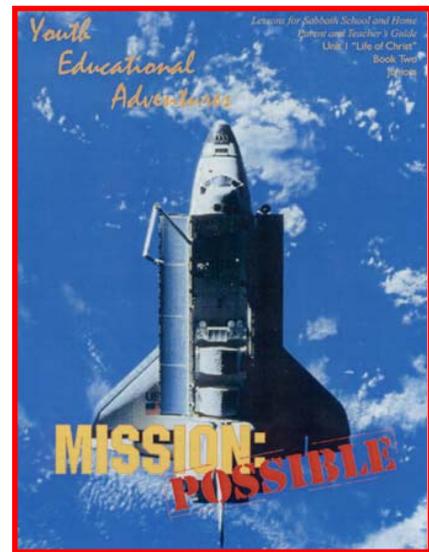




*A Companion to the
YEA Life of Christ Series
Junior Book Two*

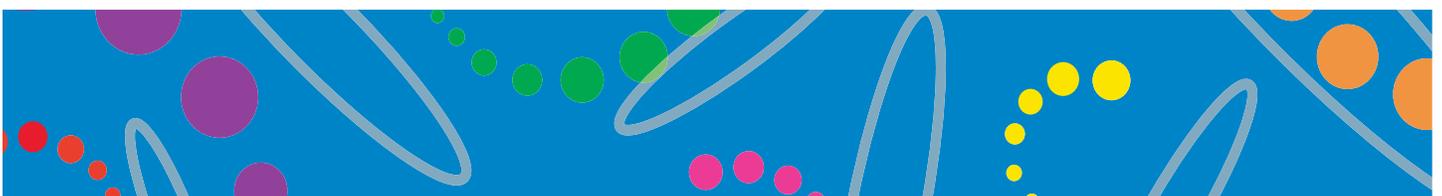


"Now these are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it. . . And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up" (Deuteronomy 6:1, 7).

What could be more important than teaching children the way of God and anchoring them to Jesus Christ? As the Scripture above shows, once a week is not nearly enough. Youth Educational Adventures (YEA) offers an ongoing series of lesson books for five age groups between the ages of three and 20 to be used at home or in Sabbath School. Each YEA book has an easy-to-use Teacher's Guide available to show you step-by-step how to make each lesson come alive and reach the minds and hearts of those you teach. For your child(ren) to benefit to the fullest, we recommend that you order these YEA books to use along with the following daily activities.

The purpose or objective of these easy-to-use, concise activities is to provide at least a week's worth of activities for you to use:

- To give the child an opportunity for self-directed study.
- To deepen comprehension and retention of the YEA lessons.
- To make the current YEA curriculum more easily adapted to the unique needs of:
 1. **Homeschooling parents** who need a daily lesson/activity.
 2. **Parents** who wish to extend or enrich the lesson for a family Bible study.
 3. **Sabbath School teachers** who would benefit from a supplementary activity to those currently available.
 4. **Junior-age students** who are ready for independent work.



NOTES AND EXPLANATIONS

Junior R.E.A.C.H. activities: These activities are designed to be used by the student independently. If the child is not self-directed, these activities can easily be utilized by the child with a minimum of direction from the parent or teacher. Directions for writing in a Bible journal are included, both to benefit the child in developing a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ as well as to provide documentation for homeschooling purposes.

Materials Needed: YEA Students' and Teacher's books, Bible, Bible journal (see explanation below), concordance, Bible dictionary, Bible encyclopedia, atlas, Bible map book, pencil, pen, colored pencils or markers, drawing paper, *CEM Hymnal*

Bible Journal: The journal can be a three-ring binder filled with notebook paper and several dividers for the different sections or a multi-subject spiral notebook. The different sections can be divided into the journaling section, word study section, note section, research section (for maps, etc.) and a question section.

Using the Sections: Each lesson has seven sections, one to use each day. They do not all have to be done, but are designed to target different interests of the child. Junior R.E.A.C.H. activities are divided into these sections:

- **Back to the Bible**

This is a section to review the lesson, relate to another Scripture teaching, and ask more in-depth questions. It may also provide a commentary on the lesson's memory verse.

- **Journal Jot**

Provides a thoughtful and spiritual application question or idea for them to consider that is lesson-related, as well as directions to record their thoughts and perceptions in their personal journal.

- **Word Study**

Takes a word from the lesson or memory verse and gives the Hebrew or Greek meaning. It will also give more depth to the lesson concepts.

- **Just Toolin' Around**

Gives directions for practicing the use of Bible tools: concordance, Bible encyclopedia, Bible dictionary, and maps, by locating the person, place, or thing related to the lesson.

- **Did you Know?**

Includes Bible trivia or unusual facts related to the lesson.

- **Stretch It Out**

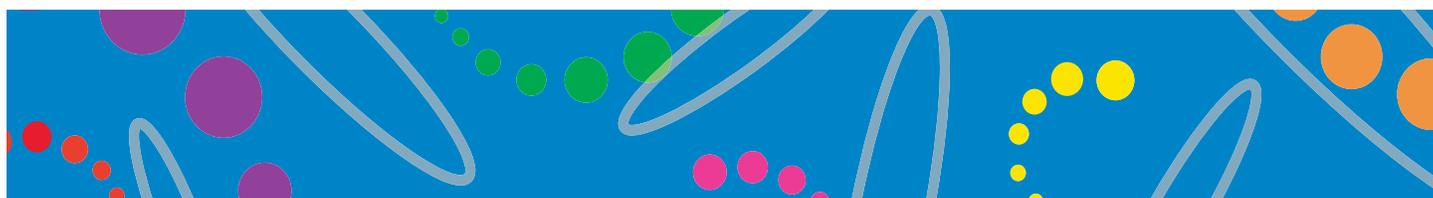
Has an activity to extend and reinforce the lesson in a creative way; i.e., creating a word search or memory game, drawing a picture, or constructing a project which relates to the lesson.

- **Music Notes**

Provides the background or history of a song applicable to the lesson. Most songs will be in the *CEM Hymnal*. Juniors are making the transition from the *Kids Classics Collection* to more mature songs. Knowing the background of some hymns will excite the child when singing the hymn during services.

- **Questions?**

Reminds the child to write down (in their Bible journal) questions they may have as they are doing the activities, working through the lesson, or reading the Daily Devotionals.





CLOSER THAN A BROTHER

Word Study: Ahav

Proverbs 18:24 says, “. . . there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.” The word for “friend” in this verse is “ahav,” meaning to love, desire, delight, like, be fond of. It denotes a strong emotional attachment for, or to be in the presence of, the object of love. We are instructed, above all else, to ahav (love) God more than anything or anyone else (Deuteronomy 6:5).

