guide Israel in being faithful to the covenant as well.</p> <p>Scholars often divide the 10 Commandments into two groups, those commands concerned with our relationship with God (the first four), and those concerned with our relationship with one another (the last six). Because all humans are created in the image of God, it is not enough just to worship God, we are to live out our faith in tangible and practical ways with others.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> When asked what the greatest commandment was, Jesus said loving God with your whole life and your neighbor as yourself. The 10 Commandments are the foundation of these two greatest commandments. It is significant that God frames this commandment in terms of love. Again, the commandments God gives Israel are not miscellaneous burdens to be followed just to be followed. Instead, they are the means through which Israel could respond in love to God in the way they live before God and with one another.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  We can understand commands negatively: as burdens imposed on someone. Alternatively, we can understand commands positively: as gracious guidelines on how to enjoy life the most. When God gives the 10 Commandments to Israel, they are a gracious gift, showing Israel how they can have the best relationship with God and with one another. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do people often react negatively when someone tries to make them live by certain rules?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What steps can you take to help people understand why the 10 Commandments are rules that will bless them if followed?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  Trust is a major factor in whether or not someone will follow rules. Do they trust the rules are good? Do they trust the rule makers are good? God did not give the 10 Commandments in a vacuum; God gave them after rescuing Israel from bondage. Israel can trust God and the commands because of the love God has shown in the Exodus. Additionally, we can trust God and God’s commands, not just because of the Exodus, but because Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection demonstrate God’s love to us. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some ways in which people show their love and respect for you?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Is there anything that is holding you back from trusting God’s commands are the best way for you to live your life?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  Not only is living life according to God’s commands the best way for us to enjoy this life, it is also an act of worship to God. When we trust God enough to order our life according to God’s commands, then we are even closer to fulfilling the greatest commandment, loving God with all our heart, soul, and mind. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can reading the Bible on a regular basis help you know God’s commands and find the strength to live by God’s commands?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are examples of ways you can, this week, fulfill the second part of the greatest command – loving your neighbor as yourself?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 22

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	The Golden Calf	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	Exodus 32	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	1 Corinthians 10:1-14	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize the temptation to sin is strong, even for those who have once been rescued by God.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Guard against allowing our loves and desires to become focuses on our own pleasures, instead of focusing on honoring God.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Keep close watch over your habits and attitudes to make sure they do not lead you into temptation.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. (Romans 1:21)	

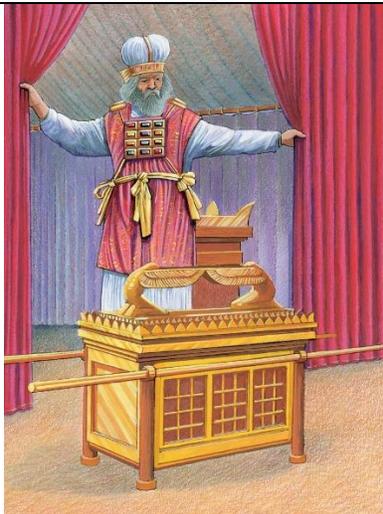
<b>Text Summary</b>	Moses had climbed to the top of Mount Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments. While he was away, Moses left his brother, Aaron, in charge of the Israelites. Moses had been on the mountain for a very long time. Some of the Israelites were tired of waiting and became very impatient. They wanted to worship a god they could see. To make the Israelites happy, Aaron told the people to give him all of their gold jewelry. Aaron melted the gold and made an idol that looked like a calf. The Israelites started praying to the golden calf. They thanked the idol, instead of God, for leading them out of Egypt. When Moses came back down the mountain, he saw the people praying to this golden calf. Moses was so angry at the Israelites for disobeying that he threw the tablets onto the ground, and they shattered into many pieces.
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Moses.</b> God called Moses to ascend Mt. Sanai to receive the 10 Commandments. Moses has been gone 40 days, and now returns to find the Israelites sinning.</li> <li>2. <b>Worshipping Idols.</b> After being commanded not to worship any other gods in the first commandment, Moses finds the Israelites worshipping an idol.</li> <li>3. <b>Golden Calf.</b> After being commanded not to make any images of gods to worship in the second commandment, Moses finds the Israelites worshipping an image of a god – the Golden Calf. After being commanded not to misuse the Lord’s name in the third commandment, Moses finds the Israelites calling the</li> </ol>

	<p>Golden Calf their God. After being commanded not to commit adultery in the seventh commandment, Moses finds the Israelites engaging in “revelry,” which likely involved sinful sexual activity.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>The Israelites arrived at the foot of Mt. Sanai about three months after leaving Egypt and set up camp. During their time at Mt. Sanai God gave them the 10 Commandments. Moses made several trips up and down the mountain in order to receive instructions from God.</p> <p>During his last trip up Mt. Sanai, Moses spent 40 days and nights on the mountain and received stone tablets on which God has recorded the 10 Commandments.</p> <p>During the time Moses was away, the Israelites gathered around Aaron, whom Moses left in charge. They are afraid Moses is gone forever, and demand Aaron make them idols who will lead them from Mt. Sanai to the Promised Land. Aaron submitted to their demands and collected all their gold in order to make an idol in the form of a calf.</p> <p>The Israelites then broke at least three of the 10 Commandments God had just given to them as they turned their backs on God and started worshipping an idol.</p> <p>After receiving the 10 Commandments on the tablets on which God had written them, God informed Moses that the Israelites had turned their backs on God, and were worshipping an idol. God declared he would kill all the Israelites and then begin a new people through Moses to enjoy his Covenant promises. Moses, though, pleaded for God’s mercy, and God relented.</p> <p>Moses came down from the mountain, found the Israelites sinning, and confronted them.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Reminding the Jewish Christians of the sins of the Israelites at Mt. Sanai, the Apostle Paul pleaded with them not to fall into temptation. There are serious and eternal consequences if Christians turn their backs on God and return to their sinful lives.</p> <p><b>The 10 Commandments Track:</b> The first two commandments establish Israel’s religion as a monotheistic faith. This is a distinguishing feature of Israel’s faith, no other religions believed in only one God. Unlike their polytheistic neighbors, Israel is to believe there is only one God who has created everything, and who has entered into covenant with Israel. Because this one God has created everything, Israel is not make idols. God cannot be represented by any animal or being, and so Israel is not to make any representations of God to be worshipped.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: What steps can we take to help people understand why the 10 Commandments are rules that will bless them if followed?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: What are some ways in which people prove their love and respect for you</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: How can you discern when an object or desire becomes an idol for you?</b></li> </ul>

<b>Bible Study</b>	
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  The Israelites became rebellious when Moses stayed on Mt. Sanai for 40 days and nights. They may have been filled with fear that Moses had died or simply left them. They may have been anxious they would die in the desert without a leader. They may have simply regressed and wanted to become like the Egyptians – a people of many gods. Whatever the reason, they quickly abandoned the 10 Commandments God had given to them and began living for themselves. While God threatens to once again destroy a sinful people (like the people of Noah’s day, and the people of Sodom and Gomorrah), Moses pleads on behalf of the Israelites and God changes his mind. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think the Israelites were so quick to break so many of the 10 Commandments?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why is it so hard to wait in trust for God to answer prayers?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  The Apostle Paul reminds Christians that no matter how much they grow in their faith, temptation is never far away. Whenever Christians focus on fulfilling their desires rather than God’s will, temptation thrives. If even the Israelites, who had just experienced the mighty power of God in so many ways would fall into temptation, how easy must it be for Christians to fall as well? However, because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ Christians are not like those Israelites, instead we have God at work in our hearts and minds through the power of the Holy Spirit. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Temptation appeared to Eve in the form of a serpent, to the Israelites in the form of a calf. In what forms does temptation appear to people today?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What is it about fear and insecurity that makes people so open to the temptation to sin?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word into Action?</b>  Sin results whenever we direct our hearts toward anything other than God. If we do not live with discernment, our passions and desires can lead us into sin. Even religious services and practices can become sinful when our focus and desires focus on something other than the true God.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ <b>How can Christians fall into the trap of worshipping or serving something other than God?</b></li><li>✓ <b>How can Christians discern if their desires are God honoring or self-honoring?</b></li></ul>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 23

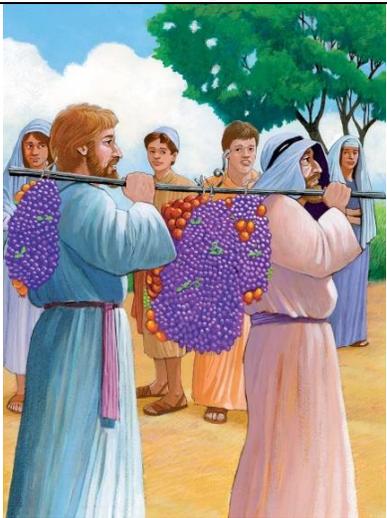
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Making of the Tabernacle</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Exodus 39:32-43</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Hebrews 8</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Affirm God wants to be in close relationship with humanity, and has created means through which this can happen.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Set aside times and places for the worship of God in order to remain in intimate relationship with God.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Commit to regularly joining with Christians in worship, lifting up songs of praise, praying, and learning from the Bible.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	So all the work on the tabernacle, the tent of meeting, was completed. The Israelites did everything just as the LORD commanded Moses. (Exodus 39:32)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>God told Moses that He wanted the Israelites to build a tabernacle. A tabernacle was a place to worship God. God gave Moses very specific instructions on how He wanted the Tabernacle to look. God chose Bezalel and Oholiab to be in charge of building the Tabernacle. They were very skilled craftsmen and had a special gift of making very nice things. God wanted His Tabernacle to be more beautiful than any other building. The Tabernacle had two special rooms. These rooms were divided by a beautiful curtain. The first room was called the Holy Place. Only the priests could go into this room. They would burn a special perfume at the altar while they prayed. The second room was called the Most Holy Place. Only the high priest would go into this room once a year. The ark of the covenant was in this room.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>The Tabernacle</b> was a building God had the Israelites create so they would have a place of worship for God. The Israelites donated items from which the Tabernacle was constructed. The Tabernacle had two rooms, the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place. The Tabernacle had blue, purple and scarlet curtains.</li> <li>2. <b>The Holy Place.</b> In the Holy Place were items God had the Israelites create, like the Altar of Incense (seen behind Aaron).</li> <li>3. <b>The Ark of the Covenant.</b> The Most Holy Place housed the Ark of the Covenant, which held the 10 Commandments, the examples of Manna, and some other items.</li> <li>4. <b>Aaron</b>, as the priest, had special items created for his uniform. These included the Ephod, that was worn over the robe and made out of beautiful yarn. Also included, the Breast piece placed on his chest that had 12 precious stones, one for each of the 12 tribes of Israel.</li> </ol>

	<p><b>5. Sacrifices on the Altar.</b> Sacrifices were offered at the tabernacle not only for worship, but also as a way to seek forgiveness of sins. The sacrificial animal would die as a substitute to atone for the person’s sin.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>The Israelites had not had a place to worship God while they were slaves in Egypt. Now that they were a free nation, ruled by God and not by Pharaoh, they could have a place to worship God.</p> <p>God not only gave Moses the 10 Commandments at Mt. Saini, God also gave instructions for the construction of a Tabernacle. God also specified the items to be used to in the construction, and the items to be in the Tabernacle. The Tabernacle would be the mobile place of worship for Israel as God led them to the Promised Land. At the Tabernacle, the priests would conduct the sacrifices for the people and lead the worship of God. Importantly, the Ark of the Covenant, which housed the 10 Commandments, would represent God’s presence, and would be located in the Holy of Holies.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> The Tabernacle was a foreshadowing of an even greater reality. In the Tabernacle God’s presence resided in the Ark of the Covenant. However, in Jesus Christ, God’s presence dwelled in human form. So also, at the Tabernacle people had to keep bringing sacrifices year after year to atone for their sins. Because Christ became the Passover Lamb for Christians, they do not need to go to a building in order to repent of their sins, but now have direct access to seek forgiveness and receive healing from God.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>Part of establishing Israel as a nation was creating religious practices for them. God gave Moses directions on how to create a place the Israelites could identify as the center of their religious life, the Tabernacle. Because God is such a good God, the Israelites gave their most precious possessions for the construction of the Tabernacle. Through Christ God has provided an even better way for us to approach God.</p> <p>✓ <b>What would be some of the struggles the Israelites would face as they transitioned from living with the Egyptians, who worshipped many gods, to living in the wilderness called to worship the only one true God?</b></p>

	<p>✓ <b>Why do you think it was important to have a physical location for the Israelites to identify as containing God’s presence?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b> Of course, God never intended the Israelites to believe God’s only presence was at the Tabernacle. However, it is important for people to understand there are “sacred” times and spaces. It helps Christians worship God when they set aside times and places for just that purpose.</li> </ul> <p>✓ <b>Just as Israel gave the best of their possessions to create the Tabernacle, what is the best possession Christians can give to God as an act of worship?</b></p> <p>✓ <b>Do you find it easier to connect with God in worship services with others, or alone in your own prayer time? Why do you think that may be?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b> Giving offerings to God is an important practice for Christians. Because Christians believe God is the giver of all good gifts, they joyfully give back some of those gifts to be used to further the Kingdom of God in their community and around the world. The Israelites willingly gave the best they had in order to build a beautiful Tabernacle for God.</li> </ul> <p>✓ <b>How can giving offerings to your church help others know Christ?</b></p> <p>✓ <b>How does faithful attendance at worship services help Christians grow in their spiritual lives?</b></p>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 24

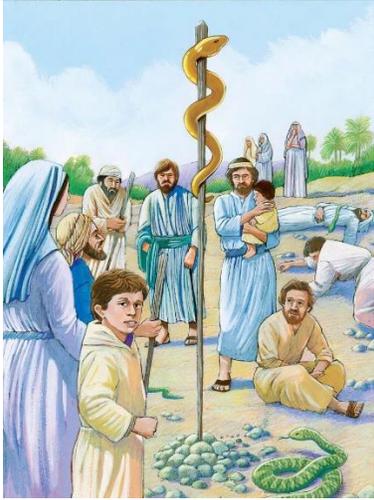
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Twelve Spies in Canaan</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Numbers 13-14</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Ephesians 6:10-18</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Believe the power of God is greater than any human power, and therefore, we can accomplish any task to which God calls us.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Trust that God only wants the best for Christians, and is ready to empower and protect Christians as they step out in faith to fulfill God's call upon their lives.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Oftentimes God calls new Christians to small steps of faith so they can begin to experience God's trustworthiness. What is God calling you to, and how can you take small steps of faith to fulfill that call?</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. (Ephesians 6:11)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>When Moses and the Israelites reached Kadesh, Moses sent twelve men into Canaan to spy out the land. Moses told the spies to see what kind of people lived there. Were they large like giants or were they small? What kinds of towns did they live in? Did they have walls around their towns? What different kinds of food did they grow? The twelve spies went into the land of Canaan and explored it for forty days. When the spies came back, they brought back some fruit from the land. They had cut a cluster of grapes that was so big, it took two men to carry it back. The spies returned and told Moses what they saw. Ten of the spies were too scared to go back into Canaan. They thought the men were too large to fight. But Joshua and Caleb wanted to go back right away and take the land from the Canaanites.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Spies.</b> Moses sent 12 spies into the Promised Land to take a survey and report back about the cities, people, and soil.</li> <li>2. <b>Huge Fruit.</b> The spies reported back the land was a very prosperous land, filled with great abundance, but also fortified cities and powerful people.</li> <li>3. <b>Frown</b> (front carrier of fruit). Ten of the spies sowed doubt and fear into the Israelites, warning them against entering the Promised Land</li> <li>4. <b>Smile.</b> (back carrier of fruit). But two of the spies were faithful to God and called the people to have faith that the God who promised to give them the Promised Land would fight on their behalf and actually give them the Promised land.</li> </ol>

<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>The Israelites traveled from Mount Sinai, where they received the 10 Commandments, to the southern border of the Promised Land. Though God rescued the Israelites from slavery in Egypt with mighty power, the Israelites continued to doubt, complain, and even want to go back to Egypt. Camped at the border of the Promised Land, Moses sent 12 spies to search out the land. They traveled north for about three weeks, to the very top of the Promised Land, and then returned.</p> <p>They returned with a report of a land of great produce. However, they also returned with a report of fortified cities and huge inhabitants. Ten of the spies warned the Israelites it would be foolish to attack such people. Two of the spies, Aaron and Caleb, called the people to faith in God, and trust that the God who promised this land to them would in fact give them this land. The people were so full of fear and doubt they refused to obey God. They even talked about killing Moses.</p> <p>God threatened to destroy the Israelites, but Moses pleaded on their behalf. God relented, and decided, instead of destroying them, he would make them wander in the wilderness for 40 years, until all those who doubted him die. Then a new, more faithful, generation of Israelites would enter the Promised Land.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Christians must recognize they live in a world of spiritual warfare. Therefore, Christians must use the gifts God has given to them in order to stand firm. The Christian life is not a passive life, but one of active battle against the powers of Satan.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean</b></li> </ul> <p>The Israelites were on the verge of entering the Promised Land. All they had to do was have faith that the God who led them out of Egypt by mighty power would help them enter into the Promised Land with that same mighty power. However, ten of the spies did not have faith God was powerful enough to help them, and they sowed fear and doubt into the people. Only two spies believed God would give them success. Christians must believe God can empower them to fulfill the call God</p>

	<p>has placed upon their lives. If they doubt and refuse to do what God calls them to do, they are in rebellion to God, and in a very dangerous situation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Why do some people find it so hard to believe God will be true to the promises God has made to them?</b></li> <li>• <b>In what ways can the doubt of some people (like the 10 spies), result in great harm to the faith of God’s people?</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  The God who rescues Christians from the guilt and power of their past sins will continue watching over them and protecting them into the future. Christians must learn to trust in God, because God is not content with just saving them from their sins, God wants to use Christians to bless others. Therefore, God will challenge Christians to step out in faith and minister to others. Christians need to equip themselves with the gifts God gives them so they can do battle as they carry out God’s will.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the pieces of God’s armor you have already used to protect yourself from spiritual danger?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the pieces of armor you need to develop in your life in order to protect yourself?</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  The People of God are to receive the gifts of God and put them into action. It is not enough only to ask God for blessings, Christians must also develop the habits and practices that help them put God’s blessings into practice so they can bless others with those gifts. It can feel dangerous to put God’s gifts into practice, but God is trustworthy, and will complete the good work begun in you.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What piece of armor can you use this week to be a blessing to others?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How can you help people who have doubts about God’s love or power see the way God’s love and power have been at work in your life?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 25

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>The Bronze Snake</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Numbers 21:4-9</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>John 3:1-21</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize God’s timing and priorities are often different from ours due to our impatience and short-term priorities.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Understand that impatience and frustration in the heart often times lead to unwise impulsive and rash decisions.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Develop a life of gratitude that is able to give God praise and thanksgiving, even while waiting for God to answer your prayers.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived. (Numbers 21:9)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	The Israelites believed the bad report the ten spies had given about Canaan, so God did not let them enter the Promised Land. Instead, they had to keep wandering in the desert. The Israelites were upset and started complaining. They asked Moses why he had brought them out of Egypt. They didn’t have a lot of bread or water, and they disliked the manna that God had given to them. God was tired of hearing His people complain, so He sent poisonous snakes through the Israelites camp. The snakes bit the people and many of the Israelites died. The people were sorry for complaining and wanted Moses to pray and ask God to take the snakes away. God told Moses to make a snake out of bronze and hang it on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake, he could look up at the bronze snake and live.
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>The Israelites</b> were angry that they were still wandering in the wilderness. Once again, they complained to Moses, and told him their lives would have been better if they had never left Egypt. They said they no longer liked the food God was providing.</li> <li>2. <b>Venomous Snakes.</b> Because of their grumbling and ingratitude, God sent venomous snakes to them. Many Israelites were dying, and so they came to Moses and asked him to pray to God on their behalf so God would take away the snakes.</li> <li>3. <b>Bronze Snake.</b> God told Moses to create a bronze snake and put it on a pole. Then anyone who obeyed God by looking at the bronze snake would live.</li> </ol>
<b>Text Context</b>	The Israelites refused to believe the good report that two of the spies brought back from their journey in the Promised Land. They did not have faith that God

	<p>would lead them into victory against those already living in the Promised Land. Therefore, God declared none of those Israelites who doubted would enter the Promised Land. Instead, they would wander in the wilderness until a new generation arose who trusted God.</p> <p>While the Israelites were wandering in the wilderness, they became very angry and impatient, and spoke out against God and Moses. Once again, they said they would have rather stayed in slavery in Egypt than to wander in the wilderness. In response, God punished them for their ingratitude by sending venomous snakes among them. The Israelites began experiencing the consequences of their sin.</p> <p>When the Israelites cried out for healing, God provided protection from the snakes. If the people would obey God’s command given through Moses, to look upon the bronze snake, they would be safe.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Just as Moses faced disbelief among the Israelites, so also did Jesus. The Israelite leaders did not believe God would come as a Messiah like Jesus, who was poor and not part of the Jerusalem religious and priestly establishment. Jesus called on Nicodemus, and all the Israelites, to believe his message from God, and that he was the Messiah God had promised.</p>
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<b>Bible Study</b>	
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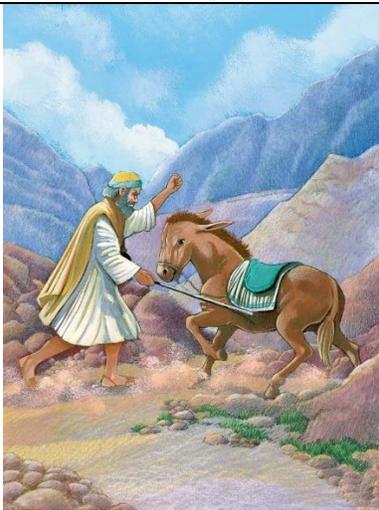
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
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<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
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<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>Impatience and ingratitude are destructive attitudes. People who have not learned to have a deep trust in God expect God to answer their prayers quickly. They also expect God to answer their prayers exactly as they want them answered. However, God knows better than we do what we need and when we need it. Therefore, by studying scripture, developing a deep prayer life, and learning to trust in God’s wisdom, Christians can overcome their natural impatience and ingratitude and learn to wait on God’s perfect timing and perfect answers to prayer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What kinds of bad decisions can result from acting out of impatience and ingratitude?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>As with the Israelites’ attitude towards the manna, what could be some blessings God gives Christians today which might not be appreciated as they should be?</b></li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>        Ingratitude and impatience are two expressions of the basic nature of sin, which is selfishness. Learning submission to God’s will and patience with God’s timing are two keys to growing into Christian maturity. They are also keys to keeping sin from controlling your heart.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think God’s sees time differently than people?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some lessons Christians can learn as they do the hard work of learning to be patient and thankful?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>        Ironically, refusing to take action is probably the best physical application of this study. Instead, learning to sit quietly in prayer and reflection is often times the best response to frustration and impatience. When Christians surrender their whole lives to Jesus, they discover a peace that surpasses all understanding.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Where is a place and time each day where you can go and silently wait upon God?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What steps can you take when you begin to feel an attitude of ingratitude or impatience begin to take root in your heart?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 26

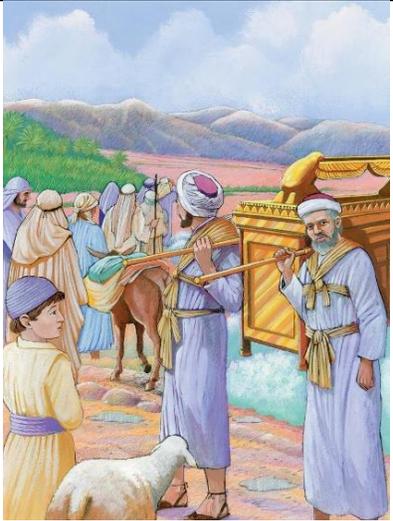
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Balaam's Talking Donkey</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Numbers 22:21-41</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Mark 9:38-40</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Appreciate that God can work through anyone, and in fact sometimes works through the most unexpected people (and even animals).</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Recognize there is a temptation for Christians to hear only from God what they want to hear. When Christians fully submit to God, they will discern God's message to them, even when it is not a message they want to hear.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Set aside time this week to step away from your regular routines and patterns in order to spend time listening for God's voice.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Well, I have come to you now," Balaam replied. "But I can't say whatever I please. I must speak only what God puts in my mouth." (Numbers 22:38)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>While the Israelites wandered in the desert, the king of Moab was afraid that they would attack his country. The king sent some messengers to talk to a man named Balaam. The messengers told Balaam that the king would give him a lot of money if he would put a curse on the Israelites. God told Balaam not to put a curse on His people. The next day Balaam got on his donkey and started traveling to Moab. As Balaam traveled, he may have been thinking of all the money he would get if he did curse the Israelites. As he was thinking, his donkey jerked and suddenly turned off the road. Then God surprised Balaam. He made the donkey turn her head and actually talk to Balaam. An angel of God walked up to Balaam and talked with him. Balaam changed his mind and decided not to put a curse on the Israelites.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Balaam</b> was a prophet, but not an Israelite prophet. However, he believed in God, and listened to the voice of God. When the Israelites were near Moab, the king of Moab was afraid of them. He sent for Balaam so that Balaam could put a curse on Israel. Balaam was riding his donkey to speak to the king of Moab.</li> <li>2. <b>Balaam's Donkey.</b> God wanted to confront Balaam before he met the king of Moab. God sent an angel with a sword to stand in the way of Balaam. Balaam could not see the angel, but his donkey could. Three times the angel appeared, three times the donkey kept Balaam safe by not approaching the angel.</li> </ol>

	<p><b>3. Balaam Fights with his Donkey.</b> Balaam, who could not see the angel with the sword, became angry at his donkey and started beating the donkey. God then opened the mouth of the donkey, and the donkey explained why he kept stopping. Then Balaam could see the angel and was grateful for his donkey. God told Balaam to make sure he only spoke the words to the king of Moab God would give to him.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>The Israelites are getting closer to the Promised Land. As they march toward the Promised Land they strike fear into many of the peoples around them because they are so large, and because the peoples had heard how God had led them out of the Egypt with a mighty hand.</p> <p>Balak, king of Moab, was one of the kings who was fearful of the Israelites. In order to protect his people he sent for a prophet named Balaam. He wanted Balaam to put a curse on the Israelites, thinking this would keep Moab safe from the Israelites. Balaam was not an Israelite, but believed in God.</p> <p>God had plans for the king of Moab. In order to make sure Balaam said what God wanted him to say, God confronted Balaam and his donkey with an armed angel. In this passage, though Balaam already believed in God, God’s power was impressed even more deeply on his heart to insure he would only speak the words God gave him to speak.</p> <p>In the following two chapters God frustrated the plans of Balak, king of Moab, by ordering Balaam to speak words of blessing over Israel instead of curses. Balak became very angry with Balaam, but Balaam confessed he could only speak the words God gave him to speak.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Jesus’ disciples were upset that someone who was not one of Jesus’ 12 disciples was performing miracles in Jesus’ name. The disciples thought only they should be able to do that, and so they ordered the man to stop. Jesus, though, teaches that God does not confine God’s power and desire to heal people to only Jesus’ disciples. Instead, the disciples need to recognize that whoever is not against God is for God.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  Sometimes God works through the most unusual people, and in this case, an animal. Though Balaam was a prophet who listened to God, he listened to false gods as well. When the king of Moab sent for Balaam to put a curse on the Israelites, God decided to allow Balaam to go, but to speak blessings over them instead of curses. Along the way, though, God wanted to make sure Balaam only spoke God’s message. Therefore, God created this event with Balaam’s donkey and angel to make sure Balaam understood God’s mighty power and God’s will for Balaam.  ✓ <b>Has God ever blessed you, or spoken to you, through a non-Christian?</b>  ✓ <b>What are some ways in which God has gotten your attention?</b></li>   <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  It is a tempting for Christians to think they know all they need to know about God, or that they know exactly how God feels about all situations. Whenever Christians assume they know what God wants, though, there can be big trouble. Though Christians should always strive to know God’s Word and God’s will, they also must always remember God is much greater, wiser, and more powerful than they will ever understand. To be a growing Christian means the Christian will always be open to hear a new message from God.  ✓ <b>Why is it a mistake to assume we always know how God thinks and what God wants?</b>  ✓ <b>What should a Christian do if they believe God is speaking a special message to them?</b></li>   <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  Discerning God’s message is an important part of being a Christian. The primary ways Christians can know God’s message to them is through studying the Bible, praying to God, and discerning wise counsel from mature Christians. Sometimes God will speak to a Christian in a very surprising way, as happened with Balaam. However, most of the time God speaks through the Bible, prayer, and brothers and sisters in Christ. It is much easier for Christians to hear God’s message to them when they are faithfully reading the Bible and spending time in prayer.  ✓ <b>Why must Bible study, prayer, and counsel from mature Christians all be regular activities for the Christian? Why can the Christian not just choose one of these activities?</b>  ✓ <b>What are some distractions you need to get rid of when seeking to hear God’s message to you?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 27

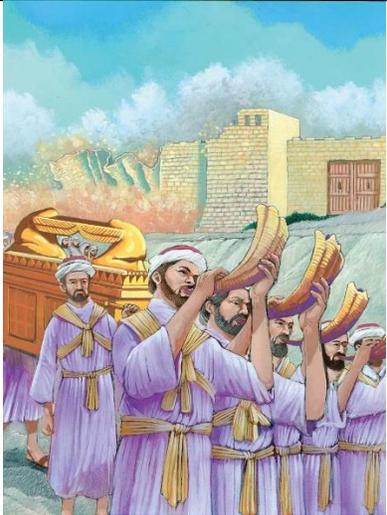
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Crossing the Jordan</b>	
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Joshua 3-4</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Matthew 3</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Believe God’s promises are true. Just as God parted the Red Sea for Israel’s escape from Egypt and God parted the Jordan for Israel’s safe entry into the Promised Land, so you can believe God will fulfill God’s promises to you.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Celebrate that God is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Christians can trust God because history shows that God keeps his promises.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Share your testimony with others. In so doing, you are bearing witness to the world that God is still at work in this world, bringing joy and salvation.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Joshua told the people, “Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you.” (Joshua 3:5)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>After Moses died, God made Joshua the new leader of the Israelites. The Israelites were glad that God had chosen Joshua to lead them. After wandering in the desert for many years, it was finally time for the Israelites to get another chance to enter the Promised Land. There was one problem: the Israelites had to cross the Jordan River. The river had flooded, so they could not cross it easily. God told Joshua to have the priests carry the ark of the covenant and walk in front of the Israelites. When the priests reached the river, they were to step into it. When their feet touched the water, the water stopped flowing and started piling up on both sides. The Israelites were able to cross the Jordan River on dry ground. After everyone had crossed, the water started flowing again. The Israelites had finally entered the Promised Land.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>The Promised Land.</b> After 40 years in the wilderness, the Israelites were finally about to enter the Promised Land</li> <li>2. <b>Jordan River.</b> The only thing standing between the Israelites and the Promised Land was the Jordan River. The Jordan was in flood stage, and so there was no way the Israelites could safely cross the river.</li> <li>3. <b>The Ark of the Covenant.</b> The Ark of the Covenant contained the two tablets of the Ten Commandments, as well as some other items. It was to represent to the Israelites the very presence of God.</li> </ol>

	<p><b>4. The Priests.</b> God instructed the priests to pick up the Ark of the Covenant and to walk into the Jordan River.</p> <p><b>5. Crossing.</b> As soon as the feet of the Priests touched the Jordan, the waters parted. The Priests then took the Ark of the Covenant into the middle of the river. Like the crossing of the Red Sea, the Israelites now were able to cross the river on dry land. All the Israelites entered the Promised Land through the Jordan River safely.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Nearly forty years have passed since the 12 Spies explored the Promised Land. The Israelites did not trust God to fight for them then. A new generation has arisen within Israel, and they were ready to trust God and follow their new leader, Joshua, into the Promised Land.</p> <p>God’s presence, which used to be seen by the fire at night and the cloud in the day, now goes before Israel with the Ark of the Covenant. Just as God directed Moses to part the Red Sea, so God directed Joshua to part the Jordan River. Joshua sent the Priests into the river with the Ark, and the river parted.</p> <p>God instructed the Israelites to gather 12 stones from the middle of the Jordan, and to construct a Memorial to this event on the Promised Land side of the river.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> God raised up John the Baptist to prepare the Israelites for the coming Messiah. One of the ways John did this was by baptizing people in the Jordan River. Israelites who recognized their sin and their need for God came and John baptized them. God sent Jesus to John at the Jordan to be baptized so Jesus could fully identify with humanity. Jesus was not sinful, he did not need to repent and be baptized. However, in order to take all our sorrows upon himself, Jesus submitted to the baptism that God calls all Christians to receive.</p>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>The Israelites stood at the border of the Promised Land almost 40 years before this event. Because they did not have faith in God’s power then, they had to wander in the wilderness 40 years. So also, when we refuse to trust God, when we live in rebellion, we receive setbacks and consequences. To walk into the future with God takes faith and courage. However, Christians do not walk into the future</p>

	<p>alone, but with the power of the Holy Spirit at work in and around them. The stories of the Bible and the testimonies of others aid Christians as “memorials,” to give them courage that the God calling them to walk into the future in faith is the same God who walked with the Israelites through the Jordan River.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Just as it does not do much good to tell someone to “just do not be afraid,” so you also should not tell someone to “just have faith.” Instead, what are some ways Christians can help each other develop trust and faith in God?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What does it tell you about the love Jesus that he was willing to be baptized and crucified in order to bring you salvation?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Says We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>Trusting God is at the heart of having a growing faith in God. Because we are not the first to trust God, we can study the Bible and see how others failed and succeeded at trusting God. Ultimately, we can trust God because God never changes. God is always holy, good, and loving.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why is there always a temptation for people to fall away from God, just as the Israelites continually did, even in the days of Jesus?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think some people who hear the call to repentance are so open to receiving God’s forgiveness, while others refuse God’s forgiveness?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>Baptism and the Lord’s Supper are the two sacraments, two outward signs of the inward work of God’s grace in a Christian’s life. Christians are to have a very practical faith, a faith that lives out in practical ways every day by modeling the life of Jesus. When we share God’s love through our actions and words, the Kingdom of God grows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Besides these two sacraments, what are some other ways Christians can bear witness to the work of God in their lives?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Who in your life needs to hear your Christian testimony this week?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 28

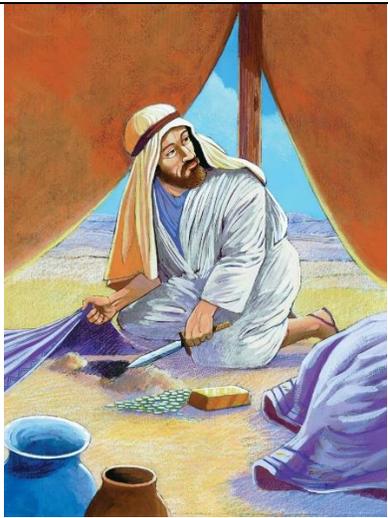
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>The Fall of Jericho</b>	
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Joshua 6</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Ephesians 2:1-10</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Celebrate God for keeping promises. Now that the Israelites have faith in God to fulfill the promises God made, they experience the mighty power of God.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Rejoice knowing it is by God’s power and grace Christians find salvation and victory over sin.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Worshipping and praising God must be regular habits for Christians. Without regular worship, Christians will experience significant spiritual setbacks.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>God promised the Israelites that the land of Canaan was theirs. But the Canaanite people were already living there. That meant the Israelites had to fight for their land. God was on the Israelites’ side, so they knew they would win. The first city the Israelites had to conquer was Jericho. This city had very large walls surrounding it. They were nearly twenty feet thick. God told Joshua to have all of the Israelites march around the city. Every day, for six days, the Israelites marched around the city one time. On the seventh day, they marched around the city seven times. Then, the priests blew their trumpets, and the Israelites shouted a loud war cry. As they shouted, God made the walls of the city start to shake and crack. All at once, the walls came crashing to the ground.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Jericho</b> was the first fortified city the Israelites encountered after entering the Promised Land. God sent a messenger to Joshua to tell him God would deliver this city into the hands of the Israelites</li> <li>2. <b>Priests.</b> God called on the priests to march around Jericho for six days in silence.</li> <li>3. <b>Ark of the Covenant.</b> The priests carried the Ark of the Covenant when they made their marches around the city walls. The Ark of the Covenant represented the presence of God.</li> <li>4. <b>Trumpets.</b> On the seventh day, the priests blew their trumpets and horns.</li> <li>5. <b>Walls of Jericho.</b> On the seventh day of marching around the city, the priests blew their trumpets and made a mighty shout and God caused the city walls to</li> </ol>

	<p>fall down. This was the first of many victories God gave to the Israelites as they took possession of the Promised Land.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Soon after the Israelites crossed the Jordan River and entered into the Promised Land, they came to Jericho, the first city God would help them conquer. As Joshua approached the city, a messenger sent from God told him he was standing on holy ground.</p> <p>Because God wanted to make sure the Israelites knew it was God and not them who had the power to win battles, God gave the Israelites very strange instructions for this first battle. Instead of attacking the city with their weapons, they were to march around the city with the Ark of the Covenant, the representation of God’s presence with them.</p> <p>Jericho was located in a strategic location. It was an important first step for the Israelites as they began the process of conquering the Promised Land God had called them to possess.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> It is important for Christians to remember that it is the grace and power of God at work in them, and not their own piety that brings glory to God. It is important for Christians to not become proud, but remain humble when God works through them in powerful ways.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>It is essential for Christians to trust God’s words. God gives Christians directions through many ways, including the Bible, prayer, and other Christians. At times Christians may not understand why God is calling them to certain actions, but Christians need to trust God has the wisdom and power to accomplish great things through them if they will be obedient.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the reasons the Priests could have given for why they should not walk around the city walls with the Ark of the Covenant?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the reasons why Joshua believed and obeyed God’s commands, even though they did not seem to make a lot of sense?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Says We Should Be?</b></li> </ul>

	<p>Obedience to God is an essential quality for Christians. There are many times in which God will call Christians out of what is comfortable, and ask them to take a risk in order to demonstrate God’s love or compassion. This is why Christians need to have a love and trust of God in their hearts, and not just their minds. For it is out of the heart that Christians act.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What do you think this second generation of Israelites had learned from the first generation about obedience to God’s commands?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How can Christians discern God’s call in their lives, how can they know when it is God’s voice calling them to a certain action?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>Following God is not just a spiritual decision we make, but also has physical implications. As part of the People of God, God calls Christians to be the hands and feet of Jesus. Sometimes that means saying a quiet prayer, other times it means taking a public stand on behalf of God. Worshipping God with other Christians is one of the most important physical actions Christians can take.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the small steps of faith Christians can take as they grow in their faith and learn the trust and obedience which will allow them to take large steps of faith?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How can mature Christians help younger Christians understand or discern the work of God in this world?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 29

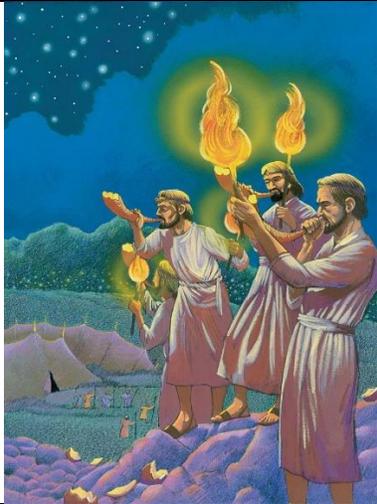
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Achan's Sin and Punishment</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Joshua 7</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Matthew 6:19-34</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand that sin in the heart cannot be controlled by human power, but will find expression in the Christian's actions, attitudes and relationships</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Believe that the human heart cannot serve both sin and God; it can only have one ruler.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Love others, for when Christians put their faith into action, they are both sharing God's grace with the world and strengthening their own faith.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Matthew 6:21)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Before the Israelites conquered Jericho, God ordered that they were not to take any valuables from the city to keep for themselves. They were to put any valuables they found into God's treasury. After the Israelites captured Jericho, they went to the city of Ai to capture it. The Israelites lost the battle at Ai and many men died. Joshua asked God why He let the Amorites destroy them. God told him that the Israelites had disobeyed by taking some valuables from Jericho. Joshua went to speak to the people. When he spoke with Achan, Achan confessed that he had taken some gold, silver, and a beautiful robe. Some men went back to Achan's tent and found the valuables hidden in a hole under the rug. Achan was punished for disobeying. The people took Achan, his family, and his animals away and threw stones at them until they died.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Achan</b> was an Israelite who took part in Israel's conquest of the Promised Land.</li> <li>2. <b>Money and a Babylonian Robe.</b> When the Israelites attacked Jericho, God had told them to collect all the money and valuable possessions they found and put them in God's treasury. Achan disobeyed God's command and kept some money and a valuable robe for himself. He hid these in a hole he dug in his tent.</li> <li>3. <b>Hiding the items he stole.</b> Because Achan was greedy and disobeyed God, God brought punishment on both Achan's family and Israel.</li> </ol>
<b>Text Context</b>	Israel has finally entered the Promised Land, and by God's mighty hand conquered their first city in the Promised Land. God wanted Israel to trust in God alone and

	<p>always remember that their victories and strength come from God, not from themselves. One of the commands God gave Israel before God destroyed Jericho was to not keep any of the money or possessions they found, but to give all the money to God’s treasury.</p> <p>Achan was a man who disobeyed God’s commands. Because one small sin can quickly grow into many more and much larger sins, God did not allow this one sin to go unpunished. When the Israelites decided to go into battle on their own, God handed them a defeat. This defeat made the Israelites pause and try to find the reason why God was no longer giving them victory.</p> <p>When God revealed Achan’s sin, God gave Joshua directions on how the consequences of his sins could stop. Israel had to deal with this rebellion against God so that the rebellion did not grow, and Israel be destroyed from within.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Jesus teaches that the human heart cannot serve two masters. Therefore, the Christian must not only invite Jesus into their hearts, but also allow Jesus to be the only ruler of their heart, cleansing their heart from sin. In order to allow Jesus to reign in our hearts without equal, we must learn to trust God to provide for all our needs.</p> <p><b>The 10 Commandments Track:</b> Because God is the giver of all good gifts, we must honor the gifts God has given to us and the gifts he has given to others. In the Old Testament context, this prohibition against stealing is very general. It includes the taking of possessions and people and the withholding of wages to workers.</p> <p>While stealing is wrong, the Bible recognizes a difference between stealing out of greed and stealing out of need to provide food for survival (see Proverbs 6:30-31). However, even in the case of stealing for mere survival, the thief must make restitution.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: Why is greed such a powerful motivator in people’s lives?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: Why can we understand greed in a Christian’s heart to be an expression of dissatisfaction with God?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: What are some steps a Christian should take in order to break the power of greed in their life?</b></li> </ul>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  What Christians think, feel, and desire finds expression in their actions and relationships. While extreme thoughts and feelings, like murder, might not find expression, those feelings still find expression in other ways. In Achan’s case, he believed he could keep his greed and rebellion against God a secret. However, as Jesus teaches in the New Testament text, there can only be one ruler in a person’s life. Achan allowed sin to be his ruler, and he paid the consequences for those actions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think Satan is not content with just being in someone’s heart, but wants to find expression in their actions and relationships?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some ways in which Christians can protect their hearts from harboring feelings, thoughts, and desires which will harm to them and others?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Says We Should Be?</b>  Christians are to be fully devoted to God. While Christians will always face temptations to make small compromises, they must remain fully devoted to God so that those small compromises do not take root in their lives. Satan is never content with only having part of the Christian’s heart, he seeks to infect a Christian’s whole life. That is why it is so important to make sure God is the ruler of our hearts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Like the greed that led to the theft we see in Achan’s life, what are some other outward expressions of the sins that can be in someone’s heart?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why can Christians be tempted to believe God will not provide for all their needs?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  Just as the sin in someone’s heart will find expression outwardly, so also a Christian’s selfless outward actions can help a Christian’s heart grow in love for God and for others. It is important for Christians to develop habits and practices, like Bible reading and compassionate actions, which will help them train both their hearts and bodies to be obedient to God. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some habits that all Christians should practices?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How can trusted, mature Christians help a younger Christian develop helpful habits and patterns in their Christian faith?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 30

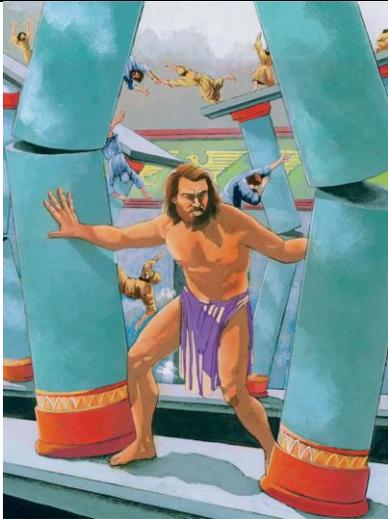
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Gideon and the Midianites</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Judges 7:1-22</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Hebrews 11:32-40</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Believe God’s power and wisdom is greater than human power and wisdom.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Understand that trusting God means obeying God’s commands, even when they do not seem to make a lot of sense.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be alert to ways in which God will confirm God’s will and direction on our lives through others.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	During that night the LORD said to Gideon, “Get up, go down against the camp, because I am going to give it into your hands. (Judges 7:9)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>God became angry with the Israelites when they started worshipping the Canaanite gods. So, God let the Midianite people take over the Israelites. The Israelites were sorry for their sin. They asked God to forgive them and save them from the Midianites. God heard the Israelites and chose Gideon to lead an attack on the Midianite camp. Gideon was afraid when God called him to lead the army of 300 men. But he knew that God would be with him. The Midianite army was so large that Gideon planned to attack their camp at night. Gideon gave each of his men a trumpet, a jar, and a torch. When Gideon’s army reached the camp, they threw down their jars, blew their trumpets, and held up their torches. The Midianites were so scared that they got confused and ended up killing each other. Later, Gideon became one of the judges of Israel.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Midianite Camp.</b> God settled the Israelites in the Promised Land. However, the next generations of Israelites did not follow God as the one true God, but served false gods as well. So God gave the Israelites into the hands of the Midianites. The Midianite army was camped in the Promised Land.</li> <li>2. <b>The Israelites</b> cried out to God because of their oppression by the Midianites. God spoke to a man named Gideon, and called him to lead the Israelites in battle against the Midianites. God only allowed Gideon to take 300 men into battle. In the middle of the night, they attacked, but not in the way you would expect an army to attack. God had revealed to Gideon that the Midianites were already scared of the Israelites.</li> <li>3. <b>Trumpets.</b> Gideon divided the 300 soldiers into three groups and had them stand on the outskirts of the Midianite camp. All at once, they blew their trumpets and shouted “for the Lord and for Gideon!”</li> </ol>

	<p><b>4. Broken Jars.</b> Gideon also told his men to smash jars on the ground, making a loud noise.</p> <p><b>5. Torches.</b> Holding the torches, the men shouted “A sword for the Lord and for Gideon!”</p> <p><b>6. The Midianites</b> were all terrified, awakened by the trumpets, shouts and smashing jars. The Midianites turned on each other with their weapons, and fled the camp. Thus, God saved the Israelites from the mighty Midianite army with only 300 men.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>God firmly established the Israelites in the Promised Land through God’s servant Joshua. After Joshua’s death, God gave Israel leaders called Judges, to lead them in the ways of God. However, the Israelites, and many of the Judges, rebelled against God and worshipped false gods. Because of their failure to be faithful to their covenant with God, God allowed foreign armies to harass and cause trouble for the Israelites. The Israelites would then cry out to God for deliverance, and God would raise up a new Judge to lead the Israelites.</p> <p>Gideon was one of those Judges. God called Gideon to rescue Israel from the Midianites, even though Gideon was not from one of the mighty tribes of Israel, nor was he even one of the mighty ones in his family. However, God sent an angel to Gideon to confirm God’s call on his life.</p> <p>Gideon then began leading the Israelites back to God by destroying the altars to fake gods. Though he sometimes doubted whether God would give him success or not, God often sent signs of confirmation to Gideon to strengthen his resolve.</p> <p>In a time in which Israel was being harassed by the Midianites, God sent Gideon into battle against them in such a way that the Israelites would know it was God alone who delivered them, not their own power or might.</p> <p><b>New Testament Text:</b> The author of Hebrews named Gideon as one of the great men and women of faith who obeyed God’s commands. Gideon led the Israelites to rout a foreign army without even raising a sword, their “weakness was turned to strength.” (Hebrews 11:32)</p>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  It is not wrong, or unusual, to have doubts about what God is calling you to do. God knows that these calls often sound to us as threatening or illogical (like going into battle with only 300 soldiers!). One of the themes of Gideon’s reign as Judge is Gideon’s asking God for signs of confirmation. God did not condemn or criticize Gideon for these requests, in fact, God responded by sending signs of confirmation. Christians often need signs of confirmation from God because God’s plans and wisdom are so much higher than human plans and wisdom. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Maybe they were not as spectacular as Gideon’s signs, but how has God sent confirmation messages to you, confirming God’s love and direction in your life?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why might Christians be tempted to believe it is their power, and not God’s power, that brings victories?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  Often times God calls Christians to actions that seem scary to them. It will probably not be leading an army into battle, but could be changing jobs, seeking reconciliation with someone with whom they have been in conflict, or seeking a ministry position. Not every urge a Christian has, though, is a call from God. When making big decisions, Christians should use discernment and ask God for confirmations to make sure what they are feeling is really from God. Ultimately, the Christian needs to be obedient after confirmation, even if God’s call seems threatening. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why would God call Christians out of their comfort zones and into situations in which they do not feel fully equipped?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What would be the problem if God only called people to actions with which they felt comfortable?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  There are times in which God will call Christians to step out in faith. They are not necessarily to step out in faith blindly or impulsively. God will send confirmations to them. Christians also have the Bible to show them ways in which God has called others before them. This can help them discern whether the call they are feeling is really from God or not. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What habits do you need to have in your life in order to hear God’s messages to you?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>When you think you hear God’s message to you, what steps can you take to take to discern if it really was God’s message to you or not?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 31

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Delilah Tricks Samson</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Judges 16:4-31</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>James 4:1-10</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Be encouraged, even if a Christian has been very rebellious and unfaithful to God, if they cry out to God with a repentant heart, God will forgive them.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Be careful, every human is continually tempted to love the promises of this world more than the promises of God.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be wise, God has given every person time, talents, and treasure. God expects Christian to be good stewards of all the gifts entrusted to them.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up. (James 4:10)	

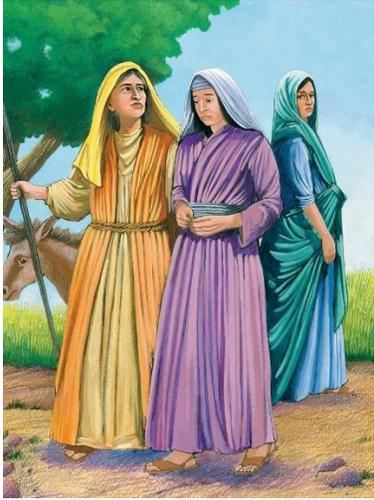
<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Samson was an Israelite and was stronger than any other man. God had given him the gift of strength. The Philistines were enemies of the Israelites, and many of them didn't like Samson. The Philistines knew that Samson loved a woman named Delilah. So, they told Delilah they would give her money if she could trick Samson into telling her why he was so strong. Delilah begged Samson to tell her his secret. Finally he said that if anyone would cut his hair, then he would lose his strength. Delilah told the Philistines, and that night they cut off Samson's hair. Then, they tore his eyes out and took him to their temple. A servant guided Samson to the pillars that held up the temple. Samson asked God to give him his strength back one last time. Then, Samson pushed on the pillars until the temple fell. Samson and many Philistine people were killed.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Samson</b> was a ruler of Israel, and the strongest man in the world. God gave him his strength, and commanded him never to cut his hair. If someone cut his hair, his great strength would leave. God blessed Samson, but Samson often rebelled against God.</li> <li>2. <b>The Philistines</b> were enemies of Israel. They captured Samson by having his hair cut while he was sleeping. After they captured him, they gouged out his eyes, and mocked him.</li> <li>3. <b>Temple of Dagon.</b> The Philistines gathered to make sacrifices at their temple and had Samson brought to them so they could mock him.</li> <li>4. <b>The Pillars.</b> Samson asked permission to rest on the pillars of the temple. He then asked God to give him his mighty strength one more time so he could</li> </ol>

	<p>punish the Philistines. God answered his prayer and Samson was able to destroy the Temple of Dagon and many of the Philistines.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>After Joshua led the Israelites in conquering the Promised Land, judges ruled Israel. Some judges honored God while others did not. Like the judges, sometimes the Israelites were faithful to God, other times they were not. When they or their judge was not faithful, God would give them over to their enemies. Israel would then cry out to God in repentance and ask for deliverance. God would restore them, and for a time they would be faithful to God once again. This happened many times.</p> <p>Samson was the last of the judges mentioned in the Book of Judges, before kings started ruling over Israel. Although Samson was born to parents faithful to God, Samson was not faithful to God. God gave Samson great strength, but Samson did not honor God with his life. His many sins did not just hurt him; they made the Philistines very bitter toward Samson.</p> <p>Although Samson was very strong physically, the Philistines were able to take advantage of Samson’s weak moral character. With the help of a woman Samson loved, named Delilah, they learned the secret of Samson’s strength. They then cut off Samson’s hair while he was sleeping and this left him powerless. Powerless, Samson became a servant to the Philistines, and they mocked him. One day as the Philistines were mocking Samson in the temple to their false god, Samson asked God to restore his strength so he could get revenge over the Philistines and bring honor to God.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Just because you become a Christian does not mean you become perfect. Instead, God calls the Christian to a life of continual spiritual growth and humility. One of the standards of the Christian life is being able to get along with others. Their relationships suffer and become characterized by conflict and pain when Christians fall back into sinful behaviors and thoughts. Though Christians will have disagreements with one another, they are to handle those with love and grace, and not allow those disagreements to lead to broken fellowship.</p> <p><b>The 10 Commandments Track:</b> While the technical language of the ninth Commandment is from the legal realm, the command has broader application than just the courtroom. Christians serve a God who is truthful in every aspect, so Christians are to be full of truth as well.</p> <p>In this Bible passage, both Delilah and Samson are lying. Delilah is lying to scare Samson, seeing if he has been truthful with her. Samson is lying by giving false answers to her questions. What a tragic relationship we see here, where both people are lying to each other!</p> <p>Lying can take on many forms. It can be a conscious decision a person makes to tell someone else something that is not true. However, lying can also happen when someone gossips, and does not care about whether what they say is true or not. In addition, lying can happen when a person takes a kernel of truth and so embellishes it that it no longer is truthful.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: In what ways do you see lying expressed by people in your community?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: What leads people to bear false witness against those they are supposed to love?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: In what ways can a trusting, mature Christian help a brother or sister become more truthful in their speech?</b></li> </ul>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  Just because God gives people great blessings, talents, and gifts does not mean people will use them wisely. Samson is an example of someone who wasted many of God’s blessings by using them selfishly. Throughout his life, that selfishness caused him and others great pain. However, when humbled by the Philistines, God answered his prayer of repentance by returning to him his strength. Had Samson lived a life of humility before God and others, the death and destruction he caused would have been much less. However, when Samson recognized the error of his ways and prayed to God, God heard him and answered his prayer.</li> <li>✓ <b>In what ways are Christians tempted to use the gifts and talents God gives them in selfish ways?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some key attitudes that, if maintained, will protect Christians from becoming selfish in the ways they use God’s gifts and talents?</b></li>   <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  Either people can spend their lives pursuing their own will for their lives or pursuing God’s will for their lives. Christians should not just ask God to forgive them of their sins, but also ask God to purify their hearts and minds so that they become more like Jesus. Each day Christians have a choice if they will pursue God’s promises, or the false promises of this world.</li> <li>✓ <b>What are some ways in which Samson could have avoided allowing his great strength to become a source of pride?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are the types of sins leaders (both Christian and non-Christian) are more prone to fall into than others are?</b></li>   <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  One of the best ways Christians can protect themselves from becoming prideful is to find ways to serve others. Serving others can be through giving time, using</li> </ul>

	<p>talents, or donating treasure. While, like all people, Christians can be very busy, it is important for them to be intentional in creating times to serve others. All God's gifts are given with the expectation the Christian will use them to bless others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ <b>What are some examples of ways Christians can serve people in your community?</b></li><li>✓ <b>What can you and the other members of this Bible study do together to serve people in your community?</b></li></ul>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 32

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Ruth and Naomi</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Ruth 1</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Matthew 2:1-8</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Remember, God sometimes chooses the most unexpected people to be essential parts of keeping covenant promises.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Recognize that sometimes God does not give us specific guidance for specific situations. However, if we are living out Christian virtues like love and compassion, we will always find ourselves within God's will.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be diligent, being a Christian means being a faithful and hard worker, whether in the Church, at home, or at your job. People can tell a lot about our Christian faith when they watch us, and we will not often know when they are watching.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	<p>“But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.” (Micah 5:2,4 / Matthew 2:6)</p>	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Naomi and her husband had two sons, Mahlon and Kilion. Naomi's family had to move to the country of Moab, because there was no food left in their town of Bethlehem. When Naomi's sons grew up, they married Ruth and Orpah, who were from Moab. Ruth and Orpah liked Naomi, and they respected her very much. Many years later, Naomi's husband and her two sons died. Naomi, Ruth, and Orpah were left all alone. Naomi decided to go back home to Bethlehem. She begged Ruth and Orpah to go back to their own families. But, because they loved Naomi so much, neither one of them wanted to leave her. After much begging, Naomi finally convinced Orpah to go back to her family. But Ruth stayed with Naomi, and they traveled to Bethlehem. Ruth later married a man named Boaz. Do you know who Ruth's grandson was? King David!</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<p>1. <b>Naomi (in purple)</b> was an Israelite living in the foreign land of Moab. Her husband died, and soon her two sons. She was with no way to care for herself or her daughter-in-laws. Therefore, she decided to return to Bethlehem in Israel, her hometown, and see if some family there would have compassion on</p>

	<p>her. She encouraged her widowed daughter-in-laws to return to their extended families in Moab, and start new lives there.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. <b>Orpah (in blue)</b> did as Naomi asked, and went to her family in Moab.</li> <li>3. <b>Ruth (in yellow)</b>, however, loved Naomi deeply, and wanted to care for her, no matter where Naomi went. Therefore, instead of going back to her extended family in Moab, she went to Bethlehem with Naomi. In Bethlehem, God worked to bring about a marriage for Ruth so she could have children and care for Naomi. The child Ruth bore became part of the family line of Israel's greatest king, David, and our Savior, Jesus Christ.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>The little Book of Ruth is located between the books of Judges and 1 Samuel. Judges ends with this sad news, "In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit." In the book of 1 Samuel Israelite kings begin to be anointed. The events of Ruth occur during this period of anarchy, before the monarchy.</p> <p>Amid famine in Israel, a family from Bethlehem fled to Moab in order to survive. While there, though it was against Israel's law, the two sons of this family married two Moabite women. Then, over the course of time, the Israelite father and the two sons died, leaving no males to care for the mother and wives. This put these three women in a very difficult situation where no one was protecting them or providing for them.</p> <p>The mother, Naomi, decided to return to Jerusalem and see if she could find any extended family members who would help care for her. One daughter-in-law, Ruth, went with her. Through a series of events, orchestrated by Naomi outwardly, but by God behind the scenes, Ruth became engaged to one of Naomi's extended family members. Because of this, Naomi and Ruth were protected and blessed. Ruth bore a son, and Ruth became part of the family tree that would produce both King David and Jesus Christ.</p> <p>The events recorded in the book of Ruth give witness to God's work in maintain the covenant promises. Though this seems like a simple story of two widows trying to survive, as we read in Matthew 1:5, not only is Ruth, a Moabite, grafted into the history of Israel by being in the family chain of King David, but also in the family line of Jesus Christ. Although God does not speak in this book of Ruth, nor are there any miracles, God still speaks and works, indirectly, through this beautiful story.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Bethlehem is a very important town in Israel, even if they did not recognize that at the time. Out of Bethlehem came both Israel's greatest king, King David, and Jesus Christ.</p> <p><b>The 10 Commandments Track:</b> The fifth command assumes the parents are godly and are responsible for the instruction of the children in the knowledge and commands of God. To rebel against, and dishonor parents in this sense, is to rebel against and dishonor God. Therefore, this command would not apply to abusive parents or parents who are themselves living in rebellion to the commands of God. There is a promise associated with this command, the promise of long life in the Promised Land, further emphasizing the importance of this command.</p>

