

BUILDING THE HOUSE OF GOD



iStockphoto / Michael Flippo

CHANGING COURSE: God corrected David's plan of 2 Samuel 7:1, 2 with the affirmations of verses 3-7. How would you summarize God's rejoinder in a single sentence?

DIGGING DEEPER: What additional information is provided in 1 Chronicles 22:8 for David's not building the temple?

APPLYING NOW: David's prayer of repentance is recorded in 2 Samuel 7:18-29. What is there in that prayer that expresses sentiments you also need to express to God?



iStockphoto / Achim Prill

BEING THE TEMPLE OF GOD

David's concern in today's text was to *build* a temple for God. God's desire is that His people *be* the temple where His Holy Spirit abides. Look at each of the following texts and note what God says about the temple He desires.

1 Corinthians 3:16, 17

Ephesians 2:19-22



Wavebreakmedia Ltd

1 Corinthians 6:19

1 Peter 2:4, 5

How is your temple looking? What "repairs" does it need? What additions need to be built? Jot ideas below. (See Galatians 5:19-25 for a handy checklist.)

HELLO! MY NAME IS . . .

For each of today's three Scripture segments, identify descriptions that can be applied to God and the king He promises. Write your suggestions in the labels below.

Psalm 89:35-37

Isaiah 9:6, 7

Matthew 1:18-23

HELLO my name is	HELLO my name is	HELLO my name is

iStockphoto / Daniel R. Burch

GOD SAID IT; HE DID IT

Matthew 1:18-23 depicts God's keeping of His word regarding the promise of an eternal king in the line of David. Using colored pencils, trace themes from the "Promises Made" column to the "Promise Kept" column.

Promises Made

Promises Kept

Psalm 89

³⁵ Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David. ³⁶ His seed shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun before me. ³⁷ It shall be established for ever as the moon, and as a faithful witness in heaven. Selah.

Isaiah 9

⁶ For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

Matthew 1

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. ¹⁹ Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily. ²⁰ But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. ²¹ And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. ²² Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, ²³ 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.

THE WAY OF ALL THE EARTH

David's final charge to Solomon before David's death is recorded in 1 Kings 2:1-9. He prefaces his charge by affirming, "I go the way of all the earth." Whose death is recorded in each of the following texts? See if you can fill in the blanks from the tombstones without looking in the Bible.



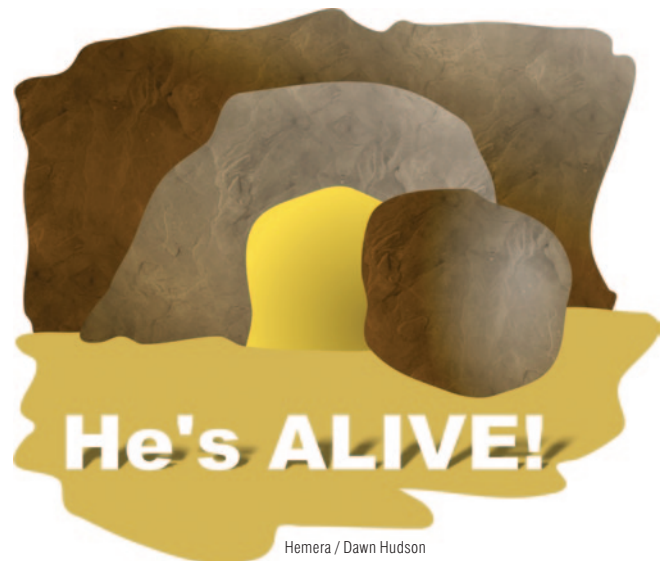
iStockphoto / Ruth Black



Kings and commoners, male and female, righteous and wicked—the way of all the earth is _____!

THE WAY OF THE MESSIAH-KING

Traditionally, the three letters R.I.P. have been used to reflect the simple thought for one who has died: *Rest in peace*. Around the empty tomb below, suggest some ways to take the same three letters (in any order) to describe Acts 2:24, 30-32.



A TIME TO WEEP, A TIME NOT TO WEEP

Revelation 5 begins with a scene that causes the apostle John to weep. No one could open a certain book that contained an important message from God! But then John was told to stop weeping because someone was indeed able to open the book. As you read verses 5-13, list some reasons that we who are saved have for not weeping. One example is given to get you started. You might not have entries on all lines.

1. From verse 9: We have been redeemed by Jesus' blood
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Compare and discuss your choices with those of another class member.



