

BIBLE KNOWLEDGE

LUKE

FORM 3

CLASS NOTES

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UNIT 1

THE GOSPELS

Describe the meaning of the word “Gospel”

- Comes from Greek word *euangelion* meaning *announcement of shocking news by a messenger*
- Gospel in Greek means *reward for bringing Good News* or *Good News*
- In the New Testament Gospel means *a message of salvation for the people*

Mention reasons for writing the Gospels

1. To document or record the disciples’ witness since the eye witnesses had passed away
2. To leave a reliable record to preserve the apostolic teachings
3. To be a protection against false teachings
4. To meet people’s demand of reading the Good News

List the four Gospels

1. Mark
2. Matthew
3. Luke
4. John

Summarise the content of the Gospel of Mark

- Focuses on Jesus’ actions, miracles, death and resurrection

Summarize the content of the Gospels of Matthew and Luke

- They record more of Jesus’ preaching than Mark does

Summarize the content of the Gospel of John

- Focuses on Jesus’ identity, who Jesus was

Suggest reasons why there are different perspectives of the Gospels

1. To provide the reader with a wide range of reflection about Jesus
2. To give an all-round view and a comprehensive understanding of Jesus

Describe briefly the authorship of the Gospel of Mark

- Written in 60 AD
- The actual author of the Gospel of Mark is not known because *there is nowhere in the Book where the identity of the author is disclosed*
- Papias however named **John Mark** as the author
- This John Mark was:
 - The son of a certain Mary in whose house in Jerusalem the early community met for prayers (**Acts 12:12**)
 - Not the follower or disciple of Jesus Christ
 - Peter’s interpreter or co-worker (**1 Peter 5:13**)

What can be the problem with Papias’ suggestion over the authorship of the Gospel of Mark?

- a. There is nowhere in the Book where the identity of the author is disclosed

Describe briefly the authorship of the Gospel of Matthew

- Written in 110 AD
- The actual author of the Gospel of Matthew is not known because *there is nowhere in the Book where the identity of the author is disclosed*
- Some scholars suggest **Matthew the tax collector (Mt. 10:3)** as the author
- The author however must be one of the apostles because *it is clear in the book that the author was concerned with the proclamation of Jesus as the Messiah*

What can be the Problems with the suggestion of Matthew as the author of the Gospel of Matthew?

- a. If it was written by Mathew the tax collector, how come Luke 5:24 calls the same tax collector Levi yet it was one and the same person?
- b. If it was written by Matthew an apostle, and eye witness, why did he copy a lot from Mark who was not an apostle and eye witness?

Describe the Authorship of the Gospel of Luke

- Written around 80 – 85 AD
- Written by Luke who also wrote the Book of Acts of Apostles

Who was Luke?

- A Syrian Gentile converted to Christianity
- A medical Doctor
- A companion of Paul in his missionary journeys

Suggest evidence to show that Luke wrote both the Gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts

1. Both Books are dedicated to Theophilus
2. The beginning of Acts is an expression of the end of the Gospel of Luke
3. Both Books stress that the Roman authority saw no wrong in the activities of Jesus or his disciples
4. Both Books are written in the same style
5. Both Books display the same interests: universalism, Holy Spirit, Prayer and Joy

Describe briefly the authorship of the Gospel of John

- Written around 90 – 100 AD
- There is nowhere in the Book where the identity of the author is disclosed
- Scholars attribute it to John the Son of Zebedee because the Book talks of the beloved disciple whom scholars identified as John the son of Zebedee

What problem is there with the suggestion that the Gospel of John was written by John the son of Zebedee?

- a. There is nowhere in the Book where the identity of the author is disclosed

What does the word “Synoptic” mean?

- Together sight

List the synoptic gospels

1. Mark
2. Matthew
3. Luke

Why are the three gospels mentioned above called synoptic gospels?

- a. They see together with a common view Jesus’ life from His ministry in Galilee to his death and resurrection

Explain the similarities among the gospels

1. Overlaps among the gospels in content and wording being similar
 - There is appearance of John the Baptist, temptations of Jesus and Jesus’ appearance in the public
 - Until the Passover, Jesus is active almost in Galilee alone
 - All the three accounts of Jesus’ crucifixion and resurrection are close
2. Items of similar content are placed together
 - Controversy sayings concerning forgiveness of sins, associating with sinners and fasting are placed together
3. The synoptic sayings do not have long discussions but only short speeches
4. The style and language used are similar
5. About 95% of what Mark has, is included in Matthew and Luke in very similar and identical wording

Outline the differences among the Gospels

1. Matthew and Luke have much more abundant material than Mark
2. The first three Gospels reflect a common view of Jesus as opposed to John who writes more of Jesus' identity than actions
3. Some events are totally missing in some but are present in other Gospels
 - The ancestors or genealogy of Jesus found in Matthew and Luke is missing in Mark
4. The way some events are presented are different
 - The resurrection story is presented differently in all the synoptic gospels

To whom does Luke dedicate his gospel?

- a. Theophilus

Who was Theophilus?

- A Roman official
- A Gentile (a Non- Jew)

What does Theophilus mean?

- a. A friend of God
- b. Lover of God

Suggest reasons why Luke dedicated the Book to Theophilus

1. To inform Theophilus that the salvation he heard about was a universal one, for both Jews and Gentiles
2. To encourage him to hold on to the faith he had received
3. To show him that Christianity was not against the Roman Empire
4. To ask him to let Christianity be allowed in the Roman Empire

For what purposes did Luke write the Gospel?

1. To give an accurate and orderly account of the Good News
2. To strengthen the faith of Christian readers
3. To show the unconverted readers the way of faith
4. To show the unconverted Jews that Jesus was the fulfilment of God's promised Messiah
5. To show the Roman official that Jesus and Christianity were not a threat to the Roman Government
6. To explain what the Christian faith was based on
7. To commend Christianity to the Jewish world
8. To ask the Roman official to let Christianity be allowed in the Roman Empire

Describe Luke's special interests

1. **Universalism:** the Gospel concerns salvation for the whole human race and not Jews only
2. **Prayer:** some parables in the Gospel teach about prayer
3. **Joy:** there was Joy after Jesus' resurrection
4. **Jesus' Gentleness and Mercifulness:** God loves even the outcasts and inferiors
5. **Women:** Jesus had a positive attitude towards women and their role in the establishment of the Kingdom
6. **Wealth:** people should use their wealth to help the poor and the needy
7. **The Holy Spirit:** the Holy Spirit played an important role in the life of Jesus
8. **Angels:** Angels played an important role in the infancy narratives, in Gethsemane and in the tomb
9. **Rejection of Jesus:** Jesus was rejected at Nazareth, in the Samaritan Village and in Jerusalem

UNIT 2

INFANCY NARRATIVES

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF JOHN'S BIRTH (LUKE 1: 5 – 25)

Who made the announcement of John's Birth?

- a. The Angel Gabriel

To who was the announcement of John's birth made?

- a. Zechariah

Where was Zechariah at this moment?

- a. In the Temple

What problem did Zechariah and his wife Elizabeth have at this time?

- a. They had no child

Give reasons why God favoured the family of Zechariah and Elizabeth

1. They both lived good lives in God's sight
2. They both obeyed fully all the Lord's laws and commands

Why was Zechariah's life a tragedy?

- a. Having no child was a terrible disgrace for any Jewish couple

Suggest reasons why Zechariah and Elizabeth had no children

1. Elizabeth was barren; could not have any child
2. Both Zechariah and Elizabeth were very old

Why was Zechariah in the Temple at that time?

- a. He was chosen by lot
- b. To burn incense on the altar
- c. To offer morning and evening prayers
- d. To offer sacrifices

Describe Zechariah's reactions when he saw the angel of the Lord

- a. He was alarmed
- b. He felt afraid

What was the position of Zechariah in the Jewish society?

- a. A priest

Mention the duties of the priests in the Jewish society

1. Burning incense
2. Offering morning and evening prayers
3. Offering sacrifices
4. Guarding the Temple gates
5. Advising on matters of clean and unclean
6. Re-admitting Jews into the society who were cured from dreaded skin disease
7. Keeping the Temple treasury

Relate the Angel's message to Zechariah

- Do not be afraid. God has heard your prayer.
- Your wife will bear you a son. He will be named John. You and others will be glad and happy.
- He will be a great man before the Lord. He must not drink wine or strong drink. From birth, he will be filled with the Holy Spirit.
- He will bring many people of Israel to the Lord. He will go ahead of the Lord to prepare the way for the Lord. He will re-unite fathers with their children. He will turn

disobedient people back to the thinking of the righteous. He will get the people ready for the Lord.

What did Zechariah say in response to the angel's message?

- How shall I know this is so?
- I am an old man
- My wife is too old

What does Zechariah's response indicate about his reaction to the message?

- a. He did not believe or it showed his disbelief
- b. He asked for a sign

What sign was given to Zechariah?

- a. He became dumb until the day the promise would be fulfilled (dumbness)

What was the significance of Zechariah's dumbness?

1. It was a sign that the Lord's promise will be fulfilled
2. It was a punishment for his disbelief or unbelief

Why does Zechariah's response show his disbelief?

1. He thought that it was impossible for him to have a child since his wife was barren and that he and his wife were too old to have a child

Describe the surety that Zechariah was given regarding the angel's message

- The angel identified himself as Gabriel standing in the presence of the Lord who sent him to speak to Zechariah and tell him the good news.
- However, since Zechariah did not believe the message, Zechariah would be unable to speak until the day the promise would be fulfilled

What did the Angel say to prove to Zechariah that the promise would be fulfilled?

- He said that because Zechariah did not believe the message, Zechariah would be unable to speak.
- Zechariah would remain silent until the day the promise would be fulfilled

What did the Angel say about the child or Describe the qualities of the child that was to be born to Zechariah and Elizabeth

1. He will be filled with the Holy Spirit
2. He will be a great man in the Lord's sight
3. He must not drink wine or strong drink
4. He will be strong and might like Elijah
5. His name will be called John

List the duties of John as announced by the Angel

1. Bringing back many of the people of Israel to the Lord
2. Going ahead of the Lord to prepare the way for the Lord
3. Getting people ready for the Lord
4. Bringing fathers and children together again
5. Turning disobedient people back to the way of the righteous

What will be John's mission?

1. Helping the Jews to repent and reconcile with God
2. Preparing for the coming of the Lord or Messiah

Describe the people's reaction to this event

- a. They were wondering why he was spending such a long time in the Temple
- b. They knew he had seen a vision in the Temple because he could not speak to them when he came out.

How did Zechariah communicate to the people from then on?

- a. He made signs to them with his hands

How did the people know that Zechariah had a vision in the Temple?

- a. He could not speak to them when he came out of the Temple.

How did Zechariah show the people that he had a vision in the Temple?

1. He could not speak to the people
2. He made signs to them with his hands as he was unable to say a word

How was Zechariah chosen to serve the priestly duties in the Temple?

- a. By drawing lots

THE BIRTH OF JESUS IS ANNOUNCED (LUKE 1: 26 – 38)

Who announced the birth of Jesus?

- a. Angel Gabriel

To whom was the birth of Jesus announced?

- a. Mary

Relate the angel's message to Mary

- Peace be with you! The Lord is with you and has greatly blessed you.
- Do not be afraid Mary. God has been gracious to you. You will become pregnant and give birth to a son. You will name him Jesus.
- He will be the son of the Most High God. The Lord God will make him a King as David. His kingdom will last forever.

Relate what the angel said about Mary's Child

1. His name would be called Jesus
2. He would be great and would be called the Son of the Most High
3. He would be made king as his ancestor David was
4. He would rule over the house of Jacob forever, his kingdom will never end
5. He will be called the Son of God

Relate the angel's greeting to Mary

- Peace be with you!
- The Lord is with you and has greatly blessed you

How did Mary react to the greeting she received from the angel?

- She was deeply troubled by the angel's message
- She wondered what the words meant

Why was Mary deeply troubled by the angel's message?

- a. She wondered what the words meant

Explain the significance of the angel's message to Mary

- a. Mary would be the mother of the Son of God.
- b. Jesus would not be born as a result of human effort

Describe Mary's response to the message

- a. She said that she was a virgin
- b. She wondered how what the angel had said would come to pass

What did the Angel say in response to Mary?

- The Holy Spirit will come on Mary.
- God's power will rest upon Mary and the child will be called the Son of God.
- By then Elizabeth was 6 months pregnant even though she was very old since there is nothing impossible with God.

What sign was given to Mary to show that the message will be fulfilled?

- a. The message that Elizabeth was 6 months pregnant by then

What was Mary's final response?

- I am the Lord's servant
- May it happen as you have said

Summarize Mary's response to the angel's message

- a. At first, she believed but wondered how she a virgin could become pregnant
- b. Later on she accepted to be the mother of the son of God

Explain the significance of Jesus being born to Mary who was a virgin

1. Jesus is God's new creation
2. Jesus is both Divine and Human
3. What is impossible with man is possible with God

Explain how the angel's words to Mary implied a miraculous event

1. The greeting Mary received meant that God had chosen her for something special
2. The statement "*The Holy Spirit will come on you*" might seem impossible hence it is a miracle

Contrast Mary's and Zechariah's responses to the angel's messages

- a. Mary believed but Zechariah did not believe and asked for a sign

Suggest the reactions of the people if what happened to Mary happened to someone today

1. Some can think the young woman is lying
2. Some can think the young woman had sex before marriage
3. The young woman herself may feel proud and boast that she has been favoured by the Lord
4. Church leaders can even suspend the young woman for lying to them

MARY VISITS ELIZABETH (LUKE 1: 39 – 56)

Relate Elizabeth's message to Mary

- Mary was the most blessed of all women
- Blessed is the child that Mary would bear
- Elizabeth wondered why the Lord's mother came to visit her
- Elizabeth assured Mary that the message of the Angel would come true in her

What experiences did Elizabeth have when she heard Mary's visit?

1. The baby moved within her womb
2. She was filled with the Holy Spirit

Explain the prophecy that is being fulfilled as a result of Jesus being born from a virgin

- A young woman who is pregnant will have a son and will name him Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14)

Outline the proofs that Jesus is the Promised Messiah OR Describe Jesus as the Promised Messiah

1. He was born through the power of the Holy Spirit and not through biological means
2. He was born through Mary, a virgin who knew no man
3. He was a descendant of David through both Mary and Joseph
4. Joseph was a descendant of David's clan
5. Mary was also from the priestly family since her cousin Elizabeth was from a priestly family

Relate Mary's song of praise she sang on this occasion

- She praises the Lord because she has been exalted by being chosen to be the mother of a saviour
- She takes it as a great honour and that she has been favoured by the Lord
- She sees mercy being shown to the Israelites by fulfilling the promise that He made to the Israelites and revived the covenant forever

Explain how Mary's song reveals the hope of Israel OR Reasons that moved Mary to praise the Lord

1. The poor will be uplifted and the mighty will be brought low
2. God helps the poor and the rich will be sent away empty
3. God made a promise with their father and descendants which will be fulfilled by sending a Messiah

4. God will help Israel His servant by sending the Messiah

What was the relationship between Mary and Elizabeth?

- a. Cousins

THE BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST (LUKE 1: 57 – 80)

Explain how the birth of John the Baptist fits the Old Testament Prophetic traditions

1. His birth was announced by an angel just like the birth of Isaac
2. He was born as a result of prayer just like the birth of Samuel to Hannah
3. He was born from a barren mother and impotent father just like Isaac and Samuel
4. His parents were aged just like Isaac
5. His name was chosen and given by God himself through an angel just like Isaac
6. John was to abstain from alcoholic drinks, to be a Nazirite like Samson
7. John grew in strength blessed by God just like Samson
8. He was led by the Holy Spirit just like Elijah
9. He lived in the wilderness and fed on locust and honey like Elijah
10. His role was to prepare the people for the Lord's coming just like other prophets

What did people want to name Elizabeth's son?

- a. Zechariah

What was Elizabeth's reaction to the suggestion that her child should be named after his father?

- a. She said "No! His name is John!"

How did the people react to Elizabeth's words?

- a. They were surprised

Why were the people surprised with the name given to Elizabeth's son?

1. There was no one in the clan with that name
2. His father who was still dumb by then also wrote that the child's name is John though there was no communication with the wife about the child's name
3. Soon after writing the name John, Zechariah was able to speak again
4. Zechariah's first words after regaining his speech were those of praising God
5. Everyone expected that the child would be named after his father, Zechariah

How old was the child when he was named?

- a. 8 days old

Describe the reactions of the people to the naming process of Zechariah's son

1. They were surprised because the child was not named after his father
2. They were all filled with fear when Zechariah started speaking again soon after writing that the name of the child is John
3. They wondered what this child is going to be since it was clear that the Lord's power was with him
4. They spread the news through all Judea

How did people communicate with Zechariah during the naming ceremony?

- a. Through signs since by then he could not speak

Summarize points in Zechariah's prophecy

1. God has come to help his people and set them free
2. Yahweh has provided a mighty saviour who was promised through his holy prophets to save people from their enemies
3. God has shown us His mercy and has remembered his covenant with Abraham of rescuing people from enemies
4. His son will be a great prophet of the Most High God
5. He will prepare the people for the coming of the Lord

6. He will tell people that their sins will be forgiven because our God is merciful and tender
7. He will bring us salvation and peace will also reign among us

State the duties of John the Baptist contained in Zechariah's prophecy

1. He will be a great prophet of the Most High God
2. He will prepare the people for the coming of the Lord
3. He will tell people that their sins will be forgiven because our God is merciful and tender
4. He will bring us salvation

Where did John live after growing up and developing in body and spirit?

- a. In the desert

THE ROMAN CENSUS (LUKE 2: 1 – 2)

Give a background to the Roman Census

- Every 14 years, Romans ordered a census in their vast empire.
- That time, it was supposed to take place in 8 BC but Herod postponed it.
- The Census was for every head of the family and one was supposed to register in his town of origin
- Joseph together with Mary who was pregnant travelled from Nazareth to Bethlehem where he was born to be registered.
- Joseph was a descendant of David and through him the Old Testament prophecy that the Messiah would come from David was fulfilled.

Explain why Herod postponed the 8 BC census

- a. The Jews resisted it since they hated registration.

State the reasons why the Jews hated census

1. It hurt their national pride
2. Its main aim was to set up a poll tax which they did not like to pay

Give two aims of the census

1. To know the number of people who could pay tax
2. To know how many people could join the army

Where was one supposed to be registered?

- a. In one's own place of residence
- b. But the Jews were registered in their places of origin

Why were the Jews registered in their home town?

- a. The Romans respected the Jews whose tribal system was still important and respected

Why did Joseph go to Bethlehem from Nazareth?

- a. To be registered in his home town, Bethlehem the city of David

Who ordered the current census to be taken throughout the Roman Empire?

- a. Emperor Augustus Caesar

Who was the governor of Syria when the census took place?

- a. Quirinius

Why does Luke give a place to the Roman Emperor in Jesus' birth narratives?

1. It brings about universal significance of Jesus' birth because the Roman Emperor comprised the whole world
2. To show that the Lord is the master of all human world history
3. He was praised by the people in the Empire as saviour because he brought peace
4. To show that Jesus is the Saviour who brings the deeper peace not through force but as a free and loving gift from God
5. For the Romans to know that Jesus' birth is important for them

Why was it significant that the parents of Jesus had to travel to Bethlehem to register there?

- a. Jesus belonged to the clan of David to which the Messiah was promised
- b. To show that all the prophecies of the Old Testament about the Messiah, the Son of David are fulfilled

THE BIRTH OF JESUS (LUKE 2: 3 – 7)

Relate the Birth of Jesus

- After Mary and Joseph had travelled from Nazareth to Bethlehem, time came for Mary to have a baby.
- She gave birth to a son, wrapped him in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them to stay in the inn.

What was the significance of Jesus' birth to the Jews?

- a. It fulfils the Old Testament prophecy that the Messiah would come from David

How does Luke display the meaning of Jesus' birth to the Jews?

1. He mentions Bethlehem one of the elements of Prophet Micah as the birthplace for the Messiah
2. He mentions devout Jews who welcomed Jesus as the Messiah

What was the meaning of Jesus' birth to the Gentiles?

- a. Gentiles are also included in God's salvation plan in that Emperor Augustus Caesar's order to hold census made Jesus be born in Bethlehem as foretold.

What was the significance of the birth of Jesus to outcasts and the poor?

- a. The shepherds' invitation symbolises that Jesus was born for the outcasts and the poor

What was the meaning of Jesus' birth to the unbelieving Jews?

- a. Lack of place in the inn symbolized that Jesus would be rejected by the unbelieving Jews

What was the significance of the fact that Jesus was laid in the manger?

- a. Jesus is food for the eternal life of mankind
- b. Jesus will be rejected by the Jews

Describe the Old Testament Prophecies that were fulfilled with Jesus' birth

1. That the Messiah would come from the clan of David
2. That the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem

State the factors that made the birth of Jesus extraordinary

1. His birth was announced by the angel
2. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
3. He was laid in a manger when he was born
4. Angels appeared to inform the shepherds, the outcasts of his birth

What was the significance of having no room at the inn for Joseph and Mary for the life and mission of Jesus?

- a. It symbolised that Jesus would be rejected by the unbelieving Jews

Explain the role of Joseph in the birth and life of Jesus

1. He made Jesus a descendant of David to whom the Messiah was promised
2. Joseph provided the material support to the family
3. Through Joseph's presence, Mary would not be looked upon as a single mother

THE SHEPHERDS AND THE ANGELS (LUKE 2: 8 – 20)

What was the status of shepherds in the Jewish society?

1. They were considered outcasts because they were always absent from worship services

2. They were poor
3. They were suspected of being thieves
4. They were ignorant of the Law
5. They were regarded as untrustworthy people
6. They had no time to follow Jewish customs

Relate the Angel's speech to the shepherds

- Do not be afraid! I bring good news to you. It will bring joy to all the people.
- This very day in David's town, your Saviour, the Christ and Lord is born.
- As a proof, you will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloth lying in a manger.

Describe the three titles given to Jesus by the angel of the Lord

1. **Saviour:** He will save his people of the whole world from sin
2. **Christ:** He is the Messiah, the Prince of Peace
3. **Lord:** he is the King of Kings

Explain the significance or importance of the experience of the shepherds

1. It reveals that God's revelation is accepted by the humble, outcasts and lowly people
2. It reveals that Jesus was born to bring the message of joy to the poor

Relate the angels' song

- Glory to God in the highest heaven
- Peace on earth to those with whom He is pleased

What sign or proof did the angel give the shepherds to identify Jesus?

- a. You will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger

What did the shepherds do after the angels had gone away?

1. They decided to go to Bethlehem and see what had happened which the Lord had told them.
2. They hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and saw the baby lying in the manger.
3. They told Joseph and Mary what the angel had said about the child.
4. They went back singing praises to God for all they had heard and seen

How did Mary react to what the shepherds had told her and Joseph?

- a. She remembered all these things she had heard
- b. She thought deeply about them

Who were the first to know about the birth of Jesus?

- a. Shepherds

Who informed the shepherds about the birth of Jesus?

- a. An angel

THE JEWISH BIRTH RITUALS (LUKE 2: 21 – 24)

1. **Circumcision:** removal of a foreskin of the penis **8 days after birth** as a sign the God's covenant with His people
2. **Naming of the Child:** the name of a person described the person and the type of mission ahead of him
3. **Purification:** every woman was considered unclean after giving birth and so had to be purified for 7 days if the baby was a boy and 14 days if the baby was a girl
4. **Presentation/Redemption:** every first born son belonged to God and had to be presented to the Lord and the parents had to redeem or buy him back by paying 5 Shekels

JESUS IS PRESENTED IN THE TEMPLE (LUKE 2: 22 – 38)

State the reasons why the baby Jesus was taken to the Temple

1. To perform purification ceremony since Mary had become unclean by giving birth to Jesus

2. To present Jesus to the Lord since every first born son was to be dedicated to the Lord
3. To redeem the child by offering a pair of doves or two young pigeons

Relate what Simeon said at the time the child Jesus was presented in the Temple

- Now Lord you have kept your promise
- You may let your servant go in peace
- With my own eyes I have seen your salvation
- A light to reveal your will to the Gentiles and bring glory to your people, Israel
- Sorrow, like a sharp sword will break Mary's own heart

What did Simeon say about the child Jesus?

- He is chosen by God for the destruction and the salvation of many in Israel
- He will be a sign from God which many people will speak against

What words did Simeon speak particularly to Mary on this occasion?