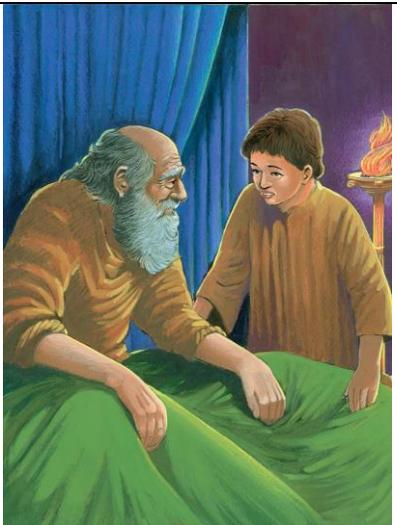
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: What is the difference between a teenager questioning authority and a teenager living in rebellion to their parents?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: No parent is perfect, so how much pressure should a parent feel to raise their children without making any mistakes?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: If a Christian’s parents are not Christians, what are ways in which the Christian should respect and honor them?</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Fruit of the Spirit Track: Track Introduction.</b> Christians filled with the Holy Spirit will live out their lives in line with what God’s desires. Their lives will bear the fruit that comes from being Holy Spirit filled believers. This fruit results in honoring God, helping others see Christ in them, and building up the Body of Christ. In Galatians 5:22-23, the Apostle Paul describes nine virtues that will characterize a person or church who are bearing witness to the fruit of the Holy Spirit.</p> <p><b>Fruit of the Spirit Track: 1. Love.</b> Spirit-filled Christians and churches will demonstrate love for God and love for others. Christian love, as modeled in Jesus Christ, is a sacrificial love that places the needs of others above our own needs. Devotion, faithfulness, and integrity all mark the kind of Christian love that demonstrates the heart of Jesus for others. This kind of love does not come easily, nor is it developed quickly. Instead, Christian love is the result of a relationship with God in which the Christian receives the love of God, and then turns around and shares that love with others. The longer the Christian walks with God, the deeper their love for God and others should grow. See 1 Corinthians 13 for a further description of Christian love.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: What are some of the ways in which Ruth demonstrates a sacrificial love for Naomi?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: What are some of the risks and rewards for loving others sacrificially?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: What are some practical ways in which you can demonstrate the love of God to others this week?</b></li> </ul>
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<b>Bible Study</b>	
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<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>God often works in mysterious ways. One example of this truth is when God uses the most unlikely people to be essential parts of God’s redemptive plan. In this story, we see how Ruth, a non-Israelite, becomes an essential part of how God</p>

	<p>keeps his covenant promises. Because of Ruth’s compassion and determination for caring for her Israelites mother-in-law, she marries into the Israelite nation. Christians need to be alert, and look for God at work around them, both through those they would expect God to work, but also through people they would never guess God would work through.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Who are some people who have blessed your life because of their compassion and determination?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Are there people in your life who need to you show them compassion and determination?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>One of the lessons of this book is that, while the Israelites are in rebellion against God, God is still true to his covenant. In this lesson we proof of this as God chooses to work through a Moabite (an outsider), grafting her into the story of Israel, in order to save Israel.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are the heart qualities required for someone to be used by God?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Who are the “outsiders” in your community, and how do you treat them?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>As Christians, you are part of the Kingdom of God, a Kingdom much bigger and more significant than any earthly nation, state, or peoples. Because of this, Christians are called to love all Christians, both to show God’s compassion, and also to show our solidarity with all God’s people. We are also called to love non-Christians, because God loves them, works through them, and because they may be the ones through whom God will bless us.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What specific steps can you take to show God’s love to someone this week who is very different from you?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Think of someone in your life who needs to receive an act of compassion this week, and then make a plan on how you can show them compassion.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 33

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>God's Call to Samuel</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>1 Samuel 3</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Acts 9:1-19</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize God calls people of all ages into redemptive service.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Being open to God's direction in our life means Christians will be discerning and ready to receive it, whenever God's direction comes.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Set aside times of quiet and stillness in order to hear God's voice.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Sentence:</b>	Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." (1 Samuel 3:10b)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Hannah prayed to God and asked Him to give her a son. God answered Hannah's prayer, and she named her little boy Samuel. When Samuel was very young, his mother took him to Eli, the priest. Samuel grew up helping Eli in the temple. One night, when Samuel and Eli were asleep in the temple, Samuel heard someone call his name. "Samuel!" He ran to Eli and said, "Here I am." Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." Samuel heard someone call his name three times. Eli realized that it was God calling to Samuel. Eli told Samuel that the next time he heard his name, he should say, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening" (NIV). God called Samuel again, and Samuel talked with Him. When Samuel was older, God made him a prophet, priest, and judge over Israel.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Eli</b> was the High Priest in Israel. He had two wicked sons who dishonored both God and Eli. Therefore, God was not going to allow either of them to become High Priest when Eli died.</li> <li>2. <b>Samuel</b> was a boy who served at the temple. His mother had been barren and cried out to God for a child. Through Eli God told her she would have a child. After she weaned the child, Samuel, she brought him to the temple so he could serve God there.</li> <li>3. <b>Samuel going to Eli at night.</b> One night Samuel heard a voice call to him and thought it was Eli. Eli told him it was not him and to go back to bed. This happened two more times, and then Eli realized it was God's voice calling to Samuel. He told Samuel to say to God, "Speak, for your servant is listening." God began revealing to Samuel God's plans for the future.</li> </ol>

<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Eli and Samuel were the last two judges of Israel. Samuel would follow God’s will in anointing the next two kings over Israel, Saul and David.</p> <p>Though Eli was a faithful judge, his two sons were wicked. They took advantage of their positions as priests. Eli confronted them and tried to get them to change their ways, but they refused. God warned Eli that because of the sins of his sons they would both die on the same day.</p> <p>A woman named Hannah was barren and greatly distressed because she had no children. One night as she was pouring out her heart to God in the temple, she promised God if she had a son she would dedicate him to God’s service in the temple. Eli found her praying that night. When Eli recognized her great grief and sorrow, he promised her God would answer her prayers. Hannah went home, conceived, and bore a son whom she named Samuel.</p> <p>After Hannah weaned Samuel, she fulfilled her promise and gave him to Eli to be used in God’s service. Unlike Eli’s sons, Samuel grew “in stature and in favor with the Lord and with people.” (1 Samuel 2:26)</p> <p>In this passage, God spoke directly to Samuel, signaling that Samuel would be the one to inherit Eli’s position as High Priest, and not either of Eli’s sons. In fact, the revelation Samuel received was a confirmation that the line of judges would no longer run through Eli’s family.</p> <p>Samuel became a very important person in the history of Israel, as is recorded in the first 24 chapters of the book of 1 Samuel. In the next two lessons, we will observe him anointing the first two kings of Israel, Saul and David.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Paul, the greatest missionary in the Bible, received a direct call from God. Unlike Samuel, though, who was serving God, Saul (later called Paul), was actually trying to destroy the early Christian church. He thought he was doing God’s will, but on the road to Damascus God confronted and corrected Saul. Jesus revealed to him that he, whom Saul thought was a heretic, in fact really was the Messiah.</p>
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**Bible Study**

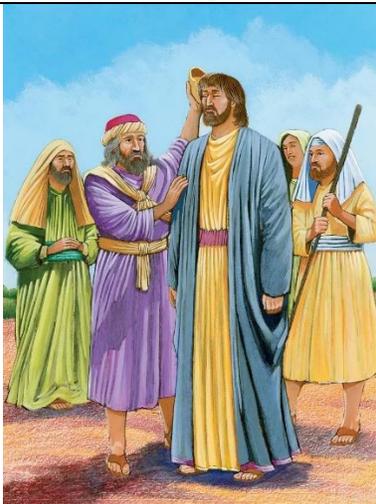
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  Eli and Samuel are transition figures as the last two judges as Israel transitions from judges to kings as leaders. Although Eli's sons did not honor God or their calling, the boy Samuel did. God's call came upon young Samuel when he was young. This call from God was in an audible voice Samuel heard as he tried to sleep. After Samuel told him he kept hearing a voice, Eli finally recognized it was God's voice speaking to Samuel. He gave Samuel directions on how to receive God's message. God's message to Samuel was not a pleasant message; it confirmed that the priesthood would no longer run through Eli's family line. Though God did not explicitly call Samuel to become the new high priest, or give Samuel direction on what he is supposed to do with his life, the mere fact that God spoke to Samuel directly in this way signaled that God would use Samuel to minister to Israel. This happened when Samuel was very young. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Hearing God's audible voice is very rare, even in the Bible. What are the more common ways in which God gives direction to Christians?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Eli's sons were rebellious (we will later hear that Samuel's were as well – 1 Samuel 8:1-3). What causes children to turn away from their parent's teachings?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  The key to a life of joy and peace is having a heart open to God, our Creator and Savior. Prevenient grace is God's blessed work in the life of a Christian before they know God as Savior. We see this prevenient grace at work in Samuel's life from a young age, as God spoke to him before he even recognized the voice of God. After becoming a Christian, Christians need to make sure they remain open to hearing God's voice. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the ways God was reaching out to you, drawing you to salvation, before you even knew you had a sin problem?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Saul's conversion is very unusual, but an example of God confronting people with their sin problem. What are ways in which God confronted you with your need to repent?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  Samuel's life focused on doing the work of God before he even knew God personally. As Samuel grew, God revealed himself more and more to Samuel. Christians need to create places and times in which they can receive God's continued revelation to them. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some steps Christians can take to be open and ready to hear God's voice to them?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>In what ways do you know God better now than you did when you first became a Christian?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> </ul>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul> |
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## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 34

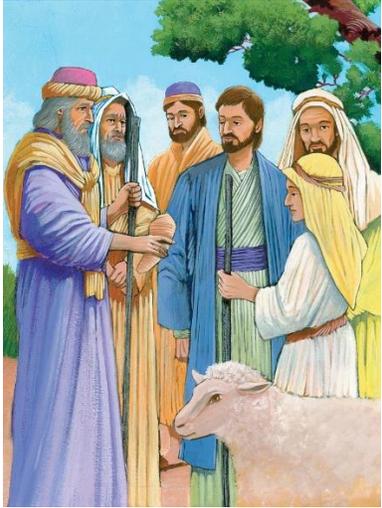
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Samuel Anoints Saul</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>1 Samuel 10</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Titus 3:1-8</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand that God will sometimes answer selfish prayer requests, even when the answer is not the best for the Christian.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Strive to have prayer times that are marked not by trying to get from God what we think we need, but asking God to give us what we actually need.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Practice writing down your prayers so you can see how much of your prayer time you spend praising God and how much time you spend petitioning God. Seek to discover what would be a good balance between praising and petitioning.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. (Titus 3:8)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	Samuel had been the judge of Israel for many years. He was getting very old and would not be a judge much longer. Samuel was ready to choose someone to take his place. The Israelites told Samuel that they didn't want another judge. They wanted a king because all of the countries around them had a king. God was disappointed in the Israelites, but He told Samuel to listen to what the people were saying. There was a young man named Saul; he was a head taller than any other man in Israel. God told Samuel that Saul was the man He had chosen to be king over Israel. Samuel went to Saul and poured a special oil over his head. This is called an "anointing." Samuel took Saul back to the Israelites and told them that Saul would be their king. The Israelites were very pleased.
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Samuel</b> was the last judge to serve the Israelites. The Israelites said they wanted to be like all the other nations who had kings. This request of the people made Samuel sad because he knew it would lead to great suffering for the people, because this is not what God wanted for the Israelites.</li> <li>2. <b>Saul</b> was tall and handsome. The Israelites liked these facts; they wanted a king who would rule over them they could admire. However, outward looks are not the measure of a good leader, as the Israelites soon discovered as Saul ruled over them.</li> <li>3. <b>The Israelites</b> did not respect or honor God with their demands God give them a king instead of judges. God was supposed to be their king and the judges the</li> </ol>

	<p>spokespeople for God. However, the Israelites wanted to be like all the other nations who all had kings.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Samuel is the last judge to serve in Israel. Unfortunately, like his predecessor's sons, Samuel's sons did not honor God. They used their position to take advantage of others. Therefore, the Israelites demanded new leadership, they wanted a king like the other nations. This is a theme repeatedly found in Israel's history – Israel wanting to be like all the other nations around them. This is contrary to God's covenants with Israel, God wanted Israel to be different, like a light in the darkness.</p> <p>Sometimes God gives us the answers to our prayers, even though God knows those answers are not the best for us. God does this to teach us the dangers of selfish prayers. God had Samuel warn the people of the consequences of having a king (see 1 Samuel 8:10-21). The Israelites refused to heed God's warning, and kept demanding a king. Therefore, God chose Saul to be their king.</p> <p>While Saul began his reign well, as the months and years progress, he became a very bad king. Through his actions and decisions, he demonstrated he cared more about pleasing people than pleasing God.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> The Holy Spirit that came upon King Saul early in his reign is also available for Christians. With the Holy Spirit within, Christians can live lives of love and holiness. We must be careful we do not fall away from God as King Saul did, but that we remain obedient to God.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the "Text Context" from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>It can be a tough lesson to get what we want, only to realize it does not satisfy. The only way Christians will be full of joy and love is when our hearts and minds are devoted fully to God. One way of doing this is to pray Jesus' words, "not what I will, but what you will." (Mark 14:36) When a Christians' heart and mind are devoted to God, they will more easily pray for the right needs, and receive from God only good blessings.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can a Christian discern whether their prayer requests are selfish and, if answered, will not bring them the joy and peace they assume will come with the answer?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Though overall a bad king, Saul began his reign rather well. What causes people to fall away from keeping God first in their lives?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Discernment is a very important quality for a Christian to develop. Unlike the Israelites who refused to listen to Samuel’s warning, a person who is developing discernment is learning not to rely on their own wisdom or insights. A discerning Christian will seek out God’s will, seek out advice from mature Christians, and try to remove selfishness from their life. They will strive for a prayer life focused on receiving from God what they need, not what they want.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why are people tempted to judge others by their appearance, and not wait to get to know their character?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What does it take for a Christian to follow God’s will, even when that course of action will require them to practice self-denial?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Deciding to incorporate Jesus’ prayer “not what I will, but what you will” is an excellent step in training ourselves to put God’s will first in our prayers. It will also help us not mistakenly pray for desires contrary to God’s will. In addition, writing down prayers can help Christians see how much of their prayer time is focused on what they want from God versus praising God.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the best pieces of advice you have heard about how to pray?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the worst pieces of advice you have heard about how to pray?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 35

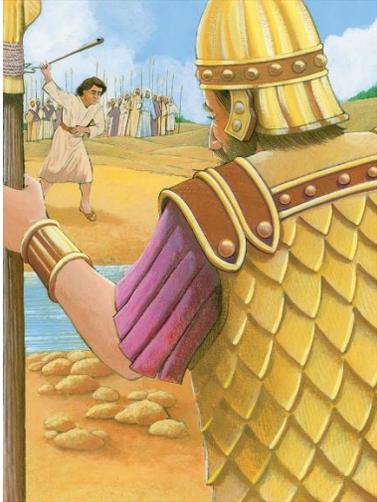
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Samuel Anoints David</b>	
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>1 Samuel 15-16</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Ephesians 3</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Be encouraged, with God's power, even a young shepherd can become a great king!</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> The Lord loves you right now, and has a wonderful plan for your life. Choose to believe God loves you so much God sent Jesus to die for your sins.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Find specific ways to compassionately love others, loving them not because of what they can do for you, but because God loves them.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart. (1 Samuel 16:7)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>God gave Saul, the king of Israel, a specific job to do. But Saul disobeyed and didn't follow God's instructions. God was very angry with Saul and told him that eventually he could no longer be the king of Israel. God told Samuel to go to Bethlehem, where a man named Jesse lived. God had chosen one of Jesse's eight sons to be the next king of Israel. Samuel was to go to Bethlehem and anoint the new king. Samuel met seven of Jesse's sons, but none of them was the one whom God had chosen. Samuel asked Jesse if he had any other sons. Jesse said that his youngest son, David, was out in the field taking care of the sheep. When David came in from the field, Samuel took oil and anointed David as the new king of Israel. But Saul didn't give up his kingdom for a long time.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Samuel.</b> God rejected Saul as king because Saul's heart was very far from God. Therefore, God sent Samuel to Bethlehem to anoint a new king.</li> <li>2. <b>Jesse and his sons.</b> God directed Samuel to a man named Jesse, and told Samuel one of Jesse's sons would be anointed. God did not choose the oldest, the tallest, or the most powerful son. Instead, God chose David, whom his father did not think to invite to the dinner with Samuel because he was the youngest son. Jesse assumed God would not do anything special through the youngest son. David was out taking care of the sheep when his father called for him to come meet Samuel.</li> <li>3. <b>David.</b> Unlike Saul, David was not tall or powerful looking when chosen to be king. While that is what the Israelites wanted in a king, God knew what they needed was someone who was strong in character and had a heart for God.</li> </ol>

<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>God wanted Israel to recognize him as their King. God proved his great love and power to Israel by rescuing them from slavery in Egypt and giving them the Promised Land in which to live. God wanted Israel to be a light to the nations, to show others that Israel’s God is the only true God.</p> <p>However, the Israelites rebelled against God by demanding God give them a human king so they could be like all the other nations around them (see 1 Samuel 8). Therefore, God gave them King Saul, a king just like all the other nations had. And in fact, King Saul turned out to be just like all the other kings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• he loved himself more than he loved God,</li> <li>• he wanted power more than he wanted to know God,</li> <li>• he cared more about what people thought of him than he did what God thought of him.</li> </ul> <p>Therefore, God rejected King Saul, and chose David to be the next King of Israel. David would become someone whose heart honored God, and not himself. For most of his reign David would be a king who would lead the Israelites as God wanted them led, to be a people who trusted God, loved God, and loved others. David was not a perfect king, and made some terrible mistakes. However, overall he was a good king.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Like David, God radically changed Saul’s life when God choose Saul (later called Paul) to be an instrument of God’s grace. Except, instead of only focusing his ministry on Israel, like David, Saul was called to take God’s message of salvation to the Gentiles as well.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>As Christians, we need to see ourselves as God sees us. God looks at our hearts, and sees us for both who we are and who, with God’s power, we can become. When God chose David, David did not look like he could be a great king. David was young, the youngest of all his brothers, and spent his time learning how to be a shepherd, not learning how to be a great leader or mighty warrior. So also, many of us may be young in physical age, but God sees who we can become. Additionally, we may be young in spiritual age, but God sees who we can become as spiritual leaders.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why did God reject King Saul?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What kind of king did God want David to be?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>In order to understand fully God’s love for us, as well as God’s plan for our lives, we have to choose to see ourselves through God’s eyes instead of through the eyes of others. As Christians, we live in the Kingdom of God, where Christ is our King, and we are his servants. We may not become a great king over a great nation, but we can be spiritual leaders in our homes, in our churches, and in our communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What do you think God saw in David’s heart that led God to choose him to be the next king of Israel?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>In what ways is God changing your heart?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>Because God loves us, we need to love others as Jesus loves them. This means we love them, not for what they can do for us in return, but simply because Jesus loves them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can you look beyond outward appearances, or beyond what others can do for you, and love others as God loves them this week?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some ways you can show others how much God loves them?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 36

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>David Kills Goliath</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>1 Samuel 17:20-51</b>	
<b>New Testament Texts:</b>	<b>Luke 12:1-12 Ephesians 6:10-17</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand God does not regard people based on their outward appearance or manner. God looks at the heart and can do mighty acts through those who are devoted to God.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Celebrate that God knows your heart and loves you. While God calls us to always grow in grace, we do not have to be better people in order for God to love us. He loves us the same every step of our spiritual journey because God is love.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Recognize the Christian faith is for both the heart and the body. Seek ways you can bravely put your faith into action.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Sentence:</b>	People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart. (1 Samuel 16:7)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>One day, David took some food to his brothers who were at the Israelite camp. While David was there, he heard a Philistine man named Goliath saying bad things about God's army. Goliath yelled over to the Israelites' camp. He told them to send someone over to fight him. If anyone could come over and kill him, he said the Philistines would surrender and be the Israelites' slaves. The Israelites were afraid of Goliath because he was over nine feet tall! But David wanted to prove that God's army could defeat Goliath. David picked up five stones from a stream. He took the stones and his sling and ran quickly toward Goliath. Goliath just laughed. David took one of the stones, put it in his sling, and threw it into the air. The stone hit Goliath on his forehead, and he fell facedown onto the ground. Goliath was dead.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Goliath</b> was a mighty Philistine warrior who taunted the Israelites when they were preparing for battle. He challenged them to have one soldier fight him, and whichever soldier lost, their army would become subjects of the winning soldier's army.</li> <li>2. <b>The Israelite Soldiers</b> were terrified of Goliath and none of them was willing to put their life on the line at such a high cost if they lost. Fear spread through all the camp, even King Saul was terrified.</li> <li>3. <b>David</b> was just a boy. However, when he heard of Goliath's taunts, and that no Israelite was willing to accept Goliath's challenge, he volunteered to fight</li> </ol>

	<p>Goliath. David knew God would give him success because he trusted God and because he was standing up for God’s army.</p> <p><b>4. Sling and rock, but no armor.</b> Being a shepherd, David knew how to fight off lions and bears with just a sling and a rock. Therefore, instead of suiting up in heavy armor and using a sword as a soldier, David just went out and fought as he did when he was shepherding. Anger filled Goliath when he saw the Israelites sent out a young boy to fight him. However, the rock from David’s sling hit Goliath in the forehead and killed him.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Just because Samuel anointed David king, David did not reign as king right away. Instead, he continued to grow and care for his father’s flocks. His brothers went off to war against the Philistines. Saul still publically reigned as Israel’s king, and led Israel’s army against the Philistines.</p> <p>Goliath, the Philistine’s greatest warrior, challenged the Israelite army to send out a soldier for a one-on-one fight. Goliath declared, whoever won the battle, their army would be victors over the loser’s army. The loser’s army would be subjects of the winner’s army. The Israelite soldiers were terrified of Goliath’s size and skill. However, David recognized that this challenge was bigger than just two soldiers fighting each other. He recognized this was also a spiritual battle. Moreover, because this was God’s army, if an Israelite soldier had faith and conviction, God would give the victory. David fought with an unconventional weapon, and with the blessing of the one true God, and won the battle.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Jesus teaches that there is more to life than just the body. Each person has a soul that God has created. Therefore, the Christian should not be overcome with fear over what an enemy can do to their body, they should be more concerned with what can happen to their souls. The body is temporary, but the soul is eternal. If the Christian will remember that, as well as the depths of God’s love for them, they will be able to live their faith without fear.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>In this world, Christians will face challenges. However, they must remember that their battles are not primarily against “flesh and blood,” but against the principalities and powers of the spiritual world. (Ephesians 6:12) David recognized</p>

	<p>God could win this battle with Goliath easily; God just needed a soldier with the faith to put this belief into action. David was the only one in the Israelite camp who had this kind of faith.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can a Christian walk by faith and not by sight?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Where do you think David acquired the faith that allowed him to have the courage and belief in God no one else in the Israelite camp possessed?</b></li> </ul> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></p> <p>Living by faith and not by sight is not easy. While we must not blindly walk through life ignoring the spiritual forces at work in this world, we also should not believe we can just enter any fight we want and assume God will give us victory. The Christian, who believe in God’s love for them, believes in God’s power, and goes into battle only when God directs, will be victorious.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can a Christian develop a deeper trust in the power of God?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How can a Christian discern which battles God wants them to fight, and from which battles (like the battle of temptation) God wants them to flee?</b></li> </ul> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></p> <p>Christians often find God asks them to walk into battles that are bigger than they think they can win. Of course, if it is God’s will directing them, it will be God’s strength that wins the battle. God strengthens a Christian’s faith when the Christian faithfully puts their faith into action.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What steps of preparation can a Christian take to prepare for the battles of life? (see Ephesians 6:10-17)</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Who are some of the giants we must face in our lives?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 37

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>David Spares Saul's Life</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>1 Samuel 26</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Matthew 5:43-48</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize that though there are sinful people doing evil things, it is not for Christians to seek revenge.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Discern if there is bitterness or hatred in your heart. Though others have harmed us, the damage becomes worse if we allow bitterness or anger to grow within us.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Reach out and do something kind or compassionate to someone who is upset with you. Seek to show the love of God to them in a real and tangible way.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	The LORD rewards everyone for their righteousness and faithfulness. The LORD delivered you into my hands today, but I would not lay a hand on the LORD's anointed. (1 Samuel 26:23)	

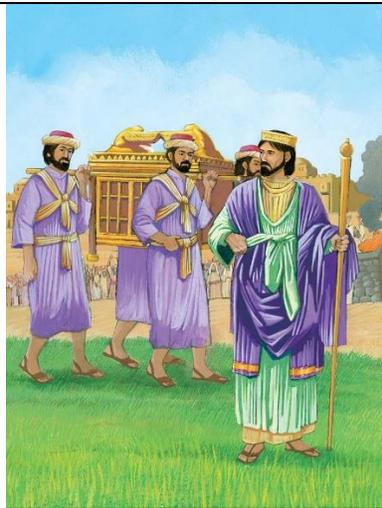
<b>Text Summary</b>	King Saul was jealous of David because David was very successful at everything he did. Saul chased David all over the country to try and kill him. David knew that Saul was trying to kill him, so he was always having to hide from Saul. God protected David and watched over him. One day, David found out where Saul's army was staying. That night, David and his friend, Abishai, quietly walked down to the camp where Saul was sleeping. No one heard them go into the camp. When they walked up to Saul, Abishai quickly pulled out his spear. Just as Abishai was about to kill Saul, David stopped him. Instead, they took the spear and water jug that were close to Saul's head. The next day, Saul found out what David had done. He knew that David could have killed him. Instead, David had spared his life.
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>King Saul.</b> King Saul's jealousy of David led him to hunt him down to kill him. One night while Saul and his soldiers were sleeping, David and Abishai snuck into the camp.</li> <li>2. <b>Saul's Spear and Water Jug.</b> Though Saul wanted to kill David, David did not want to harm Saul, because Saul was God's anointed king. To prove he did not want to harm Saul, David took Saul's spear and water jug, to show him later he could have killed him but did not.</li> <li>3. <b>Abishai,</b> one of David's soldiers, did not agree with David's conviction he could not kill God's anointed king. Abishai wanted to kill Saul when they had the chance.</li> </ol>

	<p><b>4. David</b> would not allow Abishai to kill King Saul. Instead, they snuck out of the camp and later confronted Saul from a distance. David proved to Saul he did not want to harm him by showing Saul his own spear and water jug that David had taken. Saul was humbled and promised to stop trying to kill David.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Though the prophet Samuel had anointed David king over Israel, Saul was still the public king of Israel. Saul was not a man after God’s heart, and did not lead the Israelites in a way that honored God. This is why God was going to replace Saul with David. It was not yet time to replace Saul.</p> <p>God blessed David in many ways, and because of this, Saul was very jealous of him. On numerous occasions, Saul tried to kill David because he felt threatened by David. However, God protected David. This text is one of two accounts in which David had the opportunity to kill Saul (see also 1 Samuel 24), and yet refused. Even though Saul did not honor God, he was still God’s anointed. Therefore, while David knew what Saul was doing was wrong, and that one day he would be king over Israel, he knew he did not have the right to kill Saul himself.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Jesus taught it is easy to love those who love you and to hate those who hate you. However, God’s will for Christians is to love everyone, even those who hate them. This is difficult, but our heavenly Father can give the strength and endurance needed to love difficult people.</p> <p><b>Fruit of the Spirit Track: 4. Patience.</b> Literally, in the Greek language in which Paul was writing, patience means “long-suffering.” Patience is the ability of a Christian to endure difficult situations without becoming exhausted or despondent. The natural condition of most people is impatience. They do not want to have to wait, whether it is to resolve a problem or to obtain a new possession. Sometimes Christians will even lose patience with God to deliver a blessing or answer to prayer, and act out under their own power to try to obtain the blessing or answer themselves. When a Christian practices patience, it does not necessarily mean they are passive, but are very active in their prayers, in their waiting, in their praise of God.</p> <p>One of the descriptions of patience in Greek culture was a person who was able to avenge himself, but did not. In this lesson, David practices patience with Saul by waiting for God to act justly according to God’s timing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: What is it about our human nature that makes it difficult for us to practice patience?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: A Christian must have much trust and faith in God in order to be patience. What other virtues help a Christian practice patience?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: Setting aside significant amounts of time for silent prayer and Bible study are essential for cultivating a patience life. What time can you set aside this week to wait upon the Lord?</b></li> </ul>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  David had the opportunity to punish Saul for all his wicked ways, and to get revenge for Saul’s attempts to kill him. Abishai saw this opportunity as God handing Saul over to David. However, David recognized it was not his place to be the one to punish Saul. Both David and Abishai thought they knew God’s will, but had opposite ideas of what was God’s will. Christians need discernment in order to know when God is calling them to action and when God is calling them to wait. Jesus teaches there is more power in love than in revenge. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think Abishai and David understood God’s will differently in this situation?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What can Christians learn from this passage about how to handle situations when they have different understandings of God’s will?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  David had a clear understanding in his heart of what God wanted from him. He knew God had made him king over Israel, but he was not going to use human power to harm Saul, who was not listening for God’s message. David had a strong inner faith that convinced him God would protect him without him having to kill Saul. This is the second time David had an opportunity to kill Saul, but refused. However, David refuses to allow bitterness and hatred to build in his heart because of Saul’s sins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What do you think happened in Saul’s heart that made him go from having the Spirit of God on him (1 Samuel 10) to wanting to kill David?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What situations could tempt a Christian to abandon their devotion to God?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  David fulfilled the teaching Jesus would later give to love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. It is not natural to love those who hate you; it requires a heart change from God. It also requires obedience. In addition, while it takes both parties to want reconciliation for reconciliation to take place, it only takes one party to show love and forgiveness for God’s love to be manifest. Jesus calls Christians to take the first step in the process of reconciliation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What positive actions can a Christian take towards someone who is angry with them?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How many times do you think it would take a Christian to pray for their enemy before they actually started loving their enemy?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> </ul>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul> |
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## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 38

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Ark of the Covenant Returned</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>2 Samuel 6</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Romans 12:1-9</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize the importance of treating God and God’s commands with respect and honor.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Discern if God’s grace and mercy touch every day of your week and every relationship you have.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Appreciate that honoring God takes more than just good intentions. Christians need to match those good intentions with holy behavior.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. (Romans 12:1)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>When Saul died, David finally became the king of Israel. The ark of the covenant had been taken away from the Israelites by the Philistines, and David wanted it back in Jerusalem. The ark was special to the Israelites, and they wanted to have it back with them. God said that anyone who moved the ark had to carry it by the poles and never touch it. David didn’t listen. He had the ark placed on a cart and pulled by some oxen. When the ark started to fall, a man named Uzzah reached out to catch it. When he did, Uzzah died right there because he had touched the ark. David went to move the ark again, but this time he did it the right way. When the men carrying the ark had taken six steps, David offered a sacrifice of a bull and a calf. David was so happy to have the ark back that he danced for joy!</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>The Ark of the Covenant.</b> Before Saul was king, the Philistines had stolen his precious symbol of Israel’s faith.</li> <li>2. <b>King David</b> defeated the Philistines, and decided to bring the Ark of the Covenant back to Israel. He led the procession of the Ark coming back into Jerusalem.</li> <li>3. <b>Priests Carrying the Ark Carefully.</b> Because the Ark of the Covenant was holy, the Israelites needed to be careful how they treated it and carried it. God declared they could only carry it by the poles; they could not touch any other part of it.</li> </ol>
<b>Text Context</b>	Saul has died, and David became king of Israel. As king, David liberated Jerusalem and defeated the Philistines. The Philistines had captured the Ark of the Covenant

decades before David was king. David brought the Ark of the Covenant back to Jerusalem.

However, bringing it back to Jerusalem was not without its challenges. Instead of carrying the Ark, they loaded it on a cart, pulled by an ox. The ox stumbled and a man named Uzzah reached out to keep the ark from falling off the cart. God forbade the Israelites from touching the ark, except on its poles (Exodus 25:14). Therefore, Uzzah died on the spot. David became terrified this had happened. Therefore, David stopped bringing the Ark to Jerusalem, and housed it at Obed-Edom’s house. After a few months David went back and brought the Ark to Jerusalem, this time having four Israelites carry it by the poles to make sure it did not fall over.

**New Testament text:** It matters what Christians do with their body. Christians are not just souls who live in a body. The Christian’s body is an essential part of who they are. Therefore, the Christian needs to surrender not just their heart, but also their body to Christ.

**Fruit of the Spirit Track: 2. Joy.** Joy is the deep sense of security and blessing that comes from knowing God loves you. Most people do not seek after joy that comes from within, but rather search for “happiness,” that is dependent upon outward circumstances. They believe if they can just get all the situations and circumstances of their outward world fixed, then they will be happy. However, the Christian knows there will always be struggle in this life, and the only way to know true joy is to have the presence of God in their lives. While sitting in prison, the Apostle Paul wrote about the joy he had because even his imprisonment was bringing about glory for Christ (Philippians 4:10-20)

In this lesson’s text we hear David expressing joy before the Lord and before others as the Ark of the Covenant is being returned to Jerusalem. David rejoices because God continues to be faithful to Israel and continues to fulfill the promises made to Israel.

- ✓ **Head: How is it possible for Christians to have inward joy when facing persecutions and troubles in their lives?**
- ✓ **Heart: What do you think were some of the thoughts and feelings going through David’s life as he danced before the Lord?**
- ✓ **Hands: How can you bring joy into the lives of lost and hurting people in your life this week?**

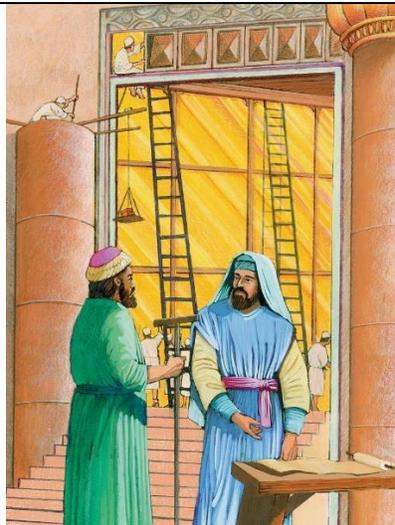
**Bible Study**

<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
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<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  Christians are to treat God with honor and respect. David got so caught up in celebrating his great victory and conquest that he did not make sure the Ark was properly handled. Sometimes Christians get so focused on the blessings God has given to them that they do not take time to make sure they are using those blessings as God intended. As stewards of God’s blessings, Christians need to be careful always to treat God’s gifts with the respect and honor they deserve. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why can it be very tempting for Christians to focus so much on the blessings of God that they forget to honor God?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some ways Christians can show respect and honor to God and God’s commands today?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  Worshipping God should be the goal of every Christian’s heart. Worshipping God happens when Christians gather in worship services. However, worship also happens every other day of the week as well. Christians are to see their entire life as one continuous opportunity to worship God. God’s grace and mercy should touch all their relationships, actions, and feelings. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What should a Christian do when they do not feel especially graceful or merciful toward someone?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>In what ways can a Christian prepare their heart and body to worship God every day of the week?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  Serving God takes more than just good intentions. Christians need to be careful how they live their lives. Not careful in the sense of always being scared God might punish them or strike them dead. But careful in the sense of making sure all their words and actions are outflows of the grace of God within them. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can you show respect to God in your daily life?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What should you do if God reveals to you there are actions or thoughts you have had which are not honoring to God?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 39

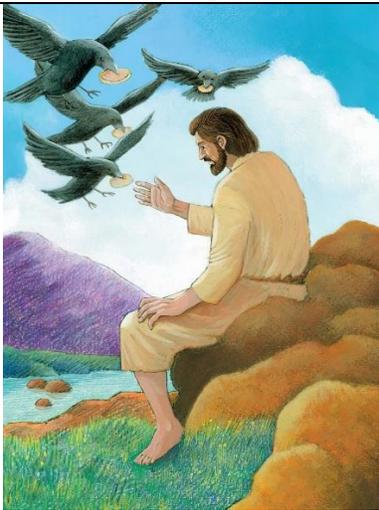
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Building the Temple</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>1 Kings 6:1-22</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>John 2:13-24</b> <b>1 Corinthians 6:18-20</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize the building of the Temple in Jerusalem is fulfilling part of God's covenants.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Creation reveals God's majesty and beauty. However, the artful and creative works of humans can also reveal God's majesty and beauty.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> As Christians, our bodies are the Temple of God. We honor God in the way we treat and use our body.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Sentence:</b>	<p>"As for this temple you are building, if you follow my decrees, observe my laws and keep all my commands and obey them, I will fulfill through you the promise I gave to David your father." (1 Kings 6:12)</p>	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>King David had a son whose name was Solomon. God told David that Solomon would build a temple for Him. When Solomon became the king of Israel, he did build the Temple. It was specifically for God. This Temple wasn't like a church that we would attend. When the people went to the Temple, they would stand in the courtyards to worship. As Solomon's workers were building the Temple, he asked them not to make any hammering or chiseling sounds at the building site. Solomon wanted to honor God by not having these noises at the Temple site. After the Temple was built, Solomon had his workers cover everything on the inside with solid gold. He even covered the floors with gold! When the Temple was finished, it looked like a palace. Everything was beautiful.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Solomon</b> (in blue) was Israel's second King, the son of King David. God told King David that Solomon would be the one to build a great Temple for God in Jerusalem. The Temple would not confine God, for God is too big for even the heavens. However, the Temple would be a place where the Israelites could go to worship God.</li> <li>2. <b>Israelites.</b> Over 30,000 Israelites took part in transporting materials for the Temple, and in building the Temple.</li> <li>3. <b>The Temple.</b> Israel built the Temple according to God's commands. The Temple had cedar floors, gold walls, and special items built just for the Temple. When completed, the Temple was a breathtaking place where the Israelites went to worship God.</li> </ol>

	<p><b>4. God’s Commands.</b> God gave King David directions about how to build the Temple. David gave those to Solomon, and Solomon obeyed God’s directions.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>The Israelites established themselves in the Promised Land. Under King David, they have conquered their enemies, and are beginning to enjoy peace and prosperity in the Promised Land. David wanted to build a Temple for God, as part of this new security and prosperity. However, God told David he could not build the Temple, but his son Solomon would build the Temple. (2 Samuel 7). However, God gave David the plans for the Temple, and David began gathering the needed materials for construction of the Temple so Solomon would have them when he became King.</p> <p>Soon after David died, Solomon began building the Temple. It took seven years to complete, and Solomon used 30,000 Israelites in the building process.</p> <p>The Temple was the spiritual center of the nation of Israel. The Temple was where they the Israelites celebrated festivals and offered sacrifices. Because God’s presence dwelled in the Temple, the Israelites were to treat the Temple with great respect and honor. God, of course, was not limited to the Temple, but the Israelites understood it was a sacred place.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> In Jesus’ day the Temple had become not just a place to offer sacrifices, but also a place of business where Israelites could buy and sell the items needed for the sacrifices. Jesus became very upset that this sacred place of honor and respect for God had instead become a marketplace. Jesus also predicted his death and resurrection. When Jesus rose from the dead, people would no longer need to go to the Temple to offer sacrifices for forgiveness, now their own bodies would become the Temple of God. (1 Corinthians 3:16-17)</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>God directs King Solomon to build a Temple in Jerusalem where the Israelites could come and worship God. The Temple would not be the only place the Israelites could worship God; they would also have synagogues in the various towns. However, the Temple would be the center of the Israelite’s spiritual lives, where the Ark of the Covenant resided, and where the Israelites were offer</p>

	<p>sacrifices. The Temple will also be a primary manifestation of God’s covenant promises coming true. What began as promises to a childless man named Abram hundreds of years ago is now manifest in this Temple.</p> <p>As important as the Temple was, it was just a foreshadowing of how God would relate to Christians after Jesus’ death and resurrection. Now Christians are the Temples of God, and rather than bringing animal sacrifices to God, Christians give their lives to God as a sacrifice to for God’s mission to the world.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>If a single building cannot contain God, what is the benefit for the Israelites having a Temple?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Reports are the Temple was one of the most beautiful buildings of its time. How can the beauty of both creation and human works of art draw people into a deeper sense of worship of God?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Says We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>As God’s creations, Christian’s lives are to worship God and give thanks to their Savior. Hearts directed to God accomplish this. Buildings, like Solomon’s Temple and modern churches, can help direct hearts to this end. Works of art like paintings can as well. Ultimately, human lives are works of art, because they are God’s creations and should reflect God’s glory. This can be done when Christians offer love, forgiveness, compassion, and hope to the world.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>A building or piece of art does not in and of itself direct people’s hearts to God. What is it then that draws a person’s heart to God when they see something they believe is beautiful?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How can Christians prepare themselves each day to see God’s beauty and work all around them?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>God has not just created each person, God has given each person gifts and talents they can develop and use to help others and bring glory to God. When Christians use these gifts and talents for God’s glory, they honor God and bless others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the gifts and talents God has given to you, and how are you using them for God’s glory?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>If you do not know what gifts and talents God has given to you, what steps can you take to discover what they are and how to develop them?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 40

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Elijah Fed by Ravens</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>1 Kings 17:1-6</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Luke 1:1-17</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand that God calls some individuals to be prophets, to announce there are consequences for rebelling against God. Sometimes God's call upon individuals requires sacrifice, but God will provide for them.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Reflect on what sacrifices Christians should be willing to make in order to fulfill God's call upon their lives.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be ready to help God-called pastors and leaders when they need food or other support.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.” (Luke 1:17)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Many years after King Solomon died, a man named Ahab became the new king of Israel. He was a very evil man. God sent Elijah to give King Ahab a message, because Elijah was a prophet. A prophet is a person who speaks for God. Elijah told King Ahab that it wasn't going to rain in his land for a long time. It would only rain if Elijah told it to rain. God knew the king would be angry with Elijah when he gave him this message. So, God sent Elijah to the mountains to hide in the ravine. Elijah could not go out and hunt for food while he was hiding. Instead, God had some birds called ravens take food to Elijah for him to eat. Every morning and every evening the ravens took Elijah meat and bread to eat. Elijah ate the food the ravens brought, and drank water from a stream that was close by.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Elijah</b> was a prophet whom God sent to warn the rebellious King Ahab of Israel that a famine was about to come as punishment for his sins.</li> <li>2. <b>At the Kerith Ravine.</b> Because King Ahab wanted to harm Elijah for this prophecy, God sent Elijah into hiding east of the Jordan River.</li> <li>3. <b>The Brook.</b> God provided for his prophet's needs naturally by sending him to hide near a brook where Elijah got water.</li> <li>4. <b>Ravens.</b> God also provided for his prophet's needs supernaturally by having ravens supply him with food twice a day. In the mornings, the ravens brought bread and meat, in the evenings, meat again.</li> </ol>

<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>The united Kingdom of Israel did not last long. It started well under King David, and from the outside looked like it was continuing well under Solomon. However, Solomon’s heart became divided later in life as his fame and wealth became sources of pride for him instead of humility before God. After Solomon’s death, there was conflict among the tribes of Israel, and they divided into two groups, 10 of the tribes in the north known as “Israel,” and the remaining 2 in the south known as “Judah.”</p> <p>The leaders of both kingdoms varied greatly over the centuries in their devotion to God versus their devotion to other “gods” of the surrounding nations. One very evil king, King Ahab of Israel, not only worshipped other “gods,” but built a temple in the name of one of these fake gods in the Promised Land.</p> <p>God was not content to allow the Israelites to just rebel against him and suffer the consequences of their sins. Therefore, he sent men called prophets who warned the leaders and the Israelites to repent of their sins and return to worshipping the one true God alone.</p> <p>Elijah was one of these prophets. God sent him to warn King Ahab. Being a prophet of God was dangerous, because kings and people living in rebellion to God often times do not want people to confront them with their sins or warn them of the consequences of their rebellion. King Ahab was this way, and so God told Elijah to flee from King Ahab and go into hiding after he confronted Ahab. God cared for Elijah’s needs while he was in hiding.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Elijah was one of Israel’s most important prophets, as can be seen in the fact his name appears several times in the New Testament. John the Baptist is often identified as being the New Testament manifestation of the “spirit and power of Elijah.” Like Elijah, John the Baptist called rebellious and disobedient Israel to repent and return to worshipping God alone.</p>
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**Bible Study**

<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>God created humanity in love. When humanity sinned against God, there were consequences, but God still worked to create a means through which people could repent and serve him alone. In addition, even when God established the people in</p>

	<p>the Promised Land, and they rebelled, God provided prophets to warn them to return to God who could give them a life of blessings, not a life of experiencing consequences of their sins. God also sends prophets today to warn people of the consequences of their sins, and invites them to repent and find salvation through Jesus Christ. Being one of God’s prophets was often a very hard life in Israel.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Who are some people in your life God has used to call you to live faithfully for God?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why do some people repent when confronted with their sins, but other people become angry or violent (like King Ahab would become)?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Says We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>There are consequences for the sins we commit. Those consequences include harm to our relationship with God and harm to our relationships with others. In God’s mercy, he sends people into our lives to confront us of those sins and call us to repentance so we can enjoy a closer relationship to God and be of greater help to the Kingdom of God. It is important for us to keep our hearts and ears open for when these servants of God try to speak truth to us, so we do not refuse to hear the word of God spoken through them. When Christians deny themselves, and willingly make sacrifices for Jesus, the Kingdom of God thrives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How do even, what we might call small sins, harm our heart and ability to hear from God?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How does a regular practice of sinning make it harder and harder to recognize our need to repent and turn back to God?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>Sometime it is not others, but us whom God calls to go and speak words of correction to another Christian. We must be very careful to discern that this is God’s will for us, and approach that person with great love and compassion. As Christians, we should love and support our pastors and church leaders as they fulfill God’s call upon their lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What would it look like to approach someone with love and compassion who is falling away from God?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What steps can you take to be a blessing to your pastor?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 41

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Elijah on Mt Carmel</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>1 Kings 18:16-46</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Galatians 1:1-12</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Be discerning about what you accept as true about God and this world. Do you truly believe what the Bible teaches, or have you accepted false teachings that are contrary to scripture?</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Reflect on your heart desires. For what you desire is what you love. Make sure your desires honor God.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Evaluate the social media, entertainment, and celebrities you let influence you. Make sure you are not spending time being influenced by sinful people.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Sentence:</b>	As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let them be under God's curse! (Galatians 1:9)	

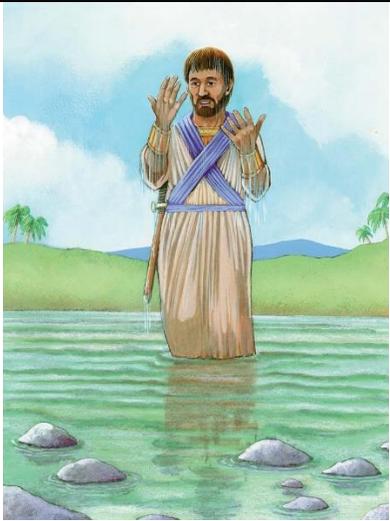
<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Evil King Ahab worshiped a god named Baal. Elijah was a prophet of God and wanted to prove to King Ahab that Baal was not real. Elijah had Baal's prophets put a bull on their altar to Baal. Elijah put a bull on his altar to God. Whichever god would light the wood for the sacrifice would be the true God. The prophets of Baal prayed and prayed to their god. They danced and sang and shouted all day. But nothing happened. Elijah dug a ditch around his altar and told some men to pour water all over the altar. They poured so much that it filled the ditch. Then Elijah prayed to God and asked Him to light the wood so the people would know that He was the true God. God sent a fire that not only lit the wood, but also burned the sacrifice and the altar. It even dried up the water in the ditch! When the people saw this, they knew that Elijah's God was the true God.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Elijah.</b> God sent his prophet Elijah to confront evil King Ahab with his sins. King Ahab and Israel were making sacrifices to and worshipping fake gods. Elijah told King Ahab to assemble all the prophets of the fake god on Mount Carmel.</li> <li>2. <b>The Prophets of Baal.</b> Elijah challenged the 450 prophets of Baal to a contest. They would make a sacrifice to their fake god, and then Elijah would make a sacrifice to the true God. They would see which one sent down fire from heaven to consume the sacrifice. The prophets of Baal went first, and spent all</li> </ol>

	<p>day praying, dancing, jumping around, and even cutting themselves trying to get their fake god to send down fire from heaven. Nothing happened.</p> <p><b>3. The Water.</b> Elijah then prepared his sacrifice to the true God. However, he did not just put the bull on the altar, he also dug a trench around the altar, and then poured 12 jugs full of water on top of the sacrifice. The water filled up the trench.</p> <p><b>4. The Fire.</b> All Elijah had to do was make one short prayer to the true God, and fire fell from the sky and onto the sacrifice. The fire was so fierce, it not only burned up the bull, but all the wood, the stones on the altar, and it licked up all the water in the trench. Elijah proved that day that the only true God is the God of Israel.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>God sent Elijah to tell evil King Ahab that a drought would come upon Israel as punishment for Ahab’s sins. King Ahab did not only worship fake gods, but he built altars in Israel so that the Israelites would worship fake gods as well. God then sent Elijah into hiding, to protect him from King Ahab.</p> <p>After two years of drought, God sent Elijah to confront King Ahab and see if he was ready to repent of his sins. He was not, so Elijah ordered him to gather the prophets of the fake god, Baal, and meet him on Mount Carmel. There was a great challenge between the true God and the fake god.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Like the Israelites, so also Christians can be tempted to fall away from worshipping the one true God. The Apostle Paul expresses his astonishment that the Christians in Galatia were abandoning the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and instead were accepting false beliefs. Paul is very clear that it is very important for Christians to believe what is true about Jesus Christ. For if Christians begin believing what is false about Jesus, they will fall away from their saving grace in Jesus, and fall into great sin.</p> <p><b>The 10 Commandments Track:</b> The third commandment, forbidding taking the Lord’s name in vain, calls Christians to take God seriously. There are several ways Christians can commit blasphemy.</p> <p>One way is to be flippant in using God’s name. Instead of treating God’s name with respect and honor, many people use it as a curse word.</p> <p>In Elijah’s day, many people believed you could control a god if you knew that god’s secret name. Therefore, people would try to discover these special names so that they could manipulate or coerce these false gods into actions at their command. The Israelites were not to be like this. Christians should honor God’s name, not use it for manipulation. This makes God very different from what Israel’s neighbors believed about their gods.</p> <p>A third way to take the Lord’s name in vain is to call yourself a Christian while living a sinful life. A Christian represents the character of Jesus. If someone claims to be a Christian and yet is mean, violent, or abusive to others, people will think Jesus is mean, violent, or abusive. Thus, the hypocritical Christian is misrepresenting God.</p> <p>✓ <b>Head: Why do people treat God’s name today as being worthless?</b></p> <p>✓ <b>Heart: How many authentic Christian witnesses do you think it takes to overcome one hypocritical Christian’s witness?</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Hands: This week, how can you speak about God to others in ways that will bring honor to God?</b></li> </ul>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  In Elijah’s day, the Israelites were tempted to worship fake gods. While there are still false religions today, often times the temptations Christians have are different from making sacrifices to false gods. More often, Christians are tempted to “worship” greed, lust, power, and many other things. They “worship” these things by making them the desires of their heart. They might think they can be Christians and keep all these sinful desires in their heart, but they cannot. You can only serve one master, either the true God revealed in Jesus Christ, or the false gods of this world. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why is the temptation so strong for Christians to participate in the desires of the flesh?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are the “fake gods” in your community that seek to pull Christians away from the true Gospel of Jesus Christ?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Says We Should Be?</b>  What the Christian’s heart desires is what the Christian will come to love. That is why it is very important for Christians to allow Jesus Christ to purify their hearts by the power of the Holy Spirit. If Christians allow sinful desires to fester and grow in their hearts, these desired will find ways to be manifest in the Christian’s actions and relationships. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Not many Christians who hate someone will actually murder him or her. What are some of the other ways that hate manifests outwardly in the lives of Christians?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some other examples of how sins of the heart manifest themselves in the life of the Christian?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  What we desire in our hearts will be manifest in our actions. So also though, Christians can practice certain good habits that will help train their hearts and minds to focus on what God desires for them. When Christians allow themselves to be influenced by sinful people, they create bad habits that harm themselves and others.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ <b>What habits do you have in your life helping you train your heart and mind to make Jesus Christ the Lord of your life?</b></li><li>✓ <b>What are some of the prayers God has answered for you? They may not be as magnificent as the answer Elijah received in his prayer, but it is still important to be grateful to God for those answers and to share with others how God still answers prayer.</b></li></ul>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 42

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Healing of Naaman</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>2 Kings 5:1-16</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Luke 4:16-30</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Appreciate God’s desire to bring healing and salvation to all peoples, not just the Israelites.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Discern whether your heart is open to seeing the work of God in the “outsiders” of your community.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Practice how you would lead someone to salvation in Christ. Take steps to create friendships and relationships with non-Christians, being available for God to use in bringing people to Christ.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. (Colossians 4:5)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Naaman was the commander of the army in Syria. He was a very important man. But he had a disease called leprosy. This disease causes the skin to decay, and sometimes causes death. Naaman’s wife had a servant girl. She said that Naaman should go to see a prophet who lives in Samaria. He could heal Naaman of his leprosy. This prophet was Elisha. Naaman went to Samaria to see if Elisha would cure him. Elisha told Naaman to go to the Jordan River and wash in it seven times. If Naaman did this, he would be cured. Naaman didn’t want to go into the river, because it was dirty and muddy. But Naaman’s servants talked him into doing what Elisha said. They believed that Naaman would be cured. Naaman went to the river to wash. When he came out of the water the seventh time, he was completely healed.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Naaman</b> was the commander of the army of Aram, a country that had historically been enemies of Israel. Naaman had a skin disease no one in Aram could heal. One of Naaman’s servant girls was an Israelite, and told him about a prophet in Israel who could heal him.</li> <li>2. <b>The Jordan River.</b> Elisha was that prophet in Israel, and told Naaman to go to wash himself seven times in the Jordan River.</li> <li>3. <b>Clean Skin.</b> After he washed seven times, God healed him. He then became a follower of God, and no longer worshipped fake gods.</li> </ol>
<b>Text Context</b>	Toward the end of his life, God told Elijah to anoint Elisha to be the prophet to succeed him. God did many powerful miracles through Elisha. Significantly, some of those miracles, like the one in this study, were done for non-Israelites. Through

the ministry of Elisha, God reminds us of God’s great love and concern for those outside of Israel. Not just those outside of Israel though, those who are the enemies of Israel.

The book of 1 Kings records many battles between Israel and Aram. Therefore, it would be easy to assume God would always be working against Aram. However, the first verse of 1 Kings 5 reveals God had given victory to Aram through their general Naaman. The passage does not reveal if the victory was one of the battles against Israel, or with another country.

For further confirmation of the animosity between Aram and Israel, verse 2 reveals Aram had sent out raiding parties into Israel, and had kidnapped a young girl. This kidnapped Israelite girl became a servant to Naaman’s wife, and played a crucial role in Naaman’s healing and salvation.

Naaman contracts a skin disease. “Leprosy” was a common diagnosis for various skin diseases in Biblical times, so it may not be what we today know of as leprosy. In fact, because we hear Naaman was in close contact with many people during this time, it most likely was not what modern medical professionals diagnose as leprosy, which is very contagious.

The Israelite slave girl tells about a prophet in Israel who could heal Naaman. The Bible passage then lays out the next several events culminating in Naaman’s healing. It is very significant that God heals Naaman because of how “unclean” Naaman was. He was not just a Gentile, but also an enemy of Israel. In addition, not just an enemy of Israel, but also a person with a skin disease, which means he forbidden entry into the Temple of God. However, God healed Naaman, who according to the Law of Moses could not even enter the Temple to worship God.

**New Testament text:** After Jesus began his ministry he returned to his hometown, Nazareth, and impressed the people with his wisdom. However, once he became confrontational with them, they quickly changed their view of him and tried to kill him. Part of the reason why the people became so upset was because his message was that God oftentimes has to go outside of Israel in order find people of faith. In particular, Jesus mentions Naaman, an “outsider” to Israel, who was healed from leprosy while those in his day inside Israel were not healed.

