

# WINTER 2024–2025 A KING FOREVER AND EVER

## These Activity Pages Are Designed To:

- Engage students in a way that lecture and open-ended discussion don't.
- Gain insight on what has been learned and what hasn't.
- Encourage students to learn from one another and build vital relationships, in keeping with Proverbs 27:17 and Galatians 6:2.

### Tips For Using Activity Pages:

- Instructions are on each lesson's "Involvement Learning" page (for teachers) and Activity Page (for students).
- Use these pages as optional alternatives for "Involvement Learning" activities.
- Limit individual work time and focus on facilitating discussion among learners.
- Encourage students to complete take-home work by discussing their results in the next class session.

### Maximize Group Activity Time!

- Instead of viewing group activities as empty time for you as the teacher, look for opportunities to encourage and challenge your students.
- Pray silently during the activity for the participants' spiritual growth! Pray for them by name, calling on the Lord to bless each person.
- Circulate among the groups of learners and observe their interactions to discover your learners' level of spiritual maturity.
- Pray that the Spirit will fall on your classroom, equipping your students with knowledge and filling them with passion to boldly proclaim the good news.

Lesson 1, Ruth 4:9-17; Luke 3:23, 31b-32, NIV

### **SETTING THE SCENE**

Work with a partner to identify the importance of each of the following places or names in the book of Ruth.

Bethlehem	 	 
Boaz	 	 
Kilion	 	 
Elimelek	 	 
Mahlon		 
Moab		 
Naomi		 
Orpah	 	 
Ruth	 	 

#### **A SPIRITUAL FAMILY TREE**

In the space below, write the names of three to five members of God's family (past or present, personally known or not) who have influenced your faith. Feel free to sketch this spiritual heritage as a family tree.

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	© Getty Images

#### God's Promise

#### GOD'S PROMISE TO DAVID

Locate the words from today's lesson within the following puzzle. Briefly discuss with your partner the importance of each word to 2 Samuel 7:4-17.

David Throne Nathan Forever Covenant Prophet Jerusalem Promise Israel Bless House Peace Solomon Heart Kingdom Lord Servant Rest

SQQN Q L V Ε Ρ L I Ν Q С Т D 0 Ε L S Α U Α 0 S Ρ Α Κ Н 0 Α R Ε Κ Х F R L Т Κ Н Т T Т V F Т V Ζ С Ε D L Н Н Μ Μ 0 Κ 0 G T В S Α Α Ν Ν R Κ Q 0 0 Т Ν Κ Т Ν G D 0 M N Α 0 Ε Ε Ν R Ε Т Е Μ S 0 Н Κ G Х Ν Μ V Н U Ρ S S Е Ζ 0 Q U Ν Т 0 Ε Т Α В V Ε R Z В U L R Т Е Η Ρ 0 L R Ρ Ε R Ζ В 0 ΜE Α S U R Ε 0 L J S Ε W Α V Н Α R Т D Ζ С W Т С Ζ J R Α S W Т Х В Т Α F В Ε M D Ζ S Ν Κ W Ε S F U Μ Q 0 Η L G J Т F J Т Y Ρ D I 0 Y Ρ L т Ρ T R Q Т 0 С L Т В L F V В Q

#### **PRAYER CHART**

Complete the following chart by listing prayer requests that have been answered and how God answered them.

Prayer Request	Answer

### FALSE PROPHECIES

Research one of these prophetic instances on your smartphone and work with a partner to determine what made them "false" prophecies.

#### The 2012 Mayan Apocalypse / "The Prophetic Hen of Leeds" / Harold Camping

How do these prophetic instances differ from prophecies found in Scripture?

Why are false prophecies dangerous?

What guidelines do you follow not to be taken in by false prophecies?

#### **BABY DEDICATION**

Based on Zechariah's prophecy in Luke 1:67-80, compose a baby dedication letter for John the Baptist. In the first part of the letter, express thanks to God for his faithfulness, and in the second half, express your hopes and dreams for how this child will grow up in the kingdom of God.

### PACKING LIST FOR EXPECTING PARENTS

Imagine that Mary and Joseph lived today and were traveling to Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, for Jesus' birth. What modern essentials would they need for their journey? for the labor and delivery? for the first days after delivery?

For the journey to Bethlehem (examples: clothes, toiletries, snacks, etc.)

