

KEY THOUGHT

Jesus is Christ, the Son of the Living God.

MEMORY VERSE

And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. Matthew 16:16

LESSON DISCUSSION

1. Was Jesus' birth the beginning of His existence? Why or why not?
2. What is a prophecy? Describe the three prophecies in our lesson.
3. Does the fulfillment of the prophecies prove Jesus is the Son of God?
4. What do you know about Jesus? Who is He to you?

TIM AND HIS LAMP CONTINUED

morning as Tim lay by the mill pond watching the fish. Then one evening Mr. Minturn invited many children to his home. Mr. Minturn was well to-do and the children, both rich and poor, enjoyed playing around the fountain in his yard. The minister, Bro. Holbrook spoke a few words to turn the children's minds toward God. Tim listened soberly and his heart once more was touched.

(To be continued.)

Fern Stubblefield

WHO IS HE? CONTINUED

Fulfillment: Then were there two thieves crucified with him, one on the right hand, and another on the left (Matthew 27:38).

Can you predict who will be born 700 years from now, where this person will be born, the name of this person, and how this person will live and die? There is just no possible way, except through God's inspiration.

It is said that the probability of just eight of Jesus' 300 prophecies coming true is 1 in 1017; that is 1 in 100,000,000,000,000,000 chances. It would be like covering the huge state of Texas in silver dollars two feet deep, marking eight of the silver dollars, and then going in blindfolded and picking out the exact right eight marked silver dollars on the first try. It just wouldn't happen! And yet. Every single one of the prophecies of Jesus came true down to the very last detail.

When Jesus finally did come to earth, He asked His disciples, "Who do men say that I am?" The disciples answered Him and said, some say you are John the Baptist, some say you are Elias, and some say you are a prophet. Jesus asked, but who do you say I am? It is still a good question today. We do not follow cleverly made up myths about Jesus. Many men and women saw firsthand His majesty and power. By believing, we can know Him in the same way. In the next 12 lessons we will learn more about this extraordinary Jesus—God's Son come to earth.

Sister Julie Elwell



Secondary Sunday School

October 2, 2016. V66, Q4, W1

The Life of Jesus Series

Jesus—Who is He?

Scripture References: Matthew 16:13-17; Ephesians 3:8-9; I Peter 1:16-21

How long has Jesus existed and who exactly is He? Each of us had a beginning but Jesus has always existed, even before He was born on the earth. He was always with God and was God (John 1:1-2). Your grandparents were probably born 60 or 70 years ago, but Jesus was born more than 2,000 years ago and His was the most important birth in history.

God spoke to holy men of old concerning the time Jesus would come to earth. There were prophecies (or predictions) about the future. There are an astounding ~350 prophecies concerning Jesus written hundreds of years before He was even born. What is even more incredible is that every single one of the prophecies came to pass. In small part, the prophecies included where Jesus would be born, the manner in which He would be born, what His name would be, and very specific details about His life and death. Following are three of the prophecies:

Place of Birth: Written by Micah approximately 700 years before He was born.

Prophecy: But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting (Micah 5:2).

Fulfillment: Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king... (Matthew 2:1).

Jesus' Name: Prophesied by Isaiah approximately 750 years before He was born.

Prophecy: Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14).

Fulfillment: Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us (Matthew 1:23).

Jesus' Death: Prophesied by Isaiah approximately 700 years before He was born.

Prophecy: He was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors (Isaiah 53:11).

The Beautiful Way (primary) and The Compass (junior) Sunday school literature can be downloaded at sundayschoolliterature.com and churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way. Please email any questions to gellenbeck.lindsey@gmail.com.

Volume 66, Quarter 4, Week 1. Lindsey Gellenbeck, Editor. 2016.

Tim and His Lamp

Part One

*"Cast thy bread upon the water."
—Ecclesiastes 11:1*

It was Sunday morning and Sunday school had begun. The superintendent was seeing that each class had a teacher. One class called the "mission class" was without a teacher. The students in this class were poor boys with torn pants and jackets and uncombed hair. These boys had been coaxed to come to Sunday school and acted as though they had little interest in it. A young woman who was a visitor that day was asked to teach the class. She thought it was useless but since there was no one else to teach them she decided to do her best. A song says, "When you have done your best, let Jesus do the rest."

Having no lesson prepared she told them a story of a boy named Bob. When Bob was thirteen he was walking down the street of the village where he lived. As he walked he came to a place where two roads met and wondered which road to take. "Shall I turn to the left and go home," thought Bob, "or shall I turn to the right and go down to the river awhile?"

You see, Bob did not have a happy home. His mother was dead and his father was a drunkard. Then something seemed to say to him, "Go this way, turn to the right," and at last he decided to go down to the river.

By the river bank there was a large tree where Bob often sat, but a man was seated there this time. Seeing Bob approaching, he said, "Good evening; will you have a seat?" Then he continued. "I heard a boy call out to

another boy just now, 'Going home, Bob?' Are you that boy?"

"No," said Bob, "Hal just called that to me as he came around the corner."

"Oh, you are the one he was talking to! Well, I'll ask you the same question. Are you going home?"

"No, I have just walked away from home," replied Bob.

"But I mean are you going up there?" and the man pointed up. Then he began to tell Bob about heaven. "Are you not going to that home, my boy?"

"I don't know," replied Bob. The bell rang at this point and the teacher finished her story briefly. "I haven't time to tell you all, boys, but after that talk, Bob began to think about these things and pretty soon he learned to read the Bible and pray. He gave his heart to God. That was more than 50 years ago. He is a minister now and I have heard him preach."

The boys had done a great many things while the teacher had talked to them. She felt as though her efforts had all been in vain. She did not know that some of the seed sown that morning would later bear fruit and that Tim, the most mischievous boy in the class would someday be preaching the gospel. The words spoken in Eccl. 11:1 were later fulfilled, "Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days."

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*"Those that seek me early shall find me."
—Proverbs 8:17*

Nearly four weeks had passed since Tim had attended Sunday school and heard the story of Bob. The Spirit of God had brought back some of the words that were spoken by the teacher one

Learn a Little More!

Directions: From the list below, find at least one scripture in which each event was prophesied and one in which each event was fulfilled.

Jesus would be born into the tribe of Judah

Prophecy: _____ Fulfillment: _____

A messenger would prepare the way for Jesus

Prophecy: _____ Fulfillment: _____

Jesus would be rejected by His own people

Prophecy: _____ Fulfillment: _____

Vinegar would be given Jesus to drink during His crucifixion

Prophecy: _____ Fulfillment: _____

None of Jesus' bones would be broken during His crucifixion

Prophecy: _____ Fulfillment: _____

| PROPHESIES | FULFILLMENTS |
|---|--|
| Isaiah 40:3 The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. | Hebrews 7:14 For it is evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda; of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood. |
| Psalms 34:20 He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken. | John 1:11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not. |
| Psalms 69:8 I am become a stranger unto my brethren, and an alien unto my mother's children. | John 19:33 But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs: |
| Genesis 49:10 The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be. | Luke 3:3 And he [John] came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins; |
| Psalms 69:21 They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink. | Matthew 27:34 They gave him vinegar to drink mingled with gall: and when he had tasted thereof, he would not drink. |

KEY THOUGHT

Jesus was our example of how to be submissive to those in authority over us.

MEMORY VERSE

Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another.

1 Peter 5:5

LESSON DISCUSSION

1. What is the difference between obedience and submission?
2. Is half-way obedience a sin?
3. To what authorities does the Bible instruct we submit to?
4. How can we adopt a positive attitude toward submitting to authority?

TIM AND HIS LAMP CONTINUED

Tim came bravely to Katie's aid. "Let me make a fire. I've made one lots of times. You put water in the tea kettle and we'll have a cup of hot water in a little bit."

Katie stood still and watched Tim make the fire. This was so different from the usual Tim who never built a fire without being told. Soon the fire crackled and snapped.

(To be continued.)

Fern Stubblefield

JESUS SURRENDERS CONTINUED

parents, and other trusted spiritual individuals. Peter instructed the younger people submit themselves to the older people—further, he instructed that all of us should be subject to each other.

Why is submission sometimes such a terribly hard thing to do? The answer is pretty easy. We want our own way. We don't like being told what to do because we want to be our own boss. We don't want to cause ourselves pain or extra hard work because of submission. Did you know we can obey without actually submitting? Obedience can either be done with a good attitude or a bad one. If we obey but have a bad or rude and disrespectful attitude it is not actually submission. Submission is responding to authority with a willing and cheerful heart because of love.

Jesus had to pray three times to submit to His Father's will before He died on the cross. Even though he wanted to obey and die for us because He loved us, it was hard. Incredibly hard. The good news is, Jesus won that battle. Being submissive does not make us the "smaller or weaker" person. It makes us the strong, victorious person. Submission and obedience, combined with humility, respectfulness, and a cheerful and willing heart, is well-pleasing to God.

Sister Julie Elwell



Secondary Sunday School

October 9, 2016. V66, Q4, W2

The Life of Jesus Series

Jesus Surrenders to Authority: Submission

Scripture References: Luke 2:39-52; Matthew 26:39; Romans 13:1-2; Hebrews 13:17; James 4:7; Colossians 3:20

Jesus' parents went to the temple in Jerusalem to worship God every year at the Passover. It was no doubt with anticipation and excitement that Jesus was finally allowed to go on this important trip at 12 years of age! Like so many exciting events, the trip came and then it was time to return home after three days. Mary, Joseph, Jesus' relatives, and a company of other people left Jerusalem and traveled for one whole day toward home before they made the discovery that Jesus was not with them. They frantically looked for Jesus for three days.

When Mary and Joseph finally found Jesus they were amazed. He was not playing with other children or hopelessly lost in the middle of the bustling city. He was sitting in the temple surrounded by very important men! He was listening to them and asking them questions. The Bible says that all that heard Him were "astonished at His understanding and answers." Mary asked Jesus, "Son, why did you do this to us? Your father and I have sought thee sorrowing." Jesus asked them, "Why did you seek me? Didn't you know that I must be about my Father's business?" It was obvious that Jesus was beginning to recognize His personal responsibility to an authority higher than His parents—to His Heavenly Father. Even so, the Bible says that Jesus went back home with His parents and was "subject unto them." That means when Jesus went home he willingly yielded himself to the desires, instructions, and commands of his earthly parents.

Let us look at what the Bible has to say about submission and obedience. Jesus instructed us to submit to those in authority, a lesson which He had learned! (Notice how he listened and asked questions of the important men in the temple?) An authority is a person or organization who has the power to make decisions or enforce obedience. Children are instructed to obey their parents in all things. We are instructed to submit ourselves to the higher powers. This includes the president, the governor, the policemen, our teachers, and many others. We are instructed to obey those who have the job of watching out for our spiritual good. This includes our pastor, preachers,

Tim and His Lamp

Part Two

The class in general was restless but Tim listened closely. When the others passed out Bro. Holbrook said, "You have been a good listener today. Did you understand the story I told of the boy who started on a journey to the Holy Land?"

"Some of it I did, you meant that he started for heaven," replied Tim.

"I see you understood it. Don't you want to take that journey?"

"I believe I have started," answered Tim. "Last night I told God I would. He made me feel so happy, but I don't much know how, sir."

"You need a lamp, don't you? You remember in the story the boy found some dark places, then he took out his lamp so he wouldn't lose the road."