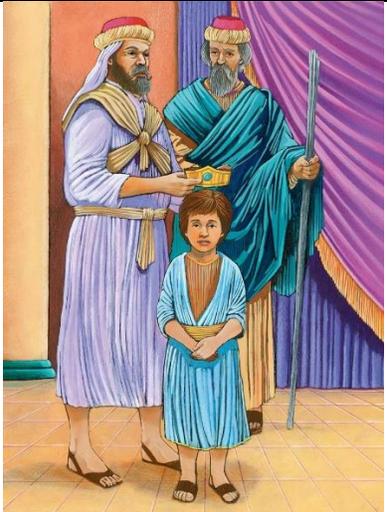
**Bible Study**

<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
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<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>        God has a special covenant with Israel. Israel is God’s Chosen People whom he established in the Promised Land. However, just because Israel is God’s Chosen People does not mean they are the only ones God loves and wants to bring into a saving relationship. Naaman is one example of an “outsider” whom God empowered in battle and healed from his sickness. There are no boundaries to God’s love and no limits to God’s power.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What kinds of people do we assume God will not work through?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think God gave Naaman a victory in battle, even before Naaman knew God as his healer?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Says We Should Be?</b>        Becoming inwardly focused is a constant temptation for Christians. Because non-Christians do not honor the true God as revealed in Jesus Christ, it is also easy for Christians to look down on them. However, Christians must keep their hearts open to loving and ministering to those who are not yet Christians, because God has his heart open to them. If God’s missionary work on earth is to continue, calling all people into the Kingdom of God, Christian’s hearts must be open to showing God’s love to those who need it most.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some reasons why Christians are tempted to think it is too dangerous to share God’s love with non-Christians?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How can Christians discern when and where God wants them to reach out and minister to others?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>        It is natural for Christians to want to spend their time with people who think like they do, act like they do, and believe like they do. However, though there are times for Christian fellowship, Christians forget the heart of God if they only fellowship with one another. Christians must be developing friendships with those outside the Church so that they can share God’s love with those who need it the most.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Who are three people in your life who need to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How would you share with them the steps to becoming a Christian?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 43

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	Joash – Child King	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	2 Kings 11	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	Matthew 20:17-28	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Remember, God always has a faithful remnant, even when it seems like evil has won.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Understand that Christians must protect their hearts from compromise.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Do not let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity. 1 Timothy 4:12</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity. (1 Timothy 4:12)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>When Joash was born, his father was the king of Israel. Joash's father died suddenly, and his evil grandmother ordered that all of the royal family be killed. She wanted to be the queen of Israel. But Joash's aunt didn't want him to die. She took baby Joash and his nurse and hid them in the Temple. The queen wouldn't think to look for them there. The priest knew that Joash should be the ruler of Israel. When Joash was seven years old, the priest took him out to show him to the people. The priest anointed Joash, put a crown on his head, and proclaimed him king. Everyone clapped and shouted for the new king. The queen went to see why there was so much noise. Then, she saw Joash. He was standing at the Temple wearing a crown. The commanders took the evil queen away and killed her. Joash was the new king of Israel.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Joash</b> was the youngest person to become King of Israel. His aunt hid him away for six years in the Temple because his grandmother wanted to kill him. His grandmother had killed all his other siblings so she would have no rivals to the throne of Israel. He led many great reforms for the faith after he became king.</li> <li>2. <b>Jehoiada</b> was the priest at the time and had instructed the army to protect the young King from his grandmother. Jehoiada anointed Joash king over Israel.</li> </ol>
<b>Text Context</b>	<p>It is amazing what the love of power will make some people do. In the case of Athaliah, mother of Ahaziah king of Israel, it made her seek out and kill all her family when Ahaziah died. Just so she could be queen.</p>

	<p>She thought she had killed all her family, but king Ahaziah’s sister hid away one of his son in the Temple. Joash was only one year old when she hid him away.</p> <p>Not surprisingly, when Joash became king and grew up, he led many religious reforms. Having seen the evil his grandmother did in her pursuit of power, and having been raised in the Temple, Joash knew what kind of ruler he needed to be to honor God and lead the Israelites in honoring God.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> The mother of two of Jesus’ disciples wants to make sure her boys are important people in the new government she thinks Jesus will form. She is thinking about power while Jesus is talking about sacrifice and humility. She and her sons do not understand what real power looks like. However, once Jesus rises from the dead, then they will begin to understand.</p>
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<b>Bible Study</b>	
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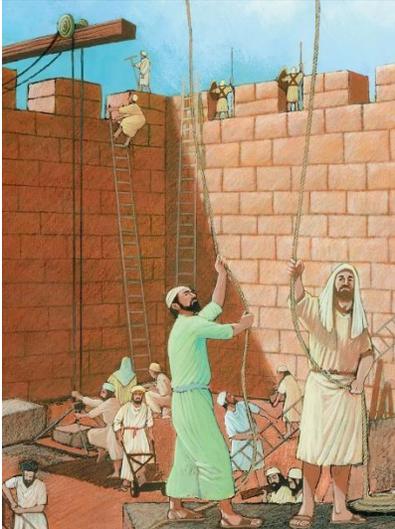
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
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<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
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<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  The pursuit of power, and all the wealth and prestige that comes with it, can cause many people to do whatever it takes, and hurt whoever they have to, in order to gain it, and keep it. Unfortunately, bad kings, and in this case a bad queen, litter the history of Israel. While human governments can always be compromised by wicked people, as Christians, we recognize we are citizens first of the Kingdom of God. We must be God’s remnant, always being faithful to God’s will and God’s laws. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What is it about power or money that will make many people do whatever it takes to get more of it?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How does an earthly ruler need to rule in order to bring glory and honor to God?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  Christians must protect their hearts from compromise. Whether a Christian is young or old, God calls all Christians to honor God with their lives. This begins by having a heart that is fully devoted to loving God and loving others. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Instead of setting their hearts on power of wealth, what should Christians set their hearts on achieving?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What can a Christian leader or ruler do to keep their heart pure and focused on honoring God?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>Some people claim, “the ends justify the means.” However, Christians know this is not true. Christians must strive to conduct themselves in ways that bring glory and honor to God, not glory and honor to themselves. This means not just older Christians in positions of power, but also young Christians. As Joash shows, You are never too young to make a difference for the Kingdom of God.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What steps can a Christian leader or ruler take when they have to make hard decisions they know will upset some people?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How should Christians show honor and respect for their leaders and rulers, whether they agree with those leaders or rulers or not?</b></li> </ul>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 44

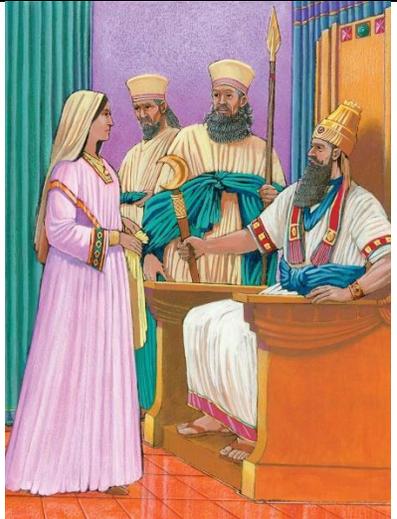
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Rebuilding Walls of Jerusalem</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Nehemiah 2:11-20</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Luke 19:28-48</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize rejection never has to be the final word in a Christian's relationship with God. Regardless of the failure, God is always willing to forgive and help restore the humble Child of God.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Be courageous, living out God's will requires courage and tenacity. There will be many challenges and people who would like to see the Christian fail.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Live confidently, God does not require Christian to do all the work of fulfilling God's will on their life. God works with the Christian to bring about that will. Faithfulness to God sometimes means simply taking one-step at a time in trust.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	I answered them by saying, "The God of heaven will give us success." (Nehemiah 2:20)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>A long time ago, the Jews built a wall around Jerusalem to protect them and the Temple from their enemies. However, because the Jews did not obey God, He let the Babylonian army attack and burn Jerusalem to the ground. Then, the army took the Jews to Babylon as prisoners. Many years later, Nehemiah asked King Artaxerxes if he could go back to Jerusalem and rebuild the city's wall. Some rulers told Nehemiah that they would attack him if he tried to rebuild the city. However, that did not scare Nehemiah. He was excited about rebuilding Jerusalem, the "Holy City." Nehemiah took many families with him to Jerusalem. He had each family rebuild one section of the wall. Some men stood guard in case anyone tried to attack. After much hard work, the wall was finally completed!</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>The Walls of Jerusalem.</b> When they conquered Jerusalem, the Babylonian army tore down the city walls and carried off the Israelites in exile. God allowed the Babylonians to destroy Jerusalem because the Israelites continually sinned and refused to listen to the prophets God has sent calling them to repentance.</li> <li>2. <b>Rebuilding the Walls.</b> After 70 years of exile, God allowed the Israelites to return to Jerusalem. Nehemiah was a man God used to organize and motivate the Israelites to rebuild the city walls.</li> </ol>

	<p><b>3. Working Hard.</b> The people listened to Nehemiah and started working hard to rebuild the walls, even though the peoples who lived near them opposed the work. They did not want the city walls rebuilt, or the Israelites might become a powerful people again. However, God gave the Israelites success, and they rebuilt the walls.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Rather than being a light to the nations, a people who loved God and loved one another, the Israelites sinned continually and harmed one another. After decades of refusing to listen to God’s words of warning to repent through the prophets, God allowed the Babylonians to conquer the Promised Land.</p> <p>The Israelites lived for 70 years in exile before God allowed the Persians to conquer the Babylonians. The Persians allowed the Israelites to return to the Promised Land. When they returned, life was hard. They had to build new homes, replant the fields. The Israelites spent so much time building their homes and planting their fields, they ignored the destroyed city walls and the destroyed Temple. They did not think rebuilding the Temple or city walls was as important as building homes and planting their fields.</p> <p>Nehemiah had stayed behind in the Persian Empire after the first exiles returned to the Promised Land. While still living in Babylon he heard reports the Israelites were not doing well in the Promised Land. This greatly upset him. He was a servant of the King. One day, the king noticed how sad Nehemiah was about what was going on in the Promised Land. The king told Nehemiah to return to the Promised Land and encourage the people to rebuild the city walls.</p> <p>God sent Nehemiah, and another man Ezra, to remind the people that God must be their first priority. They did not honor God when they ignored the destroyed city walls and Temple. If they only focused on their needs, then God would not give them success in the Promised Land. The people obeyed God’s message through his servants, and got to work rebuilding the city walls.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Jesus gazed upon the city of Jerusalem just days before his crucifixion. He was sad because once again, the Israelites were rejecting God as Nehemiah’s ancestors had. In Jesus’ day, the Israelites rejected God by rejecting Jesus. Jesus knows that once again God would allow a foreign army to destroy Jerusalem. This prophecy came true in 70 AD when God allowed the Romans to conquer Jerusalem.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b> It is not God’s desire to punish people. However, when people, like the Israelites, ignore God’s laws and God’s commands, they cannot count on God’s protection from the consequences of their sins and rebellion. However, consequences never have to be the last word in a person’s relationship with God. God always wants to forgive and restore those who turn away from sin and toward God. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the consequences that come into a person’s life who refuses to live by God’s laws and commands?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why do some people refuse to seek God’s forgiveness, even after experiencing the painful consequences of their sins?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Says We Should Be?</b> There are many responsibilities people have in their lives. God knows Christians need to care for their homes, families, jobs, and churches. However, God must always be first in their life. Whenever a Christian’s responsibilities to others becomes their life’s first priority, they will experience great frustration and trouble. However, when a Christian’s first desire is to love and honor God, then God will give them success in their loving and providing for others. Living with this first desire will not make life easy, but lived with courage and tenacity, the Christian’s life will be joyful and a great benefit to the Kingdom of God. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do some Christians struggle to trust God will provide for their needs as long as they put God first in their hearts?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How can a Christian discern the difference between what they want for themselves and what God wants for them?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b> God wants Christians to work hard to provide for themselves and for others. Whenever Christians only work hard for themselves, and do not care for others, trouble and frustration will come into their lives. God calls Christians to live out their faith with God’s power, loving others in tangible ways. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What is something you did this last week to help others?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What is one-step you can take this week to show others God’s love?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 45

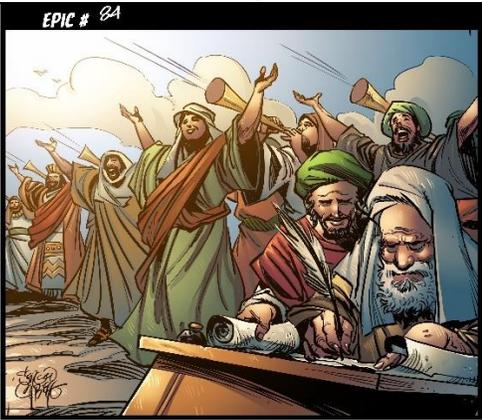
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Esther Saves Her People</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Esther 4</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>1 Peter 2:9-17</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Appreciate the unique opportunities and dangers of living as exiles in the midst of people who do not honor God.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Recognize the importance of courage in the Christian's life.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Practice fasting as a means of denying yourself and drawing closer to God.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this? (Esther 4:14)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	Xerxes chose her to be his queen. Haman was the king's highest officer, and he didn't like the Jews who lived in his country. Haman had planned to kill all of the Jews. Esther was worried when she found out about his plan. She was also a Jew. Esther wanted to tell the king about Haman's evil plan, but she couldn't go right in to see him. If she went in without the king calling her, the law said that she would be killed. The only way she would live was if the king would hold out his scepter to her. Esther took that chance. She bravely walked right in to see the king. Everyone was shocked! What would the king do? He lowered his scepter to Esther, and she touched it. When Esther told the king about Haman's evil plan, the king had Haman killed. Esther saved her people.
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Esther</b> was a Jew living in exile in Susa, part of the Persian Empire.</li> <li>2. <b>King Xerxes.</b> Esther was very beautiful, and the Persian king Xerxes made her his wife.</li> <li>3. <b>Haman</b> (with the spear in his hand) was an evil man, a member of King Xerxes' government. Haman hated the Jews, especially one named Mordecai. Haman decided to trick the king into having all the Jews killed, just so Haman could punish Mordecai. However, Haman did not know Esther was a Jew. Mordecai pleaded with Esther to ask the king to stop the coming massacre. Esther pleaded with king Xerxes for her life, and the life of all the Jews. King Xerxes loved Esther and granted her request. He also killed Haman for wanting to have the queen killed.</li> </ol>

<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>The events of the book of Esther occur after the end of the Babylonian captivity, when most of the Israelites returned to the Promised Land. For whatever reason, many Jews, including Esther and Mordecai, have decided not to return to the Promised Land, but to live in the Persian Empire.</p> <p>The Book of Esther, along with the book of Daniel, record some of the unique challenges Jews faced when living outside the Promised Land. In particular, the racism and jealousy others felt towards Jews. God put Esther in a very important position in Susa to ensure there would be protection for the Israelites, even for Israelites not living in the Promised Land.</p> <p>Interestingly, there is no mention of God, prayer, or miracles in the book of Esther. However, it is clear God is working behind the scenes, remaining faithful to the covenant promises to protect the Israelites. God works through the advice of Mordecai, through the courageous actions of Esther, and in response to the Israelites' fasting.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Regardless of the earthly nation in which Christians live, they are "foreigners and exiles" in that nation, for their true citizenship is in the Kingdom of God. In this passage, the Apostle Peter gives some guidelines on how Christians are to conduct themselves while living as exiles in their earthly nation. They are to show honor and respect for the earthy rulers and authorities, and live such good lives that they will be witnesses of God's glory to the pagans.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the "Text Context" from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>Human sinfulness expresses itself in many forms. Rage and racism are two of the forms on display in the book of Esther. Haman's rage was so great, he did not just want to punish Mordecai for his disrespect, but his rage fueled his racism to the point of plotting to destroy all Jews living in the Persian Empire. This is an example of sin within a person expressing itself in outward forms. Humans cannot control sin under their own power. However, God is able to frustrate the work of sin, and in Christ, destroy the power of sin. With Jesus' power and presence, Christians can reject sin. Esther and Mordecai's situation displays some of the unique challenges facing exiles.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why is there such a great temptation for people to hate or be suspicious of others who are different from them?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Besides race and religion, what are some other categories in your culture that people use to discriminate others?</b></li> </ul> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></p> <p>When people become a Christian, they become members of the greatest kingdom of all, the Kingdom of God. This is a kingdom whose citizens are “from every nation, tribe, people and language.” (Revelation 7:9) Sometimes, before becoming a Christian, the new Christian hated other nations or groups of people. Part of what it means to grow in your Christian faith is to allow God to heal those prejudices, and see all people as God sees them, as God’s beloved creations. It can take great courage to allow God’s transforming work in a Christian’s life. For God will often instill values in the transformed Christian at odds with the values of the nation in which the live.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some reasons why a person would feel prejudice against others?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Besides prejudice, what other inner sins can cause someone to lash out in anger towards others?</b></li> </ul> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></p> <p>One of the best ways to fight prejudice and hate is to sit down with someone who is different from you and get to know them (and allow them to get to know you, too!). Massive walls fall down when we start by just taking one brick away at a time. Jesus wants us to love others as He loves them. This is not always easy, but fasting is one way a Christian can spend a specific time of prayer and reflection for God’s healing work in their life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>In what ways can fasting bring spiritual growth in a Christian’s life?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What is something courageous you can do this week?</b></li> </ul>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 46

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Psalms of David</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Psalm 2, 23</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Acts 13:21-23</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Appreciate that songs and poetry are powerful mediums to express great truths about God that can lead others to worship God.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Celebrate that God does not just want to save us from our sins, but God wants to transform our hearts so that we can love God and love others with our entire being.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Devote yourself to living a worshipful life, both when you gather with other Christians in worship, but also in your ordinary daily activities.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing. Psalm 23:1	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Prophet David was a great king and prophet through whom God gave to mankind the inspiring words of the Psalms, containing prophecies of the coming Chosen One of God. While not all the Psalms were written by King David, each of the Psalms are powerful prayers by Children of God, and inspired by God, to help us draw closer to God. The Psalms span the great variety of human emotions and situations, so that whatever we are facing in our life, we most likely can find a Psalm that will help us express our need, joy, or hope to God. In many of these Psalms we can hear prophecies and hopes about the coming Messiah.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>King David.</b> King David was Israel's greatest king. He was a mighty military leader who brought peace and prosperity to the Holy Land.</li> <li>2. <b>Harp.</b> King David was a great harpist who used this gift to bring glory to God and to lead others into deeper understanding of the great power and majesty of God.</li> <li>3. <b>Writing.</b> King David was a great poet, and wrote many of the psalms in the Book of Psalms. These are powerful psalms that help us express our needs, joys, and hopes to God.</li> </ol>
<b>Text Context</b>	<p>The Book of Psalms is comprised of 150 psalms written by many different writers, in many different situations, reflecting many different aspects of a life devoted to</p>

God. These songs and prayers span the whole spectrum of human needs, wants, and joys as they live in this fallen world and live before a holy God.

These two particular Psalms chosen for this lesson reflect the dual nature of the Psalms, being both human prayers to God, but also being prayers inspired by God. And so, in Psalm 2 we hear a word of God to the People of God. In this prayer song God reminds the Israelites that regardless of what human leaders proclaim, God is the one ultimately in charge of human affairs. This Psalm also foretells the coming Messiah who will bring justice to the earth.

Psalm 23, on the other hand, is an intimate song of praise and trust to God. In these powerful verses we hear a heart that is fully devoted to God, not just trusting in salvation, but trusting in protection and guidance each day of his life.

**New Testament text:** These verses are part of a speech Paul gave at the synagogue in Pisidian Antioch. In the speech Paul is tracking the work of God through Israelite history, and relating how Jesus is the one God ultimately sent to bring salvation to the world. As part of this story of God working to bring salvation to the world, Paul speaks about how King David was a man after God’s own heart. King David was part of the lineage, both spiritually and physically, that led to the birth and ministry of Jesus Christ.

**Bible Study**

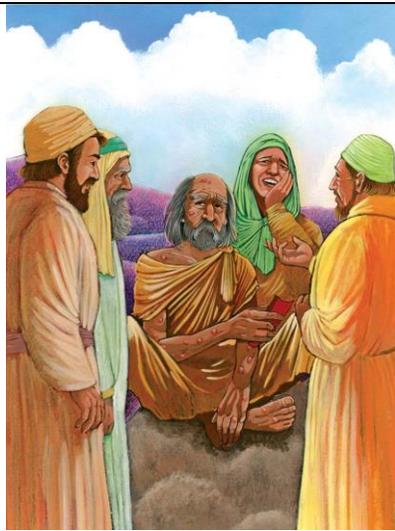
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
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<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
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<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  The People of God have a great lineage of men and women who, though often imperfectly, devoted their lives to the worship of God. These two psalms are examples of ways in which we can learn more about God through our worship of God. These two psalms give us powerful insight into both the nature of God and of our proper response to God’s great blessings.  ✓ <b>What are some of the qualities of God highlighted in these psalms?</b>  ✓ <b>How should someone prepare themselves for worship, so they can be best prepared to pray to God and to hear a word from God?</b> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  God does not just want to bless our minds, God wants to bless our hearts as well. Our heart, the center of our being, is to be a fountain of blessings from which our </li> </ul>
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	<p>love, compassion, and joy flow. In order for this to happen we must surrender our lives fully to God, and give God full access to our heart's desires.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why are some people very willing to give God all their sins and troubles, but do not want to allow God to be the Lord of their hearts?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How should a Christian be different from non-Christians in their daily relationships, activities, and conversations?</b></li> </ul> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></p> <p>In this world, the People of God will be continually tempted to get their eyes off of God and place them instead on the rulers and leaders of this world. Many of those rulers, if not devoted to God, will not lead the People of God closer to God, but further away from God. Therefore, the People of God must keep themselves focused on God in both worship and their daily lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What practical steps can you take to protect your heart from chasing after the priorities and desires of this temporary world?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How can you be of help to your church either in leading a part of worship or in helping others who lead worship?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 47

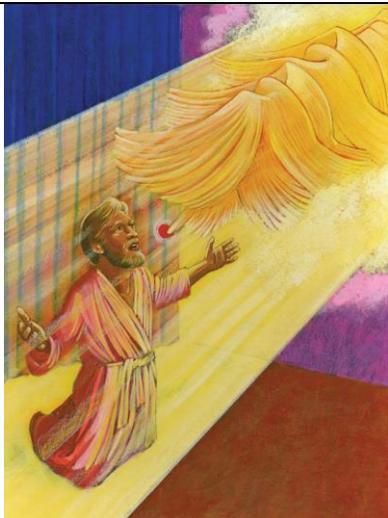
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Job the Suffering Servant</b>	
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Job 1</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>James 5:7-11</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand that Christians live in a fallen world in which bad things happen to good people. Why would God not protect Christians from all harm? The book of Job is an example of the people of God trying to come to terms with that very difficult question that has no easy answers.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Discern whether you follow God only for the blessings.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Practice offering mercy and compassion to people who are suffering, not judgement.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	<p>“Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked I will depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised.” (Job 1:21b)</p>	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Satan asked God if he could tempt Job by taking away everything that Job owned and loved. Satan believed that Job served God only because God had made him rich. God told Satan that he could tempt but not kill Job. Satan went back to the earth and killed all of Job’s servants and animals. He even killed Job’s children while they were eating. Job lost everything, but he didn’t blame God. Next, Satan covered Job with painful sores from his head to his feet. Job’s friends didn’t even recognize him. Job sat in a pile of ashes and scraped his sores with a broken piece of pottery to show how sad he was. Job’s wife told him to curse God so he could die and not be in any more pain. But Job never blamed God for the bad things that happened to him. After this, God blessed Job with twice as much as he had before.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Job</b> was a righteous man who loved God, his family, and was generous with others. He was very rich. Job was a great man of faith.</li> <li>2. <b>Sitting on Ashes.</b> One day Satan took away all of Job’s children, riches, and reputation. Satan believed Job only served God because of the blessings God gave him. If Satan took away all of Job’s blessings, would Job reject God? Job was left to weep over his great suffering.</li> <li>3. <b>Boils on his skin.</b> Satan not only took away everything Job loved, he even took away Job’s health, and caused great pain by inflicting on him boils.</li> <li>4. <b>Job’s Wife</b> (in green headdress) mocked Job, and told him to give up trying to find out why he was suffering. Her attitude was, it is no use following God if God still allows great suffering to come into your life.</li> </ol>

	<p><b>5. Jobs Friends.</b> When they heard of Job’s great suffering, three of his friends traveled to comfort Job. However, instead of comforting Job they made his suffering even worse. They told Job his suffering could only be the result of God punishing him for a great sin. They told him to repent. However, Job knew he had not committed any great sin to deserve all this. Instead, he said he would always follow God, whether God blessed him or cursed him.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>One of the most perplexing questions of life is “why do bad things happen to good people?” Every Christian probably knows someone who is very faithful to God, and yet has experienced great suffering in his or her life. Why would God allow suffering in the life of one of God’s faithful children? If God really is all loving and all powerful, why does not God protect Christians from great suffering?</p> <p>These are some of the powerful questions the Book of Job addresses. The Book of Job presents Job as the ideal follower of God. Job has many children, has great wealth, and is a highly respected person. He is also a great man of faith in God.</p> <p>However, Satan claims Job only serves God because of all these the blessings God gives. He believes Job will turn his back on God if he loses those blessings. Therefore, one day, with God’s permission, Satan takes away everything Job holds dear. Job suffers greatly. However, while Job tries to understand why God would allow so much suffering to come into his life, he does not turn his back on God. Nor does he blame God for all this destruction. Instead, he remains faithful to God, proving Satan wrong.</p> <p>Because Job was faithful to God, God restored to Job all his health, wealth, and gave him even more children than he had before.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> One of the great virtues Job demonstrates is patience. When Christians get impatient, they can cause great trouble for themselves and others. Instead, Christians must learn to be patient, knowing God’s timing is better than their timing.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul>

	<p>The book of Job asks many tough questions, but does not give many easy answers. Instead, the book of Job invites Christians to reflect on whether or not their service and faithfulness to God are dependent upon God’s blessings. If a Christian only serves God because of God’s blessings, then are they really a Christian? Instead, Christians are those who love God with all their heart, soul, and mind. When they love God this way, they do not serve God for what they can get from God; they serve God out of a response to God’s great love for them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>If God really loves Christians, then why are Christians not protected from all harm and suffering?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why might people only want to serve God if they thought they could get great blessings from God?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Says We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>Jesus taught, God “causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.” (Matthew 5:45b) While a Christian’s outward situation may suffer greatly, the Christian will always have the love of God in their heart. God also is able to work very powerfully through Christians who have suffered, to help others who are currently enduring suffering.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can a Christian discern whether they only follow God because of God’s blessings, or if they truly follow God because they love God?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How does Satan try to get Christians to sin by tempting them to blame God for things that are not God’s fault?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>Job’s three friends started well, by sympathizing with and comforting Job. However, after a few days their comforting turned to confronting. They told Job that only people who have sinned suffer. Moreover, someone who has suffered as much as Job must have committed some big sins. Instead of being faithful to God and being faithful friends to Job, they became accusers of Job and misspoke about God.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why is it dangerous to ever assume someone’s suffering is their own fault?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How can Christians offer compassion and love to people who actually are suffering because of their own sins, without becoming judgmental?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 48

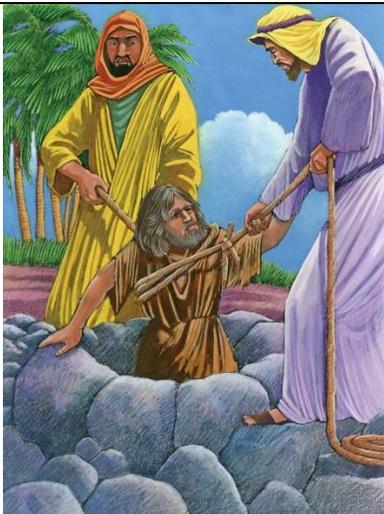
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Isaiah's Vision and Commission</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Isaiah 6:1-8</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Revelation 4</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Reflect on the great divide between God's perfect holiness and our human frailties.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Celebrate the wonderful grace of God that bridges this great divide by offering salvation to all people.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Offer your life to God as Isaiah did, as a messenger of God's great love and holiness to lost and dying people.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	<p>"You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being." (Revelation 4:11)</p>	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>One day Isaiah, who was a prophet, had a vision. A vision is like a dream. Isaiah saw God in the Temple, and He was sitting on a throne. God's robe was so big that it filled the inside of the Temple. Isaiah also saw angels called "seraphs." When the seraphs talked to each other, the doorways in the Temple shook, and the inside of the Temple filled up with smoke. Isaiah couldn't believe what he was seeing! One of the seraphs picked up a hot coal from the altar and put it on Isaiah's lips. The seraph was showing Isaiah that God wanted to take away his sin. Then, Isaiah would be ready to go out and tell others about God. God asked Isaiah whom He could send to tell others about Him. And Isaiah answered, "Here am I. Send me!" (NIV).</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Isaiah</b> the prophet had a vision in which he saw the Lord seated on a throne in the temple. In this temple Isaiah saw flying beings who were singing praises to God so loud that the building was shaking and filled with smoke.</li> <li>2. <b>Kneeling.</b> Isaiah was overwhelmed with fear, not only because people traditionally died when they saw the Lord, but because he was so unworthy to be in God's presence. He cried out that he was ruined!</li> <li>3. <b>Seraphim.</b> A seraphim is a heavenly being described as having six wings and singing God's praises in the temple.</li> <li>4. <b>Live Coal.</b> The seraphim took a live coal from the altar and touched it on Isaiah's lips. He declared that Isaiah's guilt taken away, and his sin atoned for.</li> <li>5. <b>Isaiah</b> then hears God ask "whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" After being forgiven, and being overwhelmed by God's presence, Isaiah in faith declares, "Here am I. Send me!"</li> </ol>

<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p><b>General Introduction on Prophets:</b> Being a prophet of God was not an easy or safe calling, because God called prophets to preach against the sins of the Israelites. Oftentimes the kings would jail or abuse the prophets because of this confrontational preaching. However, the hope that people would repent and turn to God motivated the prophets to be obedient to God’s call on their lives.</p> <p>The Israelites had good kings and they had bad kings. The good kings were faithful to God and recognized their position meant they had a responsibility to turn the Israelite’s hearts to God. The bad kings were unfaithful to God and led the people into all manner of sins, worst of all, idolatry. God raised up prophets to warn the kings and people to repent and turn back to the only true God.</p> <p>Isaiah was one of those prophets. In this passage, Isaiah describes his experience when God commissioned him to be a prophet. In this vision, God’s holiness overwhelms Isaiah. Isaiah fears his and his people’s own sinfulness will ruin him. God graciously forgives Isaiah after his confession. God then commissions Isaiah to go and warn the Israelites destruction was coming upon them if they did not repent of their sins. The rest of the book of Isaiah is a record of his ministry carrying God’s message to Israel and several of her kings.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Like Isaiah, the Apostle John had a vision of God in the temple. Also similar to Isaiah’s vision are the flying creatures with six wings and their singing the “Holy, holy, holy” praises to God.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>God is a mighty and awesome God. God’s holiness is so majestic Christians will be overwhelmed when they see God face to face. Isaiah had a unique experience when he had a vision of God in the temple. Like Isaiah, God calls all men and women to be his messengers. Some of those, like Isaiah, God calls into full-time ministry. Others may have secular jobs, but God still calls them to share God’s love and the Gospel with others. No matter what kind of ministry God calls us to, we can always give praise and thanksgiving to God for crossing the great divide between heaven and earth in Jesus Christ.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can you celebrate the wonderful grace of God that bridges the great divide of heaven and earth by offering salvation to all people?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the qualifications you feel a person needs in order to share the Gospel with others?</b></li> </ul> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Says We Should Be?</b></p> <p>It is appropriate to feel great humility when in God’s presence. Whatever holiness a Christian may possess, it is nothing compared to the holiness of God. In addition, while God does call Christians his sons and daughters, it is good for Christians to remember to treat God with great honor and respect.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What happens to a person’s spiritual life when they start taking God for granted?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>In what ways was Jesus different from all other people when he came to earth?</b></li> </ul> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></p> <p>No matter where Christians finds themselves, there are people around who need to hear about Jesus Christ. There are also people who need to see the love and compassion of Jesus Christ in action. Christians are to offer their lives to God, so God can show them ways to translate their experiences with God into ministry opportunities in their community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How should having a wonderful worship service on a Sunday affect the way you live the other six days?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Do you have to have all the answers to all the possible questions someone might ask you about Jesus before you share the Gospel with them? Why or why not?</b></li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 49

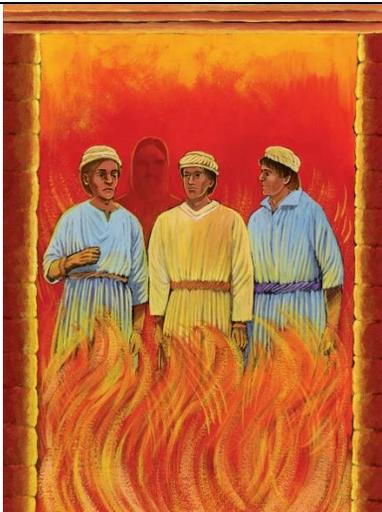
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Jeremiah Rescued from a Well</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Jeremiah 38:1-13</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>2 Corinthians 11:24-33</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize God’s call upon Christian’s lives sometimes leads to suffering. However, those sufferings will pale in comparison to the joy and peace Christ gives to his servants.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Reflect on your Christian faith, and discern whether you are willing to endure sufferings in order to do the will of God for your life.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Look for Christians who are suffering for their faith, and offer to help them with encouragement, friendship, and support.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	[The Lord] said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” (2 Corinthians 12:9)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Jeremiah had a message from God for the Israelites living in Jerusalem. The Babylonian army was going to attack the Israelites. Jeremiah told the people not to fight because they would never win. The king’s men heard Jeremiah say this, and they told the king that Jeremiah must be killed. They said that Jeremiah didn’t want anything good to happen to the Israelites. The king’s men put Jeremiah into a cistern. A cistern is a big hole lined with rocks to catch the rainwater. When Jeremiah was lowered into the cistern, it was dark and full of mud. He could feel himself sinking into the mud. Finally, one of the king’s men convinced the king to free Jeremiah from the cistern before he died. So, the king’s men lowered ropes into the cistern. Jeremiah put them under his arms and was lifted out. He was saved.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Jeremiah</b> was a prophet of God. The Israelites were rebelling against God, and as punishment, God was going to allow the Babylonians to conquer them. God sent Jeremiah to tell the king of Israel he should surrender to the Babylonian army coming to Jerusalem.</li> <li>2. <b>Men with Ropes.</b> The king’s advisors were angry, they did not like Jeremiah’s message. They did not follow God’s will. They did not want to surrender to the Babylonian army, and convinced King Zedekiah to silence Jeremiah so he would not scare the people of Israel into surrendering.</li> <li>3. <b>Cistern.</b> They silenced Jeremiah by lowering him into an empty cistern, where he would starve to death and no one could hear his warnings from God.</li> </ol>

	<p>However, one of the king’s officials pleaded for Jeremiah’s rescue and asked the king to change his mind. The king did change his mind, so God protected Jeremiah through this official by freeing him from the cistern and saving him from death.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p><b>General Introduction on Prophets:</b> Being a prophet of God was not an easy or safe calling, because God called prophets to preach against the sins of the Israelites. Oftentimes the kings would jail or abuse the prophets because of this confrontational preaching. However, the hope that people would repent and turn to God motivated the prophets to be obedient to God’s call on their lives.</p> <p>Jeremiah experienced a lot of suffering because of the message God called him to preach to the people and kings of Israel. Some people call him the “crying prophet” because not only does the Book of Jeremiah record his sufferings, it also records his complaints to God.</p> <p>In Jeremiah’s day, the Israelites and their kings have abandoned following God’s law and are instead choosing to live sinful lives. God has sent many prophets to Israel to warn them to repent. God has warned Israel if they did not repent foreign armies would conquer them. However, the Israelites refused to repent, and instead of obeying God’s message through Jeremiah, tried to silence Jeremiah through making him suffer.</p> <p>In this passage, God’s message through Jeremiah to Israel’s king is to surrender to the foreign armies, because it is God sending them to punish Israel. If the king and people will surrender, they will live. However, if they fight against God’s will by fighting the Babylonians, they will die. The king decided to listen to his advisors telling him to fight the Babylonians instead of listening to God’s messenger, Jeremiah telling him to surrender. Because they were afraid the Israelite population might surrender if they heard Jeremiah’s message from God, they tried to silence Jeremiah.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Not just Old Testament prophets suffered for speaking God’s message. The Apostle Paul also testifies to his many sufferings. The Apostle Paul does not want pity for his sufferings though, for he knows the more he suffers for God, the more strength he receives from God. In addition, the more he suffers for the Gospel, the more he is being like Jesus Christ.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  The message of God to repent is often times not welcome. People often times do not like to hear that they are sinners in need of God’s forgiveness. However, just because the message of the Gospel is not popular does not mean Christians are not to share the Gospel when God leads them to share the Gospel. Christians need to recognize that while there are great blessings, there are also costs to being a disciple of Jesus Christ. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the ways Christians in your community suffer for following Jesus?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think God allows sufferings for Christians, and does not just make everyone treat them nicely?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Says We Should Be?</b>  No one likes suffering. Moreover, unless God calls a person to suffer, the Christian should not look for ways to suffer. However, one of the characteristics of a growing Christian is their willingness to accept sufferings when they know it will further the Kingdom of God. When a Christian recognizes they are suffering because of the Gospel, they can have peace and joy on the inside, even when they are suffering on the outside. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some ways a Christian can grow in their faith through enduring sufferings?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>To what extent are you willing to suffer for Jesus Christ?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  It is important for Christians to live their lives honoring Jesus Christ. Sometimes this will mean others will appreciate them, other times it means others will persecute them. What is important is for the Christian to remain faithful to Jesus Christ, and obedient to whatever Jesus calls them to do. It is also important for Christians to help other Christians enduring sufferings for the Gospel. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What should a Christian do when they feel their sufferings are too great for them to handle?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Where can Christians find help to strengthen them in times of suffering?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 50

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>The Fiery Furnace</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Daniel 3</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Acts 5:12-42</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand that many Christians face persecution because of their faith. They are willing to suffer because they know that while the evil powers of this world may cause persecution now, in the end God's sovereignty will prevail.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Believe that in a world hostile to the Gospel, Christians must carefully discern how to keep their hearts pure and be of service to the Kingdom of God.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be willing to endure sufferings and persecutions for the Gospel, knowing Christ will never abandon you.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than human beings!" (Acts 5:29)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were three Hebrew men who helped King Nebuchadnezzar in his palace. One day, the king decided to have a large statue built that was made of solid gold. The king said that when the horns, flutes, harps and other musical instruments begin to play, everyone must bow down and worship the gold statue. Anyone who doesn't will be thrown into a fiery furnace. When the music sounded, everyone bowed to the idol except for the three Hebrew men. They knew they should only bow to the one true God. The king was so angry that he had his soldiers throw the men into the fiery furnace. Later, when the king looked inside the furnace, he saw four men. God had sent an angel to protect the Hebrew men. When they came out, none of them were burned or even smelled like smoke.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego</b> were three Israelites living in exile in Babylon after Jerusalem was conquered. King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon had ordered all people to bow down to a massive idol he had built. The three Israelites refused, for they knew this was against God's law, and they knew God would keep them safe.</li> <li>2. <b>Furnace.</b> Nebuchadnezzar ordered them thrown into a blazing furnace. He was so furious he ordered the furnace heated seven times hotter than usual. The guards bound Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and threw them into the furnace.</li> </ol>

	<p><b>3. Kept Safe.</b> Nebuchadnezzar was shocked to see three men walking around the furnace, unbound and unharmed.</p> <p><b>4. The Fourth Man.</b> Nebuchadnezzar not only saw that the three were safe, but he saw a fourth man in the fire. We are not told who this fourth figure was, but it was probably either an angel of God, or Jesus joining them in the fire.</p> <p><b>5. No Harm Came to Them.</b> Nebuchadnezzar ordered the three released from the furnace. He also praised the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego for keeping them safe, and declared no other god could save as the true God had.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p><b>General Introduction on Prophets:</b> Being a prophet of God was not an easy or safe calling, because God called prophets to preach against the sins of the Israelites. Oftentimes the kings would jail or abuse the prophets because of this confrontational preaching. However, the hope that people would repent and turn to God motivated the prophets to be obedient to God’s call on their lives.</p> <p>The warnings and prophecies of the prophets have come true; Israel did not repent of their sins and turn to God, so God sent Babylon to conquer the Promised Land. The Babylonian army destroyed the Temple in Jerusalem, and carried off most of the Israelites into exile.</p> <p>Three of those Israelites were Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. God was with them and blessed them because they remained faithful to God. In fact, God blessed them so much, they held positions of authority in Babylon. However, some hated the Jews, and looked for opportunities to harm them. The enemies of the Jews found an opportunity to have Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego killed when King Nebuchadnezzar had an idol built and ordered that everyone bow down and worship the idol.</p> <p>While these three men obviously adopted some cultural changes to allow them to fit into Babylonian culture and be Babylonian leaders, there were certain activities and practices in which they refused to participate. Daniel chapter 1 records one example of this, their diet. Daniel chapter 3 records a second example, worshipping idols. Although the Babylonians conquered Israel, these three men knew it was not Babylon working on its own, but God directing the Babylonians. Therefore, although they were exile in Babylon, these three men knew God was still in control. They also believed God would save them from any punishment Nebuchadnezzar gave them for being true to the one true God.</p> <p>Chapter three records how God was faithful to them. God sent an angel or his very presence to be with them in the furnace.</p> <p>God is sovereign over all – Israel, Babylon, Nebuchadnezzar, even a furnace. After Nebuchadnezzar release these three from the furnace, he praises their God, and declares protection for all Jews living in Babylon. Similarly to the account of Joseph in Egypt, and Esther in Susa, so here in Babylon, what others have meant for evil, God has turned into good. (Genesis 50:20, Esther 4-7)</p>

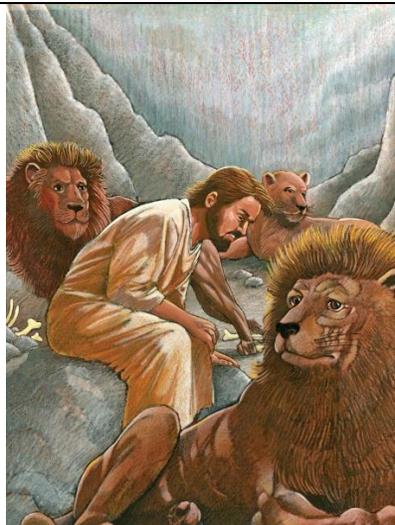
	<p><b>New Testament text:</b> Like Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, some people were jealous of the success Peter had serving God. They arrested Peter and threw him into jail. Also like Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, God protected Peter and provided a path to freedom. When his enemies threaten Peter again, he declares, “we must obey God rather than human beings!”</p> <p><b>The 10 Commandments Track:</b> This commandment established Israel’s religion as a monotheistic faith. This is a distinguishing feature of Israel’s faith, for no other religions of their time believed in only one God. Unlike their polytheistic neighbors, Israel is to believe there is only one God who has created everything, and who has entered into covenant with Israel. Because there is only one true God, the Israelites are not to worship any idols to fake gods. They are to make sure the one true God remains the only object of their devotion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: What are the false gods many people in your community serve today rather than the one true God?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: What are some ways in which God proves God’s love for you?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: How can reading the Bible on a regular basis help you know God’s commands and find the strength to live by God’s commands?</b></li> </ul>
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**Bible Study**

<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b> While in exile, the Jews in Babylon must discover ways to live faithfully to God while living in an empire that does not believe in the one true God. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego give an example of being willing to live in opposition to what is contrary to God’s law. They believe God will protect them if they are faithful to God. However, even if God does not, they know it is better to die for being faithful to God than to live being unfaithful to God.</li> <li>✓ <b>How can a Christian discern what laws of their nation they are to follow and which ones are contrary to God’s will?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some sacrifices Christians in your community make in order to live faithfully for God?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b> No matter the nation in which Christians live, their ultimate allegiance is to the Kingdom of God. This requires Christians to be wise and discerning about how to</li> </ul>

	<p>be “in the world but not of the world.” (John 15:19) In order to have this wisdom and discernment, Christians need to have a vital and growing relationship with Jesus Christ.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Where can a Christian find courage to make a stand in the face of persecution?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some rewards of being faithful to the Kingdom of God rather than the kingdoms of this world?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>Rather than only being recognized by what they do, sometimes Christians can be recognized by what they refuse to do. Refusing to participate in community activities that are contrary to God’s law can lead both to persecution, but also to a powerful witness to others. Being willing to suffer for Jesus Christ is not easy, but is an important step in Christian maturity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some common activities others in your community engage in, which are contrary to God’s commands?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Thinking of these common activities, what can Christians do as alternatives, which could bring glory and honor to God?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 51

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Daniel and the Lion's Den</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Daniel 6</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>John 19:1-16</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize, though God calls Christians to be honest and diligent in all they do, Christians may face persecution from those who are jealous of the successes God gives them.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Understand why Christians cannot serve two masters. They will either allow God to reign in their lives or allow sin to reign in their lives.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be diligent, even when persecution comes, God calls Christians to carry out the Christian practices (like Bible study, prayer, and public worship) that are central to maintaining a health Christian life and witness.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	<p>I issue a decree that in every part of my kingdom people must fear and reverence the God of Daniel. "For he is the living God and he endures forever; his kingdom will not be destroyed, his dominion will never end." (Daniel 6:26)</p>	

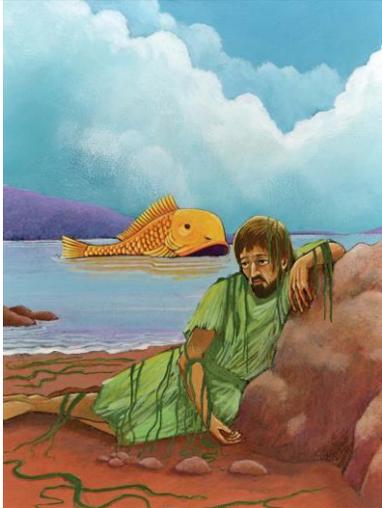
<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Daniel was a top supervisor for King Darius. The king liked Daniel, but the other supervisors didn't like him. They always tried to catch Daniel doing something wrong, but they never did. The supervisors knew that Daniel prayed to his God every day. So, they had King Darius sign a law that said if any person prayed to anyone other than the king, they would be put in the lions' den. Daniel knew he was disobeying the law, but he prayed to God anyway. The supervisors caught Daniel praying and had him thrown into the lions' den. The next morning, the king ran out to the den. He called out to Daniel and asked him if God had saved him from the lions. Daniel called back to the king and said that God had sent an angel to protect him. The lions didn't hurt him. The king was glad that Daniel had been saved.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<p>1. <b>Daniel</b> was a faithful Jew serving the king of Babylon while being in exile from the Promised Land. God gave Daniel much success, and others were very jealous of him. Therefore, they set a trap for the king, and though he loved Daniel, tricked him into ordered Daniel thrown in the lion's den.</p>

	<p><b>2. The Lions.</b> However, God was with Daniel, and sent an angel to keep the mouths of the lions shut. So Daniel was saved, the King celebrated the power of Daniel’s God, and the king punished those who had accused Daniel.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p><b>General Introduction on Prophets:</b> Being a prophet of God was not an easy or safe calling, because God called prophets to preach against the sins of the Israelites. Oftentimes the kings would jail or abuse the prophets because of this confrontational preaching. However, the hope that people would repent and turn to God motivated the prophets to be obedient to God’s call on their lives.</p> <p>This Bible story shares many similarities to the last Bible story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. In both stories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ The main characters were exiled Jews who excelled in their government positions.</li> <li>✓ Others hated them.</li> <li>✓ Those who were jealous plotted to have the king kill the main characters by exploiting their devotion to the one true God.</li> <li>✓ While being faithful to the one true God, the king is tricked into declaring the main characters guilty and sentencing them to a painful death.</li> <li>✓ God supernaturally intervenes and saves the main characters.</li> <li>✓ The king elevates the main characters to important government positions and orders the death of their enemies.</li> </ul> <p>In Daniel’s case, his enemies were those who were jealous of his success, and were frustrated that he was so honest they could not find an easy way to get rid of him. Though he recognized his refusal to obey the king’s command, pray only to the king, could get him in trouble, Daniel knew being faithful to God was more important.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Like Daniel, Jesus finds himself before a political leader because of the treachery of those jealous of him. Like the kings of Babylon, Pilate does not want to kill God’s servants, but feels trapped by the power of the crowds. Pilate, being too weak to stand up for what is right, hands Jesus over to suffer death. Jesus’ enemies believe have won. In the end, however, God works supernaturally to raise Jesus from the dead, just as he worked supernaturally to save Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.</p> <p><b>The 10 Commandments Track:</b> Unlike most of the other commandments, the tenth Commandment does not prohibit an action. Instead, it prohibits an attitude. In a sense, the last Commandment prohibits the sin that leads to all the other sins prohibited in the 10 Commandment. However, coveting is more than just an idea or attitude. It is more than a wish you had a possession someone else owns. Instead, coveting goes beyond being a wish and enters into the realm of starting to take steps to take possession of that coveted item, person, or position. Coveting is then the root of murder, adultery, stealing, lying.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: What are ways in which we can keep our heart pure, and protect ourselves from the sin of coveting?</b></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Heart: What is the difference between simply wishing you had a possession someone else had, and actually coveting that possession?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: How can you protect yourself from spending time desiring what other people have, instead of spending time appreciating what God has already given to you?</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Fruit of the Spirit Track: 7. Faithfulness.</b> The term used for “faithfulness” here, in the Greek, refers to both our relationship to God, and our relationships with others. With God, the root term means to have faith in God. This means Christians believe and live out their belief in God’s goodness, trustworthiness, and love. Christians can have faith in God because God proves worthy of their faith. Likewise, in human relationships, Jesus calls Christians to be faithful, worthy of other peoples trust. Not that they put their faith in a Christian, but that the Christian demonstrates on a regular basis they are a person of goodness, trustworthiness and love. Unfortunately, as in Daniel’s case, others are threatened by a person’s goodness and the blessings that sometimes result from that goodness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: Who are some of the people in your community who have proved themselves faithful, and how have they done that?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: Is there anything in your heart that needs to change before you can live a life of faithfulness in God and before others?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: What would be some of the risks and blessings to you for being a person of faithfulness in your community?</b></li> </ul>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b> God-given success does not guarantee there will be no negative consequences from those who are jealous. God does not promise an easy life, in fact, as both Jesus’ and Daniel’s lives show, sometimes God’s greatest blessings come out of times of great persecution.</li> <li>✓ <b>Why does God not always supernaturally protect Christians from all harm from sinners?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How hard do you think it was for Daniel to work for such a man as King Darius, a ruler so easily manipulated by his administrators and satraps?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul>

	<p>Like Daniel, all God calls all Christians to a life of integrity and faithfulness. It is challenging to develop these virtues in a society that does not value either one of them. For the Christian, integrity means serving God alone.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What motivates a Christian to live by integrity and faithfulness when no one else around them does?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Who are some people in your life who serve as role models, who live lives of integrity and faithfulness?</b></li> </ul> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></p> <p>Some say a person only knows how much integrity they have when they face a significant temptation. Facing temptation is not the right time to <u>start</u> praying for strength. Instead, Christians must regularly practice the spiritual discipline essential for a holy life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Who are some people in your life who can hold you accountable to live a holy life?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What steps can you take to protect yourself from compromise in times of temptation?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 52

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Jonah and the Great Fish</b>	
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Jonah 1, 2</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Matthew 12:39-45</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand the depths of God’s love for sinners is so great, it will at times require Christians to step out of their comfort zones in order to share God’s message with them.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Discern if there is any racism, nationalism, or any other prejudices within your heart that is keeping you from fully loving and embracing all those for whom Christ died.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Make plans with a Christian friend to step out of your comfort zone this week to help or befriend someone who is of a different race, economic class, or nationality from you.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. (Jonah 4:2)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>God told Jonah to go to a city called Nineveh and tell the people about Him. The people of Nineveh were very evil, and Jonah didn’t think the people should be forgiven. So, he ran away. He got on a boat and sailed in the opposite direction. While Jonah was on the boat, a terrible storm came that almost tipped the boat over. The crew members asked Jonah what they should do to make the sea calm down. Jonah knew the storm was his fault, so he told the men to throw him into the sea. When they did, the sea calmed. While Jonah was in the water, a large fish came and swallowed him. Jonah was in the belly of the fish for three long days. When Jonah finally decided that he would go to Nineveh, the fish spit him onto the shore. Jonah went to Nineveh and told the people about God. All of the people asked God to forgive them of their sins.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<p>1. <b>Jonah</b> was a prophet of God. God called Jonah to go to Nineveh and warn them to repent, or else God would bring punishment. Jonah did not want to do this because the Ninevites were enemies of Israel, and Jonah did not want to give them the opportunity to repent. Therefore, Jonah ran away from God and boarded a boat going the opposite direction from Nineveh. God caused a great storm to so batter the boat the crew knew they were going to drown. Jonah told the crew to throw him overboard; it was because of him God was causing this storm. Therefore, they did.</p>

	<p><b>2. The Huge Fish.</b> Rather than allow Jonah to drown, God provided a huge fish to swallow Jonah. In the fish’s belly, Jonah repented of running away from God, and praised God for rescuing him.</p> <p><b>3. Dry Land.</b> After Jonah repented, God caused the fish to vomit Jonah onto dry land. God again called Jonah to go preach against Nineveh. This time Jonah obeyed. Jonah was right, the Ninevites repented of their sins and God forgave them. God wants to forgive all people of their sins, even people we do not think deserve God’s forgiveness.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p><b>General Introduction on Prophets:</b> Being a prophet of God was not an easy or safe calling, because God called prophets to preach against the sins of the Israelites. Oftentimes the kings would jail or abuse the prophets because of this confrontational preaching. However, the hope that people would repent and turn to God motivated the prophets to be obedient to God’s call on their lives.</p> <p>Jonah’s call from God, however, was different. God did not call Jonah to preach to the Israelites. When God called Jonah to go to Nineveh and warn them of God’s coming punishment because of their sins, God called Jonah to preach against the enemies of Israel. Nineveh was part of the Assyrian Empire, and the Assyrians had caused much pain and suffering for the Israelites. Jonah was afraid that if he warned the people of Nineveh, and they actually repented, then God would forgive them and relent from sending punishment. Jonah did not want the Ninevites forgiven, he wanted the Ninevites punished for their sins.</p> <p>Therefore, instead of obeying God and traveling East to Nineveh, Jonah boarded a boat going West across the Mediterranean Sea. God then caused the well-known events of Jonah’s life: the storm, the huge fish swallowing him, and his safe release.</p> <p>After all this, Jonah did go and preach against the Ninevites. Jonah was right. He warned the Ninevites, the Ninevites repented, God forgave them. Jonah was furious. There is not a lot to admire about Jonah. However, one of the strengths of this book is it can reveal if there are any prejudices within the readers and hearers of Jonah’s troubles. When the Apostle Peter writes that God wants everyone to come to repentance (1 Peter 3:9), he means even people we do not think deserve God’s forgiveness.</p> <p><b>New Testament text:</b> Many people who should have accepted Jesus’ ministry, like the religious leaders, did not. Instead of listening to God’s message spoken through Jesus and believing the miracles, they instead plotted to kill Jesus. Like Jonah, they are missing the love and mercy of God, and instead only wanting to see God’s judgement against those they do not like. Jesus warns them they are at risk of being even worse than the Ninevites of Jonah’s time, who, though they were at one time far from God, when God’s message came to them through Jonah, they repented of their sins.</p>

<b>Bible Study</b>	
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  The roots of sin run deep in people. As seen in Jonah, even the great prophets of God are not immune from being captive to sins such as prejudice, nationalism, and hatred. God, however, is full of love and compassion, and wants everyone to repent and receive salvation. Therefore, God sends prophets to warn people of the coming consequences of their rebellion. God’s love and compassion are also manifest when God confronts and exposes their sins, and calls them to repent and receive forgiveness. Oftentimes this deep love of God for others means God will call us to step out of our comfort zones in order to share the Gospel with others. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How do you explain God working such a great revival like the repentance of Nineveh through such a flawed man as Jonah?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some methods in which God confronts Christians with their sins and calls them to repentance?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Says We Should Be?</b>  Not just sinner need repentance and God’s forgiveness. Even after salvation, Christians will have lingering sins within them that God will confront and offer to cleanse. Sometimes these sins run deep, and, like prejudices, that other may have taught and modeled to them from a very young age. Asking Jesus into your heart means you do not just accept Jesus’ forgiveness for your past sins, but allow Jesus to purify your heart and remove the roots of sin that can cause you not to be fully devoted to God. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Besides prejudice, as we see in Jonah, what are some other sins that a Christians might not recognize at first is harming their relationship with God and with others?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some steps Christians can take to make their hearts more available for God’s love to flow through, and into the lives of others?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  Unfortunately, there are times in which Christians say “no” to God’s message to them. They think they can obey only certain commands, while ignoring other commands. They think they can love only some people, while harboring hatred towards other people. However, when Christians say “no” to God, either explicitly or simply by ignoring God’s call on their lives, they are harming their relationship with God and not participating in the Kingdom of God.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ <b>How could mentoring by another Christian help you grow in your Christian faith?</b></li><li>✓ <b>What are some steps you can take to invite Jesus to search your heart and see if there is anything unclean within you?</b></li></ul>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson #53

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Prophets Speak of God's Chosen One</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Isaiah 52:13-53:12</b>	
<b>New Testament Text:</b>	<b>Luke 24:13-35</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand Jesus' life, ministry, death and resurrection were all foretold by numerous Old Testament prophets.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Celebrate the love of God that prepares a way for a sinful humanity to be reconciled to a holy God.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Diligently listen for God's voice in your life, revealing to you God's desires and will for your life to be a witness of God's great grace to others.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us? Luke 24:32	

<b>Text Summary</b>	Throughout the centuries, God inspired various prophets to foretell many details concerning a special Chosen One who would save his people from Satan's power and one day rule as a mighty king.
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Prophet.</b> Prophets in the Old Testament were people called by God to receive special messages from God to communicate to the people and leaders of Israel. While these messages were first spoken by the prophet to the people or leaders, many of them were written down and preserved for us in the Bible.</li> <li>2. <b>The Future.</b> While the messages God gave the prophets were messages for their own time and location, many of the prophecies were also concerned with the future as well. In particular, there are many messages the prophets gave that foretold the birth, life, and death of the Messiah.</li> <li>3. <b>The Suffering Servant.</b> In particular, the prophet Isaiah was given very specific and graphic messages from God about the suffering the Messiah would suffer in order to bring about salvation for the People of God.</li> </ol>
<b>Text Context</b>	God gave the prophet Isaiah in particular several very specific visions of the life, death, and ministry of the coming Messiah. These passages make very clear the type of suffering Jesus would face. As the early Christians read the Old Testament in light of the life, death, and

resurrection of Jesus Christ, they identified these passages as especially relevant to the proclamation of Jesus as the Messiah.

Interestingly, the religious teachers of Jesus day, in general, did not interpret these passages as being about the coming Messiah. Instead, they looked back at the passages that spoke about a leader who would conquer Israel’s captors, and free Israel politically. This is one of the reasons why so many of the religious leaders and Jews in general in Jesus’ day struggled to understand Jesus’ ministry as that of being of the Messiah. In fact, even Jesus’ disciples did not fully understand Jesus’ type of ministry until after his death and resurrection.

**New Testament text:** However, while humans may misinterpret or misunderstand God’s scriptures, that does not change the fact that the ministry of Jesus was clearly laid out in the Old Testament. We see this is Jesus’ message as he is walking with these two disciples on the road to Emmaus. Graciously, though, Jesus laid out for these two the truth of his ministry, and how his ministry was foretold in the scriptures.