JOINING A CHOIR OF ANGELS

Revelation 5:11 pictures God's heavenly choir singing loudly a majestic song of the Lamb's worthiness. For this week, "join the choir of angels" with your own selection of praise songs. List the title of a different one for each day in your time of private devotions.



Brand X Pictures

- SUNDAY** _____
- MONDAY** _____
- TUESDAY** _____
- WEDNESDAY** _____
- THURSDAY** _____
- FRIDAY** _____
- SATURDAY** _____

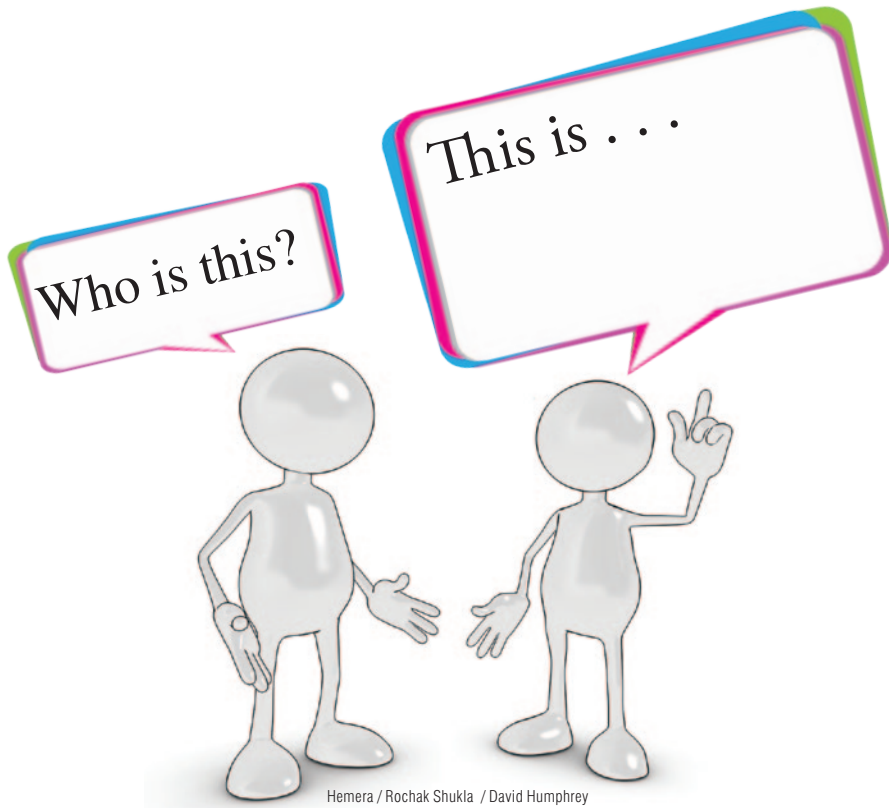
ZECHARIAH SAID WHAT!?

Zechariah is categorized as a minor prophet, but he has some major revelations from God! Match the startling truths on the left with the correct reference on the right from his book.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| ___ 1. What a pitiable value will be placed on the Lord! | A. 2:1-4 |
| ___ 2. What a change we will see for the city of Jerusalem! | B. 3:1-4 |
| ___ 3. What a difference it will be to have a king over the whole earth! | C. 6:11-13 |
| ___ 4. Ah—a way to wash away sin! | D. 9:9 |
| ___ 5. Wow—a combination priest-king to be enthroned! | E. 11:12, 13 |
| ___ 6. Finally, dirty clothes will be exchanged for clean ones! | F. 12:10 |
| ___ 7. Stunning—the ultimate king on a donkey! | G. 13:1 |
| ___ 8. Pouring and piercing—what an unusual combination! | H. 14:9 |

JESUS WHO?

Matthew 21:10 reveals that many were asking, “Who is this?” when Jesus came riding into Jerusalem. Others had a ready response: “This is Jesus the prophet of Nazareth of Galilee.” That was a good answer, but an incomplete one. What is your answer to the question, “Who is this?”



Hemera / Rochak Shukla / David Humphrey

How does your answer correlate with Peter's in Matthew 16:16?

How does your answer correlate with Martha's in John 11:27?

How does your answer correlate with Peter's affirmation in Acts 2:36?

Read 1 Peter 3:15. What will be your ready response when someone asks you this all-important question?

