



# 5

## Within the Royal House

### OVERVIEW

#### Preparing the Teacher

Every detail of God's design for redemption through Christ was carefully planned before Christ's coming. God's design extended even to choosing the earthly family Christ would be part of. The grandson of Ruth and Boaz was Jesse, and it was from this family that God hand-picked David, King of Israel. God later established a covenant with David, promising him that his throne would "be established for ever" (**2 Sam. 7:16**). God chose the royal line of David to be the lineage of the Messiah, Jesus Christ. As you and your students study the kings in David's line, focus not only on the principles to be learned from each life, but also on the faithfulness of God to His covenant. Although the kings in the royal line were not always faithful to God, He preserved the throne of David, just as He had promised. Though God's righteousness demanded His judgment, His grace and blessing endured, especially on those kings who sought His help and faithfully upheld His commandments. Spend time meditating on God's faithfulness as revealed in **Psalm 89:1–37** and **Lamentations 3:21–33**.

#### Preparing the Materials

- 71: Several commentaries [O]
- 78: Family Bible or other family treasure [O]
- 81: Pictures of three kings of France (Louis XIII, Louis XIV, and Louis XV) [O]
- 84: Yo-yo [O]
- 86: Picture of a royal crown [O]

# Unit 5 Within the Royal House

| Theme, Memory Verse, and Principle  | Lesson Number | TE Page | Worktext Page(s) | Lesson Title                              | Scripture or Focus                      | Connections                      |
|---|---------------|---------|------------------|---|---|----------------------------------|
| <b>Unit 5a God's Choice</b><br><br>Psalm 119:1–4<br><br><i>Those who seek God and obey His commands are blessed.</i>    | 71            | 156     | 104–7            | Ruth: In God's Design                     | Ruth 1–4                                | Timeline: Ruth and Boaz          |
|   | 72            | 159     | 108–9            | David's Reign: God's Plan                 | 2 Samuel 2–13, 15, 17, 21, 23–24        | Timeline: King David             |
|   | 73            | 162     | 110–11           | Faithful Follower: Oliver Cromwell        | Biography                               |                                  |
|   | 74            | 163     | 112–13           | Prophet Focus: Zephaniah                  | Zephaniah 1–3                           | Timeline: Zephaniah; Science     |
|   | 75            | 165     |                  | Unit 5a Activity                          |   |                                  |
| <b>Unit 5b God's Faithfulness</b><br><br>Psalm 119:5–8<br><br><i>The Christian yearns to obey God.</i>                  | 76            | 166     | 114              | Solomon: God's Choice                     | 1 Kings 1–4                             | Timeline: King Solomon           |
|   | 77            | 168     | 115–16           | The Temple                                | 1 Kings 5–9                             |                                  |
|   | 78            | 170     | 117              | A Family Treasure                         | Application Story                       |                                  |
|   | 79            | 171     | 118–19           | Faithful Follower: William Booth          | Biography                               |                                  |
|   | 80            | 174     |                  | Unit 5b Activity                          | Review                                  |                                  |
| <b>Unit 5c God's Blessing</b><br><br>Psalm 119:9–12<br><br><i>God's Word can help a Christian to be and stay clean.</i> | 81            | 175     | 120              | Joash: A Boy Who Became a King            | 2 Chronicles 23–24                      | Timeline: King Joash; History    |
|   | 82            | 177     | 121–22           | Hezekiah: A Most Noble King               | 2 Kings 18–20                           | Timeline: King Hezekiah; History |
|   | 83            | 180     | 123–24           | Wisdom from the Word                      | Application Story                       |                                  |
|   | 84            | 182     | 125–26           | Faithful Follower: Cyrus McCormick        | Biography                               | History                          |
|   | 85            | 184     |                  | Unit 5c Activity                          |   |                                  |
| <b>Unit 5d God's Grace</b><br><br>Psalm 119:13–16<br><br><i>A Christian delights to learn and practice God's Word.</i>  | 86            | 185     | 127–28           | Bible Study: From Rehoboam to Jehoshaphat | 1 Kings 11–12, 15<br>2 Chron. 13–17     |                                  |
|   | 87            | 187     | 129–30           | Bible Study: From Jehoram to Amaziah      | 2 Kings 11–12, 14<br>2 Chron. 21–23, 25 |                                  |
|   | 88            | 189     | 131–32           | Bible Study: From Uzziah to Manasseh      | 2 Kings 16, 18–20<br>2 Chron. 26–27, 33 |                                  |
|   | 89            | 191     | 133–34           | Bible Study: From Amon to Zedekiah        | 2 Kings 23–25<br>2 Chron. 33:20–36      |                                  |
|   | 90            | 193     |                  | Unit 5d Activity                          | Review                                  |                                  |

| Bible Doctrines  | Skills/Applications  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>The Doctrine of the Bible</b></p> <p><i>Proofs for Inspiration</i></p> <p>The Bible is accurate in its history (John 17:17).<br/>The Bible is accurate in its prophecy (Num. 23:19).<br/>The Bible presents standards of living and a way of life that glorify God (Ps. 119:1–8).</p>  | <p><b>Foundational</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Realize that God always keeps His promises</li> <li>• Realize that disobedience to God always brings judgment</li> <li>• Realize that people can choose God's way or their own way</li> <li>• Realize that God protects and provides for those who love and obey Him</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>The Doctrine of God</b></p> <p><i>Attributes of God</i></p> <p>God is love (John 3:16).<br/>God is Spirit (John 4:24).<br/>God is faithful (1 Cor. 1:9).<br/>God is merciful (Ps. 86:15).<br/>God is righteous (Ps. 116:5).<br/>God is unchanging (immutable) (Mal. 3:6).<br/>God is all-knowing (omniscient) (Job 42:2).<br/>God is all-powerful (omnipotent) (Jer. 32:27).</p>   | <p><b>Practical</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read a map</li> <li>• Interpret Scripture</li> <li>• Recall facts and details</li> <li>• Read a timeline</li> <li>• Use a Bible commentary</li> <li>• Sequence events</li> <li>• Locate information in the Bible</li> <li>• Read a bar graph</li> <li>• Develop an appreciation of art</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>The Doctrine of Man</b></p> <p><i>Original State of Man</i></p> <p>Each person has a will (Gen. 3:6).<br/>Humans have intelligence (Gen. 2:20).<br/>God created humans for His glory (Isa. 43:7).</p> <p><i>Fall of Man</i></p> <p>Disobedience to God was the first sin (Gen. 2:17).<br/>Humans live in a corrupted environment (Gen. 3:17–19).<br/>Humans have a sinful nature and have lost communion with God (Rom. 5:12, 19).<br/>Human spiritual understanding has been darkened (1 Cor. 2:14).</p> <p><i>Redemption of Man</i></p> <p>The believer experiences a struggle between the two natures (Rom. 7:23–25).</p> | <p><b>Personal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop principles of worship</li> <li>• Realize that God hears and answers prayer</li> <li>• Differentiate between true and false worship</li> <li>• Develop the Bible reading habit</li> <li>• Develop principles of citizenship</li> <li>• Develop Christ-honoring principles of work</li> <li>• Recognize that God's plan is always best</li> <li>• Realize that ungodly influences can lead a person away from the Lord</li> <li>• Develop Christlike principles for choosing good friends</li> <li>• Realize that God rewards obedience, diligence, and hard work</li> <li>• Apply Bible knowledge to everyday life</li> </ul> |

# God's Choice

## Unit 5a

### PREVIEW

#### Doctrines

- 71: God is love (John 3:16).
- 71–72, 74: God is merciful (Ps. 86:15).
- 71–72, 74: Each person has a will (Gen. 3:6).
- 72, 74: God is all-powerful (omnipotent) (Jer. 32:27).
- 72, 74: Disobedience to God was the first sin (Gen. 2:17; 3:6).
- 74: The Bible is accurate in its prophecy (Num. 23:19).
- 74: Humans live in a corrupted environment (Gen. 3:17–19).
- 74: The Bible presents standards of living and a way of life that glorify God (Ps. 119:1–8).
- 74: God created humans for His glory (Isa. 43:7).

#### Skills and Applications

- Learn Psalm 119:1–4
- Read a map
- Read a timeline
- Use a Bible commentary
- Locate information in the Bible
- Realize that God always keeps His promises
- Develop the Bible reading habit
- Sequence events
- Recall facts and details
- Develop principles of citizenship
- Recognize that God's plan is always best
- Realize that disobedience to God always brings judgment
- Realize that people can choose God's way or their own way
- Apply Bible knowledge to everyday life

LESSON  
71

## Ruth: In God's Design

#### Materials

- Chart 1 ("The Bible Reading H.A.B.I.T.")
- Timeline and picture of Ruth and Boaz
- Unit 5 bookmark [E]
- Several commentaries [O]

#### Music

Choose a unit hymn. Songs that correlate with this unit's theme include "Great Is Thy Faithfulness," "Standing on the Promises," "Almighty, Unchangeable God," "This Is My Father's World,"

"All the Way My Savior Leads Me," and "I Sing the Mighty Power of God."

#### Memory Verses: Psalm 119:1–4

**Principle:** Those who seek God and obey His commands are blessed. Locate and read aloud Psalm 119:1–4 as the students read silently.

► What words in Psalm 119 mean the same as *commandments*? **word, law, ways, precepts, statutes, and ordinances**

► What is the difference between obeying God and seeking Him with all your heart? **It is possible to obey God (to tell the truth, remain pure until married, not murder, etc.) without knowing Him. It is also possible to obey God for selfish**

**reasons or in anger and rebellion. But those who truly seek God with the whole heart want a personal relationship with Him and want to know Him better and please Him because they love Him.**

Direct each student to read the verses to a partner. Direct the students to mark the location with their Unit 5 bookmarks and to highlight the verses in their Bibles (optional). (Note: The students will learn the first sixteen verses of **Psalm 119** in this unit.)

## Bible Account

### Preview Background Information

#### Gleaning

*Gleaning* means “gathering.” The Old Testament gave specific instructions to the people who gathered the remaining grain after a field was harvested. Harvest workers were commanded to leave the grain that grew at the edges of their fields (**Lev. 19:9**). The corners of the fields were not stripped, allowing poor people, strangers, or widows (such as Naomi and Ruth) to gather the grain. Stalks of barley and wheat as well as fruit from trees or vines were left for the gleaners. The reaper was commanded to leave a whole bundle of grain in the field.

### Introduce the Bible Account

**Explain the kinsman-redeemer.** Tell the students that in Old Testament times, if a married man died childless, his widow was to marry his brother or another relative for the purpose of passing the property and the family name to the next generation. The word *kin* means a family relation; thus the widow’s brother-in-law was referred to as a kinsman-redeemer. Instruct the students to listen to find out how a kinsman-redeemer was God’s choice to fulfill His grand design.

### Teach for Understanding

**Read Ruth 1–4** or use the following retelling of the book. Listening question: **How was God’s overarching plan fulfilled through Ruth and Boaz’s faith and obedience? Christ was born through their family.**

## Ruth: In God’s Design

Elimelech and his wife Naomi, and their sons Mahlon and Chilion moved to Moab when God brought a famine to Israel. After the death of Elimelech, Naomi’s sons married Orpah and Ruth, who were Moabite women. They lived there for ten years, and then Naomi’s sons died, leaving Naomi alone in a foreign land with her two daughters-in-law.

Naomi decided to leave Moab to go back to Bethlehem to be with her people. She thought it best that her two daughters-in-law return to their families in Moab.