**Bible Study**

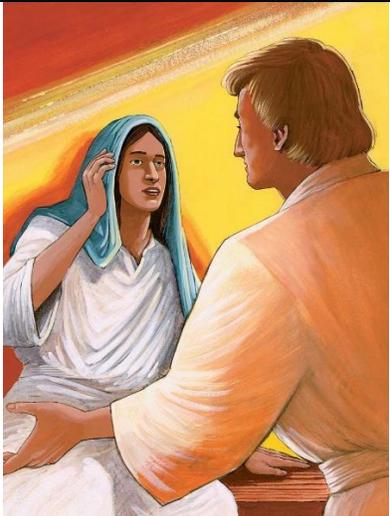
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
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<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
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<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>Most of the religious leaders in Jesus’ day were waiting for a military Messiah in the tradition of King David who would come in and overthrow the Roman authorities. However, Jesus did not come to free Israel from her political bondage, but from her spiritual bondage. While most of the religious leaders could not understand how Jesus could be the Messiah, thousands of ordinary men and women flocked to hear Jesus’ message, observed his miracles, and believed he was sent by God.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can men and women today, as in Jesus’ day, misunderstand God’s scriptures, and miss out on the blessings God wants to give?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What steps can you take to make sure you are understanding the Bible correctly?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>No one likes to suffer. However, Jesus suffered a terrible death in order to win our salvation. If we embrace Jesus’ great salvation, then that means we must be willing to also suffer for Jesus as well. What we find, when we surrender fully to Jesus, is that Jesus brings a joy and peace in our lives that surpasses all understanding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What is there in your life that is holding you back from completely embracing the life and sufferings of Jesus in your life, that you might be more like your Savior?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>In what ways have you been blessed and strengthened by God when you fully surrendered your life to Christ?</b></li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>Living a life of self-denial does not come easily or naturally for anyone, whether they are a Christian or not. In fact, living a life of self-denial requires a lot of practice and commitment. It begins with small steps of self-denial as we learn that if Jesus is faithful in the small things, he will be faithful in the large things as well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What activities or habits can you change this week that will help you more deeply and faithfully hear God’s voice spoken to you?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What servant actions can you take this week that will help others see Christ in you?</b></li> </ul>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 54

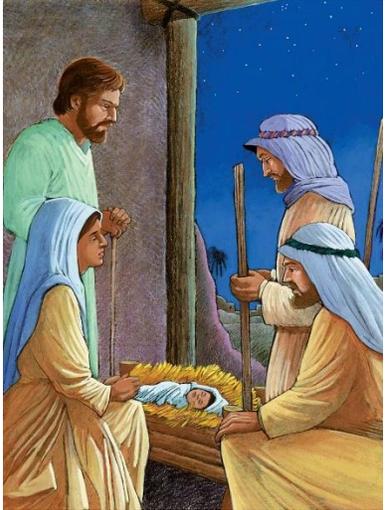
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Angel Visits Mary</b>	
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Luke 1:26-56</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>1 Samuel 2:1-11</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Celebrate God’s new work of salvation to the world through Jesus Christ.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Reflect on God’s grace, expressed in this text by the people and promises God placed in Mary’s life.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Offer your life completely to God, so that God can use you to bring Good News to a world full of sin and brokenness.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her. (Luke 1:28)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Mary was a young, poor girl who lived in a town called Nazareth. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph. God sent an angel, Gabriel, to talk to Mary. When Gabriel called out to Mary, she became very afraid. She couldn’t understand why an angel of God would come to talk to her. Gabriel told Mary not to be afraid because she had found favor with God. God had chosen her for a special task. Gabriel told Mary that she was going to have a baby. And when the baby was born, she was to name him Jesus. Gabriel said that the baby would be a very special child. He would be called the Son of God. Mary didn’t understand why God had chosen her to be the mother of Jesus. Even though Mary didn’t know why God wanted her to do this special task, she believed God and was willing to do what He wanted her to do.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Gabriel.</b> God sent the angel Gabriel to announce to Mary that God had chosen her to give birth to Jesus, the Son of God.</li> <li>2. <b>Mary</b> was a young girl living in a town in Israel called Nazareth. She was not yet married, and was a virgin. Therefore, this news from Gabriel was very shocking to her, and she asked how all this could happen since she was a virgin. Gabriel told her she would become pregnant as a miracle from God. Mary, though she still had many questions and fears, humbled herself before God and accepted this great news.</li> </ol>
<b>Text Context</b>	<p>God’s wonderful process of fulfilling the covenant promises made to Abraham entered a completely new era with Gabriel’s announcement to Mary. Genesis 12 recorded God’s covenant promises to Abram (later renamed Abraham), which marks the beginning of the nation of Israel as the People of God. God promised</p>

	<p>this old, childless man Abram, if he left the safety and protection of his family, and travels to a new land God will guide him to, then Abram would become</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The father of a great nation and</li> <li>• A blessing to all the people on earth.</li> </ul> <p>We can view the Old Testament as a record revealing God’s work of fulfilling the first promise. We can view the New Testament as a record revealing God’s work of fulfilling the second promise. From this nation of Israel, located at the crossroads of so many empires throughout history (the Egyptians, Assyrians, Babylonians, Romans, etc.), is birthed Jesus, the only begotten Son of God. Jesus, and his followers after him, began blessing all the people on earth. God continues fulfilling this promise even today, as each new day, new people become Christians when they hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ.</p> <p>This story of salvation began with a miraculous pregnancy as God opened Sarah’s womb and gave a baby to Abraham and Sarah, who were both too old to produce children. In this text, God continued this story of salvation with another miraculous pregnancy. This time, however, the miracle is not God opening the womb of a woman too old to bear children, but a young, unmarried, virgin girl.</p> <p>Mary must have been both confused and scared at this announcement from the angel Gabriel. Confused as to why God chose her, a young girl from a town in Israel so insignificant the Old Testament never mentions it. Confused as to how a virgin can become pregnant.</p> <p>Scared, of course, because of the chaos this news brings into her life. Would her fiancé, Joseph, call off the marriage when she reveals to him her pregnancy? Would her parents throw her out of the house when they hear? Would anyone believe her story of an angel’s appearance to her? Would anyone believe the divine source of her pregnancy?</p> <p>Yet, despite her confusion and fear, Mary surrendered her life to God’s will. She gave praise to God for choosing her, and for the great mercy God gave generation after generation of those who obediently follow God’s will.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> Mary obviously knew the Old Testament very well, for her song of praise (Luke 1:46-55) shares many similarities to another song of praise sung by an Old Testament mother being given a miracle baby by God. The prophet Samuel’s mother, Hannah, sang a song of praise after God answered her prayers when God opened her womb, and gave her a miracle baby. For all of Mary’s confusion and fear, Hannah’s story and song must have brought her great peace and comfort.</p>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  God often defies expectations. For example, God often chooses to bless the second-born instead of the first-born. God chooses to form a family to bless the nations from an old couple with no children. God chooses to make the youngest of Jesse’s children king instead of the oldest. Now, as the New Testament opens, God announces a virgin will give birth to the Son of God. What confusion and fear, joy and excitement, must grip Mary! For us, though, this is all Good News. In Jesus, God opens the salvation doors wide and invites all peoples across all the centuries to experience salvation and reconciliation with God.  ✓ <b>Has God’s message ever brought fear and confusion to you?</b>  ✓ <b>Why is humbly submitting your life to God, as Mary did, the greatest gift you can give to God?</b></li>   <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  We should not assume Mary’s confusion and fear ended after this experience. In the coming months there would be many opportunities to question and fear God’s miraculous work in her body. Luke tells us, though, about God speaking to Mary’s fiancé and aunt, both of whom gave her encouragement and support. Mary definitely did not go through this process alone. By God’s grace, she received the strength and support she needed to remain a humble, faithful servant of God.  ✓ <b>What people has God placed in your life to give you support and encouragement?</b>  ✓ <b>In what ways is the church supposed to function as a family, which supports and encourages Christians?</b></li>   <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  Submission to God is both a one-time life-changing event, and a daily decision. God uses Christians to minister to people who are hurting and lost in this world. Offer your life completely to God, so that God can use you to bring Good News to a world full of sin and brokenness  ✓ <b>Who in your life is a model of humility and openness to God?</b>  ✓ <b>With whom can you share the Good News of Jesus Christ this week?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 55

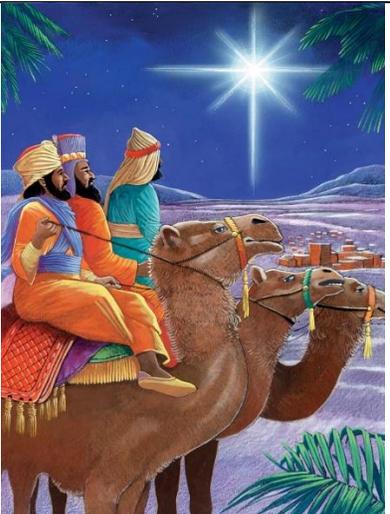
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Messiah is Born</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Luke 2:1-38</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Isaiah 9:2-7</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Rejoice, for God comes to earth in Jesus to make a way for salvation, a path for us to experience the depths of God's love.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Reflect on why Jesus came in such humble circumstances. What does it say about God's heart that Jesus' birth happened in a manger, and not the home of the Temple High Priest?</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Reach out to a needy family in your community this week and find a way to bless them.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	<p>For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)</p>	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>After Joseph and Mary were married, they had to travel to Bethlehem to be counted in the census. While they were there, it was time for Mary to have her baby. Joseph took Mary to an inn. An inn is like a hotel. The innkeeper said he didn't have a room for them to stay in for the night, but they could stay in the stable where he kept his animals. Joseph thanked the innkeeper and took Mary to the stable. Later that night, Mary gave birth to a little baby boy. She wrapped him in pieces of cloth and placed him in a manger to sleep. A manger is where hay is placed for animals to eat. An angel from God spoke to some shepherds who were in a field nearby. The angel told them that a Savior had been born and that they would find Him lying in a manger. When the angel left, the shepherds went to Bethlehem and found the baby just as the angel had told them.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Joseph and Mary</b> traveled to Bethlehem because the governor was taking a census and required everyone to register in their family's hometown. Mary was very pregnant when they were traveling.</li> <li>2. <b>Stable.</b> Because there were so many people coming to Bethlehem for the census, there were no guest rooms at any inns for Joseph and Mary. They had to stay in a room where they housed animals.</li> <li>3. <b>Jesus.</b> While they stayed in the room with the animals, Mary gave birth to a son, Jesus. They placed Jesus in a manger.</li> <li>4. <b>Shepherds.</b> Surprisingly, God's angels announced the wonderful news of Jesus' birth to shepherds, not to the kings of the land. Being a shepherd was</li> </ol>

	<p>not a popular job, it was a humble and tough job. However, God called a shepherd boy David to be the greatest king of Israel. God often acts in surprisingly ways. An example? God calls shepherds to celebrate with Mary and Joseph the birth of the Messiah!</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>The theme of God coming to earth in surprising ways continues. Not only was Jesus born to a virgin, but God’s Messiah was born in a stable, with animals around him instead of in a palace with attendants all around him.</p> <p>Just as an angel announced to Mary she would give birth to the Son of God, so an angel visited Joseph to reveal God’s message to him as well (Matthew 1:19-25). A census began in Israel during Mary’s pregnancy, requiring Israelites go to their hometowns and register. Joseph and Mary traveled to Bethlehem, Joseph’s hometown. Because of all the people coming to Bethlehem for the census, there were no more rooms available at the inns. Joseph and Mary settled for staying in a stable, where the animals slept.</p> <p>Here, in the most humble of circumstances, to the most humble of people, the Son of God came to earth. Angels came to earth to announce Jesus’ birth and sing songs of praise. However, they did not announce Jesus’ birth to important or rich people, as many would assume. Instead, the message went out to shepherds, some of the poorest and dirtiest people in Israel. In fact, because of the nature of their job, shepherds could not take part in temple worship without ritual cleansing. This extraordinary event occurs in such an ordinary way.</p> <p>Jesus’ birth foreshadowed his ministry. Just as it was the poor and ordinary people who witnessed his birth, so it was the poor and ordinary people who became Jesus’ first followers. They flocked to hear his sermons, witness his miracles, and accept God’s invitation to enter the Kingdom of God.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> Isaiah prophesied about the coming Messiah. Isaiah prophesied he would be a mighty warrior and powerful ruler. This is one reason who so many rejected Jesus as the Messiah, they were looking for a military Messiah. However, rather than a military warrior or political ruler, Jesus would be a spiritual warrior and spiritual ruler. Rather than simply do battle against nations, Jesus battled Satan himself! Moreover, as Isaiah prophesies, “his kingdom will have no end.”</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  These were not ideal circumstances in which to give birth. The couple was far away from home, housed in an animal stable, unmarried. God’s plans for the Messiah’s birth take everyone by surprise. Yet, in the midst of these less than ideal circumstances, shepherds arrive bearing witness to a divine message given through a chorus of angels. It will not just be his birth that takes people by surprise; Jesus’ teaching and ministry will also take people by surprise. Many will be surprised when Jesus teaches that God loves all people, no matter their nationality, gender, social status or economic status. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>From a human point of view, what are some of the many things that could have gone wrong in this birth story of Jesus?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What do the circumstances of Jesus’ birth tell you about the nature of God’s love?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  Humility is one of the most important Christian virtues. Humility is not self-hatred or self-loathing. Instead, it is an honest assessment of your own abilities and limitations, seen through the loving eyes of Jesus. When Christians are humble, they are open to the work of Jesus working through their lives. They are also willing to set aside their pride and put others before them, that others might see the love of God expressed through their lives. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some examples of ways in which a person’s humility has helped you understand God’s love?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What does it say about God’s heart, that Jesus’ birth happened in a manger, and not the home of the Temple High Priest?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  In the midst of the less than ideal situations in which to have a child, God brings messengers of joy to the young couple. These shepherds must have glowed with joy, just as Mary must have glowed with a new mothers’ joy. One of God’s joys is bringing people into our lives, especially during difficult times, to encourage us, support us, and model God’s love to us. As God’s children, God will call us to go to people in their times of need to encourage them, support them, and model God’s love to them. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Who are some people who have showed God’s love to you during difficult times?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What do you have to offer others, through God’s love and power, which can bring encouragement, support, and love to a family this week?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 56

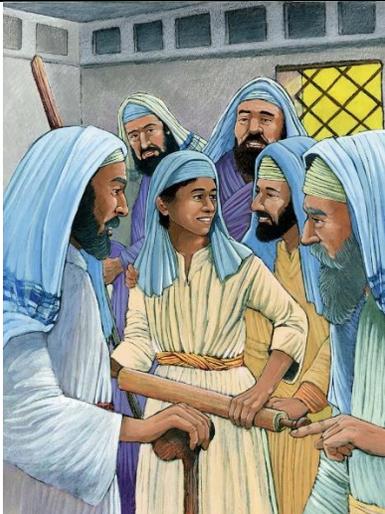
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	Wise Men Visit Jesus	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	Matthew 2:1-12	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	Micah 5:1-4	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand God brought Gentiles (non-Jews) from distant lands to worship Jesus as Israel's king.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Recognize that while Jesus came as a Jewish Messiah, his ministry was to turn the hearts of all people, Jews and Gentiles, toward God. God's love is for all people!</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be alert for the work of God around you this week. Because worship makes us more aware of God's presence, strive to worship God every day this week.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	"Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." (Matthew 2:2)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>The Magi, who were also called wise men, went to Jerusalem. They asked King Herod where they could find the King of the Jews. They had been following a star that shone in the Eastern sky, and they knew that the star would lead them to the King. The Magi had gifts for the new King, and they wanted to worship Him. Herod was surprised to hear the Magi say this. He thought that he was the only king in Jerusalem. Herod wanted to trick the Magi. He told them that when they found the King, they should come back to Jerusalem and tell him, because he wanted to go and worship the new King. The real reason Herod wanted to find Jesus was so he could have the new King killed. When the Magi found Jesus, they worshiped Him and gave Him their presents of gold, incense, and myrrh. In a dream, God told the Magi that Herod wanted to kill Jesus. So they didn't return to Jerusalem. Instead, they traveled a different way to return to their homes.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Three Magi</b> (Gentile Wise Men) from the East traveled a long distance to worship the new King of the Jews.</li> <li>2. <b>Star.</b> They knew there was a new king in Israel because they saw a special star in the sky that led them to Israel.</li> <li>3. <b>Bethlehem.</b> The Magi appeared to the current king of Israel, Herod, and asked where the new king was born. Herod consulted the Jewish scholars who told him the scriptures revealed the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. When they heard this, the Magi went to Bethlehem, and the same star that guided</li> </ol>

	<p>them to Israel now guided them to the home of Mary and Joseph. The Magi were overjoyed when they found Jesus. They gave him gifts and worshipped him.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>God brought more than just the shepherds to worship Jesus. God, in a surprising twist, guided three Magi from a distant land to worship Jesus as well. Guided by a star in the sky, the Magi found Jesus and worshipped him. Magi understood that special stars in the sky signaled the ascension of a new king. Therefore, they traveled to find this new king, and to give gifts to this new king. It is very surprising that God revealed Jesus’ birth to foreign Magi, for the Israelites thought God would first reveal the Messiah’s birth to the Jewish scholars and leaders.</p> <p>The Magi went to Herod, the current king of Israel. God did not make Herod king, the occupying Roman authorities installed him as king. He was not from King David’s lineage, and therefore the Jews did not recognize him as being an authentic king. The Magi appeared at the king’s palace, assuming the king’s palace is where a new king would be born. However, Herod had not just had a child. Therefore, Herod consulted the religious scholars, who told him the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. The Magi then traveled again to find Jesus, guided by the star once again, this time to the home of Joseph and Mary.</p> <p>God’s plans for the Messiah kept surprising everyone. The angel surprised Mary when he told this virgin she would bear the Messiah. A host of angels announcing Messiah’s birth surprised the shepherds. In addition, it was not to Israel’s wise men to whom God revealed the birth of the Messiah, but to Gentile wise men. With this latest surprise, God showed Jesus’ purpose and ministry would not be limited to the Israelites. Jesus offered salvation to all peoples, and is therefore worthy of worship by all peoples.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> The scripture text the Jewish scholars used to establish where the Messiah would be born was Micah 5:2. While Micah first spoke these words about a Jewish leader in his own time, the scholars understood the text also as a prophecy about the future Messiah as well. Bethlehem also produced Israel’s greatest human king, King David.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>        God’s love is bigger than we can comprehend. God’s plans are more beautiful than we can fathom. Israel’s leaders did not have ideas about the Messiah this big or beautiful. Instead, they imagined a future Messiah to be a military leader who would free them from Roman occupation. However, God’s plans are bigger and more beautiful than this. God desired to free all humanity from their sins, and so provided a Messiah whose sacrifice provided a path to salvation for all peoples. God’s sending of these Magi to Israel signaled Jesus’ ministry would be much bigger than to just rescue Israel from Roman occupation.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think Israel’s leaders focused their hopes on a military Messiah instead of a spiritual Messiah?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Like the star the Magi followed, what are some ways in which God uses nature to reveal God’s will?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>        While God established Israel as his “Chosen People,” this did not mean God’s love was limited to Israel. God wanted Israel to demonstrate God’s love and mercy to the world. However, Israel often failed to fulfill this purpose, and instead focused only on herself. As Christians, we need to remember God’s love extends far beyond us. God’s love encompasses all peoples, and therefore, as God’s servants, we need to share God’s love with all the people we can.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How do you think God’s love for others is like human love, and how do you think it is different from human love?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>So, if we are to love all people, what do we do about people who are hard to love?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>        God calls all people to worship. Because of the great salvation offered to us, our lives are to be lives of worship: lives lived in response to God’s love. We worship Jesus together with Christians on Sundays. However, we are also to worship God every day of the week. We worship God whenever we live our lives in gratitude to God’s great power and love.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are the habits you can practice throughout the week that can focus your heart on worshipping God?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What makes worshipping together with your brothers and sisters in Christ different from how you worship alone during the week?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 57

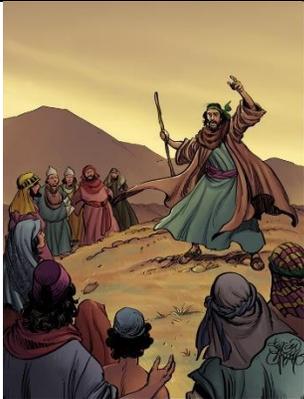
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Jesus at the Temple</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Luke 2:40-52</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>1 Timothy 4:6-16</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand that at a young age Jesus displayed wisdom of the scriptures and impressed the religious teachers in Jerusalem.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Discern how much you know and love the scriptures. How well are you studying and learning the important truths the Bible reveals about God, this world, and yourself?</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Make plans to study the Bible this week. This can be by yourself, with a pastor, or with other Christians. Before you study, pray and ask God to reveal spiritual truth to you as you study the Bible.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	And the child [Jesus] grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him. (Luke 2:40)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>When Jesus was 12 years old, Joseph and Mary took their entire family to Jerusalem to celebrate a festival called the Feast of the Passover. When Jesus' family was ready to go back home, Mary started looking for Jesus. When she couldn't find Him, she thought that He must be walking with Joseph. After Mary and Joseph had traveled for one day, they realized that Jesus was missing. They were very worried and quickly went back to Jerusalem. When Mary and Joseph got there, they looked everywhere for Jesus. Finally, they found Him at the Temple. He was talking with the teachers about the Jewish law. The teachers were amazed at how much Jesus knew. Mary and Joseph asked Jesus why He hadn't told them where He would be. Jesus told His parents that they shouldn't have been worried. They should have known that He would be at His Father's house.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>The Temple Courts.</b> Jesus' parents traveled to Jerusalem each Passover, fulfilling the commands of giving offerings at the Temple each year. They made the long journey from Nazareth to Jerusalem and back with a large group of people.</li> <li>2. <b>Jesus.</b> His parents mistakenly left Jesus behind in Jerusalem when the group began the journey home. They thought he was in their larger group, and did not realize he was not until after the first day's journey. They returned to Jerusalem and looked all over for him. By the time they found Jesus, it had been three days since they left him behind in Jerusalem.</li> </ol>

	<p><b>3. The Teachers of the Law.</b> His parents found Jesus in the Temple Courts, sitting among the Teachers of the Law. He was not just sitting, though, he was asking questions and giving answers to other people’s questions. Everyone was amazed that someone as young as Jesus gave answers with such understanding and wisdom.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>This is the only account of Jesus’ life between his first year and his 30<sup>th</sup> year, when he began his public ministry. The occasion for this event is the Passover Festival. God commanded the Israelites to appear in Jerusalem three times a year for three festivals (Passover, Tabernacles, and Weeks). Jesus’ parents obeyed this command and joined an estimated 300,000 people in traveling to Jerusalem, a city of about 30,000, for the Passover Festival. They traveled with a large group of pilgrims for safety, support, and fellowship. With Jerusalem having swollen to ten times its regular size, Joseph and Mary trusted Jesus would stay with the large group, as he apparently had all the other years they had traveled for the festivals.</p> <p>This year, however, for whatever reason, Jesus decided to stay behind. This sounds like a very mean thing for Jesus to do, and his parents are understandably very upset when they finally find him. However, Jesus focused on God’s will and God’s desires. Jesus felt at home at the Temple, and did not understand why his earthly parents thought he would be anywhere else. Nevertheless, verse 49 makes clear Jesus did not do anything like this again, but lived obediently to his earthly parents while he lived at home.</p> <p>From a young age, Jesus displayed uncommon wisdom and knowledge of the scriptures.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> The Apostle Paul made many missionary journeys, starting many churches all over the Mediterranean world. One of the pastors he left at one of these churches was Timothy. There are two books in the New Testament written to this pastor Timothy. The Apostle Paul encourages Timothy in this passage, exhorting him to live with integrity and to teach with conviction. Though he is apparently young, Timothy should see himself according to his spiritual maturity, not his physical maturity. As Jesus demonstrated in the Temple Courts, and Timothy demonstrates leading his church, Christians need to see themselves through God’s eyes, and not through the eyes of others.</p>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  We know almost nothing about Jesus’ childhood and early adult years. Luke is the only Gospel writer to record an event from these early years, and he only records one such event. This event tells us Jesus was aware of his special relationship to God from an early age. We do not know if Jesus completely understood his nature being both fully God and fully human at this young age. However, this passage does confirm he understood his purpose on earth was to be about his Heavenly Father’s purposes. However, after giving his earthly parents such a fright in Jerusalem, Jesus obediently returned home to Nazareth, recognizing the importance of obedience to them as well. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What do you think it was like for Joseph and Mary, raising such a special child?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What do you think it was about Jesus’ “understanding” that amazed the teachers in the temple courts?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  The Christian with Biblical knowledge knows facts about the Bible. The Christian with Biblical wisdom knows how to use those facts to live a Godly, holy, and graceful life. The point of Bible study is not to simply learn facts about God, but to learn from God’s Bible how to live well. When Christians truly study the Bible, they are opening up their hearts and minds to hear wisdom from God they can apply to their lives. This is living wisely. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How do Bible passages impart wisdom to a Christian?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How should a Christian respond when God uses a Bible passage to confront them about an aspect of their life or thoughts?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  Regular Bible study is very important for Christians. Though God speaks to Christians through prayer and through other Christians, the primary way Christians learn about the nature of God, the love of God, and the wisdom of God is through studying the Bible. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What steps can you take this week to understand what God is saying to you through the Bible?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How much time will you set aside this week to learn God’s wisdom from the Bible?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 58

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>John the Baptist's Proclamation</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>John 1:29-34</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Exodus 12:1-13</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand that John the Baptist is connecting Jesus to God's work in the Passover event by calling him the Lamb of God.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Rejoice that while blood of the Lamb of God rescued Israel in the Exodus, Jesus as come to be the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of all peoples.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Find specific ways in which, like John, you can point other people to Jesus.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" John 1:29	

<b>Text Summary</b>	At about the age of 30, the prophet Jesus began his public ministry. At that time, the prophet John was telling people to prepare for the coming of God's Chosen One. Jesus as the Lamb of God completed and gave full meaning to Abraham's sacrifice, the deliverance of Israel in the Passover, and the whole Jewish sacrificial system.
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>John the Baptist.</b> God sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus. When people thought that John the Baptist might be the Messiah he was quick to say he was not, that he was sent to reveal the Messiah to Israel.</li> <li>2. <b>Jordan River.</b> One of the ways John prepared people for Jesus was to preach to them, and then baptize them in the Jordan when they repented of their sins.</li> <li>3. <b>Jesus.</b> Jesus accepted John's teaching about him.</li> </ol>
<b>Text Context</b>	<p>Before Jesus began his public ministry, John the Baptist was publically ministering to the Israelites, preparing them for Jesus the Messiah. John was a confrontational preacher who declared to the Israelites that they could not rely on simply being physical descendants of Abraham in order to be right with God. Instead, they needed to repent of their sins, be baptized, and live a righteous life in order to be Abraham's spiritual descendants. John was preparing the people for the Messiah's ministry that would show people how to be fully right and reconciled with God.</p> <p>While John was ministering one day, Jesus walked by, and God revealed to John that Jesus was in fact the Messiah, the Lamb of God. Later Jesus will be baptized by John the Baptist in order to fully identify with humanity.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> In the Exodus passage, God gives directions for how the Israelites are to prepare to leave their slavery in Egypt. Part of this preparation is killing a</p>

	lamb, marking their doorposts with the lamb’s blood, and then cooking the lam and sharing it in a Passover meal.
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  God sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus the Messiah. John preached a message of repentance, and called on the Israelites to not rely on their racial identity to make them right with God, but to rely on their spiritual relationship with God instead. Just as God rescued Israel from physical slavery in Egypt, so in Jesus God will offer rescue for all people from spiritual slavery to sin. In this sense, Jesus will be the sacrificial Passover sacrifice for our sins.  ✓ <b>Do most people recognize their sinfulness and need to repent of their sins?</b>  ✓ <b>What message does Jesus add to John’s teaching? What should the newly baptized people now learn about God through Jesus message?</b> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  When we recognize God’s great love for us and our need for forgiveness of sins, a whole new life opens up for us. We can find release from our bondage to sin and freedom from the shame that comes from the sinful things we have done.  ✓ <b>Why do you think God was not content to just offer salvation to the Jews, why did Jesus come to take away the sin of the world?</b>  ✓ <b>Share some ways in which Jesus’ forgiveness has brought joy and hope into your life.</b> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  Our lives should point others to Jesus. While in one sense there is no longer a “physical” Jesus for us to point to, in another sense all Christians are to be “little Christs.” Our words, actions, generosity, and love are to be evidences of the love of God at work in this world.  ✓ <b>List some ways in which you can, in your daily life, point others towards Christ.</b>  ✓ <b>What are some practical actions you can take in your community to demonstrate the love of God to people?</b> </li> </ul>

**Apply**

- Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.
- Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.
- Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.
- Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 59

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Jesus' Baptism</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Matthew 3:1-17</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Isaiah 42:1-9</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Celebrate Jesus' willingness to demonstrate his love for us. To take our sins upon himself on the cross, Jesus needed to participate in baptism.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Recognize the depths of Jesus' love for us expressed in his obedience to God. He who knew no sin became sin for us. (2 Corinthians 5:21)</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Ask God what you need to do in order to fulfill all righteousness in your life.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:17)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>When Jesus was about 30 years old, He left Galilee and traveled south to the Jordan River. While He was there, Jesus went to see His cousin, John the Baptist. John baptized people who wanted to show that they were sorry for their sins. Jesus walked into the river and stood before John. Jesus told John that He would like to be baptized. John couldn't believe what Jesus was saying. Jesus didn't need to be baptized, because He had never sinned. Instead, John wanted Jesus to baptize him. But Jesus said that He needed to be baptized in order to fulfill God's mission. When John heard this, he agreed to baptize Jesus, even though he felt unworthy. When John brought Jesus out of the water, the sky opened up and a beautiful dove came down from heaven and landed on Jesus. Then a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased" (NIV).</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>John the Baptist</b> was a prophet of God, calling the Jews to baptism as a sign of their repentance. Baptism also prepared them for the coming Messiah. John was Jesus' earthly cousin, and used by God to prepare the way for Jesus' ministry.</li> <li>2. <b>The Jordan River.</b> John called on Jews to baptism as a sign of their repentance and devotion to loving God from the heart. Baptism is the outward sign of the inward grace God worked in a Christian's life when they receive salvation.</li> <li>3. <b>Jesus</b> sought out John and asked for baptism. John recognized Jesus as the Messiah, and at first objected, saying he was the one needing to be baptized. However, Jesus corrected him, and said he needed John to baptize him in order to fulfill all righteousness. John submitted to Jesus.</li> <li>4. <b>The Dove.</b> When Jesus came up out of the water, the Holy Spirit decided upon Jesus like a dove.</li> </ol>

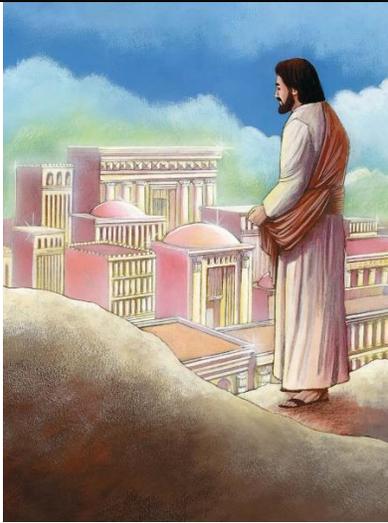
	<p><b>5. God’s Voice (represented by the rays from heaven).</b> When Jesus came up out of the water, God’s voice spoke from heaven and declared Jesus was his Son, and that God was very pleased with Jesus.</p> <p><b>6. The Trinity (Jesus, the Dove, God’s voice).</b> Christians believe in one God, who manifests in three ways, as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. These three expressions of God are, in general, three ways in which God interacts with humanity. God the Father created the world, humanity, and the People of God. Jesus the Son saves sinful humanity from their sins through his death and resurrection. The Holy Spirit dwells within Christians and enables them to live in the power and wisdom of God.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Jesus began his public ministry with baptism. John the Baptist came as a forerunner for Jesus, preparing the Israelites for Jesus’ message and ministry. One of the ways John did this was by calling the Israelites to ask forgiveness of their sins and then receive baptism. John’s baptism symbolized the person’s death to sin and becoming alive in God.</p> <p>Because of this, John was surprised when Jesus requested baptism. From John’s point of view, Jesus does not need baptism. Since Jesus was sinless and was the Messiah, why does Jesus need baptism? If Jesus is going to take on humanity’s sins on the cross, he needs to identify with humanity in baptism. John did not baptize Jesus because Jesus needed baptism; he baptized Jesus because we need Jesus to save us.</p> <p>More than identifying with humanity, Jesus’ baptism was the opportunity for God to speak from heaven and confirm God’s love for Jesus. It was also the opportunity for the Holy Spirit to descend upon Jesus. Finally, it allowed John’s followers to see the Messiah for whom they were waiting.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> The Isaiah text foretells John the Baptist’s baptism of Jesus. This ministry of Jesus continues today as Jesus continues to bring justice to the nations and free captives from the prison of sin.</p> <p><b>Articles of Faith Track: XII. Baptism.</b> Baptism is the first of two sacraments practiced by the Church of the Nazarene. A sacrament is an outward sign of an inward grace. As such, Baptism signifies a person’s acceptance of the gifts and blessings God offers in salvation. In Baptism, the Christian symbolically moves from being dead to God to alive in God. In this sense, it represents being “born again.” Baptism also includes many allusions to the Old Testament. Being saved through water recalls the way in which God saved Israel by parting the Red Sea during the Exodus (See lesson #17). Baptism also alludes to circumcision, in which God gave the Israelites a practice in which to be marked as set aside for God’s use and blessing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: What does it mean to you to be “born again?”</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: What changes has God brought into your life since your baptism?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: What would you tell others is the benefit to being baptized?</b></li> </ul>

<b>Bible Study</b>	
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  It can be confusing to talk about how God is one, yet expressed as three in the Trinity. It can also be a challenge to explain why the sinless Jesus said he needed baptism. However, what is clear is Jesus, the Son of God, fully obeyed God’s call upon his life. Fully God and fully human, Jesus displayed to us both God’s mighty love for humanity and his obedience to God. Because Jesus obeyed God’s plan all the way to death and resurrection, salvation is available to us. Jesus demonstrated his love for us in his obedience to God. Celebrate Jesus’ willingness to demonstrate his love for us. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why can baptism be such a powerful symbol of God’s work in a person’s life?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Besides baptism, what are some other outward signs of inner grace working within Christians?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  Obedience to God is not always an easy virtue to practice. Sometimes, as in Jesus’ life, being obedient to God results in rejection, suffering, and pain. However, greater than all that, obedience also results in joy, peace, and love. Though it is not always easy, when Christians learn obedience to God’s commands and God’s ways, God blesses their lives beyond all measure. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What should a Christian do when it looks like the sacrifices of obedience to God look bigger than the benefits of obedience?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What do you think happens in a Christian’s life when they begin to practice obedience to God’s commands and will for their life?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  We are not sinless or faultless like Jesus. However, we can strive to, like Jesus, “fulfill all righteousness” in our lives. This does not mean we work hard under our power to be righteous. It means we surrender all our life to God’s will for us, and are willing to do whatever God asks. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some virtues a person who strives to “fulfill all righteousness” will demonstrate in their life?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why can Christians not “fulfill all righteousness” under their own power?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**Apply**

- Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.
- Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.
- Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.
- Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 60

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Jesus' Temptation</b>	
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Matthew 4:1-11</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Hebrews 4:12-16</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize, while Jesus was fully God, he was also fully human. Satan tempted Jesus' human nature to avoid following God's plan for salvation through his death and instead create his own plan that did not involve suffering.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Be aware of the ways Satan tempts you. Satan does not announce his temptations to us, but uses deception to try to trick us before we even realize we have been tempted.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be diligent in your study of scripture. Jesus used scripture to reject each of Satan's temptations.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" (Matthew 4:10)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Jesus went to the desert and stayed there for 40 days so He could fast and pray to God. To fast means to go without food. After 40 days without food, Jesus was very hungry. Satan knew that Jesus was tired and hungry, so he went to the desert to tempt Him. First, Satan told Jesus that if He was really the Son of God, He should turn some stones into bread. Jesus said that God would provide the bread of life that He needed, so He refused to turn the stones to bread. Next, Satan took Jesus to the roof of the Temple and told Him to jump. If He was really the Son of God, angels would come and save Him. Jesus told Satan that it wasn't right to test God. Finally, Satan took Jesus to the top of a mountain and told Him that He could be the ruler of all the kingdoms of the world if He would bow down and worship Satan. Jesus told Satan to go away because God is the only one to be worshiped. When Satan realized that he couldn't tempt Jesus, he left.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Wilderness.</b> After Jesus' baptism, the Holy Spirit took Jesus into the wilderness where Jesus fasted for 40 days and nights. After Jesus' fasting, Satan tempted Jesus. Each of the temptations centered on getting Jesus to take the easy way out, to avoid God's plan for his life.</li> <li>2. <b>Jesus</b> was fully God and fully man. Being fully man like us, he was subject to temptations. However, unlike us, he never gave into temptation and sinned. Therefore, Jesus was God's perfect sacrifice for our sins. Jesus was tempted at the beginning of his public ministry with three temptations. First, to turn rocks into bread. Second, to throw himself off the Temple and have the angels come</li> </ol>

	<p>and protect him. In both these temptations, Satan tried to get Jesus to use his divine power in selfish ways. However, each time Jesus refused, quoting scripture to Satan as justification for rejecting Satan’s temptations.</p> <p><b>3. All the Kingdoms of the World.</b> Satan’s third temptation offered Jesus all the kingdoms of the world. Jesus did not have to die on the cross in order to become ruler over the world, all he had to do was to bow down and worship Satan. Of course, Jesus knew he could not do that. Only God is worthy of worship. In addition, if Satan were still in charge of the world, even if Jesus was ruler over the nations, sin would still reign in the lives of all people. In each of these temptations, Jesus rejected Satan’s attempts to get him to act selfishly.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Right after his baptism by John the Baptist, the Holy Spirit leads Jesus into the wilderness. Jesus fasted for 40 day and 40 nights. Then the spiritual battle began. Jesus was very thirsty and hungry, but after Jesus had spent 40 days and nights in prayer and communion with God he was strong enough to withstand Satan’s temptations.</p> <p>The central theme in all three of these temptations was for Jesus to use his divine power for selfish benefits. It does not sound like there would be anything inherently wrong with Jesus, after fasting for 40 days, turning some rocks into bread so he could fill his stomach. It does not sound wrong for Jesus to prove his divinity to everyone at the Temple by calling on angels to rescue him. Moreover, why not avoid all the pain of crucifixion and just worship Satan? Satan was willing to give him all the nations of the world, why not avoid all the pain of crucifixion? However, in each of these temptations, Satan tempts Jesus as Satan tempted Adam and Eve. Satan tempts Jesus to reject God’s will. Satan tempts Jesus to believe Jesus knows better than God how to conduct his ministry.</p> <p>In addition, central to all these temptations is Jesus’ use of scripture to reject each of the temptations. It is not enough to listen to scriptures or memorize scriptures; Christians need to know how to use the Bible with discernment and wisdom. In fact, even Satan uses scripture with the second temptation. However, Jesus is able to recognize Satan’s misuse of scripture.</p> <p>Being fully God and fully human, Jesus’ human nature was subject to the same types of temptations that come to each of us. However, Jesus rejected the temptations and remained true to God’s will for his life because of his wise use of the Bible.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> the Bible is not simply a collection of stories about God and humanity. When inspired by the Holy Spirit, the Bible can cut to the very heart of a person’s life and reveal God’s message to them. In the temptations of Jesus, we see how Jesus used the scriptures to reject temptation. Jesus is our perfect Savior who modeled for us a perfect life of rejecting temptation and embracing God.</p> <p><b>Fruit of the Spirit Track: 9. Self-Control.</b> A Christian demonstrates self-control when he or she says “no” to sinful desires. This applies to actions, thoughts, and</p>

	<p>feelings. God’s plan is to purify the entire life of the Christian, and so no area can be off-limits to God’s work. Oftentimes Christians are tempted to believe they simply need to stop sinning in their actions. However, Christians need to also allow the Holy Spirit to bring self-control to their thoughts and feelings as well. Jesus demonstrates self-control in this lesson by refusing to act on Satan’s temptations, and in his responses to Satan. Jesus kept the desires of his human nature in control, desires like hunger and desire for public praise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: What are some factors that lead people to lose control of their thoughts, feelings, and actions?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: Even if a Christian practices self-control of your actions, how can uncontrolled thoughts or feelings still do damage to a Christian’s life?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: In what practical ways can brothers and sisters in Christ help each other practice self-control of their thoughts, feelings, and actions?</b></li> </ul>
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<b>Bible Study</b>	
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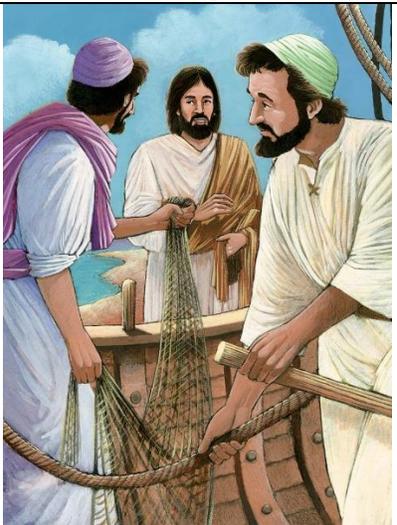
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
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<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
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<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>          Christians do not follow a distant God who simply created us and then left us to our own devices. God loves us and wants to be in relationship with us. However, sin has broken our relationship with God. God sent Jesus to earth to show us how much God loves us. In addition, through his death and resurrection Jesus provides a path for us to receive forgiveness from our sins. Jesus could do this because he was fully God and fully human. Like us, Jesus was tempted in every way, but because he had perfect communion with God, rejected those temptations.         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Like Jesus, what are some ways in which Satan tempts us to believe we know better than God does how to live our lives?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some scriptures you can use to reject Satan’s temptations?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>          God does not express love to us only through the Bible, but also by making Jesus’ life alive in us through the power of the Holy Spirit. God wants to fill us with love so we can share God’s love with others. In order to receive all this love and to share this love, though, we have to be alert and discerning to the ways in which Satan sends temptations into our lives. Satan rarely announces his temptations to us, but uses deception to try to get us to fall into temptation. Temptation begins by trying to get us to desire things other than what God wants for us. Then, temptation expresses itself in our words or actions to fulfill those wrong desires.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can keeping our heart open to the love of God help us recognize the temptations of Satan?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What do you think are the common temptations Satan sends into the lives of Christians in your community?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Knowing the Bible is not enough, because even Satan can quote the Bible. Christians need to know how to apply the Bible to their lives. One way to do this is to ask God to reveal to us how to apply the Bible to our lives. God can answer this prayer as we hear the scriptures and listen to preachers and teachers share the scriptures with us. God can also answer this prayer through our own times of Bible study and prayer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are five scriptures you can use to help you reject temptation?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Can we ever get to the place where we know the Bible well enough so that we do not need to study it anymore? Why or why not?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 61

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Jesus' First Disciples</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Luke 5:1-11</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Isaiah 6:1-11</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Be aware that Jesus did not conduct ministry by himself. Jesus gathered around him 12 disciples whom he could mentor.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Discern what you would be willing to leave behind in order to follow Jesus.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Find ways to “fish for people,” ways to share the Gospel with people who need Jesus.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Then Jesus said to Simon, “Don’t be afraid; from now on you will fish for people.” (Luke 5:10b)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Jesus knew that He had been sent to earth to tell people about God. When He was ready to travel to different places and preach about God, He chose some men to go with Him. Jesus went to the Sea of Galilee and saw Peter and his brother, Andrew, fishing. Jesus called out to them and said, “Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men” (NIV). When He said this, Jesus meant that He wanted them to stop catching fish and start catching people for God! Peter and Andrew dropped their fishing nets and followed Jesus. Jesus, Peter, and Andrew walked farther on and saw James and John, the sons of Zebedee, fishing in their boat. Jesus called out to them, and, like Peter and Andrew, they also followed Jesus. Jesus chose eight other men to be His disciples: Philip, Thomas, Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot, Bartholomew, Thaddaeus, and Judas.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Lake Gennesaret (also known as the Sea of Galilee)</b> is the largest body of water in Israel. People were gathering around Jesus as he was walking by the lake and teaching them the word of God.</li> <li>2. <b>Simon Peter and his brother Andrew</b> were washing their nets after a frustrating night of fishing in which they caught no fish.</li> <li>3. <b>Jesus</b> was walking by their boat as they were washing their nets and called them to stop fishing for fish, and to join him in fishing for people. Jesus was talking about bringing people into a saving relationship with God. Peter and Andrew obeyed, left their nets and business, and became disciples of Jesus.</li> </ol>
<b>Text Context</b>	<p>Jesus began his public ministry after successfully refusing the temptations of Satan. Jesus’ ministry consisted of telling people about God’s love for them, and the</p>

	<p>importance for them to love God and love others. Part of Jesus ministry was gathering to him “disciples.” Jesus “disciples” were a group of men who traveled with Jesus, and not just heard Jesus’ teaching to the crowds and see his miracles, but also were mentored by Jesus.</p> <p>Jesus invited Simon Peter and his brother Andrew to leave behind their jobs, homes, and families in order to become his disciples. We do not know why Jesus chose the disciples he chose. Throughout the Gospels the disciples displayed a lack of understanding of Jesus’ nature and mission. Yet, Jesus continued to guide them and teach them.</p> <p>In Luke’s telling of Jesus’ call to Simon Peter and Andrew, the two brothers listened to Jesus’ teachings after a frustrating night of fishing without catching any fish. After listening to Jesus’ teaching, Jesus performed a miracle to show the brothers that he was more than just another religious teacher. Peter was humbled and scared at being so close to such a holy person.</p> <p>Jesus comforted Peter, and then called Peter to become one of his disciples.</p> <p><b>Secondary text: (See Lesson # 46 for more background information)</b> Peter’s response to Jesus is very similar to Isaiah’s response in his vision of being in heaven (Lesson 46). Both men witness God’s mighty power, both are fearful of that power, both confess they are sinners living among other sinners. God’s responses to them are also similar. In both cases, Isaiah and Peter are comforted and then told to minister for God.</p>
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<b>Bible Study</b>	
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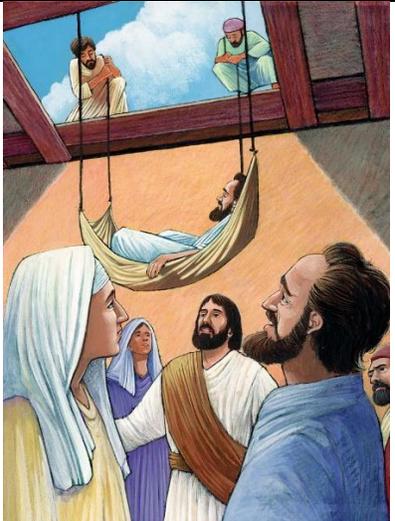
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
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<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
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<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>Jesus knew he needed to mentor a group of disciples to continue his ministry after he went back to heaven. These disciples had to leave everything behind in order to follow Jesus. They saw Jesus’ miracles, heard his teachings, and watched how he handled confrontations with the religious leaders. Though these disciples often misunderstood Jesus and his mission, Jesus never gave up on them. He knew that after he returned to heaven the Holy Spirit would fill them, and then they would finally understand Jesus’ ministry and mission.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think Peter and his brother so quickly obeyed Jesus' call to leave everything behind and become disciples?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What does it mean for you to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>            Jesus does not call perfect people to be his disciples. Instead, he calls imperfect people who are willing to learn and become more like Jesus. The most important characteristic of being a disciple is putting Jesus first in your life. This means being obedient to Jesus' teachings and will for our life. It also means leaving behind anything that distracts you or hinders you from loving Jesus and loving others.</li> <li>✓ <b>What are you willing to give up in order to be Jesus' disciple?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What do you think Jesus saw in Peter's heart that led him to call Peter to be one of his disciples?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>            God calls all Christians to be "fishers of men." God calls some to be pastors and church leaders. God calls others to stay in their current jobs and homes and be witnesses there. It does not matter where you live or what kind of job you may have, all Christians can model lives of love and can talk to others about Jesus' love. When we tell others about Jesus' love and model that love for them, we are being "fishers of men."</li> <li>✓ <b>What do you think people in your community most need to see or hear in order to believe God loves them and wants to forgive them of their sins?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Who is someone in your life you can witness to about God's love?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 62

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>The Paralyzed Man</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Mark 2:1-12</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Isaiah 35</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Believe that Jesus is the Son of God who has the power to both forgive sins and perform miracles.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Celebrate that Jesus is concerned with both our souls and our bodies. God creates both, and therefore, sees both as precious.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be ready to help others in need. The paralyzed man's friends were essential to his healing, both because of their physical help and because of their faith.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert. (Isaiah 35:6)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Jesus went to the town of Capernaum. This was the place He called home. So many people wanted to see Jesus that some had to stand outside the house where He was preaching. There were four men who heard that Jesus was in Capernaum. These men had a friend who could not walk because he was paralyzed. So, they picked up the paralyzed man and took him to Jesus. They knew that Jesus was the only one who could heal their friend. When they got there, they couldn't get inside to see Jesus, so they carried the paralyzed man up to the roof. They dug a hole in the roof and lowered the man into the room until he was beside Jesus. Jesus knew that this man's friends had faith that He could heal their friend. Jesus told the paralyzed man that his sins were forgiven. Then Jesus told him to get up and pick up the mat he was lying on. And he did! He could walk again! Jesus had healed the paralyzed man.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Paralyzed Man.</b> There was a paralyzed man who lived in Capernaum. Four of his friends heard that Jesus had come to town, and they believed Jesus could heal their friend. However, the crowds around Jesus were too big for them to get through with their friend.</li> <li>2. <b>The Friends of Faith.</b> The four friends did not let the crowds stop them getting their friend to Jesus. They started taking apart the roof of the house in which Jesus was staying. When the hole in the roof was big enough, they lowered their friend down on his mat.</li> <li>3. <b>Jesus.</b> When Jesus saw the extent to which this man's friends were willing to go in order to get him to Jesus, he knew they had a lot of faith. Therefore,</li> </ol>

	<p>Jesus told this paralyzed man, his sins were forgiven. Some of the religious leaders were upset Jesus believed he could forgive sins. Only God can forgive sins, and they did not believe Jesus was God. Jesus knew what they were thinking. To prove to them he had the power to forgive sins, he said to the paralyzed man, “get up and go home.” Immediately the man stood up, picked up his mat, and walked home. Jesus had healed him!</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>After a time of preparation (his baptism, his temptations, calling his disciples), Jesus now fully engaged in his ministry. His ministry focused on teaching and healing. Jesus’ fame had spread, and some friends of a paralytic believed that if they could just get their friend to Jesus, Jesus would heal their friend. The friends showed both their faith in Jesus and their deep love for their friend by going to such dramatic lengths to get their friend to Jesus.</p> <p>Surprisingly, Jesus decided, instead of healing the man right away, to forgive his sins first. After declaring this man’s sins forgiven, some in the crowd began complaining. They were there to hear a great teacher teach and maybe even see a miracle worker. However, Jesus claimed to be more than a teacher or miracle worker. Only God can forgive sins, and so some of the teachers of the law in the crowd complained to each other that Jesus was blaspheming. Blasphemy is claiming to be God or claiming things about God that are not true.</p> <p>Jesus knew they were complaining about him and Jesus confronted them. They came to see a miracle worker, but Jesus claimed to be much more than a miracle worker. Forgiving sins is something only God can do. Therefore, to prove to these teachers of the law that he really was the Son of God, he miraculously healed the man. Everyone was amazed.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> Isaiah prophesied about the ministry of the coming Messiah. Part of the way people would be able to recognize the Messiah is that he would perform miracles. Specifically in verse 6, we hear that the lame would leap like a deer, a prophecy fulfilled in the healing of this paralytic man.</p> <p><b>Articles of Faith Track: II. Jesus Christ.</b> Jesus Christ is the second person of the Trinity. While Christians commonly speak of God, the first person of the Trinity, as the Creator, Christians commonly speak of Jesus as Redeemer. When humanity not only fell into sin, but proved unable to serve God with a true heart through the Law given in the Old Testament, God came to earth as Jesus Christ to provide a path of true salvation. The two natures of divinity and humanity dwelled within Jesus Christ. Through Jesus’ obedience to God’s will, his death and resurrection, God placed the punishment of sin upon Jesus at his crucifixion. Through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ, humanity receives forgiveness for their sins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: What does it tell you about the nature of God that Jesus came willingly to earth to die for a sinful humanity?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: How does knowing Jesus faced every kind of temptation you face help you believe in the power and love of God?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: How can you demonstrate the truth of Jesus’ love to others?</b></li> </ul>

<b>Bible Study</b>	
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  Anyone can claim to be the Messiah. How can someone discern whether the person really is the Messiah? God filled the Old Testament with prophecies about the Messiah. Therefore, we can ask, “Does this person claiming to be the Messiah fulfill those prophecies?” Jesus does. Secondly, we can ask, “is this person performing miracles only God can work?” Again, Jesus performed miracles like no one had before him. Jesus knew it would be hard for people to believe someone from Nazareth was the Messiah. Therefore, he did not only teach about God, he performed miracles to back up his teaching. In this passage, we have two miracles, one much harder than the other one. The people are amazed at the healing of the paralytic man. However, it is Jesus’ forgiving his sins that is the greater miracle. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How do you think these friends got so much faith in Jesus that they went to all this trouble of getting their friend to him?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Many people saw Jesus’ miracles but did not believe he was the Messiah. Why do you think they refused to believe even after witnessing the miracles?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  God knows we have both physical and spiritual needs. Ultimately, our spiritual needs are the most important since our souls are forever and these earthly bodies are temporary. However, our bodies are still very important to God. God may not always answer our prayers for physical healing as we would want, however, we can know our souls are always safe with God. Ultimately, when we see God face-to-face, God’s will to heal us completely will be completely fulfilled. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>It is great to hear of all the physical healings Jesus performed while on earth. How does Jesus prove his power to us these days, now that he has returned to heaven?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>In what ways is our body a miracle from God in the first place?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  Are you a faithful friend? Do you help your family members, your community friends, your church friends when they need help? Sometimes they need physical help, as did this paralytic man, but other times they simply need someone to pray with them, cry with them, encourage them. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the ways faithful friends can help us know God more fully?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	✓ <b>What are three things you can do this week to be a faithful friend to others?</b>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 63

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Nicodemus</b>	
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>John 3:1-21</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Ezekiel 36:22-29</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Believe God sent Jesus to earth to provide a way to eternal life. Through faith in Jesus Christ God forgives Christians, and Christians are born again.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Recognize, to be saved, Christians need to believe in their hearts that Jesus Christ is God's one and only Son.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Celebrate the great salvation God provides for you, and for all who will believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)	

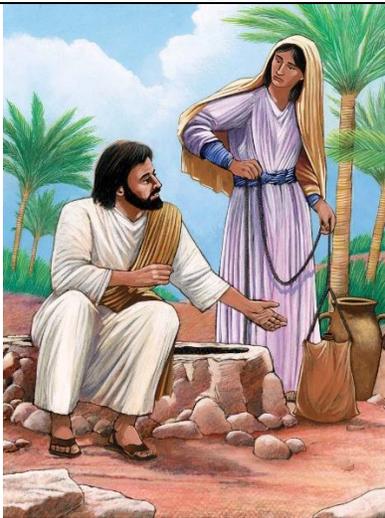
<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Nicodemus was a Pharisee. The Pharisees were a group of men who knew Old Testament Scriptures and taught them to other people. When the Pharisees met Jesus, they believed He was a teacher, not the Son of God. But, Nicodemus became very curious. He wanted to learn more about this man named Jesus. During the night, Nicodemus went to see Jesus. Nicodemus knew that God was with Jesus, but he wasn't sure if he should believe what Jesus was teaching. Jesus told Nicodemus that in order to go to heaven, he had to be born again. Nicodemus didn't understand what Jesus meant by being born again. Jesus wanted Nicodemus to realize that it takes more than just knowing the Bible to get into heaven. A person needs to ask God for forgiveness of his sins, and accept God into his life. Nicodemus left Jesus and thought about what He had said.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>At Night.</b> Nicodemus, a Jewish leader sought out Jesus at night to ask him some questions. He could have done this at night because he was scared and did not want others to see him talking with Jesus. On the other hand, Jesus may have simply been too busy teaching others during the day for this Jewish leader to find time to talk with Jesus.</li> <li>2. <b>Nicodemus</b> was a very important man in his community. He was a Pharisee, which meant he was very careful to follow all the laws found in the Old Testament. He was also part of the Jewish ruling council, which meant he helped make religious decisions for the community. Most Pharisees did not believe Jesus was the Messiah because he did not keep all the Old Testament laws in the manner the Pharisees thought Israelites should keep them. However, they could not explain why, if Jesus did not follow the laws correctly, he could still work such powerful miracles.</li> </ol>

	<p><b>3. Jesus</b> taught Nicodemus many important spiritual truths. He told Nicodemus being right with God is not about how well you keep hundreds of Old Testament laws, it is about whether you believe Jesus Christ is God’s one and only Son. Nicodemus, and everyone else, should have believed this because of all the wonderful teachings Jesus gave and the miracles he worked. Even though Nicodemus struggled to believe in Jesus, Jesus still talked with him and loved him.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Jesus was not the kind of Messiah the Jewish leaders expected. They expected a military leader like King David who would preach against the Roman occupation of the Promised Land and lead a battle to get the Romans out. They thought the Messiah would show God’s mighty power through winning military battles.</p> <p>Jesus, however, was a Messiah concerned with saving more than just the Jews from Roman occupation. His battle was against sin and death. In addition, Jesus displayed the mighty power of God in healings, not in battles. The Jewish leaders did not know what to do with this Jesus. How could he be the Messiah and yet not be raising an army? How could he not be the Messiah, and still do all these miracles?</p> <p>Nicodemus came on behalf of the religious leaders to try to find out more from Jesus. Jesus’ responses to Nicodemus confused him. Jesus was speaking to him in spiritual terms, but Nicodemus thought Jesus was speaking in physical terms.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> This is a text prophesying about Jesus. Nicodemus should have thought about this text as Jesus taught him. The Pharisees knew the Old Testament scriptures very well. In this text, God promises a time when the Israelites get new hearts and new spirits. As with Jesus’ teaching, this is not literal new hearts, but new spiritual hearts. Nicodemus should have understood Jesus’ talk of “being born again” being grounded in this text. God makes many other promises in the text God fulfilled in Jesus’ ministry and in the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.</p> <p><b>Articles of Faith Track: IX. Justification, Regeneration, Adoption.</b> The moment a person repents of their sin and asks God for salvation, God saves the sinner, and the sinner becomes a completely new person. They are no longer separated from God by sin or rebellion. Instead, in salvation God removes all their guilt for all their sins by granting them a full pardon. Secondly, they are “born again,” no longer ruled by the sin they inherited at their birth, but now ruled by God as one saved by grace. Third, the Christian is transformed, going from a child of wrath to a Child of God. All three of these actions happen at once, and represent the complete and total salvation God offers to all people.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: Why do you think Nicodemus, so thoroughly trained as a religious teacher, struggled to understand this teaching from Jesus about needing to be born again?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: How does it make you feel when you hear God has adopted you as a Child of God?</b></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Hands: How can you help people who think God’s forgiveness is too good to be true, really is a promise they can receive?</b></li> </ul>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>        Jesus is not just a miracle worker. Jesus is not just a great teacher. Jesus is the Messiah, the only Son of God. This truth was hard for people like Nicodemus to accept, because they had preconceptions about what the Messiah should be like. Jesus challenged those preconceptions in hopes of helping Nicodemus see the obvious truth in front of him: Jesus is the Messiah. Believing in Jesus Christ is the only path to salvation. While this passage ends without Nicodemus making a decision, later in John’s Gospel Nicodemus advocates for Jesus before those who want to arrest him (John 7:50-52). After Jesus death, Nicodemus goes with Joseph of Arimathea to lay Jesus’ body in a tomb. It seems Nicodemus finally understood what Jesus had taught him.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do some people believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior right away, and others take time before they will believe?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How has your life changed since being born again?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>        Our lives are much bigger than what we see here on earth. Within our bodies is our soul that lives forever. If we believe in our hearts Jesus is God’s only Son, then we receive forgiveness of our sins from God and live forever in Heaven. If we refuse to believe in our hearts Jesus is God’s son, then we will be condemned. Condemnation is not God’s desire for anyone, but people must decide for themselves if they accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior or not.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Believing in Jesus does not just bring spiritual salvation. What other benefits come from accepting Jesus as Lord and Savior?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>In what ways do you experience more light in your life now that you are a Christian?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>        We should celebrate the great salvation God provides to us. We can celebrate in times of worship with brothers and sisters in Christ. We can celebrate in being compassionate and loving to others. We can celebrate in living a life of love. Jesus give us a new life, we should celebrate!</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ <b>Just because Jesus saves us does not mean life becomes easy. However, how does being a Christian make us handle life's problems differently?</b></li><li>✓ <b>How can you share the Good News of Jesus' love with someone this week?</b></li></ul>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 64

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Samaritan Woman</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>John 4:1-42</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>2 Peter 3:1-13</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand Jesus' love and salvation are for everyone, no matter their gender, race, nationality, social status, or background.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Discern if your heart harbors any prejudice that keeps you from loving all of God's children.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Diligently display God's love to everyone God brings into your life, for you never know the ways God will use that love to expand the Kingdom of God.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	They said to the woman, "We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world." (John 4:42)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Jesus left Judea and went to a place called Samaria. The people who lived there were called Samaritans. Jews didn't talk to Samaritans because they thought that the Samaritans were "different." Jesus had traveled a long way and sat down beside a well because He was tired. A Samaritan woman went to the well to get some water, and she saw Jesus sitting by the well. Jesus asked her if she would give Him some water because He was thirsty. The woman couldn't understand why Jesus would talk to her, because He was a Jew and she was a Samaritan. Then Jesus told the woman that He could give her "living water." He knew that she was a sinner and that she didn't feel good about herself. Jesus wanted the woman to know that He was the "living water" He was talking about. And He could forgive her sins and make her happy.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Samaria.</b> Jesus and his disciples were traveling from Jerusalem to Galilee. On the way they traveled through Samaria, where lived a people who did not get along with the Jews. The Samaritans did not believe the Jews worshipped God correctly, and the Jews thought the same about the Samaritans.</li> <li>2. <b>Well of Jacob.</b> On the way Jesus stopped to rest at Jacob's Well. Tradition is that Jacob dug this well after returning to this area and being reconciled to Esau (Genesis 33:18-20). While Jesus rested, his disciples went into town to buy food.</li> <li>3. <b>Samaritan Woman.</b> While resting at the well, a Samaritan woman came to draw water. It was unusual for a woman to go alone to a well at the hottest</li> </ol>

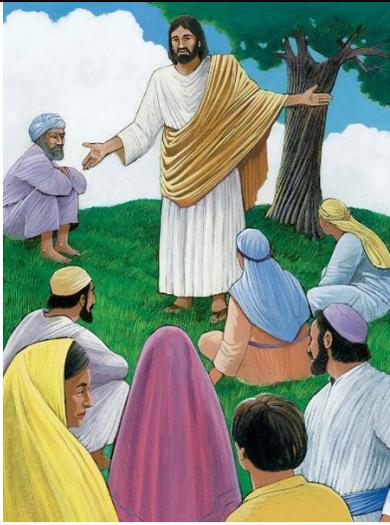
	<p>time of the day. This suggests she may not have had many friends to support her. There were many cultural reasons why Jesus should have ignored her.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. She was a Samaritan and he was a Jew, the two groups did not get along.</li> <li>b. She had a bad reputation and Jesus was a religious teacher.</li> </ul> <p>4. <b>Jesus.</b> Although there were many cultural reasons Jesus could have ignored this woman, he chose to engage her in conversation. Jesus shared with this woman about God’s love and acceptance. Jesus revealed to her that he was the Messiah. While Jews and Samaritans had different religious beliefs and practices, both groups believed God would send the Messiah. Deeply moved by Jesus’ love for her and his teaching about God, she went back to town and told everyone she had met the Messiah. Some people believed Jesus was the Messiah from her testimony. Other townspeople came out to meet Jesus, and after hearing his teaching, they believed Jesus was the Messiah.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>There are many reasons why groups of people do not get along. Sometimes it is because they are different in many ways. Other times it is because they are very similar in most ways, but different in just a few important ways. The Jews and Samaritans were similar in most ways, but had some important religious differences that led the two groups not to get along.</p> <p>This led Jews and Samaritans to avoid being around each other. It also led Jews to avoid going through Samaria in their travels between Jerusalem and Galilee, even though going through Samaria was the shortest route. Jesus’ Gospel, though, was for everyone. Therefore, Jesus chose to go through Samaria instead of avoiding Samaria. Jesus chose to interact with this Samaritan woman instead of ignoring her. Jesus chose to share with her that he was the Messiah, instead of keeping that news for only Jews.</p> <p>The result? Not only did this woman believe in Jesus as the Messiah, her testimony to her neighbors so impressed them, they believed as well. This encounter is one of many in which Jesus reached out to people seen as “outcasts” from society. Whether they were tax collectors, lepers, or Samaritans, Jesus demonstrated the Gospel is for all people.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> God does not wish anyone to perish without accepting the Gospel of Jesus Christ. God’s Gospel is for all peoples, and it is very important for Christians to share their faith with as many people as possible, so as many people as possible can enter into Jesus’ great salvation.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  It can be hard to see beyond all the differences between people and find similarities. One similarity all people have with each other: we are all God’s beloved creations. Another similarity: we all were born with sin and all need Jesus’ forgiveness. Therefore, no matter the differences, these similarities mean we are to love all people. Jesus demonstrates this with his interactions with the Samaritan woman. Although there were many cultural reasons why Jesus should have just ignored her, Jesus knew she needed the Gospel. Therefore, Jesus began a conversation with her in order to share with her the Good News that he was the Messiah. It is essential for Christians, in order to be like Jesus, to show God’s love and share the Gospel with all the people God brings into our lives. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think groups of people so often focus on their differences instead of their similarities?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>This woman was amazed Jesus spoke to her. What types of people might be amazed if you spoke to them?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  Loving others can be very difficult, even loving people who are very similar to us. Sometimes people are raised to have prejudices towards others, and this makes loving others even more difficult. One of the transformations of the heart Jesus wants to make in Christian’s lives is to free them from any prejudices they have towards other groups. This can sometimes be very difficult for Christians to accept. However, Jesus loves all people and died for all people, therefore Christians are to love all people. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can Christians recognize differences between them and others, and yet not allow those differences to keep them from loving all people?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Sin corrupts many parts of a person’s heart. Besides prejudice, what are some other vices Jesus wants to remove from a Christian’s heart?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  Some people will not accept the truth that God loves them until they see that love expressed to them through a Christian’s life. In addition, even after they see God’s love expressed through a Christian’s life, it can still be a long time before they accept God’s love in their life. That is why it is important to display the love of God at all times, because we never know when someone is watching us, ready to see God’s love in action. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>One of the best ways to overcome differences between people is, as Jesus did, simply talk with them. Whom can you talk to this week, who is different in some way to you?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Should we think it is a failure if we share God’s love with someone, but that person does not accept Jesus as his or her Savior? Why or why not?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**Apply**

- Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.
- Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.
- Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.
- Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 65

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Sermon on the Mount</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Matthew 5:1-20</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Romans 8:18-30</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Be aware that living our lives for Jesus means Christians will live very differently from others in this world.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Be open to God's work in your heart every day. Every day God wants to make your heart more like Jesus' heart.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Put into practice the values Jesus says lead to blessings. Practicing these values will not always feel good; however, Christians are living for a heavenly reward, not an earthly reward.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)	

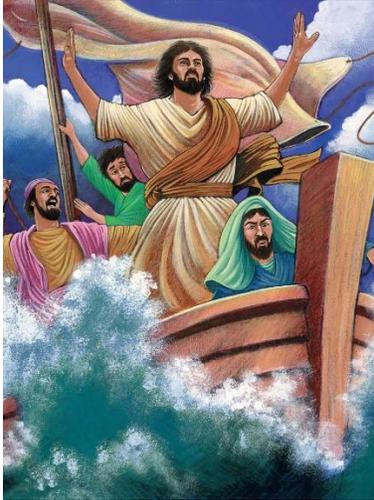
<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Jesus became very popular with many of the people around Him. People wanted to listen to Jesus because He cared for them and wanted to help them. Jesus wasn't like the Pharisees, who just taught about the rules people were supposed to follow. One day Jesus was going to speak to a group of people. Many people went to listen to Him. When Jesus saw the crowd coming toward Him, He walked to a mountain near Capernaum and sat down. The crowd of people followed Jesus to the mountain and sat down, too. Jesus spoke to the people for a very long time. He talked to them about many different topics: how they should treat each other; how they could tell others about God's love and forgiveness; how they should give to the poor; about heaven; and even how they should pray.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Crowds</b> were following Jesus because of his teachings and miracles. People will often follow leaders who promise them power and riches. Is this what the crowds following Jesus expected?</li> <li>2. <b>Mountainside.</b> Jesus decided to give an extended teaching for his disciples. He had them sit down on a mountainside to hear the teachings. The crowds also were able to hear Jesus' teachings.</li> <li>3. <b>Jesus'</b> teaching did not promise power or riches at all. In fact, in this Sermon on the Mount, Jesus warned his followers they would be subject to persecutions and sufferings. It would not be easy to be a disciple of Jesus. However, Jesus promised his followers great spiritual blessings for being his followers. For, if they lived as Jesus lived, they would experience comfort, mercy, peace, and many other blessings from God. Their ultimate reward</li> </ol>