"I want some help but I don't know as a lamp would do me any good," replied Tim.

"Oh, yes; the one I mean will surely help you if you give it a chance!" Bro. Holbrook took from his pocket a small red covered book. "Do you know what this is?" he asked.

"It's a Bible. We read in it at school."

"Then you know that God told men just what to say and they wrote it here, so you see that makes it God's words. We sometimes call it the Word of God. Now let me show you something." He turned the leaves and pointed to a verse and Tim read, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet."

"Oh," said Tim, "that is the kind of lamp you mean!"

"That is it, my boy. I want you to take this for your lamp. There is no place on the whole road so dark but that it can light you through, if you try it. When you don't understand it, there is always Jesus to go to, you know." Bro. Holbrook wrote Tim's name in it and handed it to him.

He walked away holding his treasure closely. Things were really different now. God had given him a new heart. He had a Bible. He walked away from Sunday school quietly, alone, instead of leading a noisy group of boys intent on mischief.

"I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go." —Psalms 32:8

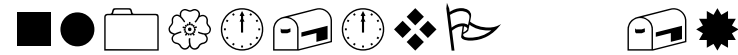
Tim sat on the foot of the bed turning over the leaves of his Bible. "Why that is the very thing I want; 'I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.' I want to begin today and do everything so different from what I ever did that nobody will know me. Now if He will help me, I can do it. I'll learn that verse." He repeated it many times. Then the Spirit of God put another thought in his heart.

"I must ask Jesus to help me now," he said, and kneeling down he made known his wants in very simple words. Then he went downstairs and prepared for the day.

Katie was rattling the stove trying to make a fire, but without success. "I can't make this fire burn," she said. "Mother is sick in bed and told me to bring Father a cup of hot water."

Crack the Code!

Directions: Use the key code below to discover the hidden message!



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

KEY THOUGHT

Temptation is a part of life, but God is faithful and will always help us to overcome it.

MEMORY VERSE

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

1 Corinthians 10:13

LESSON DISCUSSION

1. Have you been tempted to do something wrong lately? How did you handle it?
2. In what three ways did Satan tempt Jesus?
3. Who is stronger: God or the devil?
4. What does it mean to hide God's word in your heart?

JESUS IS TEMPTED CONTINUED

The devil tempts us, among other things, to lie, cheat, take things which are not ours, become angry, be selfish, and have jealousy (1 Corinthians 10:13). He may tempt us one way and if he can't get us to do wrong that way, he will attack us a different way. We always need to be watching for him and recognize when He tempts us. The devil is a liar and he is sly. On our own we do not have the strength to stand against him. The devil is strong. But, God is stronger!

When we are tempted, we need to resist (or push away) the devil. Stay away from situations where you know you will be tempted to do wrong. For example, if you know hanging out with certain people will tempt you to behave or talk in ways that is not pleasing to God, then you probably shouldn't hang out with them. Ask God for strength and help. He *promised* He would always make a way out of temptation. Like Jesus, we *can* defeat the Devil.

Sister Julie Elwell

TIM AND HIS LAMP CONTINUED

senseless or wicked rhymes. How thankfully Tim bowed his head. His heart had taken in some of the beautiful words of the crucifixion of Christ. As the teacher prayed Tim agreed with his whole heart. Bob pulled his hair, tickled his foot, and stepped on his toes, but Tim gathered some strength for the day ahead and the trials awaiting him.

Bob, as usual, was overflowing with pranks and failing to find Tim a willing helper as he had been, Bob aimed a great many at him. After Tim had patiently added up two columns in arithmetic Bob rubbed his finger across the slate and no trace of the answer could be seen.

(To be continued.)

Fern Stubblefield

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Secondary Sunday School

October 16, 2016. V66, Q4, W3

The Life of Jesus Series

Jesus is Tempted: Temptation

Scripture References: Matthew 4:1-13; Psalm 119:11; James 4:7; Ephesians 4:27

Temptation is a part of life. Temptation, which can be described as a test, comes when we are faced with a choice to either do the right thing or the wrong thing. The devil comes to every person and tempts them to choose wrong. For some reason, it can feel exciting to do something you shouldn't do; that is why it is a temptation.

When Jesus was 30 years of age He began His ministry. One of the first things that happened was this: He was led by the Spirit of God into the wilderness where he went 40 days and 40 nights without anything to eat. Perhaps He realized the great job ahead of Him and knew He needed to spend much time in fasting in prayer. After 40 days the devil showed up on the scene and tempted Him in three different ways.

Jesus was physically weak and hungry and Satan knew it. He said, if you are really the Son of God, command that these stones be turned into bread. The devil first wanted Jesus to doubt whether He really was the Son of God. He also tempted Jesus to want something before God was willing to give it to him. Second, the devil took Jesus to the very top of the temple and said (again), if you be the Son of God, throw yourself down because it is written (in the Bible) that God's angels will catch you if you fall. In this case, Satan tempted Jesus to try to "control" or "manipulate" God by arrogantly doing something reckless that He shouldn't have been doing. Thirdly, Satan took Jesus to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world. He said, I will give you all these things if you will fall down and worship me. Satan tempted Jesus to worship something other than God (idolatry) because it appealed to His eyes.

In every temptation the devil presented, Jesus fought back. He did not just give in to His desires. He fought Satan by quoting Him scripture. And guess what? The scriptures Jesus gave the devil were strong enough to finally cause him to leave Jesus alone, at least for a little while. Psalms 119:11 says this: "Thy word have I hidden in my heart that I might not sin against thee." As we learn Bible verses and begin to understand God's word, God will remind us of His word when the devil comes to tempt us. If we will listen to His voice, we can make the right choice and not fall into sin.

Tim and His Lamp

Part Three

"Come, Katie, let's hurry around and get Father and Mother some breakfast. Do you know how to make toast?"

"It's likely I do," answered Katie.

"Well, now suppose we make two slices, one for Mother and one for Father. You and I will be jolly house-keepers, Katie."

Tim hunted for two clean plates and cups. When everything was ready they went softly to the bedroom door. Tim entered with his dish, Katie following.

"Lie still, Mother, till you get some toast and hot water, then you'll feel better." Mrs. Lewis raised herself on one elbow, looked at the toast, and asked, "Who's here?"

"Katie and I," answered Tim.

His mother smiled. What spell had come over Tim? After breakfast he found a great many things to do. He chopped some wood and Katie, under the influence of his strange behavior washed the dishes and swept the floor.

That was a day long to be remembered by Tim. He began his life afresh. He made some mistakes. He thought that his struggle was all over and that he had only to go forward joyfully over a pleasant road. He found that he was mistaken. Satan had not given him up—that is, he would try in many ways to upset him. Tim must yet fight many a hard battle, but there was One who would never leave nor forsake him. One to whom he could always flee for refuge.

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"Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." —Galatians 6:7

It was the first day at school and Tim was making his way up the hill to school. The boys were surprised to see him coming so early. Among the things Tim had resolved to do was to go steadily and promptly to school. This was something he had never done in his life.

"Hello, Tim," said Bob Turner, "how are you, old fellow?" Bob had been away and knew nothing of the change that had taken place in Tim's heart and life. Tim shivered at the thought of the temptation Bob would be to him. The two had been linked together all their lives in many forms of mischief and wrong.

The bell rang and the boys jostled against one another in their seats. Bob, as usual, sat next to Tim.

When the Bible reading started, Tim hesitated. His face flushed. Now he owned a Bible. Had he the courage to take it out of his pocket and read with the rest? What would the boys think? What would they say? He began to think he would wait until tomorrow morning. Then he grew ashamed. Suddenly he took out his Bible and turned the leaves. Bob heard the rustling and as he glanced around he puckered up his lips as if to whistle. Snatching the book he read Tim's name in it. "You don't say so! When did we steal a Bible and turn saint?"

Tim's red cheeks were his only answer. When he finally found the place it was very difficult to join in with the other voices. He coughed before he could join his voice in a whisper. Bob's lips were moving, but he was repeating some

Learn a little more!

Directions: Draw lines between the columns to match the ways the devil tempted Jesus to the type of temptation he used.

The Lust of the Eyes



The devil tempted Jesus to turn stones into **bread**.

The Pride of Life



The devil **showed** Jesus all the kingdoms of the world.



The Lust of the Flesh

The devil tempted Jesus to **display His power** by casting Himself down from the top of the temple.

Sound familiar?

Unscramble the words of the second verse below to find out what 1 John says about these different temptations.

Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

Ofr lal ttha si in teh dlrow, teh ustl fo teh shlfe, nad het stul fo het seey, nad het eirdp fo feil, si ton fo het athFer, tub si fo het ldwor.

And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever. (1 John 2:15-17)

KEY THOUGHT

Jesus invites us to follow Him and we must each choose whether or not we will.

MEMORY VERSE

And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. Matthew 4:19

LESSON DISCUSSION

1. Name the 12 Disciples Jesus called and talk about their attributes.
2. What does it mean to be a disciple?
3. Can only certain people become disciples of Jesus? Why or why not?
4. How does being a disciple of Jesus benefit you? How does it benefit others?

TIM AND HIS LAMP CONTINUED

Each morning he built the fire, drew a fresh pail of water, and filled the box with wood. These were like drops of honey to the tired mother's heart who labored hard to make a living for the family. Now and then Tim awkwardly patted his father's pillow as he lingered to ask how he was. This was new and delightful to the invalid father and he thought much about it.

(To be continued.)

Fern Stubblefield

JESUS CALLS TWELVE DISCIPLES CONTINUED

who followed Him regularly, but these 12 were specifically called to help Jesus in His ministry.

Jesus chose each disciple with a specific reason in mind. Each disciple had certain talents and abilities. Each disciple had a purpose. It is the same way today. Jesus is walking by each person in this world, including you. He is saying, "(insert your name), Follow me!" It is very easy to compare ourselves with other people and feel like we are not good enough or don't have the same talent someone else has. Maybe we recognize our talents, but we should also realize other people have talents we may not have. All of Jesus' disciples were different from one another. Some were more educated, some were less educated. Some were quiet and we don't hear much about them, and some were bolder and more in the forefront. Whichever personality and qualities you have, Jesus has a purpose for YOU.

A disciple of Jesus literally means "student" or one who learns about Him. Jesus will be the most fascinating, interesting, and adventuresome subject you will have if you decide to sign up for His class and answer when He calls YOUR name. We will be different from the world if we choose to follow Jesus, but the payback is worth every sacrifice to be called a disciple of Jesus. He will never make us sorry if we follow Him.

Sister Julie Elwell



Secondary Sunday School

October 23, 2016. V66, Q4, W4

The Life of Jesus Series

Jesus Calls Twelve Disciples: Discipleship

Scripture References: Luke 6:13-16, Matthew 4:17-22; Mark 1:14-20; 2:13-17; Luke 5:1-11; 27-32; John 1:35-5

Jesus called 12 disciples to follow Him when He started His ministry in Galilee. Jesus first called Simon (Peter) and Andrew who were fisherman and brothers. As He walked by them one day, they were busy mending their nets. Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed Jesus. John and his brother James, called Sons of Thunder, were also fishermen and were the next men Jesus called to be his disciples.