Orpah kissed Naomi and departed for home, but Ruth was determined to stay with her mother-in-law. Ruth told Naomi that wherever she went, she would go with her.

She wanted to adopt Naomi’s people and God as her own people and God. So the two widows journeyed to Bethlehem, arriving at the time of the barley harvest.

*Share the background information about gleaning.*

Boaz, a wealthy man who was a relative of Elimelech, Naomi’s deceased husband, lived in Bethlehem. He owned a lot of land and was busy harvesting his barley crop.

Without husbands, Naomi and Ruth were poor, so Ruth went out to gather grain.

Ruth came to certain fields and spent the day gleaning there. Later, Boaz saw her and asked about her. When he was told that she was Naomi’s daughter-in-law, he told Ruth to stay in his field to gather the leftover grain with his servant girls. Boaz told his workers to give Ruth food and water and be kind and respectful to her.

When Ruth told Naomi that she had gathered grain from Boaz’s field, Naomi told her that he was a relative, or kinsman. Under the Hebrew custom, Boaz could be a kinsman-redeemer. If he chose to take on the responsibility of redeeming Elimelech’s inheritance, Boaz could marry Ruth.

Naomi told Ruth to wash and anoint herself and to go to Boaz in the proper manner to plead with him to fulfill his duty toward her.

Ruth did as Naomi said. Boaz was startled by Ruth’s presence, but he praised her as an upright and hard-working woman. He told Ruth that there was a relative that was closer to her than he was. He would discuss her desire for a kinsman-redeemer with him. If this relative would not accept the responsibility of a kinsman to Ruth, then Boaz would.

When the other relative chose to not fulfill the duty of a kinsman-redeemer and marry Ruth, Boaz did. He married her and became her kinsman-redeemer. Boaz and Ruth soon had a son, whom they named Obed. Their son Obed became the father of Jesse, the father of David, through whom Christ Jesus would be born. God used Ruth in His grand design.



- ▶ How was Ruth related to Naomi? **She was her daughter-in-law.**
- ⌚ Why do you think Ruth said that she wanted Naomi’s God to be her God? **Possible answers include that Ruth had lived with Naomi and had seen her faith; Ruth wanted that faith for herself too (Matt. 5:16).**
- ⌚ How do you think your life affects other people’s view of God?
- ▶ How did Boaz treat Ruth as she gleaned in his field? **with respect and kindness**
- ▶ According to Hebrew law, what was the responsibility of a kinsman-redeemer? **He was to care for, and even marry, the wife of a deceased relative.**
- ⌚ How was God’s overarching plan fulfilled through Ruth and Boaz’s faith and obedience? **Christ was born through their family.**

## Get the Bible Reading H.A.B.I.T.

Name \_\_\_\_\_



After you read the Scripture for each day, write the date in the box.

**H**ave a special time set aside each day to read your Bible. If possible, make it the same time every day.

**A**sks God to teach you from His Word. Remember to thank Him for helping you to understand and apply it.

**B**e still and pay attention to what you are reading.

**I**nvestigate the Scripture by asking yourself questions about it.

**T**ake time to look up words and ideas you do not understand.

|  |  |   |  |   |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| God's Word judges a person's thoughts and motives.<br>Hebrews 4:12–13                  | If you confess your sins, God is faithful to forgive and cleanse you.<br>1 John 1:7–10 | Even if you do not believe, God remains faithful.<br>2 Timothy 2:11–13              | God is faithful to continue His good work in the lives of Christians.<br>Philippians 1:3–6 | God is faithful to fulfill all of His promises.<br>2 Corinthians 1:18–20        |
| It is right to obey and honor your parents.<br>Ephesians 6:1–3                         | God is pleased when children obey their parents.<br>Colossians 3:20–23                 | Human wisdom is unspiritual and demonic.<br>James 3:13–16                           | God's wisdom is pure, peaceable, gentle, merciful, good, and sincere.<br>James 3:17–18     | The wisdom of the world is foolishness in God's sight.<br>1 Corinthians 3:18–20 |
| Christians should boast only in the Lord, not in themselves.<br>2 Corinthians 10:17–18 | True faith shows itself in good works.<br>James 2:14–17                                | Believers must not partner with unbelievers.<br>2 Corinthians 6:14–16               | God wants Christians to be separated from worldly people.<br>2 Corinthians 6:17–18         | Obey your spiritual leaders.<br>Hebrews 13:17                                   |
| Continue in the truth you have been taught from God's Word.<br>2 Timothy 3:14–15       | Our mighty God is too great to be contained in a manmade temple.<br>Acts 17:24–29      | Only fools worship and serve the creature instead of the Creator.<br>Romans 1:22–25 | A righteous person's fervent prayer is effective.<br>James 5:14–18                         | The Holy Spirit intercedes for Christians when they pray.<br>Romans 8:26–27     |

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## Two Sides of the Coin

Name \_\_\_\_\_

God speaks to the believer



Prayer

Having a relationship with God means we can freely communicate with Him. Therefore, Bible study and prayer are very important. They are like two sides of the same coin. Neither should be neglected because both are important parts of personal communication.

The believer speaks to God

Read Psalm 5:1–8. Complete the following statements about this prayer of David, a man after God's heart.

- 5:1–2 David believed that when he prayed, God was giving him His careful attention.
- 5:3 David had a special time of day for communicating with God.
- 5:4–6 David knew that God should be approached in righteousness, humility, and truth.
- 5:7a David came to God trusting in His mercy/love.
- 5:7b David came to God recognizing His holiness.
- 5:8 David wanted God's guidance.

mercy/love  
riches  
guidance  
holiness  
communicating  
approached  
attention

Write your favorite verse above the coin, and something you are praying about below the coin.



Redemption: God's Grand Design

Lesson 71 105

## Worktext page 105

Discuss prayer.

- How does God speak to believers today? **through His Word**
- How do believers speak to God? **through prayer**

Remind the students that both prayer and Bible reading are necessary to have a right relationship with God and to grow in grace and knowledge (2 Pet. 2:4; 3:18). (Note: Students may complete the page at this time or during their personal devotional time.)

## Worktext page 104

**D**evelop the Bible reading habit. Encourage each student to do the Bible reading. Display Chart 1 ("The Bible Reading H.A.B.I.T.") as a reminder to the students as they do their Bible reading (optional).

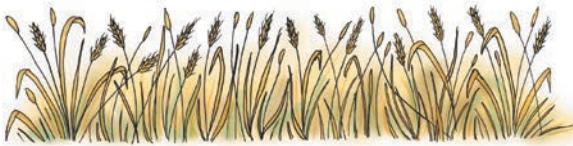
### God's Plan for Ruth

Ruth 1–4

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Complete each sentence. You may use your Bible for help.

- Ruth married a son of Elimelech (or Naomi), an Israelite living in her homeland of Moab (Ruth 1:2–4).
- After her husband died, Ruth chose to return to Israel with her mother-in-law, Naomi (Ruth 1:8, 18).
- Ruth assured Naomi of her decision to stay with her by telling Naomi that wherever Naomi was going Ruth would go. Naomi's people would become her people, and Naomi's God would be her God (Ruth 1:16).



- Ruth was described by the field workers as the Moabite woman that came back with Naomi (Ruth 2:6). By this description, does it seem Ruth was accepted into the community or treated as a foreigner?

**Ruth was treated as a foreigner.**

- Ruth came to be known as a virtuous woman—noble in character, excellent, and brave (Ruth 3:11). By this description, does it seem Ruth had been accepted into the community or was still being treated as a foreigner?

**Ruth was accepted into the community.**

- Ruth was the great grandmother of King David (Ruth 4:17). What significance does that have as you remember God's promises about the Messiah?

**Answers should include that the Messiah was to be from David's line.**

**Ruth, who was a Gentile and not an Israelite, was also in the line of Christ.**



Ruth was a foreigner who wanted to serve the true God. Read Ephesians 2:13–14, 18, 22, and explain how God changes the lives of those who love Him.

**through the blood of Christ and the Holy Spirit**

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## Worktext page 106

Recall details and interpret Scripture.

## Worktext page 107

**Use a commentary.** Display the commentaries (optional). Read the top of page 107, explaining how teachers, preachers, and other Christians can use these tools. Direct the students to read the commentary section silently or read it aloud to the students. Direct them to use the commentary to answer the questions on the Worktext page.

LESSON

72

## David's Reign: God's Plan

### Materials

- Timeline and picture of King David
- A copy of the "What Does God Say About Purity?" activity page [E, O] from the Teacher's Toolkit CD

### Music

Review the chosen song and develop higher-order thinking skills by asking application questions.

### Christ, Our Kinsman-Redeemer

Using a Bible Commentary

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Many people see the account of Boaz and Ruth as an illustration of the relationship between Christ and believers. Bible scholars often write their thoughts and comments in Bible commentaries.



A Bible commentary contains comments on and explanations of Scripture. Bible commentaries vary in organization. Some commentaries are for only one book of the Bible, while others may be for either the Old or New Testament. A commentary that is for both the Old and New Testaments is usually called a complete Bible commentary.

Use the commentary section about Ruth 4 to answer the questions.

- What did Ruth find it good to do until Boaz returned? **sit still**
- What New Testament book does the commentator use to contrast two principles about eternal life and righteousness as they relate to the story of Ruth and Boaz? **Galatians**
- By sitting still, Ruth received the love of a husband, a secure home life, and the joy of being a mother. This is all a picture of the satisfying joys that fill the hearts of people who do what two things? **give up trying to save themselves; rest wholly in the hands of a Redeemer**
- Who is the Divine Kinsman? **Christ**
- What does the author use to illustrate Ruth's becoming an Israelite? **a wild olive tree grafted into a cultivated olive tree**
- Boaz's redemption of Ruth to make her an Israelite shows that Gentiles could receive the promises of which covenant? **Abrahamic**

**RUTH 4**—Ruth found it to be good to "sit still" and let Boaz do everything. When there is anything important to be done the person interested cannot "sit still" unless assured that the successful execution of the matter rests in hands that are competent, and faithful. Herein lies the principle of salvation. The faith of Boaz in the second chapter of Galatians contrasts two principles for the obtaining of life and righteousness—the one principle: works of law, i.e., religious ceremonies and personal moral efforts; the other principle: the hearing of faith, i.e., "sitting still." The Holy Spirit teaches in that chapter that God had upended the first principle, but everything upon the second. So Ruth "sat still" wholly trusted Boaz, and, as a result, obtained what her heart had never conceived of when leaving Moab. From the position of a pauper she was, in one day, raised to the dignity of a princess. The love of a husband, the joy of motherhood, and the dignity of a wife were the fruits of "sitting still." This is all a lovely picture of the satisfying joys that fill the hearts of those who give up trying to save themselves, and who rest wholly in the hands of a Redeemer and Kinsman, greater than Israel, but typified in him, who has fully accomplished the entire work of redemption.

In the Christian life there is a great need of this "sitting still." Christian people are too restless. They do not wait sufficiently upon God and for God. Saul was willing to wait "upon God" but not "for God" and so lost the Kingdom (1 Samuel xiii). There is usually a abandonment of thinking, planning, and scheming, and a neglect of prayer and sitting still and permitting God to act and plan, and the result is trouble and spiritual loss.

Boaz had to purchase Ruth from a kinsman who had a prior claim, but who declared that he could not redeem her (v. 6).

The Law has a prior claim to sinners, but it cannot redeem them. Christ, the Divine Kinsman, became Man in order to redeem.

It cost Boaz nothing to redeem Ruth, beyond the setting aside of himself and his own interests, but it cost Christ everything to redeem sinners.