	<p>would be in heaven, but if they lived as Jesus called them to live, some of that heaven would be experienced in this world.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>The Sermon on the Mount is Jesus’ longest teaching in the Bible. It spans three chapters (Matthew 5-7), and covers many different topics relating to the Christian’s life. Many Jews in Jesus’ day thought the most important part of being a follower of God was living by all the rules and rituals found in the Old Testament. Jesus, however, taught the most important part of being a follower of God was living out God’s love. Jesus’ disciples were not to focus on following rules, but on loving God and loving others. If they loved God and loved others, then they would naturally follow all the rules of God.</p> <p>The first part of the Sermon on the Mount is a list of beatitudes. Beatitudes are promises made to people who are going through tough times. They promise future comfort and rewards. However, Jesus’ beatitudes are a little different. For the blessings Jesus promises are not just for the future, but come into the present as well. While Jesus’ disciples will suffer in this life if they follow all his commands, they will also experience the close presence of God. The Christian experiences the presence of God in many ways, including experiencing peace, joy, comfort, and hope. Therefore, when Jesus says these followers are “blessed,” he means that in the midst of suffering for living as Jesus called them to live, God’s presence will comfort them.</p> <p>Because sin infects the world, those who do not follow Jesus pursue desires that will never satisfy, like greed, anger, and lust. Jesus’ followers are to pursue desires that will satisfy, like holiness, righteousness and love. Many of the other teachings in the Sermon on the Mount teach Christians how to live out God’s love in very practical ways.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> The Apostle Paul wrote these words, and wrote about what he had experienced first-hand. Namely, that following Jesus’ teachings for your life will lead to sufferings. However, as Paul says, those present sufferings are not worth comparing the future blessings of God. Nor are they worth comparing to the good that God’s love works through those who live according to God’s purposes.</p> <p><b>Articles of Faith Track: IV. The Holy Scriptures.</b> God gives the Bible to Christians as a guide to the path of salvation and to living a holy life. The 66 books of the Old and New Testaments reveal the heart and will of God for humanity. Through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, Christians receive wisdom and instruction from God through the study of the Bible. Jesus demonstrates in the Sermon on the Mount the importance of knowing more than facts about the Bible, but about correctly interpreting the Bible. In the specific passage for this study, the Beatitudes, Jesus declares the type of person who results from following God’s scriptures. God blesses this person as they live out the teachings of scripture.</p> <p>In 2 Timothy 3:10-17, the Apostle Paul teaches Timothy the importance of the Bible in becoming wise and becoming equipped for God’s mighty work.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: Why does simply reading the Bible not necessarily result in a person becoming wise?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: What should a Christian do when they read something in the Bible with which they do not agree?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: What kinds of habits and practices should you have in place in order to become wise in the Holy Scriptures?</b></li> </ul>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  Jesus calls his disciples to a very different kind of life than others around them are living. Jesus’ disciples are to put God’s values and God’s desires first in their lives. This means they could experience sufferings now, but it also means God’s love and blessings will flow through their lives. When Christians are able to understand that denying their selfish desires and accepting God’s loving desires are the best way to live, they will have a deep peace and joy no matter what happens in their life. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do some people persecute those who are trying to live out Jesus’ teachings?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What do we see in Jesus’ life that can help us when we go through times of persecution?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  When our heart is fully given to God, we love what God loves and live as God wants us to live. This means we will feel compassion and mercy for those suffering, and it means we will seek to comfort those who need comforting. We will do this not just because we know we will have a reward in heaven, but because we know God will strengthen us and bless us on this side of heaven as well. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Jesus’ teachings are not easy to live out. Therefore, why should Christians want to live out Jesus’ teachings?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What would happen if someone who does not believe in Jesus tried living out all of Jesus’ teachings?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  Jesus’ teachings are meaningless to us if we do not live them out. It is not enough to just believe in our head what Jesus said is true, we must put those teachings </li> </ul>

	<p>into action. While this will not be easy, it will result in great blessings both for us and for those blessed through our Christlike actions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ <b>Is there someone in your life mourning right now, whom you can comfort?</b></li><li>✓ <b>Are there friends you know who are in conflict with one another? How can you display Jesus' love by trying to be a peacemaker between them?</b></li></ul>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 66

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Calming the Storm</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Mark 4:35-41</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Psalm 106:1-12</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize, because Jesus is the Messiah, he has control over nature.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Be courageous, God is bigger than any problems or challenges you will face.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Live confidently, knowing God will never leave you or forsake you.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, “Quiet! Be still!” Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. (Mark 4:39)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Jesus told the disciples that He would like to sail to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. The disciples agreed, and all of them got into a boat and set sail. Jesus was very tired and fell asleep in the boat. The disciples looked into the sky and saw the clouds become very dark. Large waves started pounding against the boat, and water poured inside. The disciples were very afraid, but Jesus was lying on the floor of the boat, fast asleep. The disciples went over to Jesus and woke Him. They told Him that He needed to get up. They were all going to drown. Jesus stood up, looked at the sea, and told the waters to be still. When He said this, the winds stopped blowing and the water calmed. Then Jesus asked the disciples why they were afraid. Didn't they have faith to know that they would be safe with Him? The disciples said, “Who is this man, that the winds and water obey His commands?”</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Boat.</b> One evening, Jesus and his disciples got in a boat to travel to the other side of the Sea of Galilee.</li> <li>2. <b>Storm.</b> While on the water a mighty storm arose, with waves and winds so battering the boat the disciples were afraid for their lives.</li> <li>3. <b>Jesus.</b> While all this was going on, Jesus slept in the back of the boat. The disciples woke him up, asking him whether he cared if they all drowned. Jesus got up, rebuked the wind and the waves, and everything became completely calm. Jesus then asked the disciples why they had been so afraid, didn't they believe he would keep them safe?</li> <li>4. <b>The Disciples.</b> First, the wind and waves terrified them, now Jesus, this man who controls even the wind and waves, terrifies them even more.</li> </ol>

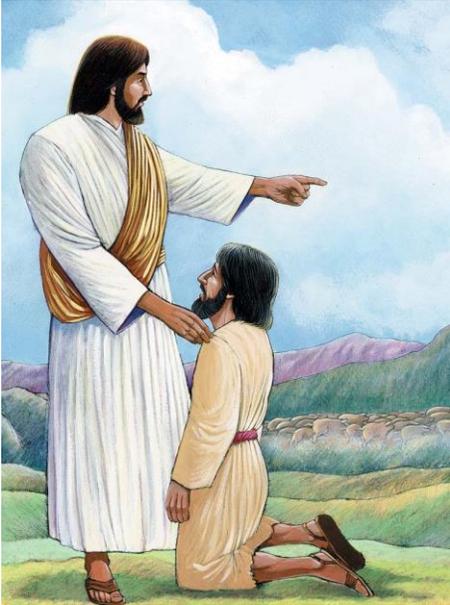
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>This is the first of four miracles Jesus performs that will stretch the disciple’s understanding of his power. Mark and Luke record these four right in a row. Matthew includes a few other episodes in between the second and third miracles. We will study Mark’s account of these over the next four weeks.</p> <p>The disciples witnessed several of Jesus’ miracles in people’s lives. Now, for the first time, the disciples themselves experienced Jesus’ miraculous power. In addition, while others went around claiming the ability to heal people miraculously, no one besides Jesus demonstrated their miraculous powers extended to controlling the wind and the waves. Therefore, we hear the disciples asking each other after the miracle, “who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!” We know Jesus is the Messiah, God in human flesh. The disciples did not yet have this understanding.</p> <p>There are several similarities between this account and the experience of Jonah (Lesson # 50). In both cases, a storm suddenly arose and threatened to sink the boat. In both cases, Jonah and Jesus were at the back of the boat sleeping during the storm. In both cases, scared people woke Jonah and Jesus, warning them of the impending disaster. In both cases, God calmed the waters. Except, to Jesus’ disciples’ shock, it is not God in heaven above who calms the storm, but God in Jesus standing among them that calms the storm. The disciples begin to understand Jesus is more than a great teacher and miracle worker.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> The Jews believed only God controlled the seas. God demonstrated this control at the Red Sea, as the Israelites crossed the Red Sea on dry land while the Egyptians could not (see lesson #17). In this Psalm praising God’s goodness, the Psalmist refers to this rebuking of the Red Sea as evidence of God’s saving work.</p>
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**Bible Study**

<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>It will not be until after Jesus’ resurrection that the disciples understood Jesus was both fully God and fully human. This explains why the disciples, though Jesus is in the boat with them, were terrified of the wind and waves. Ironically, the text says they were terrified after Jesus calmed the wind and waves as well. It is easy for us to look back on this episode and be critical of the disciples for their lack of faith.</p>

	<p>However, what one of us has been completely calm when coming face to face with death? This miracle is the first of four in a row Mark gives in his Gospel in which Jesus demonstrates he is more than just a great teacher and miracle worker. Jesus demonstrates he is God in the flesh.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What do you think it is about Jesus that terrifies the disciples after the waves and wind calmed down?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>When have you been close to death? What did you feel in that moment?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>Christians are tempted to believe they know everything they need to know about God. However, God is far too powerful and wise for humans ever to know God fully this side of death. God never expects Christians to know everything though; God simply calls Christians to grow in their knowledge and trust. The more Christians grow in their knowledge and trust of God, the more they will grow in their courage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>When has God brought peace to your troubled heart?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>In what part of your life do you need God to grant you courage right now?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>While God does not call Christians to be reckless or irresponsible with their lives, God does call Christians to live confidently. To live confidently means a Christian knows no matter what they go through, God will never leave them nor forsake them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can you pray to God more confidently?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What steps can you take to grow in your trust of God?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 67

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Casting Out Demons</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Mark 5:1-20</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Acts 16:16-40</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize, because Jesus is the Messiah, he has control over demons.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Believe Jesus can set you free from anything keeping you in bondage.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be ready to share with others, not just the Gospel of Jesus Christ, but also what specifically Jesus has done to set you free.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Jesus did not let him, but said, “Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.” (Mark 5:19)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Jesus and His disciples sailed to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. When Jesus got off the boat, a man who was acting very strangely ran to Him. This man lived in a cemetery and would use rocks to cut himself. Satan had sent his helpers, called demons, to make this man hurt himself. When the demons saw Jesus, one of them asked what He wanted with them. Jesus told the demons to leave the man alone. The demons begged Jesus not to send them away. But Jesus told them to go into a herd of pigs that were eating on a hillside. The demons knew that Jesus was more powerful than they were, so they obeyed Him. The demons left the man and went into the pigs. As soon as they did, the pigs squealed and ran down the hillside into a lake. All of the pigs died. Jesus told the man that he had been healed and he could go back to his home.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Region of the Gerasenes.</b> Jesus and his disciples traveled across the Sea of Galilee to a region where the people were not Jews.</li> <li>2. <b>The Demon-Possessed Man.</b> When they arrived, a demon-possessed man met them. This greatly troubled man lived in a cemetery and was often out of control. He would run around naked and hurt himself by cutting himself with rocks. Though Jesus’ disciples did not yet understand Jesus was God, the demons possessing this man did. They knew Jesus would rescue this man by casting them out of the man. They begged Jesus to send them into a herd of nearby pigs.</li> </ol>

	<p><b>3. Jesus</b> ordered the demons to leave the man immediately. He ordered the demons into the herd of 2,000 pigs. The pigs, now demon-possessed, rushed down a steep hill and into the Sea of Galilee where they drowned.</p> <p><b>4. The Healed Man.</b> After Jesus cast out the demons, the man was back in his right mind. He put on clothes and asked to travel with Jesus. Jesus instead told him to stay in the Region of the Gerasenes and tell everyone about all that God did for him. The man obeyed and the people were amazed to hear what God had done for him.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>This is the second of four miracles in a row Mark tells in which Jesus demonstrates his power over everything. The first miracle demonstrated his power over the wind and waves. Now Jesus demonstrates his power over demons, not just one demon, but a whole legion of demons. In Jesus’ day, a military legion contained between 3,000 and 6,000 men.</p> <p>This is one of only a few times Jesus’ ministry extends into Gentile (non-Jewish) lands. Jesus ministered to the Samaritans, who had a Jewish background. However, the region of the Gerasenes is primarily Gentile. Jesus does not get very far into Gentile land before this demon-possessed man confronts him.</p> <p>The demon-possessed man has several characteristics of a deeply troubled man. He lived among the tombs. He ran around naked. He harmed himself. He broke all restraints. He cried out day and night. Finally, not only was he demon-possessed, but he was possessed by thousands of demons.</p> <p>This is not too big of a challenge for Jesus, though. Jesus casts out the thousands of demons into a herd of pigs. The demon-possessed pigs ran into the sea and drowned.</p> <p>The people of the town came out to see what is going on when the people tending pigs told them what happened. They saw the drowned pigs. They saw the formerly demon-possessed man clothed and in his right mind. However, instead of asking Jesus about his great powers, they pleaded with Jesus to leave.</p> <p>Were they scared of Jesus’ power? Did they fear they would lose even more than just this one herd of pigs? Did they see this Jewish teacher and his disciples as troublemakers? The answer is probably “all the above.”</p> <p>As Jesus is leaving, the man, now in his right mind, begged to go with Jesus. Jesus, however, knowing he cannot stay and minister to these Gentiles, tells the man to be his representative here. The healed man obeyed, and became the first Gentile missionary of Jesus Christ.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> A demon-possessed girl harassed the Apostle Paul on one of his missionary journeys. Paul demanded, in the name of Jesus Christ, the demon leave the girl. The demon left. Instead of rejoicing that Paul healed this girl, the people were upset because of their loss of income (the girl’s owners made money from</p>

	her fortune telling). In addition, like Jesus’ deliverance of the demon-possessed man, the people of the city begged Paul to leave.
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  Jesus demonstrated his power over demons. Jesus’ ministry and salvation entailed more than spiritual healing. Jesus healed people’s physical problems as well. Part of the reason Jesus did this, besides wanting to set people free, was to prove to people he was more than just a great teacher or miracle worker. Jesus did not provide one of many paths to God, Jesus is the only way to salvation and peace with God. In order for people to understand this, they needed to see Jesus had power over demons.  ✓ <b>What are some of the sins that keep people in your community in bondage?</b>  ✓ <b>Why did the people ask Jesus to leave instead of continue to minister to people in their community?</b></li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  Jesus wants to set us free from all kinds of bondage. It can be fear, demons, or any one of all kinds of ways sin traps people. Like this healed man, our desire should be to serve Jesus any way Jesus desires, believing Jesus knows best. In addition, we should be confident Jesus can heal us from any bondage to sin.  ✓ <b>When has God ever said “no” to one of your prayers?</b>  ✓ <b>What are some of the sins from which you have seen people freed?</b></li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  As this healed man did, it is important for Christians to share their testimony. We may not have a fantastic testimony like this man, but people need to know more than just what God can do. They need to hear from us what God has actually done for us.  ✓ <b>Practice telling your testimony by telling each other what God has done for you.</b>  ✓ <b>With whom can you share your testimony this week?</b></li> </ul>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> </ul>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul> |
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## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 68

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Touching the Garment</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Mark 5:25-34</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>2 Kings 5</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize, because Jesus is the Messiah, he has control over physical sickness.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Choose to believe God can heal and redeem sufferings in your life.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Live confidently. Stepping out in faith can be very scary, but be sensitive to God's will for your life, and go wherever God leads.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	He (Jesus) said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering." (Mark 5:34)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>When Jesus got off the boat He was traveling on, a large crowd of people gathered around Him. A woman who had been sick for a very long time was in the crowd. She had spent all of her money going to doctors. But none of them had been able to help her. The woman pushed her way through the crowd to get close to Jesus. She thought that if she could touch Jesus' garment, she would be healed. A garment is like a robe. As soon as she touched His garment, Jesus felt power leave Him. Immediately, the woman could feel that she had been healed. Jesus asked His disciples who had touched Him. They told Jesus that many people were crowded against Him. They were all touching Him. But Jesus turned around anyway and asked, "Who touched me?" The woman was afraid, but she knelt down before Jesus and told Him her story. Jesus told the woman that because she had faith, she was healed.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Large Crowd.</b> Large crowds gathered around Jesus because of his miracles and teachings.</li> <li>2. <b>Touching the Garment.</b> There was a woman in the crowd who suffered with bleeding for 12 years. She had spent all her money on doctors, but no one was able to help her. Because of this bleeding, she was ritually "unclean," and unable to participate in worship at the synagogues. She was not even supposed to be in the crowd. However, she believed Jesus could heal her. Knowing she was not supposed to be in the crowd, she did not stop Jesus and ask for healing. Instead, believing Jesus could heal her, she simply reached out and touched his garment. As soon as she touched the garment, God healed her.</li> </ol>

**3. Jesus.** When the woman touched Jesus’ garment, he felt power leave him. He stopped walking through the crowd and asked who had touched him. His disciples did not know what happened, and told Jesus many people had touched him.

**4. Healed Woman.** The healed woman came forward when Jesus asked who had touched him. She was afraid because she knew she was not supposed to be in the crowd, much less touching the clothes of anyone. She admitted to her actions. Rather than criticize her though, Jesus praised her, saying her faith had healed her. Jesus dismissed this woman in peace.

**Text Context**

This is the third of four miracles in a row Mark tells in which Jesus demonstrates his power over everything. The first miracle, power over the wind and waves. The second miracle, power over demons. Now Jesus demonstrates his power over physical sickness.

This healing account is unique in many ways. The most unique aspect, Jesus’ power healed someone without him doing or saying anything. This woman simply touched Jesus’ clothes and Jesus’ power healed her. Second, this woman’s faith in Jesus’ ability to heal her was so great, she knew all she had to do was touch his clothes and Jesus’ power would heal her. Third, this woman broke many of the ritual laws in order to receive healing. Because of the nature of her illness, she was not supposed to be in a crowd, much less touching other people. However, God rewarded this mix of her faith and desperation by sending healing power from Jesus into her body.

Jesus publicly rewarded this woman’s faith by declaring her great faith and her healing. He also referred to her as “Daughter,” signaling his love and acceptance of her. While her illness made her ritually “unclean,” and her actions violated the ritual laws, Jesus praised her anyway. Jesus often praised people who, out of faith and desperation, were more concerned with healing than with following all the rules.

**Secondary text: (See lesson # 41 for more information)** Like this woman, Namaan was an “outsider” seeking healing from God. This woman’s status as “outsider” stemmed from the nature of her illness. Namaan’s status as “outsider” stemmed from being a Gentile. Yet, in a mix of faith and desperation, Naaman acted on the advice of his Israelite slave girl and traveled to Israel to receive healing from “Israel’s prophet.”

**Bible Study**

**Pray**

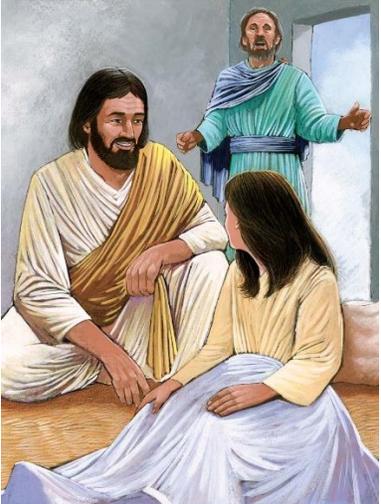
- Ask for prayer requests and praises.
- Thank God for the praises shared.
- Pray for the prayer requests.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.

**Hear**

- Read both Bible Lesson texts.
- Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>        Jesus demonstrates his power over physical illness. Jesus’ ministry focuses on teaching and healing. Teaching about God was not enough for Jesus. Jesus also demonstrated the authority of his teaching by backing up the teachings with miraculous healings. So also, Jesus demonstrated the nature of God’s love for people by not only telling them about God’s love, but also demonstrating God’s healing love through the miracles. Uniquely, in this miracle, God’s healing love heals someone without Jesus doing or saying anything. Jesus’ power and love were so great, people with faith were healed by merely touching him.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why can physical sickness make people so desperate for healing they will do anything to obtain healing?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think God cares, not just about our souls, but our bodies as well?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>        While there are many wonderful stories of Jesus healing people, not everyone who was sick in Jesus’ day received healing. Additionally, not all Christians today who pray for physical healings will receive physical healings. God provides many types of healings in Christians’ lives. Physical healing is one type, but there are also relational healings and spiritual healings. Though we might not always get the kind of healing we think we need the most, if in faith we bring our needs before God, God will bring exactly the kind of healing we need most.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think Jesus made a point of publically recognizing this woman’s faith and healing?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>In what ways can God send healing into our hearts?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>        This woman certainly lived confidently, even when it could have caused her trouble. Sometimes it is only when we become desperate that we really see just how much faith, or how little faith, we have in God. We can live confidently before God in this world because we believe in God’s great love and power.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can this woman’s faith inspire you when you face difficult situations?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How can Jesus’ compassionate response to this woman help you know how to respond to people with desperate needs in your life?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 69

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	Jairus' Daughter	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	Mark 5:21-24, 35-43	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	Hebrews 4:14-16	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize, because Jesus is the Messiah, he has control over death.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Take comfort Christians, death never has the last word.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Humble yourself before God so you can receive whatever blessings or message God has for you.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. (Hebrews 4:16)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>A man named Jairus was a ruler in the synagogue. A synagogue is a place where Jews go to study the Scriptures and worship God. Many rulers in the synagogue were like Pharisees. They didn't want to believe that Jesus was the Son of God. But Jairus didn't care what the other synagogue rulers thought about Jesus. His little daughter was going to die, and he believed that Jesus could heal her. Jairus asked Jesus if He would go to his house and heal his little girl. Jesus went with him. On the way, some men from Jairus' house met him on the road. They said that Jesus was too late. Jairus' little girl was already dead. Jesus told Jairus not to be afraid, but to believe. When they got to Jairus' house, Jesus told the people that the little girl was not dead, but asleep. The people laughed at Jesus. Jesus went into the room where the girl was and said, "Little girl, get up!" Then she opened her eyes, stood up, and walked around!</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Jairus</b> was a synagogue leader. His daughter was dying, so he sought out Jesus and begged him to come to his house and heal her. As they were on their way to his house, news arrived the daughter had died, so there was no longer any reason for Jesus to go to the house. Jesus may be a miracle worker, but these people bringing the news to Jarius did not believe Jesus could raise the dead.</li> <li>2. <b>Jesus</b>, though, told Jairus not to fear, but believe Jesus could heal his daughter. When Jesus arrived at the house, he touched the dead girl's hand and commanded, "Little girl, I say to you, get up!"</li> <li>3. <b>The Daughter.</b> When Jesus took her hand and commanded her to get up, the girl immediately stood up and began walking around. Jesus proved not even death can stop his power.</li> </ol>

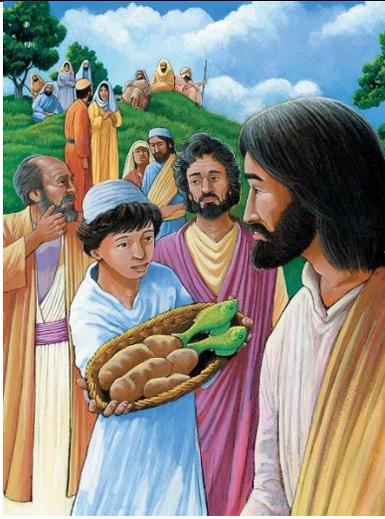
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>This is now the fourth miracle in a row Mark tells where Jesus demonstrates his power over everything. First, power over the wind and waves. Second, power over demons. Third, power over sickness. Now, the ultimate display of power, power over death itself.</p> <p>Most of the religious leaders rejected Jesus. However, Jairus is one example of a religious leader who believed Jesus could heal. It was probably risky for him, as a synagogue leader, to ask Jesus publically to heal his daughter. There were probably many in the crowd from the synagogue who would not think it right for him to do this. However, like the woman who touched Jesus' clothes, Jairus is desperate. His daughter is dying, and he has no other place to find healing for her.</p> <p>Unlike the other three miracles in this series, Jesus performed this miracle in private. Only the girl's parents and three of his disciples were in the room to witness the miracle. After the miracle, he forbade the witnesses from telling others what had happened. Why would Jesus forbid this? We do not know. However, it is not the only time Jesus ordered his disciples to keep a miracle secret (see also Mark 7:36). It may be Jesus feared the crowds would try to make him king in Israel by force (see John 6:14-15).</p> <p>In this account (as in the previous three as well), the person receiving the miracle had not asked Jesus for the miracle. Jesus calmed the wind and waves even though the disciples had no faith he could. Jesus healed the demon-possessed man even though the man did not (and could not) request healing. Jesus healed the woman with bleeding even though she sought healing secretly. Here, it was not the dead girl's faith that moved Jesus to action, but her father's faith. Faith comes in many different forms, and sometimes it is someone else's faith that brings healing.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> Jesus demonstrated God's great compassion and love while he ministered on earth. God's compassion and love did not end with Jesus' resurrection, God continues to demonstrate compassion and love by answering our prayers in our times of need.</p>
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**Bible Study**

<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the "Text Context" from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul>

	<p>What a shock it must have been for these parents to go from the deep mourning of their daughter’s death, to rejoicing at her resurrection! What a shock it must have been for Peter, James, and John to witness Jesus’ power over death! Of course, Jesus did not resurrect everyone who died during his ministry. Just as he did not calm every storm, exorcise every demon, or heal every person’s illness. However, Jesus performed his miracles to demonstrate God’s power within him, and to demonstrate God’s great love.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How have you seen God’s healing power at work in your community?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think Jesus did not go around raising everyone from the dead while he was on earth?</b></li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></p> <p>In all four of these miracles in these four studies, Jesus continued to expand the disciples’ understanding of his power and ministry. They would not fully understand his nature as being fully God and fully man until after Jesus’ resurrection. Then, after his resurrection, these stories would help the disciples understand the incredible power at work in Jesus, not just to heal in the physical realm, but power to save sinners from their sins. The disciples would realize, with Jesus, death never has the last word.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why is Jesus’ power to save Christians from their sins his greatest miracle of all?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why does death never have the last word in a Christian’s life?</b></li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></p> <p>People often underestimate God’s power. Jairus’ friends thought Jesus might be a healer, but did not think Jesus’ power extended to reversing death. Christians sometimes think God can save them from punishment for their sins, but not deliver them from the power of sin in their life. Unfortunately, they do not pray for God to deliver them from the power of sin in their life because they do not think God can. However, the Bible tells us Jesus’ death and resurrection did not just conquer death, it conquered the power of sin as well. Humbly, Christians are to ask God to fill them with the power of the Holy Spirit so they can defeat the power of sin at work in their life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Have you asked God to deliver you from the power of sin in your life?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How does humility in prayer help a Christian receive great blessings from God?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 70

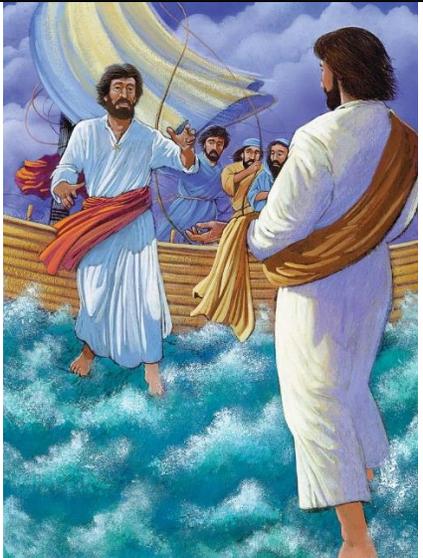
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Jesus Feeds 5,000</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>John 6:1-13</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Exodus 16</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Rejoice! God does not just care about giving us salvation, but wants to provide for our daily needs as well.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Believe God can do great things, even with only a little faith on our part.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Make plans to be generous to others this week. When Jesus fed the multitude, not only did all eat until they were full, but also there was much food left over.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	After the people saw the sign Jesus performed, they began to say, “Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world.” (John 6:14)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Many people began to follow Jesus because they enjoyed listening to Him teach. And they were amazed at the miracles He would perform. One day, about 5,000 people followed Jesus to a mountainside. Jesus wanted to feed the people so they would not be hungry. A little boy told Andrew, one of Jesus’ disciples, that he had five little loaves of bread and two small fish for his lunch. But Jesus could have it to help feed the other people. Jesus thanked the little boy and thanked God for the food. Jesus told the disciples to put the food into a basket and start passing it out to the people. As the basket was passed around, the bread and fish didn’t seem to disappear. Instead, they multiplied! When the disciples had passed out food to all of the people, there were 12 baskets of bread and fish left over! All 5,000 people had eaten the food Jesus had blessed, and they were full. It was a miracle!</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>A Great Crowd of People.</b> Jesus’ popularity was growing. People heard about Jesus’ miracles and teaching, and wanted to hear and see for themselves. A great crowd of people gathered on a mountainside to be with Jesus.</li> <li>2. <b>Jesus</b> asked his disciple, Philip, where they could go to buy enough food to feed this great crowd. Philip replied they did not have enough money to feed all these people.</li> <li>3. <b>One Boy’s Meal.</b> Andrew, one of Jesus’ other disciples, brought a boy to Jesus who had five loaves and two fish. Jesus blessed the small meal, and started handing out the food to his disciples to hand out to the people. Miraculously, that one boy’s meal, after Jesus blessed it, multiplied and not only feed all the thousands of people, but there were 12 baskets full of food left over.</li> </ol>

<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Jesus’ teachings and miracles made him so popular huge crowds followed him. One day Jesus looked at the crowd and asked one of his disciples where they should go to buy enough food to feed all these people.</p> <p>The disciple, Philip, quickly confessed there was no way they could afford to feed all these people even with a single bite for each person. Although Philip observed many of Jesus’ miracles, he still did not understand how Jesus’ powers applied to their daily lives. Philip witnessed Jesus healing people on an individual basis. However, now Philip is looking at thousands of hungry people.</p> <p>Jesus decided to show Philip, and the other disciples, how he could provide a miracle for people’s daily needs, just as he had been providing miracles for people’s illnesses. To do this he took a small boy’s offering, prayed over it, and miraculously fed the whole crowd, not just with one bite of food, but with so much everyone is filled, and there is plenty left over!</p> <p>Sometimes, like Philip, Christians feel so overwhelmed by the size of the needs in front of them, they forget God can do anything.</p> <p><b>Secondary text: (See Lesson # 18 for more background information)</b> Although God has just delivered the Israelites from slavery in Egypt with mighty miracles, the people started to grumble. Their food and water were running out, and they began to fear for their lives out in the wilderness with no crops to harvest and no sources of water to provide for everyone. Just as Jesus miraculously provided for the large crowd’s hunger, so God also miraculously provided for the Israelite’s hunger. It can be easy to forget God’s mighty power when your stomach is grumbling.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>We know God can work mighty miracles for others in times of crisis. However, what about our daily needs? One of the temptations for Christians is to believe God provides for others, but to doubt whether God will provide for our daily needs. Philip was overwhelmed by the scale of the need Jesus showed him, and probably also with the reality of knowing in about six hours, this huge need is</p>

	<p>going to arise again. Jesus shows the disciples God’s power works not just in the times of crisis, but in daily life as well. Earlier Jesus taught the disciples to pray, “give us today our daily bread.” (Matthew 6:11) Now, Jesus shows them that God really cares about, and answers, those kinds of prayers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What is it about our daily needs that causes us to lose sight sometimes of God’s desire to provide for us?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some ways you have seen God take the little someone has to offer (like love, forgiveness, finances) and use it to meet a large need?</b></li> </ul> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></p> <p>Philip is overwhelmed with Jesus’ question. Andrew, on the other hand, brings food to Jesus. Even though he knows it is only a small amount of food, he still brings it to Jesus as a beginning to meeting the need. There are times a Christian will feel overwhelmed by the needs around them. Either they can choose to allow the situation to paralyze them, or they can offer God what little they have, and watch as God multiplies it for God’s glory.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the small abilities, talents, or resources you have that God can grow to be of great help to others?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Beyond your abilities, talents, or resources, what can God do with whatever little amount of faith you have?</b></li> </ul> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></p> <p>Our God is a generous God. Jesus modeled generosity throughout his ministry. In this episode, not only are all the people fed until they are full, but there is plenty left over. God calls Christians to be generous with what little or much they have, knowing God can use everything to be a blessing to others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Take time this week to make a list of all the blessings God has given you in the last month.</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Then take that list and pray that God will help you find ways to take those blessings and use them to bless others.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 71

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Jesus Walks on Water</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Matthew 14:22-33</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Psalm 104</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Celebrate that Jesus saves us, not because we have an adequate faith, but because in our human weakness we reach out to him.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Take comfort, while we may not have as much faith as we should, Jesus never abandons his children.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Reflect on your prayer life, do you approach God with humility or with demands?</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." (Matthew 14:33)	

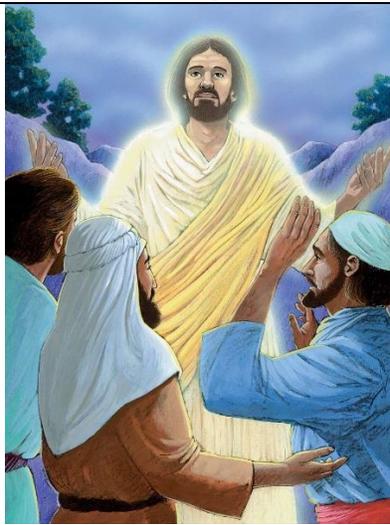
<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>After Jesus fed the 5,000 people, He told His disciples to get into their boat and start sailing across the sea. Jesus walked to a mountain so that He could pray and be alone with God. When Jesus was finished praying, He went to be with the disciples. The only way He could get to them was to walk on the water. The disciples looked out across the sea and saw a man walking toward them. They were afraid and cried out, "It's a ghost!" Jesus told the disciples not to be afraid. Peter asked Jesus if he could walk out on the water to meet Him. This way Peter would know it was really Jesus. Jesus told Peter to walk to Him. Peter stepped out of the boat and started walking on the water. Then he looked around and realized what he was doing. When Peter took his eyes off Jesus, he started to sink. Jesus asked Peter, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Sailing on the Sea of Galilee.</b> The disciples have been sailing on the Sea of Galilee all night, and have been fighting against mighty winds. In the early hours of the morning, the disciples saw a figure walking on the water. Thinking the figure was a ghost, the disciples cried out in fear.</li> <li>2. <b>Jesus.</b> The figure was not a ghost, but Jesus, who told them not to fear, but to be courageous.</li> <li>3. <b>Peter</b> challenged Jesus, saying if it really was Jesus, allow him to walk on the water. Jesus invited him out of the boat and Peter started walking on the water. However, after a little while Peter felt the wind and was afraid. When he started to fear, he began to sink and cried out to Jesus to save him. Immediately Jesus reached out and saved Peter.</li> </ol>

	<p><b>4. The disciples.</b> When Jesus and Peter got into the boat, the disciples worshipped Jesus saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Jesus has been trying to find some solitude. He had sailed across the Sea of Galilee to get some time alone. However, the crowds heard Jesus was nearby and found him. Jesus ministered to the crowd by providing food for everyone. After this, he sent the crowds away, sent the disciples to sail back across the Sea of Galilee, and was finally alone. Jesus spent the night in prayer.</p> <p>When Jesus finished praying, he went to join the disciples. Instead of walking around the Sea of Galilee to meet them when they landed, Jesus walked on the water to meet the disciples. The weather was bad, with the wind buffeting the boat. It was the early hours of the morning, right before sunrise, when Jesus caught up to the disciples in the boat.</p> <p>The disciples had no idea Jesus could walk on water, and so when they saw a figure walking on the water towards them, they assumed it was a ghost. Not only were the disciples fighting against the wind to get their boat to shore, now they were confronted by a ghost.</p> <p>In the midst of the wind and this ghost, Jesus revealed himself to the disciples and told them to be courageous. Peter took up Jesus’ challenge to be courageous, and asked Jesus to prove it is he by allowing Peter to walk on the water. Jesus agreed, and for a little while Peter actually walked on the water. However, he soon got his eyes off Jesus and onto the mighty winds. In his fear, he began to sink and cried out for Jesus to save him. Jesus did immediately save him, but also asked why Peter so quickly doubted.</p> <p>The disciples, deeply moved by this miracle, and finally recognizing Jesus was not just a great teacher or miracle worker, worshiped him and confessed “truly you are the Son of God.”</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> This Psalm praises God for the majesty of creation. As the God of all creation, only God is powerful enough to control nature. In verses 25-26, the Psalmist focuses on the majesty of the sea. God not only created the sea, but also filled it with fish. Verse 26 mentions Leviathan, a name the Israelites used to refer to the frightening aspects of the sea. Thus, the Israelites both gave God praise for the mighty sea, and maintained a healthy fear of the power of the sea as well.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  Can you imagine how you would react to coming face to face with one of your greatest fears? Fighting the winds most of the night, caught in the middle of the Sea of Galilee, the disciples are not only terrified, but exhausted as well. Fear and exhaustion are not a good combination. However, in the midst of this fear and exhaustion, Peter asks to participate in the miracle of walking on the water with Jesus. Jesus invites him out of the boat, and Peter does well, until he gets his eyes off Jesus and on the winds and waves. Peter has enough faith to get out of the boat, but not enough to stay above the water. However, as Peter sinks into the water and cries out to Jesus, Jesus immediately saves Peter. Jesus does not reject Peter when his lack of faith is exposed. Instead, Jesus saves him. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Would you have been like Peter, stepping out in faith, or like the other disciples who stayed in the boat? Why?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think Jesus invites Peter out onto the water, instead of just telling him “no, your faith is too weak, stay in the boat?”</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  Peter’s sinking did not surprise Jesus. Jesus, the Son of God, knew Peter’s faith was not yet adequate. However, Peter’s faith is growing, and this episode will not hurt Peter’s faith, but be a milestone in his faith. So also, Jesus knows our level of faith, and loves us whether that level is high or low. Regardless of our inadequate faith, Jesus will accept us where we are, and then work to build us into men and women of great faith. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some things that can so scare Christians today that they get their eyes off Jesus?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What does it tell you about Jesus, that he immediately reached out and saved Peter when Peter’s faith fell short?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  There is a difference between stepping out in faith when God calls, and recklessly stepping out in our own pride. We sometimes have great plans for our lives, or ideas of great things we can do for God. However, that does not mean our great plans or ideas are inspired by God. We can mistake our great plans with God’s great plans. It is important to always approach God with humility, and not, in pride, approach God always assuming we know God’s will and desires. Reflect on your prayer life, do you approach God with humility or with demands? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can we discern whether it is God calling us to take a certain step of faith, or our pride?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What should we do when we realize some of our desires are the result of our own pride and not God’s holiness?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> </ul>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul> |
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## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 72

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Transfiguration of Jesus</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Matthew 17:1-9</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Isaiah 52:13-15</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Celebrate that Jesus was not a Messiah who would free Israel from their bondage to Rome, as many expected, but free humanity from their bondage to sin.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Be aware that God only reveals to Christians what they need to know, when they need to know it.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Patiently await opportunities God will give you to share the glory of Jesus with those God brings into your life.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!” (Matthew 17:5)	

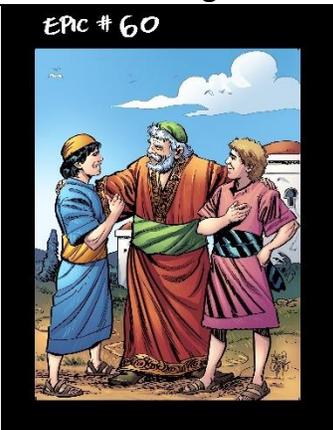
<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>One day, Jesus took three of His disciples—James and John, the sons of Zebedee, and Peter—with Him to the top of a mountain. While they were there, Jesus went through a transfiguration. A transfiguration happens when someone changes how he looks on the outside. When Peter, James, and John looked at Jesus, they noticed that His face glowed like the sun and His clothes were as white as light. Then the disciples heard God say, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!” (NIV). Peter, James, and John were terrified and fell facedown on the ground. Jesus walked up to the three men and touched them. He told them to get up and not to be afraid. Peter, James, and John saw Jesus in a way that no one else had seen Him. Jesus looked like He had been in heaven. When Jesus and the disciples went back down the mountain, Jesus told them not to tell anyone what they had seen.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Peter, James and John.</b> One day Jesus took three of his disciples (Peter, James, John), up a high mountain.</li> <li>2. <b>Transfigured.</b> On the mountain Jesus transfigured, which means Jesus took on a glorified appearance. Like Moses’ face when he came down from meeting God at Mt. Saini, Jesus’ face shone, reflecting God’s glory. Jesus’ clothes also shone very bright. Two Old Testament figures, Moses and Elijah appeared and talked with Jesus. They were talking with Jesus about his coming suffering, death, and resurrection. Then the voice of God sounded from heaven saying “this is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!” The disciples were terrified, but Jesus told them not to be afraid. Then they went back down the mountain.</li> </ol>

<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>There are only a few times God speaks from heaven in the Gospels. God speaks at Jesus' Baptism, once just before Jesus' death, and here at the Transfiguration. There are many similarities between this event and when Moses came down from Mt. Saini in Exodus 24 (a high mountain, a shiny face, tents, a cloud, a voice from the cloud, fear of the people).</p> <p>Jesus is now on his way to Jerusalem where he knows crucifixion awaits. Therefore, Jesus has been teaching his disciples that crucifixion is God's will, as is resurrection. It may be Moses and Elijah are appearing to give Jesus strength and encouragement for this painful path.</p> <p>The religious leaders of Jesus' time did not understand the Messiah would be a suffering Messiah. Instead, they envisioned a military Messiah who would free them from Rome's rule. This transfiguration played an important role for the disciples after Jesus' resurrection: it helped them connect Jesus to the Old Testament. One of the reasons why the religious leaders of Jesus' day did not understand the Messiah would be a suffering Messiah was because they did not understand that the Suffering Servant passages applied to the Messiah. This event was very important for helping the disciples understand that, while they had to change their idea of what kind of Messiah God sent, Jesus stood firmly in connection with Moses and Elijah, two of the great figures in Old Testament history.</p> <p>As Jesus frequently does, he forbade the disciples from sharing what they had seen until after his resurrection. This must have been a very confusing occurrence for the disciples, and Jesus knows they would not be able to make any sense of it until after his resurrection.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> Passages like this one in Isaiah 52 helped the disciples understand that God had always foretold the Messiah would be a suffering Messiah. Just because the religious leaders of Jesus' time did not read these passages as applying to the Messiah did not mean they did not apply. This is why the disciples, who were raised under the religious teachers' teachings, constantly struggled to comprehend Jesus' teachings of his future suffering and death. It is not that they rejected this passage from Isaiah; it is just that no one taught them that this text applied to the Messiah. After Jesus' resurrection, God opened the disciples' minds to understand the Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah. Then the disciples could understand how Jesus fulfilled those prophecies.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  <p>If you are looking for the wrong person, you are probably never going to find the right person. Because the religious leaders of Jesus day looked for the wrong kind of Messiah, they never recognized the right kind of Messiah was right in front of them. This would be funny if it was not so tragic. The religious leaders were so convinced their interpretation of the Old Testament Messiah was correct, not even Jesus’ powerful teachings and fantastic miracles could make them reconsider their ideas. However, it was not just the religious leaders, until Jesus’ death, his own disciples were convinced he would overthrow the religious and political powers in Jerusalem. While Peter, James, and John did not understand the significance of the Transfiguration at the time, after Jesus’ resurrection they would be able to see how all of Jesus’ teachings, miracles, and ministry fit perfectly into the Old Testament teachings about the Messiah. They would understand the Messiah’s mission was not to just free Israel from bondage to Rome, but to free all men and women from bondage to sin.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What have been some wrong ideas you have had about God that had to change once you understood Jesus is the Messiah?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think Jesus instructed Peter, James, and John not to tell anyone what they witnessed until after Jesus’ resurrection?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  <p>It can be frustrating when Jesus does not answer your prayers asking him to reveal to you what the future will look like. We sometimes mistakenly believe, if we just knew how God would work out the problems and challenges we have now, then that would make life easier. However, this is not true. Instead, Jesus reveals to us exactly what we need to know, exactly when we need to know it. Therefore, we must remain alert and open to Jesus’ message to us, so we do not miss these important messages from Jesus.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What do you think was going through Peter’s mind as he walked down the mountain with Jesus, James, and John?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Have there been times when you, like the religious leaders of Jesus’ day, had a view of Jesus that was too small?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  <p>The disciples had to wait until Jesus’ resurrection to tell about the Transfiguration, and to understand what it meant. Sometimes we just have to sit back and wait for God’s message to us before we can take action. Here is when patience is such an important virtue. Patience is not sitting back and doing nothing, patience is actively waiting for God to tell you the next step you need to take.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do people struggle to be patient?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What can happen when a Christian is not patient, but just feels like they have to act right away?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 73

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Lost and Found Prodigal</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Luke 15:11-32</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Isaiah 29:13-16</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Reflect on that nature of God that is so willing to forgive and reconcile with sinful persons.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Reflect on how different from God your own attitude towards “sinners,” and those who are different from you might be.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Offer to help someone this week seek out restoration for a broken relationship.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	“But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.” Luke 15:32	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>The self-declared religious elite were criticizing Jesus for spending so much time teaching and fellowshiping with people who did not live lives as pure as they did. Jesus told a parable about two sons and a loving father. The younger son rebelled against his father and left home. The older son stayed at home. The younger son squandered his money on sinful living, and when all his money ran out, came back home humiliated, to ask his father if he could live as a servant in his father’s household. Ignoring this request, the father was full of joy to have his lost son return home. On the other hand, the older brother who never left home was very angry that his father was so forgiving, and refused to celebrate his brother’s return. The point of Jesus’ story was to show that even though the older brother had followed all the rules, he was still very far away from demonstrating the love of God to someone who repents of their sin.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>The Lost Son.</b> Summarize the parable. This lost son returns home repentant of his past sins and recognizing he is not worthy of forgiveness. But he knows his father’s love and compassion, and hopes to be made a simple servant so he can have food and shelter.</li> <li>2. <b>The Father.</b> The heart of the father rejoices that his lost son has been found. Regardless of the pain the younger son has caused, the father’s love is able to quickly forgive and restore the son. Jesus wants us to recognize the nature of God is not to keep a record of wrong so people can be punished, but God’s desire is to forgive the repentant.</li> <li>3. <b>The Older Son.</b> Not pictured, refused to be part of this reconciliation. He does not have the father’s loving and compassionate heart, but a very angry heart. In the end, which son really modeled the love of the father, the one who though he sinned repented and returned? Or the son whose heart was full of hate and not able to forgive the repentant brother?</li> </ol>

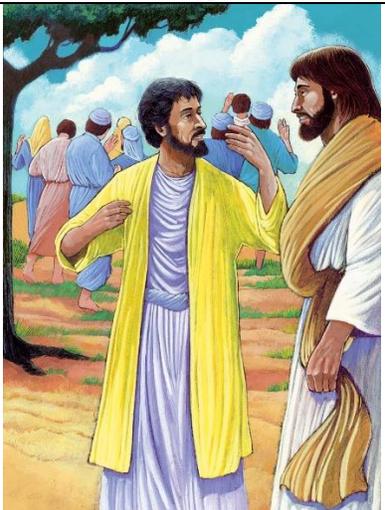
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>The nature of Jesus’ ministry confused many people. Most Jews in Jesus’ day were waiting for the Messiah to save Israel. They were looking forward to a strong and powerful Messiah in the tradition of King David who would wage war against the Romans and bring political freedom to Israel. Jesus was not at all that kind of Messiah.</p> <p>Instead, Jesus was a Messiah who wanted to free Israel from her spiritual bondage to sin. Because of this, Jesus spent his time with the “sinners” who needed to experience the love of God through Jesus. Many of these “sinners,” so used to being rejected and scorned by the religious authorities embraced Jesus’ love and teachings.</p> <p>The religious authorities did not appreciate this ministry of Jesus. They, like the older brother in the parable, were full of pride, anger, and hostility towards those who needed God the most. And ironically, those who were so convinced of their spiritual excellence ended up demonstrating by their opposition to Jesus, that they were farther away from God than all the “sinners” who so offended them.</p> <p>Jesus came to bring healing to the sick. However, the sick must recognize their illness in order to find healing. Most of the religious authorities in Jesus’ day were blinded by sin to their own spiritual illness.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> The blindness of the religious authorities in Jesus’ day was not new. Through the Old Testament prophet Isaiah, God confronted the religious authorities centuries before Jesus’ life and ministry. The religious authorities were careful to live out their religion externally by following all kinds of laws, but did not allow the love of God to inhabit their own hearts, or be demonstrated to others who needed God.</p>
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**Bible Study**

<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>The nature of God is to love his creation, and to forgive sinners who turn from their sins and repent. Followers of God are to be the same, however, oftentimes they are hypocrites and hateful towards those who are not like them. Merely following a moral code or attending church does not mean a person is in right</p>

	<p>relationship with God. To be right with God means a person not only accepts God’s forgiveness, but strives to share God’s love and forgiveness with others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>If God is so willing to forgive sinners, why is it sometimes so difficult for God’s followers to do the same?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What steps should a person take who is struggling to forgive someone?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>God does not just want to heal our sinful actions, God wants to forgive and heal our sinful hearts and attitudes as well. The person who meticulously lives out God’s commands may in fact be very far from God if they have not allowed the love of God to enter their hearts. God calls on us to be compassionate and forgiving of others. However, this is not merely a command, instead this is how God has treated us. Therefore, we are not called to just follow laws and rules, but are to demonstrate to others the love and forgiveness God has first demonstrated to us.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why can it be easy for someone who claims to be a Christian to have the heart of the older brother, very unforgiving and hateful?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What would you say to someone who says they cannot forgive another person because the hurt is just too big?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>Sometimes the key to forgiving someone is to act forgiving until we feel forgiving. This is not being hypocritical, but it is putting the love of God into action until the love of God fully heals the person struggling to forgive. Another key to forgiving others is to help be a peacemaker between two people who have a broken relationship. When we are able to do so, and see the power of healing that can come from God, then it makes it easier for us to understand how God can do the same for us as well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How is God’s love demonstrated to us? See Romans 8:6-11</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What is a practical step you can take this week to be a peacemaker, to help two people begin the process of reconciliation?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 74

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Ten Lepers Healed</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Luke 17:11-19</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Leviticus 13</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize the proper response to God's grace in our lives is worshipping God with our life.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Be careful to appreciate the blessings God has already brought into your life. If you are always looking for new blessings, or wanting the blessings other have, you will miss enjoying the blessings God has already given to you.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Worshipping God is the most significant work we will ever do.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well." (Luke 17:19)	

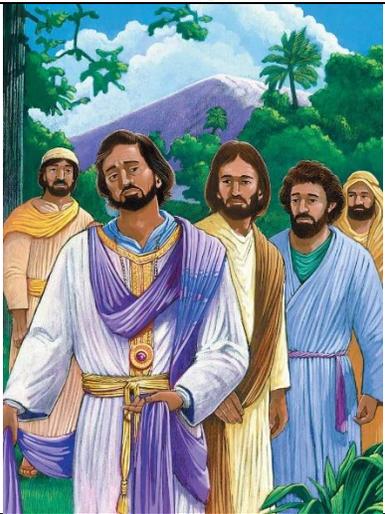
<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Jesus was traveling back to Jerusalem when He heard some people calling out His name. He looked and saw ten men who were standing a long way away from Him. They told Jesus that they had leprosy and hoped that He would be kind enough to heal them of their disease. Leprosy is a disease that can cause people's skin to decay and fall off. A person with leprosy was not allowed to get close to other people, because the disease was thought to be highly contagious. So the men called out to Jesus from a distance. Jesus told them to go and see the priests. When the men turned around to go, they looked down at their hands and feet and noticed that they had been completely healed. Only one of the men, who was a Samaritan, turned around and ran to Jesus. He knelt down at Jesus' feet and thanked Jesus for healing him from his disease.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Ten Lepers.</b> As Jesus was traveling, a group of 10 lepers met him. Lepers have a contagious skin disease that had no cure in Jesus' day. Because of this, the authorities did not allow lepers to live with their families or in towns. They had to live together with other lepers outside of towns. They also could not get near other people who were not lepers. According to the Old Testament law, lepers were "unclean," and not allowed to participate in any religious or community activities. This is why this group of lepers stood at a distance and yelled their request to Jesus, "Have pity on us!" They asked Jesus to heal them.</li> <li>2. <b>Jesus</b> told them to go show themselves to the priests. The priests were the ones who declared if someone was "clean" or "unclean." As the lepers obeyed Jesus' command, God healed them.</li> </ol>

	<p><b>3. The Samaritan Leper.</b> One of the lepers though, came back to Jesus, worshipping God and rejoicing. He thanked Jesus for the healing. He fell at Jesus’ feet in gratitude. This was the first time in a long time the healed man could be near someone who did not have leprosy. The fact only one leper came back to thank Jesus surprised Jesus. Not only did only one come back, but also the one who came back was a Samaritan. The Jews and Samaritans did not get along with each other. Once again, the Jews who should have responded correctly to Jesus did not, but a Samaritan did.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>As noted in Lesson #60, the Samaritans and Jews were long-time enemies. Neither one thought the other worshipped God correctly or in the correct city. Though Samaria was between southern Israel and northern Israel, the Israelites would go around Samaria when traveling between the two areas, just to avoid having to be around any Samaritans. Jesus, though, came to heal and save all people, even Samaritans.</p> <p>Leprosy is a contagious disease. In addition, in Jesus’ day, there was no cure. Therefore, once declared “unclean” by a priest, lepers could not live in towns or be near “clean” people. They would never be able to be with their families again, but were now outcasts for the rest of their lives.</p> <p>This group of lepers cried out to Jesus for pity. Jesus had compassion on them, and told them to go to the priests. Anyone declared “unclean” had to present themselves to the priests in a healed state in order for the priest to declare them “clean.” God healed the lepers as they obeyed Jesus and went to see the priests. One of the lepers, though, a Samaritan, came back to Jesus praising God and giving thanks to Jesus. He was so grateful he put off going to the priest until he expressed gratitude to the one who healed him.</p> <p>A twist on this story is, not only did only one come back; the one who did was a Samaritan. Because Jesus notes this, at least some of the other nine were Israelites. Therefore, the man who was an outsider twice, once because of the leprosy and once because of being a Samaritan, is the only one who gave proper gratitude to Jesus.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> Leviticus 13 outlines the requirements for handling skin disease in Israel. It lays out the responsibilities the priests have for declaring people “clean” and “unclean.” It also, as applies to the lesson text, states that people with leprosy must stand off from people can declare “Unclean! Unclean!” whenever they are near others (v. 45)</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>        Jesus continually refused to allow cultural differences to hinder his ministry. He was not just the Messiah of “insiders” in Israel, but of “outsiders” inside and outside of Israel. He ate with “sinners,” touched Samaritans, raised a Gentile girl from the dead. This enraged the religious leaders of Israel who believed God loved “clean” Israelites more than anyone who was “unclean” or a non-Israelite. Jesus declared, though, God’s love extends to all people. When someone experiences the love of God, no matter if they are “clean” or “unclean,” their response should be gratitude and worship of God.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Are there any groups of people your community considers enemies or “unclean?”</b></li> <li>✓ <b>If God loves all people, how should Christians treat people who are different from them?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>        The nine lepers, who did not return, focused so much on having the priest declare them “clean,” they missed worshipping the Messiah. There was nothing wrong, of course, with the priest declaring them “clean,” Jesus told them to do so. However, they missed what was most important, in recognizing God in the flesh healed them. Sometimes Christians can miss giving God proper praise and worship for all the blessings they already have, because they focus instead on what they do not yet have. Christians must be careful they never miss an opportunity to show God gratitude and thanksgiving for all the blessings God has already given to them.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do Christians sometimes focus too much on other people’s blessings, and not on their own?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Share with the group some of the many blessings God has given to you.</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>        Worshipping God is not only what happens in worship services on Sundays. Worshipping God is whenever we give glory and praise to God for all God’s goodness and love. We can worship God while at work, while at home, while walking around the community. In fact, we can always worship God. When our life becomes one act of worship to God, then we will not miss recognizing all the blessings God gives to us.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can you worship God when you are all alone?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some habits you can begin practicing that will help you remember to be always grateful to God?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> </ul>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul> |
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## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 75

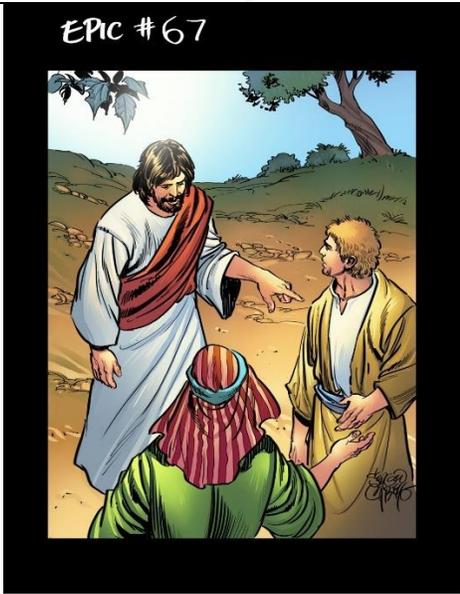
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Rich Young Ruler Seeks God</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Matthew 19:16-30</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Deuteronomy 6</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand obedience to Jesus is the most important attribute of a disciple of Jesus Christ.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Be careful, it is tempting to love the blessings of God more than actually loving God.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be willing to be generous whenever God brings a need to your attention.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first. (Matthew 19:30)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>A rich young man walked up to Jesus and asked Him a question. He asked Jesus what good thing he should do so he could make sure he would go to heaven. Jesus told the man that only God was good, and that the man needed to obey the commandments. The man said he did obey the commandments, but wanted to know what else he should do. Jesus then told the man to sell all of the things he owned, and to give the money to poor people. The rich young man wouldn't sell his possessions. He was sad and walked away. He realized that he loved the things that he owned more than obeying Jesus and helping poor people. Jesus turned to His disciples and said that it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to get into heaven. The disciples asked, "Who can be saved?" Jesus said that anything is possible with God.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Rich Young Man.</b> One day, a rich young man approached Jesus and asked what he must do to get into heaven. In Jesus' day, people believed God rewarded righteous behavior with riches. Therefore, this rich young man, and others around him, assumed Jesus would say, "nothing, you are already very righteous and on your way to heaven!"</li> <li>2. <b>Jesus.</b> However, this is not what Jesus said. Instead, Jesus told this rich young man he needed to sell all his possessions, give his money away to the poor, and then become one of Jesus' disciples. The rich young man went away sad, because he loved his riches more than he loved being obedient to God.</li> <li>3. <b>Jesus' Disciples</b> had done what Jesus told this rich young man to do. They had left behind their families and possessions and followed Jesus. Jesus did not tell everyone to leave behind everything and follow him, but to those who he had, it was very important for them to be obedient to Jesus' call on their lives.</li> </ol>

<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>This was a unique encounter between Jesus and the rich young man. Nowhere else do the Gospel writers record Jesus calling someone to sell all their possessions, give everything away to the poor, and follow him. Jesus’ disciples had left all their possession behind, but Jesus had not told them to sell all their possessions. Therefore, we need to be careful not to make Jesus’ command to this one young man a general call to all people.</p> <p>In general, the Jews did not have a clear and strong understanding of heaven. This led to the general understanding that the rewards and punishments of God came in this lifetime. Therefore, Jews believed God rewarded righteous people with riches while he punished evil people with poverty. Certainly, some texts in the Old Testament support this view. However, Jesus taught a fuller understanding of God’s work on earth, in which people’s ultimate rewards and punishments come after death.</p> <p>Therefore, this one rich man came to Jesus asking what he needed to do to go to heaven. Jesus perceived the great trust this man put in his riches, and told him if he wanted to have eternal life, he needed to put his trust fully in God, not in God’s blessings. This command revealed this man’s true heart. His first love was not God, but God’s blessings. Therefore, he disobeyed Jesus and walked away sad.</p> <p>Whether you are rich or poor, the most important response you can give to Jesus is obedience.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> Deuteronomy 6:18 is one of the texts used to teach God gives blessings to the faithful. However, as the larger chapter shows, there is much more to God’s commands than just “be good and God will bless you.” The main teaching here is on the importance of faithfulness to God’s commands. No matter how little or much we have, if we are not being faithful to God’s call on our life, then we are living in disobedience to God.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>A disciple is someone who follows a leader. Jesus calls all people to be his disciple. To be a disciple though, requires leaving behind anything that competes with Jesus</p>

	<p>to be first in your life. For some, riches or possessions compete with Jesus. For others, relationships compete with Jesus. For still others, jobs compete with Jesus. Jesus knows we need jobs, relationships, and possessions. Those are not problems in and of themselves. However, they become problems when we treat them as more important than Jesus.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some things people in your community treat as more important than Jesus?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why do people often view physical blessings as more important than spiritual blessings?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>In the Garden of Eden, Satan tempted Adam and Eve to want to enjoy God's blessings more than they wanted to be faithful God. So also today, Satan continues to tempt Christians to focus their attention more on the blessings of God than on obedience to God. Therefore, it is very important for Christians to check their hearts on a regular basis, and make sure they are not giving in to the temptations of Satan in this area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why are disciples of Jesus sometimes tempted to believe they deserve blessings from God?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What do you think would happen to a Christian's heart if they suddenly got every blessing they ever wanted?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>While this is the only case in the Bible of Jesus telling someone to sell all their possessions and give them all away, one of the common calls of Jesus is for Christians to be generous towards others. Yet, even when Jesus does not call a Christian to give away everything, Christians will still be tempted to refuse to give even a little away to help others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some ways you can be generous with others this week that does not involve money?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are examples of blessings Jesus gives to people who are generous with others?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 76

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Jesus Knew of the Coming Crucifixion</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Luke 18:31-34</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Isaiah 52:13-53:12</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand that Jesus' suffering and death were not a surprise to him, but he knew they were part of God's plan to bring salvation to the world.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Reflect on the depths of love and compassion within Jesus that would lead him to willingly suffer and die for your salvation.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Find specific ways to deny yourself, take up your cross, and live out the love and compassion of Jesus this week.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, "We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. Luke 18:31	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>The Apostle Luke records three instances in his gospel of Jesus predicting his impending death (see also Luke 9:21-27 and 9:43-45). The common belief in Jesus' day was that God's Messiah would be a military leader like King David who would free Israel from her bondage to the Roman Empire. However, Jesus continually taught that God's Messiah would not be like King David, but would be like the Suffering Servant of whom Isaiah prophesied. It was hard for Jesus' disciples to accept these predictions, and in fact, it was only after Jesus' resurrection that they began to believe this part of Jesus' teachings. However, it is important to understand that their lack of belief did not hinder Jesus' ministry, that Jesus fully lived out God's call upon his life, even when Jesus knew it meant he would experience suffering and pain.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Walls of Jerusalem.</b> Jesus fully knew his mission was to die and rise again in Jerusalem. Rather than avoid this painful mission and avoid Jerusalem, Jesus purposefully made his way to Jerusalem in order to fulfill God's plan of salvation for the world. Jerusalem was the center of Jewish life, housing the Temple, and being where the most important religious and political leaders of Israel lived.</li> <li>2. <b>Crosses on the Hill.</b> Crucifixion was one of the most painful means by which the Roman Empire killed people. Crucifixion was not just a punishment for the criminal, but also to be a deterrent to others who would consider committing crimes or rebelling against the Roman authorities. Therefore, crucifixions</li> </ol>

occurred just outside the city walls, where travelers in and out of the city would be confronted with the power and ruthlessness of the Roman authorities.