FROM THEN TO NOW

Which parts of Solomon's thoughts offered at the dedication of the temple in 1 Kings 8:27-30 apply to the New Testament temple of 1 Corinthians 3:16, 17; 6:19? Which parts do not apply? Why? Jot ideas below.

What does Jesus declaration in John 4:21-23 have to say about the New Testament temple of 1 Corinthians 3:16, 17; 6:19? Jot ideas below.



iStockphoto / Dave White

WASH ME!

Sin always feels dirty to those sensitive to the things of the Spirit. The one who is insensitive to sin is usually oblivious. So . . . how clean do you feel in Christ? Rate yourself as either a 1 (gratefully clean), 2 (bouncing between clean and unclean), or 3 (still unclean) with regard to what each of these passages has to say.

_____ “Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess. Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also” (Matthew 23:25, 26).

_____ “Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you” (John 15:3).

_____ “But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work. Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart” (2 Timothy 2:20-22).

_____ “Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water” (Hebrews 10:22).

_____ “Dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God” (2 Corinthians 7:1).



iStockphoto / Luis Sierra

What has to happen for you to get all 1s?

THE MESSIAH, PREDICTED AND PRESENT

Read Jeremiah 23:5, 6 and Zechariah 6:9-15 to discover a reference to each item. Below each picture write a brief descriptive phrase about the Messiah from the verse(s) where it is found.



Now read John 19:1-5 and write next to ONE image above the verse offering the closest parallel to what you read from Jeremiah and Zechariah. Explain this parallel.

THE MESSIAH DESCRIBED

For each category below, match the Scripture that best describes how it fits Jesus.

Justifier / King of kings / Righteous judge / Savior / Crowned with glory / High priest

Acts 17:31 / Romans 3:25, 26 / Romans 5:10 / Hebrews 2:9 / Hebrews 7:26, 27 / 1 Timothy 6:15

HONORING THE MESSIAH

How will you complete this prayer?

Lord Jesus, I am in awe of why and how You suffered and died to accomplish my salvation. I will honor your sacrifice this week by . . .

Hemera / Giuseppe Ramos

RESURRECTION PANTOMIME

Select six volunteers to play the parts of the narrator, Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, Peter, and Andrew. As the narrator reads the text, the five others will pantomime the actions according to the instructions. (Option: include up to five actresses according to Luke 24:10.) No actors will play the parts of the angels, as these will be offstage, not visible.

NARRATOR: Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.

[Women walk slowly in, arms extended as though carrying things. They look sad and worried.]

NARRATOR: And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre.

[Eyes staring, mouth wide open, hands thrown up in surprise.]

NARRATOR: And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus. And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, . . .

[Lean forward as though peering into the tomb and exchanging glances with alarm.]

NARRATOR: Behold, two men stood by them in shining garments: and as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead?

[The women look startled and fearful as they see the two brightly shining angels; they bow their faces to the ground, covering their faces with their hands.]

NARRATOR: He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee, saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.

[Women remain bowed down as the angels speak to them.]

NARRATOR: And they remembered his words, . . .

[They lift up their heads and nod as though remembering.]

NARRATOR: And returned from the sepulchre,

[They arise and walk away as though hurrying.]



iStockphoto / Monti Meiri

NARRATOR: And told all these things unto the eleven, and to all the rest. It was Mary Magdalene, and Joanna, and Mary the mother of James, and other women that were with them, which told these things unto the apostles.

[The women approach Peter and Andrew, who are seated off to the side. The women gesture and appear to be talking excitedly as they silently mouth, "The stone was rolled away; Jesus' body was gone. We saw two angels. He's alive!"]

NARRATOR: And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not.

[As the women continue to talk, Peter and Andrew look disbelieving, shaking their heads, and waving their hands dismissively.]

NARRATOR: Then arose Peter, and ran unto the sepulchre; and stooping down, he beheld the linen clothes laid by themselves, and departed, wondering in himself at that which was come to pass.