Thus Ruth, a "wild olive tree," was grafted into, and became a partaker of, "the root and fatness of the olive tree, i.e., Israel; but she could not boast that this was due to any commanding personal claim, all she could say was, 'I have found grace in thine eyes (ch. ii, 10) and I am thine."

This is a beautiful fore-picture of that future day when the Redeemer shall bring the Gentile nations into the Covenant made with Abraham.

Redemption: God's Grand Design

Lesson 71 107

## Memory Verses: Psalm 119:1–4

Practice the memory verses. Locate Psalm 119:1–4 and read the verses aloud.

- **What does God expect us to do with His Word? diligently keep it; fully obey it**
- **How do these verses describe the people who earnestly strive to live for God? blessed, happy**

Discuss choices. Select a volunteer to read aloud 1 Samuel 12:15.

- **What is the opposite of obedience? disobedience**

Point out that obedience and disobedience do not just happen; either action involves a choice. Christians please God when they obey Him from the heart. When they choose to disobey God, they are pleasing themselves. Choose four volunteers to each read one of the memory verses aloud.

## Bible Account

### Introduce the Bible Account

**Discuss David's responsibilities.** Direct the students' attention to Worktext page 108. Choose volunteers to read aloud the Scripture passages. Discuss David's royal responsibilities as the students complete the page.

## Teach for Understanding

Read portions of 2 Samuel 2–13, 15, 17, 21, 23–24 or use the following retelling of the passages. Listening question: **Are there any unimportant choices when it comes to obeying God? Explain. No, when we have to choose whether to obey God or to not obey in any area, our choices have consequences.**

### David's Reign: God's Plan

News of the deaths of King Saul and his son Jonathan grieved David because he knew that God had chosen Saul as Israel's first king, and Jonathan had been David's best friend.

Saul's death led to the division of the kingdom into two nations: Israel was to the north and Judah in the south. As David mourned, he asked God for guidance. God directed David to go to Hebron, where the men of Judah anointed him king over Judah. David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned seven years over Judah.

At the same time, Abner, the captain of Saul's army, made Saul's son Ishbosheth king over Israel.

Abner and Ishbosheth repeatedly fought against David, but God gave David and the men of Judah victory. When dissension arose between Abner and Ishbosheth, Abner changed his allegiance and joined with David.

Joab, the captain of David's army, wanted to kill Abner because Abner had killed Joab's brother. Though David made peace with Abner, Joab found Abner and killed him in revenge. When David heard that Abner had been murdered, he knew he was not guilty before the Lord and cursed Joab and his descendants. David buried Abner with honor and openly mourned before the people.

Soon after that, Ishbosheth was murdered in his sleep. The two murderers thought that David would be pleased and brought the head of Ishbosheth to him. Once again King David grieved at the death of an enemy. He had the guilty men executed and had Ishbosheth buried with Abner.

Then all the tribes of the Northern Kingdom of Israel came to David and announced their unity with him. David made an agreement with the people of Israel, and they anointed David king over all Israel. The kingdom was reunited, and David reigned thirty-three years over all Judah and Israel, and the Lord God was with him.

David obeyed God, and God gave him victory over his enemies. David gathered thirty thousand chosen men of Israel to help him move the ark of the covenant from Gibeah to Jerusalem, his new capital. David and all the house of Israel worshiped the Lord and celebrated, playing many musical instruments before the Lord. When the ark was placed in the tent David had set up for it, he led the people in making offerings and in praising the Lord.

During the time of peace, King David talked with Nathan the prophet. God reminded David of his past blessings and promised him more. Though God would not allow David to build the temple, He did promise to bless David's family and kingdom forever. God promised David that his son would build the temple of God. He also blessed David with an eternal promise: David's house and kingdom would be

established forever (**2 Sam. 7:16**). God preserved David, giving him safety and great victories over his enemies.

Israel remained at war with many of the surrounding nations. As king, David was expected to join his army in the battle. One year, David made a critical choice—he stayed home rather than going to war. It was during this time that King David desired to have Bathsheba for his wife even though she was already married. But David chose to please his flesh instead of obeying God. Then he had Uriah, Bathsheba's husband, murdered.

Several months later, when confronted about his sin by the prophet Nathan, David finally repented.

Nathan prophesied that there would be ongoing trouble in David's household. Two of David's sons had a conflict. Absalom killed his stepbrother Amnon for committing sin against his sister. Absalom also rebelled against his father's rule and went to war against King David. Eventually, Absalom was defeated and Joab killed him. Once again the people saw King David mourn.

King David loved God and wanted to please Him, but he struggled and sometimes chose to please himself instead of God. Each time David disobeyed God, he confessed his sin and asked God for forgiveness. David's sins were not left unpunished, but because of David's repentant attitude, God restored His fellowship with David. God continued to protect David's throne, and David chose to obey God for the remainder of his reign. He praised God, saying "The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; the God of my rock; in him will I trust: he is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour; thou savest me from violence. I will call on the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies"

(**2 Sam. 22:2–4**).

- When did David begin his rule over Judah? **after the deaths of Saul and Jonathan; when he was thirty**
- When did David begin his rule over Judah and Israel? **after the death of Ishbosheth (seven years after he started reigning over Judah)**
- Although God chose David, why did David not always choose God? **David is like all of us. Possible answers include that David wanted to please himself, and David thought that he was in control. Sometimes we do not consider the results of sin: we believe the lie that we will get away with it or that the gain of the sin is greater than the punishment for it (Gal. 6:7–9).**
- What seemingly unimportant choice did David make that led to the circumstances in which he was tempted to sin with Bathsheba? **He chose to stay at home and not go to war.**
- How was David's fellowship with God restored? **He confessed his sin, repented, and asked God for forgiveness (Prov. 28:13; 1 John 1:9).**
- Are there any unimportant choices when it comes to obeying God? **Explain. No, when we have to choose whether to obey God or to not obey in any area, our choices have consequences.**

## The Job of a King

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Most kings grow up as princes in royal families. Princes enjoy the many privileges associated with this elite class of citizens. David's father was not a king, so David did not experience growing up as a prince. David served others through various jobs before he became king.

Write a letter next to each passage to indicate how it says David served.

- |          |                      |                           |
|----------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>D</b> | 1. 1 Samuel 16:11–13 | A. Harp player            |
| <b>A</b> | 2. 1 Samuel 16:16–19 | B. Armor bearer           |
| <b>B</b> | 3. 1 Samuel 16:21    | C. Champion spear thrower |
| <b>E</b> | 4. 1 Samuel 18:5     | D. Keeper of sheep        |
|          |                      | E. Leader in Saul's army  |

David sought to follow God's leading. He looked to God for guidance throughout his life. God's plan included David's learning different jobs. God taught David things he would use later as he ruled over Israel.

Mark each job that might have helped prepare David for being king of Israel.

| As king, David would ...                    | Keeper of Sheep | Harp Player | Armor Bearer | Leader in Saul's Army |
|---|-----------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| ... write psalms to praise and worship God. | X               | X           | X            | X                     |
| ... fight enemy nations.                    |                 |             | X            | X                     |
| ... lead God's people.                      | X               |             |              | X                     |
| ... meet the needs of others.               | X               | X           | X            | X                     |



Have you ever said, "Why do I have to learn this? I'm not going to do this the rest of my life?"

Think about one thing you are "enduring." Write some ways it may be preparing you for your future service to God.

Choose today to accept this training as part of God's preparation for your future service to Him. Thank Him for His direction in your life (Prov. 2:1–6; 3:1, 5–6).



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108 Lesson 72

Redemption: God's Grand Design

## Who will you please today—God or your flesh?

Encourage the students to review Worktext pages 18–19 about choices.

**Develop principles of purity.** (Note: It is recommended that you check with your administrator about your school's policy on discussing the topic of purity.) Print out the "What Does God Say About Purity?" activity page (right) from the Teacher's Toolkit CD. Give each student a copy. Read and discuss what the Bible says about purity (or send the page home for the students to discuss with their parents).

## Timeline

**Add King David to the Timeline.** Select a student to attach the King David (1040–971 BC) card to the large classroom timeline. Direct each student to glue the King David picture to his individual timeline.

## Worktext page 108

Locate information in the Bible.

## Worktext page 109

On the map locate towns associated with King David, and sequence events in his life.

## Where and When?

2 Samuel 2:15

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Complete each sentence with a word from the verses.

1. David was anointed king over Judah in his capital city of **Hebron** (2 Sam. 2:1–4). Draw a star on this city.
2. David reigned as king over Israel in **Jerusalem**, where he reigned over Israel and Judah (2 Sam. 5:5). Circle the name of this city.
3. Jerusalem was known as Zion and as the city of **David** (2 Sam. 5:6–7).
4. David and thirty thousand men brought the ark of the covenant from **Gibeah** and eventually to Jerusalem (2 Sam. 6:1–4, 17). Draw a line from this city to Jerusalem.



Number the events in the life of King David in order. Use 1–5 in the top section and 6–10 in the bottom section.

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- 3 David is anointed king over Israel.
  - 1 David is anointed king over Judah.
  - 5 David brings the ark of the covenant into Jerusalem.
  - 2 Ishboseth, Saul's son, is murdered.
  - 4 David moves to Jerusalem, making it the capital city.

- 8 David has Uriah killed so he can marry Bathsheba.
- 10 Absalom tries to overthrow David's rule.
- 9 Nathan addresses David's sin, and David repents to God.
- 6 David chooses to stay at home instead of going with his army into war.
- 7 David chooses to sin against God by committing adultery with Bathsheba.

Redemption: God's Grand Design

Lesson 72 109

## What Does God Say About Purity?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**God loves and values purity.**

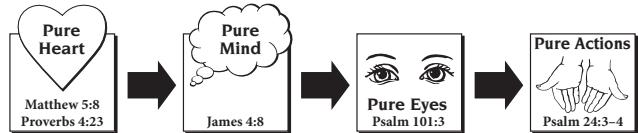
Something that is pure is virtuous and clean, without sin or flaw. The Bible says that God and His Word are pure (Ps. 19:7–11). When a person trusts Jesus Christ as his Savior, he has the power of the Holy Spirit within him to live a pure life. The desire of a Christian should be to imitate the purity of Jesus Christ (Col. 3:1–10).

Read 1 Peter 1:14–16 and fill in the blanks.

God commands me to live a pure life when He says, "Be ye **holy**; for I am **holy**."

**What you do is a public testimony to others about what is in your heart.**  
Your actions are greatly influenced by what you allow your eyes to see and your mind to think about. Your mind thinks about things that are in your heart. If your heart is ruled by desires that do not please God, you will also sin outwardly. But if your heart is pure, your actions will also be pure.

Study the chart and read the verses to discover the path to living a pure and moral life.



**Sexual immorality is a sin.**

God has designed marriage to be a wonderful relationship of love between a husband and wife. The physical relationship between a man and woman is right and good within a marriage, but sinful outside of marriage. Lust is selfish desire for something at the wrong time. A sinful heart leads to lustful thoughts. God says Christians are to run from lusts that tempt them to sin. God's Word teaches Christians how to live pure lives. Being pure is a possibility for Christians who separate themselves from the lustful desires of their sinful nature. This is a battle that must be fought and won through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Read 1 Thessalonians 4:3–7 and write God's commands to you about sexual immorality.

**Do not be involved in sexual immorality; control your body.**

Read the verses and fill in the blanks to learn what God says about keeping yourself pure.