- This child is chosen by God for the destruction and the salvation of many in Israel
- He will be a sign from God which many people will speak against
- Sorrow, like a sharp sword, will break your own

What do you think was the significance of the words spoken to Mary?

1. Mary was going to suffer because of her son
2. Jesus, her own son will also suffer
3. Some people will believe in Jesus while others will despise him
4. Those who reject him will be punished

Why or how will Mary suffer?

1. She will not always understand God's plan for her son
2. Her son will be rejected, hated and killed
3. Mary and other persons will need faith and will have to recognise that following of Christ comes before her motherhood
4. She will see many of her own people refuse to believe Jesus

State the occasions when Mary, the Mother of Jesus suffered

1. When Jesus was being dragged to the top of the hill in Nazareth
2. When Jesus was being tried before the Council, Herod and Pilate
3. When Jesus was carrying the cross
4. When Jesus was crucified

What was the significance of Simeon's speech?

1. God has brought salvation through Jesus
2. The people who reject Jesus will fall and those who accept him will rise
3. Jesus' ministry will constitute sufferings both to Jesus and Mary

Mention the people who saw the child Jesus when he was presented in the Temple

1. Simeon
2. Anna

Relate what Anna said when Jesus was presented in the Temple

- She gave thanks to God
- She spoke about the child to all who were waiting for God to set Jerusalem free

What role did the Holy Spirit play in the life of Simeon?

1. He told Simeon that he would not die until he saw the Messiah
2. He led Simeon into the Temple when Jesus was brought there
3. He helped Simeon to foresee Mary's suffering because of Jesus

Describe briefly who Simeon was

- A good, God-fearing man
- Was waiting for Israel to be saved
- Was filled with the Holy Spirit
- Was assured that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Promised Messiah

Describe briefly who Anna was

- A prophet
- A widow
- A daughter of Phanuel of the tribe of Asher
- Had been married for only **7 years**
- Was **84 years** old when Jesus was presented in the Temple
- Never left the Temple

What was Anna doing in the Temple?

1. Worshipping God
2. Fasting
3. Praying

Meaning of Names

1. **Jesus:** Yahweh is salvation
2. **John:** God is gracious
3. **Zechariah:** Yahweh has remembered
4. **Elizabeth:** God has sworn **OR** My God fulfils
5. **Mary:** Excellence **OR** Beloved
6. **Joseph:** May Yahweh add
7. **Gabriel:** God is my warrior

THE BOY JESUS IN THE TEMPLE (LUKE 2: 41 – 52)**Explain briefly what happened for Mary to say “*My Son, why have you done this to us?*”**

- At the age of 12, Jesus went for the Passover ceremony in Jerusalem.
- When the Passover ceremony was over, they started back home. But the boy Jesus remained in Jerusalem. His parents did not know this
- They started looking for him among other relatives and friends.
- On the third day they found him in the Temple sitting with the Jewish leaders listening to them and asking questions.
- His parents were astonished when they saw him and told him that they were worried about him.
- He told the parents that he was doing what he came on earth for
- He then started off to Nazareth together with his parents

Relate what Mary said when they found Jesus in the Temple

- My Son, why have you done this to us?
- Your father and I have been terribly worried trying to find you

What was Jesus’ answer to what Mary said?

- Why did you have to look for me?
- Didn’t you know that I had to be in My Father’s house?

What ceremony did Jesus and his family go to attend in Jerusalem at this time?

- a. Passover

What is Passover?

- A feast celebrated to remind the Jews on how they got out of slavery in Egypt.

Describe the activities that took place during the Passover ceremony

1. Killing of the lamb
2. Roasting of the whole lamb
3. Eating the meat together with unleavened bread and bitter herbs
4. Taking of wine while a hymn is being sung

How did Luke use the visit to the Temple when Jesus was 12 years old? OR Explain the importance of this visit to the life of Jesus and his parents

1. It illustrated the statement that Jesus grew in wisdom and grace, the twin attributes of the Messiah
2. It illustrates Simeon's saying that Mary would suffer because of Jesus

Describe what was expected of the Jewish boy from the age of 12 onwards

1. He was entitled to take the reading of the Law during the synagogue services
2. He was considered old enough to make decisions and take up responsibilities
3. He was expected to observe the whole Law

How do Christians celebrate the Passover Feast today?

- They pray to celebrate the fulfilment of the Passover in Jesus who suffered, died on the cross and rose from dead to save mankind.

UNIT 3

THE MINISTRY OF JESUS CHRIST

THE PREACHING OF JOHN THE BAPTIST (LUKE 3: 1 – 20)

Who was the Roman Emperor during the time of John's preaching?

- a. Emperor Tiberius

Who was the governor of Judea by that time?

- a. Pontius Pilate

Who was the ruler of Galilee at that time?

- a. Herod

Who was the ruler of the territory of Iturea and Trachonitis?

- a. Philip, Herod's brother

Mention the High Priests during this time?

1. Annas
2. Caiphas

Who was the ruler of Abilene at this time?

- a. Lysanias

Relate John's message in his preaching

- Turn away from your sins and be baptized
- God will forgive your sins

What prophecy is fulfilled in the mission of John the Baptist?

- The prophecy of Isaiah which says that someone is shouting in the desert
 - "Get the road ready for the Lord; make a straight path for him to travel.
 - Every valley must be filled up, every hill and mountain levelled off.
 - The winding roads must be made smooth
 - The whole human race will see God's salvation"

How did the crowds respond to John's preaching?

- a. They came out to John to be baptized by him

Relate what John said to the crowds

- You snakes! Who told you that you could escape from the punishment God is about to send?
- Do those things that will show that you have turned from your sins.
- Do not be proud of being Abraham's descendants since God would raise other descendants of Abraham out of stones.
- The axe is ready to cut down the trees that do not bear good fruit

How did people react to John's message?

- a. They asked him what they could do to be saved.

How did John respond to the reactions of the following groups that received his message?**1. The ordinary People**

- a. Whoever has two shirts must give one to the man who has none
- b. Whoever has food must share it

2. The Tax Collectors

- a. Do not collect more than is legal

3. Soldiers

- a. Do not take money from anyone by force
- b. Do not accuse anyone falsely
- c. Be content with your pay

Summarize what John told the people to do to show their repentance

1. Love everyone by sharing things like food and clothes
2. Be faithful by collecting only the required tax
3. Refrain from violence, bribery and false accusations
4. Be content with one's pay

Outline tasks of John the Baptist

1. Preparing the people for the coming of the Messiah
2. Announcing the Good News about Jesus Christ
3. Preaching repentance to both Jews and Gentiles
4. Baptizing the people as a sign of repentance and conversion

How did John prepare the road for the Lord as prophesied by Isaiah?

1. By announcing Jesus who would make the final exodus from death to life
2. By preaching repentance to the people
3. By baptizing people

Describe what people thought about John due to his ministry

- The began to wonder whether John was the Messiah

How did John the Baptist distinguish himself from the Messiah?

- a. He baptized with water but the Messiah will baptize with the Holy Spirit
- b. The Messiah is much greater than John in that John would not even untie his sandals
- c. The Messiah would judge and separate the good from the bad
- d. The Messiah will punish the bad people in a fire that never goes out
- e. He is only the forerunner for the Messiah

Why did the people believe that John the Baptist was the Prophet?

1. He lived in the wilderness
2. He wore clothes made of camel's hair
3. His food was locust and wild honey
4. He had the courage to denounce both people and the leaders
5. His way of life which involved prayer, fasting and preaching

Explain the differences between John the Baptist and Jesus Christ

1. Jesus is greater than John
2. John received sinners after they had repented while Jesus befriended sinners even before they had repented
3. John stresses on repentance and God's judgement while Jesus stresses on the good news of salvation
4. John stays around the river while Jesus travels and goes after the sinners
5. John attracts people from all walks of life while Jesus has preference for the outcasts or the despised

6. John is the last prophet of the old age while Jesus is the first and last prophet of the new age
7. John did not heal while Jesus performed healing miracles

How was John's mission linked to Jesus?

1. John pointed to Jesus as the Messiah by saying that he was not the Messiah
2. John prepared for the coming of the Messiah by calling for repentance

How does Luke show in many ways that John's testimony bears upon Jesus and his mission?

1. John is the voice in the desert preparing the way of the Lord
2. John tells the Jews that his preaching is to be followed immediately by the divine judgement brought by the Messiah
3. John denies being the Messiah but says that the Messiah is coming and is far greater than him (John)

Describe the importance of John's preaching to the coming of Jesus

1. He calls people to prepare the way for the Lord
2. He leads other people to the faith in Jesus
3. His preaching and forgiveness of sins prefigured what Jesus has achieved for humanity
4. John inaugurates the fulfilment of the promise that is fully fulfilled by the coming of Jesus
5. John's baptism is completed by faith in Jesus

Explain the main distinction or difference that John pointed out between himself and the Messiah

- a. He baptized with water while the Messiah will baptize with the Holy Spirit

Describe the practical part of John's preaching

1. **Good work:** people had to show that they had repented by doing good work
2. **Charity:** people had to share whatever they had with one another
3. **Justice:** people had to do their jobs honestly and fairly

Explain the meaning of repentance

1. A change of mind, willingness to give up old life and receive good news
2. Renouncing sin, entrusting oneself entirely to God
3. Being sorrowful for one's sins
4. Resolution to obey God
5. Accepting a new understanding of what is important in life

"...the axe is ready..."

- The Messiah will judge, condemning the bad people

What does John's preaching centre upon?

- a. The preparation of the coming of the saviour

THE BAPTISM OF JESUS (LUKE 3: 21 – 22)

Describe what happened during Jesus' baptism

1. Heaven was opened
2. The Holy Spirit came down upon him like a dove
3. A voice came from heaven "*You are my own dear Son. I am pleased with you*".

Why was Jesus baptized?

1. To identify or associate Himself with the sinners
2. It was a symbol of his death and resurrection
3. It showed His solidarity with John's proclamation of God's salvation plan
4. It showed that he had accepted his mission in obedience to his Father
5. It showed that Jesus believed that John was a true prophet of God

Describe how different churches baptize their people today?

1. Pouring water on the forehead while saying I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit
2. Immersing the believers while saying I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

“...Spirit...dove...”

- Jesus is a peaceful Messiah contrary to the Jewish expectation

“...My own dear Son...”

- Jesus is the Messiah
- Jesus is anointed as King

“...am pleased with you...”

- Jesus will bring justice and true religion to the people

Describe types of Baptism as mentioned in Chapter 3

1. Baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins
2. Baptism given by Jesus, that of Holy Spirit and fire
3. Baptism received by Jesus

Why did the Jews need the Messiah at this time?

1. They were oppressed by the Romans
2. Their nation was split into many parties
3. The priests were mainly interested in power and money
4. Some Jews collaborated with the Romans by working as tax collectors

What did the Jews expect the Messiah to do?

1. To satisfy their physical needs
2. To liberate them from the Roman occupation
3. To make Israel an independent nation
4. To re-establish David's monarchy
5. To bring peace and harmony

How does Luke express the idea of the true expectation of the Messiah?

1. **It is expressed by Mary in her song in which she says:**
 - a. He scattered the proud
 - b. He brought down the mighty kings
 - c. He lifted the lowly
 - d. He filled the hungry with good things
2. **It is expressed by Simeon in his speech by saying**
 - a. He will be a light to reveal God's will to the nations and bring joy to the people of Israel
 - b. He will be a suffering servant
3. **It is expressed in the parables of the Kingdom**
 - a. His rule starts peacefully in a small manner

Explain how the apostles shared the popular Messianic expression

1. James and John asked for the best places in the Kingdom of Jesus
2. James and John wanted God to use fire to punish a Samaritan village for rejecting Jesus
3. Apostles thought they would soon assume earthly power when Jesus entered Jerusalem
4. Judas Iscariot betrayed Jesus to force him fight and seize power

Describe Jesus' life as the Messiah

- a. He rejected the temptation to make Himself popular and powerful
- b. He identified Himself with the suffering servant

What does the word “Messiah” mean?

- a. Anointed one

What terms mean “anointed one”?

1. **Messiah** in Hebrew
2. **Christ** in Greek

What does the term “Christ” mean?

- a. Anointed One

THE ANCESTORS OF JESUS (LUKE 3: 23 – 28)

What is the significance of the genealogy or the list of the ancestors of Jesus?

1. It shows that Jesus is also a real man with ancestors
2. It shows that the Messiah would be the descendant of David
3. Jesus is related to all mankind
4. The close relationship between God and Adam that was lost through sin is renewed by Jesus
5. It shows that Jesus is the saviour of all people

TEMPTATIONS OF JESUS (LUKE 4: 1 – 13)

Suggest reasons why Jesus went to the desert

1. He was led by the Holy Spirit
2. To prepare for His mission
3. To decide on how to establish the Kingdom of God
4. To have time for meditation
5. To be tempted by the Devil

What is a temptation?

- a. Being attracted to a suggestion or an action or a way of life contrary to God’s will

For how long was Jesus tempted by the Devil?

- a. 40 days

Describe two ways or options in which Jesus would bring about God’s Kingdom

- a. He would make himself popular
- b. He would be God’s humble servant using only the powers of truth and love

List the three temptations of Jesus and His responses

1. *If you are God’s son, order this stone to turn into bread*
 - The Devil asked Jesus to
 - Feed the people
 - Fulfil people’s expectation
 - Make himself popular
 - Prove His Divine Sonship
 - Show Himself as a Son of God in a selfish and materialistic manner
 - Use his power to satisfy the physiological needs of people

The Scripture says Human beings cannot live on bread alone (Deuteronomy 8:3)

- He had to put God first before anything else
- He did not want to misuse God’s power to satisfy physiological needs
- 2. *I will give you all this power and all this wealth if you worship me*
 - Jesus needed not to suffer and be crucified to be a King

The Scripture says Worship the Lord your God and serve only Him (Deuteronomy 6:10)

- Jesus refused to link His Sonship to the world or political power but recognizes one true and incomparable God.
- Jesus refuses to use political power as a means to achieve His mission

3. *If you are God's Son, throw yourself down for the Scripture says God would order His angel to take care of you (Psalms 9:11)*
 - Jesus would have been miraculously saved and protected and people would believe his message
 - Jesus is being asked to prove His Divine Sonship by unnecessary performance of miracles

The Scripture says Do not put the Lord your God to the test (Deuteronomy 6:16)

- Jesus refused to use His power to impress the people and make them follow him
- Jesus refused to doubt God's power but waits for the right time to start performing miracles

What did the Devil say would happen if Jesus threw Himself down?

- a. God would order His angels to take good care of Jesus
- b. The Angels would hold Jesus so that not even his feet would hurt on the stones

How were the Scriptures used in the temptations?

- a. The Devil abused the Holy Scripture by quoting only texts that suit him hence producing half-truths and lies using the Bible
- b. Jesus quoted texts which expose the Devilish distortion of the truth

What lessons can people learn from the temptations of Jesus?

1. Satan will take advantage of our human weakness
2. Satan uses pride to lead us to sin
3. People need to keep the Word of God, their spiritual sword, sharp
4. People need to obtain their spiritual food daily
5. Satan uses the good to bring bad results
6. Satan perverts the truth

Explain the importance of Jesus' temptations

1. They proved that Jesus is perfectly qualified morally to be the Last Adam
2. They proved that Jesus is perfectly qualified to be the Davidic King
3. They proved that Jesus is perfectly qualified morally to be the people's Saviour
4. They proved that Jesus is perfectly qualified to be a sympathetic High Priest

Outline the practical significance of Jesus' temptations

1. God's people will be tempted
2. Jesus provides a model for tempted believers
3. Jesus provides help for tempted believers
4. Satan is real, personal and malevolent
5. Scripture can be quoted for evil motives
6. God brings victory to those who remain faithful

JESUS BEGINS HIS WORK IN GALILEE (LUKE 4: 14 – 15)

Where did Jesus begin his work?

- a. Galilee

JESUS IS REJECTED AT NAZARETH (LUKE 4: 16 – 30)

Define the term "synagogue"

- It means gathering together

Explain the origin of the synagogue

- It originated while the Jews were in exile in Babylon because they had no Temple
- There was only one Temple but the Law said that wherever 10 Jewish families, there must be synagogue hence people met in synagogues to worship

Explain differences between synagogue and Temple

- a. No sacrifices were offered in synagogues but in the Temple
- b. The synagogues were for teaching of the Law and worship while the Temple was for sacrifices and worship

Mention one similarity between synagogues and Temple

- a. Both were for worship

Outline the uses of the synagogue

1. For prayer
2. For teaching Scriptures to young people
3. For conducting court cases by the local council

Mention the three parts of the worship service in the synagogue

1. Prayer
2. Reading of the scriptures
3. Teaching

Describe the synagogue service during Jesus' time

1. Two prayers
2. Two readings – from the Torah (Law) and the Prophets
3. An explanation of the readings
4. The priestly blessing

Who attended synagogue service?

1. Jews
2. Proselytes – Gentiles who had become full Jews
3. God-fearers – Gentiles who believed in the Jewish Religion and followed Jewish rules except circumcision

Outline the order of the Sabbath service in the synagogue

1. The Torah (Book of the Law) was taken from the Covenant Box
2. A Psalm was sung
3. Two prayers – The Shema and the 18 Benedictions were offered
4. A reading in Hebrew from the Torah
5. A reading in Hebrew from the Prophets
6. A comment on the reading by any Jewish male appointed by the Leader of the Synagogue
7. A blessing by a priest

Suggest one reason why Jesus started His ministry in His home town?

- a. He wanted to spread the Good News to His own people before going to other areas

Which Book did Jesus read?

- a. The Book of Prophet Isaiah 61:1 – 2

Relate what Jesus read in Nazareth synagogue

- The Spirit of the Lord is upon me.
- He has sent me to
 - *bring good news to the poor*
 - *proclaim liberty to the captives,*
 - *and recovery of sight to the blind,*
 - *set free the oppressed,*
 - *and announce that time has come when the Lord will save His people.*

Why was it important for Jesus to read the Scripture from Isaiah 61: 1 – 2?

- a. It proved that He was the Promised Messiah

What was the mission of Jesus according to this passage?

1. Bringing good news to the poor
2. Setting free those in bondage or captivity

3. Restoring sight of those who were blind
4. Setting free those who were oppressed
5. Announcing that the time has come when the Lord will save His people

What was Jesus' comment on the reading?

- The passage of the Scripture has come true today as you heard it being read

What was the immediate reaction of listeners?

1. They were impressed with Jesus
2. They marvelled at the eloquent words that He spoke
3. They asked "Isn't he the son of Joseph?"

Relate what Jesus said in response to their reaction

- I am sure you will quote to me "Doctor heal yourself!"
- You will also tell me to do here in my home what I did in Capernaum
- I tell you, prophets are never welcomed in their own town
- There are many widows in Israel during the time of Elijah but Elijah was sent to no one in Israel but to a widow in Zarephath
- There were many people in Israel who were suffering from dreaded skin disease during the time of Elisha yet no one in Israel was healed but Naaman the Syrian

What proverb did Jesus quote on this occasion?

- a. Prophets are never welcomed in their home town

What was the reaction of the audience to what Jesus said?

- a. They became angry
- b. They dragged Jesus out of town, to the top of the hill where they meant to throw him over the cliff

Why did the people become angry?

1. Jesus was an ordinary person like them
2. He would perform more miracles in Capernaum than in His own town
3. He said salvation might go to the Gentiles

Why did the people's reaction change from doubt to anger?

1. They did not accept Jesus' statement that God would by-pass His chosen people and bring salvation to the Gentiles
2. It was a sign that they had rejected the Messiah

Why did the people of Nazareth fail to believe that Joseph's son was the Messiah they expected? OR Why was Jesus rejected in Nazareth?

1. Their ideas of salvation were not in line with God's plan
2. They expected Jesus only as an equal person to them calling him son of Joseph, a carpenter
3. They wanted to see miracles but they were lacking faith and the right attitude to understand them as signs from heaven

Why did Jesus not perform any miracle among the people of Nazareth?

- a. People lacked faith

MIRACLES

Define the term "miracle"

- a. An activity that disrupts the natural law.
- b. An extraordinary event in the physical world that surpasses all known human or natural powers and is attributed to a supernatural power
- c. An extraordinary event in which God is seen at work

Suggest reasons why Jesus performed miracles

1. It was a sign that God had started His reign and that it was the end of Satan's power

2. Jesus' power was clearly seen through his miracles
3. Nature miracles were signs of security and abundance of life in the Kingdom of God
4. Miracles easily overcame to the power of Satan
5. Healing miracles were signs that the evil of sickness and sin was overcome
6. The raising of the dead miracles were a sign that the power of death was broken
7. Exorcisms were a sign that Satan has been deprived of power over those who have entered the Kingdom

Explain the main meaning or importance of Jesus' miracles

- a. They were signs that the power of Satan was over, God has started His reign

Outline characteristics of Jesus' miracles

1. They are unselfish in that Jesus did not use the miracle power to advertise, defend or save Himself
2. They are simple and without effort in that they have no formula
3. They are performed with a purpose to save rather than punish
4. They are performed out of compassion
5. They are not performed to those without faith

Describe types of miracles

1. **Healing miracles:** happened when one was sick and Jesus prayed for them and they got healed
2. **Exorcism:** happened when Jesus prayed and demons were cast out of the individual
3. **Power over nature miracles:** happened when Jesus reversed the Law of nature for example walking on water
4. **Raising from the dead:** in which Jesus raised the dead

HEALING MIRACLES

JESUS HEALS MANY PEOPLE (LUKE 4: 38 – 41)

What was Simon's mother-in-law suffering from?

- a. A high fever

How did Jesus heal Simon's mother-in-law?

- He went and stood at her bed side
- He ordered the fever to leave her
- The fever left her, and she got up at once and began to wait on them.

What did Simon's mother-in-law do after being healed?

- a. She got up and began to wait (serve with food) on the people

How did Jesus heal the many people brought to him after sunset?

- He placed his hands on every one of them
- Demons went out from many people screaming "You are the Son of God".
- He gave the Demons an order and would not let them speak

What did the Demons say as they went out of the people?

- "You are the Son of God"

Why would Jesus not let the Demons speak?

- a. Because they knew that he was the Messiah

Why did the people wait for sunset in order to start bringing the sick to Jesus?

- a. It was on the Sabbath Day which ended with the sunset on which work was not allowed and taking the sick people was a kind of work

Explain the impact of the healing of Simon's mother-in-law on other people

- The sick were brought to Jesus and were healed

JESUS HEALS A MAN (LUKE 5: 12 – 16)

What was the man suffering from?

- a. Dreaded skin disease

What did the man do when he saw Jesus?

1. He threw himself down
2. Begged Jesus, “Sir, if you want to, you can make me clean!”

How did Jesus heal the man?

- Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him
- He said, he wanted to heal the man and told him to be clean

What did Jesus order the man to do after healing him?

1. Not to tell anyone
2. To go straight to the priest to be examined
3. To offer the sacrifice as Moses ordered so as to prove to everyone that he was healed

What did the man do after being healed?

- a. Spread the news about the healing

What impact did this miracle have on Jesus ministry?

- a. Crowds of people came to hear Jesus and be healed from their diseases

Why would Jesus go away to lonely places?

- a. To pray

Why did Jesus touch the man?

1. To show compassion

Why was touching a man suffering from dreaded skin disease forbidden in the Jewish society?

- a. It made one unclean

Why did Jesus order the man not tell anybody of the miracle?

- a. He did not want to be known as the Messiah

Suggest reasons why Jesus ordered the man to go to the priest?

1. To be examined and be re-admitted into the Jewish society
2. To show that Jesus respected the Jewish Laws and traditions

Suggest reasons why Jesus did not want to be known as the Messiah

1. He would be arrested by the government officials as a rebel as such his mission would not be accomplished
2. He would be expected to liberate people from the Roman oppression as such people could not pay attention to His message of the Kingdom of God

Why did the reputation of Jesus grow?

1. He had special authority of His preaching
2. He showed extra-ordinary power in His miracles
3. His goodness and compassion for all especially the poor and the afflicted
4. He brought peace and happiness and gave meaning to the life of the people who had no leadership

How did the reputation of Jesus grow?

