

Through the Bible in 180 Days

This booklet contains 180 short Bible lessons aimed toward anyone who desires to learn more about how the whole Bible fits together as a single, unfolding story. It is useful for toddlers, elementary-aged children, a new believer, or anyone who might learn from reading through a brief overview of the themes and lessons present throughout Scripture.

Many Bible story books that are geared toward children and many resources for new believers may give people a basic introduction to the Bible, many of them do little or nothing to help people begin to see how the entire Bible is one continuous story, and how everything in both the Old and New Testaments points toward our Savior, Jesus Christ.

These lessons can be presented in many different ways:

- Read 1 per day for 180 days
- Read 2 per day for 90 days
- Read 3 per day for 60 days
- Read 4 per day for 45 days
- Read 6 per day for 30 days

If you are reading this to children, I encourage you to not only read these short lessons, but also to have a time of discussion. Ask questions about what you read, and answer any questions your children might have.

Feel free to copy and distribute this material freely in order to help children and all people come to a better understanding of what the Bible is all about and who Jesus really is, and ultimately, to glorify God.

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Lessons 1-4 Memory Verse: *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23)*

In six days, God made everything—the whole world and everything in it. He made the heavens and the earth, light and darkness, trees and grass, the sun and the moon, and all of the birds, fish, and animals. After God had made those things, He made the first man and woman. Our first parents were named Adam and Eve. They lived in a beautiful garden called Eden that God made for them. On the seventh day, God rested, to give us an example to follow. (from Gen. 1-2)

God told Adam and Eve that they could eat food from any tree in the garden, except for one. One day, the devil lied to Eve and tricked her. The devil told Eve that she could eat from that one tree. Instead of trusting God and obeying Him, Adam and Eve believed the lie that the devil told them. They ate from the tree that God had told them not to eat from. This was the first time that people sinned against God. (from Gen. 3)

As soon as Adam and Eve disobeyed God, they knew they had done something wrong. They tried to hide from God, but God sees and knows everything. Because God is holy and can't do anything wrong, He has to punish people for sin. Adam and Eve had to leave the beautiful Garden of Eden. They would work hard and suffer pain doing things that had been easy to do before. Worst of all, their sin separated all of us from God. We all want to sin and disobey God. (from Gen. 3)

God has set things up so that blood must be shed to cover sin. This is called a sacrifice. God Himself made the first sacrifice when He killed an animal to make clothes for Adam and Eve. God also promised them that, someday, He would send a Savior who could make us friends of God again. This Savior would win the victory against the devil. God did not tell Adam and Eve what the name of this Savior would be, but we know Him today as Jesus, the Son of God. (from Gen. 3, Rom. 5, Heb. 9)

Lessons 5-8 Memory Verse: *“I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved.” (John 10:9a)*

Nearly 2,000 years passed after Adam and Eve sinned against God. There were a lot of people in the world, but most of them did not know God. God was sorry that He had made people. But God gave one man faith to trust in God, and this man was named Noah. God told Noah that He was going to make it rain for forty days and nights and flood the whole world, but Noah and his family would be saved. (from Gen. 6)

God told Noah how to build a big boat called an ark that would keep them safe from the flood. Noah obeyed God and built the ark just like God had told him to. When Noah had finished building the ark, he and his family went inside, along with two of every animal. Then, God Himself closed the door of the ark, and made it rain for forty days and nights, just as He had told Noah He would do. When the flood was over, Noah, his family, and all the animals came out of the ark. (from Gen. 6-8)

Noah’s ark is a symbol of the Savior who would come later—Jesus Christ. Just as God brought Noah and his family into the ark to save them from death, God also brings people to salvation in Jesus Christ, which saves from eternal death. After the flood, God promised Noah that He would never flood the whole world again, and He gives us the rainbow to remember that promise. God told Noah and his family to have kids and grandkids and to fill the world with people. (from Gen. 8-9)

A while after the flood, when the land was full of people again, the people tried to work together to build a tower that would reach all the way up to heaven. They had disobeyed God, because He told them to fill the whole world, but they all wanted to stay in one place. And they wanted to build a tower to show off what they could do rather than glorifying God. So God gave them different languages to speak so they could not understand each other anymore. (from Gen. 11)

Lessons 9-11 Memory Verse: *“The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; Blessed be the name of the Lord.” (Job 1:21b)*

About this time, there was a man named Job. God had blessed him with a wife, ten children, and lots of animals and other things. Satan thought Job only trusted God because God had given Job so many things. God allowed Satan to take away everything that Job had to see if Job would still trust in God. Suddenly, in just a few minutes, Job lost all his animals and all his children. Did he still have faith in God, even when all his stuff was gone? Yes, he did. (from Job 1)

Job had lost everything, but instead of getting mad at God, he worshipped God! Job said, “The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord.” Even when God allowed Satan to give Job painful sores on his body, Job still did not sin or blame God. He knew that everything was made by God and everything belongs to God. Job knew that his redeemer lives. Job didn’t know the name of his redeemer, but we know Him as Jesus. (from Job 1-2, 25)

Four of Job’s friends tried to talk to him, but they really don’t help Job at all. Finally, God Himself talked to Job. God asked Job where he was when God made the world and everything in it, and God gave Job a lot to think about. Finally, Job realized that he is nothing compared to God. In fact, each one of us is nothing compared to God. We all like to think we’re better than other people, but that is called pride, and God hates pride. (from Job 38-42, Is. 43-45)

Lessons 12-15 Memory Verse: *By faith Abraham obeyed And he went out, not knowing where he was going. (Hebrews 11:8)*

A few hundred years after the people had tried to build a tower, God spoke to a man named Abram, to whom God would later give a new name: Abraham. God had chosen Abram to be the father of a great nation of people, which would later be called Israel. God also promised that all the nations in the world would be blessed through Abram, meaning that the coming Savior—who we know as Jesus—would one day be among Abram’s descendants. (from Gen. 12)

God told Abram to leave his parents and the place where he lived, and God would take him to a new place to live. Abram trusted God and obeyed Him, going where God told him to go. God changed Abram’s name to Abraham. His new name meant that he would be the father of many nations. Abraham was a very old man, and he did not have any children. He had a hard time trusting that God would give him a son when he was such an old man. (from Gen. 12, 15, 17)

Abraham’s nephew, named Lot, lived in a city called Sodom. Sodom, along with another city named Gomorrah, were very wicked places where people were sinning against God all the time. God sent two angels to rescue Lot and his family from Sodom, then He destroyed both cities with fire because of everything they had done against God. This reminds us that sin is a very big deal to God. God is not happy when we do things that we should not do. (from Gen. 19)

When Abraham was 100 years old and his wife Sarah was 90 years old, she gave birth to their firstborn son, Isaac, just as God had promised. No one can have a baby at such an old age—but with God, all things are possible, because God can do anything that He wants to do. He had promised Abraham and Sarah that they would have a son, and He always keeps His promises. (from Gen. 21)

Lessons 16-19 Memory Verse: *The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. (Proverbs 9:10)*

God told Abraham to take Isaac, his only son that he had waited so long for, up to a mountain and sacrifice him to God. Abraham obeyed, trusting God and knowing that God was in control. God was even able to raise Abraham’s son, Isaac, from the dead if He needed to. But when they were on the mountain, God stopped Abraham from sacrificing his son, and provided a sheep for him to sacrifice instead. (from Gen. 22)

By asking him to sacrifice his son Isaac, God was testing Abraham. Would Abraham put anything—even his son—before God, or would God come first? Abraham learned that God had given him a faith so strong that he would do anything God asked him to do. This also gives us a picture of the future sacrifice of Jesus, who took the place of Christians when He died on the cross for our sins, just like the sheep took the place of Abraham’s son Isaac. (from Gen. 22)

When Isaac grew up, he married Rebekah. For a while, they couldn’t have kids. Rebekah prayed to God about it and God told her that she would have twin boys, Jacob and Esau. Jacob would be saved through Jesus Christ, but Esau would not be saved. God gave Rebekah twins to show us how God chooses to save His people based on His own good pleasure, not because of anything that we do. (from Gen. 25, Rom. 9)

When Jacob grew up, he had twelve sons. One of them was named Joseph, and his brothers were jealous of him, because they thought their dad liked him best. Joseph had dreams that he would someday rule over his brothers, and they were not happy about that at all! So Joseph’s brothers captured him and sold him to some people from the land of Egypt who would sell Joseph to someone else as a slave. (from Gen. 37)

Lessons 20-23 Memory Verse: *But the Lord was with Joseph and showed him mercy. (Genesis 39:21a)*

In Egypt, Joseph became a slave, and was later sent to prison for something that he didn't even do! But God always has a plan for His people. A few years later, Pharaoh, king of Egypt, had some strange dreams. One of his helpers told him about Joseph, and Joseph was brought to Pharaoh. With God's help, Joseph told Pharaoh what his dream meant: The land would have seven good years with lots of food, then seven dry years of famine with no food. (from Gen. 39-41)

Pharaoh put Joseph in charge of saving food during the good years. When the rain stopped and the famine began, and people had no food, they all went to Joseph to get food. Even Joseph's family ran out of food and had to go down to Egypt to get some. When Joseph's brothers saw him, they did not know who he was, because it had been such a long time since they had seen him. Joseph tested them to see if they were truly sorry for what they had done to him so long ago. (from Gen. 41-42)