1 Timothy 5:22b Keep yourself **pure, free from sin**

2 Timothy 2:22 People who have a **pure** heart follow righteousness and flee from **youthful lusts**

1 Corinthians 6:18 I should run away from **sexual immorality**

Proverbs 20:11 Other people know whether or not your actions are **pure** and **right**

Remember: 1 Timothy 4:12 says that you should be an example of purity to others.

Activity Page

Bible 6

Lesson 72

# Faithful Follower: Oliver Cromwell

## Music

Review the song and develop higher-order thinking skills by asking application questions.

## Memory Verses: Psalm 119:1–4

Practice the memory verses. Locate Psalm 119:1–4 and select a volunteer to read the verses aloud.

- ➊ In a sentence or two, how would you describe the blessed person's relationship with God in terms of his emotions and his behavior? **emotions: joyful, whole-hearted; behavior: obeying God's Word, seeking Him, doing right**

## Biographical Account

### Introduce the Account

Discuss powers of government.

- ➋ Who is the leader of the United States government? **the president**
- ➋ What is the ruling body in the United States that represents the people? **Congress**
- ➋ Who is the leader of England's government? **the prime minister**
- ➋ What is the ruling body in England that represents the people? **Parliament**

Point out that today the royal ruler of England is either the king or queen, but the leader of England's government is the prime minister.

### Teach for Understanding

Read or tell the following account based on the life of Oliver Cromwell. Listening question: What changed Cromwell's life? **putting his trust in Jesus Christ as Savior**

## Courage to Stand

Oliver Cromwell was born in England in 1599. His parents were of the nobility; his mother was a descendant in the royal line of Scotland. Oliver's father always reminded him that although the family was of royal blood, they all had to learn how to work hard.

Cromwell entered Cambridge University in 1616 but had to return home after his father's death. Cromwell apparently studied law for a while but soon met his future wife. They were married in 1620 and returned to Huntingdon to farm.

Although Cromwell worked hard and took care of his wife and their nine children, he began to experience an emptiness in his soul that he could not satisfy. After months of unrest, Cromwell began to search the Scriptures, looking for peace. One day he read **Philippians 4:13** and believed it

for himself. He realized that he could do all that was required of him with Christ as his strength. This verse penetrated his heart and opened his confused mind. He called to his wife, "I have found the answer—right here! Christ hasn't changed; Paul's Christ is the same today." At that point, Oliver Cromwell put his faith in Christ, and from that day on Cromwell's life was never the same. In fact, one biographer called him "a God-intoxicated man."

England was in great turmoil during this time. King Charles ruled ruthlessly, believing his right to rule was divine. Cromwell spoke up against the abuses that some of his fellow countrymen were facing at the hands of the king. In 1627, Oliver Cromwell won a seat in the Parliament, but two years later, King Charles decided that he did not need the legislature to help him rule, so he dissolved the Parliament and ruled without it for the next eleven years. Cromwell devoted himself to his farm and family as well as to his personal walk with God during that time.

England's economy began to decline. When Parliament finally met again, the Puritans chose Cromwell to represent them. Soon King Charles and Parliament clashed.

One day Cromwell said to his wife, "I am concerned. Suddenly I am a member of a party that opposes my king."

After spending a lot of time in prayer, Cromwell called a meeting of leading Puritans. "It seems that the only way to stop the king's outrageous actions is to arm ourselves against him," he said. Oliver Cromwell gathered an army of one thousand Puritans willing to fight for their families and for freedom. This regiment became known as "Ironsides." Oliver Cromwell possessed great abilities as their general. He always led the army through the center of the enemy, then circled back to cover them. Cromwell's regiment was never defeated.

Cromwell dismissed Parliament, had King Charles imprisoned, and became the Lord Protector of England, ruling for fifteen years.

While in prison, King Charles plotted against Cromwell and restarted the war. The army demanded that the king be put to death. King Charles was tried for treason; Cromwell signed the necessary papers, and the king was executed on January 30, 1649. Under Cromwell's leadership, England underwent many positive changes, including developing a stronger navy and stricter moral codes. Other changes included the development of English colonies in Asia and North America.

On his deathbed Oliver Cromwell prayed: "Teach those who look too much on Thy instruments to depend more upon Thyself."



- Even though Oliver Cromwell's family was wealthy and of the royal line, what did his father determine that the children would do? **learn how to work hard**
- What led Oliver Cromwell to receive Christ as his Savior and gave him peace? **the Bible (Phil. 4:13); realizing that Christ could be his strength**

# What Does God Say About Being a Good Citizen?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

You are a citizen of a country. You became a citizen of the country you were born in. If you move to a different country, you can become a citizen there by following their rules for becoming part of their nation.

There are specific rights and privileges you have because you are a citizen of a particular country. Along with these privileges, you also have responsibilities. God's Word has a lot to say about being a good citizen.

**Read the verses; write the correct references under the responsibilities and privileges of citizens.**

**Titus 3:1**

**Luke 20:22–25**

**1 Timothy 2:1–3**

**Philippians 2:14–15**

**Proverbs 14:34**

**1 Peter 2:13–17**

I should pay the taxes required by the government of my country.

**Luke 20:22–25**

I should pray for the authorities and rulers of my country.

**1 Timothy 2:1–3**

I should honor my country by making righteous decisions.

**Proverbs 14:34**

I should be submissive and obedient to the rulers of my country.

**Titus 3:1**

I should be submissive and obedient to the laws and ordinances of my country.

**1 Peter 2:13–17**

I should not argue or complain so that I can be a good example to my countrymen.

**Philippians 2:14–15**

What should you do if the government of your country forbids you to worship God? If your government threatens to persecute you if you continue to please God, what should you do? Some books of the Bible such as 2 Timothy and 1 Peter were written to Christians in this situation.

When it comes down to the question of choosing between obedience to God and obedience to your government, Christians should choose to obey God. In doing so, they should also be willing to suffer whatever consequences may come as a result of their disobedience to their government.

**Read Acts 5:17–29. Why did Peter and the apostles choose to obey God rather than the government?**

**Possible answers: because they believed Jesus was God; they were commanded by God to speak the message of salvation**

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Lesson 73

Redemption: God's Grand Design

## Something to Think About

### Good Citizenship

Name \_\_\_\_\_

*As a citizen, you have the civil responsibility to obey the laws of your country.*

*As a Christian, you have the responsibility to pray for your country and its leaders.*

**Read 2 Chronicles 7:14, which is a promise for the nation of Israel concerning the covenant God made with Abraham and Moses. Write in the chart the cause-effect relationship of Israel's actions and God's responses.**

| If My People Will . . .               | Then I Will . . .           |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. <i>humble themselves</i>           | 5. <i>hear from heaven</i>  |
| 2. <i>pray</i>                        | 6. <i>forgive their sin</i> |
| 3. <i>seek my face</i>                | 7. <i>heal their land</i>   |
| 4. <i>turn from their wicked ways</i> |                             |

**Read Proverbs 14:34 and the four responsibilities (in the chart above) of every Christian in every nation. Write how obedience to God may help your nation.**

***Answers may include that when people follow God's principles, society will generally be more secure and safe.***

### What About Me?

**Answers will vary.**

Think about the country God has placed you in as you fill in the blanks below.

What country are you a citizen of? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the title of the highest office of authority in your country?  
\_\_\_\_\_

What is the name of the highest ruling official in your country?  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Take time to pray for your country and your governing officials!*

List four responsibilities or obligations you have as a citizen of your country.

8. *pay taxes* \_\_\_\_\_
10. *not betray my country* \_\_\_\_\_
9. *obey laws* \_\_\_\_\_
11. *protect it against enemies* \_\_\_\_\_

List two responsibilities you have as a **Christian** citizen in your country.

12. *pray* \_\_\_\_\_
13. *obey laws* \_\_\_\_\_

List two governing officials for whom you should pray.

14. \_\_\_\_\_
15. \_\_\_\_\_

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Redemption: God's Grand Design

Lesson 73

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- ▶ What changed Cromwell's life? **putting his trust in Jesus Christ as Savior**
  - ▶ What group did Cromwell represent in Parliament? **the Puritans**
  - ➲ Does God want believers to rebel against their governments? Explain. **No. God commands Christians to obey God and to obey the government unless it goes against God's law.**
  - ➲ What do you think Cromwell meant by his deathbed prayer ("Teach those who look too much on Thy instruments to depend more upon Thyself")? **Possible answers include that because it is easy to blame God for other people's sins, we should establish a strong relationship with God regardless of what other people do. God alone is good, and when He allows the injustices of others to affect us, we should understand that God is in control and is working for our good (Pss. 103:19; 119:68; Dan. 4:25, 35).**

## Worktext pages 110–11

*(Note: These pages may be saved for use with Lesson 75 to allow time for in-depth discussion.)*

**Develop principles of citizenship.** Read page 110 and discuss what God says about being a good citizen. Select volunteers to read aloud the Scripture passages.

**Personal evaluation of good citizenship.** Read and discuss the responsibilities Christians have to be good citizens. Complete the “What About Me?” section on page 111 together.

LESSON

74

## Prophet Focus: Zephaniah

## Materials

- Timeline and picture of Zephaniah
  - Dictionary [O]

Music

**Review the song and develop higher-order thinking skills by asking application questions.**

## Memory Verses: Psalm 119:1–4

**Practice the memory verses.** Ask volunteers to recite Psalm 119:1–4.

## Prophet Focus: Zephaniah

### Preview Background Information

#### King Josiah

During the reign of King Josiah, the book of the law was found in the temple. King Josiah heard God's Word and made a promise with the people before God that they would follow God's law. King Josiah ordered all of the idols to be destroyed. But the Israelites did not keep their promise to obey God.

#### Introduce the Prophet Focus

**Discuss background information about King Josiah.** Explain that Zephaniah prophesied during the reign of King Josiah. We do not know whether Zephaniah prophesied before or after the revival, but God used this prophet to warn Judah and Jerusalem of coming judgment.

#### Teach for Understanding

Read or tell the following account about the prophet Zephaniah. Listening question: Who was God going to allow to remain in Jerusalem? **those who trusted in Him**

### Hope and Future

Zephaniah prophesied that God would send judgment. God said that He would destroy those who followed Baal, those who worshiped the stars, those who tried to worship God and idols at the same time, those who had turned away from Him, and those who never sought Him. Some people believed the lie that God would not punish them, but Zephaniah assured them, "The great day of the Lord is near, it is near" (**Zeph. 1:14**), and it was coming quickly. God reminded them of the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah and the judgment that came on them. Zephaniah continued with God's warning: "I will bring distress upon men, that they shall walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the Lord" (**Zeph. 1:17**). Nothing would be able to save them from God's judgment.

Zephaniah pleaded with the people to seek the Lord. The Lord urged the people to humble themselves before Him before it was too late—before His judgment came.

God told the people about His coming judgment on the city of Nineveh. The people there did not care and were proud. They said, "I am, and there is none beside me" (**Zeph. 2:15**). But God was going to destroy Nineveh and make it a pastureland. Passersby would remember how great the city used to be.

God spoke of the disobedient people of Jerusalem. When God disciplined the Israelites, they did not change. Jerusalem's princes, judges, and prophets did not follow God. Even though God warned the Israelites, they kept on sinning. God promised to take the proud people out of Jerusalem and to leave only those who trusted in Him.

After God cleansed the city and protected those who trusted in Him, Jerusalem would rejoice again because God promised, "I will make you a name and a praise among all people of the earth" (**Zeph. 3:20**).