Next, Jesus "found" a man named Philip and simply said, "Follow me." Not much is written in the Bible about Philip, but Philip was quick to share Jesus' greatness with his friend, Bartholomew (Nathanael). Philip told Bartholomew, "We have found Him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." How excited Philip must have been to share this news. When Jesus later saw Bartholomew He said, "Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" In other words, Jesus knew Bartholomew was an honest and honorable man before He had even met him! Bartholomew was surprised. He asked Jesus, "How do you know me?"—as if to say, I have never met you before and I just heard of you. How do you know who I am?

Jesus said, "Before Philip called you I saw you under the fig tree." Bartholomew instantly believed and declared Jesus the Son of God and King of Israel.

Jesus later passed a tax collector named Levi, or Matthew. Jesus told Matthew to "follow him" and he did. Later, Matthew held a reception of sorts at his home for Jesus and "sinners" came to the party. The Pharisees did not like this, but Jesus told them, "A doctor does not take care of people who are healthy. He helps those who are sick." And that is what Jesus does. He came to save sinners.

Jesus also called Thomas, James (Son of Alphaeus), Thaddaeus, Simon (the Canaanite) and Judas Iscariot to follow Him. Jesus had more disciples than just the 12 disciples

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Tim and His Lamp

Part Four

Then besides Bob's annoying pranks Tim had himself to struggle with. He wasn't used to studying, but whispering, eating apples when the teacher's back was turned, and such as that. Now he was reaping and found it hard. He succeeded in not whispering for a long time. Finally, Bob was so provoking that he whispered a reproof and the teacher saw him and marked him down for whispering. How hard Satan was working to trip Tim or discourage him. He was reaping the fruits of long weeks spent in evil company and folly.

"Fear not: for I have redeemed thee."

—Isaiah 43:1

The long day full of trials and temptations wore away. One more hard trial awaited Tim. Toward the close of the afternoon Bob began throwing paper wads. Two or three joined him and every time Mr. Burrows' back was turned the paper wads flew through the air. Mr. Burrows finally said, "The next boy I catch throwing paper wads shall be punished severely."

Five minutes later as the teacher bent over the desk a paper wad hit him in the forehead.

"Does anyone know who threw that?" There was silence. "Ellis Holbrook, do you know who did it?"

"Yes sir, it was Tim Lewis."

This was almost too much for Tim. For the first time he hadn't thrown a single paper wad all day and now was accused.

"I didn't," cried Tim, "It's a lie!"

"Ellis, did you see him throw it?"

"Yes sir, I did," replied Ellis.

The teacher turned to Tim. "Edward, come here."

The command was repeated and Tim went forward declaring he was not guilty. Tim had told lies so often that Mr. Burrows had no doubt of his guilt. He stood still and received the hard blows of the ruler on his hands.

What a heavy heart Tim carried that afternoon. He had tried so hard and then had received a punishment not due him. Satan walked with him telling him it was no use. He might as well give it up first as last. He brought many discouraging thoughts to Tim as he walked along.

He sat on a log. Then the Lord began talking to him, encouraging him. He put his hand in his pocket and took out his "lamp." He turned its pages and found the words, "Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine." Isaiah 43:1.

Then came hot thankful tears. Those precious words sank down into his heart. Christ the Redeemer had called him by his name. He was—yes, he would be His. No one was around to be seen. He was sitting under the shade of a low hanging tree. There he knelt to pray. Satan withdrew himself. Tim's soul had gained the victory.

"Freely ye have received, freely give."

—Matt. 10:8

There were some marked changes in Tim Lewis which surprised his family.

Who's Who?

Directions: Draw lines between the columns to match each of the disciples to their description.

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Simon Peter | 1. Known for his doubting nature. |
| Andrew | 2. A Canaanite. |
| James | 3. Son of Alphaeus, possibly Matthew's brother. |
| John | 4. Friend of Phillip. Jesus spotted him under a fig tree before he became a disciple. |
| Phillip | 5. The Betrayer of Jesus. |
| Bartholomew | 6. Brother of Simon Peter, a fisherman. |
| Thomas | 7. Son of Zebedee, wrote five books in the new testament. Known as one of the Sons of Thunder. |
| Matthew | 8. Very little is known about this man. |
| James | 9. One of the most well known disciples written about in the gospels, and one of the first disciple called. |
| Thaddaeus | 10. The tax collector, author of the first gospel. |
| Simon | 11. Son of Zebedee, and older brother of the disciple John. Known as one of the Sons of Thunder. |
| Judas Iscariot | 12. Little known, other than being the friend Bartholomew. Jesus called him saying, "Follow me." |

Answers: Simon Peter (8), James (11), John (7), Phillip (4), Bartholomew (12), James (3), Thaddaeus (9), Andrew (2), Simon (1), Thomas (10), Judas Iscariot (5).

KEY THOUGHT

Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, can accomplish the impossible if we have faith enough to believe.

MEMORY VERSE

The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.

Luke 18:27

LESSON DISCUSSION

1. What is the definition of a miracle?
2. Why did Jesus perform miracles when He was on earth?
3. Name some of the miracles Jesus performed.
4. What miracles does Jesus still perform today?

TIM AND HIS LAMP CONTINUED

Tim Lewis which surprised his family. Each morning he built the fire, drew a fresh pail of water, and filled the box with wood. These were like drops of honey to the tired mother's heart who labored hard to make a living for the family. Now and then Tim awkwardly patted his father's pillow as he lingered to ask how he was. This was new and delightful to the invalid father and he thought much about it.

(To be continued.)

Fern Stubblefield

WORKER OF MIRACLES CONTINUED

off by doing miracles. Jesus wanted mankind to believe in Him so they could be saved from eternal destruction and have eternal life.

Does Jesus still perform miracles today? Yes, He does. He told His disciples that "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God." Can a man cause a seed to flower into a tree which produces fruit? Can a man speak the word and make the breeze to blow on a hot day? Can man cause the sun to rise and bring light after the darkness of night? God performs many "small-yet-huge" miracles every day for us to enjoy. When we get into hard places in our lives, we have the privilege to pray to the One who is able to accomplish the impossible. The greatest miracle of all, however, is that if we pray with faith, Jesus can take the guilt of our sins cast them into the deepest ocean, never to remember them again.

Sister Julie Elwell



Secondary Sunday School

October 30, 2016. V66, Q4, W5

The Life of Jesus Series

Jesus—Worker of Miracles: Nothing is Impossible With God

Scripture References: Matthew 4:22-25; Matthew 14:35-36; Luke 7:11-23; John 20:30-31

For many years the Jews were oppressed and burdened by high taxes from the Roman government. They were many times the subjects of cruelty. They longed for escape and eagerly awaited deliverance by the Messiah who had been promised by the prophets in the Old Testament. There were men who had already claimed to be the Messiah and no doubt raised the hopes of many discouraged Jews. Unfortunately, these men did not bring deliverance and the Jews continued to long for freedom.

It was into this climate that Jesus was born and started His ministry. He made a bold claim that He was the promised deliverer, the Son of the Living God! How was He to prove this claim to these downtrodden people? He performed many supernatural and extraordinary acts which no man had ever done. Jesus' fame began to spread as He performed many miracles.

Multitudes of people brought Jesus their sick loved ones and He healed them. He gave sight to the blind. He caused the lame to walk. He opened deaf ears. He cast out devils. One day, he saw a sorrowing widow woman going to bury her only son. He had compassion on her and said, "Weep not." He then brought her dead son back to life. On a different day, Jesus went to Peter's house. Peter's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever. Jesus simply touched her hand, her fever left, and she got up and ministered to them. Jesus calmed an angry ocean simply by speaking a few words and it became as smooth as glass. He fed 5,000 men, plus women and children, with only three loaves of bread and two small fish. The people were astonished at this great power. Never had they seen anything like this before.

Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews, came to Jesus one night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know you are a teacher come from God for no man can do these miracles that you do except God be with Him." Nicodemus, knew there was something different about Jesus, he just wasn't sure what it was. Jesus began to simply lay out His purpose for coming to earth. Jesus lovingly told Nicodemus these very familiar words, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." His purpose, then, was not to just show

Tim and His Lamp

Part Five

Then besides Bob’s annoying pranks Tim had himself to struggle with. He wasn’t used to studying, but whispering, eating apples when the teacher’s back was turned, and such as that. Now he was reaping and found it hard. He succeeded in not whispering for a long time. Finally, Bob was so provoking that he whispered a reproof and the teacher saw him and marked him down for whispering. How hard Satan was working to trip Tim or discourage him. He was reaping the fruits of long weeks spent in evil company and folly.

*“Fear not: for I have redeemed thee.”
—Isaiah 43:1*

The long day full of trials and temptations wore away. One more hard trial awaited Tim. Toward the close of the afternoon Bob began throwing paper wads. Two or three joined him and every time Mr. Burrows’ back was turned the paper wads flew through the air. Mr. Burrows finally said, “The next boy I catch throwing paper wads shall be punished severely.”

Five minutes later as the teacher bent over the desk a paper wad hit him in the forehead.

“Does anyone know who threw that?” There was silence. “Ellis Holbrook, do you know who did it?”

“Yes sir, it was Tim Lewis.”

This was almost too much for Tim. For the first time he hadn’t thrown a single paper wad all day and now was accused.

“I didn’t,” cried Tim, “it’s a lie!”

“Ellis, did you see him throw it?”

“Yes sir, I did,” replied Ellis.

The teacher turned to Tim. “Edward, come here.”

The command was repeated and Tim went forward declaring he was not guilty. Tim had told lies so often that Mr. Burrows had no doubt of his guilt. He stood still and received the hard blows of the ruler on his hands.

What a heavy heart Tim carried that afternoon. He had tried so hard and then had received a punishment not due him. Satan walked with him telling him it was no use. He might as well give it up first as last. He brought many discouraging thoughts to Tim as he walked along.

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There were some marked changes in

Jesus and His Miracles

| | | | |
|------------|---------------|------------|--------------|
| BLIND | DEVILS | LAME | OCEAN |
| COMPASSION | DISCOURAGED | MESSIAH | PETER |
| DEAD | EXTRAORDINARY | MIRACLE | POSSIBLE |
| DEAF | FAME | MULTITUDES | ROMAN |
| DELIVERER | JESUS | NICODEMUS | SUPERNATURAL |

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

A TEACHER UNSURPASSED CONTINUED

officers saw that Jesus spoke with such authority, they did not lay their hands on him. Later, when the officers returned empty-handed and without Jesus, they told the leaders these words: “Never a man spake like this man.”

Life is our classroom. Jesus wants to be our teacher. And He is an excellent one—the best we will ever have. Listen to His words! Observe His creation! Learn His voice! He builds a lesson plan specifically for each one of us. He will not teach us all the same way because we all learn differently. He will come find us right where we are. If we “flunk a test of life” – maybe tell a lie or are unkind, He will not kick us out of His classroom! He will help us get a better grade on the next “test” that life brings us if we just ask Him! He wants to teach us everything we need to know so we can spend forever with Him.

Sister Julie Elwell

TIM AND HIS LAMP CONTINUED

Tim read, “If ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”

“Trespasses mean sins,” explained Bro. Holbrook, but he thought he would say no more but pray for Tim.

Tim joined Katie and they walked home. Katie had not enjoyed the Sunday school for she was poorly dressed and one of the girls made fun of her bonnet and old shoes.

When Bro. Holbrook reached home he called Ellis. “What about this trouble in school with Edward Lewis?”

“No trouble, Father. Tim threw a paper wad as he is always doing, and Mr. Burrows asked me if I knew who threw it. Of course I had to tell him, and Tim didn’t like it.”