1. The healed person found it impossible to be quiet as commanded by Jesus
2. The crowds of people came to hear Jesus
3. The people came to be healed
4. The news of his extra-ordinary activity as a good and great prophet was spread by the poor people

Describe the Jewish Law regarding the purification of people from the dreaded skin disease

1. To be examined by a priest
2. To bring 2 birds to the priest

3. To be sprinkled with blood of one of the birds 7 times
4. To bathe and wash clothes
5. To cut hair
6. To shave eyebrows and beards after 7 days
7. To take 2 male lambs one of which the priest had to offer guilt sacrifice and the other for burnt offering
8. To be given a letter by the priest to re-joining the community

JESUS HEALS A PARALYSED MAN (LUKE 5: 17 – 26)

Relate the healing of a paralysed man

- A paralysed man was brought down to Jesus through an opening in the room.
- Seeing the faith of those who carried him, Jesus forgave the sins of the paralyzed man.
- The Pharisees and the Teachers of the Law accused him of blasphemy for they believed that only God could forgive sins.
- Jesus asked them what was easier between saying your sins are forgiven and saying rise up and walk.
- Jesus said he would prove to them that he had the authority on earth to forgive sins.
- He healed the man.

Why did the men make an opening on the roof?

- a. They could find no way to take the paralytic man in because of the crowd

Why did Jesus heal the paralytic?

1. To show that he had power to forgive sins
2. He saw the faith of those who had brought him

Define the term “forgiveness”

- The healing of the relationship between God and man

Why did Jesus forgive the paralytic?

1. To deal with the root cause of his sickness, the power of evil
2. To give the paralytic what was the most important, the salvation

Mention two groups of Religious leaders who were there during this time

1. Pharisees
2. Teachers of the Law

What was the reaction of the religious leaders to Jesus’ action?

1. They accused Jesus of blasphemy
2. They opposed Jesus as the Messiah

Why did the religious leaders react like that?

- a. Only God can forgive sins and according to them Jesus was not God

Suggest reasons why the religious leaders opposed Jesus as the Messiah

1. He was not the kind of Messiah they expected to liberate them from the Roman oppression
2. He did not agree with their method of keeping the Law

Why is this miracle different from other miracles?

1. Jesus does not mention the faith of the paralyzed man but that of his friends
2. He heals not out of pity but just to perform a miracle
3. He forgives before he heals
4. He performs a miracle to draw attention to himself and his power

What did the man do after being healed?

1. Got up
2. Took the bed he had been lying on
3. Went home praising God

How did the people react?

- a. They were completely amazed
- b. Full of fear, they praised God saying what marvellous things they had seen

How do people react when someone claims to have been healed by a man of God today?

1. Some believe and celebrate with the healed person
2. Some ask the healed person to lead them to the healer so as to be healed as well
3. Some do not believe

JESUS HEALS ROMAN OFFICER'S SERVANT (LUKE 7: 1 – 10)**Where was Jesus at this time?**

- a. Capernaum

What is known about the Roman officer?

1. He was in-charge of a group of 100 soldiers
2. He was very rich that he could build a synagogue
3. He admired and respected the Jewish religion
4. He was loved by many Jews
5. He had kindness to his servant

What problem did the Roman officer have?

- a. His servant who was dear to him was sick and was about to die

Why did the Roman officer send the message to Jesus?

- a. To ask him to come and heal his servant

Why did the Roman officer deserve Jesus' help according to the Jewish elders?

- a. He loved the Jewish nation
- b. He had built a synagogue for the people
- c. He had a good relationship with the Jews

Relate the message the Roman officer sent to Jesus

- Sir, don't trouble yourself
- I do not deserve to have you come to my house
- Neither do I consider myself worthy to come to you in person
- Just give an order and my servant will get well
- I, too, command my soldiers and they obey

How did Jesus react to what the Roman officer said?

- a. He was surprised
- b. He turned round and said that He had never found faith like that not even in Israel

What was Jesus' response to the words of the Roman Officer?

- Jesus commended the Roman Officer for his great faith
- Jesus shows that the condition to receive God's healing is faith in him

Suggest reasons why the Roman Officer could not allow Jesus to come to his home?

1. He believed Jesus had power to heal from a distance
2. He knew it was unlawful for a Jew to visit a gentile in his house

State the main reason why Jesus healed the servant of the Roman officer

1. It was because of the faith of the Roman officer

Define the term "faith"

- Firmly believing religious truths
- Complete confidence in God
- Accepting the truth that Jesus is the Messiah

Describe the significance of the Roman officer to the Gentiles?

- a. It showed that Jesus came for the Gentiles as well as Jews
- b. It encouraged the Gentiles who wanted to share in the faith

Relate what the Jewish elders said to Jesus

- This man really deserves your help
- He loves our people and he himself built a synagogue for us

Explain the importance of Jesus' action in this passage

- a. It shows that salvation was for both Jews and Gentiles
- b. It shows that He had come to save both Jews and Gentiles

JAIRUS' DAUGHTER AND THE WOMAN WHO TOUCHED JESUS' CLOAK (LUKE 8: 40 – 56)**Why did the people welcome Jesus when they returned to the other side of the Lake of Galilee?**

- a. They had been waiting for him

Relate how the woman who had the flow of blood was healed

- As Jesus was going to the house of Jairus, the crowd of people surrounded him. Among them was a woman who had suffered from severe bleeding for 12 years.
- She then touched the edge of Jesus' cloak and her bleeding stopped at once.
- Jesus asked for the one who touched him but everyone denied. He knew that someone touched him when power went out of him.
- The woman saw that she had been found out so she came while trembling and threw herself at the feet of Jesus.
- Jesus commended the woman for her faith that made her well.

Suggest reasons why the woman may have come to Jesus trembling

1. She was afraid of the public when it would be discovered that she was unclean
2. She had made Jesus unclean by touching him
3. Women were not allowed to come into public
4. Jesus had discovered that she had touched his cloak

Describe Jewish treatment of women

1. They could not testify in court
2. In the Temple, their place was with slaves and children
3. They were not obliged to pray
4. They could not attend school
5. Rabbis were not seen with women in public

State reasons why Luke has special interest in Jesus' attitude towards women

1. It fits Jesus' universalism
2. It fits Jesus' preference for the down-trodden
3. Luke may have had in mind Gentile leaders who had higher regard for women than Jews

Why did Jesus ask "who touched me?"

- a. He knew it when power went out of Jesus

How did Peter respond to Jesus' question?

- a. Master, the people are all round you and crowding in on you

How did the woman react when it was discovered that she had touched Jesus?

- a. She came to Jesus trembling
- b. She told Jesus why she had touched Jesus and how she had been healed at once

How did Jesus respond to the woman's reaction?

- a. He said "My daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace".

For how long had the woman been ill?

- a. For 12 years

What was the woman suffering from?

- a. Severe bleeding

How was the woman healed?

- She touched the edge of Jesus' cloak
- Her bleeding stopped at once

Relate the miracle performed on Jairus' daughter

- Jairus threw himself down at Jesus' feet and begged him to go to his home to heal his only daughter who was dying.
- Later on, a message came that the daughter had died. Immediately, Jesus told Jairus not to be worried but to believe that she will be well.
- They went to Jairus' house and went into his house with Peter, John and James and the child's parents. He told those that were crying to stop because the child was not dead but was only sleeping.
- Jesus then took the child by hand and called her to get up. Her life returned and got up immediately.
- Jesus commanded his parents not to tell anyone of what had happened.

Who was Jairus?

- a. An official in the local synagogue

What problem did Jairus have that made him see Jesus?

- a. His only daughter who was 12 years old was dying

What did Jairus do when he came to where Jesus was?

- a. Threw himself down at Jesus' feet
- b. Begged Jesus to go to his home and heal his daughter

Mention the disciples who accompanied Jesus to the house of Jairus

1. Peter
2. John
3. James

What did the messenger who came from Jairus' house say to Jairus?

- Your daughter has died
- Don't bother the teacher any longer

How did Jesus respond to this message?

- Don't be afraid only believe
- She will be well

What did Jesus do when he arrived at the house of Jairus?

- a. He would not let anyone go in with him except Peter, John and James, child's father and mother
- b. He told the people not to cry for the child was not dead but was only sleeping

How did the people react to Jesus's words?

- a. They all laughed at him

Why did the people react like that?

- a. They knew that Jairus' daughter was dead

Describe briefly how Jesus raised Jairus' daughter

- He took her by hand
- He called out "Get up my child"
- Her life returned, and she got up at once.

State the two orders that Jesus gave the parents

- a. To give her something to eat (food)
- b. Not to tell anyone what had happened

Why did Jesus order the parents not to tell anybody?

- a. He did not want to be known as the Messiah

List down the Jewish mourning customs similar to Malawian customs

1. The corpse is kept in a room with relatives and friends, mostly women

2. There is weeping and lamenting
3. Friends provide food and drinks
4. The hair and parts of the beard were shaved
5. The mourners dress in sack cloth
6. The mourning lasts 3 to 30 days but usually 7

Give the similarities between the stories of Jairus' daughter and that of the woman who touched Jesus' cloak

1. Both stories concern women
2. Both females are addressed as daughters
3. Jairus' daughter was 12 years old while the woman had suffered for 12 years
4. Both females were saved because of faith
5. There was physical contact in both miracles
6. They both show Jesus' attitude towards women

JESUS HEALS A CRIPPLED WOMAN ON THE SABBATH

(LUKE 13: 10 – 17)

Narrate the healing of a crippled woman on the Sabbath

- As Jesus was teaching in the synagogue on one Sabbath, there was a woman with an evil spirit that made her ill for 18 years.
- She was bent over and could not straighten up at all.
- Jesus told the woman that she was free from her illness. He placed his hands on her, and at once she straightened herself up and praised God

For how long had the woman suffered?

- a. For 18 years

Describe the woman's sickness

- She was bent over and could not straighten up at all

Describe how Jesus healed the woman

- He told the woman that she was free from her illness.
- He placed his hands on her
- At once she straightened herself up and praised God

What did the woman do soon after being healed?

- a. She praised God

What was the reaction of the official of the synagogue?

- a. He was angry that Jesus had healed on the Sabbath Day
- b. He told the people to come for healing in the 6 days of the week and not on the Sabbath Day

What did the official of the synagogue say after this miracle?

- He told the people to come for healing in the 6 days of the week and not on the Sabbath Day

What was Jesus response to what the synagogue official had said?

- If people can untie the ox or donkey to give it water on the Sabbath, why should the descendant of Abraham not be released on the Sabbath

What was people's reaction to Jesus' response?

- a. Jesus' enemies became ashamed of themselves
- b. The people rejoiced over all the wonderful things that he did

JESUS HEALS A SICK MAN (LUKE 14: 1 – 6)

Relate briefly the miracle Jesus performed in the house of one of the leading Pharisees on the Sabbath

- A man whose legs and arms were swollen came to Jesus
- Jesus asked the Teachers of the Law and the Pharisees whether the Law allowed healing on the Sabbath or not
- They would not say anything
- He healed the man and sent him away

Mention the Religious Leaders who watched Jesus closely on this day?

1. Teachers of the Law
2. Pharisees

What question did Jesus give these Religious leaders?

- Whether the Law allowed healing on the Sabbath or not

What response did the religious leaders give to Jesus' question?

- a. They would not say anything

What did Jesus say to the people?

- If anyone of you had a son or an ox that happened to fall in a well on the Sabbath, would you not pull them out at once on the Sabbath itself?

Mention works that were allowed by the Jews on the Sabbath Day

1. Giving hospitality to the homeless
2. Comforting the afflicted
3. Sharing food to the hungry
4. Giving clothes to the naked

How tricky was Jesus question of whether the Law allowed healing on the Sabbath or not?

- a. If the answer was “Yes” it meant it was lawful for Jesus to heal the man on that day
- b. If the answer was “No” it would indicate that the Pharisees had no mercy

JESUS HEALS TEN MEN (LUKE 17: 11 – 19)

Narrate the healing of the ten men

- Jesus met 10 men suffering from a dreaded skin disease standing at a distance and shouting "Jesus! Master! Take pity on us!"
- Jesus told them to go and let the priests examine them. On the way they were made clean.
- One of them, a Samaritan came back praising God to give thanks to God. Jesus wondered why only the Samaritan came back to thank God. He told the man to get up and go since his faith had made him well.

What were the people suffering from?

- a. Dreaded skin disease

Suggest one reason why the men shouted from a distance

- a. They could not come close to anybody since they were unclean

What instruction did Jesus give the men?

- a. Go and let the priests examine you

Why did Jesus give the men that instruction?

1. The priests had to certify them that they had really been healed
2. They had to carry out the cleansing ritual
3. They had to be given the letter so as to re-join the community

How can one know that he has been healed from HIV/AIDS?

- a. By being examined by a certified medical practitioner

How should Christians act to the people living with HIV/AIDS?

1. They must love them
2. They must take care of them
3. They must provide for their needs
4. They must not discriminate against them

Describe how Jesus healed the men

- He told them to go and let the priests examine them.
- On their way to the priest, they were made clean

Who returned after being healed?

- a. A Samaritan

What did one of them do after realising that he had been healed?

- a. He came back, praising God in a loud voice
- b. He threw himself to the ground at Jesus' feet
- c. He thanked Jesus

How did Jesus react to what the Samaritan had done?

- a. He said there were 10 men who were healed, where were the other 9?
- b. He wondered why only the foreigner had come to give thanks to God
- c. He told the man to get up and go, his faith had made him well

Suggest reasons why only a Samaritan thanked God after being healed

1. He was the only one who understood what had happened to them
2. He understood that he had found God's salvation
3. It shows faith of the foreigners and blindness of Israel
4. It shows his conversion by returning to Jesus

What lessons can people learn from this miracle?

1. Salvation is for both Jews and Gentiles
2. Jesus has compassion on the people regarded as outcasts
3. People need to have great faith like that of the Samaritan
4. The importance of expressing thanks when something good has been done to us

Why did Jesus heal both Jews and a Samaritan together in the story?

1. To show that salvation is for both Jews and Gentiles
2. To show that God does not favour a certain group of people but all since he created them all

JESUS HEALS A BLIND BEGGAR (LUKE 18: 35 - 43)**Relate how Jesus healed the blind beggar**

- As Jesus was coming near Jericho, there was a blind man sitting by the road begging.
- When the man heard the crowd pass by, he wondered what it was and was told that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by.
- Some people scolded him and told him to be quiet, but he cried out "Jesus! Son of David! Take pity on me!"
- Jesus then stopped, asked the blind man what he wanted from Jesus.
- The blind man asked for sight and Jesus healed him by restoring his sight.
- Jesus told him that his faith had healed him. At once he followed Jesus, giving thanks to God

Why did the people want the blind man to be silent?

1. They knew that Jesus did not like to be indicated as the Messiah
2. They were afraid that Jesus might get into trouble if the Romans knew that the Jews greeted him as their Messiah

What did the blind beggar do when he heard that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by?

- a. He cried out "Jesus! Son of David! Have pity on me!"

How did the people react to what the man was saying?

- a. They scolded him
- b. They told him to be quiet

Suggest a reason why Jesus did not silence the blind man

- a. His time of secrecy as the Messiah was over

Describe briefly how Jesus healed the blind beggar

- Jesus ordered the man to be brought to him
- Jesus then asked what the man wanted from Jesus
- When the man responded that he wanted to see again, Jesus said "Then see! Your faith has made you well!"
- At once the blind man was able to see.

What did the man do after being healed?

- a. He followed Jesus
- b. He gave thanks to God

What was the reaction of the people after this miracle?

- a. They all praised God

Suggest reasons why Jesus called the blind beggar as a true disciple

- 1. He admits that he is blind unlike some disciples who were blind spiritually but did not know it
- 2. He shows strong faith by not giving up even when the crowd tried to stop him
- 3. He does not hesitate when Jesus calls him
- 4. He follows Jesus by accepting suffering

EXORCISM

What is exorcism?

- a. Driving out evil spirits

A MAN WITH AN EVIL SPIRIT (LUKE 4: 31 – 37)

Where did Jesus perform His first miracle?

- a. Capernaum

What was Jesus' first miracle?

- a. Healing the man with an evil spirit

Relate the healing of a man with an evil spirit

- In the synagogue, there was a man who had the spirit of an evil demon in him.
- He screamed out in a loud voice: "Ah! What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Are you here to destroy us? I know who you are: you are God's holy messenger!"
- Jesus ordered the spirit to be quiet and come out of the man. The demon threw the man down and went out of him without causing any harm

What did the man with an evil spirit say?

- What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth?
- Are you here to destroy us?
- I know who you are: you are God's Holy Messenger!

How did Jesus heal the man with an evil spirit?

- He ordered the spirit to be quiet and come out of the man
- The demon threw the man down and went out of him without doing him any harm

How did the people react to this miracle?

- 1. They were all amazed
- 2. They wondered that Jesus could give orders to the evil spirits and they come out
- 3. They spread the report about Jesus everywhere in that region

Why were the Jews astonished on this day?

1. Jesus taught with authority
2. Evil spirits recognized him as God's messenger
3. He had authority to command evil spirits to come out without causing any harm
4. He was given the title "God's Holy Messenger".

What does Jesus' treatment of the demon possessed man show?

1. He calms the disturbed mind
2. He frees people from evil spirits
3. He has power to overcome evil in people

Why did Jesus order the evil spirit to be quiet?

1. To show that His power is greater than that of demons
2. He did not want to be known as the Messiah

What was the impact of the healing of the demonic man on Jesus work?

- a. The report about Jesus spread everywhere in the region

JESUS HEALS A MAN WITH DEMONS (LUKE 8: 26 - 39)

In which town was this man?

- a. Gerasa

What evidence was there to show that the man was possessed?

1. He would move around without clothes
2. He would not stay at home
3. He spent his time in burial caves
4. Sometimes his hands and feet were fastened
5. He would hurt Himself

Describe how the man was healed

- Upon seeing Jesus, the man gave a loud cry, threw himself down at his feet and shouted addressing to Jesus, "Son of the Most High God"
- He begged Jesus not to punish him. He said this because Jesus had commanded the evil spirits to go out of him.
- When Jesus asked what his name was, he said that he was a "**Mob**" because in him were many (demons).
- The demons begged Jesus not to send them away but let them go into the large herd of pigs that were feeding nearby. The whole herd rushed down the side of the cliff into the lake and was drowned.

What evidence is there that the story took place in a Gentile territory?

- a. The people of Gerasa kept pigs
- b. "Jesus, Son of the Most High God" is a pagan way of speaking
- c. Jesus allowed the new Gentile to testify about what had happened after the miracle
- d. The new disciple was not allowed to join other disciples since he was a Gentile

What did the man do when he saw Jesus?

1. He gave a loud cry
2. He threw himself at Jesus' feet
3. He shouted "Jesus, Son of the Most High God! What do you want with me? I beg you, don't punish me!"

Why did the man beg Jesus not to punish him?

1. Because Jesus had ordered the evil spirits to go out of him

What did the man say when he saw Jesus?

- Son of the Most High God
- What do you want with me?
- I beg you don't punish me

How did the evil spirit torment the man?

- a. It had seized him many times
- b. Even though he was kept a prisoner, his hands and feet fastened with chains, he would break the chains
- c. He would be driven by the demon out into the desert

Why did the man say that his name was “Mob”?

- a. Because many demons had gone into him

What did the demons beg Jesus?

- a. Not to send them into the abyss
- b. To let them go into the pigs

What happened when the demons were sent into the pigs?

- The whole herd rushed down the side of the cliff into the lake and was drowned

How did the men taking care of the pigs react?

- a. They ran off and spread the news in the town and among the farms

Describe what the people who had heard the news found when they arrived

- a. They found the healed man at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind

How the people react?

- a. They were all afraid
- b. They asked Jesus to go away because they were terribly afraid

Why did the people ask Jesus to go away?

- a. They were terribly afraid
- b. Jesus had caused their pigs to drown in the sea
- c. Jesus had tamed an uncontrollable demon possessed man
- d. Jesus had healed a man with demons

What happened when the man got healed?

1. He begged to follow Jesus
2. Jesus ordered him to go back home and tell what God had done for him
3. The man went through the town, telling what Jesus had done for him

Why did Jesus command the man to go and proclaim what had happened to him?

1. There was no need to keep His power secret since the miracle happened in the Gentile area who were not expecting the Messiah
2. The Pagans could well be prepared for the gospel which the Jews would bring later

Why was there no danger in proclaiming the miracle?

- a. It was done among Gentiles who had no expectation of the Messiah
- b. He wanted the news of salvation to be spread amongst the Gentiles

Why is this miracle different from others?

1. Jesus healed at a distant
2. He did not demand silence
3. It was done in the Gentile land

What does the story teach about the Kingdom of God?

1. Jesus regarded the devil as the enemy of God's Kingdom
2. Jesus regarded madness as a sign of Satan's power over man
3. Jesus regarded His mission as a task to overcome Satan to which end God had given Him authority
4. Jesus regarded any exorcism as a sign that the Kingdom of God had come

Why is this miracle significant?

1. It shows that the Gospel is not only for Jews but also for the Gentiles
2. Jesus' power over Satan is also for the good of Gentiles
3. Jesus has more power than the most powerful evil spirits, pagan religion and pagan empire

What do people do when God has healed them today?

- a. They praise God
- b. They share the story with others
- c. They encourage others to pray to God with faith and that they would be healed

Why did demons recognize Jesus as the “Son of the Most High God”?

- a. Because he had the power to drive them out

JESUS HEALS A BOY WITH AN EVIL SPIRIT (LUKE 9: 37 – 43)

Relate how Jesus healed a boy

- A man shouted from the crowd, “Teacher! I beg you; look at my son, my only son!
- A spirit attacks him into a fit, so that he foams at the mouth
- I asked your disciples to drive it out but they failed
- Jesus rebuked his disciples and later healed the boy and gave him back to the man

What did the man say to Jesus?

- Teacher, I beg you, look at my son – my only son!
- A spirit attacks him with a sudden shout and throws him into a fit, so that he foams at the mouth
- It keeps on hurting him and will hardly let him go
- I begged your disciples to drive it out, but they couldn’t

What was Jesus’ response to what the man said?

- How unbelieving and wrong you people are!
- How long must I stay with you?
- How long do I have to put up with you?
- Bring your son here

What did Jesus accuse the disciples and the people?

- a. Lack of faith
- b. Lack of prayer

Why did the disciples fail to heal the boy?

- a. They lacked faith
- b. They lacked prayer

What did the demon do as the boy was coming to Jesus?

- a. Knocked the boy to the ground
- b. Threw him into a fit

How did Jesus heal the boy?

- Jesus gave a command to the evil spirit
- Healed the boy
- Gave the boy back to his father

How did the evil spirit attack the boy?

1. It attacked him with a sudden shout
2. It threw him into a fit so that he foams at the mouth
3. It kept on hurting him and would let him go

What did the demon do upon seeing Jesus?

- a. Knocked the boy to the ground
- b. Threw the boy into a fit

What did Jesus do after the boy was brought to him?

- a. He noted how faithless the man was as well as disciples
- b. He then rebuked the evil spirit and it left the boy

How did the people react?

- a. They were amazed at the mighty power of God

State reasons why faith was demanded?

1. So that the healing could be understood as a sign that Jesus defeated evil and established God's Kingdom
2. One can enter the Kingdom of God and so share in Jesus' power over evil only through faith

Describe ways in which faith and miracles are connected

- a. It was believed that diseases were caused by demons hence healing demanded faith
- b. Victory over diseases was victory over sin; a person had to have faith to defeat sin

NATURE MIRACLES

JESUS CALMS A STORM (LUKE 8: 22 – 25)**What problem did the disciples face when they were sailing?**

- A strong wind blew down on the lake and the boat began to fill with water

What was Jesus doing at this time?

- a. He was sleeping

What did the disciples do amidst this problem?

They went to Jesus and woke him up, saying, "Master, Master! We are about to die!"

Relate how Jesus calmed the storm

- One day Jesus got into the boat together with his disciples.
- As they were sailing, Jesus fell asleep
- A strong wind blew on the lake and the boat began to fill with water so that they were in great danger
- Then the disciples woke Jesus up telling him about the danger.
- Jesus got up and gave orders to the wind and stormy water and they died down and it was calm again
- Jesus doubted the faith of the disciples but the disciples were amazed and afraid with what Jesus was able to do

What did the disciples do when they saw that they were in great danger?

- a. They went to Jesus and woke him up saying "Master, Master! We are about to die!"

How did Jesus respond to the danger?

- He got up
- He gave an order to the wind and the stormy water to die down
- He asked the disciples, "Where is your faith?"

How did Jesus calm the storm?