- ▶ Why did God send Zephaniah to warn the people of coming judgment? **to cause them to return to God and obey Him**
- ▶ What two cities did God give special warnings to? **Nineveh and Jerusalem**
- ▶ What was to be God's judgment on Nineveh? **He would destroy the city and make it like a pastureland.**
- ▶ How did the disobedient people of Israel respond after God judged them? **They did not change.**
- ▶ Who was God going to allow to remain in Jerusalem? **those who trusted in Him**
- ▶ How does Zephaniah's prophecy relate to people today? **We should examine ourselves to see if we are seeking the Lord and obeying Him.**

### Timeline

**Add Zephaniah to the timeline.** Select a student to attach the card for Zephaniah (ministered ca. 640 BC) to the large classroom timeline. Direct each student to glue the Zephaniah picture to his individual timeline.

### Science Connection (optional)

**Explain the difference between astronomy and astrology.** Read the following definitions to the students.

**Astronomy:** the science that observes and studies the sun, moon, planets, stars, comets, galaxies, and other heavenly bodies

**Astrology:** the study of the positions of the stars and planets to try to tell what influence or effect they have on things that happen in people's lives; a false belief that the stars can be used to tell what the future will be

Explain that during Roman times, astrology and astronomy were not as distinguishable as they are today. Of the two, astrology was more closely linked with religion and philosophy. This explains why the magi of Bible times are associated with astrology.

**Prophet Focus**

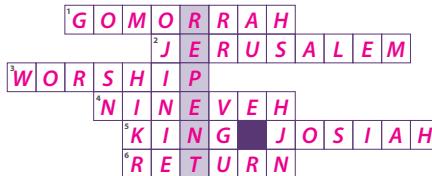
Zephaniah (ministered 640–608 BC)

Throughout the Old Testament, God used prophets to deliver messages to His people. The prophet Zephaniah lived during the time King Josiah ruled Judah. Zephaniah's message included God's desire for Judah to remain true to Him. Zephaniah warned that destruction would come if the people did not turn away from the gods and religions of other nations and worship the one true God. God wanted the people to return to Him.

God brought to remembrance the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah and the judgment God sent to them because of their sin. Through Zephaniah, God condemned those who worshiped idols and the stars, those who tried to include God in their worship along with other gods, and those who had never sought God.

**Read Zephaniah 2:13–15. Using words from the above reading to complete these sentences, write your answers in the boxes below.**

- God used the cities of Sodom and \_\_\_\_\_ as an example of His judgment of sin.
- Zephaniah warned the people in \_\_\_\_\_, the capital of Judah, to leave their sin and worship God.
- God condemned the people who chose to \_\_\_\_\_ idols, stars, or other gods.
- The people in the Assyrian capital of \_\_\_\_\_ had once followed God, but had returned to sin.
- \_\_\_\_\_ was the ruler of Judah at the time Zephaniah delivered God's message.
- Zephaniah's message was for the people to \_\_\_\_\_ to God.



**Use the letters from the shaded boxes to complete the following sentence.**

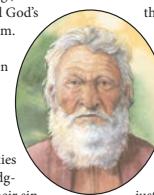
Through the message delivered by Zephaniah, God wanted the people to R E P E N T of their sin.

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Lesson 74

Redemption: God's Grand Design

Name \_\_\_\_\_



Zephaniah's message was delivered to the nation of Judah. It also mentioned the destruction of both Nineveh and Jerusalem. Nineveh was the capital of the mighty Assyrian Empire. The people of Nineveh repented in the time of Jonah, but a hundred years later they had forgotten God and chose to live wickedly. God said that the destruction of Jerusalem, the capital of Judah, would come as a result of the people turning away from Him and to other gods.

History records show that by 600 BC, just a few years after Zephaniah delivered God's message, the Babylonians conquered both Nineveh and Jerusalem.

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**The Way of Blessing**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

In the Bible, God gives Christians guidelines for their lives—not to make the lives of Christians difficult, but as a way to strengthen and equip believers to resist temptations of this world and to witness for Him.

We are able to find accounts of people who were blessed for following God. It was a daily choice to stand for God despite attitudes, actions, and comments of others. More than that, it took faith to trust God to work through these people despite their sinful hearts (and sometimes very difficult circumstances). God promises to do the same for us as we walk in His statutes.

**Use words from Psalm 119:1–4 to complete the sentences and answer the questions.**

1. God blesses those who walk in the law of the Lord (Ps. 119:1).

2. What does God mean when He says to "walk" in the law?

**Answers may vary but should include that whatever they do and say should be according to what the Bible says.**

3. God does not want believers to follow His Word only when it is convenient. He wants them to always obey and keep His law with their whole heart (Ps. 119:2).

4. Which phrase could best be substituted for *heart* in the previous sentence?

- an organ for pumping blood  
 the center, as in the phrase "the heart of the matter"  
 feelings, emotions, or desires



5. As Christians seek to walk with God and be holy, they are commanded to diligently keep and obey His precepts (Ps. 119:3–4).

6. According to the glossary, what is a *precept* of God?  
**a teaching: a rule of behavior**

7. What are some precepts that God wants you to follow? (List three.)

**Answers will vary.**



As you read the Bible, do you look for ways to strengthen your walk with God? Do you try to stay within the guidelines in God's law, or do you regularly push against them and go a different way? Remember:

If you have trusted in Christ as your Savior, you still have a sinful nature, but He has redeemed you and sanctifies you to live a life of godliness.

Redemption: God's Grand Design

Lesson 74

113

LESSON

75

**Unit 5a Activity**

**Conduct a Bible drill.** Select a volunteer to look up the definition of *heart* in a dictionary; direct him to read the definition aloud. Review your rules for Bible drills; then, one by one, call out the following verses relating to the heart. Allow the first student who finds each verse to read it aloud, telling how the heart is described in the verse.

| Reference        | Description of the Heart                           |
|------------------|--|
| Matthew 22:37–39 | <b>loving</b>                                      |
| Psalm 119:12     | <b>obedient (performing or keeping God's Word)</b> |
| Proverbs 21:4    | <b>proud</b>                                       |
| James 1:26       | <b>deceived (deluded)</b>                          |
| Hebrews 3:12–13  | <b>unbelieving (evil, wicked, sinful)</b>          |
| Romans 2:5       | <b>unrepentant (stubborn, impenitent)</b>          |
| Psalm 139:23–24  | <b>searched</b>                                    |
| Psalm 34:18      | <b>broken</b>                                      |
| Proverbs 3:5–6   | <b>trusting</b>                                    |

**Worktext page 112**

Learn more about the message of the prophet Zephaniah.

**Worktext page 113**

Develop further understanding of the memory verses.

# God's Faithfulness

## Unit 5b

### PREVIEW

#### Doctrines

- **76:** People have intelligence (Gen. 2:20).
- **76:** God is all-knowing (omniscient) (Job 42:2).
- **76:** God created humans for His glory (Isa. 43:7).
- **76–77:** The Bible is accurate in its history (John 17:17).
- **77:** God is Spirit (John 4:24).

#### Skills and Applications

- Learn Psalm 119:5–8
- Read a timeline
- Develop principles of worship
- Differentiate between true and false worship
- Interpret Scripture
- Recall facts and details
- Recognize that God's plan is always best
- Apply Bible knowledge to everyday life

LESSON

76

## Solomon: God's Choice

#### Materials

- Timeline and picture of King Solomon

#### Music

Review the song and develop higher-order thinking skills by asking application questions.

#### Memory Verses: Psalm 119:5–8

**Principle:** The Christian yearns to obey God. Locate and read aloud Psalm 119:1–8 as the students read silently.

- What was the psalmist's strong desire? **He wanted the pattern of his ways to be obedience to God's Word. He wanted to stay far away from being disobedient.**

Direct the students to read the memory verses aloud with you. Direct the students to mark the location with their Unit 5 book- marks and to highlight the verses in their Bibles (optional).

#### Bible Account

##### Preview Background Information

###### Solomon's Empire

In His covenant with Abraham, God promised Israel the land from the boundary of Egypt to the Euphrates River. Even though this promise was not fulfilled under Solomon's reign because that territory was not occupied by Israel, the people in that whole area were taxed by and subject to Solomon.

###### The Economy

Under Solomon's reign, the Israelites were a well-fed, well-housed, and well-educated people. Whole provinces were responsible to supply the royal table with a variety of meats, fruits, vegetables, breads, and wine. The provinces took turns supplying the king with food as a form of tribute. Solomon kept a large number of horses and chariots to provide a strong military to secure his kingdom. He undertook a number of building projects.

The breadth of Solomon's wealth was astounding! His riches were great, and the realm of his actual control was much

broader than just the territory inhabited by the Israelites. Solomon was the premier ruler of his day. There was much to dazzle the senses in this era known as Israel's Golden Age.

## Introduce the Bible Account

**Discuss Solomon's request of God.** Locate and read aloud 1 Kings 3:5–13. Point out that Solomon asked the Lord for wisdom. That was all he asked for, and God commanded him for that. Challenge the students to consider the prayer of the Scottish preacher Robert Murray McCheyne: "Lord, make me as holy as it is possible for a saved sinner to be."

## Teach for Understanding

**Read 1 Kings 1–4** or use the following retelling of the passage. Listening question: **Why did Solomon need wisdom? to fulfill his responsibility of ruling his people well**

### Solomon: God's Choice

As King David lay dying, he appointed his son, Solomon, to rule in his place. King David told Solomon, "Keep the charge of the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, to keep his statutes, and his commandments, and his judgments, and his testimonies, as it is written in the law of Moses" (1 Kings 2:3). In that way Solomon would prosper in all that he did.

Before David died, he told Solomon how to treat people who had been a hindrance or a blessing. For some, justice was to be executed, as in the case of Joab, for the wrongful deaths of two captains of the army of Israel during a time of peace and for disloyalty to the house of David. For others, David requested mercy to be shown, especially to the families of those who had shown David kindness when he was facing danger. By dealing swiftly with his father's enemies, Solomon wisely guaranteed his own peaceful reign.

During the early part of his reign, Solomon loved the Lord and obeyed what He said, and God strengthened his throne.

Solomon went to Gibeon and offered a thousand burnt offerings to the Lord. That night, God appeared to him in a dream and said, "Ask what you want Me to give you."

Solomon acknowledged his weakness and asked God for a wise and understanding heart so that he could rule the great nation God had given him. God was pleased with Solomon's humble and wise request. God responded that He had given Solomon a wise and understanding heart; there was nobody like him before him or any who would come after him. Then God said that He would give Solomon things that he had not asked for—riches and honor to such an extent that none could be compared to him during his lifetime. Then God gave him a conditional promise. If King Solomon walked in God's ways and kept His statutes and commandments as King David had done, then God would lengthen Solomon's rule.

God soon gave the new king an opportunity to show his wisdom. Two young mothers came to him with a serious dispute. Both women lived in the same house and had each given birth to a baby boy, but one night one woman's child died. That woman got up and placed the dead child with

the other woman and took the living child for herself. When the other mother woke up to find the dead child in the place of her living one, she brought the case to Solomon to judge. Each woman claimed that the living baby was hers.

Then King Solomon ordered that the living child be cut in half with a sword, and each mother be given one part. One woman agreed to the solution, but the other reacted in horror. At this reaction, the king ordered that the distressed mother be given the infant; her love for the baby proved that she was the rightful mother. "And all Israel heard of the judgment which the king had judged; and they feared the king: for they saw that the wisdom of God was in him, to do judgment" (1 Kings 3:28).