(To be continued.)

Fern Stubblefield

KEY THOUGHT

Jesus is the most captivating, interesting, loving, and relevant teacher we will ever have.

MEMORY VERSE

Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. Matthew 11:29

LESSON DISCUSSION

1. Talk about a favorite teacher you have had. What was it that made them your favorite?
2. What was it about Jesus’ teaching that made Him the greatest teacher to walk the earth?
3. Does Jesus still teach us today? How?
4. Discuss ways we can be a better student in the classroom of life.



Secondary Sunday School

November 6, 2016. V66, Q4, W6

The Life of Jesus Series

Jesus—A Teacher Unsurpassed

Scripture References: John 3:2; Luke 9:10-13; Mark 4:2a; John 7:31-32; 44-46

Have you ever had a teacher who you thought was boring and just did not hold your interest? Or have you ever felt like learning was not really very fun? Doesn’t a good teacher make all the difference in the world?! Jesus was such a phenomenal teacher that His teachings are still recorded today. The subjects Jesus teach on are more relevant than reading, writing, and math. He teaches us exactly how to find our way through the maze of life and end up in the most beautiful, amazing place called Heaven when we die. Without the teachings of Jesus we will be hopelessly lost and confused.

Jesus was not just any teacher. Nicodemus, a Pharisee, sought Jesus out at night and said it best: Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher sent from God. Nicodemus was right. Jesus was sent from God. Jesus knew how to connect with the people. Jesus cared about the people. Although He taught daily in the synagogues and temple; He also taught out of a ship, on the seashore, in the desert, on the mountain and in people’s houses. If the people didn’t come to Him, He went to them.

Jesus did not think He was better than everybody else just because He had a large following. He didn’t always stand up while teaching simply to be seen of the people. In one place it says He “sat down and taught them.” He got down on their level so He could look into their eyes. He wanted them to understand His words. He also taught by telling stories to illustrate His lesson; these were called parables. Isn’t teaching always more interesting and easier to understand when a story is involved?

One of the greatest sermons ever given was by Jesus. We call it the “Sermon on the Mount.” In it, Jesus taught us how to behave, think, and feel in every situation of life. It has been said that if we live by these teachings recorded in Matthew chapters 5, 6, and 7 we can make it to heaven. This was not a message where people fell asleep or were bored. The people were amazed, astonished, and captivated by His words. Jesus taught with power.

Jesus not only taught by His words, He taught by His actions--the people could not only hear His teachings, but see them put into action. He performed many miracles. He showed much compassion and love.

The Pharisees and leaders were jealous and intimidated by Jesus’ teaching. On one occasion they sent officers to arrest Jesus and bring Him to them. However, when the

The Beautiful Way (primary) and *The Compass* (junior) Sunday school literature can be downloaded at sundayschoolliterature.com and churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way. Please email any questions to gellenbeck.lindsey@gmail.com.

Volume 66, Quarter 4, Week 6. Lindsey Gellenbeck, Editor. 2016.

Tim and His Lamp

Part Six

One Sunday morning Tim read in his Bible, "Freely ye have received, freely give." He wondered what he could give as he looked out the window. Katie opened the kitchen door below him and pumped a bucket of water. Was there something he could give her? He shook his head. He had nothing to give her. Then he thought, "Perhaps it would be the same if he could help her get something. Could he coax her to go to Sunday school? Then she could learn about Jesus."

Then Satan came with thoughts as, "She doesn't have a decent dress to wear. Everybody would laugh at her and at you. I don't believe she would go if you would ask her."

Then the Lord spoke, "Wouldn't you risk a laugh for the sake of getting her to Sunday school?"

"Yes, I will," said Tim, as he went downstairs. He lingered in the kitchen not knowing just what to say. Tim did not know it, but Katie had been thinking about going, herself. Then she asked, "Tim, I suppose they sing at Sunday school?"

"Oh, yes, they do, and it sounds grand! Don't you want to go and hear it?"

"I suppose so. I'm tired of staying at home." To Tim's delight she put on her bonnet and went with him to Sunday school.

Katie was sent to Miss Harley's class where the other girls were more nicely dressed. Tim sat in the mission class for boys. Bro. Holbrook asked of Tim, "Edward, you intend to come regularly, don't you?"

"Yes sir."

"Then you may come to my class and leave your place in the mission class for someone else."

Tim was happy. He followed Bro. Holbrook to his class. When he saw the seats full of boys and Ellis Holbrook on the end, his face reddened. He was the boy who but a few days ago had told a lie about him (so Tim thought) and caused him to be punished. He did not feel like he could sit by him even in Sunday school. Ellis moved over and finally Tim sat down beside him with a great conflict going on within his heart.

The lesson this Sunday morning was about Christ's death on the cross and as Tim listened, hard thoughts began to die out. It touched his heart.

When the class was dismissed Bro. Holbrook inquired of Tim what was disturbing him. Tim explained, "Ellis said I threw a paper wad and Mr. Burrows punished me and I did not do it."

"Are you sure, Edward?"

"Yes sir."

"Edward, have you always spoken the truth? Is your word to be believed?"

Tim's eyes fell. "I've told many stories but this one truly isn't."

"I believe you, Edward. Ellis was mistaken. But I see you are angry with him. Can't you get over that?"

Tim shook his head. "He got me whipped for nothing, sir."

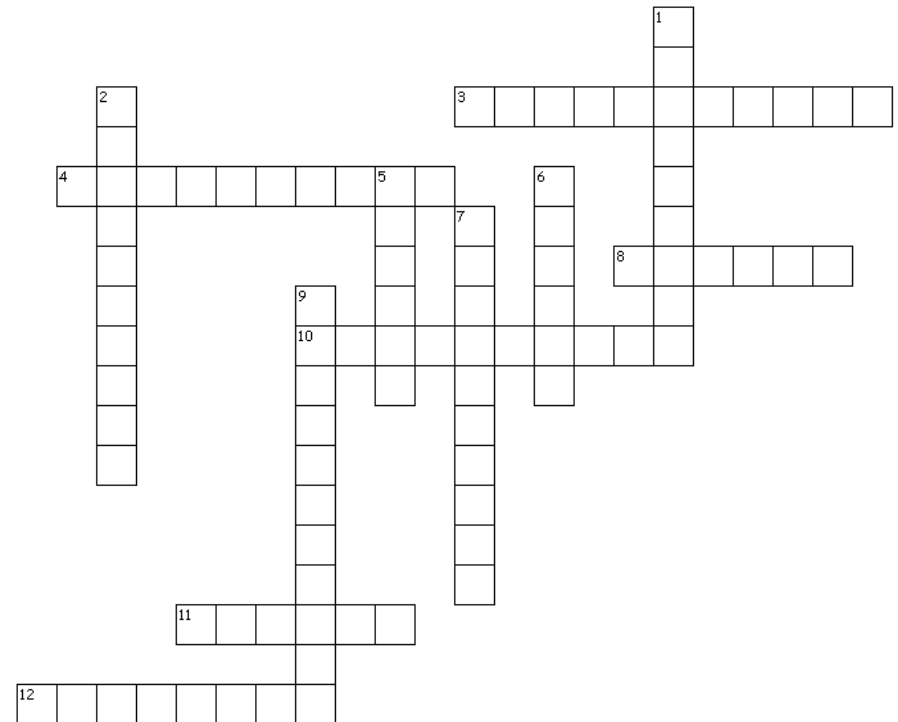
"What if Christ had followed that rule and forgave only those who treated him well. Would you be forgiven today?"

This was a new thought to Tim and it made him silent.

Bro. Holbrook began turning the pages of Tim's Bible. "Let me show you what the lamp says about it."

Jesus and His Teachings

Directions: Find the words that fit in the crossword by completing phrases taken from the lesson.



Across

3. A good teacher makes all the ____.
4. Life is Jesus' ____.
8. "____ a man spake like this man."
10. Jesus taught with ____.
11. Jesus got down on the ____ of the individual He was teaching.
12. Jesus taught by words and ____.

Down

1. Illustrative stories Jesus used in His teachings.
2. Jesus had a large ____.
5. One of Jesus' most well known sermons called "The Sermon on the ____."
6. "____, we know you are a teacher sent from God."
7. The man who sought Jesus out at night.
9. The people were amazed, astonished, and ____ by Jesus' words.

KEY THOUGHT

Our thoughts are private from everyone but God. He knows all our thoughts and what is in our heart.

MEMORY VERSE

For the Lord searcheth all hearts and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts. I Chronicles 28:9

LESSON DISCUSSION

1. What were three instances in the lesson where Jesus knew what the people were thinking?
2. Can we help what we thoughts go through our mind?
3. Can we help what we choose to let stay in our mind?
4. Do we know what kinds of thoughts Jesus thinks about us?

TIM AND HIS LAMP CONTINUED

“What Jesus Christ Says”

E—“Even the night shall be light about thee.”

D—“Depart from evil and do good.”

W—“Whosoever cometh unto me, I will in no wise cast out.”

A—“A new heart will I give you.”

R—“Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”

D—“Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you.”

L—“Lo, I am with you alway.”

E—“Ever follow that which is good.”

W—“Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not.”

I—“I will go before thee, and make th e crooked paths straight.”

S—“So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper.”

(To be continued.) Fern Stubblefield



Secondary Sunday School

November 13, 2016. V66, Q4, W7

The Life of Jesus Series

Jesus—He Knows Our Thoughts

Scripture References: Luke 7:37-40; Matthew 9:2-6; Psalms 139:1-2; Psalms 44:21

Who knows you the best besides God? Your parents, a friend? Sometimes all we know about someone is what we see on the outside. But can we read their thoughts?

Jesus was invited to share a meal with a Pharisee one day, so He accepted the invitation and went to this man's house to eat. While He was there, a sinner woman stood at His feet crying, no doubt because of her many sins. She washed Jesus' feet with her tears and kissed His feet. While we don't kiss people's feet today, back then it was a sign of love and reverence. She then anointed His feet with expensive oil. In the meantime, the Pharisee watched what was going on. Maybe he had his arms folded, not saying a word. Inside his head, however, he was thinking what he thought was a private thought. He thought: If this man were a prophet He would know what kind of a woman this is, for she is a sinner. The Pharisee did not say these words out loud. He merely thought them. This is what the Bible says: "Then Jesus answering him said unto him" How could Jesus answer what was not spoken out loud? Jesus knew what the man was thinking.

In another place, a sick man was brought to Jesus to be healed. Jesus told this man: Son, be of good cheer. Your sins are forgiven you. Again, certain scribes were standing by listening to what Jesus said. They said within themselves (NOT out loud), this man is speaking irreverently about God. Jesus knowing their thoughts turned to them and began to speak to them about what they were thinking about.

On yet another day, the scribes and the Pharisees were watching Jesus to see if He would heal on the Sabbath so that they might accuse Him of breaking the law. But again, Jesus knew their thoughts. After He healed this man He spoke to the Pharisees about what they had been thinking.

It has been said an average person thinks approximately 50,000 to 70,000 thoughts a day. Jesus knows each and every thought; that could be kind of scary. But remember this: Jesus loves us. He not only knows our thoughts, He understands us. He knows our secrets—we don't have to pretend with Him. Jesus never once indignantly or angrily said, "You should not have thought that!" Instead, He always answered their thoughts with true statements or with a story to help them understand the right way.

