OUR CHRISTIAN LIFE AND MINISTRY

MEETING WORKBOOK



Song 132 and Prayer | Opening Comments (1 min.)



1. A Story of Unfailing Love (10 min.)

[Play the VIDEO Introduction to Song of Solomon.1

Solomon showered the Shulammite girl with praise and offered her material riches (Ca 1:9-11)

The Shulammite girl's unfailing love for her shepherd boy helped her to remain loyal (Ca 2:16, 17; w15 1/15 30 ¶9-10)

TIP: When reading the Song of Solomon, use the "Outline of Contents" in the New World Translation to understand who is speaking.



2. Spiritual Gems (10 min.)

Ca 2:7—Why is the Shulammite girl a good example for single Christians? (w15 1/15 31 ¶11)

What spiritual gems from this week's Bible reading would you like to share?



APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

4. Starting a Conversation (3 min.)

HOUSE TO HOUSE. Share a truth from appendix A of the Love People brochure. (Imd lesson 1 point 3)

5. Following Up (4 min.)

HOUSE TO HOUSE. Share a truth from appendix A of the Love People brochure. (Imd lesson 9 point 3)

6. Making Disciples (5 min.)

Iff lesson 18 intro and points 1-3 (th study 8)

3. Bible Reading (4 min.)

Ca 2:1-17 (th study 12)

Song 46

7. "The Generous Person Will Be Blessed" (15 min.) Discussion by an elder.

When we give generously of our time and resources, blessings result. Of course, the appreciative recipient views our gift as a blessing. However, the generous giver is also blessed. (Pr 22:9) Not only does he experience joy from imitating the Creator but he also gains Jehovah's approval.—Pr 19:17; Jas 1:17.

Play the VIDEO Generosity Brings Joy. Then ask the audience:

- How have the individuals in the video experienced joy as a result of the generosity of the global brotherhood?
- How have they also experienced the joy that comes from giving generously to others?





Learn More Online



How can you make voluntary donations to support the work of Jehovah's Witnesses? Click on the "Donations" icon at the bottom of the home page in the JW Library® app. In many countries, you will find an FAQ tab that links to a document entitled Donations to Jehovah's Witnesses—Frequently Asked Questions.

8. Congregation Bible Study (30 min.)

Ifb lessons 32-33

Song 31 and Prayer | Opening Comments (1 min.)



1. The Importance of Inner Beauty (10 min.)

The Shulammite girl's speech reflected her inner beauty (Ca 4:3, 11; w15 1/15 30 ¶8)

Her moral purity was compared to a garden of rare beauty (Ca 4:12; w00 11/1 11 ¶17)

Inner beauty, which is more important than outer beauty, is within the reach of all (q04 12/22 9 ¶2-5)

ASK YOURSELF, 'What spiritual qualities do I appreciate most in others?'



2. Spiritual Gems (10 min.)

Ca 3:5—Why are the "daughters of Jerusalem" put under oath "by the gazelles and the does of the field"? (w06 11/15 18 ¶4)

What spiritual gems from this week's Bible reading would you like to share?



APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

4. Starting a Conversation (3 min.)

HOUSE TO HOUSE. Use the direct approach to offer a Bible study. (Imd lesson 6 point 4)

5. Starting a Conversation (4 min.)

INFORMAL WITNESSING. Show the person how to find information in his language on jw.org. (Imd lesson 4 point 3)

6. Talk (5 min.)

ijwbq article 131—Theme: What Does the Bible Say About Wearing Makeup and Jewelry? (th study 1)

3. Bible Reading (4 min.)

Ca 4:1-16 (th study 2)

7. Marry Only in the Lord (Ge 28:2) (8 min.)

Play the VIDEO.

8. Would You Make a Good Marriage Mate?

(7 min.) Discussion.

Are you looking for a marriage mate? When other Christians who want to marry observe you, do they see someone with beautiful spiritual qualities? Although someone may be able to act like a spiritual person for a time, eventually what he or she is on the inside will become apparent.

Write down a scripture that corresponds to each of the following qualities that a spiritual person displays.

- Love for Jehovah and faith in him
- Ability to exercise headship or to submit to it
- Unselfishness and self-sacrificing love
- Good judgment, balance, and reasonableness
- Diligence and industriousness







9. Congregation Bible Study (30 min.)

Ifb lessons 34-35

Song 34 and Prayer | Opening Comments (1 min.)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

1. Be a Wall, Not a Door (10 min.)

The Shulammite girl's brothers wanted her to remain chaste (Ca 8:8, 9; it "Song of Solomon, The" ¶11)

She found peace because she successfully resisted immoral enticements (Ca 8:10; yp 188 ¶2)

In this respect, she is a role model for youths (yp2 33)

ASK YOURSELF, 'How can I help single Christians in my congregation to be a wall, not a door?'