King Solomon was wise in matters of foreign policy as well. Israel enjoyed rest from war during Solomon's reign. Israel's enemies remained at peace. Other kingdoms even provided some of the supplies Solomon used to construct the temple.

Solomon indeed was a wise man. God had given him wisdom, understanding, insight, and breadth of mind surpassing that of anybody from the East or from Egypt. As such, he spoke three thousand proverbs and had more than a thousand songs to his credit. God had prepared Solomon well to lead the great nation of Israel.



- ▶ Who did King David appoint to be ruler after him, and what advice did he give? **He chose his son Solomon and instructed him to obey God and to walk in His ways. He also gave Solomon instruction about dealing with his enemies.**
- ▶ What did King Solomon ask the Lord for? **a wise and understanding heart**
- ▶ Why did Solomon need wisdom? **to fulfill his responsibility of ruling his people well**
- ▶ What else did the Lord promise to give to Solomon if he obeyed God? **wealth, honor, and long life**
- ▶ What situation illustrated Solomon's wisdom? Explain what happened. **When two mothers came to him, both claiming the same child, Solomon suggested that the child be cut in two, with one part given to each woman. The woman who was lying agreed with the plan, but the true mother of the child protested, desiring the child to live even if she had to live apart from her child.**
- ▶ Read aloud Proverbs 2:3–6; 8:34, and James 1:5–6. How can the believer get wisdom? **from God**
- ▶ Read Proverbs 2:10–11. What should be the result of our wisdom? **We will be safe from evil.**
- ▶ Read Proverbs 2:12–17. Who will our pursuit of wisdom protect us from? **evil men and sinful women**

### 🕒 Timeline

**Add King Solomon to the timeline.** Select a student to attach the card for King Solomon (992–931 BC) to the large classroom timeline. Direct each student to glue the King Solomon picture to his individual timeline.

**Royal Petitions**  
1 Kings 3 Name \_\_\_\_\_

When God asked King Solomon what he desired, King Solomon made a humble request of God. Solomon loved the Lord and wanted to follow Him and to rule Israel well as David his father had.

Answer the questions. You may use your Bible for help.

- What did Solomon desire from God (1 Kings 3:9)? **Solomon asked for an understanding heart to know good and evil as he ruled God's people.**
- How did God answer this request (1 Kings 3:11–14)? **God promised Solomon a wise and understanding heart, riches and honor, and a long life as long as he remained faithful to God.**

By this request Solomon showed that he was not trusting in himself. He was relying on God as He ruled the people of Israel. Other leaders in the Bible also trusted God for guidance and help.

Complete the chart by writing the name of the person who prayed and the type of prayer listed in the box below.

|                                     |                                   |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Prayer for the country              | Prayer for help from God          |
| Prayer for leaders                  | Prayer to show God to unbelievers |
| Prayer for food to show God's power |                                   |

| Person             | Reference                | Prayer   | Type of Prayer                           |
|--------------------|--------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Samuel</b>      | 1 Samuel 15:10–11        | He prayed all night for King Saul, who had disobeyed God.              | <b>Prayer for leaders</b>                |
| <b>Daniel</b>      | Daniel 9:1–19            | He prayed for the nation of Israel, asking God to forgive them of sin. | <b>Prayer for the country</b>            |
| <b>Elijah</b>      | 1 Kings 18:36–39         | He prayed that God would send fire to show the power of God to Israel. | <b>Prayer to show God to unbelievers</b> |
| <b>Jehoshaphat</b> | 2 Chronicles 20:5, 10–12 | He prayed for God's help as they faced an enemy in battle.             | <b>Prayer for help from God</b>          |

*Just like these leaders who are mentioned in the Bible, you can take your requests to God.*

Read Mark 11:24–25. Based on these verses, (a) what confidence can you have about a Christian's prayer to God? (b) What are two conditions a Christian must fulfill to have his prayers answered?

(a) **that God will answer**  
(b) **believe God and forgive others**

114 Lesson 76  
Redemption: God's Grand Design

## Worktext page 114

Learn about how some biblical leaders prayed.

LESSON

77

## The Temple

### Music

Review the song and develop higher-order thinking skills by asking application questions.

### Memory Verses: Psalm 119:5–8

Practice the memory verses. Locate Psalm 119:5–8 and select a volunteer to read the verses aloud.

- What evidence do we have that David had a sincere and upright heart? **He learned and obeyed God's laws.**
- What will be one result of a Christian's obedience to God's Word? **He will praise God.**
- What does disobedience bring? **shame**

## Bible Account

### Preview Background Information

#### Cubit

The cubit was the unit of measurement used in building the tabernacle and temple. It was the length of an average man's forearm from the elbow to the tip of the extended middle finger—approximately 1.5 feet. There were two Hebrew cubits, the most frequently used being 17.7 inches or 45 centimeters and a longer cubit measuring 20.4 inches. The Hebrew long cubit was the same as the Egyptian royal cubit, a measurement discovered in the excavation of ancient tombs. The huge basin (or "sea") that Solomon placed in the temple, just outside of the holy place, was 10 cubits in diameter, which means it was approximately 17 feet across.

#### Bath

Solomon's "sea" contained 2,000 baths of water. A bath was equal to approximately 6 gallons or 22 liters. Because the exact shape of the giant basin is not known, an accurate measure is difficult to project. But the massive vessel held approximately 12,000 gallons or 46,000 liters of water.

### Introduce the Bible Account

**Explain the significance of the temple.** Explain to the students that after Israel had settled in the land of Canaan, the tabernacle was to be replaced with a temple—a more permanent and elaborate house of worship. King David desired to build a temple, but God did not allow him to build it since David was a man of war. God did promise David that his son Solomon would build the temple. The temple surpassed all other buildings in greatness and was the symbol of God's presence with His people.

### Teach for Understanding

Read 1 Kings 5–9 or use the following retelling of the passage. Listening question: **Why did Solomon offer a prayer of exaltation to God? because the presence of the Lord filled the temple**

## The Temple

When Hiram, the king of Tyre, heard that Solomon had been anointed king over Israel, he was pleased. Solomon requested that King Hiram send cedar trees and cypress trees from the land of Lebanon to use in building the temple. King Hiram agreed to send the trees to Solomon's workers in exchange for food.

In the second month of the fourth year of King Solomon's reign over Israel (which was 480 years after the Israelites left Egypt), the temple construction began. To preserve the holiness of the temple, no tools were to be heard within the building. The stones used in construction were prepared before arriving at the site. Inside the house of the Lord, skilled craftsmen used cedar to make the walls, beams, chambers, stairways, and porches. Then Solomon had them cover the inside with pure gold.

The ark of the covenant was also overlaid with pure gold. In the holy of holies, where the ark was to be kept, Solomon's workers used wood from olive and cedar trees overlaid with gold to form carvings of cherubim, palm trees, and flowers. Two carved doors of wood from cypress trees formed the entrance to the special room.

To make the beautiful furnishings for the temple, King Solomon commissioned a well-known brassworker from Tyre. The craftsman made beautiful pillars, ten bases, ten lavers, the altar, the table for the bread of the Presence, and all the other temple utensils—shovels, basins, bowls, pots, lampstands, and censers.

Solomon placed two pillars, one on each side of the door to the holy place. The south pillar was called *Jakin*, meaning "God establishes." The north pillar was called *Boaz*, which represented the strength of God.

A huge basin rested on the backs of twelve bronze bulls—four facing north, four facing south, four facing east, and four facing west. This vessel held a large quantity of water, about twelve thousand gallons.

In the inner courtyard with the large basin and the pillars were ten smaller basins on movable stands. Each basin had carvings of cherubim, lions, and palm trees and held about 240 gallons of water.

Finally, after seven years and six months, the temple of the Lord was completed. "So was ended all the work that king Solomon made for the house of the Lord. And Solomon brought in the things which David his father had dedicated; even the silver, and the gold, and the vessels, did he put among the treasures of the house of the Lord. Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel, and all the heads of the tribes, the chief of the fathers of the children of Israel, unto king Solomon in Jerusalem, that they might bring up the ark of the covenant of the Lord out of the city of David, which is Zion" (**1 Kings 7:51-8:1**). As they placed the ark of the covenant in the holy of holies, a cloud filled the temple, a visible indication of the glory of the Lord (**1 Kings 8:11**). Then King Solomon blessed the Israelites and offered a prayer of exaltation, praise, and thanksgiving to God: "Lord God of Israel, there is no God like thee, in heaven above, or on earth beneath, who keep[s] covenant and mercy with thy servants that walk before thee with all their heart" (**1 Kings 8:23**). Then the king and all of the people offered sacrifices before the Lord and dedicated the house of the Lord.



- What agreement was reached between King Hiram of Tyre and King Solomon? **King Hiram promised to send lumber for building the temple in exchange for food from King Solomon.**
- What materials were used in the temple construction? **stones and cedar and fir (cypress) overlaid with pure gold**
- How long did it take to build the temple? **seven and a half years**
- Where was the ark of the covenant kept? **in the holy of holies inside the temple**

### God's House

1 Kings 5-8

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Answer the questions. You may use your Bible for help.**

1. Why had Solomon chosen this time to begin building the temple (1 Kings 5:3-4)? ***They were at peace; they were not at war with anyone.***
2. What prophecy was fulfilled by Solomon's building the temple (1 Kings 5:5)? ***David's son that would sit on the throne would build a house for God.***
3. What promise did God make to Solomon as the temple was being built (1 Kings 6:11-13)? ***If Solomon would walk with God, then God would dwell among the children of Israel and not forsake them.***
4. Solomon saw that the best craftsmen came and prepared the furnishings for use in the temple. What things came from the tabernacle without being changed (1 Kings 8:4)? ***the ark of the covenant and the holy vessels***
5. What had Moses placed in the ark of the covenant that was still in it (1 Kings 8:9)? ***the two stone tables or tablets***
6. How many years had it been since the Israelites left Egypt (1 Kings 6:1)? ***480***
7. What did the appearance of the cloud mean when it filled the holy place (1 Kings 8:10-11)? ***The glory of the Lord had come to the temple.***
8. During the dedication of the temple, Solomon praised God and blessed the people. How did Solomon and the people show honor to God (1 Kings 8:62-64)? ***They offered sacrifices to God.***

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After the dedication and sacrifice, Solomon declared a time of feasting that lasted fourteen days. The whole country was rejoicing that God's house was complete and that the people now had a beautiful place to worship God.

What is your attitude toward worship? Is your time with God joyful?



1 Kings 7:23-25  
molten sea



The months of the Hebrew calendar overlap those of the Gregorian calendar we use today. Each Jewish month starts in the middle of one of our months. The new year of the Hebrew calendar starts in the spring. The months of the Hebrew calendar closely follow the cycle of the moon. A full moon marks the first of each month.

Redemption: God's Grand Design

Lesson 77 **115**

- What happened when the ark of the covenant was placed in the holy of holies? **A cloud filled the temple because the glory of the Lord had descended.**
  - Why was the temple important to the Israelites? **The Lord was present there, and it was the place of worship.**
  - Why did Solomon offer a prayer of exaltation to God? **because the Lord keeps His covenant with His people**
- After the glory of the Lord filled the house because of His presence, Solomon offered a prayer of great exaltation and praise to God because of the Lord's uniqueness and character.
- Have you thanked God for His uniqueness and character today?
  - Do you do that daily?

### Worktext page 115

Recall facts and details.