For labor and delivery (examples: pillows, painkillers, etc.)

For the first days after delivery (examples: newborn outfit, pacifier, wet wipes)

Based on your reading of Luke 2:1-16, what essentials did God provide for Mary, Joseph, and Jesus?

How well does God provide for your essential needs, if not always your wants?

#### MIXED MESSAGE

Place the following words in the correct order to reveal the words of praise from the heavenly host. Check your answer by rereading Luke 2:14.

God	earth	highest	on	in	those	and
Glory	heaven	to	on	peace	the	to
favor	his	rests	on	whom		

In your own words, summarize the heavenly host's praise:

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#### **DEFINING FAITH**

Write your answers below, citing any Bible verses that support your responses. Consult outside resources as desired.

Faith is <i>not</i> :
Faith is:
Faith is <i>similar to</i> :
Biblical examples of faith-in-action:
Personal examples of faith-in-action:
Why does having a clear definition of <i>faith</i> matter?

### MIRACLES IN LUKE

Read the Scripture references in the table below. Then, fill out the table and note any patterns of faith you see. One example has been completed for you.

	The Petitioner	The Crowd	Jesus
Luke 5:12-16	Wanted to be cleansed of his leprosy	Heard of the miracle and came to experience healing	Was willing to heal the man; told him to keep quiet and present himself to the priests
Luke 7:1-10			
Luke 8:40-42, 49-56			
Luke 8:43-48			

### LISTEN TO GRANDPA ... OR DON'T?

Below are bits of folk wisdom you may have heard from an elderly family member when you were a child. Which are true, and which are not?

1. It takes longer than five seconds for bacteria to adhere to food that falls on the floor
2. Aching body joints can indicate that a storm is coming
3. Sitting close to the TV will permanently ruin your eyes
4. If you don't stop cracking your knuckles, you're going to get arthritis
5. The behavior of animals can be a warning of an impending earthquake,
thunderstorm, or tsunami

With your study partner(s), discuss how we know the Bible's promises of God's care and protection are true and reliable, not just anecdotal "folk wisdom." Jot ideas below.

### JUSTICE BEGINS NOW ... WITH ME?

Oh, how easy it is merely to pray for an end to injustice—and how difficult it is to be part of the solution personally! *Your challenge:* Write a prayer that asks God to empower you in that regard and to place you in situations where you serve as God's hands in reversing an injustice or oppression.



### THE LORD, THE KING

Work with a partner to identify royal descriptions of the Lord in Psalm 93.

Verse 1	 	 
Verse 2	 	 
Verse 3	 	 
Verse 4	 	 
Verse 5	 	 

Compare and contrast these descriptions with what you know of ancient or modern royals. How does God fulfill a similar role? How does he differ from earthly leaders?

#### **MY KEY VERSE**

Write a key verse (or phrase) from Psalm 93 that resonates with you. Include a short note about the insight or encouragement this verse gives you. Then, write a brief plan to help you remember this verse in the week ahead.

### THE ACTIVE LORD, DOUBLY DESCRIBED

Match each question below with its correct pair on the right. Each pair will be used no more than once, and several will not be used at all. This is a speed drill; time limit of one minute! Answers are in Psalm 103:6-14

A. acrimony/patience	1. "The LORD works and for
B. anger / love	all the oppressed."
C. accuse / anger	2. "He made known his ways to, his deeds to
D. east / west	the people of"
E. forgive / forget	3. "The LORD is slow to, abounding in
F. heaven / earth	
G. mountain / sea	4. The Lord "will not always, nor will he
H. kings / prophets	harbor his forever;"
I. Moses / people	5. "For as high as the are above the
J. north / south	, so great is his love for those who fear him;"
K. righteousness / justice	6. "As far as theis from the,
	so far has he removed our transgressions from us."

### **MY FAVORITE PERSON OF ACTION**

Think of someone whose faith inspires you. Then fill out the following in a minute or less.

Favorite person's name (optional):
This person's faith inspires me in this way:
One virtue I regularly notice in this person:
This person's character can be summed up with this one word:
This person reminds me of the following person from the Bible:

#### The Lord Is Righteous

### **YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND FOREVER**

Complete the sentences with things that described you yesterday.