Finally, Joseph told his brothers who he really was, and they were all very happy to be together again. Even though his brothers did something bad, Joseph forgave them, because God tells us all to forgive each other just as Christians have been forgiven through Jesus Christ. Joseph told his brothers that God used their bad deed for everyone's good, so that they would all now have food to eat during the famine. (from Gen. 45)

Soon, the rest of Joseph's family, including his dad, Jacob (whose name God had changed to Israel), all joined Joseph down in Egypt, so they would have food to eat as the famine continued. God moved His people down to Egypt and kept them there for the next 400 years, just as he had promised Abraham, so that they would grow into a big, strong nation while being protected by the people of Egypt. (from Gen. 15, 46)

Lessons 24-26 Memory Verse: *[Moses chose] rather to suffer...with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin. (Heb. 11:25)*

A long time passed, and a new king in Egypt was not so nice to God's people, the Israelites. They had a lot of kids and grandkids and great-grandkids and there were now so many Israelites that the people of Egypt started to be afraid of them. So the new king made them work very hard as slaves, but God still took care of His people, and He would soon bring them out of Egypt, just as He had promised Abraham 400 years before. (from Ex. 1)

At this same time, a baby named Moses was born. His mother put him in a basket in the river so an Egyptian woman would find him, because Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, was not being nice to the Israelites. God made things work out just perfectly, as He always does, by having Pharaoh's daughter find baby Moses in the river, so Moses grew up in the house of Pharaoh, adopted by Pharaoh's daughter. (from Ex. 2)

Even though he grew up with Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, Moses never forgot that he was one of God's people, the Israelites. When he was older, he left Pharaoh and went back to be with the Israelites, even though they were still being forced to do hard work by the Egyptians. Moses knew that it was better to suffer for God than to enjoy the fun but ungodly things of this world that Pharaoh would give him. (from Ex. 2, Heb. 11)

Lessons 27-29 Memory Verse: *And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." (Exodus 3:14a)*

Sometimes, we think it is taking God a long time to do something. But He knows far more than we know, and He always does things at just the right time. The Israelites had been suffering in Egypt for a long time, and they prayed to God that He would help them. One day, Moses found a bush that was on fire, but it didn't burn down like it usually would. When Moses walked over to the bush, God spoke to him. (from Ex. 3)

God told Moses that He was the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and that He had not forgotten the promise He made a long time ago to bring His people out of Egypt. God said His name is "I AM", meaning He has always been God and He always will be. God made Moses the leader of the Israelites. Moses did not think he could be a good leader, and God was not happy with Moses' lack of faith. God reminded Moses that all things are possible with His help. (from Ex. 3-4)

God was with Moses and his brother, Aaron, when they bravely went to talk to Pharaoh, king of Egypt. They told Pharaoh that God said "Let my people go!" but Pharaoh said that he did not know who God is, and that he would not let the Israelites leave. Instead, he made them work even harder than before, and the people whined and complained to Moses. They were not trusting in God like they should have. (from Ex. 5)

Lessons 30-33 Memory Verse: *For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. (1 Corinthians 5:7b)*

God started to send awful plagues on the Egyptian people. First, the water turned into blood for seven days, so no one could drink it. Then, God sent plagues of frogs, lice, and flies through all of Egypt. When Pharaoh still would not let God's people go, God caused all of the Egyptian's animals to get sick and die, but the Israelite's animals were safe. God did this to show a difference between His people and the Egyptians, who were against God. (from Ex. 7-9)

When Pharaoh still did not let the Israelites leave Egypt, God sent a plague of painful boils on all of the Egyptians. Then, He sent a hail storm and swarms of locusts to destroy the food that the Egyptians were growing, but God protected the Israelites. Next, God caused it to be totally dark in Egypt for three whole days, but the Israelites still had light. But even after all of these terrible plagues, Pharaoh still refused to listen to God. (from Ex. 9-10)

God told Moses that He would send one final plague on the people of Egypt, and after that, Pharaoh would finally let God's people leave. In every house in Egypt, the firstborn child would die. But God told the Israelites to put blood from a lamb over the door in their homes, so that God would pass over their homes and no one would die. This is a picture of what Jesus Christ would do, as the blood He shed on the cross causes God to pass over the sins of believers. (from Ex. 11)

God did just as He said He would do, and the firstborn child in every home in Egypt died that night. The Egyptians were now very afraid that they would all die, so they told the Israelites to leave as quickly as they could. God also caused the Egyptians to give a lot of things to the Israelites, which they would need for their journey to their new home. God, through Moses, began to lead His people out of Egypt and toward their new land. (from Ex. 12)

Lessons 34-36 Memory Verse: *“The Lord ... has become my salvation; He is my God, and I will praise Him...”*. (Exodus 15:2)

When the Israelites got to the Red Sea and couldn't find a way to get across, they again failed to trust God. But God gave Moses the power to split apart the water, so that the Israelites could cross the sea on dry ground. The Egyptian army foolishly tries to chase after them, but as they tried to cross, God let the water go back in place, so they all drowned. Once again, God got the final victory for Himself and for His people over the Egyptians. (from Ex. 14)

As the Israelites walked toward the Promised Land that God would give to them, they began to whine about being hungry. God told Moses that He would provide food for them. Each morning, a food called manna, kind of like bread, would be on the ground. The people were to go out and get enough to feed them for that day, but if they tried to get more for the next day, it would turn bad and stink. This way, the people had faith that God would give them food each day. (from Ex. 16)

Three months after leaving Egypt, the Israelites came to a place called Mount Sinai. Here, God talked to Moses on the mountain. He told Moses that if His people, who He had brought out of Egypt, would obey God, they would be a special, holy nation, set apart from everyone else in the world. God did this so that people would see that Israel was different, and that people might praise and glorify God. (from Ex. 19)

Lessons 37-39 Memory Verse: *By the law is the knowledge of sin.* (Romans 3:20b)

A few days later, the Israelites were still at Mount Sinai when God came down to the mountain again to speak with Moses. This time, He came with thunder and lightning and a thick cloud on the mountain. The people were afraid, and indeed, anyone who does not know or obey God should be afraid of Him. But those who do know God and have been saved through faith in Jesus Christ have nothing to fear, because God cares for His own people. (from Ex. 19)

God then gave His people the Ten Commandments, which was a set of laws that they were to obey. They were told to put God first, to honor their dad and mom, and to not do things against other people like steal, lie, or want something that belongs to someone else. But we're wrong if we think we can earn a place in heaven by obeying these ten rules, because no one can obey all of them perfectly. (from Ex. 20)

The Ten Commandments are good rules to live by, but we cannot earn a place in heaven just by trying to obey them, because no one can obey all of them perfectly. That is why God gave us His law—to show us that no one is perfect like God is, and that we are all sinners in need of a Savior. The only way to get to heaven is through faith in the one and only Savior, Jesus Christ. Again, God gave us His law to show us that we can never be holy like Him, and that we do need a Savior. (from Ex. 20, Gal. 3)

Lessons 40-42 Memory Verse: *[God] said, "You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live."* (Exodus 33:20)

As God talked to Moses on the mountain, the people got tired of waiting. They again complained and showed their lack of faith in God, and they begged Aaron, Moses' brother, to make them a false god that they could see and touch. So Aaron took gold and made something that looked like a calf. But this was not the true God! God and Moses were very mad at the people for their sin. There is only one true God, and He is the only one that we should worship! (from Ex. 32)

God is so holy, so perfect, so wonderful, so amazing beyond anything we can understand, that we can't even look at Him. One time, Moses asked to see God in all His glory. But because all of us are so sinful compared to God, we cannot see God and live. God placed Moses behind a large rock and passed by, so Moses could sort of see God, but that was as close as Moses could get to actually seeing God. (from Ex. 33)

Later, God gave Moses laws about sacrifices. When people sinned against God in different ways, animals were to be killed as a sacrifice to God, as the people repented and said they were sorry for their sin. But all these things were just a picture of the future Savior, Jesus Christ, who would come someday and sacrifice Himself on the cross for our sins. Only Jesus can truly take away our sins and change our hearts to want to serve God. (from Lev. 1-17, Heb. 10)

Lessons 43-46 Memory Verse: *"He is...a God of truth and without injustice; righteous and upright is He."* (Deuteronomy 32:4)

Finally, the Israelites were near their new homeland. God told Moses to send twelve men into the land to see what it was like. When they came back, all but two men were afraid of the people who lived there. They did not trust God to take care of them, even though God had done so much for them. Because of their lack of faith, God did not let them go into their new land. They spent 40 years in the desert, and then God gave the land to their children. (from Num. 13-14)

While in the desert, the people complained to Moses that they had no water to drink. God told Moses to speak to a rock, and water would come out of it. But Moses disobeyed. Instead, he hit the rock twice. God was not happy. Even sins that seem small to us can be big sins in the eyes of God, because we act like we did something on our own instead of praising God for it. Because of this, God did not allow Moses to go into their new land, either. (from Num. 20)