## Many Men

1 Kings 5

Hiram, the king of Tyre, agreed to provide cedar and cypress wood for the temple. Many of King Solomon's men joined King Hiram's men in Lebanon to cut and prepare the trees to be floated down the coast and then transported to Jerusalem.



Cedar tree

Many men were needed to prepare the wood and rock and the site before construction could begin. It took about seven years to build the temple. The Bible records the number of men Solomon used for this preparation.



Rewrite each number in figures. Add them up and write the total.

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| 1. Thirty-three hundred men were used as supervisors over the other workers.           | 3,300 men   |
| 2. Thirty thousand men went to cut and prepare wood with King Hiram's men.             | 30,000 men  |
| 3. Eighty thousand men went to the mountains to cut and shape rock for the foundation. | 80,000 men  |
| 4. Seventy thousand men carried the prepared materials to Jerusalem.                   | 70,000 men  |
| Total  | 183,300 men |

Use the chart to answer the questions.

5. Which group had the fewest men?

**supervisors**

6. Which group had the most men?

**rock cutters**

7. Why do you think this group needed more men than the others? **Answers may vary but could include that stone is hard to cut and heavy to move.**



Solomon's workmen treated the house of God with respect. According to 1 Kings 6:7, stone was prepared at the quarry so that reverent silence was maintained inside the sanctuary even while the workmen were building it. Is there a difference in your behavior and actions when you enter a church building for a service? Do you act as if you are prepared to listen to God's Word and learn from Him?

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116 Lesson 77

Redemption: God's Grand Design

God will never forsake a person who has trusted Him as Savior (**Heb. 13:5**). God is not with a person who has not yet trusted Christ. That person is without God in his life. Review with the students the basics of the gospel (see page iv).

## Application Story

### Introduce the Application Story

**Discuss family treasures.** Display the family treasure (optional). Explain where it came from originally, how you acquired it, and its significance to your family. As time permits, allow students to tell about their family treasures.

### Teach for Understanding

Read or tell the following true story. Listening question: **What family treasure did Mr. Harris find in a library in Illinois? an old Bible that belonged to one of his ancestors**

## A Family Treasure

David Harris was very interested in studying his family's heritage. Because his family was from Charleston, South Carolina, he began spending part of his weekends in a library there. Little did he know that his investigating would lead him to a wonderful treasure.

Mr. Harris didn't have much information about his family's past. He didn't have a box of old letters or a trunk of keepsakes lovingly tucked away in the attic like some families have. All he had were a few facts and a desire to put them together into a history he could call his own. Then he found a book entitled *Story of an American Family*, written by one of his relatives, Stephen Barnwell. Mr. Harris's father's name was Robert Barnwell Harris, so he was glad when he was able to purchase a copy of the book he had seen in the library. The book mentioned Edwardina (Bessie) Barnwell, a name that Mr. Harris recognized as being his grandmother's. The book traced the Barnwell family all the way back to the Norman Conquest of England in 1066. This made Mr. Harris even more excited and spurred him on to keep exploring his family's past.

After Mr. Harris moved to Evansville, Indiana, his interest in his family's history continued. He made regular visits to Willard Library, a small private library in Evansville, to see whether there were any new additions pertaining to his family's history.

One day as he flipped casually through the card catalog, a brand-new entry caught his eye. The entry was under *Barnwell* and said "Barnwell Family Records." "That's very interesting," thought Mr. Harris. He hadn't seen this entry before and wondered who could have added anything to the Barnwell archives. He went to the front desk to ask the librarian about the new entry.

"Oh, yes," answered the librarian. "We just received that yesterday. It is an old family Bible that someone donated to us after purchasing it at a yard sale in Kentucky. I would be happy to show it to you."

## Worktext page 116

Understand the amount and variety of work it took to build the temple.

LESSON

78

## A Family Treasure

### Materials

- A family Bible or other family treasure [O]

### Music

Review the song and develop higher-order thinking skills by asking application questions.

### Memory Verses: Psalm 119:5–8

**Practice the memory verses.** Locate **Psalm 119:5–8** and select a volunteer to read the passage aloud; then direct the students to read the verses responsively with you, verse by verse; then read the entire passage of **Psalm 119:1–8** responsively.

► **What is the last thing David tells God in these verses? "I will keep thy statutes" (Ps. 5:8).**

❖ **What are some other questions we could ask based on these verses? Answers will vary, but may include "Will God ever forsake us?"**

The librarian went to a storage area behind the desk and brought out a very old family Bible. It was large and thick with a hard leather-covered binding. Mr. Harris could hardly believe his eyes when he opened the book and read the handwriting on the front page. "Edward Barnwell—To my son, Major Thomas Osborn Barnwell," he whispered in awe. Mr. Harris recognized the name as that of his great-great-great-grandfather's brother. "Would there be any possibility that I could purchase this Bible?" Mr. Harris asked the librarian, explaining that it was from his family.

"Why, you may have it," she said. "Whenever possible, we like to return items such as this so that they can be kept in families."

Mr. Harris carried his new treasure carefully as he headed out to the parking lot. What a discovery in a public library! Mr. Harris was elated! When he got home, his wife and children gathered around him to admire the beautiful old Bible. Later, after everyone was in bed, Mr. Harris eagerly read through the list of family names that had been written in the Bible. The names and dates matched exactly with those given in the biographical accounts from *Story of an American Family*. Mr. Harris realized that the immediate descendants of Major Thomas Barnwell had died out, leaving no one to protect and cherish the family Bible. Amazingly, the Lord had protected it and had led Mr. Harris to it at this special time. Mr. Harris turned to **Psalm 149:4** and read it aloud, "For the Lord taketh pleasure in his people." Mr. Harris's heart was full of thanksgiving. The Lord had truly taken pleasure in him and blessed him, and he rejoiced to take pleasure in the Lord and His Word.



- ▶ Why was David Harris interested in his family history? **He did not have much family information and wanted to know more.**
- ▶ Where was Mr. Harris's family originally from? **Charleston, South Carolina**
- ▶ What family treasure did Mr. Harris find in a library in Illinois? **an old Bible that belonged to one of his ancestors**
- ▶ Who donated the Bible to the library? **someone who bought it at a yard sale in Kentucky**
- 🕒 Why was Mr. Harris happy to find this old family Bible? **It was a written record of his family's history. It was the precious Word of God that family members of the past had read.**
- 🕒 Is your name written in a Bible somewhere?
- 🕒 What is the difference between having your name written in a Bible and having your name written in the Lamb's Book of Life? **Having your name written in a Bible (or Sunday school list, church member list, etc.) cannot change your relationship with God. Only when you trust Christ as your Savior is your name written in the Lamb's Book of Life because your relationship with God has changed from being an enemy of God to being accepted by God (Rev. 20:15; 21:27).**

Point out that no matter what the age or previous ownership of a person's Bible, God's Word is a precious treasure to all. Select

### The Sure Way

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Read Psalm 119:5–8. Use words from the passage to complete the sentences.**

1. The psalmist recognizes that only God is able to direct and establish the **ways** of a believer as he seeks to follow God's Word (Ps. 119:5).
2. Through obedience to God's Word, a Christian will not be **ashamed or put to shame** by the truth he sees as he reads the Bible (Ps. 119:6).
3. Consider the reverse of this truth. If a Christian is in sin, what will happen when he reads the truth of God's Word?  
**Answers may vary but should include that he will be ashamed.**
4. God knows Christians have difficulty staying on the right path and following His Word. Once the Word of God reveals sin and the believer asks forgiveness, he is able to praise God and thank Him for the **righteous** judgments and laws found in the Bible (Ps. 119:7).

**Put an X in the box for the best word(s) to complete each sentence.**

| Scripture        | Scenario   | ashamed | not ashamed |
|------------------|--|---------|-------------|
| Acts 2:36–37     | Peter shared with a group of Jews the truth about Christ's death and resurrection and the part they had played in God's plan. This truth caused the people to be _____ | X       |             |
| Romans 1:14–18   | Paul was ready to preach the gospel to the Jews and Gentiles. He was _____ of the truth of God's Word.   |         | X           |
| Psalm 38:1–6, 18 | As David realized his sin, he was _____ and asked God for forgiveness and mercy.   | X       |             |

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Do you take comfort in reading the Word of God, or do you feel ashamed and guilty each time you open your Bible? As God reminds you of sin, take time to repent and ask for forgiveness. He is faithful to convict and cleanse us from our sins. Only then will you be able to truly praise God and thank Him for the truth found in His Word.



Redemption: God's Grand Design

Lesson 78 117

a student to read aloud **Matthew 6:21**, challenging the students to read God's Word, study it, and hide it in their hearts.

### Worktext page 117

Develop further understanding of the memory verses.

## LESSON 79 Faithful Follower: William Booth

### Music

Review the song and develop higher-order thinking skills by asking application questions.

### Memory Verses: Psalm 119:5–8

Practice the memory verses. Locate and select a volunteer to read aloud Psalm 119:1–8.

Select any of the previous study questions to review with the students.

- 🕒 How have these verses helped you focus on the Lord more?
- 🕒 Have you determined to read your Bible more?
- 🕒 How can you improve on regularity, concentration, understanding, and meditation?
- 🕒 Why should we read our Bibles? **to know God (Jer. 9:23–24) and to become more like Christ (2 Cor. 3:18)**

## Biographical Account

### Introduce the Account

Discuss homeless people.

Have you ever seen homeless people?

Have any homeless people or other poor people ever come to your church? How did the church people react? How did you react? **Answers may include that some church people were kind to these poor people while others may have avoided them.**

Do homeless people and other poor people need salvation through Christ? Explain. **Yes. Christ died to save all people from their sins.**

Explain that the following account is about a man God called to preach to the homeless, poor, and unwanted.

### Teach for Understanding

Read or tell the following account based on the life of William Booth. Listening question: When Booth was assigned to pastor a church instead of holding evangelistic services, what did he and his wife do? Why? **They did not accept the position but continued doing what they believed God had called them to—evangelism.** They stepped out on faith, trusting the faithfulness of God, into full-time evangelism and eventually founded the Salvation Army.

### Faithful Follower: William Booth

William Booth was born in Nottingham, England, in 1829. Even at the age of sixteen, he had a burden for souls, especially for those who were poor, homeless, and unwanted by society. Booth spent a lot of time preaching to the people on the streets of England, telling them about God's love and salvation through Christ.

William cared for these street people so much that one Sunday he brought some of them to Wesley Chapel in Nottingham so they could hear the Word of God preached. However, the congregation became greatly upset when the ragged bunch of outcasts walked into the building. "Young William has gone too far! This is unthinkable!" one church member exclaimed to Pastor Savage after the service.

Pastor Savage replied, "He intended no wrong. He was thoughtless, yes, but he meant no malice by bringing these people here."

"It must not happen again," another man said. "We must summon him before us for counsel."

The next evening, William Booth was brought before several of the older men of the church. Pastor Savage began by saying, "William, we have met to consider the nature of the people you brought to our service yesterday."

Another man interjected, "I have never seen so many unwashed, ragged, dirty scoundrels in the house of the Lord. My wife was sick when we got home last night."

Booth respectfully replied, "But the very reason for the church is to bring souls into the kingdom of heaven. I felt certain our people would welcome them."

Another man said, "Our church is not the place for them. Ours is a respectable place of worship."

William Booth clenched his fists. "Is respectability more important than salvation?" he asked.

Pastor Savage said gently, "No, William, it is not, but it accompanies salvation. Please understand that we have not questioned your sincerity, nor have we lost interest in your noble work."

Booth sighed. "Thank you, Pastor." But William Booth knew that his church would not fully support his efforts in reaching the poor for Christ.