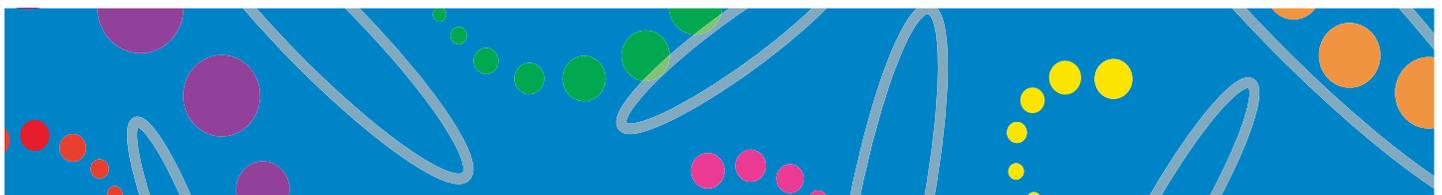
Did You Know?

Crossing the Sea of Galilee after dark was common for fishermen who used trammel nets through the night. The sea’s setting results in sudden violent storms that produce waves of seven feet or higher. This must have been a powerful storm for these seasoned fishermen to be so afraid (Matthew 8:23-27). (Source: *NIV Archaeological Study Bible*, p. 1571.)

Music Notes: What a Friend We Have in Jesus

This hymn is found on page 66 of the *CEM Hymnal*. It was written by Joseph Scriven who lived from 1819 to 1886. He was born into a wealthy family in Ireland, and had the blessings of education, a close family, and a pleasant life. However, the night before his wedding, his fiancée drowned. Scriven found comfort and solace in the true Friend, Jesus Christ, during this very trying time. It changed his life. He decided to be that kind of friend and helper to people who needed him. He moved to Port Hope, Canada, where he devoted his time to helping others: Giving away his clothing and possessions and often working without pay for anyone who needed him. He became known as “the Good Samaritan of Port Hope.” When Scriven’s mother in Ireland became ill, he penned the words to this hymn—to send in a letter to comfort her. Later, when Scriven became ill, a friend came to visit and saw the words on a piece of paper nearby the bed. Upon reading the lines, the friend asked, “Who wrote these beautiful words?” Scriven’s reply was, “The Lord and I did it between us.”

The encouraging words of the Bible exhort us, as this hymn does, to seek God for solace, comfort, help, and guidance. Write these Scripture references in your Bible notebook. Plan to look them up the next time you send encouragement: 1 Peter 5:7; Philippians 4:6-7; Hebrews 4:16; Matthew 6:8; 1 John 5:14-15; Isaiah 30:19; Psalm 6:9; John 15:13-16.



Journal Jot

Complete the activity in your YEA book. Then read the Word Study section above. Knowing that the Creator of the universe is your Friend and loves you better than a brother is the kind of encouragement you need when facing the storms of life. In your Bible journal, write down how this activity and the word study made you feel. Then write a prayer of thanksgiving to God for this love!

Back to the Bible

Proverbs 17:17a says: "A friend loves at all times. . ." (NIV). A friend is someone who "loves" you (1 Corinthians 13:4-8). Jesus Christ will always be our Best Friend; however, we have been given the blessing of earthly friends. It is not always easy to have or make friends. But if we use Scripture to teach and guide us, we will have godly, trusting, and faithful friends. Proverbs 17 says a friend loves at "all times." A "true" friend sticks with you in all situations, good and bad. They are not fair-weather friends who abandon you when the seas of friendship get rough. Sometimes life is difficult. You want a friend in both clear and stormy skies. A loyal friend knows that Jesus will be the source of your comfort and encouragement, and will guide you to seek Him for help. Pray that Jesus will send you a friend that loves at all times.

Just Toolin' Around

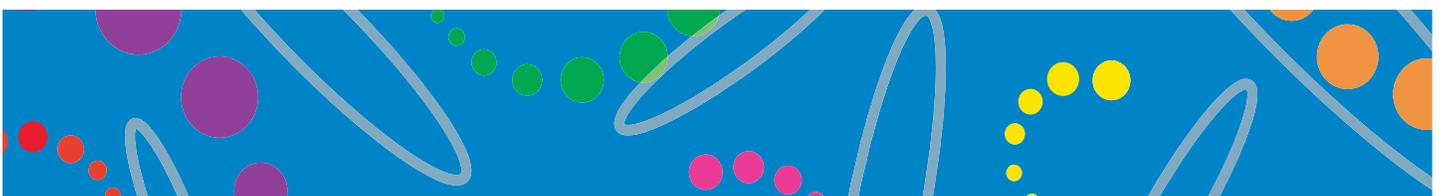
1. Use a dictionary to find the root meaning of the word "seismologist." Which word or phrase in the lesson Scriptures is related to this word?
2. Use Bible reference books to research materials that were used for boat construction as well as how they were designed and built. How do you think most boats withstood stormy weather? Present the information as if you were the boat builder. Use pictures or materials to show an example of the boat.

Stretch It Out

Ask an experienced fisherman to make a presentation of popular local and regional fishing areas, fishing equipment (including the type of boats available), basic how-to-fish instructions, and boat safety. (Be sure to explain to him the lesson and why his information will be important to the Sabbath School class.) To make the best use of his time, prepare a set of questions prior to his visit. Take pictures during the presentation. Send him a thank you note afterwards, including a picture that was taken during his visit. If you have done any fishing since his presentation, be sure to share the experience with him!

Questions?

Remember to write any questions that you have in your journal. That way you will remember to ask you parents, teacher, or minister.



Journal Jot

Read the Music Notes section on the previous page. Then spend a few minutes thinking about the true needs of William Williams as he wandered around Wales, and of the Israelites as they wandered in the wilderness. Knowing that these people had to carry their possessions as they traveled, you can well imagine their want for unnecessary items was very limited. Similarly, as you complete the list in your YEA book, think about traveling on horseback or even in a minivan. Does that help you define needs and wants?

Now spend a few minutes writing in your Bible journal about the blessings of God, how He has given you so much more than you need, granting many of your wants. What then should your response be?

Back to the Bible

The Bible has many references to bread and manna. In the YEA lesson Scriptures we read that the Passover Feast was near, or “nigh.” During this festival all leavened bread is to be removed from our households (Leviticus 23:6). Leavened bread rises due to an ingredient called yeast. Before this Feast begins we remove all leavened products from our homes because during these days, leavening pictures sin and unrighteousness. Sin causes us to be “puffed up” (like leavened bread) or full of pride and arrogance (1 Corinthians 5:6-8). Unleavened bread does not have yeast as one of its ingredients. This bread is flat; it does not rise or puff up. This unleavened bread pictures Jesus Christ who was without sin. During the Days of Unleavened Bread, we eat bread without yeast because pure Jesus is the Bread of Life without sin (yeast). As we eat unleavened bread for seven days during the Passover Feast, we should remember that Jesus is the Bread of Life. We remember symbolically by eating unleavened bread, and we also do it by reading and studying the Bible and spending time in prayer with Christ because He is the Bread of Life and our provider (Matthew 6:11).