[Peter jumps up and quickly goes to the tomb. He looks inside, sees the clothes, and leaves—shaking his head and looking puzzled.]



iStockphoto / Victor Correia



Dawn Hudson

WHAT HAPPENED TO JESUS

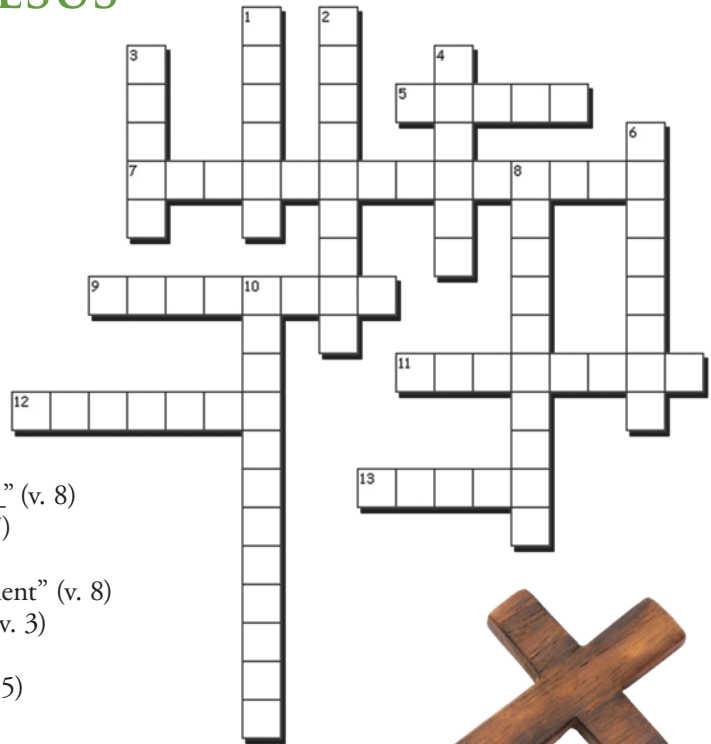
From Isaiah 53, recount what was to happen—and did happen—to Jesus.

Across

5. “a man of sorrows, and acquainted with _____” (v. 3)
7. “he was wounded for our _____” (v. 5)
9. “despised and _____ of men” (v. 3)
11. “we did esteem him _____” (v. 4)
12. “with his _____ we are healed” (v. 5)
13. “surely he hath _____ our griefs” (v. 4)

Down

1. “he was cut off out of the land of the _____” (v. 8)
2. “he is brought as a lamb to the _____” (v. 7)
3. “he opened not his _____” (v. 7)
4. “he was taken from _____ and from judgment” (v. 8)
6. “he was despised, and we _____ him not” (v. 3)
8. “he was bruised for our _____” (v. 5)
10. “the _____ of our peace was upon him” (v. 5)



WHAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN TO ME

The disciples were slow to catch on to the true nature of Jesus’ messiahship, and sometimes our actions (or lack of actions) demonstrate our own slowness in that regard. Read the following statements from Jesus and circle the one where you need His assistance most in applying it to your life. Then write a prayer to Him confessing this and asking for His help.

“Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? . . . But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you” (Matthew 6:31, 33).

“Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel’s, the same shall save it” (Mark 8:34, 35).

“Condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven.” (Luke 6:37).

“I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me” (John 14:6).

My prayer...

iStockphoto / Shirly Friedman

SATAN SAYS

Remember the old list of “seven deadly sins”? Match the tempting statement Satan might use with the corresponding sin to the right.

- ___ 1. “Did you see how that crazy driver cut you off? Don’t let him get away with that!”
- ___ 2. “If you would stop giving to church for a while, you could invest your money in that great opportunity your friend told you about and make some real money—to give to church later.”
- ___ 3. “Roll over and go back to sleep. You can read your Bible tomorrow.”
- ___ 4. “You did all the work, and she took all the credit. Are you going to let her make you look bad?”
- ___ 5. “Your friend has a loving spouse, great children, and plenty of money while you’re single and poor. Don’t you wish you had that life?”
- ___ 6. “Go ahead and have another piece of cake. This is a party. You gotta live a little.”
- ___ 7. “Your marriage is in a rut. What you need is some spice in your . . . Wow! Talk about good-looking!”

- A. Envy
- B. Greed
- C. Gluttony
- D. Lust
- E. Pride
- F. Sloth
- G. Wrath

A deeper look: Can you find a Scripture to counter each of the seven temptations above?

READY TO RESIST

Using the Word of God, which “is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword” (Hebrews 4:12), Jesus fought off Satan’s attacks. We can too! Select one of the passages below that you think will be most helpful for resisting temptation in the week ahead. Write the text of that verse next to the sword and memorize it.