2. Spiritual Gems (10 min.)

Ca 8:6—Why is true love referred to as "the flame of Jah"? (w15 1/15 29 ¶3)

What spiritual gems from this week's Bible reading would you like to share?

3. Bible Reading (4 min.)

Ca 7:1-13 (th study 12)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

4. Starting a Conversation (2 min.)

HOUSE TO HOUSE. Use a jw.org contact card to start a conversation. (Imd lesson 4 point 4)

5. Starting a Conversation (2 min.)

PUBLIC WITNESSING. Use a tract to start a conversation in business territory. (Imd lesson 1 point 4)

6. Starting a Conversation (2 min.)

INFORMAL WITNESSING. Initiate a friendly conversation that ends before you can give a witness. (Imd lesson 2 point 4)

7. Explaining Your Beliefs (5 min.)

Demonstration. ijwfq article 43—Theme: Do Jehovah's Witnesses Have Rules About Dating? (th study 7)

Song 121

8. Flee From Sexual Immorality (15 min.) Discussion.

In the Song of Solomon, the shepherd invited the Shulammite girl on a romantic walk. (Ca 2:10-14) Although his motives were likely innocent, the girl's wise brothers gave her work to prevent her from accepting his invitation. (Ca 2:15) They understood that being alone in a romantic setting with the one she loved could lead to temptations.

The Bible admonishes Christians to "flee from sexual immorality." (1Co 6:18) We should avoid any actions that could lead to wrongdoing. The inspired writer of Song of Solomon also wrote: "The shrewd one sees the danger and conceals himself, but the inexperienced keep right on going and suffer the consequences."—Pr 22:3.

Play the VIDEO God "Is Aware of the Secrets of the Heart." Then ask the audience:

• What lessons did you learn from this video dramatization?







9. Congregation Bible Study (30 min.)

Ifb lessons 36-37

Song 44 and Prayer | Opening Comments (1 min.)



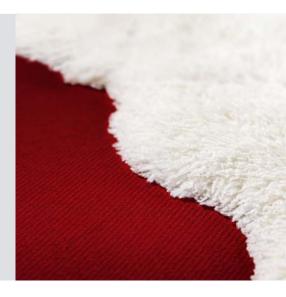
1. Hope for Those "Weighed Down With Error" (10 min.)

[Play the VIDEO Introduction to Isaiah.]

God's people were "weighed down with error" (Isa 1:4-6; ip-1 14 ¶8)

Jehovah was willing to forgive them completely if they repented (Isa 1:18; ip-1 28-29 ¶15-17)

FOR MEDITATION: How can Jehovah's invitation to the nation of Israel reassure us if we worry that our sins are too serious to be forgiven?



2. Spiritual Gems (10 min.)

Isa 2:2—What does "the mountain of the house of Jehovah" represent? (ip-1 39 ¶9)

What spiritual gems from this week's Bible reading would you like to share?

3. Bible Reading (4 min.)

Isa 2:1-11 (th study 11)



4. Starting a Conversation (3 min.)

HOUSE TO HOUSE. Share a truth from appendix A of the Love People brochure. (Imd lesson 3 point 3)

5. Following Up (4 min.)

HOUSE TO HOUSE. The person expresses interest in a subject different from the one you returned to discuss. (Imd lesson 7 point 4)

6. Talk (5 min.)

ijwbg article 96—Theme: What Is Sin? (th study 20)



Song 38

7. Become Jehovah's Friend—Jehovah Forgives (15 min.) Discussion.

Play the VIDEO. If possible, invite selected children to the stage and ask them questions about the video and what lessons they learned.

8. Congregation Bible Study (30 min.)

Ifb lesson 38, intro to section 7, and lesson 39

Song 135 and Prayer | Opening Comments (1 min.)



1. Jehovah Had a Right to Expect More (10 min.)

Jehovah carefully "planted" his "vineyard" with reasonable expectations (Isa 5:1, 2, 7; ip-1 73-74 ¶3-5; 76 ¶8-9)

Jehovah's vineyard produced only wild grapes (Isa 5:4; w06 6/15 18 ¶1)

Jehovah promised to make the vineyard a wasteland (Isa 5:5, 6; w06 6/15 18 ¶2)

ASK YOURSELF: 'How does this account motivate me to avoid disappointing Jehovah?'



2. Spiritual Gems (10 min.)

Isa 5:8, 9—What were the Israelites doing that displeased Jehovah? (ip-1 80 ¶18-19)

What spiritual gems from this week's Bible reading would you like to share?

3. Bible Reading (4 min.)

Isa 5:1-12 (th study 5)



4. Starting a Conversation (3 min.)

HOUSE TO HOUSE. Feature a video from the Teaching Toolbox. (Imd lesson 1 point 5)

5. Following Up (4 min.)

INFORMAL WITNESSING. Tell the person about the JW Library app, and help him load it on his phone. (Imd lesson 9 point 5)

6. Making Disciples (5 min.)

Encourage a Bible student who is dealing with family opposition. (Imd lesson 12 point 4)



☐ Song 65

7. Local Needs (15 min.)

8. Congregation Bible Study (30 min.)

Ifb lessons 40-41

□ Song 75 and Prayer | Opening Comments (1 min.)



1. "Here I Am! Send Me!" (10 min.)

Without hesitation, Isaiah volunteered to be God's spokesman (Isa 6:8; *ip-1* 93-94 ¶13-14; see cover picture)

Isaiah's assignment would be challenging (Isa 6:9, 10; *ip-1* 95 ¶15-16)

Isaiah's prophetic task foreshadowed the work that Jesus would do (Mt 13:13-15; *ip-1* 99 ¶23)

FOR MEDITATION: How can I improve in showing the volunteer spirit?



2. Spiritual Gems (10 min.)

Isa 7:3, 4—Why did Jehovah extend salvation to wicked King Ahaz? $(w06\ 12/1\ 9\ \P4)$

What spiritual gems from this week's Bible reading would you like to share?

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

4. Starting a Conversation (3 min.)

HOUSE TO HOUSE. Share a truth from appendix A of the *Love People* brochure. (*Imd* lesson 4 point 5)

5. Following Up (4 min.)

HOUSE TO HOUSE. Offer a Bible study. (*Imd* lesson 9 point 3)

6. Following Up (5 min.)

HOUSE TO HOUSE. Demonstrate a Bible study. (*Imd* lesson 9 point 5)

3. Bible Reading (4 min.)

Isa 8:1-13 (th study 5)

7. House-to-House Preaching—Our Trademark (15 min.) Discussion.

Jehovah's Witnesses are known for their house-to-house preaching in imitation of Jesus and first-century Christians.—Lu 10:5; Ac 5:42.

Of course, the house-to-house ministry had to be suspended during the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, we focused on spreading the good news through informal conversations, letter writing, and telephone witnessing. We are glad to have had the opportunity to become more familiar with these excellent methods of preaching! Still, preaching from house to house remains our primary way of spreading the good news. Are you in a position to participate in the house-to-house work regularly?

How does the house-to-house ministry help us to do the following?

- Cover our territory thoroughly
- Improve our teaching ability and cultivate qualities such as courage, impartiality, and self-sacrifice
- Start Bible studies



Play the VIDEO Preaching in All Weather. Then ask the audience:

• What did you learn from the self-sacrificing evangelizers in the Faroe Islands?

8. Congregation Bible Study (30 min.)

Ifb lessons 42-43

DECEMBER 15-21 | ISAIAH 9-10 12

Song 77 and Prayer | Opening Comments (1 min.)

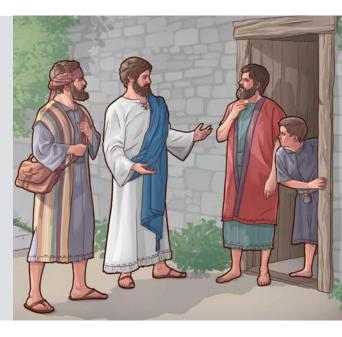


1. "A Great Light" Prophesied (10 min.)

"A great light" would be seen in Galilee (Isa 9:1, 2; Mt 4:12-16; ip-1 125-126 ¶16-17)

The nation that responded to the great light would see great increases, and its inhabitants would rejoice (Isa 9:3; ip-1 126-128 ¶18-19)

The effects of the great light would be permanent (Isa 9:4, 5; ip-1 128-129 120-21



2. Spiritual Gems (10 min.)

Isa 9:6—How would Jesus prove to be a "Wonderful Counselor"? (ip-1 130 ¶23-24)

What spiritual gems from this week's Bible reading would you like to share?



APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

4. Starting a Conversation (3 min.)

INFORMAL WITNESSING. The person belongs to a non-Christian religion. (Imd lesson 1 point 4)

5. Following Up (4 min.)

HOUSE TO HOUSE. Continue to discuss the tract you left on the previous visit. (Imd lesson 9 point 3)

6. Explaining Your Beliefs (5 min.)

Demonstration. ijwfq article 35—Theme: Have Jehovah's Witnesses Changed the Bible to Fit Their Beliefs? (th study 12)

3. Bible Reading (4 min.)

Isa 10:1-14 (th study 11)

7. The Light Is Becoming Brighter (5 min.) Discussion.



Jehovah's organization is constantly moving forward. Are you keeping up? Let's consider three areas in which Jehovah's organization has been moving ahead and the benefits.

- Write down an example of *progressive spiritual enlightenment* and the blessings that have resulted.—Pr 4:18
- Write down an example of an *improvement or expansion of the ministry* and how it has helped us to fulfill Jesus' commission.—Mt 28:19, 20
- Write down an example of an organizational adjustment and the blessings that have resulted.—Isa 60:17
- 8. Organizational Accomplishments for December (10 min.)
 Play the VIDEO.
- 9. Congregation Bible Study (30 min.)

Ifb intro to section 8 and lessons 44-45

DECEMBER 22-28 | ISAIAH 11-13 14

Song 14 and Prayer | Opening Comments (1 min.)



1. What Would the Messiah Be Like? (10 min.)

He would be a descendant of Jesse through his son David (Isa 11:1; ip-1 159 $\P4-5$)

He would have God's spirit and the fear of Jehovah (Isa 11:2, 3a; *ip-1* 159 ¶6; 160 ¶8)

He would be a righteous and merciful judge (Isa 11:3b-5; ip-1 160 ¶9; 161 ¶11)

FOR MEDITATION: What makes Jesus superior to any human ruler?



2. Spiritual Gems (10 min.)

Isa 11:10—How has this prophecy been fulfilled? (*ip-1* 165-166 ¶16-18)

What spiritual gems from this week's Bible reading would you like to share?



4. Starting a Conversation (3 min.)

HOUSE TO HOUSE. (Imd lesson 2 point 5)

5. Following Up (4 min.)

PUBLIC WITNESSING. Use jw.org to answer a question raised by the person. (*Imd* lesson 8 point 3)

6. Making Disciples (5 min.)

Help your student prepare to preach with you from house to house. (*Imd* lesson 11 point 4)

3. Bible Reading (4 min.)

Isa 11:1-12 (th study 11)

Song 57

7. Do You "Judge With Righteous Judgment"? (15 min.) Discussion.

Every day we make judgments about people, sometimes subconsciously. Our tendency may be to draw conclusions based on what we see. However, our Exemplar, Jesus, judges differently. (Isa 11:3, 4) Jesus is able to see a person's heart and to discern his thinking, reasoning, and motives. We do not have this ability. However, we can try our best to imitate Jesus. He said: "Stop judging by the outward appearance, but judge with righteous judgment."—Joh 7:24.

Our zeal and effectiveness in the ministry could be hindered if we judge others by what we see. For example, do we hesitate to preach in neighborhoods where people belong to a certain ethnicity or religion? What about neighborhoods that are affluent or that are poor? Do we assume that a person will not be interested based on his appearance? It is God's will that "all sorts of people should be saved and come to an accurate knowledge of truth."—1Ti 2:4.

Play the VIDEO Lessons From The Watchtower—Do Not Judge by Outward Appearance. Then ask the audience:

- What prejudices were mentioned in the video?
- If prejudices were allowed to creep into the congregation, how could they have a negative effect?
- What helped the Christians interviewed to avoid judging by outward appearance?
- What lessons did you learn from the Watchtower article?

8. Congregation Bible Study (30 min.)

Ifb lessons 46-47



Song 63 and Prayer | Opening Comments (1 min.)



1. Enemies of God's People Do Not Escape Punishment (10 min.)

Haughty Babylon would be permanently destroyed (Isa 14:13-15, 22, 23; *ip-1* 180 ¶16; 184 ¶24)

Jehovah would crush the Assyrian in his land (Isa 14:24, 25; ip-1 189 ¶1)

Jehovah would disgrace the glory of Moab (Isa 16:13, 14; ip-1 194 ¶12)



2. Spiritual Gems (10 min.)

Isa 14:1, 2—How did Jehovah's people become "the captors of those who held them captive"? ($w06\ 12/1\ 10\ \P11$)

What spiritual gems from this week's Bible reading would you like to share?

3. Bible Reading (4 min.)

Isa 16:1-14 (th study 10)



4. Starting a Conversation (3 min.)

HOUSE TO HOUSE. (Imd lesson 2 point 5)

5. Following Up (4 min.)

PUBLIC WITNESSING. (Imd lesson 9 point 4)

6. Talk (5 min.)

ijwbq article 108—Theme: What Is Prophecy? (th study 14)



□ Song 2

7. Local Needs (15 min.)

8. Congregation Bible Study (30 min.)

Ifb lessons 48-49

Concluding Comments (3 min.) | 5 Song 21 and Prayer

Cover picture: "Here I am! Send me!"

Left: C. Sappa/DeAgostini via Getty Images; right: Image © Homo Cosmicos/Shutterstock

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