Just Toolin’ Around

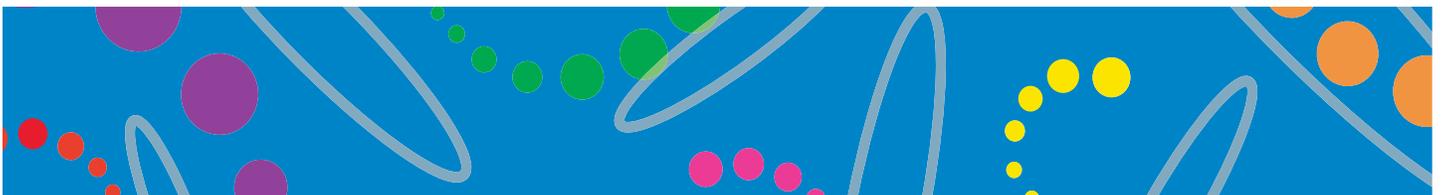
Use a Bible and concordance to find at least two other Scriptures that refer to Jesus as the “Bread of Life.” Write them in your journal and compare them to the YEA lesson memory verse.

Stretch It Out

There are many songs of praise and worship that use the YEA lesson Scripture as their focus. Use a *CEM Hymnal* or other source to find a song that you believe fits the YEA lesson well. Try to find someone to play it for you on the piano for class or bring a CD or tape with the music on it. Teach the song to the Sabbath School class, or your family. Research the story behind the song and explain why you chose it.

Questions?

Remember to write any questions that you have in your journal. That way you will remember to ask your parents, teacher, or minister.





YEA LESSON 3

THE POWER TO HEAL

Word Study: Therapeuo

The word “healing” in this week’s memory verse is the Greek word “therapeuo.” It means to heal miraculously, not effectively heal. That is, the healing happens right then, not as a matter of a cure, and not spiritually, but physically. It is similar to, but not exactly, the Greek word from which we derive our English word “therapeutic.”

Did You Know?

In Matthew 4:23-24 there is a list of the kinds of healings Jesus did. One of these is “those having seizures.” The Greek word that was translated for this phrase originally meant “moon-struck” and reflects the ancient superstition that seizures were caused by changes of the moon. (Source: *NIV Archaeological Study Bible*, p. 1564.)

Music Notes: Rescue the Perishing

This hymn is found on page 156 of the *CEM Hymnal*. The words to this hymn were written by Fanny Crosby (1820-1915), often called the “queen of Gospel music.” This is her account of how she wrote this hymn:

“I remember writing that hymn in the year 1869. Like many of my hymns, it was written following a personal experience at the New York City Bowery Mission. I usually tried to get to the mission at least one night a week to talk to ‘my boys.’ I was addressing a large company of working men one hot summer evening, when the thought kept forcing itself on my mind that some mother’s boy must be rescued that night or he might be eternally lost. So I made a pressing plea that if there was a boy present who had wandered from his mother’s home and teaching, he should come to me at the end of the service. A young man of 18 came forward—‘Did you mean me, Miss Crosby? I promised my mother to meet her in heaven, but as I am now living, that will be impossible.’ We prayed for him and suddenly he arose with a new light in his eyes—‘Now I am ready to meet my mother in heaven, for I found God.’”

A few days before, William Doane, the composer of the melody had sent Fanny Crosby the music to be titled “Rescue the Perishing.” It was to be based on the text “Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled” (Luke 14:21). (Source: *Amazing Grace*, Osbeck, K., p. 297.)

Journal Jot

Many people believe that if they ask God to heal them of a physical condition, He will do it. Then when they are not healed, they lose their faith in God and His power to heal. God is not a genie who lives to grant our wishes. He is the great God of the universe who loves us more than our own parents do. He wants the very best in our lives. And He wants us in His Kingdom. If that means not healing someone, then that's what He will do. Write about this in your Bible journal. Write about why God might not heal someone. Write about how you might feel if God didn't heal you. Then write what you believe about God and His power to heal.

Back to the Bible

The Psalms express praise, worship, and confession to God. They were written in a poetic style and so are grouped with the other books of poetry, including Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Songs. David was one of the writers of the Psalms. During his life, David was a shepherd, a warrior, and a king. David wrote Psalm 29, which speaks of God's power in nature, ". . . the Lord thunders over the mighty waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful. . . majestic. . . breaks the cedars. . . in pieces. . . shakes the desert. The Lord gives strength to his people; the Lord blesses his people with peace" (NIV). Even though David was writing about God's power within nature, think about how His power can overcome illness, disease, and other ailments. Read Psalm 29 carefully and notice the details of His power. No power equals His. No one but God can provide you with the strength and courage to walk through any of life's sicknesses, whether physical or spiritual. His power does not involve trickery or magic. He has the power to heal. Pray with faith, live according to God's way, and look forward to living in God's Kingdom with Him!

Just Toolin' Around

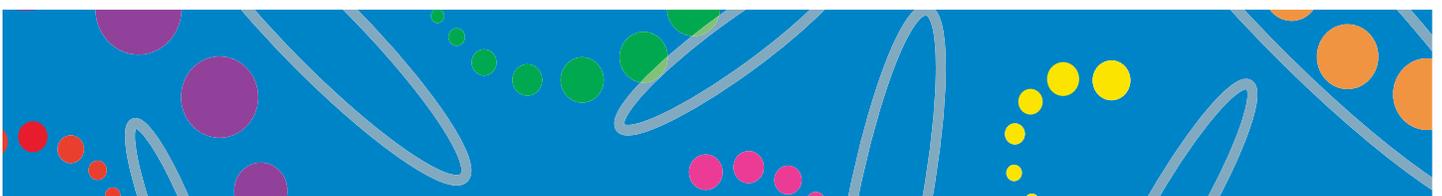
The YEA lesson mentions many of the healing miracles that Jesus performed. *Who were the people and what were their illnesses or handicaps? Where did the healings take place?* Read the Scriptures to find out more about the people and their healings by Jesus. Write about each miracle in your journal. You might want to have a section just for the miracles of Jesus. Share your information with others.

Stretch It Out

Write and perform a play or skit of Jesus' miracles. (If you have a large class or family, do more than one.) Gather necessary props and supplies. Choose a song or songs that the actors, and perhaps audience can sing along with before, during, and after the performance. Serve easy refreshments, perhaps popcorn and/or lemonade (during cooler weather, hot chocolate). Design invitations with the theme of the play/skit and invite friends and family to a night of miracles!

Questions?

Remember to write any questions that you have in your journal. That way you will remember to ask your parents, teacher, or minister.





YEA LESSON 4

PREPARE THE WAY

Word Study: Prautes

The word “gentleness” in the memory verse (1 Peter 3:15-16) is translated “meekness” in the KJV. It is the Greek word *prautes*. It is not easily explained in English since many associate meekness with weakness. It is, rather, a condition of the mind and heart which demonstrates gentleness not in weakness but in power. It is a virtue born in strength of character. For example, according to Aristotle, *prautes* is the middle road in being angry, standing between two extremes—getting angry without reason and not getting angry at all. Therefore, *prautes* is getting angry at the right time, in the right measure, and for the right reason.

Did You Know?

Herodias was one of the evil women of the Bible. She was first married to Herod Philip I, who was also her uncle. When Herod Philip I's half-brother, Herod Antipas, wanted her, she divorced her first husband to marry his brother. It was this Herod (Herod Antipas) who beheaded John the Baptist. Later, Herodias' brother, Herod Agrippa I, became king. So Herodias persuaded her husband, Herod Antipas, to go to Rome and ask for the title of king as well. Agrippa quickly brought charges against Antipas and had him exiled to what is now France. (Source: *The Victor Journey Through the Bible*, Beers, V.G., p. 260-261.)