I felt (emotion/mood)
I (action/task)
I did not (action/task)
I ate (one food item)
Now rewrite those sentences in the present/habitual tense.
I always feel
I always
I never
I always eat all the

#### **HE DOES, WE DO**

Match the first part of the verse from Psalm 145 with the second. Bibles closed!

- Verse 01. I will exalt you, my God the King;
- Verse 10. All your works praise you, LORD;
- Verse 11. They tell of the glory of your kingdom
- Verse 12. so that all people may know of your mighty acts
- Verse 13. Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
- Verse 14. The LORD upholds all who fall
- Verse 15. The eyes of all look to you,
- Verse 16. You open your hand
- Verse 17. The LORD is righteous in all his ways
- Verse 18. The LORD is near to all who call on him,
- Verse 19. He fulfills the desires of those who fear him;
- Verse 20. The LORD watches over all who love him,
- Verse 21. My mouth will speak in praise of the Lord.

- \_\_\_\_\_A. and lifts up all who are bowed down.
- \_\_\_\_\_B. Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever.
- \_\_\_\_C. and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
- \_\_\_\_D. but all the wicked he will destroy.
- \_\_\_\_E. your faithful people extol you.
- \_\_\_\_\_F. I will praise your name for ever and ever.
- \_\_\_\_G. and speak of your might,
- \_\_\_\_\_H. and faithful in all he does.
- \_\_\_\_I. and your dominion endures through all generations.
- \_\_\_\_\_J. he hears their cry and saves them.
- \_\_\_\_K. to all who call on him in truth
- \_\_\_\_\_L. and satisfy the desires of every living thing.
- \_\_\_\_\_M. and you give them their food at the proper time.

### **ACTS IN ACTION**

What are your typical prayer habits in terms of the following:

- Number of times you pray each day: \_\_\_\_\_
- Length of your prayers in minutes: \_\_\_\_\_\_
- Context of most of your prayers (circle one):

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• Focus of your prayers—what occupies the most time in your prayers (circle one):

<i>A</i> doration	<b>C</b> onfession	<b>T</b> hanksgiving	<b>S</b> upplication
(praising God)	(admitting sin)	(expressing gratitude)	(making requests)

Where do you see the four elements of ACTS in the individual phrases of the Lord's Prayer? Use highlighters in four colors to match the phrases below to their counterparts in the ACTS formula above.

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

What does this reveal about a way to improve your prayer life? Write thoughts below:

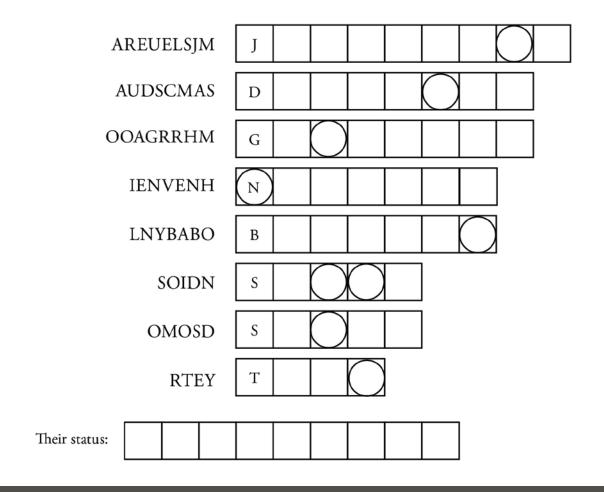
#### **CEREMONIAL THEISM?**

CASE STUDY. A military chaplain is writing a prayer that he will deliver at a "commander's call" staff meeting later in the day. Being a Christian, the chaplain inclines strongly toward praying in the name of Jesus (see John 14:13-14). This is not forbidden, but it is frowned upon as not being "inclusive." The chaplain sees public prayers that are not offered in Jesus' name as being little more than exercises in "ceremonial theism."

- What options does the chaplain have, and which course should he take?
- Would your answer be different if the context were a change of command ceremony rather than a staff meeting? Why, or why not?

### **Ancient Cities, Sinful Histories**

Fill the blanks to identify eight cities sharing a common trait, using the circled letters.