In Bible times, God used prophets to give messages to people. We don't have prophets today because the Bible is finished, but back then, they didn't have the whole Bible, so they also had prophets. One day, when God was talking to Moses, God said that He would raise up another Prophet like Moses, and anyone who did not listen to this Prophet would not know God. Moses did not know the name of this Prophet, but we know Him as Jesus Christ. (from Deut. 18)

When Moses was old and ready to die, he wrote a song praising all that God had done for His people. Moses calls God the Rock that we can trust because He will always be there, and everything God does is perfect. God is truth; He cannot lie. The Israelites had been foolish, making false idols to worship, disobeying God, and not trusting God to take care of them. God does so much for us, especially for those of us who trust in Him. Praise God! (from Deut. 32)

Lessons 47-49 Memory Verse: *“...our hearts melted...for the Lord your God, He is God in heaven above and on earth beneath.” (Joshua 2:11)*

After Moses died, God made Joshua the leader of His people. With Joshua as their new leader, God finally started to take the Israelites into their new land. When they came near a big city called Jericho, Joshua sent two men there to learn about the city. A woman named Rahab helped those two men hide when the king tried to capture them. The men told Rahab that she and her family would be safe when the Israelites would take over the city of Jericho. (from Josh. 1-2)

While Rahab was talking to the two Israelites, she told them that everyone in the city of Jericho had heard of what God had done for His people, like bringing them out of Egypt and drying up the Red Sea so they could go across it. So the people in Jericho were very afraid of what might happen to them. Except for Rahab, they had not been saved by God, but they knew that God was real because they had heard of what He had done, and they were afraid of Him. (from Josh. 2)

Soon, when all the Israelites reached the city of Jericho, their leader, Joshua, saw a Man standing across from him with a sword in His hand. Joshua asked the man if He was fighting on their side or on Jericho’s side, and the Man said “No, but as Commander of the army of the Lord, I have now come.” This was a rare appearance of Jesus Christ, who appeared to a few people in these times long before He would later be born from Mary. (from Josh. 5)

Lessons 50-52 Memory Verse: *“Now therefore, fear the Lord, serve Him in sincerity and in truth.... Serve the Lord!” (Joshua 24:14)*

The city of Jericho had a big wall all around it, and the Israelites were around the outside of this wall. God was going to give this city to His people, as part of His promise to give them a new home. But God didn’t tell them to fight the people of Jericho. Instead, He told them to march around the city one time each day for six days, and then to march around the city seven times on the seventh day. The priests would blow trumpets and all the people would shout. (from Josh. 6)

The people of Jericho surely thought the Israelites must be crazy. Instead of coming in and fighting them, they were just walking around their city walls! But sure enough, right after they walked around the wall seven times on the seventh day, blew trumpets and shouted, the walls fell down and everyone in Jericho died except for Rahab and her family—no one else in the city believed in God. By taking over the city in this strange way, God received all the glory. (from Josh. 6)

After God gave the city of Jericho to the Israelites, He continued to give them more cities and more land. Finally, God had given His people all of the land that He had promised Abraham that He would give to them. They split up the land between themselves and finally settled into their new home. Before Joshua died, he warned the people to serve and worship the one true God alone, and not to foolishly worship false idols that could not help them. (from Josh. 7-24)

Lessons 53-55 Memory Verse: *“For man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” (1 Samuel 16:7b)*

God told the Israelites to get rid of everyone who had been living in the land God had given them. They were supposed to be a special, holy people, set apart to serve God and to bring Him glory, when other people would see that there was something different about Israel. But the Israelites did not obey, letting some people stay in the land. Over time, the Israelites picked up some very bad habits from these people who did not know God. (from Jdg. 1-3)

It wasn't long before the Israelites were disobeying God again, so God allowed the Midianites to rule over them for seven years. The Israelites were supposed to be God's special people, serving and obeying God in all that they did, so that other people who did not know God might see how the Israelites were different, and God would be glorified. But the Israelites started to worship the false idols of the people who lived around them, so God disciplined them. (from Jdg. 6)

At that time, God spoke to a man named Gideon and told him that he would lead the Israelites to defeat the Midianites and win back their freedom. Gideon thought he was too small and too weak to do that, but with God, all things are possible. First, Gideon destroyed the altar where people were worshipping a false god called Baal, then he and 300 men defeated the whole Midianite army when God caused them to start fighting against each other! (from Jdg. 6-8)

Lessons 56-58 Memory Verse: *“...for the battle is the Lord's, and He will give you into our hands.” (1 Samuel 17:47b)*

A woman named Hannah and her husband had not been able to have any kids. She prayed to God, and finally He blessed her with a boy named Samuel. Samuel grew up to become the last leader of the Israelites before they asked God to give them a king like all the other nations had. God Himself had been their only King, but He gave them a sinful king named Saul so they would see how foolish they had been to ask God for a king. (from 1 Sam. 1-15)

God sent Samuel to a town called Bethlehem, where God would show everyone who the next king would be after Saul. He went to the home where this young man lived. Everyone thought that Samuel was going to tell them that the oldest brother, who looked older and stronger, would become king, but Samuel said that God sees the heart instead of what we look like. Instead, Samuel told the youngest brother, David, that he would become king. (from 1 Sam. 16)

The Philistines wanted to fight the Israelites, and they had a very tall man named Goliath in their army. All the Israelites were afraid of him. But David, who was too young to be in the army, had stronger faith in God. David knew that they couldn't let Goliath scare them, or people would think their God was weak. So little David went up to the giant Goliath with a sling and five small stones, and with God's help, David knocked Goliath down with a stone. (from 1 Sam. 17)

Lesson 59-61 Memory Verse: *Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You. (Psalm 119:11)*

When Saul died, David became the new king. David still had a strong faith that God had given him, and he faithfully obeyed God while he was king. He still sinned and made mistakes, just like we all do, but he truly wanted to follow and obey God in his life. David led the Israelites to take over the city of Jerusalem, which would later be where David's son, Solomon, would build the temple of God (sort of like their church, but even more special). (from 2 Sam. 1-24)

While he was king, David also wrote many of the Psalms that we find in the Bible. Some of those, such as Psalm 22, gives us a picture of the future Savior. We know Him as Jesus Christ, but David did not know what His name would be. David wrote about how people would hate Jesus, and about things that would happen while Jesus was dying on a cross. But Jesus would win the victory in the end, and David praises Him for all he does for us. (from Ps. 22)

Psalm 119, the longest book in the whole Bible, was either written by David or by someone else—we don't know for sure. But this special psalm tells us just how important the Bible, God's Word, is for us. From the Bible, we learn about God's laws, which help us learn more about who God is and also show us how to obey Him. This psalm also tells us how important it is for us to learn, obey, and love God's Word. Most of all, the whole Bible points us to Jesus Christ. (from Ps. 119)

Lesson 62-65 Memory Verse: *God is a just judge, and God is angry with the wicked every day. (Psalm 7:11)*

In another well-known psalm, David writes about how the Lord leads and cares for His people, just like a shepherd leads and cares for his sheep. The Lord shows us how to obey Him, so that His great name would be praised, both by us and by others who see how Christians are different from the rest of the world. And even when life is hard, God is still with His children, caring for them and disciplining them, because He is the perfect example of a Father. (from Ps. 23)

God is holy. That means he is completely perfect and cannot do anything wrong. God cannot lie or do anything that is sinful. It is hard for us to understand just how different God is from us. People who do not know God, who have not been saved through Jesus Christ, should shake with fear before Him. Those whom God has saved through Jesus Christ no longer need to fear the wrath of God, but we should still be in awe of who God is when we come before Him in worship and in prayer. (from Ps. 99)

Because God is so holy, He hates sin. Because God is fair in how He deals with people, He must punish sin. We all sin against God, so we all deserve an eternity in the fires of hell after we die. But God also made a way for people to be forgiven of their sins against Him through faith in Jesus Christ, who came to take the punishment that we all deserve. Those who go to heaven glorify God's love, mercy, and grace; those who go to hell glorify God's anger and wrath toward sin. (from Ps. 7, Is. 48)

God did not have to send a Savior, but He did so we could understand His love, mercy, and grace. He shows mercy by not giving us what we deserve (an eternity in hell because of our sin against Him), and He shows grace by giving us what we don't deserve (an eternity in heaven with Him). The Lord is slow to get angry, even though we earn His anger by sinning against Him, but He instead loves to forgive us for our sins when we repent and turn from them. Bless the Lord! (from Ps. 103, 145)

Lessons 66-68 Memory Verse: *The fear of the Lord is to hate evil; pride and arrogance and the evil way and the perverse mouth I hate. (Proverbs 8:13)*

After David died, his son, Solomon, became king. God asked Solomon what he wanted, and Solomon asked God for wisdom and understanding, so he would be a good king. God was very pleased with Solomon, because he asked for wisdom to be a good leader instead of asking for money for himself. Soon, Solomon led the Israelites to build God's temple in Jerusalem. Now, God had a special home where the people could come and worship Him. (from 1 Kings 1-8)

Solomon used his wisdom to write the book of Proverbs in the Bible, which helps us know how to live godly lives. But in chapter 8 of the book of Proverbs, we find Jesus Himself speaking through the words of Solomon. Jesus tells us how much He hates evil, sinful things, and those who truly know the Lord will hate those evil things, too. And even though he would later be born of Mary and come to earth, Jesus reminds us that He has always been there with God. (from Prov. 8)