- He gave an order to the wind
- He gave an order to the stormy water
- Both the wind and the stormy water died down
- There was a great calm

What did Jesus say to the disciples on this occasion?

- a. Where is your faith?

Describe the disciples' character in this miracle

- a. They lacked faith because they did not believe that Jesus was God and could save them while asleep
- b. They were amazed at this new display of Jesus' power

How did the disciples show that they had no faith?

- a. They cried out to Jesus when the boat began to fill with water

Why were the disciples of Jesus afraid of the stormy water on the lake?

- a. They lacked faith

How did Jesus show his faith in this event?

- a. He was asleep while in danger
- b. He calmed the storm
- c. He accused the disciples of having no faith

What were the reactions of the disciples?

1. They were amazed
2. They were afraid
3. They asked one another about Jesus' identity "Who is this man? He gives orders to the winds and waves and they obey him?"
4. They had admiring astonishment which people feel when they are in the presence of God

What is the significance of this miracle?

1. It shows that Jesus is the promised Messiah
2. It proves that Jesus is the Lord of Nature
3. It shows that Jesus has power over the devil

What lesson can one learn from this miracle?

- a. It shows the establishment of the Kingdom of God after destroying the power of evil

JESUS FEEDS A GREAT CROWD (LUKE 9: 10 – 17)

Where did this miracle take place?

- a. Bethsaida

What did Jesus do when the crowds followed them to that place?

- a. He welcomed them
- b. He spoke to them about the Kingdom of God
- c. He healed those who needed it

What did the disciples tell Jesus when they realized that the sun was setting while a large crowd of people was still following them?

- a. They asked Jesus to send the people away to find food and lodging

What was Jesus' response to what the disciples had told him?

- a. He told the disciples to give the people something to eat

What did the disciples say in reaction to Jesus' response?

- All we have are 5 loaves and 2 fish
- Do you want us to go and buy food for this whole crowd?

What instruction did Jesus give his disciples when they said they had five loaves and two fish?

- a. To make the people sit down in groups of about 50 each.

Describe what Jesus did when the people had sat in their groups

- He took the five loaves and two fish
- He looked up to heaven
- He thanked God for them
- He broke them and gave them to his disciples to distribute to the people

"They all ate and had enough, and the disciples took up 12 baskets of what was left over"

What do the remaining 12 baskets refer to?

- a. 12 tribes of Israel, the foundation of the nation of Israel
- b. 12 apostles, the foundation of the Church, the new Israel

Narrate how Jesus fed a great crowd

- When the disciples saw that the sun was setting, they asked Jesus to send the people to the villages and farms around the town to find food and lodging places for themselves
- The disciples had only 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish which were not enough for the

5,000 men

- Jesus took the 5 loaves and 2 fish, looked up to heaven, thanked God for them, broke them, and gave them to the disciples to distribute to the people
- They all ate and had enough and the disciples took up 12 baskets of what was left over

What was the significance or importance of this miracle?

1. It is a foretaste of the Messianic banquet prophesied in the book of Isaiah
2. It makes Jesus the feeder of the people just as God fed them in the desert
3. It complements the first temptation where Jesus refused to make the feeding of people his main task
4. It is the only miracle recorded in all the 4 gospels
5. It has the language concerned with the institution of the Lord's supper

Mention the lessons people can learn from this miracle

1. God takes care of everyone and provides for people's needs
2. People should use their talents for others just as Jesus used His power to care for others
3. If the people share the resources, there is plenty for all
4. People feel encouraged to come together for the Breaking of the Bread

What does the account of the feeding of the crowd refer to?

- a. **The past:** Jesus repeats what God had done for the Israelites in the desert
- b. **The end of time:** it symbolizes the fullness of salvation when people's hunger for truth and hunger will be satisfied
- c. **The time in between:** Church members come together for the breaking of the Bread as instructed by Jesus

RAISING THE DEAD

JESUS RAISES THE WIDOW'S SON (LUKE 7: 11 – 17)

In which town did this miracle take place?

- a. Nain

What was the reaction of the Lord when he saw the widow?

- a. His heart was filled with pity for her
- b. He told her not to cry
- c. He raised the widow's son

Narrate how Jesus raised the widow's son

- Jesus, with his disciples and a crowd that followed them went to a town called Nain
- At the gate, they met a funeral procession for a man who was the only son of a widow
- When the Lord saw the widow, He felt pity for her and he told her not to cry
- Jesus then walked over and touched the coffin
- He then requested the dead young man to get up and he did
- The people were filled with fear and praised God

How did Jesus raise the widow's son?

- He touched the coffin
- He said, "Young man get up! I tell you
- The dead man sat up and began to walk
- Jesus gave him back to his mother

Why did Jesus raise this young man?

- a. He was filled with pity

Describe reactions of the people after this miracle

- a. They were all filled with fear
- b. They praised God
- c. They proclaimed that a prophet had appeared among them

What did the people say after this miracle?

- A great prophet has appeared among us
- God has come to save His people

Describe the significance of this miracle

1. Jesus raised the son out of compassion
2. It shows Jesus' concern for the women
3. It shows that Jesus did not care about the outward uncleanness by touching the coffin

What is the similarity between the raising of the widow's son and the healing of the Roman officer's servant?

- a. Jesus' authority is expressed in both stories

JAIRUS' DAUGHTER (LUKE 8: 40 – 43, 49 – 56)**Relate the miracle performed on Jairus' daughter**

- Jairus threw himself down at Jesus' feet and begged him to go to his home to heal his only daughter who was dying.
- Later on, a message came that the daughter had died. Immediately, Jesus told Jairus not to be worried but to believe that she will be well.
- They went to Jairus' house and went into his house with Peter, John and James and the child's parents. He told those that were crying to stop because the child was not dead but was only sleeping.
- Jesus then took the child by hand and called her to get up. Her life returned and got up immediately.
- Jesus commanded his parents not to tell anyone of what had happened.

Who was Jairus?

- b. An official in the local synagogue

What problem did Jairus have that made him see Jesus?

- b. His only daughter who was 12 years old was dying

What did Jairus do when he came to where Jesus was?

- c. Threw himself down at Jesus' feet
- d. Begged Jesus to go to his home and heal his daughter

Mention the disciples who accompanied Jesus to the house of Jairus

4. Peter
5. John
6. James

What did the messenger who came from Jairus' house say to Jairus?

- Your daughter has died
- Don't bother the teacher any longer

How did Jesus respond to this message?

- Don't be afraid only believe
- She will be well

What did Jesus do when he arrived at the house of Jairus?

- c. He would not let anyone go in with him except Peter, John and James, child's father and mother
- d. He told the people not to cry for the child was not dead but was only sleeping

How did the people react to Jesus's words?

- b. They all laughed at him

Why did the people react like that?

- b. They knew that Jairus' daughter was dead

Describe briefly how Jesus raised Jairus' daughter

- He took her by hand
- He called out "Get up my child"
- Her life returned, and she got up at once.

State the two orders that Jesus gave the parents

- c. To give her something to eat (food)
- d. Not to tell anyone what had happened

Why did Jesus order the parents not to tell anybody?

- b. He did not want to be known as the Messiah

List down the Jewish mourning customs similar to Malawian customs

7. The corpse is kept in a room with relatives and friends, mostly women
8. There is weeping and lamenting
9. Friends provide food and drinks
10. The hair and parts of the beard were shaved
11. The mourners dress in sack cloth
12. The mourning lasts 3 to 30 days but usually 7

PARABLES

What is a parable?

- a. A short story that uses familiar situations to illustrate a religious or moral point
- b. An imaginary story of something observed in life and has a spiritual meaning
- c. A description of something observed in life and has a spiritual meaning

State the characteristics of a parable

1. It has one main message
2. It is a picture of something observed in daily life
3. The point or lesson comes at the end

Why did Jesus use parables?

1. To catch the attention of listeners
2. To help the listeners easily remember the message
3. To avoid debates or arguments which may be divisive or useless
4. To challenge listeners to think about it and willingly change the way of thinking
5. To give a last chance to Jesus' opponents to see the truth
6. Parables are a powerful teaching aid to convey the truth about the Kingdom

Mention the Classes of parables

1. *Parables of the Kingdom*

- Parable of the Mustard Seed
- Parable of the Leaven
- Parable of the Narrow Door

2. *Parables on judgement*

- The Rich man and Lazarus
- The Rich fool
- The Shrewd manager
- The Great Banquet
- The Barren Fig Tree

- Places of Honour
- The Pharisee and the Tax Collector
- 3. ***Parables on the lost***
 - The Lost Sheep
 - The Lost Coin
 - The Lost Son
- 4. ***Parables on prayer***
 - A Friend at Midnight
 - The Unjust Judge
- 5. ***Parables on the claimant***
 - The Good Samaritan
 - The Royal Claimant

PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM

PARABLE OF THE MUSTARD SEED AND PARABLE OF THE YEAST (LUKE 13: 18 - 21)

Narrate the parable of the Mustard Seed

- The Kingdom of God is like a man who takes a mustard seed.
- He sows it in the field
- The plant grows and becomes a tree
- The birds make their nests in its branches

Narrate the parable of the Yeast

- The kingdom of God is like a woman who takes some yeast
- She mixes it with 40 litres of flour until the whole batch of dough rises

State the lessons from the two parables

1. Jesus' ministry looked insignificant at the beginning
2. Jesus' work appeared unsuccessful, not bearing good fruits as was expected
3. Do not doubt the reality of the presence of God's Kingdom among the people
4. The Kingdom, being God's work, will be a huge success
5. The Gentiles are also in the Kingdom of God
6. The Kingdom of God starts in a modest way but it grows and becomes powerful

THE NARROW DOOR (LUKE 13: 22 – 30)

What made Jesus to say this parable?

- a. Someone asked Jesus, "Sir, will only a few people be saved?"

What question was Jesus asked?

- "Sir, will only a few people be saved?"

What was Jesus' response to the question?

- Do your best to go through the narrow door because many people will surely try to go but will not be able
- The master of the house will get up and close the door
- You will stand outside and begin to knock on the door saying open for us, Sir!
- He will answer you "I don't know where you are coming from"
- Then you will answer, "We ate and drank with you and you taught in our town"
- But he will say again, "I do not know where you come from, get away from me, all you wicked people".

What lessons can be learnt from the parable?

1. Those in need of entering the Kingdom must make a great and timely effort before the door is closed
2. Being a Jew does not mean that one enters the Kingdom automatically
3. Listening to the word of Jesus does not guarantee entrance at the door to fellowship with him
4. The Jews are being called first but may be the last
5. Gentiles enter the Kingdom of God before the Jews
6. The door is now open while Jesus is available

HUMILITY OR CHOOSING PLACES AT TABLE (LUKE 14: 7 – 11)**Narrate the parable of choosing places at table**

- When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not sit down in the best place
- It could happen that someone more important than you, has been invited, and your host, who invited both of you, would have to come and say to you, “Let him have this place”.
- Then you will be embarrassed and have to sit in the lowest place
- Instead when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that your host will come to you and say, “Come on up, my friend, to a better place”.
- This will bring you honour in the presence of all the other guests

Why was this parable told?

- a. To warn the Pharisees who were convinced that they would have the best places in the Kingdom of God

Why will the Pharisees not enter the Kingdom of God?

- a. They lacked humility and hospitality
- b. They did not have mercy
- c. They did not have love for the poor

What lesson can be learnt from this parable?

1. Those who make themselves great will be humbled
2. Those who humble themselves will be made great
3. It shows reliance on God’s mercy

HOSPITALITY OR INVITATION OF GUESTS (LUKE 14: 12 – 14)**Narrate the parable of the invitation of guests**

- When you give lunch or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or your rich neighbours – for they will invite you back and in this way you will be paid for what you did
- When you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind and you will be blessed because they are not able to pay you back. God will repay you on the day the good people rise from death

Who should be invited to a feast?

1. The poor
2. The crippled
3. The lame
4. The blind

Why should the above groups of people be the ones invited?

1. They are not able to pay you back
2. God will repay the host on the day the good people rise from death

Why should the host not invite friends, relatives and neighbours to a feast?

1. They will invite him back thereby repaying him for what he had done

2. He will not be repaid or blessed by God

What instructions did Jesus teach to anyone hosting a party?

1. Do not invite those who have merit for they will pay you back for what you have done
2. Invite those who have no merit and seem unworthy and you will be repaid by God on the last day

What lessons can be learnt from this parable?

- a. Invite those who have no merits and seem unworthy
- b. Be compassionate; as God invites the outcasts, citizens of God's Kingdom must welcome them

PARABLE OF THE GREAT FEAST (LUKE 14: 15 – 24)

Narrate the parable of the Great Feast

- There was once a man who was giving a great feast to which he invited many people.
- He sent his servant to tell his guests, "Come, everything is ready"
- The invited guests gave excuses
 - The first one said he had bought a field and must go and look at it
 - The second one said that he had bought 5 pairs of oxen and was on his way to try them out
 - The third one said that he had just married, and for that reasons he could not come
- The master became furious and ordered the servant to hurry out to the streets and alleys of the town and bring back the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame and anybody found on the roads and lanes

Who attended the great feast?

1. The poor
2. The crippled
3. The blind
4. The lame

Describe the Jewish customs on which the parable is based

- a. Sending 2 invitations to one to attend a function; the first invitation done in advance and the second shortly before it commences
- b. Being exempted from military and civic services in the first year of being married

Describe the excuses given in the parable?

1. I have bought a field and I must go and look at it; please accept my apologies
2. I have bought 5 pairs of oxen and I am on my way to try them out; please accept my apologies
3. I have just got married and for that reason, I cannot come

How did the master react to the apologies?

- a. He was furious
- b. He told his servant to go into the streets and alleys of the town to bring the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame
- c. He told his servant to go out also to the country roads and lane and make the people come to and fill in the rooms of the house

Give the meaning of the following in the parable:

1. **The man:** God
2. **Guests invited first:** Jews
3. **The servant:** Jesus
4. **The people who attended the feast:** outcasts such as sinners, tax collectors, the Gentiles

Outline the lessons from the parable

1. The Jewish people would have no place in God's Kingdom because they want to earn

- a place by acts of piety, outward devotion to religion
- 2. Those called for salvation and be in God's Kingdom reject the offer
- 3. The Gentiles are being invited and included in the Kingdom of God

PARABLES ON JUDGEMENT

What is judgement?

- a. Separation between those who do the will of God and those who don't
- b. Separation between those who receive the gifts of the Kingdom and those who refuse

How is judgement passed upon people?

- a. Judgement is given in words and deeds
- b. Judgement is done through pronouncement of condemnation and denouncement of punishment
- c. Judgement depends on one's faith in Jesus and in obedience to His word
- d. Judgement on those who do not know Jesus will depend on their attitudes towards their needy neighbour

Describe phases of judgement

- a. Daily: one is judged by one's own conscience
- b. At the moment of death: judgement which determines one's fate for eternity
- c. On the last day: a judgement on all mankind

THE RICH FOOL (LUKE 12: 13 – 21)

Who is a fool?

- a. Someone who lives as if there is no God

What made Jesus to say the parable of the Rich Fool?

- a. A man asked Jesus to tell his brother to divide with him the property of his father

Relate events that led Jesus to narrate the parable of the Rich Fool

- One man asked Jesus to ask his brother share him the wealth their father had left
- Jesus answered that he had no authority to divide property between them
- He also told the people to watch out and guard themselves from every kind of greed because a person's true life is not made up of the things he owns no matter how rich he may be
- He then narrated the parable of the Rich Fool

Narrate the parable of the Rich Fool

- Once a rich man had land which bore good crops
- He became worried of where to keep his crops because he had harvested plenty
- He then thought to himself what to do
- He decided to tear down his barns and build bigger ones where he could store his corn and all his other goods
- He then called himself a lucky man for he had everything for many years
- He told himself to take life easy, eat, drink and enjoy himself
- But God told him that, "This very night you will have to give up your life, then who will get all these things you had kept for yourself"

Suggest reasons why Jesus told the Parable of the Rich Fool

- 1. To teach people that true life is not made up of wealth
- 2. He was responding to a request to assist in the division of the deceased property

How did the rich farmer deserve to be called a fool?

- 1. He had put all his trust in the wealth he had acquired rather than God
- 2. He thinks he has security of good future forgetting that only God assures the future
- 3. He is also pre-occupied with his own interest; he doesn't have the care for his needy

neighbour

4. He thought of enjoying himself even if it meant forgetting or disobeying God's commandments
5. He did not reflect or think anything about his death
6. He fails to consider who will get his goods after his death
7. He never asked the question of the meaning of life

Why is it important to have riches in heaven than on earth?

1. They will never decrease since there will be no thieves and moths
2. To have our hearts in heaven since our hearts will always be where our riches are

What lessons can be learnt from this parable?

1. Wealth must not be the sole goal in one's life, but seeking the Kingdom of God
2. Do not keep wealth as if it could assure your future
3. Make yourself good in God's sight by using wealth to help the needy
4. Provide yourself with goods that do not wear out
5. Save your riches in heaven where they don't decrease, because no thief can get to them or moth can destroy
6. Your heart will always be aiming to be in heaven where your riches should be
7. One has to rely on God on earthly success in one's life
8. Do not trust in riches but trust in God
9. True security is not found in abundance of things but in the desire for God

THE PARABLE OF THE UNFRUITFUL FIG TREE (LUKE 13: 6 – 9)

Narrate the parable of the unfruitful fig tree

- A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard
- He went looking for figs on it for 3 years but he found none
- He asked his gardener to have it cut down
- The gardener pleaded with him to leave it for an extra year and promised to dig round it and put in some manure.
- He then told the owner to have it cut down if it would not bear fruits the following year

Give the allegorical meanings of the following terms:

1. **The owner of the fig tree:** God
2. **The fig tree:** Israel or unbelieving Jews
3. **The gardener:** Jesus
4. **Three years:** Full time or life span or duration of Jesus' ministry
5. **One more year:** Jesus' final year
6. **The digging and putting of manure:** God's effort to win Israel to his loving mercy

What message or lessons does Jesus give in this parable?

1. The nation of Israel has not produced any spiritual gift
2. It is now given the last chance
3. If they do not produce spiritual fruits even when Jesus has helped them, then the nation will be destroyed

When was the nation of Israel destroyed?

- a. 70 AD

THE SHREWD MANAGER (LUKE 16: 1 – 13)

What does the term "Shrewd" mean?

- a. Being clever in doing things

Narrate the parable of the shrewd manager

- A rich man had a servant who managed his property

- The master told the manager that he could no longer be his manager because the manager was wasting his money
- The manager said, "I am ashamed to beg" told all his master's debtors to pay less of what they owed his master
- The master commended the manager's clever action

What did the manager do when he was told that he would be dismissed from work?

- a. He called in his master's debtors and told them to pay less of what they owed his master

Why did the manager react like that?

- a. He wanted them to help him when he loses his job

Why did the master praise the manager?

- a. He was shrewd in handling his affairs than the people who belong to the light

Suggest reasons why the manager deserves praise?

1. He gave up his own income so as to create good will and gain friendship
2. He acted promptly without delay

Mention things that Jesus said should be done if one is to be welcomed in the eternal house

1. Make friends for yourselves with worldly wealth so that when it goes out you will be welcomed in the Kingdom
2. He who is faithful in little is also faithful in much; he who is dishonest in little is also dishonest in much
3. No man can serve two masters, God and riches

State the consequences of serving two masters?

1. Such a servant will love one and hate the other
2. Such a servant will be loyal to one master and despise the other

What is the attitude of the Pharisees towards riches?

- a. They thought riches were a blessing from God

State reasons why the Pharisees mocked Jesus on riches

1. They justified themselves since they were rich
2. They exalted themselves because of their riches
3. They were lovers of money

What lessons can be learnt from this parable?

1. The best way one can make use of wealth is to give it away
2. Do not use money to lead the self
3. By giving one's money away. One makes friends
4. Good relationships are more important than possessions
5. One ought to promptly and wisely act
6. Jewish leaders failed in their stewardship and they would be dismissed
7. Choose one, between God and money

How did the Pharisees react to this parable?

1. They did not like the parable and the teaching that followed
2. They feared people might doubt their integrity

THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS (LUKE 16: 19 – 31)

What Jewish beliefs made Jesus say this parable?

- a. They believed that those who were rich and owned property were favoured by God and would automatically enter the Kingdom of God
- b. They believed that whoever suffered misfortunes, be it sickness and poverty could not enter the Kingdom of God

Narrate the parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus

- The rich man dressed in the most expensive clothes and lived in luxury every day. The poor man, Lazarus was covered in sores
- Lazarus was brought to the rich man's door to feed on the bits of food that fell from the rich man's table
- The dogs came and licked his sores
- The poor man died, was carried by the angels to sit beside Abraham in heaven. The rich man died and was buried, went in Hades and was in pains
- When the rich man looked up and saw Lazarus at the side of Abraham far away, he requested for mercy and that Lazarus be sent to his brother to get warned.
- He was told that Lazarus was enjoying now but before that he had bad times. He was also told that the living should listen to the prophets' sayings to avoid experiencing pain in Hades

What happened when the poor man died?

- a. He was carried by the angels to sit beside Abraham at the feast in heaven

What happened when the rich man died?

- a. He was buried in Hades where he was in great pain

What did the rich man do when he saw Abraham with Lazarus?

- a. He called out Father Abraham to have pity on him
- b. He asked Father Abraham to send Lazarus to dip his finger in some water and cool his tongue because he was in great pain in the fire

What did Father Abraham respond to what the rich man said?

- Remember that in your lifetime you were given all the good things while Lazarus got all the bad things
- Lazarus is now enjoying himself while you are in pain
- There is a deep pit lying between us so that those who want to cross over from here to you cannot do so, nor can anyone cross over to us from where you are

What request did the rich man make to Father Abraham?

- To send Lazarus to go and warn the brothers of the rich man so that they will not come to Hades
- If someone were to rise from death and go to them, then they would turn from their sins

What was Abraham's response to the rich man's request?

- Your brothers have Moses and the Prophets to warn them
- Your brothers should listen to what they say
- If they will not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone were to rise from death

What do the following stand for in the parable?

1. **The rich man:** Pharisees and Teachers of the Law
2. **Father Abraham:** Jesus
3. **Moses:** The Laws the people received from God

Describe the character of the rich man

- a. He does not love his neighbour
- b. He is too worldly
- c. He does not listen to the prophets
- d. He is an evil man

Describe the poor man, Lazarus

- a. He has hope and faith in God
- b. He has trust and fear of God

Identify the two main points of the parable

- a. If the rich do not help the poor to bridge the gap between them, the gap will remain even after death
- b. No miracle will save the people if they refuse to listen to God's word

What lessons can be learnt from this parable?

1. It teaches about social responsibility in which the rich should care for the poor
2. God is not pleased with worship if justice for the poor is neglected
3. Those that enrich themselves at the expenses of the poor are denounced
4. It shows lack of concern for the poor
5. It teaches the right understanding on what makes a person acceptable before God
6. Those who listen to Scriptures and obey God's words by taking care of the poor will not get the punishment
7. Danger of capitalism in that money becomes the master of people
8. Jesus taught that blessed are the poor unlike the rich who are condemned
9. Love your neighbour

PARABLE OF THE PHARISEE AND THE TAX COLLECTOR**(LUKE 18: 9 – 14)****Narrate the parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector**

- Once two men went to the Temple to pray, a Pharisee and a Tax Collector
- A Pharisee stood apart by himself and prayed, "I thank you God that I am not greedy, dishonest or an adulterer like everybody else; I thank you that I am not like that Tax Collector over there; I fast twice a week, and I give a tenth of all my income.
- But the Tax Collector stood at a distance, beat himself on the chest and said, "God, have pity on me a sinner".

Narrate the prayer of the Pharisee

- I thank you God that I am not greedy, dishonest or an adulterer like everyone else
- I thank you that I am not like that Tax Collector over there
- I fast twice a week, and I give a tenth of all my income

Narrate the prayer of the Tax Collector

- God have pity on me a sinner

Analyse the prayer of the Pharisee

- a. He spoke to himself not to God
- b. It was boastful
- c. He seemed to have no need for God

Analyse the prayer of the Tax Collector

- a. He was aware of God's presence and talked to God
- b. He admitted his sinfulness
- c. He knew his need for God's mercy

What is the difference between the prayer of the Pharisee and that of the Tax Collector?

- a. The Pharisee talked to himself not to God while the Tax Collector talked to God
- b. The Pharisee was boastful while the Tax Collector admitted his sinfulness
- c. The Pharisee seemed to have no need for God while the Tax Collector knew his need for God

What elements constitute a true prayer?