Music Notes: Let Others See Jesus in You

This hymn is found on page 178 of the *CEM Hymnal*. It is one of about 150 hymns (both words and music) written by Baylus Benjamin McKinney (1886-1952). He also composed the music to 115 additional hymns. Among the hymns written by McKinney are “The Nail Scarred Hands,” “Breathe on Me,” and “Wherever He Leads I'll Go.”

As you read the words, think about how others view your life. McKinney compares our lives to an open book that people are reading “through and through.” People see everything you do. Your actions speak louder than words, especially when you are trying to share Jesus Christ. The exhortation to “be faithful and true” about showing Jesus in the things we do reminds us that it only takes one bad choice to give someone a wrong impression about what it means to be a follower of Jesus. We certainly don't want to hear someone tell us, like Nathan told David (2 Samuel 12:14), that we've given the enemies of God reason to blaspheme or show contempt for God.

Journal Jot

This week's memory verse is 1 Peter 3:15-16: "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience. . ." Think about what doing the opposite of this verse would be: Not being prepared to talk about Jesus, not showing Jesus to others through your actions, not being respectful or gentle with others. You can live just in this life for this life. But someday it will be gone. Or, you could work for the great God of the universe for something that will last forever. Write about this topic in your Bible journal.

Back to the Bible

Among the men taken captive from Judah by King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah. These four young men were chosen to be trained for three years; after that they were to enter the king's service (Daniel 1:1-6). Daniel had been taught to live according to God's ways. He worshiped and served the Creator God, but the Babylonians worshiped and served foreign gods. The king was hoping that Daniel and his friends would change and live like the Babylonians. He even changed their names so that they would feel more like Babylonians. When Daniel and his friends were offered royal food and wine, he ". . . resolved not to defile himself." (The meat was probably pork, or an unclean food that we read about in Leviticus 11.) The word "resolve" means to be devoted to principle and to be committed to a course of action. Daniel was not going to change who he worshiped just because he lived in Babylon. Even with the threat of death, the Hebrew children "resolved," or stood up for, who and what they believed. By resolving to live God's way they put their lives in danger. One course of action they took was to go to God in prayer. Through their faith and by His power, they survived orders of death. Imagine what the king and people of Babylon thought when they saw Daniel and his friends living what they believed! They stood up to the king! Can you resolve to be a Daniel?

Just Toolin' Around

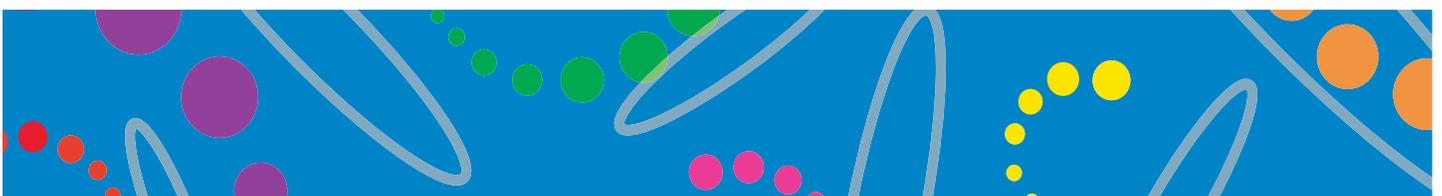
Use your Bible and reference books to find the Hebrew and Babylonian meanings of the names of Daniel and his three friends. Write them in your journal and explain how their meanings tie in to the YEA lesson.

Stretch It Out

Talk to your Sabbath School class or family and consider planning a special youth event at Sabbath School or church. Ask the Intermediate and Senior Teen classes to lend a hand, if needed. Brainstorm ideas together. Some event examples: A mini-Olympics day with volleyball, basketball, and/or other team sports, with a barbeque to follow; a car wash, with pizza afterwards; or potluck and a movie. Send invitations out well in advance to ensure a good crowd!

Questions?

Remember to write any questions that you have in your journal. That way you will remember to ask your parents, teacher, or minister.





YEA LESSON 5

THE SINFUL WOMAN

Word Study: Agapao

In Luke 7:47 Jesus says that Mary “loved much.” The Greek word for “loved much” is “agapao.” It means to love, and indicates a direction of the will and finding one’s joy in something. It is used of God’s love towards man and man towards God. Thus agapao shows that Mary’s actions of love towards Jesus were not merely an emotion, but an act of her will which gave her joy. Agapao is similar to the Greek word agape.

Did You Know?

In Luke 7:36-50, Simon the Pharisee was sure that if Jesus really was who He said He was that He would know the woman was a sinner—and would not allow her to touch His feet. The woman washed Jesus’ feet with her tears, wiped them with her hair, kissed his feet, and poured perfume on them. Jesus highlighted Simon’s lack of respect for Jesus in Luke 7:44-46: Simon didn’t give Jesus water to wash His feet—which was the minimal gesture of hospitality for a guest; the woman wet his feet with her tears. Simon did not offer even a traditional kiss of greeting to Jesus; the woman kissed Jesus’ feet. Simon didn’t provide oil for Jesus’ head; the woman poured perfume on his feet.

Because Simon was so sure of what a good person he was, he didn’t even show basic respect to Jesus as prescribed by the customs of the day. In contrast, the sinful woman went above and beyond showing basic respect; she showed love to Jesus despite what others thought. (Source: *NIV Archaeological Study Bible*, p. 1682-1683.)

Music Notes: Just As I Am, Without One Plea

This hymn is found on page 98 of the *CEM Hymnal*. The words were written by Charlotte Elliot.

When Charlotte Elliot was young, she was a popular portrait artist and writer of humorous verse. But at age 30, she contracted a serious illness which left her a bedridden invalid. Naturally, she was despondent about her life change. However, one day the Swiss evangelist, Dr. Caesar Malan, visited her. Upon seeing her attitude and depression, he said, “Charlotte, you must come just as you are—a sinner—to the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” This was just the admonition that she needed. Despite her physical problems, which continued until her death at age 82, her entire outlook on life changed. She said, “God sees, God guards, God guides

me. His grace surrounds me and His voice continually bids me to be happy and holy in His service—just where I am!” She wrote the words to this hymn and approximately 150 other hymns throughout her lifetime. She is known as one of the finest of all the English hymn writers. (Source: *Amazing Grace*, Osbeck, K., p. 183.)

Everyone has sins in their lives—sins of unbelief, sins of breaking God’s Law, sins of pride and arrogance. Isaiah 64:6 says, “All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.” Praise God that He made a way for each of us to come to Him, through Christ Jesus our Lord. Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world! “But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ” (Ephesians 2:14).