1 Corinthians 10:13

Psalms 51:10

1 Thessalonians 5:22

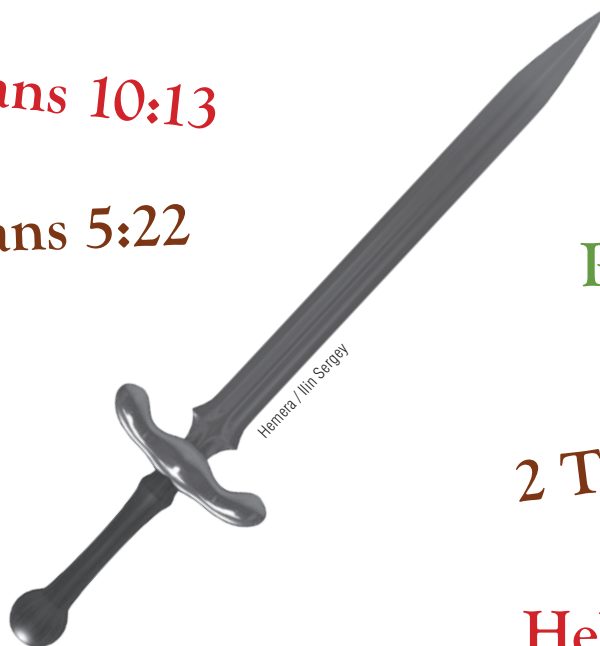
Psalms 101:3

James 4:7

2 Timothy 2:22

Psalms 119:11

Hebrews 2:18



THE MESSIAH'S MISSION

Isaiah 61:1-3 lists the many wonderful ministries of the coming Messiah. As you fill in the blanks below, the Messiah's overall mission in coming to earth will be revealed.

- | | | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|--------------------------|-----|-----|-------------------------------------------|
| ___ | ___ | ___ | <input type="checkbox"/> | ___ | ___ | 1. Release those bound in _____ (v. 1). |
| ___ | ___ | ___ | <input type="checkbox"/> | ___ | ___ | 2. Give them a garment of _____ (v. 3). |
| ___ | ___ | ___ | <input type="checkbox"/> | ___ | ___ | 3. Proclaim the year of the _____ (v. 2). |
| ___ | ___ | ___ | <input type="checkbox"/> | ___ | ___ | 4. Liberty to the _____ (v. 1). |
| ___ | ___ | ___ | <input type="checkbox"/> | ___ | ___ | 5. Replace ashes with _____ (v. 3). |
| ___ | ___ | ___ | <input type="checkbox"/> | ___ | ___ | 6. A _____ of the Lord (v. 3). |
| ___ | ___ | ___ | <input type="checkbox"/> | ___ | ___ | 7. _____ up the brokenhearted (v. 1). |
| ___ | ___ | ___ | <input type="checkbox"/> | ___ | ___ | 8. Preach _____ tidings (v. 1). |
| ___ | ___ | ___ | <input type="checkbox"/> | ___ | ___ | 9. Comfort all that _____ (v. 2). |

The Messiah's mission was to bring _____.

OUR MISSION

Listed below are aspects of Jesus' mission to "preach the gospel." What part will you play in this mission in the week ahead? Pick one line in each of the two columns to jot a specific commitment you will make.

My task for Jesus

... in a spiritual sense

... in a physical sense

Healing of the brokenhearted

Deliverance of the captives

Recovery of sight

Liberty for the bruised



iStockphoto / Alexey Dudoladov



Hemera / Risto Viitanen



Hemera / Eduard Kachan

MISSING THE MARK

The Pharisees and scribes of Jesus' day were so focused on their traditions that they missed what was truly important. Jot answers to the questions below as you work through today's lesson.



iStockphoto / Andriy Muzyka

Why was Jesus irritated with the Pharisees' teaching?

Why and how did the traditions of the Pharisees violate God's commands? (For deeper study, see Matthew 23.)

What does Jesus' instruction tell us about the difference between inward submission to God and outward conformity? Can those two be differentiated as cause and effect? Why, or why not?

WHAT WAS YOUR TRADITION?

Think back to what a church service was like when you were a child. How many of the following traditions did your congregation observe? Check off the ones that were practiced then but aren't practiced in your current worship experience.



iStockphoto / Galina

Brand X Pictures

iStockphoto / Ruslan Kokarev

- T**ies and suits
- R**obes for choir members
- A**men! (as a verbal response of approval)
- D**resses
- I**ndoor baptistry
- T**he Lord's Supper always at same place in the service
- I**ncluded children
- O**rgan music
- N**o jeans
- S**inging from hymnals

How might your current traditions be revised in order to better align with God's Word? Jot ideas below.