Near the end of his life, Solomon's heart turned away from God. Even though he had asked God for wisdom, God had also blessed him with money and power. Sadly, Solomon started to care more about his money and other things instead of obeying God, and he started to worship false idols instead. After Solomon died, God split the Israelites into two kingdoms. The northern kingdom was called Israel and the southern kingdom was called Judah. (from 1 Kings 9-12)

Lessons 69-71 Memory Verse: *"Then you call on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the Lord; and the God who answers by fire, He is God." (1 Kings 18:24)*

After several more kings had come and gone, God told a man named Elijah to go to the king and tell him that it would not rain again for a long time. Elijah did this, but the king was angry, because he did not trust in God. For the next three and a half years, there was a very bad drought, and it did not rain at all. Then, God told Elijah to talk to the king again and tell him that God was ready to send rain. But first, Elijah wanted to show them who is the one true God. (from 1 Kings 17-18)

Elijah met all those who worshipped a false idol named Baal to meet him. Elijah wanted to show them who the true God really is. Elijah told those men to call out to Baal to start a fire, but nothing happened, because Baal was just an idol and could not really do anything. Then Elijah prayed to the true God, and the fire of the Lord came down and consumed Elijah's sacrifice. Everyone then saw who the true God is, and God finally sent rain after the long drought. (from 1 Kings 18)

Elijah is one of only two men who did not die. When his life was at its end, God sent two horses with a chariot down from heaven and picked up Elijah, and Elijah was carried up to heaven in a whirlwind. The only other man in the Bible who did not die was a man named Enoch, who lived a long time ago, even before the time of Noah and the flood. God took Enoch up to heaven like he took Elijah. (from 2 Kings 2, Gen. 5)

Lessons 72-74 Memory Verse: *They forgot God their Savior, who had done great things in Egypt. (Psalm 106:21)*

The northern kingdom, Israel, had one evil king after another. None of their kings obeyed God like they should have. Instead, they worshipped false idols and lived sinful lives, doing whatever they wanted to do. God sent prophets like Amos and Hosea to warn them, but they didn't listen. God was very patient, but after about 200 years had passed, God allowed them to be captured by the Assyrian people, to be punished for their disobedience. (from 1 Kings 12 – 2 Kings 17)

During this same time, the southern kingdom, Judah, had many evil kings but also a few good kings. Two of the good kings, Asa and his son who ruled after him, Jehoshaphat, obeyed the Lord and led many of the people to return to following God as well. But at other times, there were evil kings who turned the people away from serving God. God also sent prophets like Joel, Isaiah, and Micah to warn the people that they needed to obey God. (from 2 Chr. 10-28)

During this time, God sent a prophet named Micah to warn the people of Judah and Israel that they needed to stop sinning against God. They needed to worship and obey Him. If they did not, God would punish them for their disobedience. Micah also tells us about a coming Savior, who has always been with God, but would come to us and be born in the town of Bethlehem. About 700 years after Micah's prophecy, Jesus Christ would be born in Bethlehem. (from Micah 1, 5)

Lessons 75-77 Memory Verse: *"I am the Lord, that is My name; and My glory I will not give to another." (Isaiah 42:8)*

Around the same time, God sent another prophet named Isaiah to warn the people that they needed to obey God. One day, the Lord appeared to Isaiah. Isaiah was ashamed to be in God's presence, because he knew he was a sinner, just like we all are, while God is perfect and holy. Still, God told Isaiah that he would warn the people of coming destruction, because they had not obeyed God. (from Is. 6)

At this time in history, God mainly saved Israelites, while most people in other nations did not know Him. In another prophecy, Isaiah writes that the coming Savior will save many people from all over the world, not just from Israel. This Savior will also win the victory over death, which Jesus did when He died on the cross and then came to life again three days later. Because of that, Christians do not fear death but we can look forward to living forever in heaven. (from Is. 25)

God made everything and gave us everything that we have. We should all give thanks to Him, praise Him, and obey Him. But many people don't. Instead, people would rather have money, more stuff, power, or fame. These things can all become idols. Back in Bible times, people made things out of wood or gold that they worshipped, and those were their idols. But anything that people put ahead of God is an idol. God alone deserves all praise and glory! (from Is. 42)

Lessons 78-80 Memory Verse: *But we are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags. (Isaiah 64:6a)*

Remember that during Isaiah's time, Jesus had not yet come to earth, but the people were looking forward to a coming Savior. Isaiah told us some things about Jesus, about 700 years before He came to earth. The coming Savior would be a descendant of Jesse, who was King David's dad, and He will be righteous in all that He does, meaning that everything He does will be right and perfect, unlike us, who often do things that are selfish or unfair. (from Is. 11)

In another prophecy, Isaiah writes that the coming Savior would not be liked or desired by people, but would instead be hated and rejected. And most people do hate Jesus, except for those whose hearts have been changed by God's saving grace. Isaiah also writes about how Jesus was hurt and even killed because of our sins against God, yet our sins can be forgiven because Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment that we all deserve. (from Is. 52-53)

God is amazing and wonderful—even more so than anything we can imagine! But we have all sinned against God, and we all need to be forgiven for our sins through God's Son, Jesus Christ. Apart from God, there is nothing good that we can do on our own. We may do things that we think are good, but to God, nothing we do can be good enough to earn our way into heaven. The only way to heaven is through salvation in Jesus Christ. (from Is. 64, Rom. 3, John 14)

Lessons 81-84 Memory Verse: *For whom the Lord loves He corrects, just as a father the son in whom he delights. (Proverbs 3:12)*

About this time, God told the prophet Jonah to go to a big city called Nineveh, to warn those people that they needed to stop sinning against God. But Jonah didn't want to go, and he foolishly thought he could run away from what God had told him to do. Jonah got on a ship and tried to get as far away from Nineveh as he could. But God sees everything, and none of God's children can run away from God for very long. So God sent a storm, and Jonah was swallowed by a big fish. (from Jonah 1)

Jonah was in the fish for three days, thinking about what God had done. Finally, he repented of his sin, telling God he was sorry for trying to run away, and that he would do whatever God wanted him to do. So God made the big fish take Jonah to the city of Nineveh, where he was supposed to go to start with. Then, God once again told Jonah to go into the city, to warn the people that they needed to repent and turn away from their sin. (from Jonah 2-3)

Jonah warned the people of Nineveh to repent from their sins and start obeying God, and the people believed! They stopped doing the wicked things they had been doing and started to obey and worship God. But Jonah was selfish. He saw how evil the people had been, and didn't want God to save them. God had to remind Jonah that He can save whoever He wants to save, and that we are all sinners in need of a savior. (from Jonah 3-4)

About a hundred years after Jonah preached to the people of Nineveh, they had turned away from serving God and gone back to their wicked ways. God sent another prophet named Nahum to warn them, but this time, the people did not listen. Nineveh was the capital city of the big and powerful Assyrian Empire—the same people that had captured the nation of Israel. But because the people did not obey God, the city was destroyed about fifty years later. (from Nahum 1-3)

Lessons 85-88 Memory Verse: *“...if you...forget the Lord your God, and follow other gods...you shall surely perish.” (Deuteronomy 8:19)*

Not long after the northern kingdom of Israel had been taken away into captivity, the southern kingdom of Judah was given one of its best kings, named Hezekiah. He obeyed God, leading the people to return to worshipping God in His temple that Solomon had built, which they had not been doing like God had told them to do. Hezekiah also led the people in the Passover feast, remembering how God had brought them out of Egypt so long ago. (from 2 Chr. 29-32)

About fifty years later, Josiah became king of Judah. He also obeyed God, as Hezekiah had done. When the high priest, Hilkiah, found the book of the Law that God had given to Moses nearly 1,000 years earlier, King Josiah saw how sinful and disobedient the people had become. Josiah led the people to worship and serve the one true God and also celebrated the Passover feast, remembering all that God had done for His people. (from 2 Chr. 34-35)

Sadly, after Josiah died, several evil kings ruled in Judah, and the people once again disobeyed God and did not worship and serve Him, even though God had done so much to take care of His people. Prophets like Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel warned the people of Judah that they would be captured by another nation if they kept sinning and disobeying God, but the people would not listen and would not obey. (from 2 Chr. 36)

Jeremiah was one of the prophets that God sent to warn the people of Judah that they would be punished if they continued to disobey God and worship false idols. God even told Jeremiah that the people would not listen to him. God had done so much for His people, bringing them out of Egypt, giving them a new home, and taking care of all their needs, but still the people turned away from God and did whatever they wanted to do, not obeying God at all! (from Jer. 1)

Lessons 89-91 Memory Verse: *“...our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace...” (Daniel 3:17)*

Finally, about 150 years after the northern kingdom of Israel had been taken over by another nation, God also allowed the southern kingdom of Judah to be taken over by the Babylonian Empire, because the people of Judah had not obeyed God. One of the leaders of Judah who was taken away was named Daniel. Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, brought Daniel and several other smart young men into his palace, to teach them how to serve the king. (from Daniel 1)