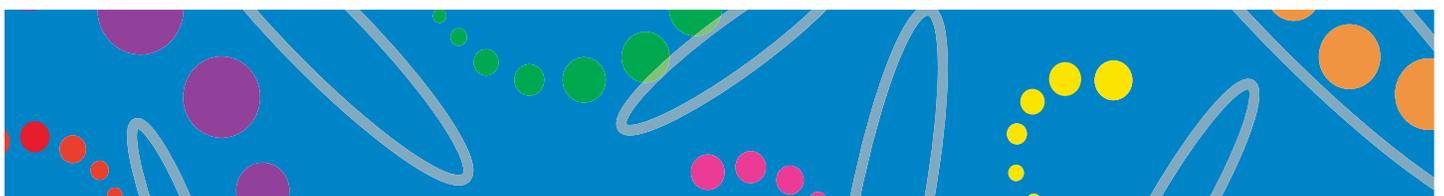
Journal Jot

It is so easy to look at other people and see things that are wrong in their lives. How easily we can start thinking how much better we are than they! God doesn’t want us to do that. He doesn’t want us to compare ourselves with others. It doesn’t help us grow closer to Him, and it doesn’t help our relationships with others either. You don’t know where another is going and you don’t know where he came from. A more contemporary saying is, “Don’t judge a man until you’ve walked a mile in his shoes.” And, we have enough sins of our own to keep our minds occupied.

Write a prayer to God asking for His help in not judging other people. You can judge that actions are wrong, but you have no business judging the people. That’s God’s job.

Back to the Bible

There once was a young man from Tarsus named Saul, a Pharisee, (Acts 7:58; Acts 9) who had been persecuting Christians in Jerusalem. He wanted to stop Christianity from spreading throughout Roman lands. He also was at the stoning of Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit (Acts 6:5). Saul was on the road to Damascus to bring Christians back to Jerusalem for persecution when he had a conversion (changing/transforming) experience. He saw a flashing of light and a voice said, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” It was the voice of the Lord! Whenever Saul persecuted a believer in Jesus Christ, he persecuted Jesus, too. *Can you imagine how Saul must have felt?* Afterward, through a series of events, Saul was baptized and his life was completely turned to Jesus Christ. Instead of persecuting Christians, Saul became a very strong preacher for Jesus Christ. He would take many missionary trips to preach and teach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Even the Apostles did not believe that a sinner and persecutor of Christ’s followers could be completely changed! Even Saul’s name was changed (Acts 13:9). Saul was a sinner who persecuted Christians and Jesus forgave him. The sinful woman at Simon’s house received forgiveness for her sins, and so can you. Go to Jesus in prayer when you want forgiveness for your sins. Have a repentant heart and an attitude of humility and you will know the loving forgiveness of Jesus Christ, too.



Just Toolin' Around

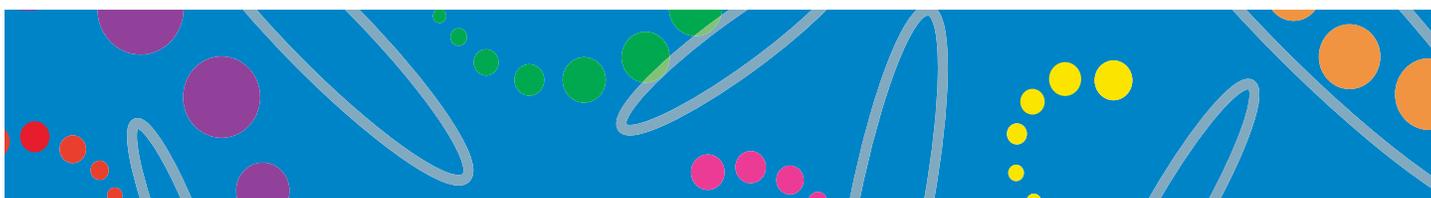
1. Use a Bible, concordance, and other Bible reference tools to find what name Saul was given after he started preaching the Gospel.
2. Saul was from Tarsus. Yet he was in Jerusalem before he set out for Damascus. Become familiar with these and other Bible cities by drawing a map and highlighting Tarsus, Jerusalem, and Damascus. Saul preached the Gospel in other cities. Read more about his journeys, and then locate and highlight the names of at least two other cities. Keep the map in your journal for future use.

Stretch It Out

A concrete poem takes the shape of the topic of the poem. For example, the words in a concrete poem about the birth of Jesus could be written so that the words are part of the outline of a stable. Write a concrete poem about Luke 7:36-50. Share your poem with the Sabbath School class.

Questions?

Remember to write any questions that you have in your journal. That way you will remember to ask your parents, teacher, or minister.





YEA LESSON 6

JUST DO IT

Word Study: Agapao

This is the same Greek word we learned in Lesson 5! Look at how it is used in this week’s memory verse: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind. . .” (Luke 10:27). Again agapao indicates a direction of the will and finding one’s joy in something. Here Jesus tells us to love God, as a matter of our will, with all of our heart, soul, strength, and mind—and to find our joy in God.

This quote is from Deuteronomy 6:5 where the Hebrew word for this kind of love is ahav, like we saw in Lesson 1.

Did You Know?

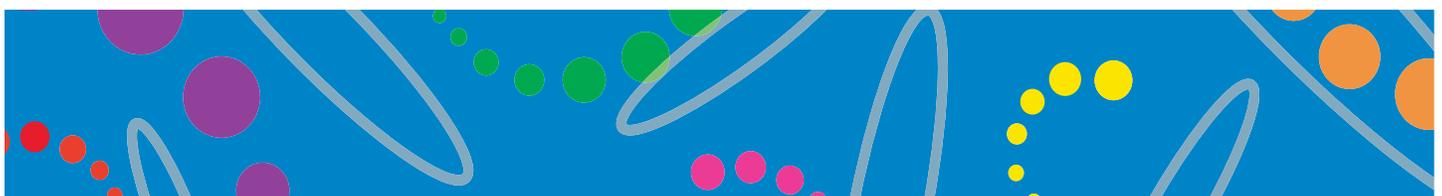
The distance from Jerusalem to Jericho was a distance of 17 miles and a descent from about 2500 feet above sea level to some 800 feet below sea level. The road ran through rocky, desert terrain, which provided natural hiding places for lurking robbers to waylay defenseless travelers. (Source: *NIV Archaeological Study Bible*, p. 1691.)

Music Notes: Help Somebody Today

This hymn is found on page 177 of the *CEM Hymnal*. The words were written by Carrie Elizabeth Ellis Breck (1855-1934).

Carrie’s family moved from Vermont to Vineland, New Jersey, and she spent most of her life in southern New Jersey. She married Frank Breck, and they moved to Oregon between 1910 and 1920. A devout Christian, she was devoted to her husband and five daughters. She had no sense of pitch, and could not carry a tune, but she had the gift of poetic rhythm, and wrote more than 2,000 poems. She was not particularly robust in health, and had to take frequent rests while doing chores. At such times, she would sit in her favorite rocking chair, take up a notebook, and write poetry—often with a baby on her knee, or playing at her feet. She also wrote “Face to Face With Christ My Savior.”

The words for “Help Somebody Today” were inspired by the story of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:25-37. (Source: www.cyberhymnal.org.)



Journal Jot

Read through Luke 10:25-37. Put Jesus Christ in the place of the Good Samaritan. *How does Jesus fit the role of the Good Samaritan?* Write your thoughts in your Bible journal.