**3. Jesus Teaches.** Jesus taught his disciples on several occasions that he would die in Jerusalem at the hands of the authorities. Jesus’ death was not a surprise to him, he resolutely set out for Jerusalem so he would arrive there at the Passover, and be God’s perfect lamb who would take on himself the sins of the world.

**4. Jesus’ Disciples.** Jesus’ disciples did not understand his teaching on this point. Although Jesus taught them repeatedly that God’s Messiah had to die and be resurrected, they thought God’s Messiah instead would overthrow the Roman authorities and free Israel from bondage to Rome.

**Text Context**

Sometimes it is only in retrospect that we can understand the importance of an event. The fact that Jesus’ disciples did not understand his three teachings that he was going to die in Jerusalem and be raised again does not constitute a failure. Jesus’ point was not repeat this teaching over and over again hoping that they would understand. His point was to plant seeds in their mind, so that when he was resurrected, they would remember his predictions.

One of the reasons why the disciples struggled so much to understand Jesus teaching about the necessity of his death is that their image of God’s Messiah was centered around King David instead of Isaiah’s teachings about the Suffering Servant. From their youngest years Jesus’ disciples would have been taught that, while Israel is now under bondage to Rome, God would send a Savior, a Messiah in the line of King David who will fight and free Israel from her bondage.

It was only on the other side of the resurrection that the disciples began to understand the teachings of Isaiah about the Suffering Servant were in fact teachings about the coming Messiah. It would not be enough for the Messiah to simply break the power of Rome and free Israel from her political bondage to Rome. No, God’s Messiah would break the power of sin, and offer a salvation that would free all peoples from their bondage to sin.

**Secondary text:** Refer to Lesson 54 The Prophets Speak about the Messiah for more information. It is important to understand Jesus as the fulfillment of God’s promises in the Old Testament.

**Bible Study**

**Pray**

- Ask for prayer requests and praises.
- Thank God for the praises shared.
- Pray for the prayer requests.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.

**Hear**

- Read both Bible Lesson texts.
- Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>        God’s plan to provide a means of salvation to sinful humanity required sacrifice. And, in Jesus’ mind, this sacrifice was not too high a price to pay. While Jesus knew of his impending death, his disciples did not understand his multiple teachings on this fact. Yet, Jesus continued to teach them knowing that after his resurrection they would begin to understand not just that Jesus had to die for them, but that long before his death, Jesus knew and choose this path.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>In what ways was a Messiah of the type of Isaiah’s Suffering Servant far superior to that of a Messiah of the type of King David?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some other instances in the Gospels in which Jesus demonstrated his knowledge of the future?</b> (Peter’s denial, Judas’ betrayal)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>        Christians are to not just receive the love and compassion of God, but are to share that love and compassion with others. Christians must recognize, in order to do this, there are times in which the Christians will also have to experience suffering in order to show the depths of God’s love. It is important for Christians to not just know this fact in their head, but to prepare their hearts to summon the courage needed to actually live out this fact.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do some people assume that when they become Christians, God will take away all their problems and struggles?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How does experiencing suffering for Jesus help a Christian better minister to others who need Jesus?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>        Christians are not called to seek out sufferings and troubles. Enough sufferings and troubles will naturally come their way because they live in a sinful world. However, Christians are called to seek out those who are suffering and in trouble and be Jesus’ hands and feet to them.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some ways in which you demonstrated the love and compassion of Jesus to others this last week?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the resources you have, and experiences you have had that Christ might call on your to use this week to minister love and grace to others?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 77

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Blind Bartimaeus Healed</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Mark 10:46-52</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Ruth 1</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Be encouraged, Jesus knows your needs, and listens when you call out to him.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Choose to believe Jesus will answer your prayers, even when others do not believe.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Recognize people will often need their physical needs met before they will be able to recognize their spiritual needs.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” (Mark 10:47)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>As Jesus was traveling to Jerusalem, He passed through the city of Jericho. A large crowd of people surrounded Jesus as He walked down the street. He heard a man calling out to Him, saying, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Many of the people who were around Jesus told the man to be quiet and not to bother Jesus. When the man heard the people talking to him, he shouted even louder. He wanted Jesus to hear him calling. Jesus looked through the crowd and saw a blind man, named Bartimaeus, sitting at the side of the road. Jesus told the people to let Bartimaeus know that Jesus heard his cry. Then Jesus asked Bartimaeus what he wanted Him to do. The blind man said, “Teacher, I want to see.” Jesus told Bartimaeus that because he had faith, he would be healed. When Bartimaeus raised up his head, he could see!</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Bartimaeus</b> was a blind man sitting on the side of the road begging as Jesus walked by. He heard a large crowd walking by and asked why they walking by. Someone told him Jesus was going by. When he heard this, he began shouting out “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” People told him to quiet down, but he shouted louder.</li> <li>2. <b>Jesus</b> heard this shouting and ordered that this man come to him. The man jumped up and ran over to Jesus. Jesus asked him what he wanted. Bartimaeus said he wanted to see. Jesus told him his faith healed him. Immediately Bartimaeus could see! He began following Jesus.</li> </ol>
<b>Text Context</b>	As mentioned in the last lesson, because they did not have a strong understanding of Heaven, the Jews in Jesus’ day generally believed that God sent rewards and

punishments in this lifetime on the righteous and the wicked. Therefore, as in the last lesson, people assumed the wealthy were righteous. In this week’s lesson, we see the opposite, the assumption that the disabled were wicked. While the text does not explicitly state this principle, the crowds tell the blind man in great need to be quiet as the miracle worker was passing by. Why would the crowds tell someone in need of Jesus’ help to quiet down? Because they did not believe Bartimaeus worthy of Jesus’ attention.

Because the disabled could not work, they often relied on begging for their daily needs. Others also looked down on the disabled, assuming their disability was punishment from God. Therefore, Bartimaeus’ disability has physical, social, and religious implications.

Bartimaeus is desperate. He cries out loudly to get Jesus’ attention. Bartimaeus’ faith impresses Jesus, so Jesus heals him. Bartimaeus then becomes a follower of Jesus.

Many aspects of Jesus’ teachings, miracles, and ministry surprised people. In the last two events, Jesus surprises people who assumed the rich were righteous and the disabled were wicked. For, the rich young man goes away from Jesus sad, because he loved his riches more than God, while the disabled Bartimaeus follows Jesus after being healed because of his faith.

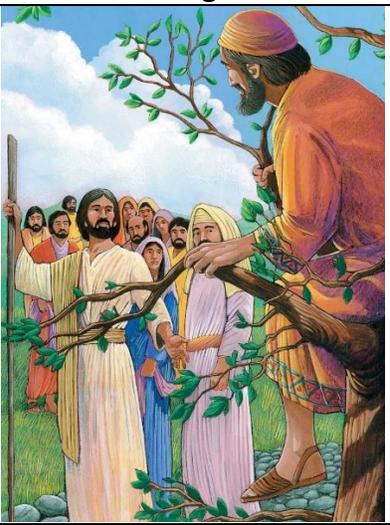
**Secondary text (See lesson #31 for more background information):** Like Bartimaeus’ blindness, people would have looked at Ruth’s loss of both her husband and her sons as signs of God’s punishment. However, life is much more complicated than just, “good things happen to good people and bad things happen to bad people.” Because of sin in this world, sometimes bad things happen to good people, and good things happen to bad people. What is important is to look at a person’s heart, not their circumstances. Are they a person of faith? Then no matter what their circumstances, God will work to bring healing and goodness into their lives.

**Bible Study**

<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul>

	<p>Unfortunately, people can misunderstand God’s love and plans. In Jesus’ day, they thought God punished people for their sins by making them disabled. Jesus, however, demonstrated God’s love for disabled people. Sin seeks to disable people while God seeks to heal people. God’s healing comes in many forms. In Jesus’ ministry, Jesus’ healing often physically healed people, spiritually healed people, socially healed people. Today, Jesus’ healing also comes in many forms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why does God not always answer our prayers the way we want God to answer them?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How can you know God hears your prayers?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>Christians need to always be humble in heart and open to God’s message to them. Because many in Jesus’ day assumed they knew how God always works and did not to listen to God’s message though Jesus, they rebuked Bartimaeus’ calls for healing from Jesus. Whenever Christians think they know exactly how and when God will act, they can be hindering God’s redemptive work. Instead, Christians need to believe God always hears their prayers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think people felt they had the right to rebuke Bartimaeus?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think Bartimaeus ignored those people and kept shouting for Jesus anyway?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>People have physical needs and spiritual needs. It is important for Christians to recognize Jesus calls us to meet both kinds of needs. While the spiritual needs are the most important, oftentimes Christians need to meet their physical needs first, in order for them to recognize they have spiritual needs as well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the physical needs people in your community have?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the spiritual needs people in your community have?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 78

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Zacchaeus Meets Jesus</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Luke 19:1-10</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>1 Timothy 1:12-17</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand no sinner is so far from God's grace that God cannot save them.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Reflect on why it is sometimes very hard for Christians, forgiven by God, to forgive others.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Make plans to express your thankfulness to Jesus in practical ways this week.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham." (Luke 19:9)	

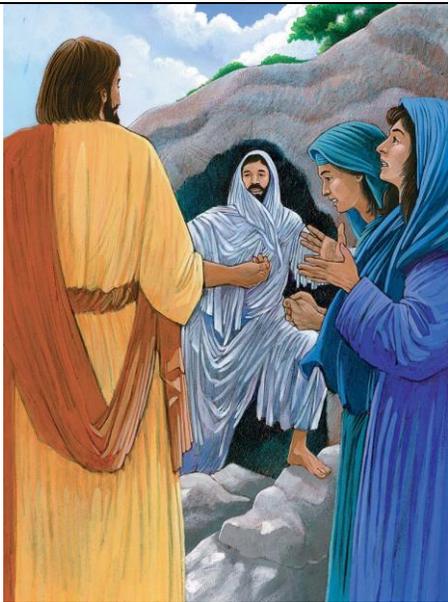
<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Jesus was passing through a city called Jericho. A man named Zacchaeus lived in this town. Zacchaeus was a very wealthy man because he was a tax collector. Tax collectors were known for taking money that wasn't theirs. When Zacchaeus heard that Jesus was in Jericho, he wanted to see Him. Because Zacchaeus was a short man, he wasn't able to see Jesus through the crowd. Instead, Zacchaeus climbed to the top of a sycamore tree so he could see Jesus. When Jesus passed by the tree, He looked up. Then Jesus said, "Zacchaeus, come down from that tree. I want to go and stay at your house today." Zacchaeus was excited and climbed down from the tree. The people couldn't understand why Jesus would want to go to the house of someone who was a sinner. Because Jesus showed love to Zacchaeus, Zacchaeus made restitution by paying back four times the amount of money that he owed the people.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Large Crowds</b> of people were following Jesus. The crowds were so large that it was hard to see Jesus.</li> <li>2. <b>Zacchaeus</b> desperately wanted to see Jesus. He was too short, though, to see above the crowds. He was also a chief tax collector for the Romans, and it could have been very dangerous for him to be in a large crowd of Israelites. Therefore, Zacchaeus climbed up a tree in order to see Jesus.</li> <li>3. <b>Jesus</b> noticed Zacchaeus in the tree and ordered him to come down. Even though Israelites hated Roman tax collectors, Jesus said he would go over to Zacchaeus' house for dinner. At dinner, Jesus' love and compassion were so strong, Zacchaeus repented of his sins and pledged to return any money he might have stolen from anyone. Jesus declared Zacchaeus truly saved.</li> </ol>

<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>In Jesus' day, the Roman Empire occupied the Promised Land. As occupiers, the Romans extracted taxes from the Israelites. The Romans used these taxes to support the troops in the Promised Land. The Israelites hated the Romans and desperately wanted freedom from Roman occupation.</p> <p>The Romans used some of the Israelites to collect these taxes. The Israelites hated paying taxes to the Romans, but they hated their fellow Jews who collected the taxes for the Romans even more. The Israelites viewed these tax collectors as collaborators with the Romans, and therefore traitors to Israel and to God. The Israelites, then, viewed Zacchaeus, the chief tax collector, as the worst of all sinners in Israel.</p> <p>It is not surprising, then, that Zacchaeus, as the chief tax collector, chose not to enter the crowds to see Jesus, but hid in the safety of a tree. Jesus, though, noticed Zacchaeus. In addition, to the crowd's shock, Jesus invited himself over to Zacchaeus' house for dinner. In Jesus' time, to share a meal with someone in their house meant that you accepted them as a friend. Jesus, therefore, is publically declaring he is going to be a friend of this chief tax collector.</p> <p>At dinner that evening, Zacchaeus was so overwhelmed by Jesus' love and acceptance, he repented of any sins he committed, and promised to make restitution to anyone he had wronged. Jesus declared Zacchaeus' salvation. Not only that, he declared this chief tax collector whom others viewed as a traitor, was actually a true child of Abraham! If Jesus can save Zacchaeus, then salvation is available to anyone.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> If the Israelites viewed Zacchaeus as the worst of all sinners before his salvation, then the early Christians viewed the Apostle Paul as the worst of sinners before his salvation. In fact, Paul calls himself the worst of sinners. Before Jesus saved Paul, Paul blasphemed Jesus and persecuted the Christians. It was only by God's grace Paul received salvation from Jesus.</p> <p><b>Articles of Faith Track: VIII. Repentance.</b> Repentance is the proper and joyful response to the grace of God. In repentance, a sinner turns from their sin and selfishness and turns to the grace and mercy of God. This repentance includes a willingness to change thoroughly, not just a change of heart but a change of mind and lifestyle as well. Though it is the work of God in the believer that will make this change, the believer must be open and willing to accept this work of God in their lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ <b>Head: Why is it important for a person to not only believe in their head that Jesus died for them, but to repent of their sins?</b></li><li>✓ <b>Heart: What are some of the emotions you experienced when you understood that Jesus had died for you and offered to forgive you of all your sins?</b></li><li>✓ <b>Hands: What are some steps Christians can take in order to cooperate with God in purifying their thoughts, feelings, and actions from the power of sin?</b></li></ul>
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<b>Bible Study</b>	
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  Is anyone so much a sinner God cannot save him or her? One of the points of this episode in Jesus’ life is to declare “NO!” If Jesus’ salvation can save someone like Zacchaeus, then his salvation is for anyone. This is oftentimes hard for Christians to accept, for Satan tempts Christians to believe Jesus only saves certain kinds of people. Namely, people like them. However, every person is a creation of God, and is therefore loved by God. No matter how great their sins, no one is so sinful God cannot save them. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What types of people do you struggle to believe will ever accept Christ Jesus as their Lord and Savior?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>If he knew his fellow Israelites would hate him so much, why do you think Zacchaeus decided to become a tax collector?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  Amazingly, some people who experience God’s great forgiveness for their sins can struggle to forgive others of their sins. When we have been hurt or taken advantage of by someone, it is natural for us to want that person punished. It is not natural to rejoice when they escape accountability. However, God’s grace is not “fair,” as we humans view fairness. Instead, God’s grace is extravagant, reaching people who do not deserve it. The point is not that people get to escape justice or making restitution, but that Jesus usually grants salvation before a person makes restitution. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What does it say about a Christian’s salvation if they say they cannot forgive someone else?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why does forgiveness not necessarily come quickly or easily for humans?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  Jesus boldly declares he will share dinner at Zacchaeus’ house. Zacchaeus boldly declared he will make restitution to anyone he has cheated. While God will freely forgive repentant sinners, God will sometimes call those saved Christians to make restitution to those they have wronged. Sometimes restitution can be like Zacchaeus’ giving back any money he stole Other times it is seeking forgiveness from those hurt by our sins.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ <b>How can a Christian discern whether God is leading them to offer restitution to someone they have harmed?</b></li><li>✓ <b>Since it is God we have wronged the most, how can Christians show gratitude to God for our salvation on a regular basis?</b></li></ul>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 79

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Lazarus is Raised</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>John 11:1-44</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Isaiah 53:1-6</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Rejoice! Jesus is Lord over both sin and death. Because of Jesus, nothing can separate us from God!</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Take comfort, Jesus knows your pain and grief. Jesus is not just Lord over sin and death, but is intimately acquainted with pain and grief because of his crucifixion.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be ready to “mourn with those who mourn,” to share the burdens of others, as an extension of Jesus’ ministry in this world.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die;” (John 11:25)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Lazarus and his sisters, Mary and Martha, lived in Bethany. Jesus loved this family and stayed at their home many times. One day, Mary and Martha sent a message to Jesus telling Him that Lazarus was very sick. They knew that Jesus had healed other people, and they wanted Him to come right away. Jesus left for Bethany two days after He received the message from Mary and Martha. When Jesus got to Bethany, Lazarus was already dead and had been buried for four days! When Mary and Martha saw Jesus, they ran to Him and fell at His feet. They cried and said, “Jesus if you had been here sooner, you could have healed our brother.” Jesus cried when He heard the news about Lazarus. He knew how much Mary and Martha loved their brother. Jesus went to the tomb where Lazarus was buried and said, “Lazarus, come out!” After Jesus said this, Lazarus walked out of the tomb! He was alive!</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Mary and Martha</b> were sisters, whose brother Lazarus was very sick. They were good friends with Jesus, and sent word to him of Lazarus’ illness, hoping Jesus would come and heal their brother.</li> <li>2. <b>Jesus</b>, on the other hand, did not immediately go to see Lazarus when he received word from the sisters. Instead, he wanted to show everyone his power over death. Therefore, Jesus waited a few days before going to Bethany, where Lazarus and his sisters lived. When Jesus arrived, Lazarus had already died. Both sisters lamented Jesus took so long, otherwise their brother would not have died. Jesus, however, encourages them to believe</li> </ol>

	<p>Lazarus could rise from the dead. When they arrived at Lazarus’ tomb, Jesus ordered the stone rolled away. He then commanded, “Lazarus, come out!”</p> <p><b>3. Lazarus</b> rose from the dead when Jesus spoke these words! He walked out of the tomb with the burial cloths still wrapped around him. Everyone rejoiced!</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>This can be a very confusing passage of scripture. The disciples are confused about whether Lazarus is simply sleeping or dead. Lazarus’ sisters are confused about the nature of Lazarus’ resurrection Jesus teaches – will it be now or at the end of time?</p> <p>In the midst of all this confusion, there is high emotion: Thomas seems resigned to die with Jesus, and Jesus weeps at the sorrow his friends are enduring. Thomas believes this trip to Bethany would lead to death because people had just tried to stone Jesus to death when he was teaching in Jerusalem. Jesus weeps because, in his humanity, the grief of his close friends overwhelms him.</p> <p>In the midst of all this, Jesus performs his greatest miracle, raising a four-day old dead body from the dead.</p> <p>When Jesus’ opponents, the religious authorities, hear about Jesus raising his friend from the dead, they become afraid the crowds will flock to Jesus as their liberator, and the Romans will come in and crush the rebellion. The religious authorities believe if the Romans come to crush a rebellion, then the Romans will also take away whatever rights the Israelites still have. Therefore, the religious authorities will soon decide Jesus must die for the good of Israel.</p> <p>The irony is, Jesus is condemned to death because he resurrects Lazarus from the dead.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> This is one of the Suffering Servant Songs from Isaiah Christians recognize as foretelling Jesus as the Messiah. Jesus did not just walk on earth as a great teacher and miracle worker, he also suffered as the lamb for our sacrifice. Jesus knew pain, knew sorrow, and knew rejection. Jesus is our great High Priest, who can join us in our pain and sorrow, because he knows the pain we feel.</p> <p><b>Articles of Faith Track: XIV. Divine Healing.</b> Physical healings were one of the means through which Jesus manifested his divinity. While Jesus did not heal all the sick or raise all the dead in his time, Jesus did use physical healings to demonstrate the power behind his teachings. The ministry of Jesus’ continued through the early church as many of Jesus’ followers taught and healed in the power of the Holy Spirit. God continues to heal people today as well. Sometimes those healings are instantaneous miracles through prayer. Sometimes times God heals through the means of medical science. Sometimes God’s answer to prayers of healing is to give patience and endurance in the face of the sickness (2 Corinthians 12:7-10). Finally, sometimes God offers the ultimate healing to his Children, the reward of seeing him face to face in glory (Philippians 1:20-24).</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: What would happen if God granted every request for healing and deliverance?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: It is hard to understand why God answers some prayers for healing with “yes,” but other prayers for healing with “no.” What hope do all Christians have, regardless of how God answers our prayers?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: What practical ways can you minister God’s grace to those who are sick or homebound this week?</b></li> </ul>
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**Bible Study**

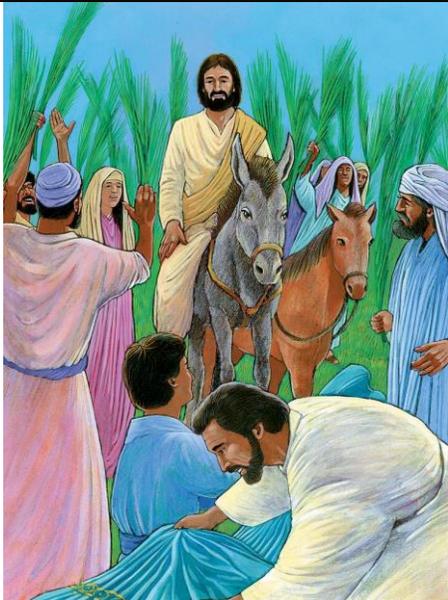
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
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<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
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<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>          Jesus’ ministry was not easy. The crowds often misunderstood Jesus’ teachings. His disciples thought he would become a political leader over Israel. His opponents should have embraced his ministry but instead plotted his death. Yet, Jesus did not abandon God’s mission for his life. Jesus did not consider death too high of a price to pay for our lives. Instead, Jesus ministered to those who misunderstood him and to his closest followers who lacked faith in him. Because of Jesus’ obedience, none of this could separate us from the love of God in Christ.         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think Jesus’ words in this passage confused the disciples and the sisters?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>In what ways is Jesus the resurrection and life of your life?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>          Jesus, as Messiah, entered fully into our humanity. Jesus knew pain, rejection, opposition, and hunger. Because Jesus entered fully into our humanity, no sorrow or grief, pain or doubt, is too tough for Jesus to handle. We can lay on Jesus all our doubts and pain, knowing Jesus will comfort and heal us.         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the emotions you experience, which need Jesus’ comfort and healing?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What can you do when you feel disappointed by Jesus’ answers to your prayers or his timing?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>          Jesus’ disciples kept following him, even when they did not understand why he was going back to Judah. Lazarus’ sisters kept faith in Jesus, even when he initially did not answer their prayers, as they wanted them answered. Christians can take         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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	<p>comfort in knowing, we do not need to know all the answers or have the right amount of faith in order to follow Jesus. Jesus accepts our lack of faith and our doubts, and invites us to grow and mature as he proves himself loving and faithful. Along the way, Jesus calls Christians to take whatever faith and comfort they have, and use them to express Jesus love for others who are also lacking in faith and comfort. By becoming ambassadors of Jesus' love and comfort, Christian show forth the glory of God.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why is it important for Christians to minister to others, even before they have their own lives and their own faith perfectly figured out?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How does God use our own experiences with grief and disappointment to help others?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 80

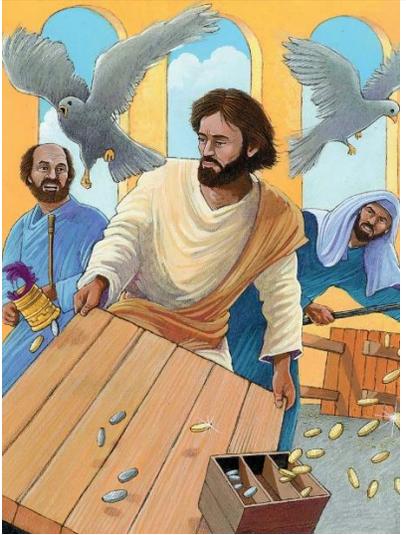
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Jesus Enters Jerusalem</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Luke 19:28-44</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Zechariah 9:9-13</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize Jesus' entry into Jerusalem fulfills the prophecies of the victorious Messiah as told in the Old Testament.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Reflect on both the victory and tragedy of this event. The crowd celebrates Jesus, however, Jesus weeps over Jerusalem because he knows the religious authorities will continue to reject him.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Live a worshipful life. Be continually aware of God's presence and work around you.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen. (Luke 19:37)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>One day, Jesus and His disciples were traveling to Jerusalem. Before they reached the city, they stopped at the Mount of Olives. Jesus told two of his disciples to go into the village there. They would find a donkey and a colt tied to a post. They were to tell the owner that Jesus needed the animals and that He would bring them back when He was finished with them. The disciples went into town and found the donkey and the colt just as Jesus had said. They took the animals back to Jesus and put their robes on the animals' backs. Jesus sat on them and rode into town. The crowd followed Jesus into Jerusalem. They were waving palm branches in the air and shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" (NIV). The people were treating Jesus like a king. But Jesus knew that these people would become angry and turn away from Him.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Colt.</b> Before entering Jerusalem for the last time, Jesus instructed his disciples to obtain a colt. Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the colt, signaling he was the Messiah about whom Zechariah prophesied.</li> <li>2. <b>Laying cloaks on the ground.</b> Recreating King Jehu's victorious entry into Jerusalem after the prophet Elisha anointed him king, some of the people of Jerusalem welcomed Jesus as their king. (2 Kings 9:13)</li> <li>3. <b>Waving palm branches</b> was a sign of celebrating God's provision and care for the Israelites. (Leviticus 23:40)</li> </ol>

	<p><b>4. Shouting praises to God.</b> The crowd also shouted praises to God when Jesus entered Jerusalem. They shouted words from Psalm 118:26.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Jesus entered Jerusalem at the Passover feast as a king. His entry is marked with many Old Testament allusions to a victorious king entering into the city. However, while some in the crowds celebrated Jesus as king, the religious authorities did not. They were scandalized at the worship the crowds gave to Jesus, and ordered him to stop them.</p> <p>In this midst of all this, Jesus wept over Jerusalem. Jesus knows the religious authorities, who should be welcoming him as the Messiah, will instead soon be plotting his death. Jesus also knows these crowds celebrating his entrance expect him to be a political and military Messiah who will free them from Rome’s control. Even Jesus’ disciples will abandon him when the guards come to arrest him. Therefore, everyone misunderstood Jesus.</p> <p>However, Jesus knows this is God’s path for him, and while there will be great pain and suffering over the next few days, Jesus’ obedience to God’s plan will lead to salvation for all who embrace Jesus as the real Messiah. The disciples will look back on these events after the resurrection and recognize, while they and so many misunderstood Jesus’ ministry, this did not stop Jesus from being the kind of Messiah God promised.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> Those hoping for a military Messiah read this passage as promising exactly what they wanted. However, after Jesus’ resurrection, those who experienced Jesus’ salvation and freedom from sin recognized this passage meant the Messiah would conquer, not Rome, but sin and death.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>Whether it was forbidding his disciples from telling others about the Transfiguration, or sneaking away when the crowds wanted to make him king by force, Jesus shied away from allowing people to recognize his identity as Messiah. His Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem, however, changed this. Now, in order to fulfill the Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah, Jesus allows the crowds to sing</p>

	<p>his praises as Messiah. The crowds still do not understand the kind of Messiah Jesus was, however, after his resurrection, they will.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some ways people today misunderstand the kind of king Jesus is?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why did the religious authorities become so upset with the crowd's praises of Jesus?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>Everyone misunderstood the nature of Jesus' ministry: the crowds, the religious authorities, even his disciples. They all viewed Jesus in terms of human power and authority, but Jesus came to bring spiritual power and authority. Christians need to be careful they keep their hearts and minds open to Jesus' teachings so they do not fall into the trap of misunderstanding the ministry of Jesus in their lives and this world.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Who are the people Jesus weeps over today, those who have the wrong understanding of Jesus?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the wrong ideas you had about God that Jesus has corrected?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>Worship is a lifestyle. While there are special days on which Christians worship with others, each Christian should shape their days by giving thanks and praise to God.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some ways you can worship Jesus every day of the week?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What reasons do you have to give God thanks and praise?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 81

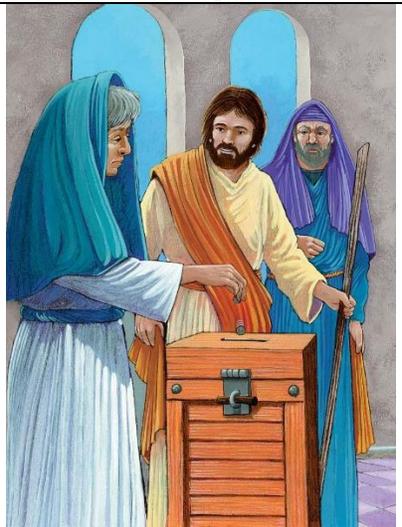
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Jesus Cleans the Temple</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Luke 19:45-48</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Jeremiah 7:1-11</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize Jesus came not just to bring salvation to sinners, but also to correct abuses some had brought into the worship of God.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Reflect on your relationship with money. Does your wealth, or lack of wealth, interfere with the call of God upon your life?</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be wise with how you use and share your money. Find ways to break any power that money has in your life by being generous with your resources with others.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	“It is written,” he said to them, “My house will be a house of prayer; but you have made it ‘a den of robbers.’” (Luke 19:46)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>After Jesus rode the donkey and colt into Jerusalem, He stopped at the Temple to worship. When He went into the courtyard of the Temple, He saw some men selling animals to people for their sacrifices. He also saw them exchanging money. As Jesus watched the men, He noticed that they were cheating the people and making a lot of money. Jesus was very angry with these men because they were lying and cheating the people while they were in the Temple, God’s house. Jesus ran to the tables and turned them upside down. Birds went flying into the air, and boxes of money went crashing to the floor. Jesus was so angry that He started yelling at the men. He said, “My house will be called a house of prayer,’ but you are making it a ‘den of robbers” (NIV). After Jesus had said this, the men who were cheating the people were so afraid that they ran out of the Temple.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Temple Courts.</b> When the Israelites came to the Temple to make sacrifices or give offerings, there were specific rules about what kind of animals and money they could use. In order to make sure worshippers had the correct kinds of animals and money, some people set up stalls in the Temple Courts to sell these items. The sellers often charged very high prices for these items.</li> <li>2. <b>Jesus</b> entered the Temple Courts one day and was angry that the sellers were conducting business in an area where Gentiles were supposed to come and worship God. Jesus was also upset that the sellers’ prices were so high it hurt the religious pilgrims who came to Jerusalem to worship God.</li> <li>3. <b>Angry people.</b> Many people were very angry with Jesus when he did this. The sellers were upset, as were the religious authorities. They were scared Jesus and his followers would take away all their money and power.</li> </ol>

<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Soon after the crowds praised Jesus at the Triumphal Entry, Jesus entered the Temple Courts. Angry that people were conducting business where they were supposed to be praying, Jesus turned over the sellers tables. Jesus' actions here are not the result of out of control rage. Instead, Jesus demonstrated the Word of God in this particular situation.</p> <p>Taking advantage of religious pilgrims was not new for Jesus' day. His actions here are fulfilling prophecies from Isaiah and Jeremiah who both warned the Israelites about not taking advantage of one another.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> God sent Jeremiah to preach against the abuses in Israel. God called the Israelites to care for one another as an expression of their love for God. However, instead of lovingly caring for one another, many Israelites were instead taking advantage of one another.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the "Text Context" from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>While it often takes money to operate churches and pay for pastors, money can sometimes become a hindrance to the mission of God in the world. It is wrong for people take advantage of others financially. Jesus was very upset that people claiming to be following God were taking advantage of religious pilgrims. He was also upset that it was in the Temple Courts that they carried out this abuse.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why is greed such a powerful temptation for so many people?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why do some Christian leaders give into the sin of taking advantage of others?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>In order to protect themselves from greed, Christians should regularly practice generosity. When Christians are generous with others, they not only remind themselves of the generosity of God, but also put the love of God in action.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>The greed of the sellers made Jesus angry. Is there anything about money that makes you angry?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How can we correctly discern what we should do with our money?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul>

	<p>Jesus wants Christians to make sure money does not control our actions and values. Christians should always keep money in its place, as a resource Christians use to help our families, churches, and others. Money is not to become an idol for Christians.</p> <p>✓ <b>How can you be generous with others this week, either by sharing your time, treasure, or talents?</b></p> <p>✓ <b>How can you take things that make you angry, and bring good from that anger?</b></p>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 82

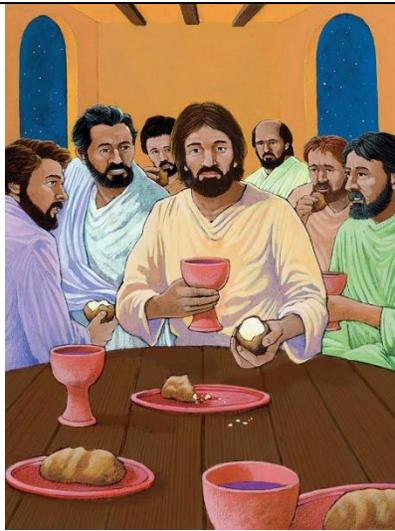
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Widow Gives Her Offering</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Mark 12:38-44</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>2 Corinthians 9</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize true generosity is giving everything to God, not only what we think we can afford to give.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Take comfort, God does not regard us according to our wealth in riches, but in our wealth of generosity.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be willing to act generously toward others, whether you think you can afford it or not.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. (2 Corinthians 9:6)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>One day, Jesus was in Jerusalem and spent some time at the Temple. While He was there, He saw people bringing in their offerings. There was a treasury box in the Temple, and people would walk up to the box and put in their money. Jesus stood on the other side of the room and watched the people as they put their money into the treasury box. He saw many rich people put in large amounts of money. Then He saw a woman walk into the Temple. The woman was a widow, which means her husband was dead. In those days, many women who were widows were very poor. Jesus watched the woman walk up the treasury box and put in two small copper coins. The coins were only worth about a penny, but it was all the money she had. Jesus told His disciples that this poor woman gave more money than all of the other people put together. She gave everything she had, but the others just gave a little of what they had.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Temple Courts.</b> Jesus and his disciples are in the Temple in Jerusalem during the Passover Feast. Jesus is teaching about the Kingdom of God.</li> <li>2. <b>Widow.</b> A poor widow entered the temple courts in order to give her offering to God. The offering box where people gave their offerings was in a very public part of the temple. Her offering amounted to almost nothing, two copper coins, which were the smallest coins in circulation.</li> <li>3. <b>Jesus</b> sat down from teaching and observed the offerings of many people going into the offering box. When Jesus saw the widow give her offering, he called his disciples to come to him and listen to more teaching. His teaching to them: “this widow’s offering is much larger than offerings of all the others.” Jesus spoke in terms of, not the size of the gift, but what the widow gave compared to her wealth. The rich may have given much larger amounts, but</li> </ol>

	<p>compared to their wealth, their gifts were very small. This widow, though the amount she gave was very small, amounted to all she had to give. Therefore, Jesus praises this widow for being so trusting of God, so grateful for God's goodness that she gave to God all she possessed.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Jerusalem's population exploded to ten times its regular size during festival weeks. The religious pilgrims who flocked to Jerusalem brought a lot of money to give to the temple as offerings and to spend on sacrifices. The Israelites were to give a portion of the income they had gained since they were last at the temple. Therefore, the rich would have a lot to give, the poor only a little. Giving to the temple offering was a public act.</p> <p>While many people would be impressed to see the large offerings the rich gave, Jesus was instead impressed with the little this one widow gave. For Jesus, it was not the size of the gift that was important but the size of the heart that gave the gift. It was not very financially painful for the rich to give a small percentage of their wealth to God. It was very financially painful for this widow to give all she had. However, she gave from a grateful heart, and so it was not painful for her to give all she had.</p> <p>This widow represents one of the poorest and most vulnerable groups in Jesus' day. She would have been completely dependent upon the generosity of others to supply her daily needs. Rather than allowing this situation to make her hold onto all the money she had, she willingly gave all to God trusting that God was good and would provide for her needs.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> the Apostle Paul writes to the Christians in Corinth about the importance of being generous. Specifically, Paul is calling on the Corinthians Christians to give generously for the poor Christians in Jerusalem. Generosity is an important expression of the love of God. Because God is generous with love and care for us, we need to be generous in our love and care for others.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the "Text Context" from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>There is often a difference between what God thinks is important and what humans think is important. In general, humans look at what is outward while God</p>

	<p>looks at the heart. Therefore, while it would have been natural to be impressed with the large offerings the rich gave, Jesus instead was impressed with the widow's heart. For Jesus, the size of the gift is not important, but the size of the heart that gives the gift. The widow willingly gave everything she had because she trusted God with everything.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Besides money, what are other ways in which people can be very generous toward God?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why are some people afraid to be generous toward God?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>A generous heart is the result of someone who trusts God and loves others. An ungenerous heart is the result of someone who does not trust God or loves others. It is not the size of the gift that determines if someone is generous, it is the size of the heart with which the gift is given. However, generosity is not a gift instantly given to a Christian. Instead, God grows the gift within the Christian's heart. In this way, a Christian can learn God's faithfulness in the small matters of life and therefore trust God with the larger matters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>When God looks at you, what time, talents, or treasure do you have that God can use for the good of others?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What happens to the Christian's heart when they refuse to be generous towards others, but expect God to be generous to them?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>I hope that you are already being generous to others with God's blessings. However, Christians need to be sensitive to God's direction in their life, for God will often calls us to go beyond what we have done in the past and take new steps of trust and faith and generosity towards others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>When God puts a situation before us in which we can be generous, how much time should we spend deciding whether we can afford to be generous or not?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How can observing other Christians' giving both help us and hurt us in developing our own generosity?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 83

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>The Passover Supper</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Luke 22:1-23</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Exodus 11:1 – 12:13</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand that Jesus transforms the Passover meal from being a redemptive meal about freedom from slavery in Egypt to being a redemptive meal about freedom from slavery to sin.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Reflect on the incredible price Jesus paid in order to bring salvation to the world.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Participate in the Lord’s Supper with deep reverence for Christ’s sacrifice and great joy for your freedom from slavery to sin.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	And he [Jesus] said to them, “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. (Luke 22:15)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Every year, the Jews would celebrate the Passover holiday. One Passover evening, Jesus and all of the disciples ate the Passover meal together. This would be the last supper that Jesus would have with His disciples. While they were eating, Jesus looked at His friends and said that one of them would betray Him. To betray means to tell on a friend. The disciples were sad and said they would never do that. Jesus said that the man who dipped his bread into the bowl at the same time Jesus did would betray Him. When Jesus looked at Judas, He said, “Yes, it is you” (NIV). Then Jesus took some bread and broke it. He said that when they ate the bread, they should think of His body that would be broken. Then Jesus picked up a cup filled with red-colored wine. He said that when they drank the wine, they should think of the blood that He would shed for their sins. When we do this in church today, we call it Communion.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Upper Room.</b> While in Jerusalem during the Passover, Jesus directed Peter and John to prepare for celebrating the Passover meal. The Passover Meal is an annual celebration Jews share in which they remember God’s rescue of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt.</li> <li>2. <b>Bread and Wine.</b> Two of the elements of the Passover meal were unleavened bread and wine.</li> <li>3. <b>Jesus,</b> knowing this would be his last meal with the disciples before his death transformed the Passover meal to mean celebration, not just from slavery in Egypt, but also from slavery to sin. Jesus broke the bread and told his disciples this represented his body that would be broken for them. Jesus passed</li> </ol>

	<p>around the wine and told his disciples this represented his blood soon to be shed for them.</p> <p><b>4. The Disciples</b> did not understand what Jesus meant. However, after Jesus' resurrection they remembered and finally understood what Jesus meant.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>God provided salvation for Israel from their slavery in Egypt. However, the Israelites had to obey God's words about marking their doors with blood. The Jews celebrate the Passover meal each year to remember this foundational event in their history.</p> <p>Now, in Jesus, God provides salvation for the entire world from their slavery to sin. However, people need to obey God's word in order to receive this salvation. The Lord's Supper is a celebration Christians celebrate often to remember this foundational event in their lives.</p> <p>The disciples still do not understand Jesus will soon die for their sins. They still believe he will be a political and religious leader who will break the power Rome has over Israel. Instead, Jesus is the Son of God, whose death and resurrection will break the power of sin over the lives of Christians. However, Jesus still shares this special transforming meal with them so that, even though they do not understand now, after his resurrection they will remember what happened. Remembrance of this meal will remind them that Jesus knew all along that his life would end on the cross.</p> <p><b>Secondary text: (See lesson # 16 for more information)</b> After refusing to free the Israelites from Egypt, even after many plagues, finally, after the plague of the Firstborn, Pharaoh threw Israel out of Egypt. As a lasting memorial of God's mighty work on behalf of Israel in which God killed the first-born of the Egyptians, but "Passed Over" the homes of the Israelites marked by the blood of the lamb, the Israelites are to celebrate the Passover meal each year.</p> <p><b>Articles of Faith Track: XIII. The Lord's Supper.</b> The Lord's Supper is the second of two sacraments practiced by the Church of the Nazarene. A sacrament is an outward sign of an inward grace. While the first sacrament, Baptism, is normally practiced only once at the beginning of a Christian's spiritual journey, the Lord's Supper is to be practiced on a regular basis until the Christian receives their eternal reward.</p> <p>Jesus established the Lord's Supper on the night of his betrayal, as he gathered with his disciples to celebrate the Passover meal (See Lesson # 16 for background information on the Passover). Jesus redefined the Passover meal and infused it with new meaning in anticipation of his coming death and resurrection. While it was the blood of a lamb that saved the Israelites from the last plague God sent upon Egypt, now it will be through the blood of Jesus Christ, God's perfect Lamb that salvation will come to the world. Jesus calls on his followers to practice this Lord's Supper meal, not once a year as in the Passover meal, but on a regular basis.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: What are some similarities and differences between God’s deliverance of Israel from slavery in Egypt and God’s deliverance of Christians from their slavery to sin?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: What emotions and feelings do you experience when you remember the sacrifice Jesus made for you on the cross?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: What difference does it make in your life that Jesus died on the cross to provide a path of salvation for you?</b></li> </ul>
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**Bible Study**

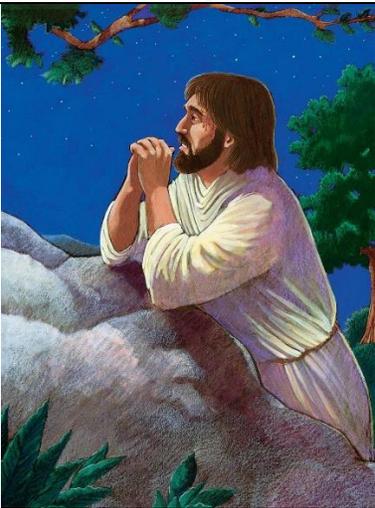
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
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<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
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<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  God’s desire is to free men and women from their slavery. Whether it is slavery to Egypt or slavery to sin, God provides a path of salvation. As a remembrance of God’s work, God established special meals. These meals serve not to only remind the Children of God what God has done for them, but also serve as an opportunity to renew their devotion to God and God’s work in their life and in the world. The Lord’s Supper, as Jesus’ new Passover Meal, is very special for Christians because in it they remember not just a lamb who died for their salvation, but the very Lamb of God, Jesus Christ. Christians also believe God’s strengthens them and encourages them as they participate in the Lord’s Supper. As such, the Lord’s Supper is both a time of reverence for Jesus’ great sacrifice, and a time of celebration for Jesus’ great love.</li> <li>✓ <b>What comes to mind when you reflect on the pain Jesus suffered in order to bring you salvation?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why is the celebration of the Lord’s Supper so important for the life of the Christian?</b></li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  God purchased the Christian’s salvation at a very high price, the life of Jesus Christ. Therefore, Christians should not treat cheaply what was costly for God. Therefore, Christians are to live with a deep reverence and gratitude for the love and sacrifice of Jesus.</li> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think Jesus willingly endured the pain of the cross?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How do you think the disciples felt about this meal after Jesus’ resurrection?</b></li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul>
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	<p>The practice of the Lord's Supper should be both a reverent time of humility, and a joyful time of celebration. Then, with the grace God gives in the Lord's Supper, the Christian should live the next week with both great humility and celebration.</p> <p>✓ <b>How can you prepare your heart and mind to receive the Lord's Supper in a meaningful way?</b></p> <p>✓ <b>How can your life this week reflect the power of Christ's love?</b></p>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 84

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Jesus Prays in Gethsemane</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Luke 22:39-46</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Isaiah 50:4-7</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Reflect on the anguish Jesus experienced as he prepared for his arrest and death.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Understand the importance of regularly praying for the strength to not fall into temptation.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Make plans to spend an extended time alone in prayer, focusing on knowing God's will for your life.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	"Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done." (Luke 22:42)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>After Jesus had the Last Supper with the disciples, He took them to the Garden of Gethsemane. Jesus wanted them to wait while He prayed to His Heavenly Father. Jesus asked, James and John, the sons of Zebedee, and Peter to go with Him to a special place in the garden where He liked to pray to God. Jesus knew that very soon He would be taken away to be killed. Jesus told God that He really didn't want to die, but if He needed to, He would obey. When Jesus went back to see Peter, James, and John, all three men were asleep. They wanted to stay awake with Jesus, but they were very tired. Jesus again went by himself to His special place to pray. He was sad and afraid, but He knew that this is what God wanted Him to do. After Jesus prayed, He went back to find Peter, James, and John still sleeping. He told them to get up, because some men were coming to take Him away.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Mount of Olives.</b> After sharing the Lord's Supper, Jesus and the disciples went to the Mount of Olives for a time of prayer. It was late at night.</li> <li>2. <b>Jesus.</b> Leaving his disciples, Jesus went off by himself to pray. Jesus knew Judas was betraying him, and his arrest and death were imminent. He prayed God would find another way to provide for salvation, other than through his suffering such a painful death as crucifixion. However, Jesus also prayed God's will be done, not his.</li> <li>3. <b>Sweat like blood</b> dropped from Jesus because of the intensity of his prayers.</li> </ol>
<b>Text Context</b>	<p>After sharing the Lord's Supper with the disciples, in which he redefined the Passover feast, Jesus walked to the Mount of Olives with his disciples. Knowing his</p>

arrest was imminent, Jesus spent time alone in prayer. Before going off to pray, Jesus directed his disciples to pray for strength not to fall into temptation.

Jesus' prayer is an insightful battle between his humanity and divinity. Because his divine nature is aware of all that will come, his human nature is hoping another way can be found to accomplish God's will. Sweat that dropped like blood reveals the intensity of Jesus prayers. Ultimately, though, Jesus submits to God's will.

Jesus returned to his disciples and found them asleep. He woke them, again telling them they needed to be praying for the strength to not fall into temptation.

**Secondary text:** This is one of the Suffering Servant Songs from Isaiah Christians recognize as foretelling Jesus as the Messiah. In this passage, Isaiah foretells how the Messiah will willingly give himself up for suffering in order to carry out God's will. The Messiah is confident, whatever happens, God will never abandon him.

**Bible Study**

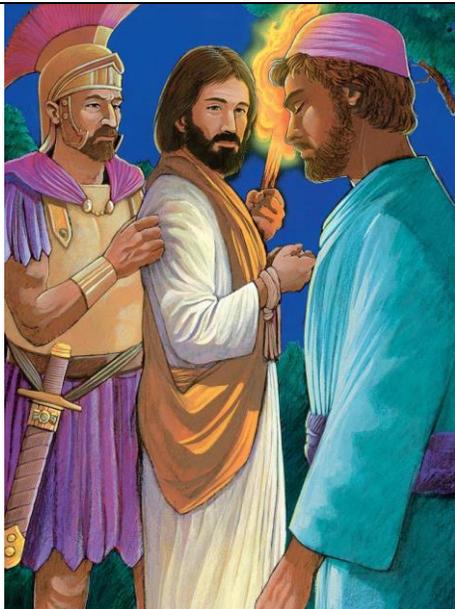
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
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<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the "Text Context" from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
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<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  This is one of the most powerful passages that reveals the human side of Jesus (see also John 11:33-36). Though Jesus knew from the beginning of his mission he would suffer and die in order to open a path of salvation for all humanity, this does not mean this suffering and death are easy. With Judas' betrayal already in progress and his arrest imminent, Jesus prays to God asking if there is any other way to accomplish salvation. Ultimately, though, Jesus knows fulfilling God's will is a greater good than any pain he endures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How does Jesus' anguish here help you understand the incredible sacrifice he made for you?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>When have been times you have prayed with great intensity?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  Jesus was fully devoted to fulfilling God's will for his life. However, this does not mean fulfilling that will was easy or painless. Far from making us immune from any pain or betrayal, being a Christian means God will call us into situations in which we help carry the burdens and pain of others. God might also call us to endure persecutions for the sake of the Gospel. At these times, there is nothing</li> </ul>
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	<p>wrong with asking God to deliver us or protect us. Ultimately, though, our goal should be to surrender to God's will instead of fight against God's will.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why does God not simply protect all Christians from all pain and hardships in this lifetime?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Since Satan will always send temptations into the lives of Christians, how should Christians pray about temptations?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>One of the most powerful acts of love and grace Christians can perform is praying for others. However, Christians need to remember they also need to pray for God's love and grace in their own lives as well. It is easy to become consumed in all the needs of our lives and the lives of others, and push off prayer for less stressful times. However, setting aside regular times of focused prayer is very important for Christians, in order to remain in close communion with God.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Where are places and when are times you can set aside in order to spend extended times in prayer?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What do you think a good balance is between praying for ourselves and praying for others?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 85

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Jesus is Arrested</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Matthew 26:47-56</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Genesis 37</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Lament Jesus' betrayal by one of his disciples, and arrest by the Jewish authorities who plotted Jesus' death.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Be aware, the power of sin can so infect a person's heart that what they think are good actions are actually a betrayal of God.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be alert to the ways in which Satan tempts you, so you can put up barriers of protection and know how to pray for God's protection and guidance in those areas.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	In that hour Jesus said to the crowd, "Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me? Every day I sat in the temple courts teaching, and you did not arrest me. (Matthew 26:55)	

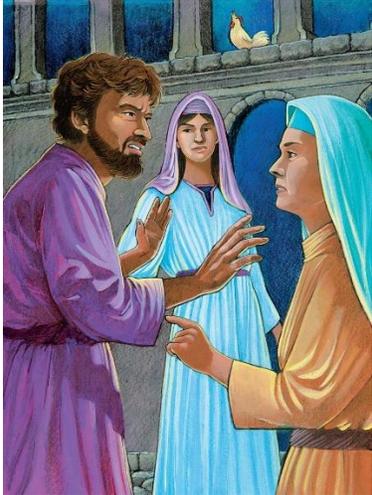
<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>The priests and teachers from Jerusalem thought it was sinful for Jesus to say He was the Son of God. Judas knew that the priests hated Jesus, so he went to talk to them. Judas asked them what they would give to him if he would tell them where they could find Jesus. The priests offered Judas 30 silver coins, so he agreed to betray Jesus. When the disciples had finished eating the Last Supper with Jesus, Judas left the room to find the priests. A crowd of people carrying swords followed Judas to the Garden of Gethsemane. Judas knew that Jesus would be there. Judas told the men that the man he kissed would be Jesus. When Judas kissed Jesus, the men grabbed Jesus and arrested Him. Peter was so angry that he took his sword and cut off the ear of one of the men. Jesus touched the man's ear and healed him. Jesus knew that this was all part of God's plan, so He didn't fight against the men.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Jesus</b> was in the Garden of Gethsemane praying to God. He was preparing himself for his coming arrest and crucifixion.</li> <li>2. <b>Judas</b>, one of his 12 disciples, arranged to betray Jesus to the Chief Priests. The Chief Priests did not like Jesus' teachings or the large crowds who listened to him. Therefore, they were happy when Judas agreed to turn Jesus over to them at night when the crowds were not around. They paid Judas 30 pieces of silver in exchange for his betrayal. This did not surprise Jesus, he</li> </ol>

	<p>knew Judas would betray him, and that all this was part of God’s plan of salvation.</p> <p><b>3. Roman soldier.</b> The Chief Priests did not have the authority to kill Jesus, and so they conspired with the Roman authorities to arrest Jesus and eventually have him crucified.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Everything is happening as Jesus told the disciples it would happen. At the Last Supper, he told them one of the disciples would betray him. Judas had already agreed to betray Jesus for the price of 30 pieces of silver. The Gospel writers never give a reason for why Judas would betray his rabbi. Was Judas greedy? Did Judas think Jesus was going to be an earthly ruler, and he wanted to force Jesus’ hand against the Romans? Was Judas disillusioned with Jesus and aspired to be a leader himself? We do not know why, but Judas agreed to betray the Messiah.</p> <p>The religious leaders had agreed Jesus was a dangerous person. While the religious leaders hated the Romans for occupying their land, the Romans also scared them. The religious leaders believed Jesus would lead a rebellion against the Romans and lose. The Romans would then punish the Israelites by taking away even more rights from them, maybe even the right to worship at the Temple. Therefore, in order to get rid of this troublesome teacher and protect themselves from further Roman oppression, they conspired to have Jesus killed.</p> <p>John’s Gospel reveals Peter was the disciple who used the sword to try to stop the arrest of Jesus. Jesus, however, never used violence to accomplish his mission. Judas committed a terrible sin by betraying Jesus, however, Peter’s striking out in violence was also wrong. Instead of using violence to protect himself, Jesus submitted to God’s will.</p> <p><b>Secondary text: (see lesson # 10 for more information)</b> While nothing compares to Judas’ betrayal of Jesus, Joseph also suffered at the hands of his brothers who should have protected him instead of selling him. The brothers, consumed with jealousy and anger toward Joseph conspired to get rid of him.</p> <p><b>Fruit of the Spirit Track: 8. Gentleness.</b> Gentleness is the gift of having an appropriate temper. It does not mean you never get upset, and it does not mean you allow others to take advantage of you. Instead, it means having the appropriate response for the occasion. In this lesson, Jesus demonstrated a very gentle spirit when confronted by Judas, his betrayer, and the soldiers. However, just the day before Jesus cleared the Temple courts of the sellers and moneychangers. In both cases, though very different, Jesus demonstrated the same power and strength of being in control of his emotions and actions. A gentle Christians knows when to confront someone and when to keep quiet, and in both cases acts out of a God-given wisdom of the situation.</p> <p>✓ <b>Head: What are some situations in which a gentle person will act in bold ways, and what are some situations in which a gentle person will act in quiet ways?</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Heart: All Christians are tempted to lose their temper, even as a Spirit-filled Christians. What steps can you take to cultivate a gentle spirit within you that refrains from losing your temper?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: What are some appropriate responses for a Christian to demonstrate when being confronted by an angry person?</b></li> </ul>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b> The Bible records no greater sin than Judas’ betrayal of Jesus. Though God uses this betrayal in the plan of salvation, God does not direct Judas’ actions. (see Luke 22:20-22) It is hard to imagine why one of Jesus’ disciples, who spent three years under his teachings and witnessing his miracles, would betray him. Maybe this is why none of the Gospel writers give a reason for Judas’ betrayal, they just report it. Jesus, knowing God is using this betrayal for good, surrenders himself to the authorities.</li> <li>✓ <b>What are some ways God has worked good out of the sinful actions of others? (see Romans 8:28)</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why do people, like the religious authorities and Judas, believe something good can come out of their treachery?</b></li>   <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b> Satan deceives people. He deceived Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden to believe eating the forbidden fruit would make them more like God. He deceived the religious authorities and Judas to believe betraying Jesus would benefit their lives. Still today, Satan deceives people to believe committing sins will actually make them feel better and not hurt others. However, as all Christians know, sins do not benefit people, but harm them, and others.</li> <li>✓ <b>What sins do people commit today they do not think will harm them or others?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think Judas betrayed Jesus?</b></li>   <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b> No Christian is immune from the temptations of Satan. While the salvation of Jesus breaks the power of sin in the lives of Christians, Christians can still fall back into sin if they give into the temptations of Satan. Therefore, it is essential for Christians to put up barriers in their life to protect them from Satan’s</li> </ul>

	<p>temptations. These barriers include studying the Bible, worshipping with others, and learning from spiritual mentors.</p> <p>✓ <b>What can you do to protect yourself from falling into temptation?</b></p> <p>✓ <b>What should you do if you do fall into temptation?</b></p>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 86

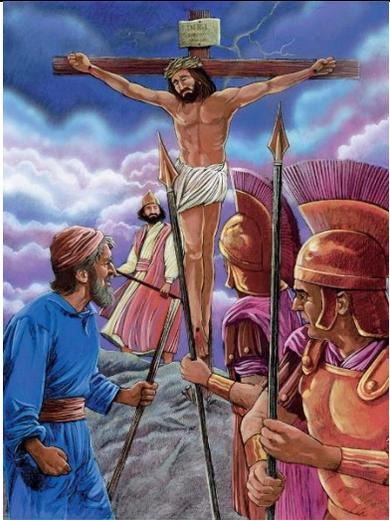
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Peter's Denial of Jesus</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Luke 22:54-62</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Hebrews 4:14-16</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize Jesus' closest disciple disowned him in his greatest hour of need. Despite all Peter's claims he would never abandon Jesus, when the crisis arose, Peter did abandon Jesus.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Understand hardships reveal a person's true character. Peter show that, while it is easy to make bold claims, it is hard to back up those claims when facing danger. However, rather than understanding failure as fatal, remember, Jesus always wants to forgive, heal, and redeem.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be willing to make sacrifices for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. (Hebrews 4:15)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>During the Last Supper, Jesus told the disciples that they all would deny Him. To deny someone means to say that you don't know that person, when you really do. The disciples couldn't believe that any of them would deny Jesus. Peter stood up and said that he would die before he would deny Jesus. Jesus turned to Peter and said that before the rooster crowed, Peter would deny Him three times. That night, when the men took Jesus away, Peter sat in the courtyard and waited to hear about Jesus. A young girl asked Peter if he had been with Jesus. Peter told her that he didn't know what she was talking about. Then another girl told Peter that she had seen him with Jesus. Peter said that he didn't know the man. A little later, a group of people said that Peter had to be a disciple because he talked like them. Peter denied Jesus by saying, "I don't know the man!" Just then, a rooster crowed.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Court of the High Priest.</b> After Jesus' arrest, the guards took him to the home of the high priest for a quick trial. There was a courtyard at the high priest's home, where people gathered around a fire.</li> <li>2. <b>Peter</b> followed Jesus to the high priest's home, and stood in the courtyard watching the court proceedings from a distance.</li> <li>3. <b>One of the Servant Girls</b> approached Peter and stated, "This man was with him." Peter denied it because he was afraid.</li> </ol>