King Nebuchadnezzar had his people make a huge idol out of gold, so that everyone would bow down to the golden idol and worship King Nebuchadnezzar. But three of Daniel’s friends, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, would not worship the king’s idol. They only worshipped God, and they knew it would be sinful to worship anything else. King Nebuchadnezzar was not happy with the three men, and he was going to throw them into the fiery furnace. (from Daniel 3)

King Nebuchadnezzar was so angry that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego would not worship him, he had the furnace heated up seven times hotter than it usually was, then he had the three men thrown into the furnace. But they weren’t afraid, because they knew God would take care of them. Either they would be killed by the fire, and get to go to heaven to be with their Savior, or God would somehow keep them safe in the fire. (from Daniel 3)

Lessons 92-94 Memory Verse: *“We ought to obey God rather than men.” (Acts 5:29b)*

God did keep the three men safe in the fire. When King Nebuchadnezzar looked into the furnace, he saw a fourth man, who was actually Jesus Christ, who had come down from heaven to protect those three men. The king brought them out of the furnace and praised God, realizing that there was a true God. He knew then that he should not tell people to worship his gold idol. Because those three men had such strong faith, the king could see that God was real! (from Daniel 3)

After Nebuchadnezzar, another king named Darius ruled the people, as Judah was still held captive by the Babylonians. Daniel was one of the governors under King Darius, but the other leaders did not like Daniel. They convinced King Darius to make a law that said no one could pray to anyone other than the king. Daniel's faith was strong, and he prayed to God anyway, knowing that he could get in trouble but trusting in God to take care of him. (from Daniel 6)

King Darius had Daniel thrown into the lions' den for breaking the law and praying to God, but God protected Daniel, sending an angel to shut the mouths of the lions so that they could not hurt Daniel. So God saved Daniel from the lions, and like King Nebuchadnezzar had learned before, King Darius learned that no one should pray to the king but everyone should honor and pray to the only true God, just as Daniel had done. (from Daniel 6)

Lessons 95-97 Memory Verse: *“I do not do this for your sake, O house of Israel, but for My holy name's sake...” (Ezekiel 33:22)*

During this same time, God also spoke through a prophet named Ezekiel. In one part of his book, Ezekiel writes about how we all need salvation through the coming Savior, who we know as Jesus Christ. Most people think they're pretty good and that they can get into heaven by doing good things, but God makes it clear that it doesn't work that way. Compared to God, none of us is good, and so we all need to be forgiven for our sins through Jesus Christ. (from Eze. 33)

Ezekiel tells the Israelites that, even though they have been taken captive by the Babylonians, that someday God will let them go back to their homeland. God allowed the Israelites to be captured and taken away because they had sinned so much against God, causing people to lose respect for God. Even when they would be allowed to return home, it wasn't because they had been good enough to deserve it, but so that God would be praised and glorified. (from Eze. 36)

When Cyrus became king, God gave him a desire in his heart to see that the temple would be rebuilt in Jerusalem, after it had been destroyed when the Israelites were captured and taken away from their homes. Many Israelites went back to Jerusalem and helped rebuild God's temple so that they could worship God in His house once again, after being away from their homeland for so long. (from Ezra 1-8, Haggai 1-2)

Lessons 98-100 Memory Verse: *“For I am the Lord, I do not change; therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob.” (Malachi 3:6)*

About this same time, God sent a prophet named Zechariah to remind the people why they had been taken away in the first place. God had chosen His people, brought them up out of Egypt, given them their own land, and taken care of them in so many ways. But over and over, they disobeyed God and would not listen to Him or do what He told them to do. Because of their disobedience, God allowed the Israelites to be taken away by other nations. (from Zech. 7)

The Israelites who had returned to their homes in Jerusalem gathered together and confessed their sins to God. They praised God for all He had done, from the time when God chose Abraham until He brought them out of Egypt. They repented for all the wicked things they had done against God, which led to them being taken away from their homeland. Then they praise God again, because He did not forget His people, but He showed them love and patience. (from Neh. 9)

Having returned home, the Israelites are still waiting for the promised Savior who God had told them was going to come. God sent the prophet Malachi to tell them that this Savior will come to purify His people, changing their hearts so they want to serve and obey God. Although the Israelites have disobeyed, God promised to continue to save people, and God does not change. But they would have to wait another 400 years before God would finally send the Savior. (from Mal. 3)

Lessons 101-103 Memory Verse: *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (John 1:1)*

Although the time was soon coming when the promised Savior would come to earth, Jesus had been in heaven with God the Father since the very beginning. In fact, everything that God made was made through Jesus. As we have God’s written Word to us in the Bible, Jesus is called the living Word of God. Jesus, God’s Son, always obeys His Father. Soon, Jesus would come to earth to bring God’s truth and light into the spiritual darkness of this world. (from John 1)

Zacharias and Elizabeth were old, and they had never been able to have any kids, much like Abraham and Sarah. But one day, the angel Gabriel came down from heaven and told Zacharias that they would have a very special baby. Zacharias did not believe the angel at first, so God disciplined him by making it so he could not talk until after the baby was born. Elizabeth’s cousin, Mary, would also soon receive a special visit from the angel Gabriel. (from Luke 1)

Six months after the angel Gabriel visited Zacharias, he came back down from heaven to visit Mary, who was engaged to be married to Joseph. The angel told Mary that she would give birth to a baby named Jesus. He will be called the Holy One, the Son of God, and He will rule over God’s people forever. Then, Mary praised God, for all the great things He has done. God is holy and perfect, yet God gives mercy and love to those who truly know Him. (from Luke 1)

Lessons 104-106 Memory Verse: *“...you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.” (Matthew 1:21b)*

Three months after the angel Gabriel visited Mary, Elizabeth gave birth to a baby boy and named him John. We know him as John the Baptist. Knowing that baby Jesus would soon be born as well, John’s dad, Zacharias, praised God for sending a Savior to save God’s people from their sins, just as the prophets in the Old Testament had said God would do. Finally, Jesus was coming to offer true forgiveness for sin to those who believed in God. (from Matt. 1, Luke 1)

Six months after John was born, the government was counting all the people, and Joseph and Mary had to go to a town called Bethlehem, where Joseph’s family was from. When they got to Bethlehem, there were so many other people there that they could not find a place to stay. Finally, someone let them stay in their stable with the animals. In the stable, Mary gave birth to baby Jesus, wrapped Him in cloth, and laid Him in a manger. (from Luke 2)

When Jesus had been born, angels came down from heaven to give the good news to a group of shepherds, who were taking care of their sheep near the town of Bethlehem. The shepherds quickly went to Bethlehem to see baby Jesus, and then they began to tell others about this special baby that had been born. Joseph and Mary left Bethlehem with baby Jesus and went to the temple in Jerusalem, which had been rebuilt 500 years earlier when Cyrus was king. (from Luke 2)

Lessons 107-109 Memory Verse: *The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. (Isaiah 9:2a)*

There was a man in the temple named Simeon, and God had told Simeon that he would not die until he had seen the Lord’s Christ. When Simeon saw baby Jesus, he praised God for the honor of being able to see Him. Simeon called Jesus a light to the Gentiles—people who are not Israelites—and the glory of God’s people, Israel. Just as prophets had told the Israelites in the Old Testament, the Savior would not only save Jews, but also those who are not Jews. (from Luke 2)

A group of wise men from far away came to look for Jesus, the King of the Jews. They asked King Herod if he knew where Jesus was, but he was not happy to hear about this other king. The wise men found Jesus, brought Him gifts, then left without telling Herod where Jesus was. Then, Joseph and Mary went to Egypt to be safe from King Herod. Later, they left Egypt and went back to Israel, just as the Israelites had done when Moses led them out of Egypt. (from Matt. 2)

Every year, Jesus and His parents, Joseph and Mary, went to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover feast, remembering how God had brought His people out of Egypt after the ten plagues. But when Jesus was twelve years old, He did not go back home with His parents, and they came back to look for Him. Jesus had been listening and talking to other people in the temple, and they were amazed at how much Jesus knew and understood. (from Luke 2)

Lessons 110-112 Memory Verse: *“It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.’” (Luke 4:4b)*

In the Old Testament, Isaiah wrote that a man would come before the Savior. He would live in the wilderness and would tell people to prepare the way of the Lord. This man was John, who preached and told people that the Savior they had been waiting for had finally come. When Jesus was thirty years old, He told John to baptize Him in water. God spoke from heaven saying, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” (from Is. 40, Matt. 3, Mark 1, Luke 3, John 1)

Jesus went to the desert to fast, not eating anything but spending time with God the Father. After forty days, Satan came to tempt Jesus, just as He had done to Eve so long ago. But Jesus did not fall for Satan’s tricks and lies. Each time Satan told Jesus to do something, Jesus did not do it, but instead Jesus replied with Bible verses. It is so important for us to read and know the Bible so that we, too, can use God’s Word against Satan’s lies. (from Matt. 4, Mark 1, Luke 4)

The religious leaders of this time were called the Pharisees. One night, a Pharisee named Nicodemus came to ask Jesus some questions about who He was. Jesus told Nicodemus that no one can get into heaven without being born again. When someone is born again, God fills that person with the Holy Spirit of God, so that person no longer sins so much against God but can now obey God and truly love Jesus. (from John 3)

Lessons 113-115 Memory Verse: *“...the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.” (Mark 1:15b)*