- a. It indicates humility
- b. It indicates sincerity
- c. It shows that the one praying is concerned
- d. It recognizes that the one praying is spiritually and morally bankrupt
- e. It expresses confession

What elements constitute a false prayer?

1. It is full of self-exaltation
2. It indicates insincerity
3. It shows one's self righteousness
4. It shows one's spiritual and moral contentment
5. It has no confession
6. It is full of confidence

Describe the three parts of the parable**1. Judgement**

- The Pharisee looks down upon sinners
- He praises himself for being better
- This makes him unacceptable to God

2. Prayer

- **The Pharisee** speaks to himself not to God, is boastful and has no need of God
- **The Tax Collector** is aware of God's presence, admits his sinfulness and knows that he needs God

3. Jesus' love for the lost

- He told this parable to explain the reason for his friendliness with sinners
- He backs up the lost, that is, The Tax Collector
- He was considered a sinner by the Pharisee but considered righteous by God, the father

What lessons can be learnt from this parable?

1. The humble and the repentant hearted are the ones who enter the Kingdom not the self-righteous, the pride
2. Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled while he who humbles oneself will be exalted
3. It teaches the difference between true and false prayer

THE PARABLE OF GOLD COINS (LUKE 19: 11 – 27)**When did Jesus tell this parable?**

- a. After meeting Zacchaeus who repented of his sins and promised to give back whatever he had taken unlawfully

What reward was given to the servant who earned 10 coins?

- a. He was put in charge of 10 cities

What reward was given to the servant who earned 5 coins?

- a. He was put in charge of 5 cities

What did the servant who earned nothing with the coin say to his master?

- Here is your gold coin
- I kept it hidden in a handkerchief
- I was afraid because you are a hard man
- You take what is not yours
- You reap where you did not sow

State what the master said and did in response to the servant who had earned nothing

- You bad servant, I will use your own words to condemn you
- You know that I am a bad man
- You know that I take what is not mine, I reap where I did not sow
- Why didn't you bank my money? I would have received with interest
- He ordered that the coin be taken away and be given to the one who had 10

What was the reaction of the audience?

- a. They grumbled

What was Jesus response to the audience's reaction?

- a. He said, "Those who had nothing, even the little they have will be taken away".

Narrate the parable of the gold coins

- A rich noble man gave his servants gold coins each to see what they can earn with this coin while he was away
- After being made a king, he came back and ordered his servants to appear before him and see what they had earned with the coins
- The first servant had earned 10 other gold coins. The Master praised him saying, "well done, you are a good servant, you will be in charge of 10 cities"
- The second one had earned 5 other gold coins. To this one the master said that he would be in charge of 5 cities
- The third servant gave back the same amount of gold coin he was given by his master. He had kept it because he feared his master whom he described as a severe person. The master condemned him for his unfaithfulness, cowardice and inactivity and was punished for that

What are the allegorical references to the following phrases?

1. **A man of high rank:** Jesus, the Messiah
2. **His absence:** time between ascension and parousia or second coming
3. **His return:** the second coming (Parousia)
4. **His servants:** disciples
5. **His hostile citizens:** the Jews who reject Jesus as the Messiah King
6. **Gold coins:** gifts or talents

Summarise the points drawn from the parables of the "unfruitful fig tree" and that of the "gold coins"

1. The second coming of Jesus will be delayed
2. Christians and leaders have serious responsibilities
3. There will be rewards and punishments at the last judgement
4. Jesus went to heaven to be appointed as a Messiah
5. The unbelieving Jews refuse Jesus as a leader

Mention the privileges or gifts to the Jews

1. They had knowledge of the Law
2. They had prophets to guide them
3. They were the chosen people of God
4. The Messiah was with them
5. Protection from enemies

What lessons can Christians learn from this parable?

1. The second coming of Jesus will be delayed
2. Christians especially leaders have serious responsibilities
3. On the judgement day there will be rewards and punishments
4. Jesus went to heaven to be appointed as the King, the Messiah
5. The unbelieving Jews rejected Jesus and will be punished for that

Narrate the parable of the claimant

- Certain people did not like the man of high rank to be made king and reign over them
- When he came back, he ordered that those that did not like him to be king be brought and killed in his presence

To whom does this parable refer?

- a. The unbelieving Jewish leaders who had not made good use of their gifts of authority, knowledge of the Law and talents

What did he do to those who did not want him to be their king?

- a. He ordered them to be brought and be killed in his presence

THE PARABLE OF THE WICKED TENANTS IN THE VINEYARD

(LUKE 20: 9 – 18)

How many slaves did the man send to the tenants?

- a. Three slaves

How did the tenants treat the first slave?

- a. They beat him
- b. They sent him back without a thing

How did the tenants treat the second slave?

- a. They beat him
- b. They treated him shamefully
- c. They sent him without a thing

How did the servants treat the third slave?

- a. They wounded him
- b. They threw him out

What did the owner of the vineyard do after the three slaves were sent back without a thing?

- a. He sent his own son

What did the tenants do to the son?

- a. They threw him out of the vineyard and killed him

What will the owner of the vineyard do to the tenants?

- a. He will come and kill those men
- b. He will hand the vineyard over to other tenants

What passage did Jesus quote after telling people that parable?

- The stone which the builders rejected as worthless turned out to be the most important of all

What will be the effects of this particular stone?

- a. Everyone who falls on that stone will be cut to pieces
- b. If that stone falls on someone, it will crush him to dust

Relate the parable of the wicked tenants

- There was once a man who planted a vineyard. He let it to tenants
- He then left home for a long time
- Time came to gather the grapes.
- The first three slaves were sent to the tenants to get his share of the harvest. They were beaten, treated shamefully and wounded.
- He finally sent his own son. He was killed.
- He will come and kill all those tenants and hand the vineyard to other tenants

Give the allegorical application of the following

1. **Slaves:** prophets
2. **Tenants:** Jewish religious Leaders
3. **Owner of the vineyard:** God
4. **Son:** Jesus Christ
5. **Others:** Gentiles
6. **Vineyard:** God's chosen people
7. **Threw him out of the vineyard:** Killed outside Jerusalem

How did the Jews know that the parable was against them?

1. It came just after the discussion on authority
2. They suspected that Jesus hinted at the Old Testament text which spoke about the

reflection of God's messengers when he talked about the rejected stone

3. They understood that the tenants stood for the religious leaders

What was the reaction of the Jews?

- a. They tried to have Jesus arrested by the Romans
- b. They wanted to kill Jesus

What lessons can be learnt from this parable?

1. Those who rejected Jesus will themselves be rejected
2. Jesus is the corner stone without whom there can't be salvation
3. Jesus is rejected, killed and so becomes a cornerstone
4. Those who followed Jesus will have to renounce everything and even accept death as a way to glory

What was the importance of this parable to the early Church?

1. The first Christians were at a loss
2. They were Jews who had always obeyed the Jewish Religious leaders
3. Now the Jews had to stand up against them as Christians

How can they do that?

- a. This parable gave an answer in that by killing the son, the leaders lost their authority, so they can be disobeyed

PARABLES ON THE LOST

Mention the three parables that Jesus said on the lost

1. The lost sheep
2. The lost coin
3. The lost son

What made Jesus to say parables on the lost?

- a. He was accused by the Pharisees and the Teachers of the Law of welcoming outcasts and even eating with them

Why were the Pharisees and the Teachers of the Law angered by Jesus' association with sinners?

1. It was an attack on the Pharisees who separated from sinners
2. It was against Jewish Religious customs and traditions
3. The Pharisees were afraid of losing the respect of the people since they separated from sinners
4. It was an attack on the teaching of the Teachers of the Law that contact with sinners was defiling

THE PARABLE OF THE LOST SHEEP (LUKE 15: 3 – 7)

Narrate the parable of the lost sheep

- Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them, what do you do?
- You leave the other 99 sheep in the pasture and go looking for the one that got lost until you find it
- When you find it, you are happy that you put it on your shoulder and carry it back home
- Then you call your friends and neighbours together and express your happiness to them

What lesson can be learnt from this parable?

- a. There will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over 99 respectable people who do not need to repent

THE PARABLE OF THE LOST COIN (LUKE 15: 8 – 10)

Narrate the parable of the lost coin

- Suppose a woman has 10 silver coins, loses one of them; what does she do?
- She lights a lamp, sweeps the house and looks carefully everywhere until she finds it
- When she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbours together and tells them to celebrate

What lesson is in this parable?

- a. Angels of God rejoice over one sinner who repents

THE PARABLE OF THE LOST SON (LUKE 15: 11 – 32)

Narrate the parable of the lost son

- Once a man had two sons and the younger one told his father to give him his share of the property
- The younger son went to a country far away where he wasted his money in reckless living, spending everything he had
- He then went to feed the pigs and wished he could eat what the pigs ate but no one gave him anything to do so when there was severe famine
- He then decided to go back to his father, apologize to him and tell his father to consider him not as his son but as one of the workers
- When his father saw him, his heart was filled with pity, he ran, hugged and kissed him.
- The son told his father that he had sinned against God and against him and that he should never be considered as his son but one of the servants
- His father told his servants to put him the best robe, a ring and shoes on his feet and that they should kill a calf for celebration
- When the elder son heard this, he was so angry that he would not go into the house. His father pleaded with him to be happy and celebrate because his young brother who was lost had been found

What did the father do when he saw the young son?

- a. His heart was filled with pity
- b. He ran
- c. He threw his arms round his son
- d. He kissed his son
- e. He ordered that a best robe be put on his son, a ring on his finger and shoes on his feet
- f. He ordered that a feast be organised to celebrate the return of the lost son

Why was it necessary to celebrate according to the father?

- a. The son was dead but now he is alive
- b. The son was lost, but now he has been found

What was the reaction of the elder son?

- a. He was angry
- b. He complained of his young brother

Narrate what the elder son said

- All these years I have worked for you like a slave
- I have never disobeyed your orders
- You never gave me even a goat to feast with my friends
- This son of yours wasted all your property on prostitutes
- When he comes back home, you kill the prize calf for him

What was the father's response to the elder son's complaint?

- My son, you are always here with me

- Everything I have is yours
- We had to celebrate and be happy because your brother was dead, but now he is alive, he was lost but now he has been found

Give the allegorical application of the parable

1. **Elder son:** the Pharisees and Teachers of the Law who could not welcome sinners when they repent
2. **Younger son:** sinners and outcasts who want to hear the word of God from Jesus when they repent
3. **The Father:** God who welcomes sinners when they repent

What are the common points or similarities among the three parables of the Lost?

1. They all talk about the lost
2. The owner is in great pains after the loss
3. The owner takes an initiative to go after the lost
4. There is great rejoicing after finding it
5. The joy is shared in all the three parables
6. Sinners are considered as the lost that must be found
7. God takes the initiative; he goes to welcome the sinner
8. There is great pain, carrying the sheep, waiting for a long time and running
9. There are joyful moments upon the repentance and return of the sinner
10. Joy is shared with friends and neighbours

Why was each lost?

1. **Sheep:** because of its foolishness compared to stupid sinners
2. **Coin:** because of the owner compared to a sinner who is led into sin by others
3. **Son:** because of his own deliberate choice compared to the wilful sinner

What lessons can be learnt from the three parables of the lost?

1. Christians should not only accept the upright but also they should forgive the lost
2. Christians should search for the lost
3. Care for the lost is not a waste of time
4. No one in the Christian circles should think more deserving of God's love and favour than those who seem less good
5. Those who oppose the Church must also be loved and welcomed

PARABLES ON PRAYER

What is prayer?

- a. Spending time communicating with God

JESUS' TEACHING ON PRAYER (LUKE 11: 1 – 4)

Mention the key issues that the Lord's Prayer teaches about Christianity

1. Honouring the Father
2. Worldly values must give way to Godly values
3. Learn to trust in God's provisions
4. Beware lest you should be tempted
5. Learn to forgive others as God forgive

Why is the Lord's Prayer regarded as the model prayer?

1. It covers all the areas one can think of when praying
2. It begins by giving God his own and proper place, honouring God
3. It asks for food for the present
4. It asks for forgiveness for the past sins
5. It asks for protection from temptation for the future

6. It presupposes the attitude of poverty or a sense of the need for God
7. It is accompanied by the love of neighbour which expresses itself in forgiveness

What did Jesus mean by each of the following petitions presented in the Lord's Prayer?

1. *May your holy name be honoured*

- God's name represent his person and must be honoured and respected by all people

2. *May your Kingdom come*

- Disciples must pray for the establishment of God's lawful rule on earth

3. *Give us this day the food we need*

- Disciples must pray for their daily needs and not be anxious for God loves them and will provide for their needs

4. *Forgive us our sins*

- Disciples must pray for forgiveness which is granted to those who forgive others

5. *Lead us not into temptations*

- The disciples must pray for protection and deliverance from all evil and testing which may weaken their faith and exclude them from the Kingdom of God

What is the significance of this prayer to Christians today?

1. It praises God to honour him
2. It pleases God to make reconciliation with him
3. Christians ought to forgive one another

Mention two parables Jesus taught about perseverance in prayer

1. A friend at mid night
2. The widow and the judge

GOING TO A FRIEND'S HOUSE AT MIDNIGHT (LUKE 11: 5 – 8)

Narrate the parable of a friend at midnight

- Suppose any one of you should go to a friend's house at midnight to ask to borrow 3 loaves of bread because they are receiving a visitor
- Then that friend responds that he should never be bothered because the door is closed and that he and his family are in bed therefore he cannot get up
- Jesus said that even if he will get up and give him the bread, it is not because he is his friend but because the friend is insisting and not ashamed of asking

What lesson can Christians learn from this parable?

1. Christians ought to persist or persevere in prayer
2. Ask and you will be given
3. Knock and the door will be opened to you

THE PARABLE OF THE WIDOW AND THE UNJUST JUDGE (LUKE 18: 1 – 7)

Narrate the parable of the Widow and the Unjust Judge

- In a certain town, there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected people
- There was a widow in that same town who kept coming to him, pleading for rights against her opponents
- For a long time, the judge refused to act
- But at last he told himself that even if he does not fear God or respect people but because he did not want to be worn out, he decided to make sure that she got her right

What was the main reason why the judge finally assisted the widow?

- a. He did not want her to continue troubling him

What lessons can be learnt in this parable?

- a. There is reward in perseverance in prayer
- b. Pray always without ceasing
- c. Do not lose heart or give up in prayer
- d. The Lord will vindicate His own chosen people quickly

PARABLES ON THE CLAIMANT

What does the term “claimant” mean?

- a. One who demands for his or her rights

THE PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN (LUKE 10: 25 – 37)

What made Jesus to say this parable?

- a. One of the teachers of the law asked Jesus what he had to do to receive eternal life
- b. After Jesus responded to the first question the teacher of the Law asked Jesus “Who is my neighbour?”

Narrate the conversation between the teacher of the Law and Jesus before the parable of the Good Samaritan

- The teacher of the Law asked Jesus what he had to do to receive eternal life
- Jesus responded by asking him what the scriptures say and how the teacher of the Law interpreted them
- The teacher of the Law answered: Love your God with all your heart, soul and mind; love your neighbour as you love yourself.
- He then asked Jesus: Who is my neighbour?

How did Jesus respond to the last question from the teacher of the Law?

- a. He gave the parable of the Good Samaritan

Narrate the parable of the Good Samaritan

- Once a man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho
- Robbers attacked him, stripped him and beat him up, leaving him half dead
- A priest and the Levite by-passed the man
- But a Samaritan went over to him, poured oil and wine on his wounds and bandaged them. He took the man to an inn, where he paid the expenses for taking care of him
- Then Jesus asked: in your opinion, between the two who acted like a neighbour?
- “The one who was kind to him”, the teacher of the Law answered

Suggest possible reasons why the Priest and the Levite by-passed the man who was robbed

1. They were afraid of being made unclean by touching blood
2. They might have been afraid of being attacked by the robbers who might have been hiding nearby
3. They were afraid of being delayed to Jerusalem
4. They feared of being accused of causing the injury
5. They feared the process of undergoing purification upon being made unclean by touching blood

Suggest reasons why the action of the Priest and the Levite was wrong

- a. It showed the Jewish narrow-mindedness in that they thought it was better to remain clean rather than save life
- b. They kept the letter of the Law rather than its spirit

What did the Samaritan do to the man who was attacked by robbers?

1. He poured wine and oil on his wounds
2. He bandaged the wounds
3. He took the man to the inn where he took care of him
4. He paid all expenses for him

Why was the Samaritan in the story a challenge to the Teacher of the Law?

- a. Even a pagan can do the will of God rather than those who knew God well

Why was the Samaritan in the story a challenge to James and John?

- a. They had suggested punishing the Samaritan village with fire for having not welcomed Jesus

Mention the duties of the Priests

- a. Offering prayers
- b. Burning incense
- c. Deciding what was clean and unclean
- d. Keeping and administering Temple treasury

Mention the duties of the Levites

- a. Interpreting the Law
- b. Judging the Law
- c. Teaching the Law

What lesson can be learnt from the parable?

- a. The love of God and neighbour is the most important thing
- b. There is no limit to love and service
- c. Love should be indiscriminate regardless of race

THE PARABLE OF THE CLAIMANT (LUKE 19: 11 – 27)

Narrate the parable of the claimant

- Certain people did not like the man of high rank to be made king and reign over them
- When he came back, he ordered that those that did not like him to be king be brought and killed in his presence

To whom does this parable refer?

- b. The unbelieving Jewish leaders who had not made good use of their gifts of authority, knowledge of the Law and talents

UNIT 4

DISCIPLESHIP AND JESUS' TEACHINGS

Define the term “Disciple”

- a. A follower of Jesus Christ
- b. It comes from the Latin word *discipulus* which means *pupil or learner or student*

What is discipleship?

- a. Total self-commitment to Jesus

Mention characteristics of Jesus' disciples

1. They had no particular standard qualification
2. Jesus chose the disciples himself
3. It is a total commitment to Jesus

Describe how Jesus' disciples can show total commitment to Him

1. Being ready to deny himself
2. Being ready to suffer or lose life for the sake of Jesus
3. Not being ashamed of Jesus and His work
4. Sharing in Jesus' poverty
5. Putting Jesus before his family and friends
6. Seeking to do the will of God

Outline differences between the disciples of Jesus and those of the teachers of the Law

1. The teachers of the Law accepted only respectable men while Jesus called sinners as well
2. The disciples of the teachers of the Law were men only while Jesus had women disciples as well
3. A Jewish young man chose his Teacher of the Law while Jesus chose his disciples
4. The disciples of the Teachers of the Law had to memorize the words of their teacher while Jesus' disciples did not have to memorize His words

Define the term "Apostle"

- a. One sent forth on a special mission
- b. It comes from the Greek word *apostolos* meaning *messenger*
- c. The people that were chosen among the disciples and sent into the world by Jesus

Why did Jesus send the apostles?

- a. To preach and teach the gospel
- b. To heal the sick
- c. To drive out demons

Mention characteristics of an apostle

1. He was sent out by Jesus
2. He was given particular authority
3. He was representing Jesus in a unique way

What are the differences between a disciple and an apostle?

- a. A disciple is a follower of Jesus while an apostle is a disciple chosen and sent on a special mission
- b. The number of apostles was restricted to 12 while that of the disciples was not restricted
- c. Only men were appointed apostles while both men and women could become disciples

Why was the number of apostles restricted to 12?

- a. Jesus wanted to fulfil the Old Testament by bringing together a new people who could live with God in a new relationship

JESUS CALLS THE FIRST DISCIPLES (LUKE 5: 1 – 11)

Mention the first disciples to be called by Jesus?

- a. Simon
- b. James
- c. John

What was the profession of these men?

- a. Fishermen

Narrate the call of the first disciples

- One day Jesus preached while in the boat of Simon by the lake of Gennesaret
- Thereafter, he told Simon to cast the nets in water.
- Simon said that they had worked all night but caught nothing but he would do as Jesus had said. He caught a great deal of fish that he asked James and John for help

- Then Peter said to Jesus, “Go away from me, Lord! I am a sinful man!”
- Jesus then called Simon, James and John to be fishers of men

State reasons why Jesus taught from the boat

1. For the crowd to hear him well since the voice is carried well over water
2. For the crowd to have a better view of Jesus since he was isolated
3. To prevent physical disturbance

What did Jesus command Peter to do after he had finished preaching?

- a. To push the boat to the deep water and let down the nets for a catch

How did Peter respond to Jesus’ command?

- Master, we worked hard all night long and caught nothing, but if you say so I will let down the nets

What was Peter’s reaction after a big catch of fish?

- a. He fell on his knees before Jesus and said “Go away from me, Lord! I am a sinful man
- b. He and others were amazed at the large number of fish they had caught

How can Peter’s reaction be understood?

1. Peter has got a great admiration for and confidence in Jesus
2. The size of the catch makes Peter realize that he is in the presence of some divine power
3. His reaction is one of faith and total commitment to Jesus

Why is Peter’s reaction important?

1. For the time he reacted, he was going to be the leader of the 12
2. It reminds him of his sinfulness and weakness

What did Jesus say to the three fishermen thereafter?

- Don’t be afraid
- From now on you will be catching people

How did the three fishermen respond to Jesus’ call?

- a. They pulled the boats up on the beach, left everything and followed Jesus

Why did Jesus call the fishermen?

- a. To take many people into salvation as they did when catching fish

What lessons can be learnt about discipleship?

1. Being a disciple of Jesus is not one’s choice, Jesus takes the initiative
2. Nobody is worthy to be a disciple
3. It is not easy to be a disciple, one has to sacrifice a lot
4. The success of disciples’ work is miraculous
5. The disciples have to depend of Jesus and that with him, everything is possible
6. Discipleship or following Jesus needs total dedication and leaving everything

What lessons did Peter learn from his call?

1. He must obey Jesus even if things look hopeless
2. His mission is to catch people for the Kingdom of God
3. He has to carry out his mission despite his unworthiness
4. His work will be successful at the end
5. The work of catching men is team work

What lessons did the early Church learn from Peter’s call?

- a. Peter is a leader among his fellow apostles
- b. There will be a great number of Gentiles who would be converted
- c. The apostle will bring people to the Kingdom of God through Jesus’ power hence should have confidence

JESUS CALLS LEVI (LUKE 5: 27 – 32)

Narrate the call of Levi

- Jesus saw Levi the tax collector sitting in his office and called him
- Levi followed Jesus and took him to his house where he made a great feast
- The Pharisees and the Teachers of the Law were not happy to see Jesus eating with outcasts
- Jesus said that he had come to call outcasts and not respectable people to repent

Mention reasons why Jews hated tax collectors?

1. They exploited the people by overcharging taxes
2. They collaborated with the Roman Government that oppressed the Jews
3. They contacted with the Gentiles hence were considered unclean

Mention the groups of outcasts in the Jewish society

1. People of low morals like prostitutes, adulterers, thieves and robbers
2. People suffering from dreaded skin disease, the blind, the deaf, the paralyzed, the poor
3. People of unclean profession like the shepherds, tax collectors, tanners and camel drivers

What was the attitude of the Pharisees towards social outcasts?

1. They avoided them
2. They never ate with them
3. They never received them in their homes for fear of becoming unclean

Why were the outcasts regarded as unclean?

- a. They never observed Sabbath rules

What was the attitude of Jesus towards social outcasts?

- a. He had love and compassion for all people including the social outcasts

Suggest reasons why Levi can be an example of true discipleship

- a. He immediately left everything and followed Jesus
- b. He shared his joy and food

What did discipleship cost Levi?

- a. It cost his well-paying job as a tax collector

Why did Jesus decide to call the sinful Levi?

- a. To show that he had come for the sinners so that they have eternal life

What was Levi's profession?

- a. A Tax Collector

What did Levi do to show his discipleship?

- a. He left everything and followed Jesus
- b. He had a great feast in which he shared his joy and food

How did the Pharisees and the Teachers of the Law react when they saw Jesus eating with Tax Collectors?

- a. They complained to Jesus' disciples for eating and drinking with tax collectors and other outcasts

What was Jesus' response to the Pharisees and the Teachers of the Law?

- People who are well do not need a doctor but only those who are sick
- I have not come to call respectable people to repent, but the outcasts

JESUS AND ZACCHAEUS (LUKE 19: 1 – 10)

What was the profession of Zacchaeus?

- a. He was a chief tax collector

Why did Zacchaeus climb a sycamore tree?