HE KNOWS OUR THOUGHTS CONTINUED

Remember this too: While we have many thoughts a day, God has even more thoughts about us. In Psalms 139:17, David said: How precious are your thoughts to me, God. If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the grains of sand by the ocean. That is a LOT of thoughts God thinks about us! He also said: I know the thoughts I think toward you; thoughts of peace and not of evil.

Some things we can't help thinking, but we always have a choice of what to do with the thoughts. We can either reject them as being bad and get rid of them, or we can choose to think on good things. If we hold tightly to bad thoughts because our heart is wrong, Jesus will talk to us and answer the thoughts we have. If we struggle with having thoughts we shouldn't have, pray and ask for help with them. Jesus already knows them anyway and He wants to help us think godly thoughts. Sister Julie Elwell

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Volume 66, Quarter 4, Week 7. Lindsey Gellenbeck, Editor. 2016.

Tim and His Lamp

Part Seven

"Ellis, did you see him throw it?"

"Yes sir."

"Are you positive?"

"Yes—why that is, I glanced up just in time to see it whiz and it came from Tim's direction and his hand was raised so I supposed he threw it. I thought a minute ago I knew he did."

"Could someone near him have thrown it?"

"Yes, Alex Palmer might have thrown it."

"Ellis, I believe you were mistaken. I don't think Edward lied this time. I'll tell you why. He has given his heart to Jesus and is trying to please Him. Now I want you to think of this. Edward Lewis, who has never been taught anything good, has given his heart to Jesus and my boy, for whom I have prayed every day has not."

"Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

—I Samuel 7:12

"Who will tell me what an acrostic is?" asked Mr. Burrows, the teacher. A few hands were raised.

Howard was called on to answer.

"It's a piece of poetry, sir, where the first letter of every line taken together form a word."

"Must an acrostic always be poetry?"

Several answers were given and it was decided that an acrostic could be poetry or prose. Then Mr. Burrows announced, "I want every boy in school who can write to bring an acrostic on his own name for his next composition."

The boys groaned and declared they

couldn't do it, but Mr. Burrows assured them they could and said each one must try.

Tim went home in a turmoil. What could he do? He had never written a composition in his life, but had made it a point to run away from school on composition day. Now running away was done away with, and it didn't seem possible that he could write anything.

As soon as he could he hurried to the seat under the elm tree by the pond. He wanted to think, to see how to meet this new trouble. He remembered Bro. Holbrook's kind words, "There is no place on the road so dark but this lamp will light you through if you will give it a chance." These words had already proved to be a help to him but how could they help him now? He took his Bible out of his pocket and turned the pages slowly. A thought suddenly came to his mind. Why not find his acrostic in the Bible? But, if he did, what would the boys think?

After a few moments of troubled thought he said with decision, "I do not care. I'll not be ashamed of my Bible. I'll do it."

With that he set to work searching out Bible verses that would make an acrostic of his name, Edward Lewis. As he labored, some of the beauty of those precious verses crept into his heart. He had been finding as others have found, that reading the Bible and practicing it gives one a greater appetite for reading the Bible.

The following Friday a pile of acrostics lay on Mr. Burrow's desk. The boys listened as the teacher read and spelled out each name. Such a merry time they had. Some were clever, some very funny. The room was quiet again as Mr. Burrows began reading:

Crack the Code!

Directions: Use the key code below to discover the hidden message!



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

KEY THOUGHT

Thank and praise God for everything in your life.

MEMORY VERSE

In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. —1 Thessalonians 5:18

LESSON DISCUSSION

1. Discuss the four times Jesus give thanks in our lesson.
2. Is it always easy to give thanks? Why or why not?
3. How do you feel when you complain?
4. Discuss what you have to be thankful for.

TIM AND HIS LAMP CONTINUED

he had no money to go in, he handed a quarter to the door keeper and told him to let Tim in. A moment more and Tim stood inside the tent, hushing the small voice within. Hadn't one of the nicest men in town let him in? There he was now with his wife and little girl. Mrs. Douglas was a Sunday school teacher. If she could go why couldn't he? Tim reasoned. No one had told him that his lamp said, "Every one of us shall give account of himself to God." Romans 14:12.

(To be continued.)

Fern Stubblefield

JESUS GIVES THANKS CONTINUED

see in our lives. If we open our eyes and look around, we can always find something to still thank God for.

Perhaps the greatest prayers of thanksgiving Jesus gave were during the last meal He shared with His disciples before He was crucified. As he broke bread and served it to them, and as He gave them a cup from which to drink, He gave thanks. You might ask why this was such a great thanksgiving? The bread symbolized Jesus' broken and suffering body on the cross. The cup represented the blood He would spill for our salvation. **Jesus gave thanks for His own personal suffering** because He knew it was for a greater cause. Sometimes we experience hard things. Let us remember to give thanks for our personal pain and hard experiences, too. God will use those hard places to make us stronger and better Christians. Our personal hard times might just be a help to someone else later, as well.

God does not want us to be ungrateful, complaining children. Make it a habit to always give THANKS. Truly God is great, so very good to us, and is deserving of our continual thanksgiving.

Sister Julie Elwell



Secondary Sunday School

November 20, 2016. V66, Q4, W8

The Life of Jesus Series

Jesus Gives Thanks

Scripture References: Matthew 15:29-38; John 11:32-44; Matthew 11:20 & 25; Matthew 26:26-28

One of the most striking characteristics about Jesus was this: In spite of the fact that He got tired, that He was sometimes hungry, and that He suffered much, we never read about Him complaining. Not one time. On the contrary, Jesus set a good example for us to follow in that He was thankful.

We find Jesus giving thanks for His food. After three days of healing the sick and preaching to the multitudes who had followed Him, the people were hungry. Instead of sending them back home like the disciples wanted to do, Jesus took a few little fish and seven loaves and prayed to God. **He gave thanks for the simple meal.** God blessed the food and it fed 4,000 men plus women and children. Before we eat our breakfast, lunch, and dinner we should be very careful to bow our heads and give God thanks for His provision of food. Without God our stomachs would be empty and growling.

On another occasion, Jesus' good friend, Lazarus, had died. Lazarus' sisters were very sorrowful. Even Jesus wept. But Jesus knew God wanted to show the people His power and His glory, so before Jesus called Lazarus' forth out of the grave, He prayed this prayer: **"Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I know that you always hear me."** It is an incredible blessing to have a Father in Heaven who loves us so much that He patiently waits, listening for our voice. Whether or not God answers our prayers like we want Him to, He answers them the right way. Just like with a math problem, we might think we know the answer, but we don't always get the problem right. God is different. He always hears our problems and knows the right answer for them.

The good news of salvation that Jesus brought was rejected by many who thought they were smart and wise. No doubt Jesus was sad and disappointed. However, in Matthew 11:25, **Jesus answered the sadness in His heart with a prayer of thanksgiving** that there were still people who did accept the message of salvation and were sorry for their sins. Sometimes things happen that make us sad, disappoint us, or don't go our way. We should answer those hard times with thanksgiving to God for the GOOD things we still

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Volume 66, Quarter 4, Week 8. Lindsey Gellenbeck, Editor. 2016.

Part Eight

How astonished the boys were when they spelled out the name, Edward Lewis.

"Who found these verses for you, Edward?" asked the teacher.

"I found them, sir," replied Tim. "It is a beautiful collection of Bible verses. It was a fine idea. I wish that

you, and every scholar of mine, could feel the full meaning of those words."

— — —

*“Enter not into the path of the wicked—
avoid it.” —Proverbs 4:14-15*

The circus was in town. Katie begged Tim to find a way to earn some money so she could go. Tim had managed to slip in, other years, himself. Now it was different. He was trying to please Jesus. What would Jesus have him do? He knew Ellis Holbrook, the minister's son, never went. His father taught him differently. Yet there were some respectable people who went. Anyhow, he didn't have the money, so the question would settle itself.

Mr. Dewey stood in the door of his market. "Hello, Tim, you're the boy I must have been looking for. If you'll carry packages for me for one hour I'll give you two circus tickets."

Up and down the streets went Tim, busily delivering packages, all the time in a whirl of thought about the circus tickets. When they were placed in his hand he hurried toward home. Passing a bar room of a hotel he saw some of the circus men busy playing cards and drinking brandy. Should good, respectable people go to see and hear such men as these? The conflict in Tim's

mind was-great.

He went down to his seat under the elm. Taking out his “lamp” he began turning its leaves. He found his Sunday school verse and then his eyes fell on the words, “Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it and pass away.”

"That means them and me," said Tim. "They are wicked. They were drinking, gambling, and swearing too. I'll take these tickets back to Mr. Dewey."

Mr. Dewey was surprised when Tim handed him the tickets and was more surprised when he gave his Bible reason for not going.

Katie was angry when Tim told her that he could get the tickets but that he couldn't go. He tried to explain why, but she refused to listen.

Tim was comforted though. He knew Jesus was pleased with his decision. After all, what does it matter how others feel and think if His smile is upon us?

“Avoid it, pass not by it, and pass away.”
—Proverbs 4:15

Over and over this verse came to Tim's mind. He did not know it but the Spirit of God was warning him to keep him from temptation. Neither did he know that it was the devil suggesting to him that it would do no harm just to go and listen to the music at the circus and see if lots of folks were going.

Pretty soon he came within sight of it and heard the music. Closer and closer he came until he was very near the door, though he didn't mean to go in. The people were crowding in. Rich Mr. Douglas stood waiting near the door. When he saw Tim and understood that

Personal Application

Directions: Find the four instances mentioned in the lesson where Jesus gave thanks and list the situations in the first column. In the second column, explain how Jesus gave thanks. In the last two columns, think of circumstances you have been or might be in and how you can give thanks for those situations. (The first row is filled in for an example.) Use the fifth row for another circumstance you may think of that Jesus gave thanks for.

| Jesus' Circumstance | How He Gave Thanks | Your Circumstance | How You Can Give Thanks |
|---------------------------|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 4,000+ people were hungry | Thanked God for the small amount of food | Eating your least favorite meal | Thank God you are not going hungry |
| | | | |
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KEY THOUGHT

Jesus' clock is different than ours. He is always on time.

MEMORY VERSE

He has made everything beautiful in his time. Ecclesiastes 3:11

LESSON DISCUSSION

1. Why was it so important to Mary, Martha and Lazarus that Jesus hurry to them?
2. Did Jesus have a plan for Lazarus? Does He have a plan for you?
3. Does Jesus always hurry to answer our prayers? Why not?
4. Why is it important to believe in Jesus' love and have faith in His timing?

TIM AND HIS LAMP CONTINUED

"Edward, you have done well today. You mean to study after this, I think. You may take your place in the third class and remain there as long as you can keep up with it."

Tim said not a word. He didn't even raise his eyes but he was thinking to himself, "Things are different; they're surely different." Those words of encouragement from the teacher were going to help Tim become a man.

(To be continued.)

Fern Stubblefield

ALWAYS ON TIME CONTINUED

have heard me." With a loud voice he cried, "Lazarus, come forth!" To the utter amazement of Mary, Martha, and the others standing around, Lazarus walked out of the grave. Alive!! Jesus had not been too late after all!

In another instance, the disciples were out on a boat when a great storm arose on the water. The wind was strong and the waves of the sea beat hard on the little boat, filling it with water. Where was Jesus? He was not worried at all and asleep on a pillow. The disciples frantically woke Jesus up crying, "Master, don't you care that we are going to die?" Jesus simply got up, rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Peace be still." The storm immediately calmed. He asked them, "Why were you so afraid?"

Sometimes it will seem like Jesus does not hear our prayer or doesn't care about our situation. But remember this: Jesus' clock is different than ours. We must have patience. We must believe He has a plan. We should not be afraid or anxious. Jesus is always right on time with our answers. Jesus is never late.

Sister Julie Elwell



Secondary Sunday School

November 27, 2016. V66, Q4, W9

The Life of Jesus Series

Jesus—Always On Time

Scripture References: John 11:1-45; Mark 4:36-41

We learn very early on the importance of time. We learn when we look at a clock what 12 o'clock, 1 o'clock, 2 o'clock (and so on) means. When we look at a calendar, we see the days of the week including Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. We expect the sun to come up each morning and the stars to come out every night. We live by time.

Time was important to Mary, Martha, and a sick man named Lazarus, too. Mary and Martha knew if Jesus did not come quickly that their brother, Lazarus, would die. Although there were no phones, they sent an urgent message to Jesus. It said, "Lord, the one whom you love is sick." No doubt they anxiously watched the progress of the sun in the sky waiting for Jesus' arrival.

Although Jesus loved them, He did not seem to be in a hurry. In fact, he stayed where he was for two more days. Finally, at long last, He told his disciples, "Let us go. Our friend Lazarus sleeps, but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep." The disciples thought that sleeping was a good thing until Jesus told them plainly that Lazarus was dead. Jesus already knew what was going on even though He wasn't there. Was it too late? What would they find?

When Jesus arrived, Lazarus had died and had lain in the grave four days! Many Jews came to Mary and Martha's house to comfort them. When they heard that Jesus was in town, Martha ran out to Him. She was crying and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died!" Soon after, Mary saw Jesus, fell at His feet and said the exact same thing. Jesus had apparently been too slow and was too late. Or was He?

The shortest verse in the Bible is found in this account. When Jesus saw the sorrow of Mary and Martha and all the people it says, "Jesus wept." Did He weep because He was too late? No! He wept because it made Him sad to see the pain of His friends. However, Jesus had a plan. All hope was NOT gone. He wanted the people to believe in God, so He did the impossible. He told them to roll the stone away from the tomb. He then lifted His eyes toward heaven and said, "Father, I thank you that you

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Tim and His Lamp

Part Nine

Tim was too busy listening and looking to keep out of people's way. He stepped back directly in front of a man who was trying to make his way through the crowd to the entrance. Tim knew he was one of the circus men. His face was red with liquor. A dreadful oath came from his lips as he pushed Tim out of the way.

After he heard the name of his Lord taken in vain it seemed as if the Lord himself spoke to Tim asking him what he was doing there. Tim fought his way through the crowd to the entrance saying, "Let me go, let me go."

He sought the quiet place under the big tree at the bottom of the hill. What had he done? He had been tempted and had fallen. It didn't help him now to think that there were many church members there. Perhaps God had not shown them the wrong so plainly. What would Katie say if she knew, or Mr. Dewey? What did Jesus think? This brought tears but he got on his knees and poured out his heart to God in repentance. "Oh, Jesus, won't you forgive me and let me try again?" He knelt there until the comforting Spirit of God spoke a verse he had recently learned, "Thou art a God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness." Nehemiah 9:17.

In his great trouble Tim's lamp did not fail him.

*"He honoreth them that fear the Lord."
—Psalms 15:4*

Slowly but surely, Tim was growing into a better place in the school room. Though his spelling was not always

perfect, his average grade was much higher. He was not yet a good reader but his blunders were growing less and less. Now when he was accused of breaking the rules, instead of being punished without question, his teacher gave him a chance to speak for himself and was learning to believe him.

Oh, yes, things were different! But Tim was sometimes tempted to give up his salvation and fall back in the old rut again. Sometimes he felt discouraged.

His arithmetic was hardest. He was still in a class that was constantly being put back to addition. One winter morning Tim was working hard on a problem but was unable to solve it. Though he worked and worked he couldn't understand one part of it. He thought of his sick father. He had been a carpenter and had used numbers. Tim went to the bedroom door and inquired of him about the problem. His father's mind went back to his workshop as he explained the part to Tim that he didn't understand. Quickly Tim went back to his slate. "That's it," he called out in a grateful voice. "I got it and I've been at work on it this whole morning."

"Thomas," said the teacher to a boy in Tim's arithmetic class, "You may take the twenty-third problem to the board."

"Can't do it," answered Thomas promptly.

"Henry may do it then."

"I couldn't get it either," was Henry's answer.

And soon down the class went the teacher, but no one could do it.

"Edward, can you do this?"

"Yes sir," said Tim. Mr. Burrows always called him by his real name.

Tim immediately worked the

troublesome problem on the board.

"Do you know anything about the lesson, any of you?"

"I'm sure I don't," answered Bob.

Mr. Burrows was growing out of patience. This had happened many times. He turned back to the first pages in the book.

"Very well, you may take the first page in addition tomorrow morning," was Mr.

Burrows' answer.

Tim's hopes fell and his heart was heavy. None of the others cared.

"Wait a minute!" Mr. Burrows looked at Tim and then at the neatly worked problem on the board. "Charlie, on what page is your arithmetic lesson for tomorrow?"

"We begin multiplication, sir," replied Charlie.

Word Search!

| | | | | | |
|---|----------|------------|--------|----------|----------|
| ALIVE | CALENDAR | IMPOSSIBLE | MARTHA | PATIENCE | THURSDAY |
| AMAZEMENT | GRAVE | LATE | MARY | PEACE | TIME |
| BOAT | HURRY | LAZARUS | MONDAY | STORM | WEPT |
| E T P H E B R R J E G V N O P T E G P M I R Y H T I Q M S D | | | | | |
| L N P A Y V A E V J Z S C Z A E F L O G Z C C J I O U X R Q | | | | | |
| T E P D T D I A S T O R M X H J A N B Z G X S K M P G W R T | | | | | |
| E M G I N I R L Q F J T T E T L D C U I W B P B E Z D A X O | | | | | |
| M E A E A G E X A L P J X O Z A Z A E X S I G L T D L Q N M | | | | | |
| W Z L F O K H N T R U A C C Y Z J Y N N J S M O V P K X M B | | | | | |
| C A M C K U Q D C Z T E J O B A A Q P U Q X O U I X E A R V | | | | | |
| C M E T A L M Z A E A N N S M R H A W F R H D P M C R W U Q | | | | | |
| C A A Z N F E S Y V O M B K F U H Y E Q X T A P M Y V W G J | | | | | |
| T H U R S D A Y R G B M W K Y S D V Y I K Z V U Y I W U G V | | | | | |
| Y T Z X B N T U R D N C P E F Y N J G J A Q E T Y H I Z E A | | | | | |
| C F F A C O M N U X F E M C V H M B Z W B T B M Y B J B A W | | | | | |
| A H T R A M K V H A B O S Y Z R P L D N L L A Q Y E E L D J | | | | | |

KEY THOUGHT

The most valuable thing in this world is the LOVE of Jesus.

MEMORY VERSE

Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.

1John 4:11

LESSON DISCUSSION

1. Discuss the different ways Jesus showed His love.
2. What was the single greatest act that proved us Jesus' love for us?
3. Discuss what life would be like without love.
4. Name specific ways we can prove we love Jesus and love other people.

TIM AND HIS LAMP CONTINUED

"No," replied Ellis, blushing, "I think I'll be excused."

"Go ahead," urged Mr. Minturn, "I am fond of stories."

"I was only telling, sir, how Joe Barnes talked to his father when I was down there this morning."

"Yes, and father, you'd be perfectly astonished to hear him," chimed in Howard. "He makes fun of every single thing his father says. When his father is talking to him real soberly he mimics him and laughs right in his face."

(To be continued.) Fern Stubblefield

LOVE AND COMPASSION CONTINUED

clean." **Jesus loved and was not afraid of the outcast.**

The greatest proof of Jesus love, by far, was that He died for you and me. John 19:16 says Jesus bore His cross and went to a place of a skull which is called, in the Hebrew, Golgotha. In that place they nailed Jesus to a cross and he died. As the cruel men beat and hurt Him, He had love. He prayed to God and said, "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do." Oh **how Jesus loved his enemies, the very ones who were causing him such great pain.**

Jesus still loves the same way today. He loves you when you sin and wants to forgive you. He loves you when you cry. He loves you when you are not accepted by other people. He loves you when you feel desperate. He love you **NO MATTER WHAT.** His desire—His commandment is that we have that same love for God and for the people around us.

Sister Julie Elwell



Secondary Sunday School

December 4, 2016. V66, Q4, W10

The Life of Jesus Series

Jesus—His Love and Compassion

Scripture References: Luke 7:11-16; Luke 8:41-42 and 49-56; Mark 1:40-43; Luke 23:33-34

The LOVE Jesus' has for us is a subject so enormous that a few little paragraphs could never hold all its lessons. We could go to school from kindergarten all the way through high school and never learn all there is to know about the great love of God. If the sky of the whole world was paper and the waters of the all the oceans were ink, there would not be enough space in the sky or enough ink in the oceans to write about the love of God. So today we will share just a little, very tiny, tiny glimpse of Jesus' love.

As Jesus and His disciples walked into a city called Nain, they met a woman who was surrounded by many people. This woman was crying. Her husband had already died and now her only beloved son was also dead. When Jesus saw the tears of this woman it caused Him to feel compassion. Jesus did not just watch her walk on by. He said, "Weep not." He then gave her a reason to stop her crying. He raised her son back to life. **Jesus had compassion on this woman's tears and her fears.**

On a different day, a similar situation occurred. A man called Jairus found Jesus. He was a ruler of the synagogue. He was also a desperate father. He fell at Jesus feet and begged Him to heal his 12-year-old daughter who lay dying. When Jesus got to this man's house, the girl had already died and there was much weeping. Jesus, having compassion and love, said, "Fear not. Only believe." He then took the girl by the hand and said, "Maid, arise." The sick and dead girl arose and Jesus commanded they give her meat to eat. **Jesus loved and had compassion on those involved in a desperate situation.**

On yet another occasion, a leper came to Jesus. Lepers were not accepted by society. They had to live outside the city and cry "Unclean, Unclean" if they approached people so that others would stay away from them. How lonely and rejected these lepers must have felt. They were ordinary men and women who had caught a terrible disease which they had no control over. On this day, a leper knelt down at Jesus feet and said, "If you will, you can make me clean." Jesus was not afraid. He felt compassion for him, touched his hand and said, "I will. Be thou

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Tim and His Lamp

Part Ten

“Every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.” —Matt. 12:36

Tim was surprised when Howard Minturn invited him to his birthday party. He didn't know that Howard's father had encouraged him to invite him, desiring to help Tim. When Tim remarked to Howard that he would look like a rag bag beside him, Howard had replied, “Never mind, you be there.”

The boys enjoyed their afternoon together, coasting, snowballing, building forts, and rolling in the snow. Finally, as Ellis Holbrook guided his sled around the curve and came to a stop, Howard told the boys they would go in to warm by the fire before the evening meal. The boys agreed, then someone called out, “Howard, where are your skates?”

“Oh, they're at the top of that awful hill. Never mind, you walk on slowly, and I'll run back and get them.” The boys obeyed and Ellis was just swinging open the little gate that led to Mr. Minturn's grounds when Howard called as he ran toward them, “Hold on, don't go through that way, it will lead you through the deepest snow there is; take the big gate.” By the time he reached them they were at the big gate.