	<p>4. <b>A second person</b> also claimed to know Peter was one of Jesus’ followers. Peter again denied it. A third person claimed Peter was a follower of Jesus, and for the third time Peter denied it.</p> <p>5. <b>Rooster crowing.</b> After Peter’s third denial a rooster crowed, and Peter remembered Jesus had predicted Peter would deny him three times before the night was over. When Peter heard the rooster and remembered what Jesus had said, he left the courtyard and wept bitterly.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>After Jesus’ arrest, all his disciples fled. Peter, however, secretly followed Jesus and the guards. When they arrived at the high priest’s home, Peter entered the home’s courtyard where he could watch the proceedings. However, three people recognize Peter as being a disciple of Jesus and want him to identify himself as such. Rather than admitting this, Peter did as Jesus predicted he would, he denied Jesus three times.</p> <p>Being in the high priest’s courtyard was very dangerous for Peter. Peter had just cut off the ear of one of the high priest’s servants, and deserved prosecution.</p> <p>Upon the third denial, Jesus looked at Peter, and Peter, seeing the Lord look at him and hearing the rooster crow, realized he had just fulfilled the prediction Jesus made just a little while ago. (Luke 22:34) Peter, filled with shame, ran away to weep bitterly.</p> <p>While there is much to learn from this account, it we must remember this is not the end of Peter’s story. After Jesus’ resurrection, Jesus reinstated Peter as a disciple. (John 21:15-19) Far from being only a failing for Peter, this event served to reveal to Peter his true cowardice so that Peter would always remember any good in him is from Jesus and not from himself.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> Contrary to the corrupt high priest in Jerusalem who arrested Jesus and turned him over to the Roman authorities, Jesus is our true high priest. He is a high priest able to sympathize with our weaknesses because he faced temptations just as we do. Because of this, we can trust Jesus and know when we call out to him, he will answer us with mercy and grace.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>        No one wants to fail someone he or she loves. Additionally, no one wants that failure revealed publically. This very painful episode in Peter’s life serves as one of the most important episodes in Peter’s life. Peter, who always believed himself to be the most devoted, most loving disciple of Jesus, is not yet the devoted disciple he thinks he is. The good news is, now that this crisis reveals Peter’s weakness, Jesus can build up Peter to be the actual devoted disciple he wanted to be in the first place. Oftentimes Jesus will use situations in the lives of Christians to do the same thing: reveal our weaknesses so Jesus can fill us with his strength.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What thoughts and feelings do you think flooded Peter’s life in the time between Jesus’ death and resurrection?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why would Satan want Christians to believe their failures are so big Jesus will never forgive them? How can Christians fight against this lie with the truth?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>        Hardships reveal character. However, hardships can also form our character. Just because Peter failed Jesus in his time of trial does not mean Jesus abandoned Peter. Instead, Peter’s denials became a vital turning point in his life as he painfully realized how weak he was. After the resurrection, and Jesus’ forgiveness, Peter will be able to live in the power of Jesus instead of trying to live out of his own power. While many Christians, like Peter, want to make bold declarations of their devotion to God, it is wiser to remain humble and allow the power of Jesus to work through them.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think it was important for Jesus to predict Peter would deny him three times by the end of the night?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think Peter’s actual character was so much weaker than he claimed it would be?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>        No one wants to suffer. However, Christians need to be ready to accept not just the blessings of God, but also the sacrifices of being a disciple of Jesus Christ. For when Christians endure sufferings and persecutions for Jesus, they reflect the character of Jesus in their lives. Additionally, when Christians endure sufferings for Jesus, they are witnesses to others of the love of Jesus.       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How does a Christian prepare for times of suffering and persecution?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What sources of strength and encouragement should a Christian use when enduring times of suffering or persecution?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 87

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Crucifixion of Jesus</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Matthew 27</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Isaiah 53:7-12</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Reflect on the painful death Jesus suffered at the hands of sinful people in order to become the perfect Passover Lamb who can take away our sins.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Believe the love of Jesus for humanity led him to offer his life as a sacrifice for sins.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Live confidently knowing nothing can separate you from the love of God in Jesus Christ. Sin no longer needs to control the life of Christians, for Jesus' death and resurrection broke the power of sin.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!" (Matthew 27:54)	

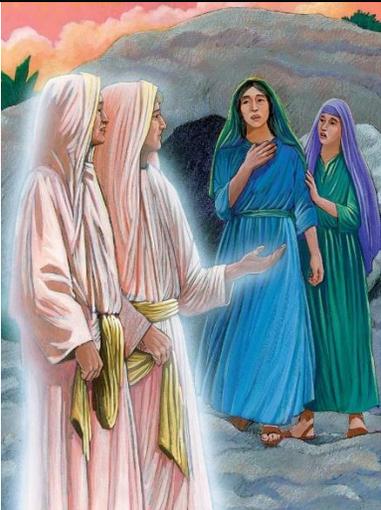
<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>The priests took Jesus to Pilate, the governor of Judea. They lied to Pilate and told him that Jesus had committed terrible crimes. The Jews told Pilate that Jesus wasn't their king and they wanted Him crucified. Being crucified was the worst death anyone could suffer. Some soldiers took off Jesus' clothes and wrapped a purple robe around Him. Then they hit Jesus many times with a whip, pushed a crown of thorns onto His head, and spat on Him. Simon, a man from Cyrene, had to carry the cross up the hill called Golgotha, because Jesus was too weak to carry it by himself. The soldiers laid Jesus down on the cross, stretched out His arms, and pounded nails into His hands. Before they lifted up the cross, they took another nail and pounded it into Jesus' feet. The moment Jesus died, there was a terrible earthquake. After seeing all of this, one of the soldiers realized that Jesus really was the Son of God.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Crucifixion.</b> The Roman Empire used crucifixion as the most painful means of killing people condemned to death. Although Jesus had not committed any crime worthy of death, the Roman authorities and religious leaders conspired to have Jesus killed in order to silence him. Although crucifixion was the most painful way to die, Jesus willingly accepted this death because of his love for us.</li> <li>2. <b>Roman Soldiers.</b> The Roman soldiers beat Jesus severely, put a crown of thorns on his head, and carried out the crucifixion.</li> </ol>

	<p><b>3. Plaque.</b> When crucifying criminals, the authorities often placed a plaque on the cross specifying their crimes. The plaque above Jesus’ head read: “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.”</p> <p><b>4. People Mocking Jesus.</b> It was not enough to just kill Jesus, some of the religious authorities mocked Jesus on the cross, saying if Jesus really was the Messiah, he should come down off the cross.</p> <p><b>5. Darkness Covered the Land</b> while Jesus hung dying.</p> <p><b>6. Jesus.</b> Although the authorities conspired to kill Jesus, they merely carried out God’s will for Jesus. Jesus knew from the beginning that he would be crucified as the perfect Passover Lamb in order to open a path to salvation for all people. When Jesus died, he cried out “It is finished!”</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>After Jesus’ arrest and trial by the high priest, the religious authorities sent Jesus to the Roman authorities. Though the religious authorities wanted Jesus dead, only the governing Roman authorities could carry out death sentences. Therefore, the religious authorities conspired to manipulate Pilate, the Roman ruler, to kill Jesus.</p> <p>When Pilate condemned Jesus to death, he ordered the beating of Jesus with whips. The Roman soldiers then forced Jesus to carry his own cross through the streets of Jerusalem to the place of crucifixion. When they arrived, the Roman soldiers stripped Jesus of his clothes and nailed him to the cross. While some of his followers stood by quietly watching Jesus die, some of the religious authorities mocked Jesus.</p> <p>It usually took a long time for people to die on the cross, but because the soldiers’ savage beating of him earlier, Jesus died in a matter of hours. Jesus cried out many things as he was dying, including “It is finished!” When Jesus died, an earthquake shook the land.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> While those who mocked Jesus viewed his death as proof he was not the Messiah, in fact, his death fulfilled many Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah. This passage from Isaiah foretells many details about Jesus’ ministry and death, centuries before it happened.</p> <p><b>Articles of Faith Track: VI. Atonement.</b> Sin breaks relationship between a Holy God and a sinful humanity. In order to provide a path to reconcile a Holy God and sinful humanity, Jesus Christ came to earth to live a perfect life without sin and take upon himself the guilt of all humanity’s sins. Because Jesus died the death each person deserves because of their sins, Jesus’ death provides freedom for a sinful person to accept God’s love and forgiveness. Jesus’ death provides a path of salvation for every person who hears the Good News of the Gospel and in faith accepts Jesus’ offer of salvation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: Has there ever been a person in your life who has modeled a love so deep they make sacrifices in order for you to know joy and peace?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: What happened in your heart when you heard Jesus died for your sins and took upon himself the punishment you deserved?</b></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Hands: How can you model a life of sacrifice for others this week?</b></li> </ul>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b> The crucifixion proved the incredible love God in Jesus has for us. With the death of the Passover Lamb, God rescued the Israelites from their slavery to Egypt. Now with Jesus’ death, God rescued the whole world from their slavery to sin. While the political and religious leaders conspired to kill Jesus, Jesus willingly submitted to their wicked plans. Jesus knew, while the authorities acted out of sin, God would use their wicked plans to release the greatest salvation the world has ever seen.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think the religious authorities wanted Jesus dead?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What does Jesus’ willingness to die such a painful death tell you about the depths of Jesus’ love?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b> The power of sin runs deeply in people’s lives. However, the love of Jesus breaks the power of sin in Christians’ lives. In response to Jesus’ great sacrifice, Christians should accept this great power and allow Jesus to purify their heart and mind.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>If Jesus breaks the power of in the lives of Christians, why are Christians still tempted to sin?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What is the proper response a person should have to someone who has made a great sacrifice for him or her?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b> Christians should demonstrate the love and compassion Jesus demonstrated on the cross. Christians can live confidently because they have freedom from the power of sin. While Satan will always tempt Christians, Christians can live confidently in the power of Jesus Christ to give them strength to say “no” to temptation. Christians can also live confidently in showing the love of Christ to others.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can you demonstrate the sacrificial love of Jesus to others this week?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What can you do to protect yourself when Satan tempts you?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> </ul>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul> |
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## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 88

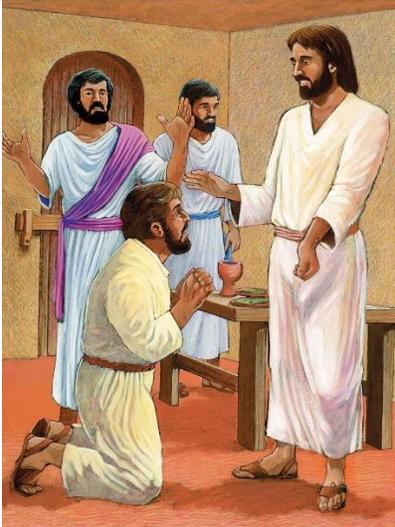
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>The Risen Christ</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Luke 24:1-12</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>1 Corinthians 15</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Rejoice! Christ's resurrection breaks the power of sin! Jesus fulfilled all the promises he made to the disciples.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Take comfort! While all Jesus' disciples doubted him and abandoned him in his time of need, Jesus still loved them, died for them, and rose from the dead for them.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Reach out to those in need of the love of Jesus. Jesus' resurrection shows God's desire to help people caught up in the power of sin and free them from their bondage.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? (Luke 24:5)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>After Jesus died, a man named Joseph buried Him in a tomb. Three days later, Mary Magdalene and some other women went to Jesus' tomb. When they got there, they noticed that the stone that was supposed to cover the entrance to the tomb had been rolled away. The women went inside and saw that Jesus' body was gone! When they turned around, two angels were standing beside them. One angel spoke and told the women that Jesus wasn't there. He was alive! Mary ran to Jesus' disciples and told them what the angel had said. Peter and John ran to the tomb as fast as they could. They wanted to see the tomb for themselves. When they got there, Peter ran inside. He looked down and saw the strips of linen and burial cloth that had been put on Jesus' head. Before Jesus died, He told the disciples that He would rise from the dead. It was true. He was alive!</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Two Women Disciples.</b> On the Sunday after Jesus' death on Friday, some of Jesus' female followers went to the tomb in which he was buried.</li> <li>2. <b>Open Garden Tomb.</b> When they arrived, they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. They looked in the tomb, but did not see Jesus' body. The empty tomb confused them.</li> <li>3. <b>Two Angels.</b> Suddenly two angels appeared to them and asked, "why do you look for the living among the dead?" They reminded the women of Jesus' teaching before he died that he would be killed and on the third day rise again. The women ran to the disciples and told them the good news! Though the disciples did not believe the women at first, Peter and John ran to the tomb and indeed found it empty.</li> </ol>

<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Jesus told his disciples several times of his coming betrayal, death, and resurrection in Jerusalem. However, the disciples did not understand what Jesus meant. Therefore, when Jesus died, they believed Jesus was gone for good. The disciples hid together out of fear the authorities might have them killed as well.</p> <p>Some of Jesus’ female disciples journeyed to the tomb to pay their respects. They took spices with which to anoint Jesus’ body. However, how could they anoint the body if the stone was in front of the door?</p> <p>When they arrived, they found the door open and Jesus’ body gone. Even at this point, they did not consider Jesus’ earlier teaching about his resurrection. Suddenly, two angels appeared to them to remind them of Jesus’ teaching. The women went back to the eleven hiding disciples and told them the shocking news.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> Jesus’ eleven disciples struggled to believe in his resurrection before he showed himself to them. Decades later, false teachers in Roman city of Corinth are tempting the Christians to deny Jesus’ resurrection. The false teachers tell the Christians Jesus was just a good teacher, but never rose from the dead. The Apostle Paul recognizes the dangers of this teaching. In this passage, Paul makes clear Christianity rises or falls on the resurrection of Jesus. If Jesus did not rise from the dead, then the Christians are fools to follow him.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>The world radically changed with Jesus’ resurrection. Before Jesus’ resurrection, the power of sin reigned in the world. After Jesus’ resurrection, the power of sin is broken, and the blood of Jesus creates a path of salvation. Sin no longer has dominion; instead, Christians can live a life of love, grace, and mercy under the power of God. The disciples, though Jesus revealed all this to them before his death, were still caught by surprise. To believe a person they watched die on a cross could live once again is to believe in something incredible. However, Jesus’ appearance to them after his resurrection proved to the disciples God’s incredible power at work in Jesus.</p> <p>✓ <b>If you were one of Jesus’ first disciples, would you have struggled to believe in the resurrection, when you had witnessed Jesus’ death?</b></p>

	<p>✓ <b>How does faith in Jesus' resurrection bring hope into the lives of his followers?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>        Rather than condemn his disciples for failing to believe in the resurrection, even after seeing the empty tomb, in grace Jesus appeared to the disciples. Jesus also did not condemn Peter for his denials or the other disciples for abandoning him. Part of the Good News of the Gospel is the fact that Jesus understands our doubts and questions. Christians can believe in Jesus' resurrection because of the ministry Jesus continues in their lives. While Christians may not physically see the resurrected Jesus, they can experience him in their hearts.</li> </ul> <p>✓ <b>How has Jesus brought new life into your life when you became a Christian?</b>        ✓ <b>How does Jesus' ministry to his doubtful disciples give you comfort when you have doubts?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>        In Jesus, God took the initiative in providing a path to salvation. Before Christians loved God, God loved them. Therefore, before others can understand the love of God, often times they will have to first see it lived out in the lives of Christians.</li> </ul> <p>✓ <b>What are some ways in which people in your community needs to see the love of God lived out in Christians' lives?</b>        ✓ <b>How can you show gratitude to God for the great salvation you enjoy?</b></p>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 89

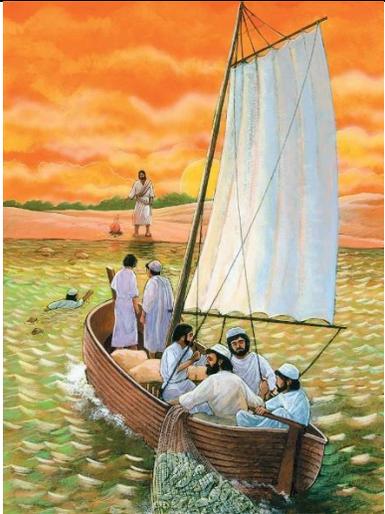
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Jesus Appears to Thomas</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>John 20:19-29</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>2 Corinthians 5:11-6:2</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Celebrate the resurrected Jesus! Jesus commissioned the Church to carry out his ministry to the entire world throughout all the ages.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Be courageous! Christians are not to minister to others out of their own power, but only through the power of the Holy Spirit within in them.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Live a grace-filled life. God calls Christians to be the hands and feet of Jesus in their communities.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." (John 20:27)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>When Peter and John discovered that Jesus had risen from the dead, they went back to tell the other disciples. That night, all of the disciples, except Thomas, were at the same house. The disciples locked the door because they were afraid the Jews may try to capture them. While the disciples were there, Jesus went to the house. He showed them the nail marks in His hands and feet. He even ate a piece of broiled fish to prove that He really was alive! When Thomas went back to the house, Jesus already had gone away. The others couldn't wait to tell Thomas what they had seen. When they did, Thomas didn't believe them. He said, "When I see for myself the nail marks in Jesus' hands, then I will believe that He is alive." The next week, Jesus went back. He walked up to Thomas and showed him His hands and His side. When Thomas saw the nail marks in Jesus hands, He believed!</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Room with Door Locked.</b> The evening Jesus rose from the dead he appeared to the disciples, even though they had locked the door to the room in which they were meeting. Jesus blessed them.</li> <li>2. <b>Thomas</b> was not with the disciples when Jesus appeared to them that first day. Though the disciples told Thomas about the resurrected Jesus, Thomas did not believe them. Thomas stated he would only believe if he actually saw and touched Jesus himself.</li> <li>3. <b>Jesus Appears to Thomas.</b> A week later, the disciples once again met together in a locked room. Jesus once again appeared among them. Jesus invited Thomas to touch his wounds. Thomas declared, "My Lord and my God!" Thomas believed! Jesus commended him for his belief, but said even greater is the belief of those who did not see Jesus in the flesh, but still believe.</li> </ol>

<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>The disciples did not believe the incredible story the women told them of an empty tomb, angels, and a resurrected Jesus. It would certainly be hard to believe such a story, especially after the disciples have been grieving since Jesus' death.</p> <p>Afraid the authorities might try to arrest and kill them because they were Jesus' disciples, the disciples met in fear and behind a locked door. Suddenly, Jesus stood among them. Jesus' resurrected body appeared like his regular body, but it had the wounds and allowed him to pass through the locked door. Suddenly upon seeing Jesus, the disciples' doubts and fears disappeared! Jesus breathed on them, and the Holy Spirit filled them.</p> <p>For whatever reason, Thomas, one of the 11 remaining disciples, was absent at Jesus' appearing. Thomas' doubts are certainly understandable. Thomas' declaration is quite bold! One week later, on the second Sunday after the crucifixion, the disciples again gathered in a locked room. Once again, Jesus appeared. This time Jesus sought out Thomas and invited him to put his doubts to rest. Thomas declared, "My Lord and my God." Thomas is the first person in the New Testament to declare the divinity of Jesus. Therefore, while he is famous for being the "Doubter," Thomas was the first to confess Jesus as God.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> Believing in Jesus Christ's resurrection from the dead does not make Christians better people. It makes Christians new creations. In Christ's salvation, a new creation begins. Christians are the new Adams, who are reconciled to God. As these new creations, Christians are to share the Good News of Jesus' salvation with others.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the "Text Context" from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>Jesus did not simply return to heaven after his resurrection. Instead, Jesus stayed on earth for a time, appearing to and teaching his disciples. However, before he could teach his disciples, Jesus first had to remove their doubts and fears. On the two Sundays after Jesus' crucifixion, he appeared to his disciples to strengthen their faith and resolve. Believing now in Jesus as the Son of God, Jesus commissions the disciples to share the Good News with the world.</p> <p>✓ <b>Do you blame the disciples for not believing at first? Why or why not?</b></p>

	<p>✓ <b>Are there any promises of Jesus you continue to struggle to believe?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>        Being a Christian is not simply a decision we make in our head, but a decision we make in our hearts. Jesus was not just an historical figure; he was not just a great teacher. Jesus is the Son of God. When we believe in Jesus, we believe in God's great power and love, and we become new creations. Like the disciples, we may still have many doubts, but God will minister to us and bring peace to our doubts through the power of the Holy Spirit. Christians are then to use that power of the Holy Spirit to minister to others.</li> </ul> <p>✓ <b>You have never seen Jesus' resurrected body, so how do you know Jesus is risen from the dead?</b></p> <p>✓ <b>How has the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life enabled you to minister to others?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>        Many today doubt God's existence and love for them. God calls Christians to minister to all these doubters in the power of the Holy Spirit. Through the ministry of the Holy Spirit, Christians are able to do greater acts of love and compassion through the grace of Jesus, than if they only lived out of their own power.</li> </ul> <p>✓ <b>What are some reasons why people today doubt God's existence or love?</b></p> <p>✓ <b>How can you show the grace of Jesus to people this week?</b></p>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 90

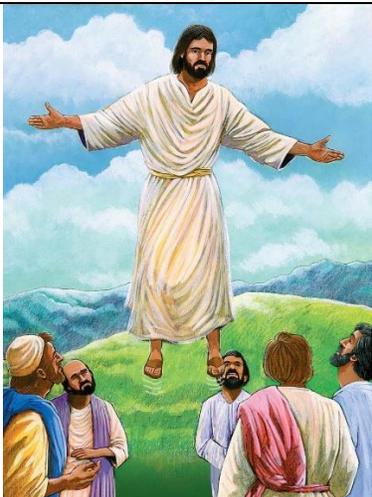
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Great Fish Catch</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>John 21</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>1 John 3:19-24</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Reflect on the great love Peter had for Jesus. Jesus restored Peter as an authentic disciple.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Understand what great encouragement it is to know in your heart that God forgives you.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be willing, whether you need to leave everything behind in order to fulfill God's call upon your life, or stay right where you are, to share the Gospel with others.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. (John 21:7)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>One night, Peter, John, and five other disciples went fishing in the Sea of Tiberias. They fished all night and didn't catch anything. The next morning they were still in the boat hoping to catch some fish. A man standing on the shore asked the men if they had caught any fish. The disciples said no. Then the man told them to put their net on the other side of the boat. When they did, they caught over 150 fish! The net was so heavy, the disciples couldn't pull it into the boat. John looked closer at the man who was standing on the shore. Then he said, "Look! That man is Jesus!" When Peter heard John say this, he jumped into the water and started swimming toward the shore. The other disciples rowed the boat to shore. They had to drag the fish net behind them. Jesus told the men to bring over some of the fish that they had caught and they would eat breakfast together.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Fishing Disciples.</b> After Jesus' resurrection, some of the disciples went back to their home territory. Not yet completely clear on how Jesus wanted them to minister, they went back to their old jobs as they waited for more direction from Jesus.</li> <li>2. <b>Nets full of fish.</b> Though they fished all night, they did not catch any fish. An unrecognized figure at the water's edge called out to them. He told them to cast their nets on the other side of the boat. When they did, they not only caught fish, they caught a huge number of fish.</li> <li>3. <b>Jesus at the water's edge.</b> One of the disciples recognized this figure at the water's edge as Jesus, and told Peter.</li> <li>4. <b>Peter jumped in the water.</b> When Peter heard it was Jesus at the water's edge he immediately wanted to see Jesus. He was so excited he did not want</li> </ol>

	<p>to wait for the boat to get to shore, so he jumped out of the boat and swam to shore. When the other disciples arrived at the shore, they all shared a breakfast meal with Jesus.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>This text reports a third appearance of Jesus to his disciples. We are not sure why these seven disciples are back in Galilee, since most of their time in the last few weeks has been in Jerusalem. We also do not know why there are only 7 disciples mentioned here.</p> <p>However, we do know the disciples decided to go fishing one night. Much like the miraculous catch of fish Luke reported (Luke 5:1-11), the disciples fished all night with nothing to show for it. Once again, Jesus tells these tired and frustrated disciples to put their nets in the water again, and the disciples obey. Once again, they received a huge catch of fish.</p> <p>It may have been all these similarities that made the “Beloved Disciple” recognize it was Jesus who had called out to them. Regardless of how he recognized Jesus, when he reported this to Peter, Peter got so excited he jumped out of the boat and swam to shore. When the other disciples arrived at the shore, they all shared a meal together. Like the Lord’s Supper, Jesus passed out the food to the disciples who were there.</p> <p>Jesus then takes Peter through a process whereby Jesus restores Peter as a disciple of Jesus. He also warned Peter of the cost of being a disciple.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> No matter how great the sins of Christians, Jesus is ready to forgive and restore them. Christians can experience this complete forgiveness and restoration in their lives through the power and ministry of the Holy Spirit.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>Sometimes it can be hard to believe God forgives all your sins. Hearing the Bible teaches God forgives all who honestly seek forgiveness is great. However, sometimes a deeper work needs to happen, when God takes that knowledge in your head and applies it to your heart. Surely, Peter, who denied Jesus three times in Jesus’ time of greatest need, carried with him deep shame for his actions.</p>

	<p>Jesus makes clear in this passage though, that forgiveness should heal shame, and that the Children of God are not to live in shame. Jesus fully restores Peter, because it is God’s power at work in forgiveness, not Peter’s work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do some Christians still feel shame, even after Jesus forgives them?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why does it need to be God’s power, not our willpower that makes forgiveness and healing complete?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>Jesus wants to fill his disciples with joy, power, and love. When Christians carry shame with them though, they cannot accept all of Jesus’ joy, power, and love. It is essential for Christians to surrender their hearts fully to God, so God can bring full healing and peace into their lives. If Jesus does not condemn his children, his children should not condemn themselves. This is very encouraging.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What should a person do if they believe their sins are too great for God to forgive?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What happens if someone does not feel guilty about their sins, but just keeps on sinning and asking God to forgive them?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>Jesus’ forgiveness changes a person’s life. Sometimes that change looks like moving to another town and becoming a teacher or preacher of the Gospel. Other times it looks like staying in your town and with your job, and ministering to people in your community. It is important for Christians to seek out God’s will for their lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can you encourage someone this week who may be feeling discouraged in his or her faith?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What would you say to a Christian who feels God’s call on their life to be a teacher or pastor, but is afraid?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 91

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Ascension &amp; Wait for Holy Spirit</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Acts 1:1-14</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Jonah 3</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand, just before returning to Heaven, Jesus promised the gift of the Holy Spirit to the disciples, who would empower the disciples to be Jesus' witnesses to the ends of the earth.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Be careful to understand the desires and plans of humans are usually much smaller and more limited than what God plans to accomplish.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Wait upon the Holy Spirit. Spend times of prayer with other Christians and wait patiently for a word from the Holy Spirit.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)	

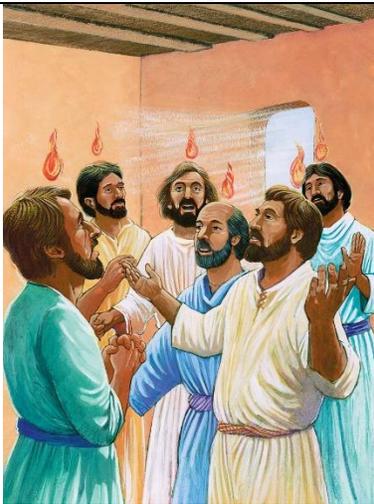
<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Jesus had spent many days with the disciples after He had risen from the dead. But the time came when He had to leave the earth. He needed to be with His Heavenly Father. Jesus and the disciples traveled to a place called Bethany. Jesus blessed the disciples and told them that they needed to go out and tell others about Him. Many people still didn't know that He had died for them and could forgive them of their sins. Since Jesus was going to heaven, He told the disciples that He would send them a helper. That helper was the Holy Spirit. After Jesus told them this, He lifted up His hands toward heaven. As He did, His feet left the ground and He started to ascend, or rise into the sky. As Jesus was taken up, He was hidden behind a cloud. Then two angels appeared and told the disciples that one day Jesus would come back to earth just as He had gone into heaven.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Resurrected Jesus.</b> After his resurrection, Jesus spent 40 days on earth. During this time Jesus gave convincing proofs of his resurrection and taught them from the scriptures why he had to die and rise from the dead.</li> <li>2. <b>The Disciples</b> still wondered if Jesus would be a political leader, and asked if he would push the Roman Empire out of the Holy Land. Jesus taught the disciples that a greater power than he would come upon them, the Holy Spirit. He taught them this power of the Holy Spirit would enable them to go to the ends of the earth to be witnesses of Jesus. Therefore, they should not limit God to what would happen in the Holy Land, but take part in God's plan for the whole world.</li> </ol>

	<p><b>3. The Mount of Olives.</b> On the 40<sup>th</sup> day after his resurrection, Jesus and the disciples were on the Mount of Olives, near Jerusalem. After telling his disciples to return to Jerusalem and wait on the promised Holy Spirit, Jesus ascended into the clouds, and up into heaven. After Jesus ascended, the disciples obeyed his command to return to Jerusalem and wait for the Holy Spirit.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Jesus visited his disciples several times after his resurrection. During these times, Jesus taught the disciples many things about the coming Holy Spirit and the scriptural basis of his death and resurrection. The Disciples still did not fully understand Jesus’ mission, for they still wanted to know if Jesus would restore Israel as an independent nation.</p> <p>The disciples would not start to understand fully Jesus’ ministry and their mission to the world until the Holy Spirit entered their hearts. Therefore, Jesus commanded them to return to Jerusalem after his ascension and wait for this infilling.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> The disciples were not unique in assuming God’s blessings and salvation were primarily for Israel. God called Jonah to leave Israel and preach to the inhabitants of Nineveh. The Ninevites were historical enemies of Israel. Therefore, Jonah did not want to obey God, for he wanted God’s blessings only for Israel, and God’s punishment to consume Nineveh. However, with both Jonah and the disciples, God makes clear to them the message of God’s love and salvation are for all people.</p> <p><b>Articles of Faith Track: XV. Second Coming of Christ.</b> After Jesus’ death and resurrection, he returned to Heaven and the Holy Spirit came to dwell within Christians. One day, at the end of time, Christ will return for a second time. At that time Christians, both living and dead, will meet Jesus and be taken to Heaven. There are many who try to interpret exactly when and how all this will happen. However, the Church of the Nazarene recognizes the Bible does not give clear and exact details on the “when” and “how,” and so chooses to focus on the “who.” (2 Peter 3:3-15) Christ will return in glory!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: What are you looking forward to experiencing when you see Jesus face to face?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: How does the promise of Jesus’ return give you strength to live in this fallen and broken world?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: What can you do to prepare yourself for Christ’s return?</b></li> </ul>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  Because God created all people and loves all people, God wants all people to experience salvation. While Jesus’ earthly ministry focused primarily on the land of Israel, the power of his resurrection and the Good News of salvation are for all peoples. Therefore, Jesus’ ministry did not end with his resurrection. Instead, when the Holy Spirit comes upon the Christians Jesus’ ministry continued. Moreover, because of Gospel is for the whole world, Jesus taught his disciples that the Holy Spirit would send them to the ends of the world, preaching Jesus’ love and salvation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think the disciples still thought Jesus’ ministry was only for Israel?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What questions do you think the disciples had about Jesus’ teaching that they would go to the ends of the earth as Jesus’ witnesses?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  Even after Jesus’ resurrection and ministry to the disciples after his resurrection, the disciples still struggle to understand the breadth of Jesus’ ministry. There was still more about God’s kingdom the disciples needed to understand. Jesus promised the Holy Spirit would empower them to carry out Jesus’ ministry. As the disciples continued to obediently carry out God’s will on their lives, they would come to understand God’s heart and mission in deeper ways. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why will Christians’ understanding of God always be incomplete this side of heaven?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why is it dangerous for a Christian to believe they know everything they need to know about God?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  One of the most powerful actions Christians can take is gathering with other Christians in prayer. While there are great benefits in private prayer, there is great encouragement and power when Christians gather in prayer. It is also important for Christians to learn patience with God’s will and messages to them. Because God’s plans are always bigger than Christians can understand, oftentimes God’s timing will be very different from human times and plans. Learning to wait obediently in prayer is essential for Christians. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why are Christians tempted to become impatient when waiting for God’s direction or answers to prayers?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How can gathering in prayer with other Christians help them receive God’s power and learn patience?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> </ul>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul> |
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## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 92

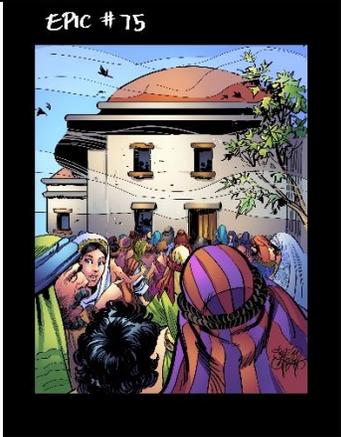
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Day of Pentecost</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Acts 2</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Joel 2:28-32</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Celebrate the Holy Spirit's infilling of the disciples. This fulfillment of Jesus' promise enables the disciples to take the Good News to the ends of the earth.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Recognize if you have been filled with the Holy Spirit. Is the Spirit of Jesus filling your heart, soul, and strength?</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Find specific ways to bear witness to God's great salvation this week. How can you demonstrate the Good News that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved?</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:38)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Before Jesus ascended into heaven, He told the disciples to stay in Jerusalem. He was going to send the Holy Spirit to help them. One day the disciples and some other Christians went to a house to visit together. Suddenly, they felt a strong wind blow through the house. Then, they saw what looked like a fire come down from heaven. The fire divided into different sections, and each part touched one of them. This was the Holy Spirit that Jesus had promised to send. As the fire touched them, they started to speak in different languages. Jesus wanted them to know that the good news about Him should be available to everyone in the world. The twelve disciples were also called the apostles. Jesus sent the apostles and the other Christians out to preach to all people. The day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to His followers is called the Day of Pentecost.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Together in one place.</b> In Jerusalem, 120 of Jesus' disciples gathered to wait for the promised Holy Spirit.</li> <li>2. <b>Rushing wind.</b> Suddenly a rushing wind filled the room.</li> <li>3. <b>Tongues of fire</b> came to rest on the disciples' heads.</li> <li>4. <b>The disciples</b> began speaking on various languages, proclaiming the Good News of Jesus. Many people outside the room heard the various languages with which the disciples proclaimed Jesus. Many of these people, because they could not understand all the languages, claimed the disciples were drunk. Peter, though, defended the disciples, explaining from the Old Testament that these languages were fulfilling God's promises that all peoples will hear the Good News of God's great love for them.</li> </ol>

<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>As Jesus commanded, the disciples gathered in Jerusalem to wait for the Holy Spirit. More than Jesus' 11 disciples, about 120 followers of Jesus gathered to wait. Suddenly, a rushing wind filled the room, and what looked like tongues of fire alit upon their heads. The disciples then declared the praises of God in many different languages.</p> <p>This filling of the Holy Spirit fulfilled Jesus' promises, as well as many Old Testament prophecies. This filling by the Holy Spirit gave the disciples the strength and grace to fulfill God's call upon their lives.</p> <p>As with most of God's mighty works, some did not understand. They derided these disciples, claiming they were shouting gibberish because they were drunk. Peter, though, proclaimed this spectacle was not the result of drunkenness, but the result of God's mighty presence. Peter preached to them the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Cut to the heart, many asked Peter how they could receive God's salvation. About 3,000 accepted Christ as Savior and were baptized.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> God never intended salvation to be limited to Israel. Because God created everyone, God wants everyone saved. In this passage from Joel, the prophet speaks God's promise that one day, not just the Israelites, but everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. God also speaks through Joel of the coming Holy Spirit who will fill the Children of God.</p> <p><b>Articles of Faith Track: X. Christian Holiness and Entire Sanctification.</b> God's plan of salvation is more than to save people from the guilt of their sins, God's plan is to save people from the power of sin in their lives. Therefore, while the resurrection of Jesus Christ provides a path to salvation, the infilling of the Holy Spirit is a subsequent work of God in which God cleanses the heart from sin. Through the Power of the Holy Spirit, the Christian is able to reject sin and have the power to love others with the love of God. This infilling of the Holy Spirit leads the Christian to a life of communion with God and growth in grace.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: Why would God want to do more than just save people from their sins? What does a Christian lack who is only forgiven of their sins, and not released from the power of sin in their lives?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: What were some of the manifestations of the Holy Spirit among the believers on and after Pentecost, according to Act 2?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: Why is it important to, in addition to testifying to sanctification by God, to demonstrate that sanctification through holy behaviors?</b></li> </ul>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity. The ministry of the Holy Spirit is to make the life of Jesus alive in the Christian’s life and empower them to live in the power of God. With the power of Holy Spirit at work within them, Christians can fulfill God’s commands to love God and love others. With the infilling of the Holy Spirit, Christians can also live fully devoted to God’s Kingdom, and free from bondage to sin. Though the disciples often misunderstood Jesus’ mission to the world while Jesus ministered on earth, once filled with the Holy Spirit, they began to understand better the Gospel of Jesus Christ and Jesus’ mission to the world. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why are the disciples able to live more like Jesus after the infilling of the Holy Spirit than when Jesus walked the earth?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What is the significance of the disciples’ speaking so many different languages?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  When filled with the Holy Spirit, the Christian is able to live their lives fully devoted to God, and free from bondage to sin. Instead of living a life of struggle between trying to live for Christ and yet always bound by sin, the Christian is able to live wholly for Jesus. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why are all people born with the desire to live selfishly?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Do you feel yourself torn between living for God and living bound to sin? If so, what can you do to allow God to have all of your life?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  The Holy Spirit’s filling of the Christian is not to be a one-time event, but a daily reality. When the Christian lives out of God’s power instead of their own power, they bear witness to the work of God in their lives. They are able to accomplish exceedingly more with God’s power than under their own power. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can you demonstrate the Good News that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What can you do if you have never been filled with the Holy Spirit?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson #93

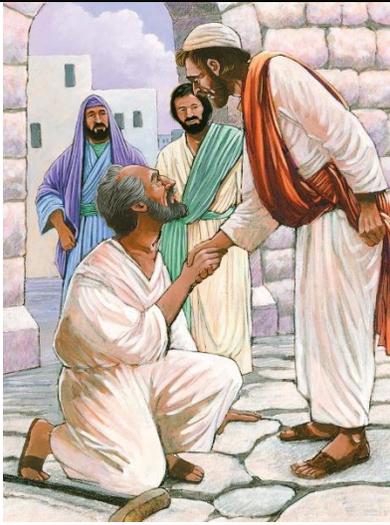
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>The Community of Jesus the Messiah</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Acts 2:41-47</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Ephesians 1:15-23</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand the universal Church is Jesus Christ's representative on earth.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Appreciate the gift of Christ's Church, and the blessings God wants to give to you through your fellow Christians.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> As part of the Body of Christ, find specific ways this week to be compassionate, merciful, and loving to those both inside and outside the Church.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. Acts 2:41	

<b>Text Summary</b>	On the day of Pentecost, after being filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter preached the Gospel to thousands of Jews who had gathered in Jerusalem from all over the world for the Jewish festival. The Holy Spirit, who worked powerfully in the disciples who had been filled with the Holy Spirit, so also works in the crowd who heard Peter's preaching. Thousands were saved. These newly saved followers of Jesus began gathering together for worship, encouragement, teaching, and fellowship. The joy of Jesus' salvation so filled the new believers that they shared in common all their possessions, and gave to anyone who had need.
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>The First Christians.</b> The crowd that heard Peter's first sermon was comprised of Jews from many different parts of the world. They went back to their homelands and shared Jesus with others. Those who lived Jerusalem stayed there and began meeting together on a regular basis.</li> <li>2. <b>Reading From Scripture.</b> Among the many practices of the early Christians was devoting themselves to the Apostle's teaching. They did this by listening to the Apostles teach them, but also by reading letters the Apostles would write either to certain churches or letters meant to circulate among many churches.</li> </ol>
<b>Text Context</b>	With the infilling of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, the disciples of Jesus finally began to fully understand his life, mission, and teachings. They began to understand how Jesus was a Suffering Servant Messiah, rather than a military rule type of Messiah. In order to learn more about Jesus and to share the joy these first Christians had, they would meet together on a regular basis. These first Christians were primarily Jews, and so they would still go to the Temple on the Sabbath (Saturday), but then meet together for fellowship, teaching, and encouragement on Sundays, known as the Lord's Day (the day on which Jesus rose from the dead).

	<p><b>Secondary text:</b> in the Ephesians text, the Apostle Paul is writing about the power and authority of Jesus Christ. This power and authority extends to the church, the gathered people of God who recognize Jesus Christ as the Messiah, the Savior of the world.</p>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  The earthly manifestation of the grace, power, and mercy of Jesus Christ is the universal Church. When it is at its best, the Church faithfully represents the love of Jesus Christ to one another and to outsiders. The joy and concern they have for each other is testimony to the change Jesus Christ has brought into their lives. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some specific ways in which you have seen the Church show the love and grace of Jesus to others?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What would be some reasons why the Church might fail to fully live up to its identity as the Body of Christ? Does this mean it is not really part of the Body of Christ?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  The first Christians gathered together on a regular basis to share in the teaching about Jesus, in fellowship, in miracles, and in generosity. These first Christians experienced the joy of their sins forgiven and the infilling of the Holy Spirit, and it transformed not just their individual lives, but their lives together. So also, our lives should show signs of transformation as we seek to live out the love and joy Jesus has shown to us in our relationships with others. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How has the love and joy of Jesus changed your heart?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Do think just because Jesus changes a Christian’s heart instantly, that they Christian is then completely mature in their knowledge of Jesus and love for others? Why or why not?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  One of the strongest witnesses to the power of Jesus Christ to transform lives in the early church was the love, fellowship, and generosity these first Christians demonstrated. While many people may have struggled to understand Jesus was the Messiah, they could not ignore the great love and joy that had transformed these followers of Jesus. Sometimes the greatest testimony Christians have is not</li> </ul>

	<p>in the testimony they speak in words, but in the testimony they demonstrate by their acts of love and joy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ <b>What have been some of the most meaningful acts of love and joy other Christians have demonstrated to you?</b></li><li>✓ <b>What gifts and graces has Jesus given to you that you can share with others this week?</b></li></ul>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 94

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	Peter & John Heal Beggar	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	Acts 3	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	Isaiah 35	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Rejoice! The ministry of Jesus Christ bringing healing to people's bodies and souls continues, now through his disciples.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Remember the joy of your salvation! Though life can be tough and people disappoint you, Jesus will never fail you!</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Find someone for whom you can be a blessing. Sometimes Christians can be a blessing financially, but there are also many other ways Christians can share the love and power of God with others.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." (Acts 3:6)	

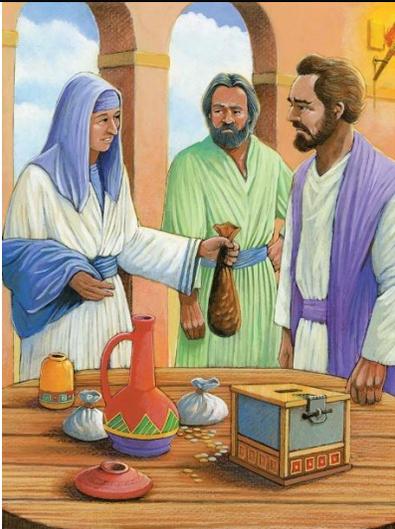
<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Every day, Jews and Gentiles went to the Temple to pray. A Gentile is any person other than a Jew. As Peter and John were walking to the Temple, they saw a crippled man sitting at the gate. The man was begging people to give him money because he was not able to earn any by himself. When Peter and John walked up to the gate, the crippled man asked them for money. Peter told the man to look at him. Then Peter said that he didn't have any money to give him. But, he did have something else that he could give. Peter told the crippled man that in Jesus' name he should get up and walk. Peter reached down, grabbed the man's right hand, and helped him to stand on his own feet. Instantly the man felt the muscles in his feet and ankles become strong. He had been healed! He jumped for joy and then walked with Peter and John into the Temple.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Beautiful Gate.</b> One day Peter and John went to the Temple for afternoon prayers, and were about to enter through the gate called Beautiful.</li> <li>2. <b>Lame Beggar.</b> As they were walking, they passed a man lame since birth begging for money. The lame man's friends brought him to the gate each day to beg from Israelites going to prayers.</li> <li>3. <b>Peter</b> called out to the beggar, "Look at us!" When Peter had the beggar's attention, he declared he had no money to give him, but commanded the man, in the name of Jesus Christ, to walk. Not waiting for the man to decide if he believed in Jesus or believed what Peter said, Peter took his hand and pulled him up. The man's ankles became strong, and with joy, he went into the Temple courts jumping and praising God.</li> </ol>

<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>The Holy Spirit filled the disciples of Jesus Christ on Pentecost. They then began living and ministering, no longer out of their inadequate power, but out of the mighty power of God at work through the Holy Spirit. Because they knew Jesus was the Old Testament fulfillment of the Messiah promises Jesus’ disciples continued going to the Temple for prayer and worship.</p> <p>One day as Peter and John prepared to enter the Temple a lame beggar got their attention. Being lame since birth, this man had to beg for money from a very early age, since he could not work. He also had to stay outside of the Temple, since the Law declared people with disabilities were often forbidden from entering the Temple courts (Leviticus 21:16-23). People would also often see a person’s disability as punishment from God, even if, like this man, they were disabled from birth.</p> <p>Therefore, Peter recognized this man needed a lot more than just some money in order to be made whole. This man needed healing, both of his body and his status in society. Therefore, when Peter declared in Jesus’ name this man could walk, Peter healed many parts of this man’s life. He could now walk, worship in the Temple, and no longer live with others considering him stricken by God.</p> <p>The people in the Temple courts, amazed at this lame man leaping with joy, drew near to Peter and John. Peter seized the opportunity, and preached to the crowd. Peter proclaimed Jesus as Messiah, and called on them to repent and turn to God.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> This passage describes the hope the Messiah will bring to Israel. Christians looked back to this passage as an example of the ministry of Jesus. Moreover, because the power of Jesus is still at work in the world, now through the disciples of Jesus, the ministry of Jesus continues. In this case, the former lame man jumping through the Temple courts provides evidence Isaiah’s prophecy, “the lame leap like a deer,” has come true.</p> <p><b>Fruit of the Spirit Track: 5. Kindness.</b> Christians display kindness when they act for the good of others, without expecting anything in return. When they see a need, instead of waiting for someone else to meet, or even being asked to meet it, they will work to meet the need. In the lesson text, the beggar asked for one thing, but received something else. While the beggar only requested money, Peter understood physical healing to be the beggar’s greater need. The kindness of God is displayed when God not only meets the need a person thinks they have, but also the deeper need they may not even realize they have. Therefore, before someone even realizes they are a sinner in need of grace, God will begin moving in their life and the lives of others around them to prepare for the time in which they recognize their greater need.</p> <p>✓ <b>Head: Christians often want God’s judgment to come quickly upon those who have harmed them. What might be a better approach a Christian can take when praying to God for someone who is being difficult to him or her?</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Heart: To be kind requires we put other people first in our lives and hearts. Why can it be so difficult to put other people’s needs before our own?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: Being kind means not only being willing to help others, but being aware of the needs of others. How can you be more attentive this week to the needs of people around you?</b></li> </ul>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b> The ministry of Jesus Christ continues on earth, even after his return to Heaven. Now, through the power of the Holy Spirit, the disciples continue the preaching and healing ministry of Jesus Christ. As with many of Jesus’ miracles, this subject of the miracle never asked for healing. However, Peter knew money would only temporarily meet his needs. Healing is what he really needed. Peter, who once denied Jesus three times, but now Holy Spirit empowered, commanded this lame man to walk. The healing not only provided a new life for this man, but also occasioned the opportunity for Peter to preach again about Jesus Christ to a captive crowd.</li> <li>✓ <b>Where do you think Peter, who recently denied Jesus, received the faith to declare healing upon this man?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What were this man’s real needs, besides money, and why did Peter meet these instead of just give him some money?</b></li>   <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b> Peter quickly transforms from the denier of Jesus to the miracle worker in Jesus’ name. While Peter experienced the guilt of denying Jesus, the power of the resurrection is stronger than his guilt. The healing Jesus provides is more than adequate to transform Peter’s life. So also for Christians. While Christians may carry the scars of past sins, in Jesus they no longer needs to carry with them the guilt or the shame of those sins. When Jesus saves, Jesus saves completely.</li> <li>✓ <b>Why do many people think Jesus’ offer to forgive all theirs sins is too good to be true?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What is the harm in accepting Jesus’ forgiveness, but not believing Jesus’ love you?</b></li>   <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul>

	<p>The infilling of the Holy Spirit enables Christians to meet the real needs of others. While it may not be the miraculous healing of people born lame, God does give Christians many abilities, treasure, and talents that God wants to use for the good of others. It is very important for Christians to recognize, hurting people often will not be able to understand the love of God people tell them about, until they see that love at work around them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why is it not enough to tell people about the love of God, why must it also be demonstrated?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How might you try to minister to someone who says he or she does not want to become a Christian because a Christian has at one time hurt him or her?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 95

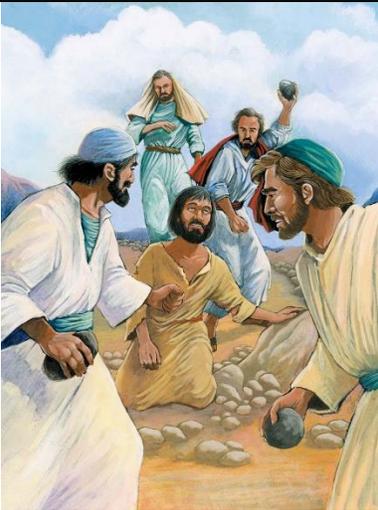
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Ananias &amp; Sapphira Lie</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Acts 5:1-11</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Joshua 7</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand, greed is a very destructive vice, both to your own life and to the lives of those you love.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Be careful, sin is not content with being limited to your heart, it wants to control your actions as well.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Commit to living a life of integrity, where your thoughts, feelings, and actions all flow out of a love for God and for others.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	<p>“No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.” (Matthew 6:24)</p>	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>There were many poor people who lived in the city of Jerusalem. Because of this, Christians would sell pieces of land or even homes so they could give money to the apostles. The apostles would then take the money and give it to the poor people. One day a man, named Ananias, and his wife, Sapphira, sold a piece of their property for a lot of money. They must have become very selfish when they saw all of the money. Instead of giving all of it to the apostles, they decided to keep some of the money for themselves. They took the rest of the money and gave it to the apostles. Ananias and Sapphira wanted the apostles to believe that they were giving all of the money they had received for their property. The apostles could tell that they were lying. Because they had lied to God, Ananias and Sapphira died instantly. The other people learned that they should never lie to God.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Believers Shared their Possessions.</b> In the early Church, believers were so filled with the Holy Spirit and love for others, they freely shared their possessions with each other. Many also sold homes and land, bringing the money to the Apostles to help those in need. God never commanded Christians to do this, the Christians simply did so as a response to the great love and joy they had in the Lord.</li> <li>2. <b>Peter.</b> One day a man and his wife sold a piece of land and brought a portion of the money to the apostles. However, rather than simply saying this was only a portion of the sale, the man, Ananias, told everyone it was the full amount of the sale. He lied in order to make himself look better. The Lord revealed to Peter the greed and deception of Ananias, so Peter confronted him. Ananias died, right then and there, for his sin against God.</li> </ol>

	<p><b>3. Sapphira.</b> Three hours later Ananias’ wife Sapphira came looking for him. Peter confronted her as well, and asked her about the price of the sale of the land, to see if she would lie as well. She lied, just like Ananias did, and she immediately died as well. Great fear seized the whole church as they realized the great resurrection power of Jesus was not something to be abused.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Filled with the Holy Spirit, the first Christians enjoyed great fellowship with God and with one another. So filled with joy and love, they donated their possessions to the church in order for caring for the poor. Some even sold homes and land, and donated the proceeds.</p> <p>God did not command any of this. The Christians simply gave freely, responding to the great love of God. Ananias and Sapphira decided to sell some of their land and donate a portion of the proceeds. However, instead of simply telling others their offering was only a part of the proceeds, they lied, and told others they donated the whole amount. Though they were being generous, because Satan still had control of their hearts, they allowed their greed to cause them to deceive others.</p> <p>A little bit of sin can cause great problems. Because of this, God decided to punish them immediately, so their greed and deception would not spread throughout the entire church. This event caused great fear to seize the church, as the early Christians realized the great power of the resurrection could bring, not only salvation from sin, but also judgement on sin.</p> <p><b>Secondary text: (See lesson #28 for more information)</b> A similar episode to Ananias and Sapphiras’ greed occurred shortly after the Israelites entered the Promised Land. Achan, rather than obey God’s commands for the Israelites to bring all their plunder for God’s use, stole some valuables. Like Ananias and Sapphira, Achan and his family paid the ultimate price for Achan’s sin and deception.</p>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>Though the resurrection of Jesus breaks the power of sin, Christians can still choose to allow sin to reign in their lives. In particular, Ananias and Sapphira believed they could serve both God and remain greedy and deceptive. God</p>

	<p>demonstrated for the first Christians the incredible danger of believing they could manage sin. While God does not expect Christians to live perfectly, there is a great danger when Christians choose to claim to be following God while also choosing to let sin dominate their lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What is it about the nature of sin that caused this couple to lie about their donation, when God never commanded them to give all the proceeds of the sale in the first place?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why can greed be such a destructive vice for Christians and those around them?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>Christians need to remember, sin is not content with only having part of a person’s heart. A Christian cannot manage sin in their life. If the Christian allows sin to remain in their heart, that sin will infect other parts of the Christian’s life as well. Inward sins like greed also do not remain inward, but become manifest in the Christian’s actions as well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why does Satan want Christians to believe inward sins are harmless?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some ways inward sins become manifest in a Christian’s actions and attitudes?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>A life of integrity is when a Christian’s beliefs and actions are aligned. It is very important for Christians to not simply accept Jesus as their Savior, but also strive to allow Christ to reign in their hearts and actions as well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why would a life of integrity be hard to live out in your community?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the consequences for sin you see demonstrated in your community?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 96

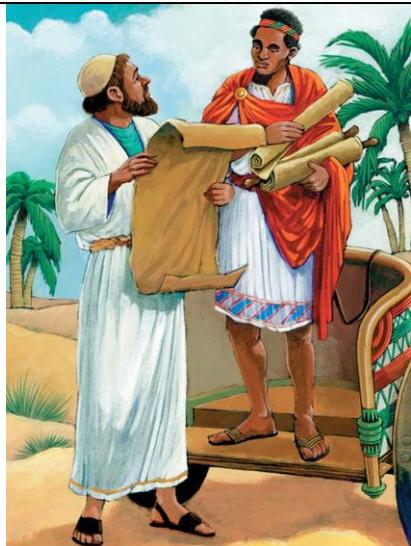
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Story of Stephen</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Acts 6:8-7:50</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Jeremiah 38:1-14</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand being a witness for Jesus Christ can lead to persecution and suffering. If so, though, it just gives the Christian an opportunity to be more like Jesus.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Forgive others. Stephen, as Jesus did on the cross, forgave those who were killing him. Forgiveness is a very hard Christian virtue to put into practice, but it frees the Christian from allowing bitterness and hatred to fester in their hearts.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Speak the truth of Jesus with love. While Stephen knew his preaching of Jesus could bring opposition, he loved Jesus too much to keep Jesus a secret.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people. (Acts 6:8)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Stephen was a very wise man and wasn't afraid to tell people about Jesus. Like Peter and John, God was able to do miracles through Stephen. Stephen knew that the reason he could do these miracles was because the Holy Spirit was helping him. Some Jewish men didn't like what Stephen was doing. They accused Stephen of saying terrible things about Moses and God, and they took Stephen to court. While they were in court, Stephen looked up toward heaven. He told the Jewish men that he could see Jesus standing beside God. The men were furious and dragged Stephen out of the city. They picked up stones from the ground and started throwing them at Stephen. Stephen looked up into heaven and asked Jesus to forgive the men for doing this. Then Stephen died. Stephen was the first man to be killed just because he told people about Jesus.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Stephen</b> was a Christian, full of the Holy Spirit, who performed many signs and wonders to show God's grace and power.</li> <li>2. <b>Opposition.</b> Some people though, did not like Stephen's ministry. They did not like him preaching about Jesus, because they did not believe Jesus was the Messiah. They confronted Stephen with tough questions, but God gave Stephen wisdom in his answers. Because the opposition people could not refute Stephen's answers, they resorted to mob violence to stop Stephen's ministry. They dragged Stephen out of the city and started throwing stones at him to kill him.</li> </ol>

	<p><b>3. Stephen Looked Up to Heaven</b> and saw Jesus standing next to God. Knowing he was about to die, Stephen asked Jesus to receive his spirit and to forgive these men for killing him. In doing this, Stephen modeled the same kind of love Jesus showed when angry men caused Jesus' crucifixion.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>The religious opposition to Jesus assumed that once they crucified Jesus, his followers would stop preaching about Jesus. However, filled with the Holy Spirit, many Christians not only preached about Jesus, but performed mighty signs and wonders in Jesus' name. Therefore, some religious leaders believed they now had to start killing Jesus' followers.</p> <p>Like Jesus, though, the religious leaders had no authority to kill Stephen. Nor did they have evidence Stephen committed any crimes worthy of death. Sometimes people believe it is right to break their own laws. They believe it is okay to commit one crime in order to get their way. However, Jesus taught it is never okay to commit one crime in order to get your way. Jesus taught it was more important to love than to act violently out of anger.</p> <p>Stephen was the first Christian martyr, which means he was the first Christian killed because of his faith in Jesus Christ. Like Jesus, Stephen loved God and others so much he forgave those who were killing him.</p> <p><b>Secondary text: (See lesson #47 for more information)</b> Like Stephen, the authorities persecuted Jeremiah for speaking the truth about God. While the authorities should have listened to Jeremiah's message from God and repented of their sins, they instead chose to silence Jeremiah. Jeremiah knew the authorities would persecute him for telling the truth about God, but Jeremiah also knew it was more important to be faithful to God than to be afraid of people who are teaching the wrong things about God.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the "Text Context" from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>It is sad that ministering for Jesus, who taught so much about love and forgiveness, can lead to such terrible persecution. The early Christians helped the poor, performed miracles, and taught the truth about God. However, this not only did not protect them from harm, it caused the religious authorities to punish them.</p>

	<p>No one likes to suffer, however, it is more important to be faithful to Jesus than to try to avoid suffering. In addition, while Jesus does not call Christians to seek out persecution, it is important to listen faithfully to Jesus and be obedient whenever Jesus calls you to act or speak on his behalf.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do some people get very upset when other people act in very loving and generous ways?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>In what ways can persecution result in Christians being more like Jesus?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>It is hard to love people who persecute you. It is also hard to forgive people who harm you. However, Jesus and Stephen model for Christians lives in which hatred and bitterness do not have a place on a person's heart. If the Christian facing persecution allows bitterness and hatred to build in their lives, then Satan wins, because God is not the full Lord of their hearts. Forgiveness, which is vitally important for Christians to practice, can take a long time to grow.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What can a Christian do to make forgiving others easier?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What should a Christian do who is struggling to forgive someone?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>God does not want Christians to make other people angry, just to make them angry. God does recognize, however, that some people will become very angry when they see us loving others or hear us talking about Jesus. While others may become angry, Christians are to serve God first, and act and speak when God leads them to act and speak.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>When have you faced persecution for being a Christian?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What would you say to a Christian who is struggling because of the persecution they are facing?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 97

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Philip &amp; Ethiopian</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Acts 8:26-40</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Isaiah 53:7-12</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Believe God’s salvation in Jesus Christ is for all peoples, no matter their nation, race, gender, or background.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Discern if there are any barriers in your heart to sharing God’s love with others. Do you have any biases, fears, or prejudices that could prevent you from obeying God’s call to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with others?</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be ready to share your testimony and the Gospel of Jesus Christ at any time. God will bring people into your life who need to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. (Acts 8:35)	

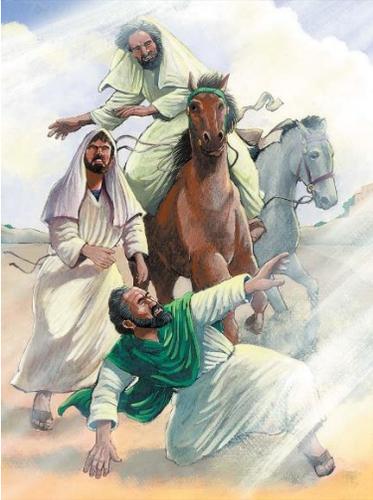
<b>Text Summary</b>	Philip (not the apostle) was a missionary who preached to people about God. One day God sent an angel to tell Philip to walk down a desert road that would lead out of Jerusalem. Philip obeyed the angel. As Philip was walking, he saw a man from Ethiopia sitting in a chariot. The man was reading the book of Isaiah from the Old Testament Scriptures. As the man was reading, Philip walked up and asked him if he understood what he was reading. The Ethiopian man told Philip that he didn’t understand, but would like someone to explain it to him. Philip explained to the man that he was reading the good news about Jesus. Then Philip told the man how Jesus had died to forgive him of his sins. The Ethiopian man asked Jesus to forgive him of his sins, and then asked Philip to baptize him. The Holy Spirit then took Philip away to another town where he preached about Jesus.
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Ethiopian Official.</b> An Ethiopian official traveled to Jerusalem to worship at the Temple. On his way home to Ethiopia he was reading from the Old Testament book of Isaiah.</li> <li>2. <b>Philip</b> was a Christian who was preaching about Jesus and working miracles in Jesus’ name. God sent Philip to the Ethiopian’s chariot. When Philip saw the Ethiopian reading from Isaiah, he asked the Ethiopian official if he understood what he was reading. The Ethiopian was sad because he did not understand what he was reading, and there was no one to explain the passage to him. So Philip offered to explain the text to them, and as they traveled down the road Philip explained to him all about Jesus, and how Jesus fulfilled many of the</li> </ol>

	<p>prophecies from the book of Isaiah. The Ethiopian heard about Jesus with great joy, and asked Philip to baptize him.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>After the stoning of Stephen, a great persecution broke out against the Christians in Jerusalem. Many of the Christians fled Jerusalem. However, this persecution did not stop the teaching and preaching about Jesus, in fact just the opposite. As the Christians fled Jerusalem, they began preaching about Jesus and working great miracles wherever they went.</p> <p>One of these Christians was Philip. He fled to a city in Samaria, and there he healed many people and many became Christians because of his ministry. One day God told Philip to leave Samaria and go south to a busy road between Jerusalem and Gaza. When Philip got there, he saw a very important person riding in a chariot. This person was an official from Ethiopia who had traveled to Jerusalem to worship in the Temple. This official was frustrated because, though he was reading the scriptures, he did not understand the scriptures. Philip offered to explain the scriptures to him, and so he got into the chariot and they traveled down the road.</p> <p>The passage the official was reading was about the Suffering Servant, about how Jesus would die for our sins. As Philip explained to this official all about Jesus, the official was overjoyed, and when they came to some water, asked Philip if he would baptize him.</p> <p>So now, even though the enemies of Jesus thought they could stop his followers from preaching about Jesus by persecuting them, instead, the Good News about Jesus was not only being preached to more people, but now an Ethiopian became a Christian and would take the Good News of Jesus Christ to a new continent: Africa!</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> The Ethiopian official was reading this text. Hundreds of years before Jesus was crucified, God gave this prophecy to Isaiah to tell of the way in which God would save people from their sins.</p> <p><b>Articles of Faith Track: VII. Prevenient Grace.</b> God always makes the first move in love and salvation. God created the heavens and the earth for humanity to enjoy. Yet, humanity chose to sin. However, not content with a broken relationship with humanity, God reached out through the patriarchs and prophets to show humanity how to have a relationship with God. When humanity continued to live in brokenness and sin, God reached out in Jesus Christ to provide an even better path to salvation. When a person becomes convicted of their sins and turns to God, it is only because God first reached out to them. Praise God, God always makes the first move in love and salvation! See Romans 5 for more information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: What would your life be like if God had not taken the first step toward you, but waited on you to reach out for salvation and healing?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: What does it tell you about the nature of God that God did not wait for you to recognize your sin and need of salvation?</b></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Hands: What should be a person’s response to God’s prevenient grace?</b></li> </ul>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  Persecution did not stop the early Christians from telling others about Jesus Christ. In fact, just the opposite, even more people heard about Jesus because the Christians preached about him as they scattered from Jerusalem. Before Jesus ascended into heaven he told the disciples they would be his witnesses to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8), and now that is coming true. After Pentecost, the Holy Spirit so filled the early Christians that they are doing the same things Jesus did while on earth: teaching about the Kingdom of God and working miracles to prove the Kingdom of God had come to earth. This Ethiopian official is one example of how the Good News about Jesus is spreading all over the world. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What were some of the many of the differences between Philip and this Ethiopian official?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think the Ethiopian official would invite a stranger into his chariot to teach him about the book of Isaiah?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  The Good News about Jesus is for all people. God wants Christians to share the Good News about Jesus with everyone they can. However, sometimes people allow differences between them and others prevent them from helping others. Sometimes the differences are racial, economic, religious, or many other ways. God does not want anything to stop Christians from sharing the Good News with others. God wants Christians to see beyond race, nationality, wealth, and see others simply as beloved creations of God who need the Good News. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some differences between people in your community that keep people from getting along with each other?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What should you do if God brings someone into your life to share the Gospel with who is very different from you?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  While the Bible says many important things about God, often times people need a Christian to explain what the Bible means. Not only that, but people often also need Christians to share with them personally the difference Jesus has made in their lives before they will understand the changes Jesus can make in their lives. It</li> </ul>

	<p>is very important for Christians to be prepared to share with others the Good News about Jesus.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ <b>What would you say to someone if he or she asked you about the difference Jesus has made in your life?</b></li><li>✓ <b>What Bible passages could you use to share with others the Good News about Jesus?</b></li></ul>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 98

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Saul's Conversion</b>	
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Acts 9:1-19</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Numbers 22:21-41</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize God called Saul to change his life, from being the persecutor of Jesus' followers, to being one of the greatest preachers about Jesus the world has ever known.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Celebrate the change God can make in a person's life, and has made in your life. If God can transform the heart of someone like Saul, God can change anyone's heart.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be willing to take risks for Jesus when Jesus calls you to action. Both Ananias and Saul had to step out in faith for Jesus when called to take dangerous steps of faith.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. (Acts 9:15)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Saul was a Jew who didn't like hearing Christians tell others about Jesus. Saul asked the high priest for permission to gather up all of the Christians in Damascus. He wanted to take them back to Jerusalem and have them thrown into jail. Saul and some other men started traveling to the city of Damascus. Suddenly, a bright light from heaven came down, and Saul fell to the ground. Then Saul heard the voice of Jesus ask him why he wanted to hurt the Christians. By hurting the Christians, he was hurting Jesus. When Saul got up off the ground, he couldn't see. The light had blinded him. The other men had to lead Saul into town. God told a man named Ananias to go to Saul and pray with him. After Ananias prayed, Jesus healed Saul so that he could see again. The Holy Spirit was with Saul and he wanted to be baptized. Saul had become a Christian. People also called Saul by another name—Paul.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Saul</b> was an early persecutor of the Christians. He so wanted to punish Jesus' followers that he got permission from the Chief Priest in Jerusalem to travel to Damascus to imprison Jesus' followers there. He thought he was doing what God wanted; he did not realize Jesus really was the Messiah.</li> <li>2. <b>Light from Heaven.</b> Before arriving in Damascus, a bright light from heaven shone all around Saul and his companions. Saul heard a voice from heaven call to him, and so Saul knelt down in reverence to God's voice. Saul was confused when God's voice charged Saul with persecuting him. The voice said</li> </ol>

he was Jesus, and when Saul persecuted Jesus' followers, he was actually persecuting God himself. God made Saul blind, and ordered him to go into Damascus and wait for further word from God. God sent one of Jesus' followers to Saul after three days and tell Saul he was to become a great preacher of Jesus to the Gentiles.

