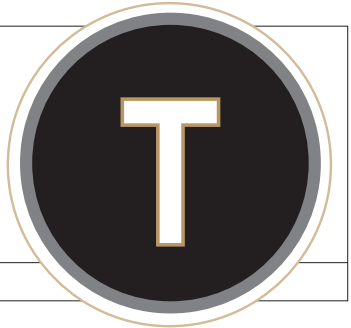


TRIAL

- lesson 1 – trial and sin*
- lesson 2 – trial and Jesus*
- lesson 3 – trial and Scripture*

Trial: 8 Witnesses – family questions



TRIAL AND SIN

1 PETER 1:1-2

lesson 1

family questions



SUNDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:1–2

Word of the Day: Peter

Peter is the author of 1 and 2 Peter and so today the focus of the dinner discussion is helping your children learn about Peter. You can begin by asking them the following Bible questions:

1. Who was Peter?

The following are examples of things the kids might want to explain or discuss:

- a. He was the disciple Andrew's brother.
- b. He was a fisherman.
- c. He was married.
- d. He was Jewish.

2. What do you know about Peter's life?

- a. He became a disciple of Jesus.
- b. He spent three years with Jesus.
- c. Jesus made him the leader of the disciples.
- d. He wrote two books of the Bible (1 and 2 Peter).
- e. He was a pastor who loved people.
- f. He was crucified upside down for being a Christian.

See "Trial in the Life of Peter" (page 1), which will help you learn more about his amazing life. You could summarize it or pull out some major points to explain to your children some of the important details of Peter's life.

MONDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:1–2

Word of the Day: Jesus Christ

Peter begins his letter by speaking of Jesus Christ. So, today the focus is on who Jesus is and what he has done by discussing the following Bible questions:

1. Where was Jesus born? *Bethlehem.*
2. Where did Jesus grow up? *Nazareth.*

3. Who was Jesus' mommy? *Mary.*
4. Who was Jesus' adoptive daddy? *Joseph.*
5. Who were Jesus' half-brothers? *James and Jude.*
6. Who was Jesus? *God.*
7. Did Jesus ever sin? *No.*
8. Did Jesus ever marry or have kids? *No.*
9. Did Jesus love and play with kids? *Yes.*
10. How did Jesus die? *Crucifixion.*
11. Why did Jesus die? *For our sins.*
12. What happened to Jesus three days after he died? *He resurrected.*
13. How did Peter know Jesus? *They were friends, Peter was Jesus' disciple, and for three years he was with Jesus to see his miracles, hear his preaching, and be with him after he rose from death.*
14. Where is Jesus today? *In heaven.*

TUESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:1–2

Word of the Day: Elect

In 1 Peter 1:1 Christians are called the “elect.” Peter means that they are people whom God chose to love, save, forgive, and adopt into his family. People are sinners and the Bible says that no one would ever look for God or choose to love God (Rom. 3:10–11). Yet Jesus is such a loving and good God that he came to earth looking for us and chose to love us and make us Christians. The following Bible questions can help you explain election to your children:

1. What does election mean? *God chose to love us, forgive our sins, and make us Christians.*
2. How does election show us God's love? *As sinners we are God's enemies, and by electing to love us and make us Christians, God is loving his enemies to make them his friends.*
3. What would happen if God did not choose us? *No one would choose God and everyone would go to hell as a non-Christian.*
4. Does God only elect good people? *No, God elects some really bad people and changes their hearts so they live as Christians.*
5. How is election like adoption? *Adoption is when a family decides to welcome in a child as their own and love them just like God adopts us into his family as Christians and loves us as his own.*

WEDNESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:1–2

Word of the Day: Trinity

Peter speaks of God the Father, God the Son Jesus Christ, and God the Holy Spirit. Christians call this the Trinity. Trinity means that the one divine nature is a unity of three persons and that God is revealed as three distinct persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This biblical revelation of God is distinct from any other religion's view of God. It shows us that God is relational, loving, and communicative. The following Bible questions can help you enter into a discussion with your children in which you explain the Trinity:

1. What does Trinity mean? *One God in three persons.*
2. Does the Bible use the word “trinity”? *No, it is a word that Christians use to explain what the Bible teaches.*
3. How is God a person? *He thinks, feels, talks, loves, etc.*
4. Does God have a body? *No, only Jesus had a body when he came to earth but God the Father and God the Holy Spirit do not have bodies.*
5. Is there only one God? *Yes.*
6. Are God the Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit equally God? *Yes, they have all the same attributes, such as knowing everything, having all power, and being the Creator of the world and people.*
7. Do other religions believe in the Trinity? *No, only Christians believe in the Trinity.*

THURSDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:1–2

Word of the Day: Foreknowledge

First Peter 1:2 speaks of the “foreknowledge” of God. This means that God knows the future and knows exactly what will happen before it actually does. This is because God is all-knowing (omniscient) and rules over everyone and everything (sovereign). The following Bible questions will help you discuss God's foreknowledge with your children:

1. What does foreknowledge mean? *God knows the future and controls it.*
2. Is there anyone who has foreknowledge other than God? *No.*
3. Is there anything that God does not know? *No, God knows everything.*
4. Did God know you would be born? *Yes, he did.*
5. Does God know everything that will happen in our lives? *Yes.*
6. How can God help us if he knows the future? *He can help us get ready for the future and if we walk with him he prepares us for what lies ahead in our life.*

7. Does it make you happy that God knows the future? Why or why not?
8. What things in your future do you wish you had foreknowledge of?

FRIDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:1–2

Word of the Day: Sanctification

First Peter 1:2 says that Christians undergo sanctification in life. The word sanctification means “to be set apart” and “to be made holy.” Because Jesus died for our sins, Christians have been made holy through faith in Jesus. We grow as Christians in this life by learning more about Jesus and becoming more and more like him, which is sanctification. So, sanctification is about being more and more like Jesus. This is made possible by the power of God the Holy Spirit who lives in a Christian and helps him or her to be like Jesus and live a holy life. Like a seed, God the Holy Spirit takes root in our life and helps us grow to be more like Jesus. The following Bible questions will help you discuss sanctification with your children:

1. For the parents, how has God sanctified you? *Tell how you became a Christian and how God has grown you to be more like Jesus. Ask your children if they have any questions about anything you share in your testimony.*
2. What things can help us in our sanctification? *Examples include prayer, Bible reading, church attendance, Christian friends, obeying our parents, etc.*
3. How do you want to be more like Jesus?

SATURDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:1–2

Word of the Day: Grace

First Peter 1:2 speaks of God’s grace. The word grace is one of the most important words in the Bible because it tells us how God acts toward us. Grace means that God’s love is seen in all the kind things he does for us even though we do not deserve them. Simply, grace is getting good things we do not deserve. God gives grace to everyone, as evidenced by the fact that they are alive, can eat food, and can have fun. God gives extra grace to Christians by giving them Jesus so that their sins are forgiven and God is their helpful friend. The following Bible questions can help start a discussion with your children about God’s grace in their lives:

1. What is God’s grace? *Good things we do not deserve.*
2. Why does God give grace? *Because he is loving and good.*
3. What has God given you in grace? *Examples include life, health, a family, friends, fun, favorite possessions, etc.*
4. How have people given you grace? *Examples include love, forgiveness, friendship, gifts, teaching, etc.*

5. What are some ways you can give grace to someone? *Examples include loving them, serving them, praying for them, giving a present to them, etc.*
6. Do other religions believe in God's grace? *No, other religions say you have to work hard to get God to be nice to you. Only the Bible teaches that God is good and takes care of us out of his grace.*

TRIAL AND JESUS

1 PETER 1:3-9



lesson 2

family questions

SUNDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Word of the Day: Cross

In this week's reading of 1 Peter 1:3-9, Peter focuses on the fact that Jesus died for our sins and conquered sin and death through his resurrection. So, this week we will focus on Jesus Christ's resurrection from death and examine a different reason each day why we believe in Jesus' resurrection. Today we will look at the facts surrounding Jesus' death and burial by discussing the following questions:

1. What is a cross? *It is where they would kill people in the days of Jesus by nailing them through the hands and feet.*
2. Why was Jesus crucified? *He did not ever sin, but he died in our place for our sins so that we could be forgiven.*
3. Did people know Jesus was going to die and resurrect? *Yes, seven hundred years before Jesus was even born, God promised in Isaiah 53:8-12 that Jesus would die and rise. Jesus also promised that he would be crucified, die, and then resurrect in Matthew 12:38-40; Mark 8:31; 9:31; 10:33-34; and John 2:18-22 (You can look up and read these verses so that the children get an example of God's foreknowledge, which we discussed the previous week.).*
4. Did Jesus really die on the cross? *Yes. Prior to his crucifixion, Jesus had not slept all night, was beaten, and then was scourged, which killed many men in and of itself. Then he was crucified with nails in his hands and feet. He was declared dead by an executioner, and a spear was run through his side, which pierced his heart sac. He was buried like a mummy in upwards of a hundred pounds of linens and spices, and then placed in a cold tomb cut out of rock without medical attention, food, or water. So, Jesus really did die on the cross.*
5. Was Jesus' tomb easy to find? *Yes. Jesus was poor and did not own a tomb because he could not afford one. So, after he died, a powerful and rich man named Joseph of Arimathea let Jesus be buried in his personal tomb in fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah 53:9, which promised Jesus would be buried "with a rich man in his death." A large stone was rolled over the tomb to ensure the body of Jesus was not stolen, the government's seal was placed on the stone to keep people out, and soldiers were placed on duty to guard Jesus' tomb. So, lots of people knew where Jesus was buried.*
6. Do you believe that Jesus died on the cross? Why or why not?

MONDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:3–9

Word of the Day: Communion

Communion is how Christians remember that Jesus' body was broken and blood was shed on the cross in our place for our sins. The bread of communion reminds us of Jesus' broken body for our sins, and the drink of communion reminds us of Jesus' shed blood for our sins on the cross. This is a good day for parents to decide if their children have come to personal faith in Jesus and are ready to partake of communion in church on Sundays, if they are not already. The following questions will help you open a discussion with your children about communion:

1. What is communion? *It is eating bread and drinking wine or juice, depending upon age and conscience.*
2. What does the bread of communion represent? *Jesus' body broken on the cross for our sins.*
3. What does the drink of communion represent? *Jesus' blood shed on the cross for our sins.*
4. Would people have started taking communion as Christians if Jesus had not resurrected? *No. People would not have done this kind of sacred thing if Jesus was still dead and did not forgive their sins through his resurrection.*
5. Can non-Christians take communion? *No. Communion is only for Christians.*
6. What should a Christian do before they take communion? *They should spend some time in prayer confessing their sins to God and asking to be forgiven because of Jesus.*
7. Do you take communion? Why or why not?

TUESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:3–9

Word of the Day: Resurrection

Today we examine the resurrection of Jesus. By resurrection, we mean that Jesus physically died and three days later his body rose from death in victory over sin and death. The following questions will help you discuss why Christians believe in Jesus' resurrection with your children:

1. What is resurrection? *Resurrection is when a dead person's body comes back to life.*
2. How do we know Jesus' body resurrected from death? *The following are some examples of answers: Following Jesus' resurrection, many people touched his physical body: his disciples clung to his feet (Matt. 28:9), Mary clung to him (John 20:17), and Thomas the doubter put his hand into the open spear hole in Jesus'*

side (John 20:20–28). Jesus also appeared to his disciples after his resurrection, but they were uncertain if he had truly physically risen from death. But Jesus was emphatic about his bodily resurrection and went out of his way to prove it (Luke 24:36–43).

3. How many people saw Jesus after his resurrection? *Jesus appeared to people for forty days to crowds as large as five hundred people after his resurrection and before he returned to heaven (Acts 1:1–2; 1 Cor. 15:1–8).*
4. Did people keep visiting Jesus' grave after he resurrected? *No, people did not visit Jesus' grave after he resurrected because he was not there anymore.*
5. Do you believe Jesus resurrected from death? Why or why not?

WEDNESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:3–9

Word of the Day: Christianity

Christianity is the religion that worships Jesus as the only God because he died for our sins and resurrected from death. Today, a few billion people on the earth claim to be Christians who believe Jesus rose from death. The following questions help to explain how Jesus' resurrection caused the growth of Christianity:

1. What is Christianity? *Christianity is the people who worship Jesus as God because he rose from death.*
2. How did Jesus' resurrection change people? *Before Jesus' resurrection, his disciples were timid and fearful, even hiding when Jesus appeared to them (John 20:19). Following Jesus' resurrection, the disciples were very bold for Jesus and even suffered and died without fear because they knew he was God and even if they died they would be with him. If Jesus had not resurrected, the disciples would not have boldly preached about Jesus or suffered courageously.*
3. Would the disciples have lied about Jesus' resurrection? *No. They suffered and died because they believed Jesus rose. They would not have suffered and died for a lie. Plus, the disciples were honest men who lived good lives and were not the kind of men who tell lies about God.*
4. Would Christianity exist if Jesus had not resurrected? *No. If Jesus had not risen from death, people would not have been so devoted to him for Christianity to spread around the world. Today more people worship Jesus as God than anyone else.*
5. What do you think it means to be a Christian? *You love Jesus as God.*
6. Are you a Christian? Why or why not?

THURSDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:3–9

Word of the Day: Worship

Worship is living our whole life for someone or something. Everyone worships someone or something. Christians worship Jesus as God because he died for their sins and resurrected from death. The earliest Christians started worshipping Jesus as God because of his resurrection and the following questions will help you discuss with your children why you worship Jesus:

1. What is worship? *Living your life for someone or something that is most important to you.*
2. On which day did people worship before and after Jesus resurrected? *The early Christians stopped worshipping on Saturday, as Jews had for thousands of years, and suddenly began worshipping on Sunday in memory of Jesus' Sunday resurrection. The Sabbath was so sacred to the Jews that they would not have ceased to obey one of the Ten Commandments unless Jesus had resurrected in fulfillment of their Old Testament Scriptures.*
3. Why did people start worshipping Jesus as God after he rose from death? *One of the Ten Commandments is that we should worship God alone. After Jesus resurrected, people began worshipping him as God because he was and is God.*
4. Would people have worshiped Jesus as God if he did not resurrect from death? *No. He would have been just another person who lived a good life but no one would have thought he was God.*
5. Who started worshipping Jesus as God after he resurrected? *People who worshiped the risen Jesus as God included his half-brother James (1 Cor. 15:7), Jesus' other half-brother Jude (Acts 1:14; Jude 1), and Jesus' mother Mary (Acts 1:14). Because they were all Jews, they would not have worshiped Jesus as God unless he had resurrected. Even one of Jesus' most bitter enemies, Paul, stopped killing Christians and started worshipping Jesus and became a pastor because Jesus resurrected (Acts 7:54–60; Acts 9; 1 Cor. 15:1–9; Phil. 3:4–6).*
6. How can we worship Jesus as God? *Examples include believing in Jesus, confessing our sins, obeying God, serving and loving people, singing songs, being involved in church, etc.*
7. Do you worship Jesus? Why or why not?

FRIDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:3–9

Word of the Day: Baptism

Baptism is when a Christian is dunked under water and brought back up out of the water. Jesus was baptized by his cousin John the Baptizer. Christians are baptized to identify themselves with Jesus. They are baptized to show that Jesus was buried under the ground like they are dunked under the water, and then he resurrected like

they are pulled out of the water to cleanse them from sin like water cleanses us from dirt. This is a good day for Christian parents who have not been baptized to sign up to be baptized at church, and for parents with children who have not been baptized to see if they have come to faith in Jesus and are ready to be baptized. The following questions should help:

1. What is baptism? *It is a Christian being dunked under the water and then brought back up to show that Jesus was buried and resurrected for them.*
2. Would people have been baptized if Jesus did not resurrect? *No. Because baptism shows Jesus' resurrection, it would have not made any sense to baptize people if Jesus did not rise from death.*
3. Who can be baptized? *Any Christian who loves Jesus as God.*
4. For the parents, have you been baptized? *If so, please explain why you were baptized and what it was like to your children.*
5. Are you a Christian who loves Jesus as God?
6. If you have not been baptized, do you want to be baptized? Why or why not? Or, if you were baptized, why were you baptized?

SATURDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:3–9

Word of the Day: Gospel

Today concludes our weeklong study of the resurrection of Jesus Christ from death. Because this is such an enormous truth, we will spend today reviewing what we have learned this week to ensure that the children understand and believe in Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. The death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus in our place for our sin is called the gospel. Gospel means "good news." The following questions are intended to help you discuss the gospel with your children:

1. What is the word gospel mean? *Good news.*
2. What is the gospel? *Jesus is our God who lived without sin, died on a cross for our sins, was buried, and resurrected three days later.*
3. Why was Jesus crucified? *He did not ever sin, but he died in our place for our sins so that we could be forgiven.*
4. How do we know that Jesus really did die on the cross? *Prior to his crucifixion, Jesus had not slept all night, was beaten, and then was scourged, which killed many men in and of itself. Then he was crucified with nails in his hands and feet. He was declared dead by an executioner, and a spear was run through his side, which pierced his heart sac. He was buried like a mummy in upwards of a hundred pounds of linens and spices, and then placed in a cold tomb cut out of rock without medical attention, food, or water. So, Jesus really did die on the cross.*

5. Where was Jesus buried? *In a rich man's tomb that was sealed by the government and protected by soldiers.*
6. How does communion show us Jesus' death? *The bread reminds us of Jesus' body broken on the cross for our sins, and the drink reminds us of Jesus' blood shed on the cross for our sins.*
7. What happened to Jesus' body three days after he died? *He resurrected from death.*
8. How does baptism show Jesus' resurrection? *When a Christian goes under the water and comes back up, they show how Jesus was buried and resurrected.*
9. Why do we worship Jesus? *Because he is God and saves us from Satan, sin, and death.*
10. What happens to a Christian when they die? *Their spirit (the non-physical part of their being) goes to be with Jesus. One day, their spirit will go back into their body and they will resurrect like Jesus did to live in heaven forever.*

TRIAL AND SCRIPTURE

1 PETER 1:10-12

lesson 3

family questions



SUNDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:10–12

Word of the Day: Prophets

In 1 Peter 1:10–12 Peter speaks about the Old Testament prophets. Prophets were people who spoke for God by preaching and/or writing what God told them. Prophets often foretold the future, letting people know what would happen before it actually did. This week we will focus on prophets and prophecy from the Old Testament to help the children see that God knows the future, controls the future, and tells us the truth in the Bible.

1. What is a prophet? *A person in the Bible who preached and/or wrote for God.*
2. How did someone become a prophet? *God chose them to be a prophet.*
3. Does God know the future? *Yes, he knows the future and he controls it.*
4. How did God tell the prophets about the future? *God the Holy Spirit told them about the future and exactly what God wanted them to preach and/or write about the future.*
5. Did the prophets ever prophesy something that did not come true? *No, the Bible teaches that a true prophet of God does not lie and they always tell the truth (Deut. 18:21–22).*
6. What are most of the prophecies in the Old Testament about? *Most of the Old Testament prophecies are about Jesus coming down from heaven to the earth.*
7. Do any other religions have prophecy like Christianity? *No, other religions do not have prophets who tell the future like Christianity because their prophets are false prophets who do not work for God.*

MONDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:10–12

Word of the Day: Prophecy

First Peter 1:10–12 speaks of prophets who prophesy about Jesus in the Old Testament. These prophecies are very specific and were given hundreds of years before Jesus was even born. These prophecies reveal to us that God knows and

controls the future, and that the Bible is true. Therefore, we will spend this week examining some specific Old Testament prophecies about Jesus. We will look each day at an Old Testament prophecy about Jesus and the New Testament fulfillment of that prophecy.

700 BC: Isaiah prophesies that Jesus' mother would be a virgin who conceived by a miracle and that Jesus would be God who became a man.

Promise: “Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel” (Isa. 7:14).

Fulfillment: “Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, ‘Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.’ All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ‘Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel’ (which means, God with us)” (Matt. 1:18–23).

1. How long before Jesus was born did Isaiah prophesy? *Seven hundred years.*
2. What did Isaiah prophesy? *That Jesus would be born to Mary.*
3. Did God’s promise come true? *Yes.*
4. How did Mary get pregnant with Jesus? *Through a miracle by the Holy Spirit.*
5. What does Jesus’ name “Immanuel” mean? *God is with us.*
6. Who adopted Jesus and became his daddy? *Joseph.*
7. Did Jesus have brothers and sisters who were born after him? *Yes (Matt. 13:53–56).*
8. What do you think it would be like to have Jesus as your big brother?

TUESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:10–12

Word of the Day: Prophecy

First Peter 1:10–12 speaks of prophets who prophesy about Jesus in the Old Testament. These prophecies are very specific and were given hundreds of years before Jesus was even born. These prophecies reveal to us that God knows and controls the future, and that the Bible is true. Therefore, we will spend this week examining some specific Old Testament prophecies about Jesus. We will look each day at an Old Testament prophecy about Jesus and the New Testament fulfillment of that prophecy.