Back to the Bible

The injured man by the side of the road needed help, yet a Levite and priest passed by. A Samaritan man stopped, checked, and bandaged his wounds, and then made sure he had a place to recover. There is a word that describes the Samaritan's actions: Mercy. Webster's II Dictionary defines mercy as "kind and compassionate treatment." This is what Jesus had to say about mercy, "Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy" (Matthew 5:7 NIV). Because the Samaritan showed mercy to the injured man, he will be shown mercy, too. We do not know when or where or even why the Samaritan will someday need mercy. But because he showed mercy to the man who had been robbed and beaten, Jesus says someone will be merciful to him. It is important to realize that kindness to others should not be based on what we hope to get out of it. In other words, we should want to help and be kind to others because that is what Jesus preached and taught. Jesus Himself is a perfect example of mercy. He died for our sins so that we can have eternal life with Him. Be an example of Jesus Christ and find ways to serve and be merciful to others. That is real love! Put aside time to read and study the Bible so that you can learn more about repentance, forgiveness, and mercy.

Just Toolin' around

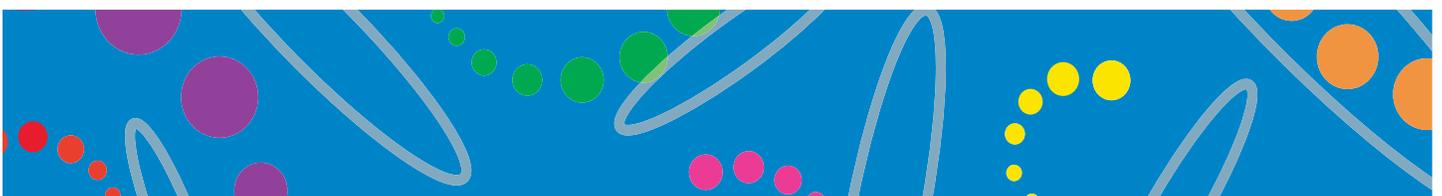
Who were the Levites? Use a Bible and other Bible reference to find out more about this group of people. Write the information in your journal and share it with the Sabbath School class or your family.

Stretch It Out

Sometimes it's hard to relate to certain parts of a story because we are unfamiliar with the people or place. Write a new, modern version of the Good Samaritan. For instance, maybe the story could take place in your home town. Perhaps the injured man could be your father, or another male relative or friend. Present your story to the Sabbath School class or family and friends.

Questions

Remember to write any questions that you have in your journal. That way you will remember to ask your parents, teacher, or minister.





YEA LESSON 7

TREASURES IN HEAVEN

Word Study: Kardia

In the memory verse, Matthew 6:20-21, the word for “heart” is “kardia.” This Greek word comes from a more primitive root for heart. It is used in a figurative sense, meaning the thoughts or feelings. *Does this Greek word make you think of any words that we have in English?*

Did You Know?

Matthew 6:19 says, “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.” The people who heard Jesus say this probably understood all too well how easily a thief could break in and steal anything valuable. The houses at the time of Jesus were made of mud bricks and could be broken into very easily. (Source: *NIV Archaeological Study Bible*, p. 1568.)

Music Notes: Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

This hymn is found on page 181 of the *CEM Hymnal*. The words and music were both written by Helen Howarth Lemmel in 1918. It is probably the best-known of the 500 hymns written by Helen Lemmel. She had been given a missionary tract by a friend. Inside the tract was the line: “So then, turn your eyes upon Him, look full into His face, and you will find that the things of earth will acquire a strange new dimness.” So struck was Helen Lemmel by this idea, the hymn was born. She relates:

“Suddenly, as if commanded to stop and listen, I stood still, and singing in my soul and spirit was the chorus of the hymn with not one conscious moment of putting word to word to make rhyme, or note to note to make melody. The verses were written the same week, after the usual manner of composition, but nonetheless dictated by the Holy Spirit.” (Source: *Amazing Grace*, Osbeck, K., p. 183.)

This is exactly what Jesus is talking about in the memory verse this week. Keep your eyes focused on what is really important—Jesus Christ and the things of God.

Journal Jot

Make a list of the most important things in your life. Be completely honest with yourself. Ask yourself: *What would I not be willing to share with someone else? What would make me really sad to lose?* When you have finished your list, highlight those things which are of lasting value, the ones you'll be very glad you have in 20 years or in God's Kingdom. Then write a prayer asking God to help you determine what really has value and deserves your attention and focus.

Back to the Bible

In the YEA lesson you read of the rich man that built bigger barns to store all of his wealth. As he was building his barns he was probably thinking about all the money he could get from what the barn could hold. *When do you think he thought of someone else? Do you think he had the time to help others? Do you think he had any friends? Do you think he knew to love others as he loved himself?* This parable, or story with a lesson, is one of many that Jesus told to help teach people about loving God and others. Sometimes Jesus taught in parables because it was easier for the people to understand what He was teaching. He did not keep people guessing as to how they could love God. Jesus said that the greatest commandment is to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" (Matthew 22:37-39). If you are too focused on yourself, the way the rich man was, you will not have room in your heart to love others, much less God. *Wouldn't that be a terrible way to live the precious life God has given you?* Remember that God knows what is in your heart. *What treasures fill your heart today?* Here are three permanent treasures to fill your heart: Mercy, love, and humility. These are worthy treasures for your life today and in God's Kingdom!

Just Toolin' Around

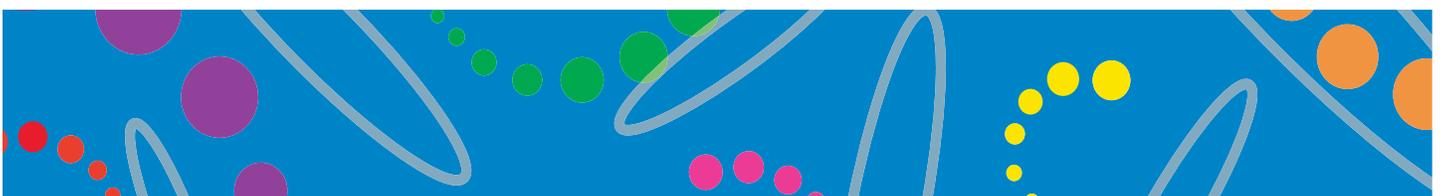
Jesus told many parables. Find and read at least two others. Share the parables and their meanings to the Sabbath School class or your family.

Stretch It Out

Draw a picture that illustrates the memory verse. Use the drawing to explain the YEA lesson. Share with the Sabbath School class or family.

Questions?

Remember to write any questions that you have in your journal. That way you will remember to ask your parents, teacher, or minister.





YEA LESSON 8

NOT YET PERFECT

Word Study: Krino and Katadikazo

In Luke 6:37, Jesus says, “Do not judge,” and “Do not condemn.” The Greek word for “judge” is “krino.” It means to judge, pass sentence, or give one’s opinion in a private matter. The Greek word for “condemn” is “katadikazo,” which means to give a judgment against someone. The opposite is to declare innocent or to justify. In your Bible journal, write three sentences about each word and why Jesus said not to judge or to condemn. Read Luke 6:37-42 again to find the context.