**3. Saul's Companions** saw the great light and heard the sound, but did not understand what was going on. They led the blinded Saul into town to wait for God to speak to him again.

**Text Context**

This is one of the most important conversion stories in the Bible. So far, Jesus' followers have taken the message of Jesus to many of the towns in Israel. However, with the conversion of Saul, later known as Paul, Jesus' message will go all over the Roman Empire.

Saul's conversion is especially significant because his life demonstrated the radical change God can make in a person's life. Saul was not just a sinner in need of salvation, Saul was actively persecuting the followers of Jesus. Saul did not believe Jesus was the Messiah, and wanted to imprison anyone who taught that he was. However, when Jesus confronted him on the Damascus Road, Saul realized how wrong he had been.

God called one of Jesus' followers, Ananias, to begin telling Saul about Jesus. Fear filled Ananias, because word had spread about all the harm Saul was doing to Jesus' followers. However, God reassured Ananias that everything would be okay, that God was in charge, not Saul. Ananias obeyed God, and caused Saul to regain his sight. Saul believed in Jesus and was baptized.

**Secondary text: (See lesson # 25 for more background information).** God confronted Balaam in a very strange way, by making his donkey talk to him! God had a very important message for Balaam, and chose to confront Balaam in a very shocking way in order to make sure Balaam listened and obeyed God's message. Much like God's confrontation of Saul on the Damascus Road, Balaam could not doubt God's message to him, and did exactly what God told him to do.

**Bible Study**

**Pray**

- Ask for prayer requests and praises.
- Thank God for the praises shared.
- Pray for the prayer requests.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.

**Hear**

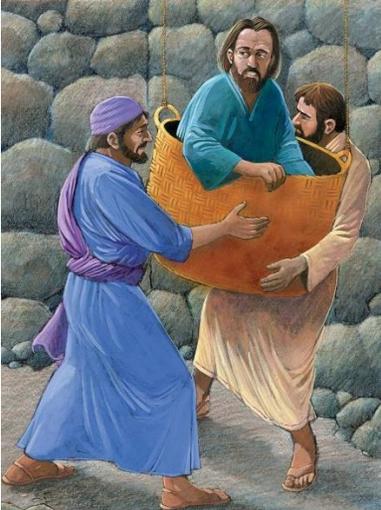
- Read both Bible Lesson texts.
- Summarize the "Text Context" from above for the class.
- Read both Bible lesson texts again.
- Have someone retell the main Bible text.

**Share**

- **Head: What Does the Text Mean?**

	<p>God had a very specific job in mind for Saul. Because the Gospel of Jesus Christ was for all peoples, not just the Jews, God needed someone who could champion the message of Jesus to both Jews and non-Jews. Because of Saul’s upbringing in a Gentile city, his both Roman and Jewish education and citizenship, and his ability to be very persuasive, God identified Saul as an excellent person to share God’s message to non-Jewish people. One big problem though, Saul not only did not believe Jesus was the Messiah, Saul was persecuting the followers of Jesus. Therefore, God confronted Saul in a radical way that would change his life forever. After this encounter, Saul spent several years learning about Jesus and the Christian life before he began his missionary work for Jesus.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How did God confront you with your need to become a Christian?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What kinds of changes has God made to your life?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>Saul thought he was living a good life. God made him realize though, his life needed a radical change. The change did not come all at once, it took years before Saul was ready to start his missionary ministry. That time of preparing for ministry was very important. Saul had been acting out of anger and passion when persecuting the followers of Jesus, God needed to redirect that anger and passion toward something good, the Gospel. So also, God does not change Christians all at once. Though Christians make a significant change in conversion, God continues to change them, to make them more like Jesus, the rest of their lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why might people be surprised that you became a Christian?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What kinds of changes do you think God wants to do in your life over the next five years?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>After Jesus confronted Saul, Saul spent three days in prayer and fasting waiting for God to reveal to him the next steps he should take. It is very important for Christians to have regular times of prayer and fasting so they can better hear and understand God’s message to them. These times of prayer and fasting enable Christians to become stronger and more committed to their faith in Jesus. They can also be times of preparing Christians to take great risks and tackle big challenges for Jesus, just as Saul and Ananias did.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What has been your experience in spending times in prayer and fasting?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why do you think prayer and fasting makes Christians stronger?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 99

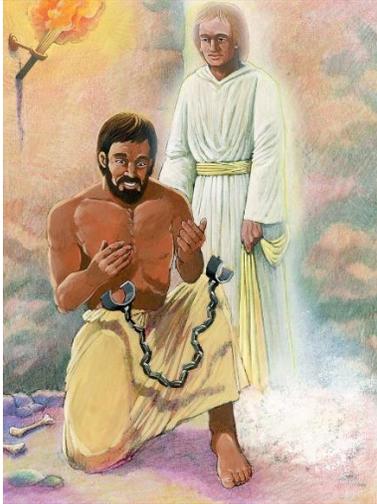
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Saul Begins to Preach</b>	
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Acts 9:19-31</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>1 Kings 17:1-6</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Be aware, there are many who do not want Christians talking about Jesus. While Saul spoke powerfully about Jesus and his own conversion, people tried to kill Saul to stop him from sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Understand, while the Christian life will bring you much joy and peace, it will not be an easy life. Because Satan is still at work, many people will try to stop Christians from sharing the Good News about Jesus.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be willing to offer help to Christians who are suffering for their faith. Saul has many Christians willing to help him escape danger, and willing to speak up for his character when others doubted his true intentions.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Yet Saul grew more and more powerful and baffled the Jews living in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Messiah. (Acts 9:22)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>After Paul became a Christian, he stayed in the city of Damascus. He spent some time with the other Christians in the city and learned about Jesus. Paul was so excited about being a Christian that he wanted to tell everyone that Jesus was the Son of God. The people of Damascus were amazed and confused when they heard Paul preaching about Jesus. They knew that Paul had come to their city to arrest all of the Christians. Now he claimed to be a Christian and was preaching about Jesus in the synagogues. When the Jews in Damascus found out what Paul was doing, they wanted to kill him. How could he be preaching that Jesus was the Son of God? Paul knew that the Jews wanted to capture him and kill him. That night, some of the Christians in Damascus placed Paul in a basket and lowered him down the outside of the city wall. Paul was saved.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<p>1. <b>Saul</b> spoke boldly in Damascus about Jesus being the Messiah. Jesus had given Saul great peace and joy, and Saul wanted to share that peace and joy with others. Many of the religious leader, though, opposed Saul. They did not like the fact that this person who used to persecute the followers of Jesus now spoke so powerfully about Jesus being the Messiah. Therefore, just as they killed Jesus, they prepared to kill Saul as well.</p>

	<p><b>2. Basket.</b> However, the followers of Jesus learned of the plot to kill Saul and decided to protect Saul. One night, when no one was watching, they lowered Saul down the city walls in a basket. From there Saul escaped to Jerusalem where he joined Jesus’ followers and continued teaching and preaching about Jesus.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>It did not take long for Saul, who used to persecute Jesus’ followers, to become persecuted himself for teaching about Jesus. Because of the radical change God worked in Saul’s life, he could not help but try to share the Good News about Jesus with others. However, just as the religious authorities thought it was right to kill Jesus, so they also think it is right to kill his followers.</p> <p>God’s will for Saul, though, was not to die yet. Instead, God wanted Saul to be a great missionary for Jesus. Therefore, the believers in Damascus protected Saul, and planned his escape so he could continue telling others about Jesus.</p> <p>After his escape, Saul traveled to Jerusalem, where he tried to join the other followers of Jesus. The disciples, though, doubted Saul’s conversion, and thought this might be a trick of his to catch Jesus’ disciples and have them imprisoned. One of the disciples, though, Barnabas, spoke up for Saul, and confirmed Saul’s true conversion and powerful preaching for Jesus. The disciples, though they doubted, Saul, trusted Barnabas, and accepted Saul as one of their own. Saul preached about Jesus in Jerusalem just as he had in Damascus. Moreover, just as in Damascus, the religious authorities plotted to kill Saul. The believers, though, arranged another escape for Saul, and Saul went back to his hometown of Tarsus.</p> <p><b>Secondary text: (See Lesson # 39 for more background information)</b> Just like Saul, Elijah also faced death for speaking the truth about God. After speaking the truth to the king of Israel, God led Elijah to a place of safety where God provided for Elijah’s needs until it was safe for Elijah to continue his ministry.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b> Saul began displaying a changed life soon after his conversion. God took the same passion and drive that led Saul to persecute Jesus’ followers and changed it to be used to strengthen Jesus’ followers and tell others the Good News about Jesus.</li> </ul>

	<p>Not all went well for Saul, though. There were still many who wanted to persecute Jesus' followers, and they viewed this new side of Saul as especially dangerous to their cause. Strangely, the religious authorities thought God would be pleased with all their attempts to kill people. In their attempts to defend God, they kept breaking many of the 10 Commandments God gave them. God had big plans for Saul though, and used the followers of Jesus to protect him from those who wanted to kill him.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What causes some religious people to think killing others is the right thing to do?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What should be a Christian's balance between taking risks for talking about Jesus, and protecting themselves from persecution?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> <p>It is hard to believe why many people will get very upset with Christians who preach about love, joy, and peace. However, Satan is still at work in this world, and does not want people to experience love, joy, or peace. Therefore, while a Christian will have great love, joy, and peace in their hearts, they may experience great persecution from others. It is important for Christians to remain in close relationship with Jesus so they know when to speak up for Jesus, and when to protect themselves from harm.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why are some people so threatened by others sharing about the love, joy, and peace God brought into their life?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How do you think Christians can discern when to speak up for Jesus, and when to keep quiet?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>Saul could not have survived long without the help of many Christians helping him and protecting him. God does not want Christians living their lives in isolation, but has created the Church to be a place where Christians can receive the strength, guidance, and protection they need. It is important for Christians to support one another.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Who has God sent into your life to help you in your Christian life?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How can you help other Christians this week?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 100

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Peter in Prison</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Acts 12:1-19</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Matthew 14:1-14</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Celebrate God’s protection of Peter from the murderous plot of an evil political leader.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Be encouraged, God answers prayers. God’s answers are not always in the way we wanted them, and sometimes seem even too good to be true.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Keep praying. Prayer may be the most important action of a Christian, as it keeps the Christian in close contact with God, and keeps the Christian’s heart open to God’s message.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. “Quick, get up!” he said, and the chains fell off Peter’s wrists. (Acts 12:7)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>King Herod Agrippa I was the king of Judea. He disliked Christians so much that he would have them arrested and put to death. King Herod arrested Peter just because he saw that it would please the Jewish leaders. While Peter was in prison, each of his arms were chained to a guard. There were also two guards outside of his prison cell. King Herod wanted to make sure that Peter didn’t escape. The Christians in Jerusalem prayed for Peter. They knew that the king was planning to kill him. The night before Peter’s trial, God sent an angel to the prison where Peter was being held. Everyone in the prison was asleep. The angel went up to Peter, poked him in the side, and told him to get up. When Peter got up, the chains fell off his hands. Peter got dressed, followed the angel, and walked out of the prison without waking anyone. The Christians’ prayers were answered and Peter was saved.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>In Chains.</b> King Herod liked to receive people’s praises. He realized the religious leaders of Jerusalem did not like the followers of Jesus. Therefore, he had their leader, Peter, arrested and put into chains. King Herod was going to kill Peter in order to make the people happy.</li> <li>2. <b>An Angel.</b> The night before Peter’s trial and death, the Lord sent an angel to rescue Peter. The angel woke Peter up, and released him from the chains. He led Peter out of the jail, and set him free.</li> <li>3. <b>Peter</b> was overjoyed at his release. He immediately went to a home where the Christians were praying for his release, and showed himself to the Christians. They all rejoiced that God answered their prayers.</li> </ol>

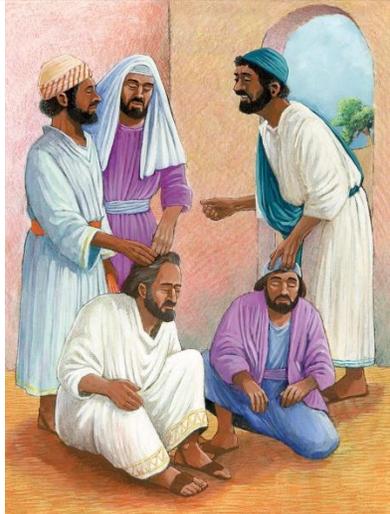
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Persecution of the Christians came not just from the religious authorities, but from the political authorities as well. God wants all people to love and care for one another, and this applies to rulers as well. However, the ruler in Israel at the time cared more about how much the people liked him than he cared about serving God. Therefore, he killed James, one of Jesus’ disciples. When he saw how much the religious authorities approved of this, he arrested Peter, and made plans to kill him as well.</p> <p>Before Peter’s trial, God miraculously released him from jail. Although God allowed the evil political ruler Pilate to hand over Jesus to death, God had more ministry for Peter to do still, and did not want him killed. Therefore, God sent an angel to rescue Peter from jail.</p> <p>When released, Peter went to where the Christians were praying for him, and told them all God had done. They all rejoiced and were very encouraged that God was still working miracles.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> The Herod who arrested Peter and planned to kill him was the son of the Herod in this text who killed John the Baptist. He was also the grandson of the Herod who served when Jesus was born, the same Herod who killed the boys of Bethlehem when the wise men came from the East. As these three episodes show, these political leaders and relatives were all bad leaders who did not honor God or serve their people well. However, they were not able to thwart God’s will, for God is more powerful than any human ruler.</p>
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**Bible Study**

<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul> <p>Everything happens according to God’s will and God’s timing. Although there would come a time in which Peter would die for Jesus Christ, God decided that time had not yet come in this passage. Instead, God had more planned for Peter’s life and ministry. Therefore, just before his trial and execution, God sent an angel to deliver Peter from jail. God’s rescue of Peter was so fantastic Peter and the Christians struggled to believe it at first. God really had answered their prayers!</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why does God answer some of our prayers the way we want them answered, but does not answer other prayers the way we want them answered?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How does knowing God answers all our prayers with perfect love help us cope when God’s answers are different than we want them to be?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Many times God answers Christians’ prayers with far greater power and grace than they could ever have imagined. Though the Christians were praying for Peter’s release, when Peter actually showed up at the prayer meeting, the Christians thought it was only an angel. Sometimes Christians do not receive the blessings they most need because they fail to believe in the great things God wants to do for them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>When did God’s blessing to you seem too good to be true?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>God always answers prayers, but sometimes God’s answer is “no,” or “not yet.” How should a Christian respond when God’s answer to a request is “no?”</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Though the Christians praying for Peter struggled to believe it was really Peter at the door, they did some things right. They gathered for prayer and encouragement. They lifted up prayers on behalf of others. Christians may not always get everything right, or even believe as greatly as they should, but if they will faithfully gather and pray together, God will do great things.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Do you have a regular time in which you gather with other Christians for prayer?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>How much of your prayer time do you think should focus on your needs, how much should focus on the needs of others, and how should much focus on praising God?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 101

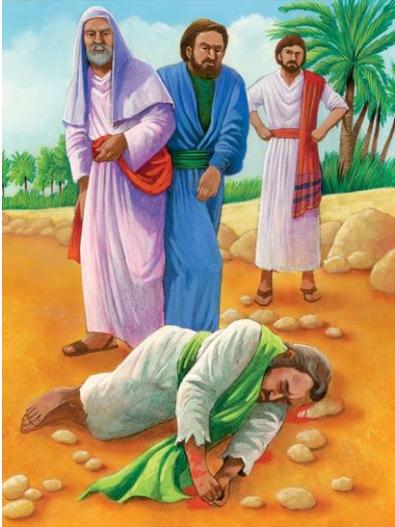
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Paul &amp; Barnabas Sent Out</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Acts 13:1-5</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>1 Samuel 15 - 16</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Rejoice! God directs the early church to send out Paul to be a missionary to the Gentiles.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Recognize God sees the potential of people much differently than they see their own potential.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be ready to commit people to the Lord's work, even if that means God sends them out from your community in order to bless others.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." (Acts 13:2)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	Paul, Barnabas, and three men from other countries were at a church in the city of Antioch. While they were there, they fasted and worshiped God. To fast means to go without food. While the men were praying, the Holy Spirit told them to set apart Paul and Barnabas for a special task. To be set apart means to be chosen to do something special. The Holy Spirit wanted Paul and Barnabas to go out to different parts of the world and tell people about Jesus. When the Holy Spirit was finished speaking, the other men walked up to Paul and Barnabas. They placed their hands on Paul and Barnabas and prayed that the Lord would help and protect them as they went out to preach. After the men had prayed, Paul and Barnabas sailed on a boat to the island of Cyprus. This was the beginning of Paul's first missionary journey.
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Laying Hands on Saul and Barnabas.</b> Some Christians in Antioch prayed and fasted, worshipping God. While worshipping, God directed them to set aside two of them, Saul and Barnabas, for a special mission. The Christians obeyed and placed hands on Saul and Barnabas, blessing them and praying over them. God would use Saul and Barnabas in great ways, preaching the Gospel to the Gentiles and establishing many churches across the Mediterranean world.</li> </ol>
<b>Text Context</b>	After the persecution of the Jerusalem followers of Jesus broke out, many of the leaders of Jesus' followers moved to Antioch. It was in Antioch that people first started calling the followers of Jesus Christians.

	<p>During one of their worship services, God told the Christians to set aside Saul and Barnabas for God’s special work. The Christians did not realize exactly what that meant at the time, but Saul and Barnabas would become two of the most important missionaries the Christian church has ever known. In particular, God called Saul and Barnabas to be missionaries to the Gentiles. Saul (later called Paul) wrote many of the New Testament books written after the book of Acts, to the many churches he either planted or mentored.</p> <p><b>Secondary text: (see Lesson # 34 for more background information)</b> God often calls the most unlikely of people to do great things. When God sent the prophet Samuel to Jesse’s house in Bethlehem to anoint the new king of Israel, everyone would have assumed Samuel would anoint Jesse’s firstborn. However, not only did God not choose the firstborn, God ended up choosing the opposite, Jesse’s youngest, David. God looked at the potential in David’s heart when looking for someone who would serve God faithfully. So also, when God chose a missionary to the Gentiles, no one thought God would choose Saul. Saul was the opposite of a man pursuing God’s kingdom, Saul was persecuting God’s new church. However, God identified in Saul a person through whom God could do great things.</p> <p><b>Articles of Faith Track: XI. The Church.</b> In Old Testament times, God formed the nation of Israel to receive God’s blessings and to share God’s blessings with the world. In the New Testament times, God has formed the Church to be gatherings of Christians who share with each other the blessings of God and then share with the world the blessings of God as well. The Church is not a place, but the People of God who practice the gifts of God with one another, worship, fellowship, and then go out into the world to put their God-given gifts and talents into practice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: What were some of the actions believers in Acts 13 did that bore witness to them being The Church?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: What are some of the benefits Christians receive with they gather together with other Christians to worship together and to practice their spiritual gifts?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: Why is it important for churches to send out ministers and missionaries into the world?</b></li> </ul>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  God calls all Christians to be witnesses of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. God, however, calls some Christians to the more public positions of pastors and missionaries. It is important for the church to discern if a person who feels God's calls upon them to this kind of position is in fact a calling from God. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why would God use someone like Saul, who persecuted the Christians, to be a missionary to the Gentiles?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What gifts and talents do you think God gave Saul to enable him to carry the Gospel to the Gentiles?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  Rejoice in the fact that God sees Christians, not according to what they have done in the past, but for the potential they have for God's use in the future. God places many gifts and talents in Christian's lives that are only made manifest when the Christian cooperates with God's call upon their lives. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why do some Christians doubt God could do anything great through their lives?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What do you think are the most important qualities a Christian needs to develop in order for them to be of service to God?</b></li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  When God calls people to special positions of ministry, like pastoring or being a missionary, God uses other Christians to confirm that calling. In this way, the whole Church plays a very important role in the more public ministries of the Church, not just in leading those ministries, but also in confirming, supporting, and encouraging those called to lead those ministries. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why might it be hard on a group of Christians to send out one of their members to be a missionary?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why is the work of a missionary so important for the Kingdom of God?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 102

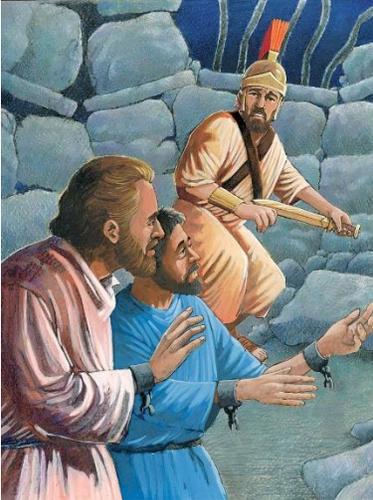
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Paul Stoned in Lystra</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Acts 14:8-20</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Matthew 10</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Be aware, not everyone will hear the Gospel message correctly. The legends and myths the people of Lystra believed before they heard the Gospel made it hard for them to understand the Gospel Paul preached.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Believe whatever God calls you to do, God will empower you and be close to you as you accomplish God's will.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be ready to give a clear explanation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Be aware others may need you to share the Gospel with them several times before they will understand their need for God's salvation.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. (Matthew 10:28)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>After leaving Cyprus, Paul and Barnabas spoke in many different cities before going to Lystra. While they were in Lystra, they preached to the people about Jesus. They even healed a crippled man. The people of the city were amazed and started worshipping Paul and Barnabas as if they were gods. Paul became upset. He didn't want the people thinking that he and Barnabas were gods. Paul told the people that they were only men. Jesus was the living God, so they should follow Him. When some Jews in Antioch and Iconium heard that Paul and Barnabas were preaching about Jesus, they traveled to Lystra. These Jews were able to make the people believe that Paul was lying and that Jesus wasn't the Son of God. The people became angry and threw stones at Paul until they thought he was dead. Then they dragged him out of the city. After the people left, the disciples gathered around Paul. When they did, Paul stood up and walked back into the city.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Paul</b> and Barnabas traveled around modern day Turkey preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ.</li> <li>2. <b>Opposition.</b> In most cities in which they preached, not only did some accept the Gospel and others rejected the Gospel, but also some became very angry at their preaching. Some men that opposed Paul traveled to Lystra and made the people of the city turn against Paul and Barnabas. The crowd became so upset they dragged Paul out of the city and tried to kill him by beating him with stones. Believing they had killed him, they left him on the ground.</li> </ol>

	<p>However, Paul’s friends came to him and found he was still alive. Paul got up and went to the next city to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Although the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the Good News that God in Jesus provides a path of salvation for all men and women, some people do not want the Gospel preached. Because of sin, some are so jealous and angry about the Gospel message they will do anything they can to destroy the Christian message, and Christians themselves.</p> <p>While Paul enjoyed great success in planting Christian churches in many cities, it was not easy work. Paul and his helpers faced many persecutions, and Paul was left for dead many times, as people opposed to the Gospel tried to stop him from preaching the Good News of Jesus Christ.</p> <p><b>Secondary text:</b> Jesus warned his followers of the persecution they would face as his messengers. However, he also reminded them that God’s power is greater than any persecution they would face. Jesus encouraged them to keep God first in their lives and live for their reward in heaven, not for safety in this life.</p>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  Paul faced many challenges in preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ. One of the challenges were enemies of the Gospel who persecuted Paul and his followers. Another challenge, people misunderstanding the Gospel. Paul’s experience in Lystra demonstrates the fact that just because Paul preached the Gospel clearly did not mean the people heard or understood the Gospel correctly. Paul and Barnabas had to correct their misunderstanding when it became clear the people of the city though Paul and Barnabas were gods themselves. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the ways the people of your community might misunderstand the Gospel of Jesus Christ?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What can you do to help people understand correctly the Gospel of Jesus Christ?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  It can be very scary to share the Gospel with others. Christians face not only rejection, but also outright persecution if they share the Good News of Jesus Christ</li> </ul>

	<p>with others. In addition, while God does not call Christians to face persecutions just for the sake of experiencing pain, there are times in which God will call Christians to step out in faith to share the Gospel in dangerous situations. Therefore, it is very important for Christians to live a life of prayer and discernment so they can know when God is calling them to speak and act, and when God is calling them to wait. In addition, it is essential for Christians to do everything in the power of Jesus Christ.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What steps can Christians take to discern God’s will in threatening situations?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why might God call Christians to suffer for the Gospel of Jesus Christ?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>Preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ entails both speaking the Gospel and living out the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In both forms of sharing the Gospel, the motivation and power is living out the love of Jesus Christ. Love drives Christians to share Jesus Christ with others, sometimes several times, in order for them to understand clearly the Good News of Jesus Christ.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How does living a life of love help non-Christians understand better the Gospel of Jesus Christ?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What can you do this week to help others see the love of Jesus Christ at work in your life?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today’s lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord’s Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 103

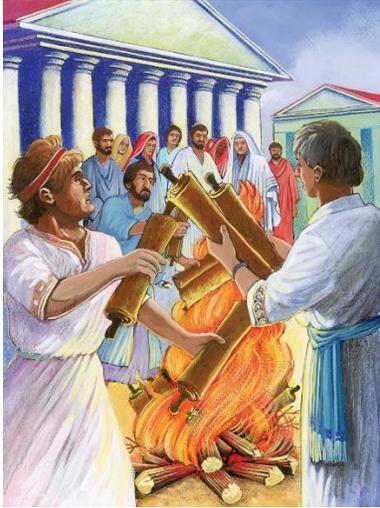
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Philippian Jailer Saved</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Acts 16:11-40</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Mark 5:1-20</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Believe God can use all situations, even situations in which it looks like sinful people are winning, to bring people to salvation.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Take comfort, God can redeem your sufferings and trials, and use them to bring hope and joy to people in great need.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be alert to those around you who are in desperate need of the Gospel and help from you. Be ready to share with them how Jesus saves completely from sin, guilt, and shame.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household. (Acts 16:34)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Paul and Silas traveled to a city called Philippi to preach about Jesus. Some men in the city became angry with them. The men accused Paul and Silas of trying to start riots in the city. The magistrate, or judge, in the city ordered that Paul and Silas be beaten and thrown into jail. While Paul and Silas were chained to the wall in the jail, they didn't cry and feel sorry for themselves. Instead, they prayed and sang hymns while the other prisoners listened. Around midnight, while they were praying, there was a terrible earthquake. The walls of the prison started to shake, and the chains fell off of their hands and feet. The jailer who was guarding the prisoners was terrified. If any of the prisoners got away, he would be killed. Paul told the jailer not to be afraid. All of the prisoners were there. The jailer thanked Paul and Silas for staying. Then he asked what he needed to do to be saved.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Paul and Silas</b> ministered in the city of Philippi. They cast out a demon from a slave girl, but were jailed for it because the girl had been a fortuneteller and her owners were upset they had lost their income from the girl.</li> <li>2. <b>Jailer.</b> Around midnight, as Paul and Silas sang praises to God in jail, God sent a mighty earthquake that shook the prison foundations and caused the prison cell doors to open. The jailer, fearing all the prisoners had escaped, prepared to kill himself. In that day, if a jailer allowed any prisoners escape, he had to complete their sentence. Before he killed himself, Paul called out to the jailer and told him all the prisoners were still there. The jailer was so relieved, he fell before Paul and asked what he had to do to be saved. Paul told him, and</li> </ol>

	not only the jailer, but also his whole family believed the Gospel and Paul baptized them.
<b>Text Context</b>	<p>Paul continued traveling around the Mediterranean world, preaching the Gospel. In Philippi he once again faced persecution because of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This time it came from business people who were afraid they would lose money because Paul released a demon-possessed slave girl they owned from her torment.</p> <p>God, though, used this persecution to further the Kingdom of God. Because of Paul's imprisonment, a jailer and his entire family came to faith in Jesus Christ.</p> <p><b>Secondary text: (See Lesson #63 for more background information).</b> Just as Jesus freed people from demon possession, so the Apostle Paul continues this ministry of Jesus. The goal of the Gospel, though, is never simply to free someone from bondage, but also to introduce them to the Gospel. Therefore, Jesus did not just heal the demonic, but commissioned him to tell others how Jesus saved him. So also, Paul's deliverance of the slave girl did not simply deliver her, but provided the situation in which the jailer and his whole family could hear the Good News of Jesus Christ and receive salvation.</p>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the "Text Context" from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b> It would have been easy for Paul and Silas to lament their bad treatment and imprisonment. Paul had set a slave girl free from her demon possession, but instead of thanking him for this miracle, the authorities instead beat Paul and threw him into jail. However, God transformed that sinful behavior of the authorities into something good. No one likes to suffer, however, Christians can be hopeful, for they know God can use any suffering to bring good. ✓ <b>How have you seen God bring something good out of a bad situation?</b> ✓ <b>Can God still bring something good out of a bad situation if the Christian refuses to believe God can transform the suffering?</b></li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b> In the midst of their imprisonment, Paul and Silas are praying and singing God's praises. It takes a lot of faith in God to sing hymns in the midst of harsh conditions. However, Paul and Silas had experienced this kind of persecution</li> </ul>

	<p>before, and they knew the God who brought good out of those past persecutions would bring good out of this persecution as well. Because Paul and Silas trusted God, they were able to publically praise God, and share the Gospel with the jailer in his time of crisis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What enables Christians to be thankful, even when their life is tough?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why can Christians be joyful when they endure persecutions for the Gospel of Jesus Christ?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>Prayer and worship are essential practices for Christians. They strengthen the Christian when life is tough, and when life is going well. Christians are sometimes tempted to not spend time in prayer and worship when life is going well, because they do not think a lot about God when they have few problems. However, Christians are to pray and worship at all times. For it is often in times of peace in which God prepares Christians to have the strength and joy they need to endure coming times of persecution.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What would you say to a person who asked you what they needed to do in order to be saved?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What benefits do you receive from worshipping and praying with your brothers and sisters in Christ?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 104

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Burning the Scrolls</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Acts 19:1-20</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>John 11:1-54</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Understand, accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior means recognizing God is the only true God, and relying on any magical arts or worshipping false gods is sinful.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Remember, only Jesus Christ can bring true peace and joy to your heart. Anything else you worship as a god will only leave you empty and weak.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Take out of your life any practices or possessions that represent reliance on fake gods or magical arts.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	When this became known to the Jews and Greeks living in Ephesus, they were all seized with fear, and the name of the Lord Jesus was held in high honor. (Acts 19:17)	

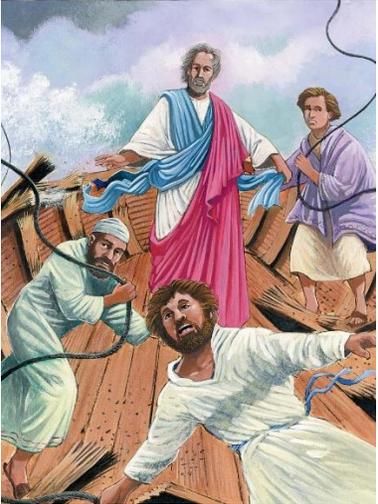
<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Paul traveled to Ephesus and preached about Jesus. God was using Paul to heal people and drive out demons that were in people. Some men who weren't Christians tried to drive a demon out of a man. When it didn't work, the demon-possessed man attacked the men. Many people who practiced evil sorcery and magic heard about the demon-possessed man. These people had special spells that they would say. These spells were written down on scrolls. A scroll is a long piece of paper that you have to unroll in order to read what is written on it. When the people heard what had happened, they were terrified. Many people now believed that Jesus was the only one who had the power to drive out demons. Those who did believe asked Jesus to forgive them of their sins. Then they took their scrolls with the evil spells, put them in a pile, and burned them.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Ephesus.</b> Paul preached about Jesus in the city of Ephesus for three years. During that time, Paul performed many miracles, and many people became believers. There were many people in Ephesus who practices magical arts. One day, some people who were not Christians tried to practice magic by casting out a demon, invoking the name of Jesus and Paul. The demon answered them, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know about, but who are you?" Then the man with the demon attacked the people using Jesus and Paul's name, and gave them a very bad beating.</li> <li>2. <b>Burning the Scrolls.</b> When people in Ephesus heard about this, they respected Jesus deeply. They recognized it was dangerous to try and practice magic, for the God Paul preached about was the only true God. Therefore, they brought</li> </ol>

	<p>together all the scrolls that contained information about the magical arts and burned them all. There were so many scrolls burned, it would take hundreds of years of working to earn enough money to replace them all.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>Paul spent about three years ministering in Ephesus. As usual, he began his ministry in the synagogue, trying to convince the Jews Jesus was the Messiah. However, Paul faced much opposition in the synagogue, and ended up setting up his own weekly ministry time in a lecture hall.</p> <p>Paul’s ministry demonstrated God’s mighty power through miraculous works as well as his teaching and preaching. Many others wanted to use this power of God working through Paul, but as the text demonstrates with the sons of Sceva, God’s power is not like magic, like a possession one can use as long as they have the special names to invoke. The sons of Sceva, a high priest, tried to use the name of Jesus and the name of Paul to cast out a demon, but ended up being beaten badly by the demon-possessed man instead.</p> <p>The people of Ephesus, when they heard about this attack, began to take the name of Jesus much more seriously. They recognized Jesus was different from all the false gods they worshipped, and Jesus’ power was greater than all the magical spells they could cast. There was a great revival in Ephesus, at least temporarily, and people burned their very valuable scrolls that contained the fake magical spells they realized were worthless.</p> <p><b>Secondary text: (See lesson # 73 for more background information)</b> God demonstrates love through Jesus Christ. Jesus did not just teach and work miracles, Jesus loved. In the tears he shed for Lazarus and for those mourning Lazarus, Jesus demonstrates the fact that God’s love for us is real.</p> <p><b>Articles of Faith Track: III. The Holy Spirit.</b> The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity. While Christians commonly speak of God, the first person of the Trinity, as the Creator, of Jesus, the second person of the Trinity, as Redeemer, Christians commonly speak of the Holy Spirit as Sustainer. Because in Jesus’ resurrection God broke the power of sin, when a Christian invites God into their hearts, God as the Holy Spirit dwells in the Christian’s heart. With the Holy Spirit’s indwelling, God’s power is at work in the Christian’s life. This power of God at work in the Christian empowers the Christian to live out the life of Jesus, a life of purity, love, and joy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: How can the power of God be at work within a Christian’s life?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: What steps can a Christian take to be filled with the Holy Spirit?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: What should we expect to see in the life of a Christian who claims to be filled with the Holy Spirit?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  Many people recognize there are strong spiritual powers at work in this world. Many of them do not recognize, however, the one true God who controls the good powers at work in this world. Instead, they serve the dark powers at work in this world, trying to manipulate their powers for their own good. It is very dangerous to try to manipulate any of the spiritual powers at work in this world. As the sons of Sceva realized, simply knowing the good and right power at work in this world does not mean they have that power at work in their lives. They tried to use God’s name to their own ends. However, the demon recognized they did not actually have the power of God at work in their lives, they were just trying to manipulate God’s power. This mistake did not end well for them. However, because the people saw they could not manipulate God’s power, there was a great revival in Ephesus, and many people abandoned their magical arts and believed in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Who are some of the “false gods” people in your community serve?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why is it so dangerous to engage in spiritual warfare if you are not possessed with the true power of God?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  God calls all people into a personal relationship. The one true God is not an impersonal being to be used, manipulated, or coerced. Instead, the one true God is personal, loving, and wants to be in relationship with humanity. To prove this, God came to earth in Jesus Christ, to demonstrate God’s love for us, a love that suffered so people could find the true path of salvation. God is love, and calls on his creations to accept that love and respond to that love. Because God loves us, we should love God and love others. No other power at work in this world loves us. All other powers, other than God’s power, are weak, selfish, and seek to destroy men and women, instead of redeem them. Therefore, it is essential for people to not only know about the love of God, but also accept the love of God so that they can then share the love of God. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Why is God the only spiritual being that can bring true peace and joy into someone’s heart?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Why do so many people seek to find peace and joy in places other than in their Creator and Savior?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>  Being a Christian means not just accepting, the love of God, but allowing God to take out of our lives anything that competes with our allegiance to God. In Ephesus, that looked like burning the scrolls. In our lives, it might look like ridding </li> </ul>

	<p>our lives of drugs and alcohol. Or, ridding our lives of relationships that tempt us to commit sin. Or, ridding our lives of possessions we thought would fulfill us, but only leave us empty.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ <b>What are examples of possessions, relationships, or substances in your community that compete with God for control of people's lives?</b></li><li>✓ <b>Where can a Christian find help to purge their life of sin, and to keep sin away from their lives?</b></li></ul>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 105

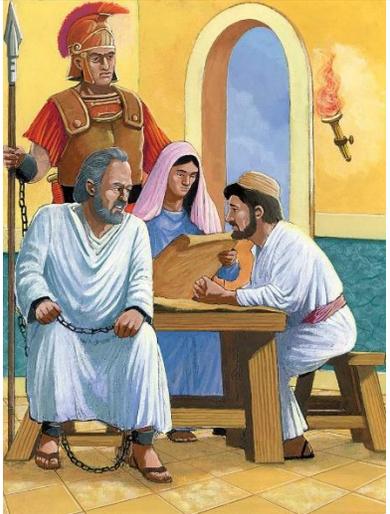
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Paul Shipwrecked at Malta</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Acts 27</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Mark 4:35-41</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize God protected Paul and the sailors from drowning in order for Paul to present the Gospel in Rome.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Choose to believe the word of God revealed to you, even in times of crisis. It is easy to lose sight of God’s promises to you when times are tough, however, if you will hold fast to your faith in God, God will bring good out of those times of crises.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be discerning in how you share the word of God with others. Discern whether the situation requires words of encouragement, correction, or any other number of types of responses God wants you to share.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	‘Do not be afraid, Paul. You must stand trial before Caesar; and God has graciously given you the lives of all who sail with you.’ (Acts 27:24)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Paul was a prisoner in Caesarea. He was a Roman citizen and asked to have his trial in Rome. In order to get to Rome, Paul had to travel by boat. The king of Caesarea sent a guard named Julius to supervise Paul. As they were traveling, Paul told Julius that they should stop at a nearby island because the ship was going to be destroyed. The guard didn’t listen to Paul. Instead, the owner of the ship decided to travel to a city farther away before they stopped. A gentle wind started to blow that helped to move the boat. Then, the wind picked up and the skies grew dark. The winds were as strong as a hurricane. While the boat was breaking apart, Paul told the men not to be afraid. God would save them. After the winds calmed, someone noticed an island in the distance. Some of the crew members swam to the island and others floated on pieces of wood. But they were all saved.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Paul.</b> The religious authorities in Jerusalem conspired to kill Paul because of his powerful preaching about Jesus Christ. Before they could carry out their plan, though, the Romans arrested Paul in order to keep peace. Though Paul had not broken any laws, the Roman authorities would not release him for fear the religious authorities’ conspiracy would succeed. Ultimately, Paul, as a Roman citizen, demanded to make his case before Caesar in Rome.</li> <li>2. <b>Storm.</b> On the journey to Rome, a great storm broke out, and the boat Paul traveled on was about to sink. God revealed to Paul that he and the other crew would be safe, so Paul spoke these words of comfort to the sailors.</li> </ol>

	<p>Ultimately, the ship broke apart and the people on board swam to shore. Just as God said, everyone survived. God did not allow a storm to stop Paul from preaching the Gospel to the leader of the Roman Empire.</p>
<b>Text Context</b>	<p>The religious authorities wanted Paul dead. His powerful ministry around the Roman Empire resulted in many new congregations of Christians. However, God desired Paul to go to Rome and share the Gospel there.</p> <p>Through a series of events, God protected Paul from assassins through his arrest by the Roman authorities. Ultimately, though, Paul used his arrest to his good, by demanding, as a Roman citizen, to make his case before Caesar. This required the Roman authorities to provide Paul safe transport from Jerusalem to Rome. As this passage reveals, the danger to Paul was not just assassins, but also nature itself. Ultimately, though, God kept Paul and his companions safe, so that God’s will could be fulfilled.</p> <p><b>Secondary text: (see Lesson # 62 for more background information)</b> In this passage Jesus demonstrates God’s power at work in his life. Jesus proved his divine nature by controlling the wind and waves. Though the disciples feared the storm, Jesus provided safety. Similarly, though the ship’s crew feared the storm, Paul provided comfort by telling them God’s plan for safety.</p>
<b>Bible Study</b>	
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  God not only created everything, God can control everything. While this does not mean God directs every storm and event on Earth, God can break in and make sure the storms and events do not frustrate God’s will and plans. God uses the events of our lives in order to further the Kingdom of God on earth. While these events can often be scary and tough, the Christian can stand firm in their faith and life, knowing nothing can thwart God’s will. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some events that can test the faith and conviction of Christians of God’s ultimate control of all things?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What sources of strength do Christians have to sustain them during times of fear?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></li> </ul>

	<p>One of the tough lessons Christians must learn is that God will bring good out of tough situations if the Christians will trust God. This is a tough lesson to learn, because the Christian can only learn the lesson as they endure hardships. The Christian can believe many lessons simply by reading the Bible, but it is only when the Christian endures hardships, and finds God's faithfulness endures, that the belief becomes an inner conviction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How has God proved faithful and good to you during times of struggle?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What would you say to a Christian tempted to doubt God's goodness or power during a time of great struggle?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></li> </ul> <p>God spoke to Paul several times in this passage. While Paul faithfully shared God's word with others, those in charge did not often heed God's directions. Therefore, as the situation changed, Paul's message from God to other others had to change. So also, Christians must hear the word of God, but must also discern how to communicate that word to others. God does not call Christians to be offensive or condescending in their message, so Christians must work hard to present God's message in appropriate ways.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What could be some appropriate ways to communicate God's message of correction or encouragement to someone?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What could be some inappropriate ways to communicate God's message of correction or encouragement to someone?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Apply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 106

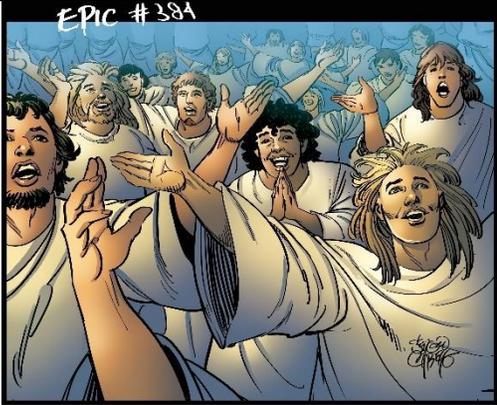
<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Paul in Chains in Rome</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Acts 28:17-31</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Daniel 6</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize that Paul used his house arrest status in Rome to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the heart of the capital of the Roman Empire.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Celebrate the joy and freedom Paul experienced being able to tell many people in the capital of the Roman Empire about the Messiah, Jesus Christ.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Commit to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with boldness to whomever God brings into your life this next week.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	He proclaimed the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ—with all boldness and without hindrance! (Acts 28:31)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>Paul was arrested in Jerusalem because he was preaching about Jesus. The Jews in the city arrested Paul and put chains on his hands and feet. They sent Paul to Rome so he could stand trial by Caesar, the king of the Roman Empire. Paul was taken to Rome by some guards who kept a close watch on him. Paul wasn't angry with God because he was a prisoner. Instead, he witnessed to the guards and told them how much Jesus loved them. When Paul got to Rome he stood in front of a crowd of people with chains on his hands. He started preaching to the crowd about Jesus. After talking to the crowd, Paul was sentenced to a house arrest. For two years, a guard had to make sure that Paul didn't try to escape. Paul didn't try to escape. Instead, when people would come to visit, Paul would tell them that Jesus loved them and had died for their sins.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Paul.</b> Because the religious leaders in Jerusalem did not like Paul preaching about Jesus Christ, they conspired to kill him. Instead, however, the Roman authorities heard of the plot and protected Paul by arresting him. Paul decided to use this imprisonment as an opportunity to share the Gospel with many more people.</li> <li>2. <b>Under Roman Protection.</b> This led Paul to making his case in front of the leader of the Roman Empire, in Rome. While in Rome, the Roman Empire protected Paul and allowed him freedom to preach the Gospel to whomever came to the house in which he was staying. For two years, Paul shared the Gospel in Rome.</li> </ol>

	<p><b>3. Scrolls.</b> He also spent time writing letters to the Christian churches and to their pastors, encouraging them and teaching them about the Gospel of Jesus Christ.</p>
<p><b>Text Context</b></p>	<p>After a shipwreck, hunger, and many other dangers, Paul finally arrived in Rome. The last chapter of the book of Acts does not give us many details about Paul's time in Rome, though it tells us he was able to preach and teach about Jesus with boldness and freedom for two years.</p> <p><b>Secondary text: (See Lesson #49 for more background information)</b> As the religious leaders of Paul's day, there were many in Daniel's day who were jealous of the success God gave him. Therefore, these jealous people conspired together to have Daniel killed. God, however, had other plans, and used the conspiracy against Daniel to instead become an opportunity for more people to hear about Daniel's God.</p> <p><b>Fruit of the Spirit Track: 3. Peace.</b> Many people believe peace is the absence of conflict, when no one is fighting or angry. However, Christian peace is much deeper than just an absence of conflict. Instead, Christian peace is the confidence and tranquility that comes when the Holy Spirit's presence is blessing every part of a Christian's life. Rather than the chaos that marks so many people's lives who do not live under the Lordship of Jesus, the Spirit-filled Christian knows a peace that surpasses all understanding. In the lesson passage, the Apostle Paul, though imprisoned in Rome, expresses great peace that in spite of his circumstances, God is working in him and through him to bless others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: What are some of the ways in which sin brings chaos into a person's life?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: What changes will the Holy Spirit need to bring into your heart for you to experience the depths of God's peace?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: What difference will other people see in your life if peace is able to rule over all your thoughts and actions?</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Bible Study</b></p>	
<p><b>Pray</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Hear</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the "Text Context" from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Share</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b></li> </ul>

	<p>As the book of Acts opens, just before ascending into Heaven, Jesus commissioned his disciples to take the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Now at the end of the book of Acts, we hear just how much the disciples' progress have made in that commission. Shockingly, from this isolated city of Jerusalem on the outer Eastern edges of the Roman Empire, comes Paul to tell the leader of the Roman Empire about Jesus Christ. Though we do not have information about how this meeting went, we do hear Paul was free to preach the Gospel in Rome for two years. What a change...Paul set off for Damascus to imprison the Christians, then Jesus confronted him. Now, he has arrived in Jerusalem, a prisoner for Christ, proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ in the most important city in the Roman Empire.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How do you think Paul's two years in Rome helped the Gospel of Jesus Christ spread throughout the Roman Empire?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the talents and gifts God gave Paul, that made him such an effective missionary?</b></li> </ul> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b></p> <p>Many Christians begged Paul not to go to Jerusalem (see Act 20 and 21), for they knew the danger he faced. Paul also knew the danger, but also knew God had a great plan for his life, and that plan included whatever would happen in Jerusalem. Because Paul suffered many imprisonments and beatings for being a missionary, he did not fear following God's direction to go to Jerusalem. While no Christian today enjoys persecution, sometimes persecution is a necessary step in expanding the Kingdom of God. In fact, Paul experienced great joy and peace while imprisoned in Rome, for this imprisonment allowed him to share the Gospel with great freedom and protection.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the persecutions Christians in your community face for telling others about Jesus?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are you willing to suffer in order to be faithful to the call of Jesus upon your life?</b></li> </ul> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></p> <p>Paul worked hard sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the midst of his Roman imprisonment. This is one of the great attributes of Paul, he used whatever situation in which he found himself to share the Good News of Jesus.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Spend time in prayer, asking Jesus to bring people into your life this week with whom you can share the Gospel.</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What steps do you need to take in order to be ready to share the Gospel with someone this week?</b></li> </ul>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li> </ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson #107

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>Jesus Returns as King</b>	<b>Image</b>
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Revelation 19:11-20:6</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>Luke 21:5-19</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Be encouraged, at the end of this age, Jesus the Messiah will come back to judge his enemies, reward his people, and reign as King over the whole earth.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Be courageous, though you may suffer trials and persecutions in this life, Jesus has promised you will enter eternal life, if you stand firm.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Be prepared to given and answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this will gentleness and respect. (1 Peter 3:15)</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	Be prepared to given and answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this will gentleness and respect. (1 Peter 3:15)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	In this passage, using vivid imagery and symbols, we hear that one day Jesus Christ will return to earth and the curse of sin will be broken as the unrighteous are defeated and the righteous are rescued.
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Jesus as King.</b> The passage presents Jesus as returning to earth with an army to rescue Christians and defeat the Beast.</li> <li>2. <b>Red Robe.</b> Jesus will be covered in a robe that has been dipped in the blood, which probably means the blood of the martyrs. Thus, though the martyrs have suffered unjustly in this life, blood of the martyrs will be avenged in the end times.</li> <li>3. <b>Armies of Heaven.</b> Though Satan is wreaking havoc in the world these days, at the end of time he will be defeated by the heavenly powers.</li> </ol>
<b>Text Context</b>	In the book of Revelation, the Apostle John shares many of the visions God gave him about events that will occur in the future. Using vivid imagery and symbols, John communicated these visions through his writing. John saw these visions as pertaining to the end of the Roman Empire of his day. However, Christians believe

these visions also communicate truths about the future reign of Christ on earth. There is much debate about what many of the images and symbols John uses means. It is best to not get tied up into trying to assign modern-day parallels to every image and sign John uses, but to find the main message John was trying to communicate, and apply that message to our current situation.

**Secondary text:** Jesus also uses vivid imagery and symbols to try and communicate heavenly truths to the disciples about the future. The immediate future Jesus was talking about to the disciples is the fall of Jerusalem to the Romans in AD 70. Christians also understand this passage to be talking about the end of time as well, when Jesus will return with power and glory.

**Bible Study**

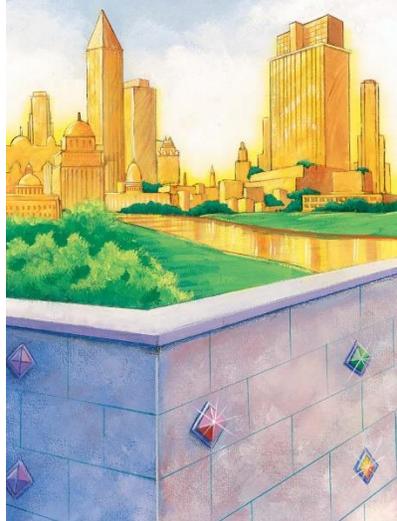
<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
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<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the “Text Context” from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
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<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>            Though sin and evil seem to run rampant in this world, there will come a day in which God completely destroys the power of Satan, and rescues believers in Jesus. John was given this vision, and shares it in the scriptures as a source of hope for Christians throughout the centuries.           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the ways in which you see the power of sin at work in the world around you?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What do you think life will be like when Jesus returns, and there is no more sin on earth?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>            When times are tough, sometimes we need encouragement. This vision given to John was to give the early Christians encouragement as they were suffering under the persecution of the Roman Empire. So too, the passage has been a source of hope for Christians throughout the centuries who have also suffered for being followers of Jesus Christ.           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>What encourages you in this passage?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Do you feel like you have suffered for being a Christian?</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b>            When we are encouraged, and have a clear understanding of both God’s love and power, then we can live confidently in this fallen world. Though we may suffer many trials and persecutions, that does not make us unique. Instead, it places us         </li> </ul>
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	<p>in the long line of faithful Christians throughout the centuries who did not consider suffering for Christ as something to be avoided.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ <b>How can you support and encourage a fellow Christian who is being persecuted for their faith?</b></li><li>✓ <b>If you are not being persecuted now, what can you do to prepare yourself, train yourself, and equip yourself now to be ready in the future if those sufferings and persecutions come?</b></li></ul>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li><li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li><li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li><li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li></ul>

## JESUS Film Preaching Point Bible Lesson # 108

<b>Lesson Title:</b>	<b>New Jerusalem</b>	<b>Image</b> 
<b>Lesson Text:</b>	<b>Revelation 21</b>	
<b>Secondary Text:</b>	<b>John 14</b>	
<b>Lesson Goals:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head:</b> Recognize, the earthly life we live is only the beginning of our existence. After death, all Christians go to heaven where we will live worshipping God and enjoying God’s presence without any pain or suffering ever again.</li> <li>• <b>Heart:</b> Take comfort in knowing God is preparing a place for all Christians, a place of perfect peace, joy, and love.</li> <li>• <b>Hands:</b> Live confidently, knowing God will reward any sacrifice you make for Jesus in this life in Heaven. In addition, God will wipe away any sufferings you face in this life in the joy and peace of Heaven.</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson In a Verse:</b>	‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.’ (Revelation 21:4)	

<b>Text Summary</b>	<p>One night, John the apostle had a vision. A vision is like a dream. God wanted to show John what heaven would be like. God called it the new Jerusalem. John saw the most beautiful city he had ever seen. He saw a city with walls made of jasper, and the inside of the city was made out of pure gold. There were four walls around the city, and each wall had three gates. The gates were named after the 12 tribes of Israel. Each gate was made out of a giant pearl. John looked inside the city and saw that there wasn’t a temple to worship God in. An angel told John that there wasn’t any need for a temple because God and Jesus would be the Temple. Then the angel told John that there would be no sun in heaven because God and Jesus would shine brighter than the sun. The people whose names were written in the Lamb’s Book of Life, since Jesus had forgiven them of their sins, would be able to enter this wonderful city.</p>
<b>Teaching from the Image</b>	<p><b>1. Heaven.</b> God is preparing a place for us to live for all eternity after our time on earth is over. In Heaven, Christians will live in perfect communion with God, and not experience any pain or suffering again. Heaven is a beautiful city with everything we need to enjoy God’s presence and glory forever and ever.</p>
<b>Text Context</b>	<p>God gave the Apostle John visions of what Heaven will be like. Heaven will be a place where Christians will spend all eternity with Jesus. There will be no more pain, sin, or suffering. Instead, Christians will enjoy worshipping Jesus with perfect love and joy.</p>

	<p><b>Secondary text:</b> Jesus promised his disciples, before his death, that when he left them he would prepare a place in Heaven for them. The disciples were to live in the confidence and peace that, even when Jesus' left, Jesus would still be taking care of them through the ministry of the Holy Spirit.</p> <p><b>Articles of Faith Track: XVI. Resurrection, Judgement, and Destiny.</b> When Christ returns, he will raise the saints from the dead to join God in heaven. Every person will also stand before the judgment seat of God. Because of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, Christians will be saved. However, those who reject the forgiveness of Christ will be eternally lost in hell.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Head: Does the promise of end-times judgement bring you joy or fear? Why?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Heart: How should the prospect of the end times affect how you look upon your daily life?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Hands: How can you help save people from eternal hell, and bring them with you into eternal glory?</b></li> </ul>
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<b>Bible Study</b>	
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<b>Pray</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask for prayer requests and praises.</li> <li>• Thank God for the praises shared.</li> <li>• Pray for the prayer requests.</li> <li>• Ask the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to receive with joy what God has to share with you today.</li> </ul>
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<b>Hear</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read both Bible Lesson texts.</li> <li>• Summarize the "Text Context" from above for the class.</li> <li>• Read both Bible lesson texts again.</li> <li>• Have someone retell the main Bible text.</li> </ul>
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<b>Share</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Head: What Does the Text Mean?</b>  This earthly life is only a small part of who we really are as the Children of God. When this life is over, all Christians will enjoy an eternity in Heaven with God. There all our questions will be answered, all our sufferings taken away, and all our tears be dried. It will be a place where we can worship God perfectly, for there will no longer be any pain or sin.</li> <li>✓ <b>What are you looking forward to most in Heaven?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What are some of the questions you will ask Jesus when you see him face to face?</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Heart: Who Does the Text Say We Should Be?</b>  Living the Christian life can be very hard. In the midst of temptations and persecutions, many Christians are tempted to walk away from the faith. In addition, if not explicitly walking away from the faith, at least tempted to compromise their faith. One of the reason why God gives Christians the hope of Heaven is to remind us that we are living for something greater now than these momentary pains and trials.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How does knowing about Heaven bring comfort to you now?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>What do you think it will be like to live without any temptation to sin?</b></li> </ul> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">• <b>Hands: How Can We Put the Word of God into Action?</b></p> <p>Live confidently, being ready to share your hope of heaven with someone this week. It may mean you risk having them laugh at you; however, everyone needs to know there is hope not only for this life but also for the life to come. They also need to know there are consequences for how they live their life, consequences both for this life as well as for the life to come.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>How can you make sure you are going to Heaven?</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Who do you most want to see (besides Jesus) when you get to heaven?</b></li> </ul>
<b>Apply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask someone to retell the main Bible lesson text again.</li> <li>• Ask the group to share how they think God wants them to respond to today's lesson.</li> <li>• Spend time in prayer for your community, one another, and for wisdom in living out today's lesson.</li> <li>• Close by having the group pray together the Lord's Prayer.</li> </ul>