- a. He wanted to see Jesus and could not see him because of the crowd

What did Zacchaeus do to see Jesus?

- a. He climbed a sycamore tree

What did Jesus say to Zacchaeus?

- Hurry down Zacchaeus, because I must stay in your house today

What had happened for Jesus to say these words?

- Jesus was passing through Jericho
- There was a chief tax collector named Zacchaeus who was rich and was trying to see Jesus
- But he was a little man. He could not see Jesus because of the crowd.
- He ran ahead of the crowd and climbed a sycamore tree to see Jesus
- Jesus saw him and told him to hurry down

How did Zacchaeus respond to Jesus words?

- a. He hurried down and welcomed Jesus with great joy

How did the people react to this incident?

- a. They started grumbling saying Jesus has gone as a guest to the home of a sinner

Narrate what Zacchaeus said on this occasion to show that he repented

- I will give half my belongings to the poor
- If I have cheated anyone I will pay back four times as much

What evidence is there in the story to show that Zacchaeus had repented?

- a. He said he would give half of his belongings to the poor
- b. He said that if he had cheated anyone he will pay back four times as much
- c. He called Jesus "Lord" which means he had become a disciple
- d. He followed Jesus' advice of making friends with worldly wealth
- e. He took action

How did Jesus say in response to Zacchaeus' actions?

- Salvation has come to this house today for this man also is a descendant of Abraham
- The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost

Why did the Jews hate the tax collectors?

1. They were dishonest and greedy
2. They co-operated with the Roman occupants
3. The tax was a painful reminder of their dependence on Rome
4. Tax collectors were unclean as they had contacts with unclean Gentiles
5. They came into contact with unclean money

JESUS CHOOSES THE TWELVE APOSTLES (LUKE 6: 12 – 16)**What did Jesus do before choosing the apostles?**

- a. He went up a hill to pray to God

Why did Jesus pray before choosing the apostles?

- a. To ask for God's guidance when choosing the apostles

Why did Jesus choose the apostles?

- a. To continue with his universal mission of salvation after his resurrection and ascension

Mention the apostles of Jesus

1. Simon whom he named Peter
2. Andrew, the brother of Peter
3. James
4. John, the brother of James
5. Philip
6. Bartholomew
7. Matthew

8. Thomas
9. James, the son of Alphaeus
10. Simon who was called the Patriot
11. Judas, son of James
12. Judas Iscariot who became the traitor

JESUS SENDS OUT THE TWELVE DISCIPLES (LUKE 9: 1 – 6)

Suggest reasons why Jesus sent out the 12 apostles

1. To train them in the mission they were to do after his departure
2. To prepare them for their future work, after his ascension
3. Jesus felt that his mission was urgent, there was not much time left
4. There was plenty of work to do but the time was limited
5. To reach more people with the Gospel
6. Jesus wished to make his small community stronger by making the apostles share in his work
7. Preaching was the duty of the apostles and not only to be done by Jesus alone
8. It was the foreshadow of the activities for their duty after the Pentecost
9. To put into practice what they had learnt

List the activities undertaken during this mission

1. Preaching the gospel
2. Healing the sick
3. Casting out demons

What instructions did Jesus give the apostles?

1. Take nothing with you for the journey: no stick, no beggar's bag, no food, no money, not even an extra shirt
2. Stay where you are welcomed until you leave that town
3. Where people don't welcome you, leave the town and shake the dust off your feet as a warning to them
4. To preach the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick

Why did Jesus instruct them to take nothing?

- a. So as to have confidence or rely on God

Why did Jesus instruct them to stay where welcomed?

- a. To save time looking for better places
- b. Not to interest themselves in looking around for better accommodation

Why did Jesus instruct them to shake the dust off their feet if not welcomed?

- a. As a warning to them for refusing the gospel
- b. It was a curse, the apostles should not be blamed later
- c. It was a sign that the people who reject them will be punished
- d. It meant judgement, that the people are responsible in rejecting salvation

THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP (LUKE 9: 23 – 27)

What does Jesus teach those who want to follow him?

1. He must forget himself, take up his cross everyday
2. Whoever wants to save his own life will lose it
3. Whoever loses his life for Jesus' sake will save it
4. If people are ashamed of Jesus and his teaching, then the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his glory of the father and of the Holy Angels

What is the meaning of the cross?

- a. For Jesus it means suffering
- b. It was a sign by which the Jews marked themselves

- c. It was the Roman way of putting non-Romans to suffering and death

THE WOULD-BE FOLLOWERS OF JESUS (LUKE 9: 57 – 62)

What did the first man say to Jesus?

- I will follow you wherever you go

What was Jesus' response to this man?

- Foxes have holes, and birds have nests, but the son of man has nowhere to lie down and rest

What response did the second man give when Jesus asked him to follow him (Jesus)?

- Let me first go and bury my father meaning that he wanted family ties to delay him

What was Jesus' answer to the second man's response?

- Let the dead bury themselves but you should go and proclaim the Kingdom of God

What did the third man say to Jesus?

- I will follow you but allow me to go and say goodbye to my family

What was Jesus' response to what the third man said?

- Anyone who starts to plough and then keeps looking back is of no use to the Kingdom of God

What lessons or points are stressed in these three situations?

- a. The importance of one's commitment in being a disciple of Jesus
- b. The follower must not expect to live a comfortable life
- c. A follower should be ready to do the mission urgently without any delays
- d. A follower must know that once the mission starts, he must be ready to forge ahead and not think of going back at some point

JESUS SENDS OUT THE SEVENTY TWO (LUKE 10: 1 – 12)

Suggest reasons why Jesus sent them two by two

1. For mutual support
2. A single witness is not enough to witness the truth
3. Two can show what it means to live together
4. To encourage each other during the missionary activities

What did Jesus say when he was sending them?

- There is a large harvest but few workers to gather in his harvest
- Go I am sending you like lambs among wolves

What instructions did Jesus give the seventy two?

1. Not to take a purse or beggar's bag or shoes
2. Not to stop to greet anyone on the road
3. Whenever you go into a house first say "Peace be with this house"
4. Stay in the same house eating and drinking whatever they offer you, for workers should be given their pay
5. If welcomed in a town, eat, heal the sick and say that The Kingdom of God has come near you
6. If you are not welcomed in a town, go out into the streets and say "Even the dust from your town that stick to our feet we wipe off against you; but remember that the Kingdom of God has come near you!"

What was the mission of the seventy two?

- a. To heal the sick
- b. To preach that the Kingdom of God had come near people

What did Jesus mean when he said he was sending them like lambs among wolves?

- a. They were defenceless
- b. The peace they would bring is a reminder of end times when the wolf will stay with

the lamb

Why did Jesus instruct them not to greet anyone on the road?

- a. To save time
- b. To teach that the customary greeting is quite different from a greeting that goes to the heart of the gospel of peace

Why did Jesus instruct them to eat whatever they were to be offered?

- a. They had to eat even the unclean food for the sake of peace and politeness
- b. Not to waste time looking for better food
- c. Jesus had declared all food clean

What were they to do in a house?

- a. First to say "Peace be with this house!"
- b. Stay in that same house, eating and drinking whatever would be offered
- c. Not to move from one house to another

What will happen upon saying such words of "Peace be with this house"?

- a. If a peace-loving person lives there, let your greeting of peace remain with him
- b. If not, take back your greetings of peace

What were they to do in a town where they were welcomed?

- a. Eat what is set before them
- b. Say to the people "The Kingdom of God has come near you!"

What were they to do in a town where they were not welcomed?

- a. Go out into the streets
- b. Wipe the dust off your feet
- c. Say "Even the dust from your town that sticks to our feet we wipe off against you. But remember that the Kingdom of God is near you!"

What were they to say in a town where they were not welcomed?

- Even the dust from your town that sticks to our feet we wipe off against you.
- But remember that the Kingdom of God is near you!

What will happen to that city on the Day of Judgement?

- a. God will show more mercy to Sodom than to that town

THE COST OF BEING A DISCIPLE (LUKE 14: 25 – 33)

What did Jesus say to the large crowd following him?

- Those who come to me cannot be my disciples unless they love me more than they love their father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and themselves as well
- Those who do not carry their own cross and come after me cannot be my disciples

Narrate the two parables that Jesus told the large crowd to teach about the cost of discipleship

- If one of you is planning to build a tower, you sit down first and work out what it will cost, to see if you have enough money to finish the job. If you don't, you will not be able to finish the tower after laying the foundation; and all who see what happened will laugh at you
- If a king goes out with 10,000 men to fight another king with 20,000 men, he will sit down first and decide if he is strong enough to face that other king. If he isn't he will ask for terms of peace while his enemy is still a long way off

What lessons does Jesus teach in these two parables?

- a. The disciples should make a decision that will not be reversed before they start following him
- b. None of the people can be Jesus' disciple unless they give up everything they have
- c. For the crowd to follow Jesus, they have to give up their priorities and be ready to

suffer like him

- d. Before becoming a disciple a person should weigh carefully the great responsibilities attached to discipleship

Describe the cost of discipleship

- a. Disciples have to give up their priorities and be ready to suffer like Jesus
- b. Disciples have to live up to the demands of the Kingdom at all cost
- c. Disciples have to be dedicated to the Kingdom ready to pay the cost of discipleship

How can a family prevent one from being a disciple of Jesus?

- a. A family can discourage one from being the disciple of Jesus

How can a family help one to be a faithful disciple of Jesus?

- a. A family can encourage one to become a disciple of Jesus
- b. A family can pray for you to be a faithful disciple of Jesus

SABBATH TEACHING

Define the term “Sabbath”

- a. It means *to stop in order to praise God*
- b. It is the Seventh Day, The Day of Rest, on which God requires people to rest from their weekly labour
- c. It comes from the Hebrew word which means *“To Rest”*

What was the Jewish Law of the Sabbath?

- a. No work was allowed to be done on the Sabbath

Outline the Jewish regulations with regard to the Sabbath

1. Any kind of work was forbidden
2. Healing was forbidden unless life was in danger

What was Jesus’ attitude towards the Sabbath?

1. He respected the Sabbath rules by going to the Synagogues
2. He would break the Sabbath rules if they would cause delay in relieving any suffering
3. He would work even on the Sabbath
4. Healing on the Sabbath was a sign that he was the Lord of the Sabbath, the Messiah

Mention incidences that illustrate conflict between Jesus and the Jewish Religious Leaders over breaking the Sabbath rules

1. Jesus’ disciples picking the ears of corn and rubbing them on the Sabbath (Luke 6: 1 - 5)
2. Healing the Man with a Paralyzed Hand in a Synagogue on the Sabbath (Luke 6: 6 – 11)
3. Healing a Crippled Woman on the Sabbath (Luke 13: 10 – 17)
4. Healing a Sick Man on the Sabbath (Luke 14: 1- 6)

THE QUESTION ABOUT THE SABBATH (LUKE 6: 1 – 5)

How did the disciples of Jesus break the Sabbath rule?

- a. They harvested on the Sabbath
- b. They threshed corn on the Sabbath

What was the answer from Jesus when the Pharisees accused Jesus’ disciples of breaking the Sabbath?

- Haven’t you read what David did when he and his men were hungry?
- He and his men ate the bread offered to God yet it is against our Law for anyone except the priest to eat that bread
- The Son of Man is the Lord of the Sabbath

To whom did Jesus refer when he said The Son of Man?

- a. To Jesus Himself

FASTING

Define the term “Fasting”

- a. Depriving oneself of food or drink for a certain time for special purposes
- b. Not to take food or drink or just have a little of them

Suggest reasons for fasting

1. For purification or asceticism or doing penance for sins
2. As an expression of sadness
3. Thanksgiving, praising and repentance
4. Preparation for prayers
5. Fulfilling a promise made to God
6. Being obedient to the Church rule
7. To gain merits
8. Asking God for a special favour

Why did the Jews fast?

- a. Preparing to meet God
- b. Mourning over one's sins and asking for forgiveness
- c. As a sign of love for the poor when it went together with almsgiving

Why did John's disciples fast?

1. For the release of their master John who was in prison by then
2. To hasten the Judgement Day predicted by John

Why did Jesus fast?

- a. As a sign that he submitted to the Father both in the desert and at the Last supper

Compare the fasting required in the Old Testament and that practised by the Pharisees

- a. In the Old Testament there was one day of fasting , the day of atonement or repentance, while the Pharisees fasted twice a week

Suggest reasons why the Pharisees fasted

- a. To show off
- b. To compare themselves advantageously to the sinners
- c. To gain more honour from the people

THE QUESTION ABOUT FASTING (LUKE 5: 33 – 39)

What did some people say to Jesus?

- The disciples of John the Baptist fast frequently and offer prayers
- The disciples of the Pharisees do the same
- But your disciples eat and drink

What was Jesus' response to such words?

- Do you think you can make the guests at a wedding party go without food as long as the bridegroom is with them? Of course not
- They will fast on the day the bridegroom is take away from them

Narrate the parables that Jesus told them

- No one tears a piece off a new coat to patch up an old coat. If he does, he will have torn the new coat, and the piece of the new cloth will not match the old
- Nor does anyone pour new wine into used wine skins, because the new wine will burst the skins, the wine will pour out and the skins will be ruined. Instead, new wine must be poured into fresh wineskins!

What are the allegorical references to the following words and phrases in the parables?

1. **Bridegroom:** Jesus
2. **Guests:** The disciples of Jesus
3. **The wedding feast:** The Kingdom of God
4. **Old wine:** Old Jewish customs
5. **New wine:** Jesus' teachings

What lessons did Jesus teach using the above two parables?

1. Do not combine Jewish Religion with the teaching of Jesus
2. An effort to contain Christianity within the dead forms of Judaism will be in vain
3. People are ready to receive the Gospel
4. Old customs concerning fasting were no longer binding in the new times

What is Jesus' teaching about fasting?

- a. Though the other disciples fasted, his disciples could not fast because he was with them and he was helping them in their needs
- b. Time will come when he will go and they will be alone, persecuted and afflicted and that's when they will need to fast

Why were the disciples of Jesus not fasting when Jesus was with them?

- a. Jesus was helping them in their needs

FORGIVENESS

JESUS AT THE HOUSE OF SIMON THE PHARISEE (LUKE 7: 36 – 50)

Relate what happened when Jesus visited the house of Simon the Pharisee

- A woman who lived sinful life brought an alabaster jar full of perfume stood behind Jesus, by his feet, crying and wetting his feet with her tears
- Then she dried his feet with her hair, kissed them and poured the perfume on them

What was the reaction of the Pharisees to this?

- a. They said if Jesus was a prophet he would know who this woman is who is touching him
- b. He would know what kind of sinful life she lives

What did Jesus do in response to this reaction?

- a. He said. "Simon, I have something to tell you"
- b. He told a parable

Relate the parable that Jesus told Simon the Pharisees

- There were two men who owed a money lender
- One owed him 500 silver coins, and the other owed him 50
- Neither of them could repay him
- He cancelled the debts of both

What question followed the parable?

- a. Which one will love the debtor more?

What answer did Simon the Pharisee provide?

- a. The one who was forgiven more

What lesson does the parable convey to Simon the Pharisee?

- a. The woman who has been forgiven more shows greater love than the Pharisee who thought had few or no sins

Describe the difference between the way Simon the Pharisee welcomed Jesus and the way the woman welcomed him

- a. Simon the Pharisee did not wash Jesus' feet while the woman did so
- b. Simon the Pharisee did not kiss Jesus while the woman kissed Jesus' feet as a sign of

love

- c. Simon the Pharisee did not anoint Jesus while the woman anointed Jesus to show respect and honour

Describe the Jewish custom of welcoming visitors

- a. A visitor should be given a kiss, water to wash feet, and be anointed on the head

Why did Jesus forgive the sins of the woman?

- a. She had shown faith in Jesus

Suggest reasons why Jesus used a parable to explain what had happened

- a. He wanted to explain why the woman should no longer be looked upon as a sinner
- b. He wanted to show why the woman did all she had done to show love to Jesus; she had been forgiven more

Describe what the woman did to Jesus

- a. She washed Jesus' feet with her tears
- b. She wiped Jesus' feet with her hair
- c. She kissed Jesus' feet
- d. She anointed Jesus' feet with alabaster oil

Mention interests of Luke shown in the story

- a. Forgiveness and love for sinners
- b. Jesus' concern for women

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

What parable did Jesus give in teaching about social responsibility?

- a. The Parable of the Rich man and Lazarus

RICHERS

THE RICH MAN (LUKE 18: 18 – 30)

What question did the Jewish leader give Jesus?

- a. God Teacher, what must I do to receive eternal life

Suggest reasons why the Jewish leader gave that question to Jesus

- a. He was not very sure of getting eternal happiness
- b. He thought he could enter the Kingdom of God by his own effort
- c. He wanted to learn more about discipleship

What was Jesus' response to this question?

- a. Jesus asked him why he called him good
- b. He told him that no one is good except God alone
- c. He asked him if he knew the Commandments

What did the Jewish leader say in response to Jesus's words?

- a. He said he had obeyed all these Commandments ever since he was young

Relate what Jesus told the man after the man's response

- Sell all you have and give the money to the poor and you will have riches in heaven
- Then come and follow me

What did the man do upon hearing what Jesus had said?

- a. He became very sad because he was very rich

What did Jesus say upon observing the reaction of the man?

- How hard it is for the rich people to enter the Kingdom of God
- It is much harder for the rich person to enter the Kingdom of God than for a camel to

go through the eye of the needle

How did the people who heard Jesus react?

- a. They asked “Who then can be saved?”

What was Jesus’ response to the people’s question?

- a. What is humanly impossible is possible for God

What did Peter say thereafter?

- a. Look we have left our homes to follow you!

What did Jesus respond to Peter’s words?

- Anyone who leaves home or wife or brothers or parents or children for the sake of the Kingdom of God will receive much more in the present age and eternal life in the age to come

Mention lessons from this story

1. Riches cannot satisfy people before God
2. Riches can distract people from entering the Kingdom of God
3. Riches can be a snare to trap us not to enter the Kingdom of God

What is the significance of this story?

1. Jesus is not condemning riches
2. The man must fulfil his duty to God, leaving everything and following Him

Describe Jesus’ views on riches

1. Riches are not a guarantee to eternal life
2. Acquiring riches is not bad but how to use them
3. Riches can be an obstacle to salvation
4. People should not take riches as a priority value
5. Love of material things is dangerous
6. Riches can distract people’s attention from the Kingdom of God

OFFERINGS

THE WIDOW’S OFFERING (LUKE 21: 1 – 4)

Describe what prompted Jesus to comment on the widow’s offering

- Jesus saw rich people dropping their gifts in the Temple treasury
- He also saw a poor widow dropping in 2 little copper coins

What comment did Jesus make?

- a. The widow had put in more than all the others because the others offered just part of their riches while she had put in all she had

Narrate what Jesus said about the widow’s offering

- I tell you that this poor widow put in more than all the others
- For the others offered their gifts from what they had to spare of their riches
- But she, the poor as she is, gave all she had to live on

Why did the widow put in more than all the others?

- a. The others offered only part of their riches while she had put in all she had

What was the widow’s attitude in her offering?

1. She was humble
2. She was sincere
3. She did not show off
4. She gave in all she had

How did the widow show true piety?

1. As poor as she was, she gave all she had to live on
2. She was humble

3. She had her confidence in God the Provider
4. She showed great need of God

Suggest reasons why Jesus honoured the widow

- a. She put in all the living she had
- b. Her total giving foreshadowed Jesus' total gift of Himself a few days later

Mention indications that made Jesus foresee His passion

1. He knew that the opposition from the Religious leaders grew strong
2. He knew He was accused of crimes punishable by death
3. He knew He was the Last Prophet, the Son and would be killed
4. He identified Himself with the suffering servant

What lessons can be learnt in the story?

- a. Giving only part of wealth to God shows lack of dependence on God
- b. People need to place their life in God's hand without worrying about tomorrow

END TIMES

JESUS SPEAKS OF THE DESTRUCTION OF THE TEMPLE

(LUKE 21: 5 – 6)

What prompted Jesus to speak about the destruction of the Temple?

- a. His disciples admired how beautiful the Temple looked with its fine stones
- b. The disciples admired the gifts offered to God

What did Jesus say on the destruction of the Temple?

- The time will come when not a single stone here will be left in its place
- Every stone will be thrown down

Why will the Temple be destroyed?

- a. Because the leaders rejected Him

TROUBLES AND PERSECUTIONS (LUKE 21: 7 – 19)

What prompted Jesus to speak about troubles and persecution?

- a. He was responding to the disciples' question about what will happen to show that the time for the destruction of the Temple has come

According to Jesus, what would be the sign of the time?

1. Many men claiming to speak for Jesus will come and say "I am He"
2. There will be wars and revolutions
3. Countries will fight each other
4. Kingdoms will attack one another
5. There will be earthquakes, famine, and plagues everywhere
6. There will be strange and terrible things coming from the sky
7. People will be persecuted in many ways even by their relatives

Why should the disciples not be worried about how they will defend themselves during persecutions?

- a. Jesus will give them words and wisdom that none of their enemies will be able to refute or contradict what they say

JESUS SPEAKS ABOUT THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM

(LUKE 21: 20 – 24)

How will people know that Jerusalem will soon be destroyed?

- a. When people see Jerusalem surrounded by armies

What should people do at this time?

1. Those in Judea must run away to the hills
2. Those in the city must leave
3. Those who are out in the country must not go into the city

Why should people do what Jesus had said?

- a. Because those will be The Days of Punishment to make all that the Scriptures say come true

How will God's punishment fall on the people?

- a. Some will be killed by the sword
- b. Others will be taken as prisoners to all countries
- c. The heathen will trample over Jerusalem until their time is up

THE COMING OF THE SON OF MAN (LUKE 21: 25 – 28)**What will happen before the coming of the Son of Man?**

1. There will be strange things happening to the sun, the moon and the stars
2. On earth, whole countries will be in despair, afraid of the roar of the sea and the raging tides
3. People will faint from fear for what is coming over the whole earth
4. The powers in space will be driven from their courses

What should people do when these things begin to happen?

- a. They should stand up and raise their heads because their salvation is near

Why should people stand up and raise their heads?

- a. Because their salvation is near

Describe the coming of the Son of Man

- The Son of Man will appear, coming in a cloud with great power and glory

JESUS' IDENTITY**PETER'S CONFESSION (LUKE 9: 18 – 22)****What question did Jesus bring up to the disciples?**

- a. Who do the crowds say I am

Suggest reasons why Jesus brought up the question

1. Since John's death, even Herod started asking who he was
2. He would soon go to Jerusalem and it was important for his disciples to know he was going there as the Messiah
3. The question would lead Jesus to begin correcting the disciples' idea that the Messiah was a glorious King
4. He wanted to know the impression that he had made on the people after being close to them for some time

What responses did the disciples give?

- a. Some say you are John the Baptist
- b. Others say you are Elijah
- c. Others say you are one of the Prophets

What did Jesus say after such responses?

- a. What about you, who do you, say I am?

Who responded to that question?

- a. Simon Peter

What was the response of Peter?

- a. You are God's Messiah

How significant was Peter's response?

1. It showed that Peter was the leader of the 12 as he spoke on their behalf
2. It showed that the disciples had started seeing Jesus as the King enthroned by God
3. His proper understanding of Jesus was important for his friends and for the Church

What order did Jesus give them?

- a. Not to tell this to anyone

Why did Jesus give them that order?

1. He did not want people to know him as the Messiah
2. He did not want to be taken as a political rebel against Romans
3. It was too early and unsafe to have Peter's confession publicised everywhere
4. Publicity of the Messiahship would lead to his immediate arrest and execution before completing His task
5. Jesus had still a lot to teach both to the people and apostles
6. People would start forcing him to liberate them from the Roman oppression

What did Jesus say soon after giving them that order?

- The Son of Man must suffer much and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the teachers of the Law
- He will be put to death
- But three days later he will be raised to life

THE TRANSFIGURATION (LUKE 9: 28 – 36)**Mention the disciples who were with Jesus during this time**

1. Peter
2. John
3. James

Why did Jesus go to the hill?

- a. To pray

Describe what happened during the transfiguration

- Jesus' face changed its appearance
- His clothes became dazzling white
- Two men were talking with Jesus
- A cloud appeared and covered them
- A voice said from the cloud, "This is my Son whom I have chosen – listen to Him"

Who were the two men talking with Jesus?

- a. Moses standing for the Law
- b. Elijah standing for the prophets

What were the two men and Jesus talking about?