Did You Know?

In Mark 12:43-44, Jesus calls His disciples’ attention to the offering made by the widow. She put in two very small copper coins. These copper coins were the smallest coins in circulation at that time. (Source: *NIV Archaeological Study Bible*, p. 1652.)

The widow’s mite was probably a tiny coin called a lepta. “On the front and back they may have had pictures of open flowers, anchors, grape clusters, helmets, fringed umbrellas, ears of corn, a wine jug, or a palm tree with two date clusters. Most had inscriptions referring to the emperor or some other ruler.” (Source: *The Victor Journey Through the Bible*, Beers, V.G., p. 309).

Music Notes: Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

This hymn is found on page 8 of the *CEM Hymnal*. The words to this hymn were written by Robert Robinson, who was a hoodlum in London in his early teens. At 17, he decided to attend a meeting where a famous evangelist was speaking. His sole purpose was to scoff at the “poor, deluded Methodists.” Instead, he felt convicted and accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior. He was so moved, he became a Baptist minister in Cambridge, England. He wrote the words to “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” when he was only 23. (Source: *Amazing Grace*, Osbeck, K., p. 343).

What is the fount in the first line? (Zechariah 13:1) Jesus Christ. We are directed to sing praise to God (Psalm 147:1-2) and when we do we’re in excellent company (Revelation 5:11-12). Wouldn’t we all like to be able to sing the songs the angels sing!

The Ebenezer (1 Samuel 7:10-12) is the memorial to God’s help. It’s interesting that Samuel chose a rock, because Jesus Christ is our Rock of help (Deuteronomy 32:3-4). Christ has gotten us this far, and we trust that He will take us home, to His Kingdom (Hebrews 9:14). The symbolism of the rock, the foundation, and the sacrifice are portrayed in Moses striking the rock to bring forth water for the people (Exodus 17:6). Through the sacrifice of Christ are we able to look forward to living in God’s Kingdom.

Thus, it is through grace we are saved (Acts 15:11). We pray that God will “fetter” our hearts to Him through His grace. We want our hearts sealed for His Kingdom (Revelation 7:14). Therefore, let’s make a reminder (an Ebenezer) to what God has done for us. Our Ebenezer can be understanding the words of the song. Our memorial can be our actions. But let’s raise our Ebenezer to God.

Journal Jot

Becoming more like Jesus Christ is a process, one choice at a time. As God works in your heart, He changes you to make you more like Him. Think of something that you used to do—a sin that you struggled with—that is no longer a temptation. If you can’t think of anything, make a list of things you know are wrong in your life, things that God needs to change. Take this list with you when you pray. Ask God to change your heart so these things are no longer a temptation for you. Then think of ways to help make a change: reading the Bible, telling your parents so they can help hold you accountable and encourage you, singing songs like *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*.

Back to the Bible

In the YEA lesson you learned that you should not judge or look down on others, and you should not compare yourself to others. It may be very difficult at times for you not to compare your abilities or looks with someone else’s, but Jesus taught firmly against it. *How do you feel when you find that you do not measure up to a friend’s intelligence or physical ability? Do you know that you are wonderfully and fearfully made? God “knit” you together in your mother’s womb (Psalm 139:13-16). God knew what He was doing when you were created. He does not want you to be like everyone else. Avoid comparison with others. Do you know that even identical twins are not exactly alike?* Now read the first and second chapters of Genesis and familiarize yourself with His amazing creation. You are one of them! Offer your Creator praise and thanksgiving for making you special and unique.

Just Toolin’ Around

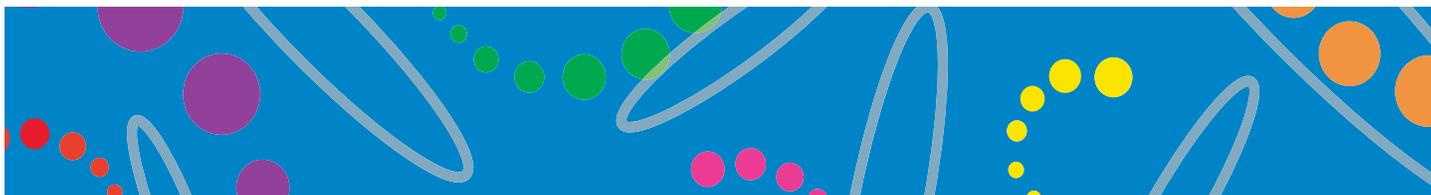
Research how widows were cared for in Jesus’ time. (You may want to begin in James 1:27.) Choose a creative way to present the information to your Sabbath School class or family.

Stretch It Out

Using the information from Just Toolin’ Around above, research a widow that is named in the Scriptures and write her life story. Consider presenting her biography as a play or skit.

Questions?

Remember to write any questions that you have in your journal. That way, you will remember to ask your parents, teacher, or minister.





YEA LESSON 9

THE NARROW WAY

Word Study: Stenos

The Greek word “stenos” is translated “narrow” in Matthew 7:13 (NIV): “Enter through the narrow gate.” It is translated “strait” in the King James Version: “Enter ye in at the strait gate.” Stenos means narrow because of obstacles standing too closely. That is, the gate wouldn’t be too narrow if there weren’t things in the way. *What kinds of things are in your life that stand in the way of you getting through the gate to Life?*

Did You Know?

In John 10:9 Jesus tells us, “I am the gate,” and, like all gates, we have to go to it. The gate doesn’t come to us. Jesus emphasizes this idea in John 10:11-16, where He tells us He is the Good Shepherd. Shepherds at the time of Jesus led their sheep (as opposed to driving them). They did not call sheep randomly, but called only the sheep that belonged to them. The sheep responded to the voice of their own shepherd and followed only him. (Source: *NIV Archaeological Study Bible*, p. 1740).

Music Notes: Wherever He Lead I’ll Go

This hymn is found on page 197 of the *CEM Hymnal*. This is one of about 150 hymns (both words and music) written by Baylus Benjamin McKinney (1886-1952). He also composed the music to 115 additional hymns. Among hymns written by McKinney are “The Nail Scarred Hand,” “Breathe on Me,” and “Let Others See Jesus in You.”

The first verse gives the reason why we follow Jesus wherever He leads. *What is that reason?*

The second verse tells where we learn the will of Jesus. *Where do we need to be to find His will?*

The third verse tells where we may go as we’re following Him. *What are some of the places Jesus may lead us? Why would He lead us through those places?*

The fourth verse tells what we give to Jesus and why. *What do we give Him? Why do we give Him these things?*

How does this hymn relate to the YEA lesson? Make some notes in your Bible journal and plan to share what you’ve found with your family.

Journal Jot

After you have read the Music Notes and the Word Study on the previous page, spend some time thinking about how things can get in the way of following Jesus wherever He goes. Write about it in your journal. Then go back to Lesson 8 and think about how following Jesus relates to Lesson 7 and storing up treasure in heaven. Write about which comes first and why.