Prophets said that Jesus would come to save not only Jews, but also Gentiles—those who were not Jews. Jesus went to Samaria, where the people were part-Jew and part-Gentile. The Jews did not like these people at all. But Jesus met a woman who had come to the well to get water to drink. Jesus told her that she really needed living water—meaning, a new life in Christ. God saved this woman, and she went and told other people what God had done for her. (from John 4)

Jesus began to preach more and more, telling people to repent, because the kingdom of heaven was at hand. To repent means to stop sinning against God, to turn from sin and go the other way. People who repent know that they can never be good enough to get into heaven on their own. Only people who have truly repented and trusted in Jesus to forgive their sins will be able to serve and worship God as we should and spend eternity with Jesus. (from Matt. 4, Mark 1)

On the Sabbath day (Saturday), Jesus went to the synagogue, which would be like us going to church on a Sunday. He stood up to read from the book of Isaiah, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the good news to the poor,” to give freedom to the captives and to give sight to those who are blind, who cannot see or understand the things of God. Isaiah was writing about Jesus, but the Pharisees did not like what Jesus said. (from Luke 4)

Lessons 116-118 Memory Verse: *...Peter... fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" (Luke 5:8)*

Jesus found two brothers, Peter and Andrew, who were fishing. Jesus got into their boat and made it so they suddenly caught a net full of fish. God opened Peter's eyes to see who Jesus really was, and then Peter bowed down before Jesus, knowing that he was a sinful man and Jesus was a holy God. Jesus told them to follow Him, and they got out of their fishing boat and followed Jesus right away, as did James and his brother John. (from Matt. 4, Mark 1, Luke 5)

Jesus began to heal many people, including a man who could not walk. Jesus told him to walk, and he did. Jesus also told that man that his sins were forgiven, which the Pharisees did not like, because they did not believe that Jesus is God. Jesus healed people to prove that He had the power of God, but the most important thing Jesus did was to preach and tell people that they needed to repent from their sins against God. (from Matt. 8-9, Mark 1-2, Luke 4-5)

When Jesus was on earth, tax collectors were well-known sinners, because they would tell people that they had to pay more than they really had to, then keep the extra money for themselves. So when Jesus saved Matthew, a tax collector, and went to eat with him, the Pharisees were upset! Jesus told them that people who already think they're good don't see their need of a Savior, but people who know they are sinners know that they do need a Savior. (from Matt. 9, Mark 2, Luke 5)

Lessons 119-121 Memory Verse: *Under the law...every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. (Romans 3:19b)*

God made everything in six days, then He rested on the seventh day, calling it the Sabbath. God doesn't get tired, but He rested to give us an example to follow, so we would rest and focus on Him one day each week. But the Pharisees added extra rules about things people couldn't do on the Sabbath. When Jesus healed a man who couldn't walk on the Sabbath, some of the Jews were upset. Jesus broke their foolish laws, but He did not break God's law. (from John 5)

People who have not been saved and forgiven by Jesus do not like God. In fact, they hate God. Some of those people do mean things to Christians because they hate God so much. When Jesus was teaching a group of people, He told them that Christians are blessed when other people are mean to them, because Christians have been saved from their sins and have a reward to look forward to in heaven once this life is over. (from Matt. 5, Luke 6)

Way back in the book of Exodus, we read about God giving Moses the Ten Commandments. Jesus said that the Ten Commandments were really about the heart. Not only should we not kill another person, but a Christian shouldn't even be angry at another Christian. Not only should we not want something that belongs to someone else, but we should freely give what we have to someone who needs it. We should put others first instead of being selfish. (from Matt. 5)

Lessons 122-124 Memory Verse: *“Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction.” (Matthew 7:13a)*

The main reason we are supposed to pray is so that we can become more like God in what we think and do. Jesus taught that, when praying, we should first give praise and glory to God, thanking Him for all that He does. Then we may ask God to give us food and other things that we need, but asking for things should never be the focus of our prayers. Then we should thank God for His forgiveness and pray that He keeps us from doing things that we shouldn't do. (from Matt. 6)

Our focus should be on heaven, and the things of God. What good does it do to have a lot of stuff while we're on earth, if we can't take it with us when we die? But not many people will get into heaven. There are people who think they will go to heaven, but they truly don't know Jesus and have never repented from their sins. True Christians will focus on Jesus, trust God fully, and will be different from the rest of the world in what they say and do. (from Matt. 6-7)

While some Jews had repented from their sins and started to follow Jesus, many other Jews still did not like Jesus at all. Jesus told the people that we cannot do anything to earn a place in heaven, but salvation is the work of God alone. Many people did not like what Jesus said, and stopped following Him after He had said these things. But others believed and trusted in Jesus, knowing that only He has the words of eternal life. (from John 6)

Lessons 125-127 Memory Verse: *“For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?” (Matthew 16:26a)*

Jesus told His disciples—those who were following Him—that He would suffer greatly and be killed, but He would rise again on the third day. His disciples did not understand this yet. Jesus told them that anyone who follows Him must go through whatever God has planned for them, even if it is hard and painful. Jesus asked them, what good does it do for someone to have everything they want in the world, if their soul doesn't know Jesus? (from Matt. 16, Mark 8, Luke 9)

Following Jesus is not about having a happy, easy life. Christians, those who truly know Jesus and have repented from their sins, may be happy because they are looking forward to being with Him in heaven forever, but this life may still be hard. Jesus told us that Christians should be willing to give up everything that we have if God wants us to go somewhere else to spread the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ. (from Matt. 8, Luke 9, Luke 14)

Jesus taught that many people are a slave to the pleasures of this life. They always want more money or more stuff, or they want to become famous or powerful. But those people are trapped by their own sin, and they do not have true joy and peace. Those who know the truth, who have been saved through Jesus Christ, have freedom from those sins. Through Jesus, we have the power to overcome sinful desires and not give in to them. (from John 8)

Lessons 128-131 Memory Verse: *"I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved."* (John 10:9a)

Sheep love to follow their shepherd, whom they know and trust. Jesus is like a shepherd, and His followers are like sheep. Jesus opens the door and calls by name those sheep who belong to Him. His sheep follow Him, because they know the sound of His voice. Jesus would even lay down His life and die for His people, in order to forgive their sins. Jesus gives His sheep everlasting life in heaven. But those who do not obey Jesus are not His sheep. (from John 10)

Jesus told a parable, which is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning, about a rich man who had so much stuff that he ran out of room to put everything! He was trying to figure out what to do when God told him that he would die that very night, and then, what good would all his stuff do for him? Jesus taught us that we don't need to have a lot of stuff in this world, but instead, we need to be doing things for God, like reading the Bible and sharing it with others. (from Luke 12)

Jesus then told a true story about another rich man, who wore nice clothes and ate lots of good food. At the gate outside of this man's home sat a beggar named Lazarus, who was very poor. But Jesus had saved Lazarus, so when he died, Lazarus went to heaven. The rich man did not serve Jesus and went to hell when he died, where the fires are so bad that he badly wanted even one drop of water. All who are not saved by Jesus will go to hell when they die. (from Luke 16)

A different man named Lazarus, whom Jesus loved very much, became sick and died. When Jesus went to see him, he had already been dead for four days. But Jesus said "Lazarus, come out," and rose him from the dead! Jesus did this to prove that He really is who He said He is—the Savior, the Messiah, the one and only Son of God. But this also made the Pharisees work even harder, trying to find a way to have Jesus killed, because they hated Him. (from John 11)

Lessons 132-135 Memory Verse: *Jesus... said..., "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."* (Matthew 19:26)

Jesus told a parable about two men, a Pharisee and a tax collector, who were praying. The Pharisee bragged about himself and thanked God that he was not like some of the really sinful men around him. The tax collector simply prayed, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" God was pleased with the tax collector's prayer, because he knew how sinful he was compared to a holy God. God was not pleased with the Pharisee, who only bragged about himself. (from Luke 18)

Zacchaeus was another tax collector who was rich because he had cheated people, taking more than he was supposed to. But when Jesus passed through Jericho, the town where Zacchaeus lived, he climbed a tree to see Jesus, because he was a short man. Jesus told Zacchaeus to come down, because He wanted to eat with Zacchaeus at his house. Jesus saved Zacchaeus that day, and Zacchaeus promised to give back all that he had stolen. (from Luke 19)

Jesus was returning to Jerusalem, and when He was close to the city, He sent two of His disciples to get a young donkey. Then, Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the donkey, just as the Old Testament prophet Zechariah had said He would do. A donkey is a slow, lowly animal, not fast like a horse, and this gives us a picture of King Jesus showing us His humility. The people shouted, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" (from Mt. 21, Mk. 11, Lk. 19, Jn. 12)

We often get angry at other people over silly little things, and that is sinful. But it is okay to be angry if someone is doing something against God. After Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, He went into the temple, where He found people selling things and taking advantage of people. Jesus turned over their tables and made them leave the temple! The temple was God's house, but they were not honoring God like they should have been. (from Mt. 21, Mk. 11, Lk. 19)

Lessons 136-138 Memory Verse: *Jesus said..., "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."* (John 14:6)