700 BC: Isaiah prophesies that Jesus would perform many miracles.

Promise: “Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy” (Isa. 35:5–6).

Fulfillment: “Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’ And Jesus answered them, ‘Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them” (Matt. 11:2–5).

1. What did Isaiah prophesy that Jesus would do when he came?
Perform miracles.
2. Did Isaiah’s prophecy that Jesus would perform miracles come true? *Yes.*
3. Name as many miracles you can think of that Jesus performed.
4. Which of Jesus’ miracles is your favorite? Why?

WEDNESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:10–12

Word of the Day: Prophecy

First Peter 1:10–12 speaks of prophets who prophesy about Jesus in the Old Testament. These prophecies are very specific and were given hundreds of years before Jesus was even born. These prophecies reveal to us that God knows and controls the future, and that the Bible is true. Therefore, we will spend this week examining some specific Old Testament prophecies about Jesus. We will look each day at an Old Testament prophecy about Jesus and the New Testament fulfillment of that prophecy.

700 BC: Micah prophesies that Jesus would be born in the town of Bethlehem.

Promise: “But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days [eternity]” (Mic. 5:2).

Fulfillment: “In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. . . . And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn” (Luke 2:1–7).

1. In which town did Micah prophesy that Jesus would be born? *Bethlehem.*
2. Did Micah's prophecy come true? *Yes.*
3. Did Jesus' parents, Mary and Joseph, live in Bethlehem or Nazareth? *They lived in Nazareth.*
4. How did Jesus' parents get from Nazareth to Bethlehem? *They traveled there when Mary was pregnant to register for a census with the government.*
5. When Jesus was born, where did they lay him? *In a manger because they were not at home and Bethlehem was full of people and there was no other place to stay.*
6. How old was Mary when Jesus was born? *She was probably a teenage girl.*
7. What do you think it was like for Mary to be a young mom far away from home when Jesus was born?

THURSDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:10–12

Word of the Day: Prophecy

First Peter 1:10–12 speaks of prophets who prophesy about Jesus in the Old Testament. These prophecies are very specific and were given hundreds of years before Jesus was even born. These prophecies reveal to us that God knows and controls the future, and that the Bible is true. Therefore, we will spend this week examining some specific Old Testament prophecies about Jesus. We will look each day at an Old Testament prophecy about Jesus and the New Testament fulfillment of that prophecy.

400 BC: Malachi prophesies that Jesus would enter the temple. This is important because the temple was destroyed in AD 70 and no longer exists; subsequently, the prophecy could not have been fulfilled anytime after AD 70.

Promise: “Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts” (Mal. 3:1).

Fulfillment: “Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law . . .” (Luke 2:25–27).

1. Where did Malachi prophesy that Jesus would visit? *The temple.*
2. Did Malachi's prophecy come true? *Yes.*
3. What was the temple? *It was like the church of the Old Testament where people would go to worship God.*

4. Who was the prophet Malachi promised would come preaching before Jesus to get people ready for him? *Jesus' cousin John the Baptizer.*
5. When was the temple destroyed? *AD 70.*
6. Does the temple exist today? *No.*
7. Since there is no temple and Malachi prophesied that Jesus would visit the temple, can the prophecy be about anyone other than Jesus who was born later? *No.*

FRIDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:10–12

Word of the Day: Prophecy

First Peter 1:10–12 speaks of prophets who prophesy about Jesus in the Old Testament. These prophecies are very specific and were given hundreds of years before Jesus was even born. These prophecies reveal to us that God knows and controls the future, and that the Bible is true. Therefore, we will spend this week examining some specific Old Testament prophecies about Jesus. We will look each day at an Old Testament prophecy about Jesus and the New Testament fulfillment of that prophecy.

500 BC: Zechariah prophesies that Jesus' betraying friend would be paid thirty pieces of silver for handing him over to the authorities and that the payment would be thrown in the temple in disgust (again, the temple was destroyed in AD 70, so this prophecy could not have been fulfilled after that time).

Promise: “Then I said to them, ‘If it seems good to you, give me my wages; but if not, keep them.’ And they weighed out as my wages thirty pieces of silver. Then the LORD said to me, ‘Throw it to the potter’—the lordly price at which I was priced by them. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the LORD, to the potter” (Zech. 11:12–13).

Fulfillment: “Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, ‘What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?’ And they paid him thirty pieces of silver” (Matt. 26:14–15); “And throwing down the pieces of silver into the temple, he departed, and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, ‘It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since it is blood money.’ So they took counsel and bought with them the potter’s field as a burial place for strangers” (Matt. 27:5–7).

1. What did Zechariah prophesy? *That Jesus would be betrayed by Judas.*
2. How much did Zechariah prophesy Judas would be paid to help kill Jesus? *30 pieces of silver.*
3. Was that very much money? *No.*
4. Did everything Zechariah prophesied come true? *Yes.*

5. Jesus was friends with Judas for three years before Judas betrayed him, how do you think Jesus felt about Judas sin against him?
6. Have you ever had a friend hurt your feelings by sinning against you?
7. Is there anyone you have not been a good friend to?

SATURDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:10–12

Word of the Day: Prophecy

First Peter 1:10–12 speaks of prophets who prophesy about Jesus in the Old Testament. These prophecies are very specific and were given hundreds of years before Jesus was even born. These prophecies reveal to us that God knows and controls the future, and that the Bible is true. Therefore, we will spend this week examining some specific Old Testament prophecies about Jesus. We will look each day at an Old Testament prophecy about Jesus and the New Testament fulfillment of that prophecy.

700 BC: Isaiah prophesies that Jesus would resurrect from death.

Promise: “Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities” (Isa. 53:10–11).

Fulfillment: “For David says concerning him, ‘I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’ Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses” (Acts 2:25–32).

1. What did Isaiah promise would happen to Jesus after he died and was buried? *That Jesus would rise from death.*
2. Did Isaiah’s prophecy come true? *Yes.*
3. Is there anyone who has even risen from death like Jesus? *No.*
4. Can you think of any way Isaiah would have known 700 years before Jesus was even born that he would die and rise?
5. What do you think it will be like to resurrect one day like Jesus did?

6. What do you think heaven will be like? *Parents, it is good here to explain to your children that heaven is a new creation and like this world without sin and the curse. The Bible speaks of heaven as a place where the sun shines, people have fun, everyone is safe, no one gets hurt, and we get to do anything but sin which means that such things as going swimming and playing ball are allowed in heaven for kids who get to meet all the Christians from the Bible and history and also spend time with Jesus forever.*

WITNESS 1

TEMPTATION

- lesson 1 – temptation from sin*
- lesson 2 – temptation from hypocrisy*
- lesson 3 – temptation from worldliness*

Trial: 8 Witnesses - family questions



1

TEMPTATION FROM SIN

1 PETER 1:13-21

lesson 1

family questions

WITNESS

1

SUNDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:13-21

Word of the Day: Mind

Peter tells us to prepare our minds so that we can think like God wants us to, which helps us to live our life like God wants us to.

1. What things help you learn about God and how he wants you to think and live?
2. How does prayer to God help you learn about God?
3. How does reading the Bible help you learn about God?
4. How does going to church help you learn about God?
5. Why do we talk about God as a family?
6. What things have you learned about God lately?

MONDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:13-21

Word of the Day: Father

Peter teaches us that God is a father. Christians are like God's kids who are adopted into his family to be loved, taught, and cared for by him.

1. What does it mean that God is a Father, or a perfect Daddy?
2. What does it mean that when we become Christians it's like getting adopted into God's family the church?
3. Do you know anyone who was adopted?
4. Did Joseph adopt Jesus? *Yes.*
5. What does it mean that other Christians are like brothers and sisters?

TUESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:13-21

Word of the Day: Obedient

Peter says that Christians are supposed to be like obedient children. This means that we are supposed to obey God our Father like a good child obeys his or her parent.

1. Why do God and parents ask children to do good things and not do bad things? *Because they love the children and want the best for them.*
2. What does it mean to obey? *It means that because of the love in your heart, you do what your parents and God ask of you.*
3. What happens to children who do not obey God and their parents? *They get into sin and their life is ruined.*
4. Can you think of any times in your life when you did not obey God and your parents and something bad happened?
5. Are there any rules from the Bible or your home that you don't think are fair or right? Why?
6. Which rules from God or your parents are most difficult for you to obey? Why?
7. Parents, this is a good opportunity to demonstrate humility and repentance. Take a few moments and explain to your child a time in your life when you did not obey your parents or when you did not obey God and you suffered for it so that they learn vicariously through your life. Invite them to ask you any questions they may have about what you share.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:13–21

Word of the Day: Holy

Peter tells us that God is holy and that Christians are to be holy. The Bible says God is holy more often than it mentions any of his other attributes, which means that holiness is very important. The word holy means “to be set apart.” So, to be holy is to be different in a good way. As Christians we do some things differently than other people because God loves us, we love God, and we want to be holy.

1. What does holiness mean? *To be “set apart” or different in a good way compared to what some other people say and do.*
2. What is the opposite of holiness? *Unholiness or sin where we disobey God.*
3. What are some things that Christians do that are different than other people? *Examples include believing Jesus is God, reading the Bible, praying, worshiping God, going to church, confessing our sins to God, and not doing sinful things like swearing at people, getting drunk, or being violent.*
4. Have you ever had someone make fun of you for being holy and not sinning? *Explain what happened and how you felt.*

THURSDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:13–21

Word of the Day: Judgment

Peter teaches that eternal judgment belongs to God. Judgment is what the Bible means when it says that God looks at our life and determines what we do that is right and wrong. The Bible teaches that one day there will be a final day of judgment when God fairly judges everyone for the life they lived. For Christians this judgment will be for our rewards in heaven. For non-Christians this judgment will be for their punishment in hell.

1. Why is it good that God judges? *Examples include that it shows God does not approve of all the sin and hurt people are doing, that God will one day put an end to all evil and make the world perfect again, and that Satan does not win.*
2. How does knowing that at the end of our life God will reward us for anything good we have done make it easier to live a holy life?
3. Is there any sin in your life right now that God wants you to stop doing so that he does not have to judge you for it?
4. Should we be more concerned about what other people think of us or about what God thinks of us? Why?
5. Can we judge who is going to heaven and hell? *No, that is God's job.*
6. Can we judge people's actions and decide if they were right or wrong? *Yes, especially people who say they are Christians.*

FRIDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:13–21

Word of the Day: Ransomed

Peter says that Christians are people who have been ransomed by God through the blood of Jesus Christ. Think of it this way. Sin includes our thoughts, words, deeds, and motives. Sin also includes not doing what we're supposed to do (sin of omission), and doing what we are not supposed to do (sin of commission). Now, imagine if every time we sinned throughout our whole life we owed God ten dollars—how deeply in debt we would be to God! But our sin is actually worse than that because we owe God more than ten dollars for every one of our sins and there is no way we can ever repay him. Jesus came as God into history to live without any sin, die for our sin, and pay our debt to God. So, Christians have been ransomed by Jesus, who paid our debt of sin to God.

1. Who pays our debt to God for our sin? *Jesus.*
2. How did Jesus pay our debt to God for our sin? *He died on the cross for our sins.*
3. Where was our sin judged and our ransom paid? *At the cross of Jesus.*

4. If we are Christians who believe in Jesus, will God judge us and send us to hell? *No, because of Jesus we are forgiven. We get to be friends with God today and one day we will live with God in heaven forever.*
5. How should we feel about Jesus because he ransomed us?
6. Can you think of any other time in life when someone ransomed you by paying for something you could not pay for? *Explain.*

SATURDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:13–21

Word of the Day: Faith

Peter speaks of Christians as being believers in God. This means that Christians are people who have faith in God. To have faith in God means that we know who God is from the Bible, believe what the Bible says, and trust in Jesus as our God.

1. What does faith mean? *It means that we know what God says in the Bible and believe it.*
2. Who is our faith in? *Jesus because he is our God.*
3. Can you be a Christian without faith in Jesus? *No, if you don't trust Jesus then you are not a Christian.*
4. Who do you know that has faith in God?
5. Do you have faith in God?

TEMPTATION FROM HYPOCRISY

1 PETER 1:22-2:3

lesson 2

family questions

WITNESS

1

MONDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:22-2:3

Word of the Day: Truth

Peter says that we should obey the truth. It is very important to know that God tells the truth. Truth is what is real and not a lie.

1. What is truth? *Truth is what is real and from God.*
2. What is the opposite of truth? *Lies are the opposite of truth.*
3. Where do we learn the truth? *In the Bible.*
4. Who always told the truth? *Jesus always told the truth. Jesus says, "I tell you the truth" more than fifty times in the Gospel of John alone.*
5. Who tells lies? *Satan tells lies and Jesus says he is the father of lies in John 8:44.*
6. Should we lie or tell the truth? *Tell the truth like Jesus did.*
7. What should we do when we lie? *We should apologize to God and whomever we lied to because lying is a sin.*

TUESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:22-2:3

Word of the Day: Love

Peter says that Christians are to love God and one another. Love is one of the most important teachings in all of Christianity. Love comes from God because God is perfect love. When we love we are doing what God wants us to do.

1. Where does love come from? *Love comes from God because God is love (1 John 4:8).*
2. Who has loved you the most besides God?
3. What are the most loving things people have done for you?
4. What are some things you can do to love people?

WEDNESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:22–2:3

Word of the Day: Word of God

Peter says that we become Christians by hearing and believing the Word of God. The title “Word of God” refers to the Bible. This is because the Bible is the literal words of God and the perfect way that God speaks to us.

1. What is the Word of God? *The Bible is the Word of God.*
2. How many books are in the Bible? *Sixty-six books.*
3. How many books are in the Old Testament? *Thirty-nine books.*
4. How many books are in the New Testament? *Twenty-seven books.*
5. How does God speak to us? *Through the Bible.*
6. What has God taught you from the Bible?

THURSDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:22–2:3

Word of the Day: Repentance

Peter says that we should put our sin away from us because it is bad. The word repentance is often used in the Bible to explain how we put our sins away from us. Repentance is very important because it shows us that when we do sin we can ask Jesus to forgive us and he will help us to turn around and walk away from sin and be close to God.