- a. The way in which he would soon fulfil God's purpose by dying in Jerusalem

What was the significance of the appearance of the two men?

- a. They encouraged Jesus on His approaching death
- b. They strengthened the faith of the disciples by revealing that Jesus was really the Son of God
- c. They prove that Jesus is the fulfilment of the Law and the Prophecies
- d. It confirms that Jesus is the Messiah

Describe the reactions of Peter and the other apostles

1. Peter said it was good that they were there
2. He suggested making three tents, one for Jesus, the other for Moses and the other for Elijah
3. The apostles were afraid as the cloud came over them

Suggest reasons for Peter's reactions

- a. He was taken by emotions and did not know what to do
- b. He did not understand the mission of Jesus

State what the voice that came from the cloud said

- This is my Son whom I have chosen
- Listen to Him

To whom were the words in the voice addressed?

- a. The disciples

What did the cloud symbolize?

- a. The presence of God

What was the significance of the message in the voice?

1. It reveals that Jesus is the Messiah
2. It reveals that Jesus is the anointed one of God
3. It reveals that Jesus is the beloved Son of God
4. It reveals that Jesus is a unique prophet
5. It foreshadows Jesus' glorious resurrection

WELCOMING CHILDREN

JESUS BLESSES LITTLE CHILDREN (LUKE 18: 15 – 17)**What did the disciples do when some people brought their children to be Jesus?**

- a. They scolded the people for doing so

What did Jesus say on this occasion?

- Let the children come to me and do not stop them because the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these
- Remember this, whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it

What did Jesus mean by such words?

1. People must listen to God's words just as children listen to their father
2. People must be sincere in their relationship with God just as the children are sincere to their parents
3. People must obey God just as a child obeys the parents
4. People must always rely on God just as children rely on their parents

What is the position of children in society?

- a. They occupy low position

How can a disciple be like a child?

1. Must be dependent on God
2. Must rely on God and not on merits
3. Must be at peace and not anxious
4. Must be humble

What lessons can be learnt from this incident?

1. To depend on God always
2. To accept everything from God
3. To avoid self-righteousness
4. To trust God very much
5. The Kingdom of God is for the humble people

WOMEN IN SERVICE

WOMEN WHO ACCOMPANIED JESUS (LUKE 8: 1 – 3)

Mention the women who accompanied Jesus

1. Mary Magdalene from whom 7 demons had been driven out
2. Joanna the wife of Chuza
3. Suzana

What role did the women play in Jesus' ministry?

- a. They used their own resources to help Jesus and His disciples

JESUS VISITS MARTHA AND MARY (LUKE 10: 38 – 42)

How did Martha and Mary welcome Jesus?

1. Martha worked in the kitchen to prepare food for Jesus
2. Mary sat at Jesus' feet listening to His teaching

How did Mary's reception of Jesus differ from Martha's?

1. Martha received Jesus as a guest and worked to prepare food for Him while Mary received Jesus as a teacher and sat at His feet listening to his teaching

What did Martha say when her sister was not helping her in the work?

- Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself
- Tell her to come and help me

What was Jesus' response to Martha's words?

- Martha! Martha! You are worried and troubled over so many things
- Mary has chosen the right thing, and it will not be taken away from her

Why did Jesus commend Mary's reception?

1. Mary chose the right thing because listening to Jesus is more important than caring for Him as a guest
2. She knew that it was better to give the first priority to God
3. She knew that listening to the teaching about the Kingdom of God was more important than providing food to Jesus

What is the best way of serving Jesus?

- a. To listen to His word and put it into practice as did Mary

RESPECT FOR THE TEMPLE

JESUS GOES TO THE TEMPLE (LUKE 19: 45 – 49)

What activities were taking place in the Temple?

1. Buying and selling clean animals for the sacrifice
2. Exchanging of money, from the Roman currency to the Shekels, the Jewish currency
3. Cheating and robbing by overcharging commodities' prices

In which part of the Temple were such activities taking place?

- a. The court of the Gentiles

Why was Jesus not happy with this conduct?

1. It disturbed Gentiles from prayers since it was happening in the part used by Gentiles
2. They actually chased the Gentiles from the outer court
3. There was a lot of cheating in their dealings
4. People were busy making profits instead of giving glory to God

What did Jesus do when he went to the Temple?

- a. He began to drive out merchants

What did Jesus say as he was doing that?

- It is written in the Scriptures that God said “My Temple will be a house of prayer”
- But you have turned it into a hideout of thieves!

Why did Jesus cleanse the Temple?

1. The animals created a smelly and messy atmosphere in the Temple
2. To symbolize that Holy God needs to be worshipped in a clean place
3. He wanted the Gentiles also to worship God comfortably because what was happening was a great inconvenience to them
4. Stealing was taking place since the people were overcharged

Who were not happy with this action of Jesus?

1. The Chief Priests
2. The Teachers of the Law
3. The Leaders of the people

What plan did they make?

- a. To kill Jesus

Why were they not able to fulfil their plan at this time?

- a. All the people kept listening to Jesus, not wanting to miss a single word
- b. They were afraid of the people

UNIT 5

THE PASSION OF JESUS CHRIST

THE TRIUMPHANT APPROACH TO JERUSALEM (LUKE 19: 28 – 40)

What instructions did Jesus give to the two disciples as he was about to enter Jerusalem?

1. To go to the village ahead of them
2. They would find a colt tied up that had not never been ridden
3. They had to untie it and bring it to where Jesus was
4. If asked, they should say the Master needs it

Why did Jesus use a colt?

- a. It was for peaceful mission unlike donkeys which were for wars

What did the disciples do as Jesus was entering Jerusalem?

1. They threw their cloaks over the animal
2. They spread their cloaks on the road
3. They began to thank and praise God for all the great things they had seen
4. They shouted *“God bless the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and Glory to God!”*

Suggest a reason why the disciples did that

- a. They thought it was time for Jesus to defeat the Roman Government and free the Jews

What was the reaction of the Pharisees?

- a. They asked Jesus to command His disciples to keep quiet

Suggest reasons why the Pharisees reacted like that?

1. They may be jealous since Jesus became very popular
2. They were worried that the Romans would interpret it as an uprising
3. They were not friendly to Jesus as they had opposed him as Teacher

What was Jesus' response to the request by the Pharisees?

- a. If they keep quiet, the stones themselves will start shouting

What prophecy was fulfilled on this day?

- The prophecy of **Zechariah 9:9** which talks about the coming King of the universal peace and worldwide rule

How did Jesus present Himself as the Messiah-King on this occasion?

1. He enacted the Prophecy of Zechariah
2. He took possession of the Temple
3. He taught the Temple crowds to decide to believe or reject Him

In what way was the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem a fulfilment of the Old Testament Prophecies?

1. He was riding a colt as the Messiah prophesied by Zechariah
2. People were shouting as prophesied by Zechariah
3. He entered humbly as prophesied by Zechariah

What was the significance of the disciples' laying of cloaks on the road?

1. Symbol of loyalty
2. Symbol of the King's enthronement

What was the significance of Jesus' riding a colt?

1. Jesus was coming in peace
2. Jesus is the Prince of Peace or King of Peace

Why was Jesus not fit for a Messianic King that the Jews were expecting?

- a. The Jews were expecting a military Messianic King riding a horse who would liberate the Jews from the Roman Government but Jesus rode a colt to symbolize peace and love

JESUS SPEAKS ABOUT HIS SUFFERING AND DEATH**(LUKE 9: 12 – 22, 43 – 45; 18: 31 – 34)****What did Jesus say about his suffering and death?**

1. He told the disciples that the Son of Man must suffer much and be rejected by the elders and the Teachers of the Law. He will be put to death, but three days later He will be raised to life
2. He told the disciples that the Son of Man is going to be handed over to the power of human beings but his disciples did not understand what Jesus said
3. He told the disciples that they were going to Jerusalem where everything that the Prophets wrote about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. He will be handed over to the Gentiles, who will mock him, insult him and spit on him. They will also whip him and kill him, but on the third he will rise again

To whom did Jesus refer when he talked of the Son of Man?

- a. Jesus himself

What did Jesus say would happen to him in Jerusalem in the third prediction of the passion?

1. He would be delivered to the Gentiles
2. He would be mocked
3. He would be shamefully treated
4. He would be spat upon
5. He would be whipped and killed
6. On the third day he would rise

Describe moments when Jesus predicted about His death

1. When he was teaching about carrying the cross as the cost of discipleship
2. After the cure of the epileptic boy when he told his disciples not to forget that the Son

- of Man would be handed over to the power of human beings
- 3. After assuring those who had left everything when he gave them detailed description of his suffering and death
- 4. After Peter's declaration that Jesus is the Messiah when he predicted of the passion

JESUS WEEPS OVER JERUSALEM (LUKE 19: 41 – 44)

Why did Jesus weep over Jerusalem?

- 1. The enemies would come and surround the city with barricades and blockade it
- 2. They will destroy the city and its inhabitants, not a single stone will remain in its place
- 3. He knew that He would die there

THE FOUR CONTROVERSIES

Mention the incidences in which the Jewish leaders challenged Jesus

- 1. The challenge about Jesus' authority
- 2. The question about paying tax to Caesar
- 3. The question of rising from death
- 4. The question about the Messiah

1 THE QUESTION ABOUT JESUS' AUTHORITY (LUKE 20: 1 – 8)

Who challenged Jesus' authority?

- 1. Chief Priests
- 2. Teachers of the Law
- 3. Elders

Suggest reasons for challenging Jesus' authority

- 1. They wanted to find ways and means of trapping Jesus
- 2. They did not believe He is the Messiah
- 3. They felt insulted by Jesus' interference in Temple affairs
- 4. They questioned the truth of Jesus' teachings

What question did they give Jesus?

- a. Tell us what right do you have to do these things? Who gave you this right?

Narrate Jesus' response

- Tell me, did John's right to baptize come from God or from human beings?

What was the reaction of the Jewish leaders to Jesus question?

- They argued among themselves, "What shall we say? If we say from God, he will say 'Why then did you not believe John?' If we say from human beings, this whole crowd here will stone us because they are convinced that John was a prophet"
- They answered Jesus "We don't know where it came from"

What was their answer to Jesus' question?

- a. They said they did not know where John's authority to baptize came from

How did their response show that they were unfit to be leaders?

- 1. How can the leaders lead the people yet they fail to decide about John's prominence in their society
- 2. Their failure to judge John's authority demonstrated their incompetence to judge Jesus' case
- 3. How can they lead the people yet everybody could see that John was the man of God except them

4. How can they be leaders yet they feared the same people they could lead

What did Jesus say then?

- a. Neither will I tell you then by what right I do these things

What things did Jesus do without seeking Jewish leaders' authority?

1. Entering Jerusalem as the Messiah
2. Cleansing the Temple
3. Teaching the crowd on the Temple premises

Why were the Jewish Leaders annoyed with what Jesus was doing?

1. The Priests were insulted by Jesus' interference in the Temple affairs because they were in charge of it
2. The Teachers of the Law questioned the truth of Jesus' teaching because they were guardians of the truth
3. The Elders were concerned about Jesus' claims that He was the Messiah and would spark an uprising because they guarded Law and Order

What were the duties of the Teachers of the Law?

1. Judging court cases in the Council, in the Temple and Synagogues
2. Studying and explaining Scriptures
3. Instructing their own disciples or students

Why did the Teachers of the Law oppose Jesus?

1. Jesus taught with authority yet he was not qualified as a teacher
2. Jesus publicly accused them of hypocrisy
3. Jesus disagreed with their teaching on wealth and divorce

Why did Jesus oppose the Teachers of the Law?

1. They forced people to strict observance of the Law to which they themselves were not always faithful
2. They abused their status by cheating widows
3. They were making a show-off of their prayer life or piety
4. They were wearing long robes to show off

2 THE QUESTION ABOUT PAYING TAXES (LUKE 20: 19 – 26)

Who tried to arrest Jesus in this passage?

- a. The Teachers of the Law
- b. The Chief Priests

Why did they try to arrest Jesus on the spot?

- a. Because they knew that Jesus had told the parable of the Tenants in the Vineyard against them

Why did they fail to arrest Jesus?

- a. They were afraid of the people

What did they do to trick Jesus?

- They bribed some men to trap Jesus with the questions so that they could hand him over to the authority and power of the Roman Governor

What did the spies ask Jesus?

- Teacher, we know that what you say and teach is right
- We know that you pay no attention to anyone's status but teach the truth about God's will for people
- Tell us, is it against our Law for us to pay taxes to the Roman Emperor or not?

Why did they give Jesus that tricky question?

- a. If Jesus' response was "Yes" it would mean betraying His fellow Jews who did not like paying tax
- b. If Jesus' response was "No" it would mean treason against the Emperor and he would

be arrested

What was Jesus' response?

- Show me the coin
- Whose face and name are these?
- When they answered, "Emperor's", Jesus said pay to the Emperor what belongs to the Emperor and pay to God what belongs to God

Why did Jesus ask them to show him the coin?

- a. The presence of the coin in their pocket shows that they accept the Roman currency hence they had to pay tax

What was the meaning of Jesus' response?

- a. Cooperation with the Roman Emperor does not diminish God's Kingship

Suggest reasons why the Jews felt bitter about paying tax

1. The money went to their own oppressors
2. The money was defiled or unclean since it had the image of the man
3. Paying tax meant accepting a foreign ruler hence betraying God as the King of Israel
4. Nobody liked paying tax

What was the reaction to Jesus' response?

- a. They kept quiet and amazed at Jesus' answer

Why did they react like that?

- a. They could not catch him out on anything

3 THE QUESTION ABOUT RISING FROM DEATH (LUKE 20: 27 – 40)

Who questioned Jesus about rising from death?

- a. The Sadducees

Who were the Sadducees?

- a. Descendants of the old *Zadokite Priestly family*
- b. Belonged to the rich, powerful Jews from the priestly families
- c. The High Priests and the Chief Priests were all the Sadducees

What was the influence of the Sadducees?

1. They lived away from the people
2. They controlled the Temple and had access to the Temple treasures
3. They cooperated with the Romans because the Roman Government maintained their positions as Priests
4. They were not much interested in Religion and Piety

What did the Sadducees believe about Resurrection?

- a. There was no resurrection

Narrate the Sadducees' question to Jesus

- According to the Law of Moses, if a man dies leaving a wife but no children, his brother must marry the widow to have children who will be considered as the dead man's children.
- There were 7 brothers who married the same woman in succession but they all died without having any child with her.
- Then the woman also died
- Now on the Day of resurrection, whose wife will she be? All 7 of them had married her

What was Jesus' response to the question?

- The men and women of this age marry but men and women who are worthy to rise from death and live in the age to come will not marry
- They will be like angels and cannot die
- Moses clearly proves that the dead are raised to life when he speaks about God as

“The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob”

- He is the God of the living not of the dead, for Him all are alive

What was the reaction of the Sadducees to Jesus’ response?

- a. Some of them said that Jesus had given them a good answer

Why did the Sadducees react like that?

- a. For they did not dare ask him any more questions

According to Jesus, how does Moses prove that the dead are raised to life?

- a. Moses spoke of the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob

Why did Jesus refer to the Old Testament in his answer to the Sadducees?

- a. It would be easy for the Sadducees to understand since they believed and also quoted the Old Testament scriptures in their question

Suggest reasons why the Sadducees confronted Jesus with this question

1. They did not believe in life after death
2. They wanted to prove that in the Law of Moses there is no provision that the dead will rise for there would be confusion in heaven
3. They wanted to trap Jesus if he followed the Law of Moses and if he was implicated, should be accused and handed over to the Jewish authorities and get arrested
4. They had a wrong idea of the Resurrection in that they thought it meant bringing the dead to their old life

Outline beliefs of the Sadducees

1. They did not believe in the resurrection of the dead
2. They did not believe in Angels
3. They did not believe in the spirits
4. They did not believe in Divine Providence
5. They rejected the Oral Tradition
6. They believed in the Pentateuch or Torah or First Five Books of the Bible

Suggest reasons why the Sadducees opposed the Pharisees

1. They were not happy with the popularity of the Pharisees
2. They did not agree with the beliefs of the Pharisees

Why did the Sadducees reject Jesus?

1. Being rich, they felt attacked by Jesus’ teachings on riches
2. They were upset with Jesus’ teaching about the resurrection
3. They were angry when Jesus cleansed the Temple without their authority
4. The cleansing of the Temple by Jesus threatened to reduce their income

Mention lessons drawn from this encounter of Jesus with the Sadducees

- a. There is no marriage in heaven because people do not die
- b. There is life after death

Outline the beliefs of the Pharisees

1. They believed in the Torah or Law or Pentateuch (First 5 Books of the Bible)
2. They believed in life after death
3. They believed in the resurrection
4. They believed in oral tradition
5. They believed in divine providence

Why did Jesus oppose Pharisees?

1. The Pharisees found it hard to believe that God loves everyone, even the sinners
2. They practised piety in order to be praised
3. They paid so much attention to minor rules that they tended to forget the heart of the law
4. They were convinced that God thought well of them because of their strict observance of the Law

5. They believed that God did not forgive certain sins such as adultery

Why did the Pharisees oppose Jesus?

1. Jesus seemed to have little respect for rules which they considered important
2. Jesus' teachings threatened their status in society
3. Jesus denounced them publicly
4. Their popularity was threatened as Jesus attracted a large following
5. They feared that Jesus could lead an uprising, the thing they feared

4 THE QUESTION ABOUT THE MESSIAH (LUKE 20: 41 – 44)

What question did Jesus give His challengers?

- How can it be said that the Messiah will be the descendant of David?
- For David himself says in the Book of Psalms, "The Lord said to my Lord: Sit here on my right until I put your enemies as a foot stool under your feet"
- David called him Lord, how then can the Messiah be David's descendant?

What did Jesus' comment on the Messiah reveal?

- a. It revealed the people's inadequate idea of the Messiah

How did the people have a wrong idea of the Messiah?

- a. The Jews looked forward to the coming of an earthly deliverer and king, a descendant of David

What was David's prophecy of the Messiah?

- a. He called the Messiah "My Lord" showing that the Messiah was greater than him and not his son

THE PLOT AGAINST JESUS (LUKE 22: 1 – 6)

Who plotted the death of Jesus?

1. The Chief Priests
2. The teachers of the Law

Why did they plot to put Jesus to death secretly?

- a. They were afraid of the people

During what celebration did they plot against Jesus?

- a. The Festival of the Unleavened Bread called the Passover

Who agreed to betray Jesus?

- a. Judas Iscariot

Suggest reasons why Judas betrayed Jesus

1. He loved money
2. He was tempted by Satan
3. He was disappointed seeing Jesus failing to drive out Roman as he had expected
4. He wanted to be on the winning side because things were turning out against Jesus
5. He thought Jesus would perform a miracle and escape while he gained money
6. Satan entered him
7. He thought Jesus would defend himself if the officials tried to arrest him

What was to be Judas' payment for betraying Jesus?

- a. He would be paid money

JESUS PREPARES TO EAT THE PASSOVER MEAL (LUKE 22: 7 – 13)

Mention the two disciples sent to prepare the Passover Meal

1. Peter
2. John

State the instructions Jesus gave them on how to identify the place for the Passover

1. Go and get the Passover meal ready for us to eat
2. When you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you
3. Follow him until you come to the house in which he enters
4. Ask the owner about where the Teacher would eat the Passover
5. Prepare the Passover meal there

What did the two disciples do upon receiving the instructions?

- a. They went off and found everything just as Jesus had told them
- b. They prepared the Passover meal

“...a man carrying a jar of water...”

- a. This shows that the place was identified secretly because it was unusual for men to carry water in a jar but in sacks

Suggest reasons why Jesus wanted to eat the Passover in secret

1. To have a special time with His disciples
2. To prevent Jesus’ enemies from knowing His whereabouts
3. To avoid disturbances
4. To bid farewell to the apostles
5. To strengthen the apostles’ faith

Describe the preparations of the Passover

1. Laying the carpets since there were no chairs
2. Buying the spotless lamb
3. Sacrificing the lambs in the Temple
4. Removing all leavened bread from the house
5. Buying the unleavened bread, herbs and wine

Why was Judas Iscariot not involved in the preparation for the Passover meal?

- a. To prevent him from knowing Jesus’ whereabouts and arranging for the arrest

THE LORD’S SUPPER (LUKE 22: 14 – 23)

What did Jesus tell his disciples at the beginning of the Lord’s Supper?

- I have wanted so much to eat this Passover meal with you before I suffer
- I will never eat it until it is given its full meaning in the Kingdom of God

What did Jesus do during the Lord’s Supper?

- a. He took the cup, gave thanks to God and said “Take this and share it among yourselves. I tell you that from now on I will not drink this wine until the Kingdom of God comes”
- b. He took a piece of bread, gave thanks to God, broke it and gave it to them saying “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in memory of me”
- c. In the same way he gave them the cup after the Supper saying “This cup is God’s new covenant sealed in my blood, which is poured out for you”

What did Jesus say about his death on this day?

- But look! The one who betrays me is here at the table with me!
- The Son of Man will die as God has decided but how terrible for that man who betrays him

How did the apostles react to Jesus’ words?

- a. They began asking among themselves which one of them it could be who was going to betray Jesus

How did the Lord’s Supper breathe an atmosphere of crisis?

1. It had been prepared in secret
2. Jesus fasted as a sign of the seriousness of the moment
3. Jesus announced his imminent suffering

4. He revealed His will: Do this in memory of me
5. He anticipated His death in the right of Bread and wine
6. He said how one disciple was faltering in the crisis
7. He spoke encouraging words needed in the time of crisis
8. He foretold that they would experience hostility instead of popularity

How was the Lord's Supper the fulfilment of the Passover Feast?

1. It celebrates the passing of mankind from the slavery of sin to freedom of the Kingdom
2. Jesus' passage to life will give everlasting life and joy
3. Jesus gave Himself as a sacrifice just as the Israelites sacrificed bread and wine

Who attended the Lord's Supper?

1. Jesus
2. The 12 apostles

Give the differences between the Old and the New Covenants

1. The New Covenant is between God and the whole mankind while the Old Covenant was between God and the Israelites
2. The New Covenant is like a bond between Father and child unlike the Old Covenant
3. The New Covenant was established through Jesus while the Old Covenant was established through Moses

Describe the activities that took place during the Passover ceremony

1. Killing of the lamb
2. Roasting of the whole lamb
3. Eat the meat together with unleavened bread and bitter herbs
4. Taking of wine while a hymn is being sung

JESUS PRAYS ON THE MOUNT OF OLIVES (LUKE 22: 39 – 46)

What did Jesus tell his disciples?

- a. To pray so that they will not fall into temptations

Relate Jesus' prayer

- Father, if you will, take this cup of suffering away from me
- Not my will, however, but your will be done

Who strengthened Jesus at this time?

- a. An angel from heaven

What were the disciples doing as Jesus was praying?

- a. They were asleep

What did Jesus say to the disciples?

- Why are you sleeping
- Get up and pray that you will not fall into temptations

Why did Jesus produce drops of blood as sweat?

- a. He prayed even more fervently in great anguish

Describe Jesus' alternative choices as he was tempted on the Mount of Olives

- a. To establish God's reign according to God's will by patient suffering
- b. To establish God's reign by using worldly ways; making himself popular

How was Jesus tempted at Mount Olives?

- a. Satan suggested that Jesus should change his Father's plan for him to avoid suffering and death

How did Jesus show his humanity in this passage?

- a. He felt great pain and mental anguish so much that he willed God would remove "the cup" from him

What was Jesus' attitude towards his death?

- a. Being a normal, healthy person he wanted to continue living
- b. He accepted death in obedience to the will of his Father
- c. His acceptance of death and total trust gave him complete self-control so much that while he himself suffered he remained attentive to the plight of others

Describe other circumstances when Jesus showed great faithfulness to God

1. During his temptations in the desert he rejected power, honour and pleasures and followed his mission which was accompanied by suffering and crucifixion
2. Some people in a certain village wanted to keep Jesus for themselves but Jesus refused and went about teaching people in different territories
3. Jesus was several times accused of mixing with sinners but he told them that his mission was to save sinners
4. Jesus knew that he would suffer and be crucified in Jerusalem but he accepted to go there to fulfil the will of his father

THE ARREST OF JESUS (LUKE 22: 47 – 53)**Who betrayed Jesus?**

- a. Judas Iscariot

Suggest reasons why Judas betrayed Jesus

5. He loved money
6. He was tempted by Satan
7. He was disappointed seeing Jesus failing to drive out Roman as he had expected
8. He wanted to be on the winning side because things were turning out against Jesus
9. He thought Jesus would perform a miracle and escape while he gained money
10. Satan entered him
11. He thought Jesus would defend himself if the officials tried to arrest him

How did Judas Iscariot betray Jesus?