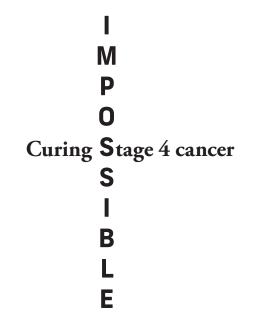


### **Different Roles, Common Goals**

	Jesus	John the Baptist
What were their roles?		
What were their goals?		
Scripture resources (among many)		
• John the Baptist: Matthew 3; M	ark 1; Luke 3; John 1	
• Jesus: Luke 12:51; John 3:16; Lu	ke 19:10; 1 John 3:8	

#### **IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!**

Use the word *impossible* to create a ten-item acrostic of problems or unfavorable situations that seem to present an impossibility in human thinking but are entirely possible with God. One idea is given to get you started.



#### WEALTHIER THAN I IMAGINED

Search for "wealth comparison calculator" or similar on your smartphone's web browser. Pick two of the results and enter the data requested. Enter one of the results below.

I am wealthier than \_\_\_\_\_ percent of the world's population.

What does this signal to you in terms of today's lesson?

What spiritual and lifestyle changes do you need to make?

### **COLLECTIVE HELPING AND JESUS' EXPECTATIONS**

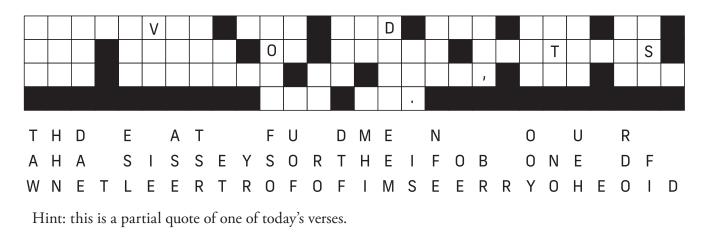
Read the following Scriptures and summarize how the church used different methods in meeting needs collectively.

Acts 2:44-45	Acts 4:32-35	Acts 6:1-3	1 Timothy 5:3-11, 16

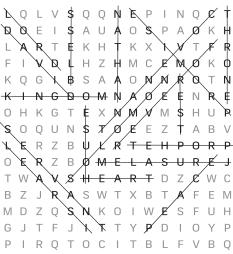
What kinds of needs are met most efficiently and effectively through individual effort? Which are better met through the collective effort of the local church? Jot ideas below:

### **DON'T LET THE MESSAGE FALL AWAY!**

A key idea of today's lesson has fallen away and must be recovered! Each letter underneath the puzzle grid belongs in one of the boxes in the column directly above it. Move letters to their correct boxes to reveal a reminder of the lesson's message. (Five letters are already filled in; try not to look at the hint below.)







#### Lesson 4

**Mixed Message:** "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

#### Lesson 5 Miracles in Luke:

	The Petitioner	The Crowd	Jesus
Luke 5:12-16	Wanted to be cleansed of his leprosy	Heard of the mir- acle and came to experience healing	Was willing to heal the man; told him to keep quiet and present himself to the priests
Luke 7:1-10	The centurion wanted his servant healed	Visited and im- plored Jesus to heal from a distance	Jesus visited the centurion and applauded the centurion for his "great faith."
Luke 8:40-42, 49-56	Jairus fell at Jesus' feet and asked for healing of his daughter	The crowd mourn- ed for the deceased daughter	Resurrected the daughter after she had died.
Luke 8:43-48	The woman touched Jesus' cloak	Pressed in on Jesus	Knew that some- one touched His cloak; healed the woman instantly

#### Lesson 6

Listen to Grandpa... or Don't?: 1. False; 2. True; 3. False; 4. False; 5. True

#### Lesson 8

**The Active Lord, Doubly Described:** 1. K; 2. I; 3. B; 4. C; 5. F; 6. D

#### Lesson 9

He Does, We Do: A. v. 14; B. v. 21; C. v. 12; D. v. 20; E. v. 10; F. v. 1; G. v. 11; H. v. 17; I. v. 13; J. v. 19; K. v. 18; L. v. 16; M. v. 15.

#### Lesson 11

#### Ancient Cities, Sinful Histories:

Jerusalem (Isaiah 22; etc,) / Damascus (Isaiah 17, etc.) / Gomorrah (Genesis 19:23-25; 2 Peter 2:6) / Nineveh (book of Nahum) / Babylon (Isaiah 13, 21:1-10; etc.) / Sidon (Isaiah 23) / Sodom (Genesis 19:23-25; 2 Peter 2:6) / Tyre (Isaiah 23). Their status: condemned

#### Lesson 13

#### Don't Let the Message Fall Away:

