

WEEK 5

4TH FEBRUARY 2024

THEME FOR THE MONTH: WORSHIP AS LIFESTYLE.

TOPIC: SIN AND ITS EFFECTS: THE FALL OF HUMANKIND.

BIBLE TEXT: GENESIS 3:1-13

MEMORY VERSE: HE REPLIED, "I HEARD YOU WALKING IN THE GARDEN, SO I HID, I WAS AFRAID BECAUSE I WAS NAKED. (GENESIS 3:10)

TEACHING OBJECTIVES: BY THE END OF THE LESSON, THE CHILD WILL BE ABLE TO

1. MENTION AT LEAST FOUR EFFECTS OF SIN ON HUMANITY.
2. MENTION SOME EFFECTS OF SIN ON CREATION

CENTRAL TRUTH: NO ONE CAN OUTWIT GOD

HYMN(S): MHB

INTRODUCTION: God created His world and saw the need to create man as well. God in His own wisdom and love for man, made him the keeper or the overseer of all things He created. But He also gave instructions on what he ought to do and not to do. Man had the liberty to use all the things in the garden created by God including the Tree of Life, except one fruit called the Tree of knowledge of Good and Bad. Adam and Eve did not obey God, and that brought about sin.

EXPOSITION: Before sin came into this world, man was close to

God. In the garden of Eden. Adam and Eve were enjoying all the good things created by God until Satan disguised himself as a “Serpent”, and came to tempt Eve to disobey God, to eat the forbidden fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden. Being tempted is not a sin, but yielding to the temptation and disobeying God makes you sin. So, we say sin is disobedience to God’s word. When Adam and Eve sinned, they saw themselves as naked before God and decided to hide themselves. This means when we sin as children of God, we are stripped of our natural goodness, and we become bare and naked with sin and wickedness. Sin drives us away from God, making us fear to go closer to God as His children. Because of Man’s sin in the garden, he was not able to face God and communicate with him again. The wrath of God comes upon the disobedient and the wicked (Rom 1:18-32).

Creation also suffered because of the sin of man. Creation was subjected to frustration (Rom. 8:20). The ground was cursed, and life became difficult (Gen 3:17-19).

It was God himself who took the initiative to draw humanity back to himself through the sacrifice Jesus made by giving Himself on the cross to be crucified so that we might be forgiven. We therefore need to stay away from sin so we can get closer to God and have closer relationship with Him.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. By which means did sin enter the world?
2. Whom do we sin against and how?
3. What are the effects of sin?
4. Mention four effects of sin on humanity.
5. Mention two effects of sin on creation.
6. Can we live without sin, and if so, how can we do it?

SAVED CHILD: As happened to Adam and Eve in the garden, we can be tempted to sin at any time. We need to stay away from

sin so we can stay close to the Lord. Satan always plans to make us sin against God; we therefore need to stay obedient to the word of God, so when we are tempted by the devil, we can overcome his plans.

UNSAVED CHILD: We need to stay away from sin in order not to fall out from the favour of the Lord. Sin separates us from God so we must do all we can to stay away from it. No one can outwit God, come to Him now and escape His wrath.

WEEK 6

LENT

11TH FEBRUARY 2024

THEME FOR THE MONTH: WORSHIP AS A LIFESTYLE

TOPIC: THE SIGNIFICANCE OF
FASTING

BIBLE TEXT: MATTHEW 6: 16 – 18

MEMORY VERSE: THEN NO ONE WILL NOTICE THAT
YOU ARE FASTING EXCEPT YOUR
FATHER, WHO KNOWS WHAT YOU
DO IN PRIVATE. (MATTHEW 6:18A)

TEACHING OBJECTIVES: BY THE END OF THE LESSON, THE
CHILD WILL BE ABLE TO

1. MENTION WHAT TO DO AND
WHAT NOT TO DO WHEN FASTING
AND PRAYING.
2. MAKE A DEFINITE DECISION TO BE
PART OF THE LENT THIS YEAR.

CENTRAL TRUTH: FASTING AND PRAYER GIVES THE
CHRISTIAN INNER STRENGTH
ALWAYS

HYMN(S): MHB

INTRODUCTION: Before one does an effective prayer, one
needs to set him/ herself apart, and one way to do this is to
pray and fast. Fasting is a sacrifice of a personal will to avoid
certain things, especially restricting yourself from food and
other fascinating things, so you can wholly focus on your
prayers to your maker and obtain favour through grace.

Fasting, according to the health experts, has its own benefits to the human body as it heals it from some diseases. In our study today, we will look at how to go about it to obtain its full benefits, as scripture teaches us.

EXPOSITION: In the New Testament, reference to Jewish fasts is understood to denote the day for repentance and seeking forgiveness of sins. Thus, to get yourself closer to your maker, setting yourself solely aside for a purpose, fasting could be for an individual or a group of people. Fasting originated sometime after the captivity of the Jews. The Jews observed their fast with various degrees of strictness: They abstained from food, dressed in sackcloth, or tore their clothes, put ashes on their head and went barefoot to show remorse for their sins, but some of them was just an outward show.

Jesus on teaching His disciples, admonishes us not to let people know that we are even fasting, as He called those people “hypocrites”. We should not let people see from our face that we are fasting, but it should be a secret observance between the Christian and his maker.

The Bible also tells us that when we fast and communicate with God our Maker, He rewards us diligently. We fast to set ourselves apart for God. Fasting lifts our spirits and brings us closer to our Father God who is in heaven; it must not be done under duress or by someone forcing us. Fasting must be done as a spiritual exercise, so that we may fortify our bodies spiritually for God’s work.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) Is fasting really important to us as Christians?
- 2) How often must we fast?
- 3) Do you fast? And how do you do it?

SAVED CHILD: God created man to worship Him whole heartedly. It is important that we get serious in the worship of our Maker. Fasting must be part of our Christian life, and we must do it well to get all the benefits. We need to fast to get spiritual benefits as well as the health benefits. We must remember that people of God like Moses, Elijah, the Israelites, Esther, the Apostles, and other followers of Christ fasted, and it was helpful to them. Jesus Christ, our Lord, and Saviour himself, also fasted for a period of forty days. We can also do it as children of God.

UNSAVED CHILD: God calls His people to fast in repentance. You can also come to God through repentance as we fast. God is ready to save you.

WEEK 7 CHILDREN'S WEEK 2024 18TH FEBRUARY 2024

THEME FOR THE MONTH: WORSHIP AS A LIFESTYLE

TOPIC: DISCIPLESHIP: DISCIPLESHIP: GROWING INTO
CHRISTIAN MATURITY

BIBLE TEXT: EPHESIANS 4:14-15

MEMORY VERSE: INSTEAD, SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN
LOVE, WE WILL GROW TO
BECOME IN EVERY RESPECT THE
MATURE BODY OF HIM WHO IS
THE HEAD, THAT IS, CHRIST.
EPHESIANS 4:15.

WEEK 8

25TH FEBRUARY 2024

THEME FOR THE MONTH: WORSHIP AS A LIFESTYLE

TOPIC: JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

BIBLE TEXT: LUKE 2:41-52

MEMORY VERSE: THREE DAYS LATER THEY FINALLY DISCOVERED HIM IN THE TEMPLE, SITTING AMONG THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS, LISTENING TO THEM AND ASKING QUESTIONS. (LUKE 2:46).

TEACHING OBJECTIVES: BY THE END OF THE LESSON, THE CHILD WILL BE ABLE TO

1. EXPLAIN THE IMPORTANCE OF JESUS BEING FOUND IN THE HOUSE OF GOD.
2. EXPLAIN THE IMPORTANCE OF COMING TO THE PRESENCE OF GOD ALWAYS

CENTRAL TRUTH: I WILL DWELL IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD FOREVER

HYMN(S): MHB

INTRODUCTION: According to God's law, every male was required to go to Jerusalem three times a year for their great festivals of sacrifice including Passover. Passover commemorated the night of the Jews' escape from Egypt, when God sent the messenger to kill the Egyptian firstborn but passed over Israelite homes and preserved their lives. Passover was the most important of the three annual Israelite festivals.

At the Temple, the Jewish teachers called rabbis taught the people their religious lives and observances, and what was written in the Torah. (Torah is the first 5 books of the Bible-Genesis to Deuteronomy).

EXPOSITION: After the Passover, Jesus' parents took their journey off to Nazareth, but they realized that their child (Jesus) was not with them. The people usually travelled in groups with women and children in front of the groups and the men behind. Jesus at 12 could have been in either group so Mary and Joseph probably assumed that Jesus was with the other. Mary looked for Jesus everywhere but could not find him. Finally, Jesus was found in the temple surprising the religious leaders with his questions. Even-though He had to do His master's will, he was obedient, humbled himself, and lived under his parents' authority for another 18 years. Jesus at age twelve showed interest in the exposition of God's word. His questions and answers, contribution, and interest in the word of God were amazing. Jesus gives us a perfect example of what our attitude should be towards the things of God. We must show interest in the study of God's word. The attitude of Jesus must encourage us to be bold as young people, and dialogue, ask questions, share useful opinions, and right ideas about the word of God. We need to study God's word so that we can contribute effectively to the things of God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What was Passover all about?
2. Where was Jesus found and what was he doing in the temple?
3. Why do you think Jesus went into the Temple?
4. Mention 5 characteristics of Jesus even when he was under his parents' jurisdiction.

SAVED CHILD: Young boys/girls of today indulge in all kinds of social vices such as drinking alcohol, abusing drugs, fornication, disobedience, etc. Jesus, our example, never practiced any of such things. Jesus obeyed his parents, humbled himself, listened to positive advice, loved teaching about the kingdom of God, etc. Because of this, Jesus grew in wisdom and in stature and gained favour before God and all men (Luke 2:52).

UNSAVED CHILD: We can also be useful children of God if we allow Jesus into our lives, learn from His example, and love the word of God.