- a. He betrayed Jesus with a kiss

What did Jesus say to Judas?

- a. Judas, is it with a kiss that you betray the Son of Man?

What did the disciples who were with Jesus say at this point?

- a. Shall we use our swords Lord?

How did the disciples who were with Jesus react to the arrest of Jesus?

- a. They asked Jesus if they could use the swords
- b. One of the disciples struck the High Priest's slave and cut off his right ear

How did Jesus respond to the reactions of the disciples?

- He said "Enough of this!"
- He touched the man's ear and healed him

Who came to arrest Jesus?

1. The chief priests
2. The officers of the Temple guard
3. The elders

What did Jesus say to the people who came to arrest him?

- Did you have to come with swords and clubs, as though I were an outlaw
- I was with you in the Temple every day, and you did not try to arrest me
- But this is your hour to act, when the power of darkness rules

Why did the people who came to arrest Jesus come with swords and clubs?

- a. They considered Jesus as an outlaw

How was Jesus arrested?

- The crowd arrived led by Judas Iscariot who came up to Jesus to kiss him
- Jesus condemned Judas for betraying him with a kiss
- When the disciples saw that happening, they asked the Lord whether they could use their swords
- One of them struck the High Priest's slave and cut off his right ear but Jesus condemned this and touched the man's ear and healed him
- He also condemned the chief priests, officers of the Temple guard and the elders for coming with the swords and clubs as though he were an outlaw

JESUS PREDICTS PETER'S DENIAL (LUKE 22: 31 – 34)

What did Jesus say to Peter about Peter's denial?

- Satan has received permission to test all of you, to separate the good from the bad
- But I have prayed for you Simon, that your faith will not fail
- When you turn back to me, you must strengthen your brothers

How did Peter respond to Jesus' words?

- Lord, I am ready to go to prison with you and to die with you!

What prediction did Jesus make about Peter's denial?

- The cock will not crow tonight until you have said three times that you do not know me

PETER DENIES JESUS (LUKE 22: 54 – 62)

Narrate how Peter denied Jesus

- When a certain woman noticed Peter at the fireside she said Peter too was with Jesus but Peter said that he did not know Jesus
- When a certain man noticed him again and said Peter too was one of them yet still Peter denied
- Later on another man insisted strongly that there was no doubt that Peter was with Jesus but Peter said that he did not know what this man was talking about
- After denying Jesus three times, the cock crowed
- The Lord turned round and looked straight at Peter and Peter remembered what the Lord had said to him

Describe Peter's reaction when Jesus looked at him

- a. He remembered Jesus' prediction that Peter would deny him
- b. He went out and wept bitterly

What does Peter's denial reveal about his character?

1. He had little faith, he failed to stand firm
2. He was a coward fearing that if he had said "yes" he too would be arrested
3. He had no confidence in Jesus and his protection

What did Peter do after remembering the words that the Lord had said to him?

- a. He went out and wept bitterly

Suggest reasons why Peter denied Jesus

1. He was afraid of being arrested and made to suffer with Jesus
2. He did not have enough confidence in Jesus and his protection
3. He did not pray enough; instead of praying at that time of temptation, he had slept
4. He did not recall Jesus' sayings about persecutions on the account of the Son of Man
5. He lacked courage and self-confidence because he was not too sure of himself

JESUS IS MOCKED AND BEATEN (LUKE 22: 63 – 65)

Describe how Jesus was mocked

- a. He was blindfolded and asked to guess who had beaten him
- b. They said many insulting things to him

THE FOUR TRIALS OF JESUS

JESUS IS BROUGHT BEFORE THE COUNCIL (SANHEDRIN) (LUKE 22: 66 – 71)

Mention the members of the Council (Sanhedrin)

1. The Elders
2. The Chief Priests
3. The Teachers of the Law

Narrate Jesus' trial by the Council (Sanhedrin)

- The Council asked Jesus if he was the Messiah
- Jesus said that if he told them they would not believe him and would not answer his question if he asked them
- The Council then asked if he was the Son of God
- Jesus said that he is the glorified Son of Man

Mention the accusations levelled against Jesus at the Council

1. That he was the Messiah
2. That he was the Son of God

Relate what Jesus said when he was asked if he was the Messiah

- If I tell you, you will not believe me
- If I ask you a question, you will not answer
- But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated on the right of the Almighty God

What did Jesus say when asked if he was the Son of God?

- You say that I am

How did the members of the Council react to Jesus' response?

- We don't need any witnesses
- We ourselves have heard what he said

Why did the council react like that?

- a. Jesus' declaration that he was the Son of God was a supreme insult to God

What charge was brought upon Jesus by the Council?

- a. Claiming that He is the Son of God (blasphemy)

What was the punishment for that charge?

- a. Death

Outline rules for the conduct of trial at the Council (Sanhedrin)

1. An accuser had to make complaint
2. An accuser had to be supported by 2 eye witnesses
3. A lawyer or witness had to defend the accused
4. Death sentence could be passed only one day after the trial and never in the night
5. A person could not be convicted of his own testimony

Mention the irregularities in Jesus' case

1. There was no lawyer to witness Jesus, the accused
2. There were no 2 eye witnesses to support the accuser
3. Jesus was convicted on his own testimony
4. Death sentence was presumed to be passed on the same day

JESUS IS BROUGHT BEFORE PILATE (LUKE 23: 1 – 5)

Suggest reasons why the Council brought Jesus' case to Pilate

1. They needed Pilate's approval of death sentence for they could not pass it
2. They wanted to see Jesus crucified, the Roman punishment for non-Roman criminals

What accusations were brought against Jesus before Pilate?

1. Blasphemy, claiming to be the Messiah
2. Treasons, turning people against the Roman Government
3. Stirring people by his teaching throughout all Judea from Galilee

How did Jesus turn people against the Roman Government?

- a. Misleading people
- b. Telling people not to pay tax to the Emperor
- c. Claiming that he himself is the Messiah, The King
- d. Starting a riot among the people all through Judea

What question did Pilate give Jesus?

- a. Are you the King of the Jews?

What was Jesus' response?

- a. So you say

What did Pilate tell the Chief Priests?

- I find no reason to condemn this man

What did the chief priests do when Pilate said that he did not find a reason to condemn Jesus?

- a. They insisted that with his teaching he was starting a riot among all people in Judea, beginning in Galilee

What were Pilate's observations on the charges against Jesus?

1. Blasphemy was not a crime because this was based on the Jewish Religion
2. Being the King of the Jews was not also a crime because he did not undermine the Roman Law and order

What was Pilate's initial or first judgement?

- a. He declared Jesus innocent
- b. He then referred the case to Herod

Suggest reasons why Pilate gave that Judgement

1. Blasphemy was not a crime to him
2. He knew that Jesus had not undermined and Roman Law
3. Jesus posed no political threat

JESUS IS SENT TO HEROD (LUKE 23: 6 – 12)

State reasons why Pilate referred Jesus' case to Herod

- a. Jesus was from the region ruled by Herod
- b. Pilate hoped to get rid of the case
- c. He did not understand what Jesus was accused of

Why was Herod pleased to see Jesus?

- a. He had heard about Jesus and wanted to see him for a long time
- b. He was hoping to see Jesus perform miracles

What treatment did Jesus receive at the court of Herod?

1. Herod and his soldiers mocked him
2. They treated him with contempt
3. They put a fine robe on him
4. They sent him back to Pilate

Suggest reasons why Jesus did not answer Herod's questions

1. Herod was seeking an entertainment performance from Jesus

2. Jesus' miracles are for those who are sincere and ready to accept His message and not for entertainment
3. Jesus identified himself with the suffering servant
4. For Herod, Jesus had no importance whether religious or political

Why did Herod send Jesus back to Pilate?

1. Pilate had higher authority than Herod
2. He did not find Jesus guilty, Jesus was innocent

How did Herod and Pilate benefit from Jesus' trial?

- a. They became friends; before this they had been enemies

JESUS IS SENTENCED TO DEATH (LUKE 23: 13 – 25)

Relate what Pilate told the chief priests, the leaders and the people

- You brought this man to me and said that he was misleading the people
- I have found him not guilty of any of the crimes that you accuse him of
- Nor did Herod find him guilty for he sent him back to us
- There is nothing this man has done to deserve death
- So I will have him whipped and let go

How did the crowd respond to Pilate's words?

- They cried out "Kill him"
- Set Barabbas free for us
- They shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

Why was Barabbas put in prison?

- a. For a riot that had taken place in the city of Jerusalem
- b. For murder

What did Pilate do at the end?

- a. He passed the death sentence on Jesus
- b. He set free Barabbas, the man they wanted, who had been put in prison for riot and murder
- c. He handed Jesus over for the people to do as they wished

What was Pilate's attitude towards Jesus' accusers?

- a. He was suspicious

Why did Pilate become suspicious of Jesus' accusers?

1. It was strange to accuse a fellow Jew of being against the Roman rule yet all along they were enemies of the Romans
2. Pilate might have been tipped that Jesus was innocent
3. Pilate knew that the Jewish leaders were only jealous on Jesus

Why did Pilate find difficulties or dilemma on Jesus' case?

1. Letting Jesus go would cause a rebellion by the Jews, therefore being dismissed by Roman Government
2. Condemning Jesus would be against the Roman Law as he was innocent of any crime against the state and he could also be dismissed by his employers

What was Pilate's first judgement?

1. To have Jesus whipped and let go since Jesus was innocent

Suggest ways in which Pilate tried to save Jesus

1. He told the people that Jesus should be whipped and be let go
2. He told people the both he and Herod found Jesus innocent
3. He appealed to the crowd two times for them to change their mind in favour of Jesus

Why did Pilate pass a death sentence finally?

1. To please the Jews
2. He was afraid of the Jews causing riots in the city if Jesus was released

3. He was afraid of being dismissed from the position by the Romans if the Jews rioted
4. Pilate had a weak character, no wonder he was really persuaded by the people
5. He acted under pressure of the Jewish leaders and the crowd

Who was Pilate?

1. Governor of Judea
2. Directly responsible to the Roman Emperor
3. Had absolute authority to give death sentence

How would you assess Pilate's leadership?

1. He had ability to keep Law and Order
2. He was obedient to the Roman Law
3. He had a weak character

Mention mistakes made by Pilate that caused serious unrest?

1. He allowed army standards into the Temple that bore the image of the Emperor
2. He used the Temple funds to build an aqueduct

Describe the importance of Jesus' case for the early Church

1. Both Pilate and Herod declared Jesus innocent
2. Pilate even tried to save Jesus, the founder of the Church
3. Pilate had acted under pressure of the Jewish leaders and the crowd to have Jesus killed

How was Jesus' case of interest to Theophilus?

- a. The Roman authorities saw no wrong in Jesus' activities

JESUS IS CRUCIFIED (LUKE 23: 26 – 43)

Describe what happened as Jesus was on his way to be crucified

- a. Simon of Cyrene helped Jesus carrying the cross
- b. Some women who were weeping and wailing followed Jesus

Explain the significance of Simon of Cyrene in the book

- a. He carried Jesus' cross while Jesus was unable to carry it

What did Jesus say to those women who were weeping for him?

- Women of Jerusalem! Do not cry for me but for yourselves and your children
- The days are coming when people will say: how lucky are women who had never had children, who never bore babies before, who never nursed them
- That will be the time when people will say to mountain, fall on us and to hills, hide us!
- If such things as these are done when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry!

What was the significance of Jesus' words to the women?

- a. He is warning the people of Jerusalem to repent their rejection of Jesus otherwise God will punish them
- b. If Jesus, the life-giver has suffered like that, what will happen to the dead, unrepentant people?

At what place was Jesus crucified?

- a. A place called "The Skull"

Distinguish the characters of the two criminals crucified along with Jesus

- a. The one on the left rebuked Jesus by asking Jesus as the Messiah to save Himself and the criminals
- b. The one on the right rebuked his fellow criminal and asked for mercy from Jesus; Jesus promised him eternal life

What did the criminal on the left say?

- Aren't you the Messiah!

- Save yourself and us!

What did the criminal on the right say?

- He rebuked his fellow criminal "Don't you fear God?"
- He said that they deserved death sentence for they did wrong things
- He said that Jesus did not deserve death sentence for he was innocent
- He asked Jesus to remember him when He comes as King

What did Jesus say to the criminal on the right?

- I promise you that today you will be in Paradise with me

What was the significance of the words spoken by the criminal on the right?

- He declared that Jesus was innocent
- It shows that Jesus' Kingly rule is began by His death and resurrection
- The criminal has deep faith that the dying Jesus is truly King and can have mercy on him
- It shows that God is infinitely more compassionate than man thinks

What was the significance of Jesus' response to the criminal on the right?

- It shows that Jesus has authority to judge the living and the dead

Describe what happened as Jesus was on the cross

- The soldiers divided Jesus' clothes among themselves by throwing a dice
- People stood there watching while the Jewish leaders jeered at Jesus saying "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah whom God has chosen!"
- The soldiers mocked Jesus by offering him cheap wine and saying "Save yourself if you are the King of the Jews!"
- One of the criminal insulted Jesus saying "Aren't you the Messiah! Save yourself and us!"
- The other criminal rebuked his fellow criminal and asked Jesus to remember him when He comes as King

What did the Jewish leaders say when Jesus was on the cross?

- He saved others
- Let him save himself if he is the Messiah whom God has chosen

How did the soldiers mock Jesus while he was on the cross?

- By offering him cheap wine
- By saying "Save yourself if you are the King of the Jews"

Describe what the people who sympathised with Jesus said when He was on the cross

- The criminal on the right declared Jesus innocent by saying that He had done no wrong
- The army officer declared Jesus innocent by saying that Jesus was a good man
- People who had gathered to watch the spectacle went back home beating their breasts in sorrow

Describe what the people who did not sympathize with Jesus said about Jesus

- The criminal on the left rebuked Jesus to save himself and save them since he was the Messiah
- The Jewish leaders asked Jesus to save himself if he was the chosen Messiah
- The soldiers asked Jesus to save himself if he was the King of the Jews

What did the soldiers do when Jesus was on the cross?

- They offered Jesus cheap wine
- They mocked Jesus
- They cast lots by throwing a dice to share Jesus' clothes
- They told Jesus to save Himself if he was the King of the Jews

List the people who declared Jesus innocent

- Herod

2. Pilate
3. The criminal on the right
4. The army officer

For whom does Luke stress Jesus' innocence?

- a. For Jewish Leaders

Why did Luke stress Jesus' innocence to such people?

1. They used to say that one's bad fate was due to sins
2. Jesus died on the cross as if he was cursed by God
3. They must have pointed out that Jesus was sinful

Narrate the words spoken by Jesus from the cross

- Forgive them Father! They don't know what they are doing
- He assured the repentant criminal that he would be with him that same day in Paradise

THE DEATH AND BURIAL OF JESUS (LUKE 23: 44 – 56)

Narrate the death of Jesus

- At 12 O'clock the sun stopped shining and darkness covered the whole country until 3 O'clock
- The curtain hanging in the Temple was torn into two
- Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father! In your hands I place my spirit!" and then died

What two things happened as Jesus was dying?

- a. The sun stopped shining and darkness covered the whole country from 12:00 until 3:00 afternoon
- b. The curtain hanging in the Temple was torn into two

What was the significance of the darkness?

- a. It signifies judgement in that from then on, man will be judged according to his attitude towards Jesus
- b. It was a symbol of universal judgement, on Jews and Gentiles alike
- c. It looked as if evil had won but it was a symbol of God who controls History

What was the significance of the tearing of the curtain in the temple into two?

- a. The Jewish way of worshiping God and the time of the Temple was over
- b. The holy of holies is one; all have a direct access to Jesus
- c. The barriers between a Jew and Gentile is demolished; they are no longer separated a clean and unclean
- d. It marked the end of the Old Testament and the beginning of the New Testament

What did the army officer say when Jesus died?

- a. He praised God saying, "Certainly He (Jesus) was a good man!"

Who buried Jesus?

- a. Joseph of Arimathea

Describe the character of this man?

- a. He was a good and honourable man
- b. He was waiting for the coming of the Kingdom of God
- c. He was a member of the Council
- d. He had not agreed with the decision and action of the Council to have Jesus killed

What role did this man play?

- a. He went into the presence of Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus
- b. He took the body down, wrapped it up in a linen sheet
- c. He placed the body in a tomb which had been dug out of solid rock and which had never been used

Narrate the burial of Jesus

- Joseph of Arimathea with permission from Pilate brought the body down from the cross
- He wrapped it in a line sheet
- He placed the body in a tomb which had been dug out of solid rock which had never been used

Describe the Jewish burial rituals

- The dead body had first to be washed and then anointed with ointment, myrrh, spices and aloes
- The myrrh was used on the body and the spices on the shroud
- The dead body was then wrapped in grave clothes
- The burial took place a day after death

Suggest reason why Joseph of Arimathea buried Jesus

- a. To show that he did not agree with the judgement of his fellow members of the Council
- b. To obey the Law that the body of an executed criminal be buried before sunset

Who witnessed the burial?

- a. The women who had followed Jesus

How did the women follow the Sabbath Laws?

- a. They did not anoint the body of Jesus because the Sabbath was beginning and they rested

What Jewish burial rituals were not followed when Jesus died?

1. The dead body was not washed
2. The dead body was not anointed
3. The burial took place on the same day and not a day after death

What Jewish burial ritual was followed when Jesus died?

- a. The dead body was wrapped in grave clothes

THE RESURRECTION (LUKE 24: 1 – 12)**Narrate the resurrection of Jesus**

- Very early Sunday morning, Mary Magdalene, Joana and Mary the Mother of James, went to the tomb carrying spices they had prepared. When they got there, they did not find Jesus' body but saw 2 men
- The 2 men told the women that Jesus was raised.
- When they heard this, they went to tell the 11 apostles but the apostles thought that what the women said was nonsense.
- Peter stood up and ran to the tomb. Upon reaching there, he did not find the body but only linen wrappings.

What was the reaction of the 11 apostles to the women's report about the resurrection?

- a. They could not believe them
- b. Peter rushed to the tomb to see for himself and came back amazed at what had happened

Why did the 11 apostles and the other disciples not believe the women?

1. They did not remember Jesus's words which they had to understand that He would rise
2. They failed to learn from the Old Testament that the Christ should suffer these things and enter his glory
3. They had completely given up hope in Jesus; they could not expect Jesus to be alive since it was the third day
4. The testimony of women had no value

5. The social status of women was poor in that people regarded women as not capable of saying something important

Mention the names of the three women who visited Jesus' tomb

1. Mary Magdalene
2. Joana
3. Mary the Mother of James

Why did the women visit the tomb?

- a. They wanted to anoint Jesus' body

Describe the experience the women had at the tomb

1. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb
2. They did not find the body inside the tomb
3. They met 2 men who asked them why they were seeking the living among the dead

Narrate the words the two men spoke to the women

- Why are you looking among the dead for one who is alive?
- He is not here; he has been raised
- Remember what he said to you: "The Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, be crucified and 3 days later rise to life"

What was the significance of the empty tomb?

- a. It was the fulfilment of the scriptures and of what Jesus said that He would rise three days later

What was the significant of the resurrection?

1. It was the foundation of the apostles witnessing, the preaching of the Gospel
2. It confirmed that the Scriptures were fulfilled
3. Jesus confirmed that there is life after death
4. Jesus confirmed that there is forgiveness of sins
5. People should live rightly before they die since they will be judged

THE WALK TO EMMAUS (LUKE 24: 13 – 35)

Narrate the conversation between Jesus and the 2 disciples

- Cleopas and his friend on their way to Emmaus were discussing the arrest, trials, crucifixion, death and burial of Jesus as well as his resurrection
- Jesus drew near them but their eyes were kept from recognizing Him
- Jesus asked what they were talking about
- Cleopas asked him whether he was the only visitor in Jerusalem who did not know the things that had been happening the previous few days
- Jesus asked what things they were and they answered that the things that had happened to Jesus of Nazareth
- They said that Jesus had been a Prophet and had been considered by God and people to be powerful in everything he had said and done. The chief priests handed him over to be sentenced to death and he was crucified. They were surprised by some women who said that Jesus had risen.
- Jesus accused them of being foolish and slow to believe everything the prophets had said. He said that it had been necessary for the Messiah to suffer then enter his glory.

Explain why the disciples failed to recognize Jesus

1. It seems their senses were supernaturally dulled
2. It was the third day since Jesus had died and they could not expect him to be alive
3. They had completely given up hope in Jesus
4. They failed to understand the Old Testament Scriptures that Christ had to suffer and enter his glory

5. Their expectation about Jesus could not go beyond hoping that he would redeem Israel

Describe what happened for the disciples to recognize Jesus

- Jesus sat down to eat with them
- He took the bread and said a blessing
- He then broke the bread and gave it to them
- Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he disappeared from their sight

How did they recognize Jesus?

- a. When he broke the bread and gave it to them

What did they say and do when they recognized Jesus?

- a. They said, “Wasn’t it like a fire burning in us when he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?”
- b. They went back to Jerusalem to report to the apostles what had happened to them

What lessons can the church learn from this story?

1. Faith in the resurrection is a gift from God
2. This faith is confirmed and sustained by Peter and the apostles
3. The Church teaches the true meaning of the Scriptures
4. The Church through the Spirit of Jesus gathers around the table of the Lord for the breaking of the bread
5. Jesus is always present but his presence can be seen only through the eyes of faith

What are the similarities between Jesus on the road to Emmaus story and that of Philip on the road to Gaza?

1. Both stories report about moving away from Jerusalem
2. Both stories report about ignorance of the Scriptures
3. Both stories report about the explanation that the Messiah had to suffer and be glorious
4. Both stories report about the insistence to stay or stop
5. A ritual is carried out in both stories
6. Both stories report about a sudden disappearance

JESUS APPEARS TO HIS DISCIPLES (LUKE 24: 36 – 49)

What did Jesus say when he appeared to the disciples?

- a. Peace be with you!

How did the disciples react to this?

- a. They were terrified, thinking that they were seeing a ghost

What did Jesus say to prove to them that He was alive?

- Why are you alarmed?
- Why are these doubts coming up in your minds?
- Look at my hands and feet, and see that it is I myself
- Feel me for a ghost doesn’t have flesh and bones as you can see

How did Jesus prove himself to them?

- a. He showed them his hands and feet
- b. He told them to feel him for He had flesh and bones unlike a ghost
- c. He took a cooked piece of fish and ate in their presence

What did Jesus teach the disciples on this day?

- Everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the writings of the Prophets, and the Psalms had to come true
- The Messiah must suffer and rise from death three days later

- In his name the message about repentance and the forgiveness of sins must be preached to all nations, beginning in Jerusalem
- You are witnesses to these things
- I myself will send upon you what my Father has promised
- You must wait in the city until the power from above comes down upon you

What was the importance of Jesus' appearance to his disciples in the upper room for the Church?

1. The disciples' reaction shows that the acceptance of the resurrection is based on faith and not proof
2. Jesus identified himself as the same Jesus the disciples knew before his death by asking the disciples to see his hands and feet
3. By asking for food Jesus shows that the resurrection is real
4. By asking for food Jesus shows that the risen Jesus remains human with body
5. The Church should read the Scriptures in the light of Jesus' life, death and resurrection
6. To have true understanding of Jesus the disciples have to re-read the Scriptures

JESUS IS TAKEN UP TO HEAVEN (LUKE 24: 50 – 53)

What did Jesus do before going to heaven?

- a. He blessed the disciples

What did the disciples do when Jesus was taken up to heaven?

- a. They worshipped him
- b. They went back into Jerusalem
- c. They were filled with great joy
- d. They spent all their time in the Temple giving thanks to God

Why were the disciples happy when Jesus ascended to heaven?

1. They know Jesus lives and remains with them
2. They were a community again after being scattered after Jesus' arrest
3. They had been made witnesses of the Good News of Jesus and the Kingdom of God
4. They have been promised the Holy Spirit
5. They know that evil has been defeated and mankind saved through Jesus
6. Jesus blessed them before he went away
7. Jesus promised them that He would come again and bring his Kingdom
8. Jesus promised that He would prepare a place for them in the Kingdom