“This feels good,” said Will as he sat in a chair in front of the glowing fire. “I feel like a snowball.”

“You would have felt like an icicle if you had gone the way Ellis was leading you; the snow is so high,” said Howard, raising his hand almost on a level with his head.

Ellis laughed. “I'm sure I thought I was going right. I must have been thinking of

yesterday's Sunday school lesson; ‘Enter ye in at the strait gate.’ ” He spoke lightly of the sacred Word.

Several light remarks followed as the boys laughed. Tim stood back, flushed and silent. He remembered the solemn talk which Bro. Holbrook gave them and how he urged them while young to enter into that strait gate. He felt shocked and troubled at Ellis' careless words.

Then Tim spoke up, “If I were a minister's son, I wouldn't make fun of the Bible.”

Ellis' face turned red. “Do you mean to say that I make fun of the Bible?”

“Didn't I hear you?”

“No,” replied Ellis in a heat, “you didn't, and I'd thank you not to say so.” Several remarks followed by the boys and they were growing cross when the bell rang announcing the evening meal.

Howard sprang up, “That's something I, for one am ready for; come on boys.” He led the way to the dining room, not knowing that someone in the next room had heard the whole conversation. Howard's father had listened carefully, and his heart had been made sad by the light remarks but glad for Tim's reproof. The heavenly Father looking down upon them had also heard.

It was a very nice birthday supper. Tim had never seen such a sight in his life nor eaten so many fine foods.

It was almost nine o'clock when Mr. Minturn opened the door where the boys were gathered. There was a sudden quietness. At the questioning look on his face Howard explained, “Ellis was telling a story, that's what we were all laughing at when you came in. Go on Ellis, never mind father, he likes to hear stories.”

HOW DO YOU RELATE?

Directions: Think about the instances mentioned in the lesson and similar situations you have been in. How did Jesus show His love to you? Write about it in the space provided, then share with your Sunday school class and be encouraged by Jesus' love!

How has Jesus loved you through your tears or fears? (The woman who's son and husband died): _____

How has Jesus showed compassion in a desperate situation? (The young woman who He raised from the dead): _____

How has Jesus loved you when you felt rejected? (Healing of the leper): _____

How has Jesus loved you when you hurt Him? (Being crucified): _____

KEY THOUGHT

Jesus knows what it means to go through hard times.

MEMORY VERSE

He [Jesus] is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief. Isaiah 53:3a

LESSON DISCUSSION

1. Discuss the different ways in which Jesus suffered.
2. Is it easy to be left out, feel rejected, or be laughed at?
3. What kinds of attitudes should we pray to have during hard times?
4. Will God ever let us down or unfriend us?

TIM AND HIS LAMP CONTINUED

the Bible says about such praying, and not doing anything?" It says, "Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled" James 2:16.

"No," replied Tim.

"Let me find it for you. Read it when you go home and see if you are like that man in praying for Katie by not saying a word to her to help her yield to God. Then there is another thing. Do you really believe God will do what you ask Him? You are asking God to save Katie and yet wouldn't you be surprised if she would come to you today and say, 'I want to be a Christian'?"

(To be continued.) Fern Stubblefield

A MAN ACQUAINTED CONTINUED

His mother and other women crying for His pain. He even felt forsaken by God, His Father. He was thirsty and they gave Him vinegar to drink. Then Jesus finally died. For you. For me. Why? Because He loved us so very much. Don't despair! Such deep suffering brought about the greatest victory ever known in history. Three days later, Jesus arose triumphantly and victoriously from the grave. He yet lives today!

We can learn from the attitudes Jesus showed in the middle of His suffering. He forgave those who wronged Him. He did not fight back, and He continued to have faith in God's love for Him.

Life brings us many joys and bountiful blessings. We honestly have more blessings than hard times. However, there are times we are lonely. Sometimes we don't fit in with the people around us. Maybe we have been unfriended, unfollowed, or mistreated. Feelings of worthlessness or insecurity pound our minds at times. Sometimes even the people we love let us down. Know this: Jesus understands. He has been there before. Even through our hard times we can rest securely in the knowledge that we are loved by the most important One in the universe. Jesus loves us with an everlasting and faithful love and will never leave us!

Sister Julie Elwell



Secondary Sunday School

December 11, 2016. V66, Q4, W11

The Life of Jesus Series

Jesus—A Man Acquainted With Sorrow

Scripture References: Luke 4:16-30; Luke 8:49-53; Matthew 27:37-39; Isaiah 53:1-5

Jesus knew Sorrow by name. He was acquainted with Grief. He understood Rejection. They crowded and pressed Him right along with the multitudes of people who followed Him.

As Jesus' ministry grew, He traveled outside His home town to preach in other cities. On one occasion He came back to His home town of Nazareth to preach. The people became angry with Him and drove Him out of the city. They led Him up a hill so they might throw Him over. How Jesus' heart must have hurt at the rejection of His own people. Jesus, without speaking words to bring on a fight, passed through the middle of those who would have killed Him and went His way. In another place, Jesus was "laughed to scorn." To be laughed AT hurts no matter what.

Rejection, loneliness, grief, sorrow, heaviness, shame, and dishonor only became more intense for Jesus as His ministry progressed. In the beginning, great crowds followed Him and He rode a wave of popularity. However, over time many turned their backs on Him and followed Him no more. The leaders of the Jewish people became more envious and jealous of Jesus and intensified their efforts to bring Him down.

Jesus knew His ultimate rejection at the crucifixion would take place. He told His disciples on more than one occasion that He would suffer many things and would ultimately be killed. How was He able to endure these terrible things? It was because He understood the wonderful, bigger picture of God's plan of salvation. He told His disciples that it was the Lord's doing and the outcome would be a marvelous thing (Matthew 21:42). We, too, must believe if we suffer that God's only desire is to make something beautiful out of our hardship.

When the time of Jesus' death actually came, it was a terrible day. He was betrayed and forsaken by His disciples and friends. He was falsely accused. He was spit upon in the face. He was blindfolded and hit. He was bound. He was beaten. He was mocked. He had His clothes stripped from Him, and He was reviled. After Jesus carried the heavy cross up the hill to Calvary (the place of the skull or Golgotha), He observed

Tim and His Lamp

Part Eleven

"Do you think there is anything surprising about that?" asked Mr. Minturn.

The boys looked puzzled. "Why, Mr. Minturn, wouldn't you think it strange if Howard should do so?" questioned Ellis.

"Well, no; I don't know as I should have any reason to be astonished." Howard looked surprised and hurt. "You never have been so to me, Howard, but I have no reason to be surprised if you and Ellis and Will Bailey and others all go to making fun of what your fathers say to you after this," said Mr. Minturn.

"Father, what do you mean?" asked Howard in an earnest anxious tone.

"Why, I mean that I was in that room just over there before supper and heard the discussion between you boys. I concluded that boys who thought it such a small matter to make fun of solemn words which God has said to them, need not be expected to show much respect for what their father or anybody else said."

A perfect stillness settled over the boys. At last Howard said stammeringly, "But, Father,—I don't think—Ellis and the rest of us meant to make fun of what God said. Don't you think that makes a difference?"

"Perhaps, but how do you know Joe Barnes means to make fun of what his father says?"

"He acts like it," replied Howard.

"Exactly; and so do you, every one of you except Tim. I don't say, boys, that you are all going to be disrespectful to your elders after this; I only say I don't see why your earthly friends should expect more reverence from you than you give to God."

All were silent. Then Mr. Minturn broke the stillness by repeating reverently, "'Enter ye in at the strait gate.' I would like to know if there is a boy here who thinks he has?"

Tim's voice finally broke the stillness, "I do, sir."

"What makes you think so, Tim?"

"Because I love Jesus and have given Him my heart and I'm trying to do what He says."

"God bless you, my boy; try to get all the rest to go through the same gate," said Mr. Minturn.

The town clock struck nine and the boys made a move to separate. Tim felt glad in his heart as he walked home. God had helped him to be faithful.

"And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive."

—Matt. 21:22

Tim had not forgotten to pray for Katie, yet his prayers seemed thus far in vain. The Sunday school lesson one Sunday morning was on "God's Answers to Prayer." Tim listened closely.

"Bro. Holbrook," he said after the rest had gone, "Is there time for one question?"

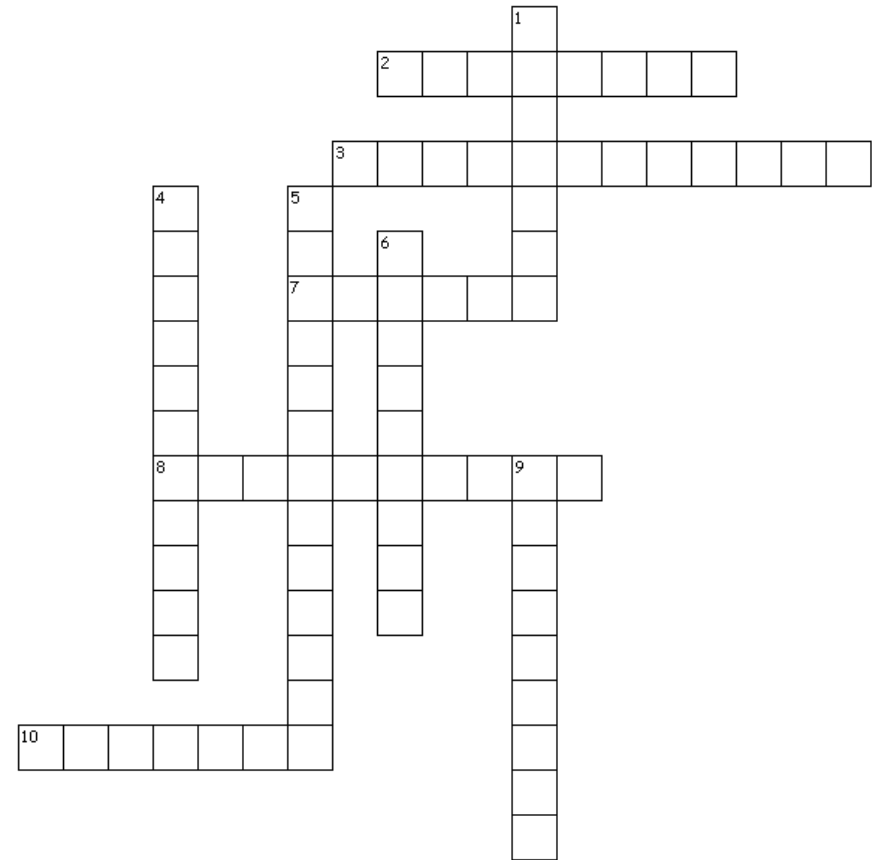
"Yes, Tim." "I want to know why God doesn't answer folks' prayers right away?"

Bro. Holbrook smiled. "Sometimes God doesn't answer at once to try our faith; to see if we are willing to believe His Word and keep on asking until He is ready to give. Sometimes we pray and don't work at it; then sometimes we don't believe we shall get what we are praying for." He paused. "What are you praying for, Edward?"

"For Katie, but it doesn't seem to do any good."

"It is possible that you are not working while you pray. Did you ever read what

Jesus Suffered for You and Me!