THE IMPERATIVE OF LOVE

What important words are associated in the “love passages” below? Draw lines from words in the center column to the passage it matches best on either side. Each word is to be matched to only one passage.

Love for God

Deuteronomy 10:12

Psalms 31:23

Joshua 22:5

1 John 5:2

commandment
diligence
fulfillment
know (as in “certainty”)
perfected
preservation
purity
requirement

Love for Others

John 15:12

James 2:8

1 Peter 1:22

1 John 4:12

REMEMBERING TO LOVE

Post this in a prominent place where you will see it to test your memory daily in the week ahead.



iStockphoto / Ilie Victor Oancea

Thou shalt _____ the _____ thy _____
with _____,
and with _____,
and with _____,
and with _____:
this is the first commandment.



iStockphoto / Michael Dykstra

The second is like,
namely this,

Thou shalt _____ as _____.

—Mark 12:30, 31

Hemera / Vladimir Vancik

Lesson 1

Building the House of God. Changing Course: responses can be worded in various ways, but most should say something like “Don’t presume to do something that I have never asked for.” Digging Deeper: David had fought many wars, shedding much blood.

Lesson 2

Hello! My Name Is . . . See the commentary for possibilities.

God Said It; He Did It. Thematic connections that learners may identify include (but are not limited to) the following: child to be born and Mary’s miraculous pregnancy; mighty God and God with us; judgment/justice with a just man; seed of David and Joseph as descendant of David; Isaiah’s names for the child and the meaning of the name Jesus; promise of peace and “he shall save.”

Lesson 3

The Way of All the Earth. Saul, Solomon, John the Baptist. “The way of all the earth is death.”

The Way of the Messiah-King. Some possible responses are raised in power, resurrected in power, promised resurrection implemented, power in resurrection, permanent repose impossible, resting place irrelevant, interred person released, rising is permanent.

Lesson 4

A Time to Weep, A Time Not to Weep. Possible responses: the all-powerful Lamb is our ally (v. 6); the all-seeing Lamb is aware of our situation (v. 6); people can be admitted into God’s presence (v. 8); God hears our prayers (v. 8); we have a kingdom (v. 10)

Lesson 5

Zechariah Said What!? 1-E, 2-A, 3-H, 4-G, 5-C, 6-B, 7-D, 8-F

Lesson 6

From Then to Now. Possible responses: applies—presence of God, God’s name is there; does not apply—Old Testament temple was an inanimate building, we don’t pray “toward” the temple of the New Testament era.

Lesson 7

The Messiah, Predicted and Present. Branch—Jeremiah 23:5; Zechariah 6:12; Crown—Zechariah 6:11, 14; Throne—Zechariah 6:13; Temple—Zechariah 6:12, 15; Judge—Jeremiah 23:5; Savior (firefighter)—Jeremiah 23:6; having glory (sunburst)—Zechariah 6:13. Crown is the closest parallel, per John 19:2.

The Messiah Described. Justifier matches Romans 3:25, 26; King of kings matches 1 Timothy 6:15; Righteous judge matches Acts 17:31; Savior matches Romans 5:10; Crowned with glory matches Hebrews 2:9; High priest matches Hebrews 7:26, 27

Lesson 9

What Happened to Jesus. Across: 5, grief; 7, transgressions; 9, rejected; 11, stricken; 12, stripes; 13, borne. Down: 1, living; 2, slaughter; 3, mouth; 4, prison; 6, esteemed; 8, iniquities; 10, chastisement.

Lesson 10

Satan Says. 1-G, 2-B, 3-F, 4-E, 5-A, 6-C, 7-D.

Lesson 11

The Messiah’s Mission: 1-prison, 2-praise, 3-Lord, 4-captives, 5-beauty, 6-planting, 7-bind, 8-good, 9-mourn. The Messiah’s mission was to bring *SALVATION*.

Lesson 12

Missing the Mark: consult the Into the Word segment of Involvement Learning on page 328 of the lesson commentary for possible responses.

Lesson 13

The Imperative of Love: John 15:12, commandment; Joshua 22:5, diligence; James 2:8, fulfillment; 1 John 5:2, know; 1 John 4:12, perfected; Psalm 31:23, preservation; 1 Peter 1:22, purity; Deuteronomy 10:12, requirement.