Back to the Bible

If you have ever moved or helped someone move, you know that a lot of time and planning must be done ahead of time. One job is to find a new place to live. It must be just the right size and have enough room for everyone. Jesus is preparing a special place for you to spend eternity. Jesus was talking with His disciples after they had shared the Last Supper. Jesus said He was going to prepare a place for them and they knew the way to the place. The disciples named Thomas said, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" Jesus answered Thomas saying, "I am the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:1-7). This conversation took place just before He was betrayed and arrested. Before Jesus left His earthly home He wanted to be sure to explain many things to His disciples. He also wanted to reassure them that He was going to prepare a place for them. That place, of course, is the Kingdom of God. Jesus is the Way and He is the Gate that will lead you into eternal life with Him. Stop and think about how amazing it is that Jesus Christ is right now preparing a place for you! When He was speaking to Thomas, He was also speaking to you, His Word is truth for all of us. Remember to follow Jesus even when the footsteps lead through a narrow way. He wants you to come to Him in this life and in the New Jerusalem.

Just Toolin' Around

Use your Bible and other Bible tools to discover what the New Jerusalem will look like. Write the information in your journal for future use.

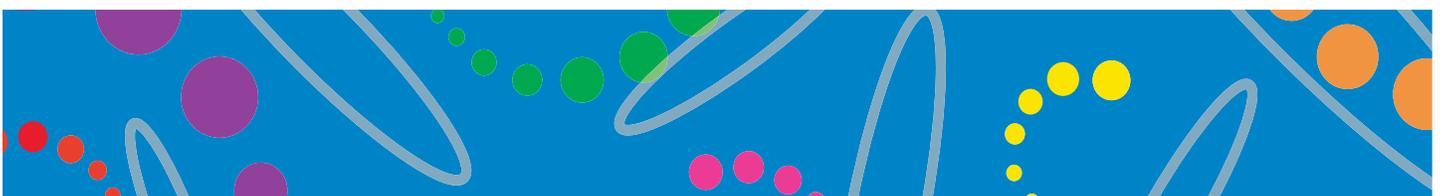
Stretch It Out

Create a paper mosaic* of the New Jerusalem. Choose specific verses for an individual project. If the class is large, divide the verses and when the mosaics are completed piece them together. Present to another Sabbath School class or family.

* A mosaic is a picture created from small tiles. To make a paper mosaic, cut one-half inch squares of many different colors of paper. Piece these paper tiles together to make pictures of buildings, streets, trees, etc. If this is your first mosaic, you will want to lightly sketch your scene on poster or butcher paper before you begin. Glue each piece down on the paper as you put it in place so that a sudden shift doesn't ruin your work. Remember that close-up, the mosaic may seem very rough; a more distant view is where the mosaic really looks neat.

Questions?

Remember to write any questions that you have in your journal. That way you will remember to ask your parents, teacher, or minister.





THE PARALYTIC WALKS

Word Study: Hamartia

The Greek word which was translated “sins” in the memory verse is “hamartia.” It means sin, in the sense of missing the true goal and scope of life. The offense is directly against God and the word emphasizes this and the resulting guilt. *How many of us are guilty of this sin against God—the sin of not focusing on what is really important in our lives? Did you know that this is sin? What an interesting event in Matthew 9! The Creator of the world, in physical form as Jesus Christ, has come face to face with one of His creations. Then Jesus forgives the man for not keeping his priorities straight.*

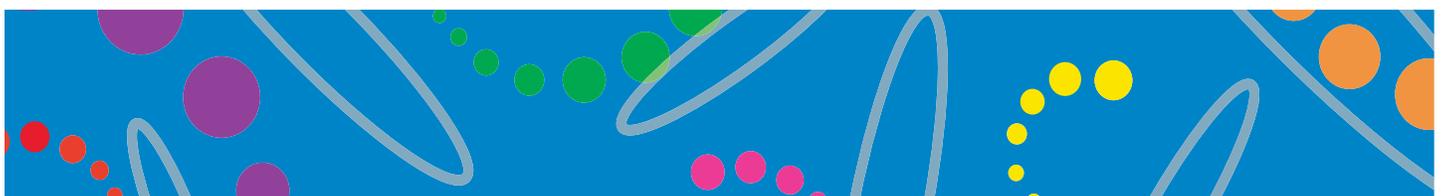
Did You Know?

A typical house in the Middle East had a flat roof accessible by means of an outside staircase. The roof was often made of a thick layer of clay (packed by a stone roller), supported by mats of branches across wooden beams. (Source: *NIV Archaeological Study Bible*, p. 1624.)

Music Notes: Great is Thy Faithfulness

This hymn is found on page 73 of the *CEM Hymnal*. The words were written by Thomas Obediah Chishold (1866-1960) who was born in a simple log cabin in Franklin, Kentucky. After finishing his elementary training in a country school, he began teaching in that school at age 16. Later, he became the editor of *The Pentecostal Herald* and was eventually ordained as a Methodist minister. Over his lifetime, he wrote more than 1200 sacred poems, many of which have become well-known hymns. A short time before his death, Thomas Chisholm wrote:

“My income has never been large at any time due to impaired health in the earlier years which has followed me on until now. But I must not fail to record here the unfailing faithfulness of a covenant keeping God and that He has given me many wonderful displays of His providing care which have filled me with astonishing gratefulness.” (Source: *Amazing Grace*, Osbeck, K., p. 348.)



Journal Jot

The paralytic came to Jesus to be healed, to be able to walk. He was given so much more! He had his sins forgiven. And then Jesus healed him so he could walk. *But what was the greater healing? Is it more important to be healed physically? Or to be healed spiritually? Which one lasts longer?* Even though we focus on the physical healing and think about what our lives are like right now, God is focused on making you part of His family in His Kingdom. If we need a physical problem to keep us seeking God, then God will allow that problem. Write about this idea in your Bible journal—and then thank God that He loves you enough to want you in His Kingdom forever.

Back to the Bible

The Bible speaks of many places where Jesus preached the Gospel. In this YEA lesson Jesus was in His home town of Capernaum. There were so many people wanting to hear and see Him that the paralytic's friends had to come up with a better idea than going through the front door. This took some unique problem solving. But because their faith that Jesus could heal their friend was so strong, they had to find a way to get him in the house. *How long do you think it took for them to find a solution?* We are never told how long it took, but it was definitely worth their effort! According to *The Companion Bible*, Jesus forgave not only the paralytic but also his friends. Their faith led to forgiveness. All the work they went through and the time it took was worth it. It is like that for us, too. This life is difficult. We sin, but we know that when we are repentant, we are forgiven. God longs to hear your voice. Have the faith that you will be heard and forgiven.

Just Toolin' Around

Research the city of Capernaum. As a travel guide, present the information you find to the Sabbath School class or your family. Remember to provide maps for your audience.

Stretch It Out

Was there a particular lesson in Mission: Possible that helped you the most or made a difference for you? Was it Closer Than a Brother, which spoke of Jesus as your friend? Or was it the lesson on forgiveness in The Sinful Woman? Choose one or two and, in your journal, explain why the lesson helped you. You do not have to share your response.

Questions?

Remember to write any questions that you have in your journal. That way you will remember to ask you parents, teachers, or minister.