Across

2. Jesus was given this to drink while dying on the cross.
3. Jesus' ultimate suffering.
7. Jesus was "laughed to ____."
8. Jesus suffered this from His own people.
10. Jesus was well acquainted with this emotion/feeling.

Down

1. The leaders of these people became jealous of Jesus as His ministry went on.
4. Jesus experienced this in the beginning of His ministry.
5. Jesus' ultimate victory!
6. Another name for Calvary, or the place of the skull.
9. Jesus' hometown.

KEY THOUGHT

Jesus is the only one who can satisfy the hunger and thirst of our hearts.

MEMORY VERSE

And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

John 6:35

LESSON DISCUSSION

1. Discuss how Jesus broke the bread of life to the men on the road to Emmaus.
2. How often do we eat and drink physical food and water?
3. With what frequency and how should we eat and drink spiritually?
4. What happens to our physical and spiritual bodies if we fail to eat and drink?

TIM AND HIS LAMP CONTINUED

Tim turned to go away when Katie said, "Stop, wait, I don't know what to say."

"Why, you just talk to God like you do to me. Though you can't see Him He hears you as plainly as I do."

Tim went away praying in his heart and left Katie alone at the spot where he had first found the Saviour.

(To be continued.)

Fern Stubblefield

THE BREAD OF LIFE CONTINUED

story to tell the other disciples! In wonder they said, "Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked with us and while He opened up the scriptures?"

We cannot live on air and sunshine alone. There is a "stomach hunger" which food can satisfy, but in the same way there is also a "life hunger" that only Jesus can satisfy. The newest toys, the nicest vacations, and the best friends will not satisfy the hunger and thirst of our spiritual man. They make us feel good for a while, but they will not truly make us happy or give us peace. Without Jesus, we will be sad, just like the men on the road to Emmaus were before Jesus came along. With Jesus we will live a contented and full life that will last forever.

When Jesus taught His disciples to pray, He said, "Give us this day our daily bread." He wasn't talking about food. He knew we needed HIM. Every day. Just like we eat food and drink water every day, we should develop the habit of sitting down to eat with Jesus. His words are the bread of life. Jesus wants to feed us love, peace, and joy. Open your door to Jesus and be fed!

Sister Julie Elwell



Secondary Sunday School

December 18, 2016. V66, Q4, W12

The Life of Jesus Series

Jesus—The Bread of Life

Scripture References: Luke 24:13-35; Matthew 6:9-11; Revelation 3:20

After Jesus was crucified and rose from the grave, there was a general uproar and many people were troubled about the reports that Jesus' body was no longer in the tomb. How could this possibly be?

Two of Jesus' disciples, Cleopas and possibly Luke, were walking back to their home town of Emmaus after being in Jerusalem; this walk was approximately 7 ¾-miles long. They were not discussing the weather or their families. They were talking of the unbelievable things which had happened concerning Jesus' crucifixion. They were bewildered with the reports that His body was no longer in the tomb. The subject consumed their troubled conversation. They no doubt had eaten a meal which had filled their stomachs before starting their journey home, but the hunger and thirst in their heart was not satisfied.

As they talked, Jesus Himself drew near them. He asked them, "What are you talking about and why are you so sad?" These men did not recognize Jesus in the beginning. The gospel of Mark tells us Jesus appeared to them in a different form. Jesus then began to explain in detail how all the scriptures, beginning with Moses, pointed to Himself. What was Jesus doing? He was breaking the bread of life to them as He fed their minds and hearts with understanding. He was explaining exactly who He was and His purpose for coming from heaven to earth.

As the three men finally entered their village, Jesus made as though He would leave them and continue His journey, but they entreated Him to come to their house. As they sat down to eat a meal to feed their physical bodies, Jesus took bread, blessed it, and gave it to them. Oh, what a moment! As soon as He did this, the eyes of these two men were opened and they *knew* they had been talking to Jesus! At the very moment realization dawned upon them, Jesus vanished from their sight. Was not the breaking of the physical bread symbolic of the spiritual bread Jesus had just broken to them?

In their excitement, the very same hour they got home, these two men got right back on the road and made the 7 ¾ mile walk all the way back to Jerusalem. Did they have a

The Beautiful Way (primary) and *The Compass* (junior) Sunday school literature can be downloaded at sundayschoolliterature.com and churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way. Please email any questions to gellenbeck.lindsey@gmail.com.

Volume 66, Quarter 4, Week 12. Lindsey Gellenbeck, Editor. 2016.

Tim and His Lamp

Part Twelve

Tim admitted that was so. "I think if you begin to pray and work together and then ask God to help you believe, that He will surely do as He promised."

"Edward, why don't you come to our Thursday night prayer meeting?"

Tim looked astonished. "I never thought of it."

"You come, Edward, and remember there is work for you to do. I don't know of another boy in town your age who loves the Lord."

Tim walked toward home, his mind full of new thoughts. He went as far as the elm tree and sat down and read the scriptures Bro. Holbrook had found for him. Yes, that was just the way in which he had been praying for Katie and it was certainly true that he would be greatly surprised if she would really and truly come to Jesus. Before he left the elm tree he prayed, "Oh, God, teach me to believe that you will save Katie and show me how to help her!"

After Tim had prayed for God to help him to believe and to show him how to help Katie, his sister, he watched for his chances. One came that very day. After dinner, Katie wandered off by herself, taking the road leading to the cemetery. God put it in Tim's heart to hurry after her. His heart was beating fast at the thought of the great work he had to do and he silently prayed to God for help. Katie sat down on a large stone near little Johnny's grave.

"What did you come for?" asked Katie.

Tim hesitated and then replied, "I came to see you."

"Well, look at me and then go off. I don't want you here."

Tim saw he must speak quickly and said tenderly, "I came to ask you if you would like to get saved. I do want you to so much."

Katie looked at him gravely, then asked, "What do you mean?"

"I mean to repent of your sins and pray and ask God to forgive you. He will, Katie, and make you His child."

Katie looked thoughtful as Tim continued, "Then you must pray and ask God to help you every day to be good."

"I can't be good. Mother is cross and I have to work, work, work and never have anything. I'm cross and get mad. I can't help it."

"But, Katie, Jesus will help you. Whenever you are tempted to feel cross and bad, just run and kneel down somewhere and tell Him all about it and He'll help you. If you can't find a place to kneel down right then you can pray right where you are and He will hear you and help you. If you ever fail you can always go to Him and tell Him you are sorry and He will forgive you. Then when you die you can go to heaven where little Johnny is, and they never get cross or scold up there. I'm going and I want you to."

Katie's face had been growing graver and when he stopped, Katie began to cry.

Tim didn't know what to say next. At last he stooped down and said, "Oh, Katie, if you would only pray and give your heart to Jesus He would make you happy!"

"I want to," sobbed Katie, "if I only knew how."

Tim's heart leaped for joy. "It's easy, Katie, just tell God you are sorry for the wrong things you've done and ask Him to forgive you. Ask Him to give you a new heart. He hears every word that you say. I'll go off and leave you alone if you want me to."

The Living Bread



Each number represents a letter of the alphabet.
Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal
the coded words.

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22-11-23-11-20-6

10-4-7-26-19

17-7-26-23-7-20

14-9-4-7-23-7-4

14-22-7-13-17

3-9-4-22-19

7-16-7-4-20-26-22

22-11-14-7

KEY THOUGHT

Jesus offers us the perfect gift of Himself.

MEMORY VERSE

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 6:23

LESSON DISCUSSION

1. How did God announce to the world the gift of His Son?
Discuss that wondrous night!
2. Name the different attributes of Jesus we have studied.
3. Will the gift of Jesus ever disappoint you?
4. How do we get to know Jesus better?

THE PERFECT GIFT CONTINUED

Love is Jesus' greatest identifying mark. It was so great that as He grew from a baby in swaddling clothes to manhood, He spread His arms on a cross and died for us so that He truly could be our Savior, just as the angels proclaimed.

The shepherds, Mary and Joseph, the wise men, and the disciples who followed Jesus lived in real time with Him on this earth, but they couldn't really see the whole picture of salvation. It was only after His death and resurrection that they began to understand who He really was. They saw Him and could touch Him, but they had to have faith to believe He was who He claimed to be.

Conversely, we can't see Jesus with our physical eyes or touch him, but we have the advantage of knowing the whole story through the words of the Bible. We do not look at a torn, incomplete picture. Jesus asks us the same question today that he asked His disciples, "Who do *you* say that I am?" We, too, need to have faith to say, "Jesus, you are the Son of the Living God. I believe in you. I will accept the perfect gift of salvation you offer to me, and I will live for you."

Sister Julie Elwell



Secondary Sunday School

December 25, 2016. V66, Q4, W13

The Life of Jesus Series

Jesus—The Perfect Gift

One night over 2,000 years ago, God sent the greatest gift down from heaven this earth has ever known. It was and continues to be a gift for all people. It is a perfect gift. It is a gift that will not disappoint. It is a gift God still longs to give you—He wants you to receive it, unwrap it, and take great joy in it. The gift is Jesus Christ, the Son of the Living God.

If we listen closely we can almost hear the cries of baby Jesus as He was born in the dimly lit stable. We can see His mother wrapping him tightly in swaddling clothes. In our mind's eye, we stand in wonder and awe with the shepherds on the hillside as the stars of the night sky disappear with an explosion of light. An angel appears proclaiming: *"Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."*

As we stand, unable to take our eyes off this angel, suddenly the sky is full of them. They are praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Who is this Savior the shepherds wonder? As we watch, they quickly leave their flocks and hurry to Bethlehem to see the things which had been made known to them. Sure enough, they found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

As the curtain on that unbelievable scene fades in our mind's eye, we are left standing where we are today. We too wonder, who *is* this Savior?

In our first lesson, Jesus asked His disciples, "Who do men say that I am?" We have learned that Jesus submits to the authority of His Father, that He was tempted, that He called unique individuals to be His disciples, that He has the ability to work miracles and can do the impossible, that He is a teacher greater than any other, that He knows absolutely everything, that He is thankful, that He is always on time, that He is a man acquainted with sorrow, and that He is the Bread of Life.

Tim and His Lamp

Part Thirteen

"Ask and it shall be given you, seek, and ye shall find." —Luke 11:9

Tim had left Katie alone. She felt very strange. She had been left there to pray her first prayer. Katie had not been taught to kneel and pray each night as many children are. She sat still for a long time. At last she got down on her knees and said, "Jesus, I'm sorry I'm such a naughty girl. Please forgive me. I want what Tim tells me about. He says you will help me."

Though not beautifully worded, the prayer was sincere. She stayed on her knees a long while until she felt in her heart that God indeed had heard her prayer. She arose to her feet feeling like a heavy load had been lifted from her heart. She skipped toward home.

In the meantime, Tim had been earnestly praying and felt assured God had heard.

Katie was stirring some pudding on the stove for supper when Tim saw her again. "Katie, let me do this," he said, taking the spoon from her hand. Tim stirred and stirred. By and by she leaned over the kettle to put some salt in and caught his eager look. She nodded her head saying softly, "I believe that He heard."

"I know He did," Tim answered, his eyes very bright while his heart sang with joy. The angels in heaven rejoiced for another soul had been born into the kingdom.

Fern Stubblefield

To read the rest of "Tim and His Lamp" visit <http://www.churchofgodeveninglight.com/wp-content/uploads/Tim-and-His-Lamp.pdf>

Crack the Christmas Code!

Directions: Use the key code below to discover the hidden message!

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