In 1851, a man named Mr. Rabbits persuaded William Booth to work with the Reformers, a Methodist group that believed that each church should be individually governed. Booth helped the Reformers in their work and enjoyed it greatly. The following spring, Mr. Rabbits approached Booth about his job. "William, after spending much time in prayer, I want to propose that you quit your job and start preaching full time."

"That's impossible," Booth replied. "No one would want me to serve as pastor of a church; I'm too young. Street preaching, yes, for I have done much of that, but not pastoring a church."

Mr. Rabbits held up his hand. "I'm talking about evangelism. You could hold revival meetings in churches and be as successful as you have been in street evangelism." Mr. Rabbits promised to support Booth financially for the first three months. William Booth agreed and the next day quit his job and made arrangements for his first meeting to be held in a church not far away.

At that church William Booth met his future wife Catherine; they were married the following summer. By 1860, the Booths had five children and were involved in full-time evangelism. Then Mr. Booth became seriously ill and had to be hospitalized for quite a while. Mrs. Booth took over her husband's responsibilities, cared for the children, and visited her husband in the hospital. Although they were practically penniless, Mrs. Booth maintained a cheerful attitude and trusted God to supply all their needs.

Mr. Booth trusted God as well, but he had concerns. After he was discharged from the hospital, Booth told his wife, "I've been thinking about our future. It's almost time for the Reformers' Conference, and I hope above everything else that the board will let me go back to evangelism. But if not, I have decided to go out on my own."

His wife replied, "If God wills it, then that is what we must do." God had been faithful to meet their needs up to that point, and they were confident He would continue to do so as they obeyed His leading in their lives.

At the annual conference in 1861, William Booth was denied permission to hold evangelistic services and was assigned instead to pastor a church. The Booths refused the position, saying, "The Lord has called us to evangelism."

"But think of the hardships you will face," a conference member said. "Besides, it's important that you have conference recognition and conference relationship."

## What Does God Say About My Worship?

Name \_\_\_\_\_



What is worship? You hear about it in Sunday school and read about it in the Bible. You probably often participate in worship services at your church. Many people think that worship is just something that you do on Sunday. However, Christians should worship God every day of the week. True worship is in the heart. The Bible teaches that expressing your sincere gratefulness to God for His love and mercy is a natural response for a Christian.

Using the glossary, write the definition of worship.

Worship means **to show honor, love, and respect**

Read the verses and match them to the correct statement. Identify who in the passage was worshiping God.

**B** 1. He built an altar, giving thanks to God for the safety of his family. **Noah**

**A** 2. They willingly gave of their money and possessions to build God's tabernacle. **the Israelites**

**C** 3. They praised God and glorified Him for sending His Son to earth. **the angels**



King David wrote many different kinds of psalms, including psalms of worship to God. These worship psalms express David's gratefulness for God's goodness and protection. They encourage believers and teach them how to worship God properly.

Read the verses in 1 Chronicles 16. Complete the instructions showing ways you can worship God.

| Verse | How to worship God in ways that please Him  |
|-------|---|
| 8     | Give <b>thanks</b> to the Lord. Call on His name. Tell other people about what He has done. |
| 11    | Always <b>seek/look for</b> the Lord's face.  |
| 23    | <b>Sing</b> to the Lord. <b>Show forth/proclaim</b> His salvation to others daily.          |
| 29    | Bring an <b>offering</b> and come before Him. <b>Worship</b> the Lord in His holiness.      |
| 34    | Give <b>thanks</b> to the Lord because He is <b>good</b>                                    |

118 Lesson 79

Redemption: God's Grand Design

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William Booth answered, "We have a relationship that is far more important—our relationship with God."

So William and Catherine stepped out by faith into full-time evangelism, relying on God alone to supply their needs. Through street meetings and church revivals, Booth reached homeless people for Christ. In 1865, he founded the Salvation Army, an organization that helped hundreds of needy people by giving them a temporary place to stay, clothing, food, and the plan of salvation.

Since its founding, the Salvation Army has reached thousands of homeless people for Christ. Many people heard the gospel because of the faith and ministry of William and Catherine Booth, and the mercy and faithfulness of God.



- What kind of people was William Booth burdened to reach for Christ? **the poor, homeless, and unwanted in English society**
- How did the church people react when Booth brought some street people to the services? **They were not pleased and discouraged William from bringing them again.**
- Read Mark 2:16–17 aloud. How was the congregation's reaction to Booth similar to the Pharisees' reaction to Christ eating with sinners? **Accept reasonable answers.**
- When Booth was assigned to pastor a church instead of holding evangelistic services, what did he and his wife do?

## Something to Think About

Worship

Name \_\_\_\_\_



Worshiping God is more than going through the motions of showing love, honor, and respect for Him. God is concerned about your heart. A Christian's actions of worship (giving an offering, singing, reading Scripture, etc.) should be his expressions of his inward spirit. God is displeased with the wrong kind of worship. Be careful! If you do things that look like you're worshiping God, but your heart is not in them, you are sinning against God.



Read John 4:23–24. Describe how God wants you to worship Him.

**Answers will vary but should include worshiping God in spirit and in truth, with your whole heart according to the truth of His Word.**

Read each scenario and mark an X in the box that describes the kind of worship taking place. If it is false worship, write why it is displeasing to God. If it is true worship, explain why God is pleased.

**Answers will vary.**

| Scenario   | True Worship | False Worship | Why is it displeasing or pleasing to God?  |
|--|--------------|---------------|--|
| During the singing, Jessica mouthed the words to the hymns, but she was thinking about how she could get her dad's permission to go over to a friend's house after church.             | X            |               | <b>Jessica was displeasing God by not focusing on praising Him during the singing at church.</b> |
| Simeon was hoping that his Sunday school teacher would call on him to pray out loud before class. He wanted the other kids to know how spiritual he was.                               | X            |               | <b>Simeon's purpose for wanting to pray was to impress the other kids.</b>                       |
| Manuel's family has been praying for his dad to find a new job. When God provided a job for his dad, Manuel could not wait to tell his friends about how God had answered his prayers. | X            |               | <b>Manuel was pleasing God by telling others of God's goodness to his family.</b>                |

## What About Me?

Worshiping God reminds you that He is your provider. It allows you to express your gratefulness to Him for His goodness to you and it can show others how much you love Him. How do you worship God? Is it with a heart of gratefulness? Is your spirit praising God for His faithfulness to you?

**Take time at home and think about your attitudes and actions toward worship. Carefully consider the following questions.**

Do you focus on praising God when you are singing in church?

Is God pleased with the way you worship Him?

Do you worship God by telling others about His goodness to you?

Do you spend time thanking God for how He provides for you?

The questions to which you answered "no" or "sometimes" show areas you need to change in how you worship God. Ask God to help you worship Him in a way that is pleasing and honoring to Him.

Redemption: God's Grand Design

Lesson 79 119

**Why? They did not accept the position but continued doing what they believed God had called them to—evangelism.**

- **What organization did Booth start? the Salvation Army**
- **For a Christian, what relationship is the most important? his relationship with God**
- **How is your relationship with the Lord?**
- **Do you talk with Him daily and rely on Him for all things?**
- **Do you love what God loves and hate what God hates?**

## Worktext pages 118–19

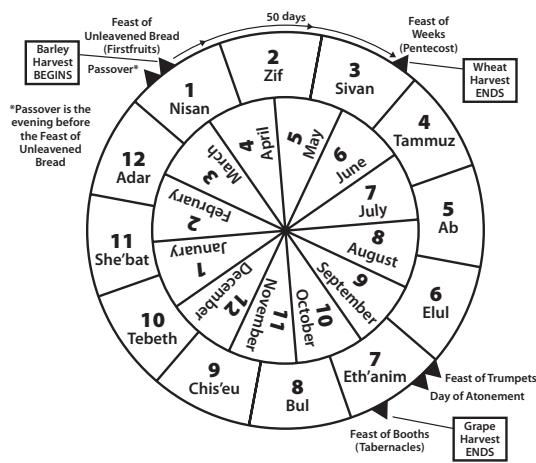
(Note: These pages may be saved for use with Lesson 80 to allow time for in-depth discussion.)

**Develop principles of worship.** Read page 118 and discuss what God says about worship. Select volunteers to read aloud the Scripture passages.

**Personal evaluation of worship.** Read and discuss whether the scenarios on page 119 show true or false worship. Encourage the students to read the "What About Me?" section at home and think about their attitudes toward worship.

### Calendar of the Jewish Year

Name \_\_\_\_\_



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Activity Page

Bible 6

Lesson 80

### Unit 5a–5b Review

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Circle the letters of the correct answers.

- Ruth, a woman from Moab, traveled to Bethlehem with her mother-in-law, Naomi, who had decided to move back home. How did God show His mercy to Ruth? [Lesson 71]
  - God used Boaz to protect the two women as they traveled.
  - Boaz married Ruth even though she was not Jewish, and Ruth became a mother and an ancestor of Christ.**
  - God used Boaz to buy and deliver wheat cakes to Ruth and Naomi.
  - Boaz accepted Ruth as a servant in his house even though she was not a Jew.
- What promise did God bless David with? God promised David that \_\_\_\_\_. [Lesson 72]
  - David's temple would be rebuilt during the millennium and would have his name emblazoned in golden letters over the altar
  - before Christ comes to take all Christians to heaven, David's kingdom would own all the land God promised to Abraham
  - David's throne would last for eternity**
  - gold coins bearing David's image would last through the days of Herod the Great
- What did Solomon have a lot of because he asked God for it? [Lesson 76]
  - wisdom
  - wives
  - riches
  - buildings
  - e. knowledge**
- When the ark of the covenant was brought into the holy of holies in the temple that Solomon had built, a cloud filled the temple, and then Solomon prayed a prayer of great exaltation to God. The holy of holies and the cloud are most closely related to \_\_\_\_\_. [Lesson 77]
  - Israel's skill in building religious buildings
  - God's riches
  - Solomon's wisdom and desire for God
  - God's presence and glory**
  - the Philistines' destruction
- The author of Psalm 119:1–8 is most concerned about \_\_\_\_\_. God's Word. [Lessons 71–80]
  - memorizing
  - obeying**
  - preaching
  - telling others about
  - hiding

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Half-Unit Reviews

Bible 6

Lessons 71–80

LESSON  
80

## Unit 5b Activity

### Materials

- Copy of the “Jewish Calendar” activity page from the Teacher’s Toolkit CD [E]

**Discuss the Jewish calendar.** Give each student a copy of the “Jewish Calendar” activity page (above), telling him to carefully study it and compare it to the calendar we follow today. (Note: A summary of the building of the temple is given in 1 Kings 6.)

- **The building of the temple was begun in the second month.** What Jewish month is this? **Zif** Which months on our calendar correspond to this time? **April and May**
- After seven years, the temple was completed in the eighth month. What Jewish month is this? **Bul** Which months on our calendar correspond to this time? **October and November**
- ❖ What are some differences between your country and other countries? **Answers will vary.**
- ❖ What are some similarities of your country to other countries? **Answers will vary.**
- ❖ How does God treat people of all countries the same? **Answers may include that nobody can have a right relationship with God without trusting Christ as Savior. God expects all Christians to be obedient and faithful to all of His commandments, and God will always be faithful to those who trust Him.**

### Unit 5a–5b Review

**Lead a review of Lessons 71–80.** A reproducible copy of the review questions (without answers) is available on the Teacher’s Toolkit CD under Half-Unit Reviews. Answers are there also.