Once a year, the Jews still celebrated Passover, remembering when God killed the firstborn of every Egyptian but passed over their homes, then used Moses to bring them out of Egypt. Two days before the Passover feast, Jesus again told His disciples that He would soon be killed. Not long after this, one of Jesus' twelve apostles, Judas, made a deal with the chief priests to show them who Jesus was with a kiss, so they could capture Jesus. (from Mt. 26, Mk. 14, Lk. 22)

Jesus was eating with His twelve apostles during the Passover meal when He told them that Judas would betray Him, and Judas left. Then, Jesus told each of them to take a piece of bread and to drink from the cup with Him. This represents Jesus' body and blood, which would be sacrificed on the cross for sin. Today, we call this Communion, as we remember the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross for the sins of all who believe in Him. (from Mt. 26, Mk. 14, Lk. 22, 1 Cor. 11)

Shortly before He was going to be captured, Jesus had a long talk with His apostles. Jesus said He is the way, the truth, and the life, and no one can come to God the Father except through Him. Jesus also said that after He leaves them, He will send a helper, the Holy Spirit, to guide and comfort them. And Jesus said Christians should love each other as He loves us, and that He had chosen them to go out and bear fruit, doing things that glorify God. (from John 14-15)

Lessons 139-142 Memory Verse: *"In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."* (John 16:33)

Jesus warned His apostles that following Him would not be easy. People in the world will hate Christians and mistreat them, because they hated Jesus first. But no matter what happens, Christians can have peace and joy, because Jesus has overcome the world. Jesus then prayed to God the Father for His followers, that God would watch over Christians, guarding us and keeping us separate from the world, protecting us from the temptations of the devil. (from John 15-17)

After Jesus prayed, Judas walked up and greeted Jesus with a kiss. Those who hated Jesus knew that Jesus would be the one whom Judas kissed, so they came and captured Jesus. The chief priests asked Jesus if He is the Christ, the one who had been promised throughout the Old Testament, and Jesus told them that He is. Then Jesus was sent to the governor, Pilate, and Jesus told Pilate that He is the King of the Jews. (from Mt. 26-27, Mk. 14-15, Lk. 22-23, Jn. 18-19)

Pilate tried to let Jesus go, but all those who hated Jesus shouted "crucify Him!" So they whipped Jesus and made fun of Him, not believing that Jesus truly is the Son of God. They made Jesus carry a large cross, made from a tree, to the place where He would be killed. Then they hung Jesus on the cross. Three hours later, it got very dark, even though it was the middle of the day. After six hours, Jesus said "it is finished" and died on the cross. (from Mt. 27, Mk. 15, Lk. 23, Jn. 19)

Jesus was buried after He died on the cross on a Friday afternoon. On Sunday morning, two women went to the place where Jesus was buried, but He was not there! Two angels told the women that Jesus had risen from the dead, just as He had said He would! Then Jesus appeared to two of His followers, and explained to them why He had to die for the sins of His people, just as the Old Testament prophets had written. (from Mt. 27-28, Mk. 15-16, Lk. 23-24, Jn. 19-20)

Lessons 143-145 Memory Verse: *For I know that my Redeemer lives, and He shall stand at last on the earth. (Job 19:25)*

That evening, after Jesus rose from the dead, His followers were gathered in a room together when Jesus suddenly appeared to them. He told them to touch His body, to prove that He really had risen from the dead. Then He sent them out to spread the good news of what had happened. The next Sunday evening, they were gathered together again, and Jesus appeared to them again. We follow this pattern now when we have church each Sunday. (from Mk. 16, Lk. 24, Jn. 20)

Jesus told His followers that everything written about Him in the Old Testament had to be done. Jesus had to suffer and die and rise from the dead on the third day so that God could forgive the sins of His people. We all deserve to die for our many sins against a holy God, but Jesus took the place of all those who believe in Him. Jesus was then carried up into heaven, leaving His followers behind to share the news of God's forgiveness through Jesus. (from Luke 24, Acts 1)

When Jesus went back to heaven, He promised that the Holy Spirit would soon come, to guide and comfort those who believe in Him. On the day of Pentecost, when a large group of believers were gathered together, they heard a sound like a mighty wind as the Holy Spirit came down and filled every one who was a true follower of Jesus. In the Old Testament, the prophet Joel had written that God would pour out His Spirit, and now that day had come! (from Acts 2, Joel 2)

Lessons 146-149 Memory Verse: *"...they will lay their hands on you and persecute you...for My name's sake." (Luke 21:12)*

After the Holy Spirit came down, Peter preached to all those who had gathered. He first read from the Old Testament book of Joel, who had written about God pouring out His Spirit so that anyone, Jew or Gentile, could now be saved. Peter then told the people to repent from their sins and to be saved through Jesus Christ. God saved about three thousand people on that glorious day, and they were all filled with joy as they served the Lord Jesus Christ. (from Acts 2)

The Jewish priests, some of the same people who hated Jesus and had Him killed, arrested two of Jesus' apostles, Peter and John, and put them in prison because they were preaching about Jesus rising from the dead. So the Jewish leaders told Peter and John not to talk about Jesus any more. But Peter and John obeyed God instead, and they prayed that God would help them to be brave, to preach about Jesus even when others tried to stop them. (from Acts 4)

The Jewish priests put Jesus' apostles in prison again when they did not stop preaching about Jesus. But in the middle of the night, an angel of the Lord came and opened the prison doors and let them out, so they could continue to preach. The Jewish leaders hated Jesus and His followers even more, but they listened to a teacher named Gamaliel who said that, if these people really are preaching God's truth, they would be foolish to try to fight against God. (from Acts 5)

Stephen, another follower of Jesus, was soon arrested by the Jewish priests for preaching about Jesus. Stephen explained to them how many of the Israelites had always fought against God, even back to the time of Moses. Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt, but most of them died in the wilderness because of their unbelief. When Stephen told the priests that they were rebelling against God too, they became very angry at Stephen, and stoned him until he died. (from Acts 7)

Lessons 150-152 Memory Verse: *Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God. (Acts 9:20)*

One of the Jewish leaders who hated Christians was named Saul. We know him better by his other name, Paul. He put a lot of Jesus' followers in prison, simply because they preached and taught others about Jesus. But one day, when Saul was walking to the city of Damascus to find and arrest more Christians, he saw a light from heaven and heard a voice saying, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" This voice was Jesus Himself, who had come to save Saul. (from Acts 9)

God sent a man named Ananias to go see Saul. Ananias was afraid, knowing that Saul had been putting Christians in prison or even killing some of them. But God told Ananias not to be afraid, because God had chosen Saul and saved him so that he would go and preach the good news of the risen Savior to the Jews and also to the Gentiles. God also said that Saul would suffer many things for His name's sake, to humble Saul and to glorify God. (from Acts 9)

Once God saved him, Saul's life was completely different. He had been killing Christians, but now he preached the good news of forgiveness in Jesus Christ. Others who heard him were amazed at the change. But this is a beautiful picture of what happens when God saves anyone. We may not all be killing Christians like Saul was, but we are all sinning against God in different ways. But when God saves someone, there will always be a change in that person's life. (from Acts 9)

Lessons 153-156 Memory Verse: *They ... searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so. (Acts 17:11b)*

God was at work in a mighty way during this time, as more people were being saved and the church was growing quickly. There was a new King Herod, who was the grandson of Herod who was king when Jesus was born. This new Herod killed James, one of Jesus' twelve apostles. Then he put another apostle, Peter, in prison. Some people are called to suffer or even die for Jesus Christ, but for the Christian, death is not something to be afraid of. (from Acts 12)

The people of the church did not stop praying for Peter while he was in prison. Soon, while Peter was asleep one night, God sent an angel to the prison to set Peter free. Peter's chains fell off and he escaped from the prison with the help of the angel. Peter then went to the house where the people were praying for him, but they were so surprised that they didn't think it was really Peter! Sometimes we fail to trust that God will really answer our prayers. (from Acts 12)

Saul, who was also called Paul, preached to the Jews one day in the synagogue. Paul reminded them of how God had chosen their fathers, all the way back to Abraham. God later gave them David as a king, and promised that another King would come from David's descendants and would rule forever. This King is Jesus Christ, whom the Jews had put to death on the cross because they hated Him, but He rose from the dead to gain the victory over death and sin. (from Acts 13)

Paul was thrown in prison several more times, simply because he was preaching the truth about Jesus Christ. But Paul knew that God was always with him, so he continued to preach about Jesus wherever he was, even when he was in prison. Like Paul, Christians must always trust God to take care of us, because God always has a plan, even if we don't always understand it. And we must always share the gospel of Jesus Christ with others. (from Acts 16-28, 2 Cor. 11, Phil. 4)

Lessons 157-159 Memory Verse: “There is none righteous, no, not one; there is none who understands; there is none who seeks after God.” (Romans 3:10b-11)

After God saved Paul, God used Paul to write letters to many different churches and people to help all of us better understand what Jesus did on the cross and how Christians should act as we try to obey and glorify God in our lives. Half of the books in the New Testament are letters that were written by Paul, and the New Testament also includes letters written by other followers of Jesus: James, Peter, John, and Jude. We will look at some of these letters in upcoming lessons.

In his letter to the church in Rome, Paul reminds us that everyone has sinned before God. God is perfect and holy, and we don't even come close. None of us can get into heaven on our own. Instead, the only way to have eternal life in heaven is through salvation in Jesus Christ, and that is true for us just as it was for people like Abraham and David in the Old Testament. Everyone who is saved was given that salvation through Jesus Christ. (from Rom. 1-5)

When Adam sinned against God by eating fruit from the tree from which God had told him not to eat, that destroyed our relationship with God. Now, we are all born into sin, separated from God, and we can only become close to God if we repent and turn away from our sins and are saved through Jesus Christ. Those who are saved are given new desires, so that we now want to serve and obey God and we don't want to sin against Him any more. (from Rom. 5-8)

Lessons 160-162 Memory Verse: *Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. (1 Corinthians 10:31)*

In Old Testament times, only the Israelites, who were later called Jews, were given the Bible. But they disobeyed God so much that even non-believers no longer respected God. Now, because of their disobedience, God saves many people who are not Jewish. But we must remember that God is in control of all things. For example, God did not save Pharaoh in Egypt, but God showed His power through Pharaoh by sending the ten plagues. (from Rom. 2-3, 9-11)

In his first letter to the church in Corinth, Paul tells us that spiritual wisdom is very different from worldly wisdom. There are many people in this world who think they know a lot. But no matter how smart someone is, they are missing out on the most important thing if they don't know God. True wisdom and understanding about godly things, such as being able to read and understand what God tells us in the Bible, is a gift that God gives to His children. (from 1 Cor. 1-4)

In order to bring glory to God, Christians should not do everything that we may want to do, if those desires are sinful. We should not do things that draw attention to ourselves, nor should we sin on purpose. Instead, we should try to do things that show the love of Jesus to others while also teaching others about the truth we find in the Bible. We should never put anything before God, but we should give God the glory in everything that we do. (from 1 Cor. 8-10)

Lessons 163-165 Memory Verse: *Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. (Galatians 3:24)*

The word “gospel” means good news, and the good news from God is that Christ died for the sins of His people according to the Scriptures; He was buried, and He rose again on the third day. Jesus was seen by hundreds of different people after He arose from the dead, proving that He really did rise from the dead. Jesus gained the victory over death and sin and took the punishment for sin that we all deserve, if we repent from our sins and trust in Jesus Christ. (from 1 Cor. 15)

In his second letter to the church in Corinth, Paul reminds Christians that we are to live holy lives for God, because God has set His people apart from the world. We are to obey God and do what is right, not follow the world in doing what is wrong. God also tells us to preach the gospel to others. Sometimes, Christians are treated very badly for preaching and sharing God’s truth, but no matter what, we are to obey God and trust that God is in control. (from 2 Cor. 4, 6, 11)

In his letter to the church in Galatia, Paul writes about the law. If we can be saved through faith alone in Jesus Christ, and if there is nothing we can do to earn our own place in heaven, why did God give His law to Moses and the Israelites in the Old Testament? Because we are all sinners, we can’t fully obey God’s law. God gave us His law to show us how sinful we are, and to show us that we do need a Savior. That Savior is Jesus Christ. (from Gal. 3)

Lessons 166-168 Memory Verse: *For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God. (Ephesians 2:8)*

In his letter to the church in Ephesus, Paul reminds Christians how and why we are saved. We are not saved because of anything we do. Instead, God saves His people so we can see his love, mercy, and grace. The faith we have in Jesus is not something we can do on our own, but faith itself a gift from God. If we could save ourselves, then we would have something to brag about, but God will not allow that. Salvation is of the Lord, so all the glory belongs to God. (from Eph. 2)

In his letter to the church in Philippi, Paul tells us that, even though Jesus Christ is equal with God, He came down to earth from heaven, taking on the form of a man, serving others while He was here and not worrying about all the people who hated Him and who treated Him badly. Jesus Christ humbled Himself, not doing anything else other than fully obeying God His Father, even to the point of dying on a cross for the sins of His people. (from Phil. 2)

In his letter to the church in Colosse, Paul reminds us that Jesus has always been here. Everything that was created, way back at the beginning of the Bible, was created by Him. People in the Old Testament did not know Jesus by name, but now God has revealed Him to us. We should never mix anything else with faith in Christ but trust Him alone for salvation. Christians should not live sinful lives but should live holy lives, honoring God in all that we do. (from Col. 1-3)

Lessons 169-171 Memory Verse: *For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword. (Hebrews 4:12a)*

We don't know who wrote the letter to the Hebrews. The Hebrews, also called Israelites or Jews, were God's chosen people in the Old Testament. But as Paul wrote in his letter to the Romans, salvation has now come to those who are not Jewish because the Jews disobeyed God over and over. They trusted their own works, thinking they could earn salvation by obeying God's law. In the letter to the Hebrews, the writer shows us how faith in Jesus Christ is better in every way.

Jesus is better than the angels in heaven, but He took the form of a lowly man when He came to earth to suffer and die, taking the punishment for sin that we all deserve. Jesus is better than the Old Testament priests, because they could only sacrifice animals, while Jesus lived a perfect life so He could sacrifice Himself. Sins cannot be forgiven without the shedding of blood, and only the blood that Jesus Christ shed on the cross can take away our sins. (from Heb. 1-10)

The writer of Hebrews also takes us on a journey through Old Testament heroes of the faith. Adam and Even's son Abel had faith which made his brother Cain jealous. Enoch, who lived between Adam and Noah, walked with God and was blessed to not die. God simply took Enoch into heaven, just as He did with Elijah. When God told Noah to build an ark to escape the coming flood, Noah built the ark in faith while surrounded by people who did not believe God. (from Heb. 11)

Lessons 172-174 Memory Verse: *If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? (Hebrews 12:7)*

Abraham had faith to leave his home when God told him to go to a new land, then all the Israelites came from Abraham's son, Isaac, and Isaac's son, Jacob. Moses had faith to leave behind the riches he could have had with Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and suffered with the Israelites while God used him to lead His people out of Egypt. These are just a few of the many people who had great faith in God, even though the promised Savior, Jesus Christ, had not yet come. (from Heb. 11)

A good mom or dad disciplines a child who disobeys, not to be mean, but because the mom or dad loves that child and wants the child to learn what is right and what is wrong. In a similar way, God disciplines His children when we sin and do things we should not do, or when we fail to spend time with God like we should. God doesn't do this to be mean, but He does it because He loves us. He wants us to become more like Jesus Christ every day. (from Heb. 12)

God never told us that the Christian life would be easy. Sometimes, life is hard. All of a sudden, something that seems bad might happen, like someone getting really sick or losing a job. Other times, Christians live in places where Christians are not liked and are treated badly. But God gives us trials in order to make our faith in Him even stronger and to bring us closer to God, so trials from God are good things, even if it doesn't seem like it at the time. (from James 1, 1 Peter 3-4)

Lessons 175-177 Memory Verse: *He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. (1 John 2:4)*

We all sin and do things that are not pleasing to God. This is true for every single person who has ever lived, way back to Adam, when he sinned in the Garden of Eden. If we act like we don't sin, we are lying to ourselves and to others. Even Christians still sin, though we try not to, in order to obey God. But Christians understand that we do not deserve to go to heaven, but that we are sinners in need of a Savior, Jesus Christ, to give us eternal life with God. (from 1 John 1, 3)

Christians should not love the sinful things of this world. Anyone who says they are a Christian but disobeys God and instead lives a life of sin is not a true Christian and does not really know Jesus. If we truly love God, we will obey Him and keep His commandments. Christians should love other Christians, just as Christ loves us. When we are saved and changed on the inside by God, we are given a desire to love fellow Christians. (from 1 John 2, 4)

The Bible is absolutely true and comes from God Himself. It is very important to read and study the Bible in order to know God's truth. There are many false teachers who say they know God, but who actually teach things that go against what the Bible says. Even some church pastors are not really saved, but are teaching things that are not true. Knowing what God says in the Bible helps us to be able to figure out what is true and what is not. (from 2 Tim. 3, 2 Peter 2, Jude)

Lessons 178-180 Memory Verse: *Then I said, "Behold, I come; in the scroll of the book it is written of me." (Psalm 40:7)*

Someday, the world as we know it will come to an end. Only God the Father knows when this day is. No one but Jesus Christ is worthy of unleashing judgment and destruction upon the earth in the end times. Jesus Christ was killed for God's children, restoring our relationship with God through the blood He shed on the cross in order to take away our sins that separated us from God. Blessing and honor and glory and power to Jesus Christ forever and ever! (from Rev. 5)

When the end comes, heaven and earth will pass away and there will be a new heaven and a new earth. Those who did not trust in Jesus Christ, whose sins He did not pay for on the cross, will be cast into the lake of fire and spend eternity there, glorifying God as His wrath and anger toward sin is poured out on them. Those who did trust in Jesus Christ, whose sins He did pay for on the cross, will get to live forever with Him. "Even so, come, Lord Jesus!" (from Rev. 20-22)

The Bible ends with a serious warning. Some people add to the Bible, teaching from the Bible but also teaching from other books or teaching church traditions that do not agree with the Bible. God says they will be added to the plagues that are written in the Bible. Others take away from the Bible, only teaching the parts that they like but skipping other parts. God says they will be taken away from the Book of Life. God's Word is true and complete just as it is. (from Rev. 22)