1. What should we do when we sin? *We should repent of our sin.*
2. What is repentance? *Telling God and whomever we sinned against we are sorry, asking their forgiveness, and letting God help us to stop sinning and do the right thing.*
3. Have you recently repented of any sin and stopped doing a bad thing? Explain.
4. Parents, this would be a good opportunity for you to speak from the example of your own life in an appropriate way. Tell your children some sin you wrestled with and how Jesus helped you to repent of it and put it away. Invite your child to ask you any questions they may have about your repentance.

FRIDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:22–2:3

Word of the Day: Born again

Peter says that Christians are people who have been born again. What he means is that when we are born we are physically alive but spiritually dead in that we don't

love Jesus for being our God. However, when we become Christians we are born a second time so that we are both physically alive and spiritually alive to God.

1. Parents, take a few minutes and explain to your children what they were like when they were a baby. Tell the funny stories and describe how much you loved them. Ask them if they have any questions about what they were like as babies. You may also want to show them some of their baby photos.
2. What do babies like to eat when they were born? *Babies eat a lot of milk.*
3. What are new Christians hungry for when they first become Christians and are born again? *Peter says they are hungry for the Bible and like to learn about God from the Bible just like babies are hungry for milk.*
4. Parents, explain to your children what new appetites for God and Scripture that you experienced when you became a Christian and were born again. Invite them to ask any questions they may have about changes in your life since you were born again as a Christian.

SATURDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 1:22–2:3

Word of the Day: Good

Peter says that God is good. What this means is that God never does anything bad or wrong because he is perfect and without any sin. Because God is always good we can always trust him and he will always help us.

1. Is God good? *Yes.*
2. Does God ever do anything bad? *No, God never sins, never lies, and never does anything wrong.*
3. Does God make people sin or do wrong things? *No, God does not want anyone to sin and when they do it makes him sad.*
4. What are some ways in the Bible that we see that God is good?
5. What are some ways in your life that God has been good to you?
6. How has God been good to your family?

TEMPTATION FROM WORLDLINESS

1 PETER 2:4-12

lesson 3

family questions

WITNESS

1

SUNDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 2:4-12

Word of the Day: Priesthood

Peter says that Christians are a priesthood. In the Old Testament the priests were God's people who served God in ministry. In the New Testament, Peter says that all Christians are priests, which means that we can have a direct relationship with God through Jesus Christ, and that our whole life is ministry for God.

1. Who were the priests in the Old Testament? *They were like pastors who did ministry for God, taught the Bible, prayed, and helped people.*
2. Who are the priests in the New Testament? *All Christians are called priests in the New Testament.*
3. What is your ministry? *Examples include helping out parents, serving kids in school, looking after siblings, etc. Talk this point through with your children at length and help them to see how they have opportunities to do ministry and help people.*

MONDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 2:4-12

Word of the Day: Cornerstone

Peter says that Jesus is our cornerstone. In Jesus' day many buildings were made out of stones cut out of rock, kind of like bricks. When a building was made, the very first stone that was laid on the bottom of the building was called the cornerstone. The cornerstone was the most important stone because it held up the entire building. So, when Peter says that Jesus is our cornerstone, he is saying that Jesus should be first in our life and everything in our life needs to be built on him.

1. What is a cornerstone? *It is the first and most important stone that is laid down to make a building.*
2. What does it mean that Jesus is our cornerstone? *It means he is the most important person in our life and that our whole life should be built on him.*
3. What happens to a building that has a bad cornerstone? *The entire building breaks and falls to the ground.*

4. What happens to someone's life if Jesus is not the cornerstone? *Their life is not built for God and it falls apart, like a bad building.*
5. If Jesus is the cornerstone, who are the other stones in God's building, the church? *God's people are the other stones stacked together as the church.*

TUESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 2:4–12

Word of the Day: Stumbling stone

Everyone has tripped over a rock and fallen down. Peter says that, sadly, for some people, Jesus is like a rock that they trip and fall over. What he means is that some people do not believe Jesus is God or that he rose from death and so they are not Christians who love Jesus. Peter says that they trip over Jesus because they are offended by him saying he is God and that we are sinners who need him.

1. What does it mean that Jesus is a stumbling stone for non-Christians? *It means that they do not love Jesus as God and they are offended by and disagree with what he said and did.*
2. What are some things Jesus said and did that people are offended by and disagree with?
3. What would you tell people who have questions about or problems with Jesus?
4. Do you know any non-Christians whom we should pray for and love in hopes that they become Christians?
5. Parents, take some time as a family to regularly pray for non-Christian family, friends, neighbors, etc., to become Christians.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 2:4–12

Word of the Day: God's people

Peter says that Christians are God's people. What he means is that Christians believe in Jesus and live together as the church, kind of like a big family that loves and serves one another, or a team that works together.

1. What does it mean that we are God's people? *It means that all Christians belong to God and are like a family or a team.*
2. How many of God's people can you name that you know personally?
3. What are the benefits of being God's people? *Examples include our sins are forgiven, the Holy Spirit lives in us to help us, we get to pray to God, we get to have Christian friends and be involved in church, etc.*
4. What do you like best about being one of God's people?

5. Parents, explain why you like being among God's people and how that has benefited you and your family.

THURSDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 2:4–12

Word of the Day: Mercy

Peter says that all of God's people have received mercy from God. The idea of mercy is very important to understanding God and the Bible. The Bible often says that God is merciful. For example, Exodus 34:6–7 is the verse most often quoted in the rest of the Bible and there God tells us that he is “The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty.” By “mercy,” the Bible means that although we do not deserve it, God is good to us; he gives us goodness that we do not deserve and withholds from us punishment that we do deserve because he is loving.

1. What does it mean that God is merciful? *Because God is loving he treats us good even when we are bad.*
2. Do other religions teach that God is merciful? *No, other religions teach that you get what you deserve and have to earn God's love and forgiveness by suffering, doing good works, or going to purgatory to pay God back for all your sins.*
3. Do you think it is a good thing that God is merciful? Why?
4. Parents, explain the ways in which God has been merciful to you and your family so that your children can see firsthand the mercy of God in your home.

FRIDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 2:4–12

Word of the Day: Darkness and light

Sometimes word pictures are the best way to understand something. Peter uses the word picture of darkness and light to explain life with Jesus. He says that life without Jesus is like living in the dark and that life with Jesus is like living in the light.

1. What do you think about the dark? *Examples include that it is scary, lonely, and bad.*
2. What does Peter mean that living without Jesus is like living in the dark? *Examples include that you are lonely, scared, and don't know God.*
3. What do you think about warm sunlight? *Examples include that it is fun, feels good, and makes you feel alive and happy.*

4. What does Peter mean that living with Jesus is like living in the light? *Examples include that you are living and growing, happier, and not scared or lonely.*
5. Do you ever get scared going to bed in the darkness? *Explain. Parents, make sure to pray for your kids at bedtime and teach them to pray to Jesus themselves whenever they are scared at nighttime.*
6. What is the most fun you have ever had in the sunlight?

SATURDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 2:4–12

Word of the Day: Good deeds

Christians are supposed to love people just like Jesus has loved them. Sometimes it is hard to love people because they are mean to us or not thankful for the things we do for them. Still, Peter encourages Christians to do good deeds for people even when it is difficult so that they will see that God loves them and we love them too, in hopes that they will love God and us.

1. What are good deeds? *Things we do for people because God loves them and wants us to love them too.*
2. What are some good deeds your parents have done for you?
3. What are some good deeds people have done for you recently?
4. What are some good deeds you have done for people recently?
5. What are some good deeds you should do for someone whom God wants you to love?

WITNESS 2

SUBMISSION

- *lesson 1 – submission to godly authority*
- *lesson 2 – submission to ungodly authority*



Trial: 8 Witnesses – family questions

SUBMISSION TO GODLY AUTHORITY

1 PETER 2:13-17

lesson 1

family questions

WITNESS

2

SUNDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 2:13–17

Word of the Day: Submission

God is in charge of everyone and everything because he is in ultimate authority. God also puts people in authority over us to help us learn and grow. As long as the people in authority over us are not telling us to do something sinful against God, we are supposed to submit to them and do what they ask us.

1. Who is in ultimate authority in charge of everyone and everything? *God.*
2. What human authorities has God put in authority over you? *Examples include parents, teachers, coaches, Sunday school teachers, police, etc.*
3. Should you submit to someone who tells you to sin? *No.*
4. Should you submit to people in authority who tell you do to good things? *Yes.*
5. What are some ways you have submitted to godly authority?
6. Parents, it is good to explain to your children that you are submissive to godly authority as well. Take some time explaining how you have to obey God, the government, police, your boss, church elders, etc.

MONDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 2:13–17

Word of the Day: Consequences

Peter teaches us that our actions have consequences. This means that if we obey godly authority over us we are rewarded. However, if we sin and disobey godly authority over us we are punished. This is what the Bible means elsewhere when it says we reap what we sow.

1. What bad consequences have you experienced for not obeying godly authority? *Examples including getting in trouble or hurt when a parent's orders were disobeyed, or getting in trouble in school or Sunday school for not obeying the teacher.*

2. What good consequences have you experienced for obeying godly authority? *Examples include getting good marks on a report card for good behavior, or being chosen to be a leader at school or on a sports team.*
3. Why did God give you parents to make rules for you?
4. Parents, it is important for you to use your own life as a positive and negative example for your children. Tell some stories about negative consequences in your life for disobeying godly authority, and about positive examples in your life for obeying godly authority.

TUESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 2:13–17

Word of the Day: Servants

Peter says that Christians are supposed to be servants. This is because Jesus is a servant (e.g., Mark 10:42–45; Phil. 2:5–11) who has served us by coming to earth, living without sin, dying for our sins, and rising for our salvation. Jesus did all of this out of humility and love even though he was God. Since Jesus has been so good to us, we want to follow his example and humbly serve others in love.

1. How is Jesus the greatest servant who has ever lived? *Jesus is God and was humble enough to come to earth to serve people. Jesus has served more people than anyone who has ever lived and died for our sins, which is the greatest act of service anyone has ever done.*
2. Who has served you and how have they served you?
3. Why do we serve people? *Because Jesus has served us and we want to share God's love with other people.*
4. Who does God want you to serve and how does he want you to serve them?

WEDNESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 2:13–17

Word of the Day: Freedom

Peter says that Christians are people who are free. This means we are free from Satan, sin, and selfishness. We are also free to love God, live new lives, and serve people in love.

1. What are Christians free from? *Examples include free from Satan, sin, and selfishness.*
2. What are Christians free to? *Examples include free to love God, worship God, live a new life, and serve other people in love.*
3. Are Christians free to sin? *No, Christians are free from sin, which means we should not sin and when we do we should ask God to help us stop sinning.*

4. Are Christians free to hide their sin? *No, because we are free from sin we are free to tell Jesus and our parents when we sin so they can love and help us.*
5. Is there any sin you have been hiding from me/us?

THURSDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 2:13–17

Word of the Day: Honor

Peter says that Christians are supposed to honor everyone. This does not mean that we agree with everyone, or that we like what everyone is doing. However, it does mean that we treat people with respect and love because that is how God treats people.

1. What does it mean to honor people? *Examples include that we treat people with love and respect even if we disagree with them.*
2. Can you remember a time when someone did not honor or respect you (e.g., called you a name or was mean) and how you felt?
3. Is there anyone you need to do a better job of honoring? How can you do that?
4. Is there anything that I/we (the parents) do or say that you don't think is honoring? *Parents, this is a good time for you to examine your own life and parenting to see if you have been disrespectful to your children by being harsh, mean, or curt. If so, apologize to them, ask their forgiveness, and pledge to them and God that you will repent and grow in that area to do a better job of honoring them and setting a good example.*

FRIDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 2:13–17

Word of the Day: Love

Peter says that Christians are supposed to love one another. This is because God is loving and wants us to treat one another the way he treats us. To help us love our Christian friends and church, God gives Christians the Holy Spirit who gives us love to share with others (Rom. 5:5). Love is doing what is best for other people.

1. Where does love come from? *Love comes from God.*
2. How has Jesus loved us? *Examples include that he came into history as a person although he is God, lived without sin, died for our sins, rose for our salvation, sent the Holy Spirit to change us from the inside out, and is preparing a place for us right now in heaven.*
3. What does it mean that Christians are supposed to love one another?
4. Which Christians have loved you well? How did they love you?

5. Whom have you loved well? How did you love them?
6. Is there anyone you need to love better and if so how can you do that?

SATURDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 2:13–17

Word of the Day: Fear

The Bible often says that we should fear God, and Peter says this also. What he does not mean is that Christians whose sins have been forgiven by Jesus should be scared of God. What he does mean is that Christians should respect God enough to live in reverence for God.

1. What does it mean to fear God? *Examples include that it means to respect God, obey God, love God, etc.*
2. Should Christians be scared of God? *No, God loves us and shows only his love and kindness to Christians.*
3. Name the people you respect and revere the most and why.
4. Why should we respect and revere God?

SUBMISSION TO UNGODLY AUTHORITY

1 PETER 2:18-25

lesson 2

family questions

WITNESS

2

SUNDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 2:18-25

Word of the Day: Suffering

Sometimes we get in trouble because we sin. Sometimes we suffer not because we sinned but because someone is sinning against us. When Peter wrote his letters, the Christians were suffering because other people were being mean to them just because they worshiped God. Some of the Christians were even slaves whose masters hurt them and they could not do anything about it because slaves were not protected by the law. So, Peter wrote them a letter teaching them how Jesus suffered when people sinned against him and how he is our example of how to treat mean people who do bad things to us.

1. What is suffering? *Suffering is when you are hurt by someone who sins against you.*
2. Should we stop being Christians because some people make fun of us or are mean to us? *No, we should ask them to stop, pray for them, and keep living as Christians.*
3. Did Jesus suffer? *Yes.*
4. How did Jesus suffer? *Examples include Judas betrayed him, his friends did not help him when he needed them, he was arrested and accused of bad things he did not do, he was beaten, and he was killed.*
5. How did Jesus treat people who made him suffer? *Jesus loved them, forgave them, and did not sin against them.*
6. What can we learn about suffering from how Jesus suffered?

MONDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 2:18-25

Word of the Day: Sorrow

Peter tells us that some things in life will give us sorrows, or make us sad. This is because sometimes life is difficult. In hard times it is okay to be sad and even to cry. After all, even Jesus was sometimes sad and Isaiah 53:3 calls him “a man of sorrows.” The shortest verse in the Bible says, “Jesus wept” (John 11:35). So, Christians are allowed to be honest about their feelings like Jesus was, which means sometimes we have joy and sometimes we have sorrow.

1. What are some times in the Bible when Jesus had sorrow? *Examples include Jesus' sadness that his friend Lazarus had died, when he prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane the night before he died, and when he saw his mother Mary at the foot of his cross.*
2. What does the shortest verse in the Bible say? *John 11:35 says, "Jesus wept."*
3. Is it okay for Christians to sometimes be happy and sometimes be sad? *Yes.*
4. What are your happiest memories?
5. What are your saddest memories?

TUESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 2:18–25

Word of the Day: Endurance

Peter says that Christians are to have endurance when we face hard times. Endurance is the determination to keep doing what is right and living like Jesus wants us to no matter what. Everyone has things in life that they want to give up on but they need to endure. So, today we will discuss endurance, or what the theologians call perseverance of the saints.

1. What does it mean for Christians to endure or persevere?
2. What are some things that you want to quit doing because they are difficult (e.g., school work, chores, loving a difficult friend)?
3. What are some things you can do to help yourself endure better?
4. Parents, this is a good opportunity to share with your children struggles in your life that are difficult for you to endure (e.g., illness, unemployment, financial shortfalls, a tough job). Explain to them what you are doing to endure and persevere and why.
5. How can we be praying for each other to endure? *Parents, this is a good time to take a few moments over dinner and pray for each other in areas needing endurance.*

WEDNESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 2:18–25

Word of the Day: Atonement

Peter says that Jesus bore our sins in his body on the cross so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. What he means is that because Jesus died in our place for our sins, we can put our sins to death and live a new life by the power of God the Holy Spirit. The word that Bible teachers use to explain this is atonement. Atonement means we can be at-one with God because of Jesus so that our sinful life goes away and our new life comes.

1. Why did Jesus die on the cross? *Jesus died in our place for our sins.*
2. Since Jesus died for our sins, what can we do with our sins? *We can put our sins to death, or stop doing a sin and instead live a better life as a Christian.*
3. What kind of sins can Jesus help you to stop doing?
4. What kind of good things can Jesus help you to start doing?

THURSDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 2:18–25

Word of the Day: Healing

Peter quotes Isaiah 53:5 and says that we can be healed because of Jesus' death on the cross. This means that in this life some people are healed of sickness. It also means that all Christians are healed after they die and resurrect with new bodies that never get sick or hurt ever again.

1. What does healing mean? *It means that God heals our sickness by a miracle.*
2. Does God want us to pray for sick people to be healed? *Yes (e.g., James 5:14).*
3. Are there any sick people we should be praying for? *Parents, this is a good opportunity to take some time and pray with your children for sick people your family knows.*
4. Is every Christian healed in this life? *No.*
5. Is every Christian healed in heaven? *Yes.*
6. What do you think it will be like in heaven where no one gets sick, hurt, or dies?

FRIDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 2:18–25

Word of the Day: Sheep

Peter says that people who sin are like straying sheep. Sheep are mentioned more than any other animal in the Bible, roughly four hundred times altogether. Sheep often wander away from their shepherd who looks after them. This is dangerous because sheep do not have any way to defend themselves and wolves and other animals will kill them. When we sin and wander away from God we are like sheep who are in danger of being hurt.

1. Which animal is mentioned the most in the Bible? *Sheep.*
2. How are people like sheep? *We need to stay close to God for protection and if we wander away from God we are in danger like sheep.*
3. Are sheep a strong and tough animal? *No, they are nice but cannot fight back if other animals like wolves try to hurt them.*

4. In what ways do you wander from God like sheep wander from their shepherd?

SATURDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 2:18–25

Word of the Day: Shepherd

Peter says that Christians are like sheep and that Jesus is like our Shepherd. Shepherds look after their sheep, protect their sheep from animals that want to hurt them (like wolves), and make sure the sheep have food to eat and water to drink. If you want to study more about sheep and shepherds, Psalm 23 explains them in great detail.

1. Who looks after the sheep? *The shepherd.*
2. What kinds of things does a good shepherd do? *Feeds the sheep, protects the sheep, leads the sheep, etc.*
3. If a sheep wanders away from the shepherd, what does he do? *He goes and finds the lost sheep and brings them back to the flock and takes care of them.*
4. How are Christians like sheep? *See yesterday's discussion for various examples of possible answers.*
5. How is Jesus like a shepherd to Christians? *Examples include he leads us, protects us, feeds us, takes care of us, etc.*

WITNESS 3

MARRIAGE

- *lesson 1 – marriage and women*
- *lesson 2 – marriage and men*

Trial: 8 Witnesses - family questions



3

MARRIAGE AND WOMEN

1 PETER 3:1-6

lesson 1

family questions

WITNESS

3

SUNDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:1-6

Word of the Day: Marriage (Part 1)

In 1 Peter 3:1-6 Peter speaks of marriage. God is the one who made us male and female and invented marriage for one man and one woman (Gen. 2:18-25). The Bible also teaches that Jesus is like a husband and the church is like his wife whom he loves (Eph. 5:22-33). This means that Christians who get married are supposed to love one another like Jesus and the church.

1. Who is supposed to get married? *One man and one woman.*
2. Who invented marriage? *God did.*
3. Who were the first people to ever get married? *Adam and Eve.*
4. Parents, this is a good opportunity to answer any questions your children may have about marriage. Explain your own marriage and how you met one another and courted (if you are married). Also explain to them the importance of being a Christian and marrying a Christian and why and how you will help decide whom they date and marry.

MONDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:1-6

Word of the Day: Marriage (Part 2)

Peter was a pastor who wrote the letter that became a book of the Bible to help his people. Some of the women in his church were Christians who were married to men who were not Christians. The Bible teaches that Christians are only supposed to marry Christians (2 Cor. 6:14-15). But some Christians sin and marry non-Christians. Also, sometimes two non-Christians marry and then one of them becomes a Christian. It is very difficult for a Christian to be married to a non-Christian because they do not worship God together, pray together, study the Bible together, or want to do everything that God says.

1. Should a Christian marry a non-Christian? *No.*
2. What are some reasons a Christian might be married to a non-Christian? *Examples include sinful reasons (e.g., a Christian marrying a non-Christian) and not sinful reasons (e.g., two people were not Christians when they married)*

and then one became a Christian).

3. How is it difficult for a Christian to be married to a non-Christian? *Examples include they do not worship God together, study the Bible together, or go to church together, and they will want to raise their children differently.*
4. Parents, this is a good time for you to explain why you want your children to be Christians who only date and marry Christians. Answer any questions they may have about this important subject.

TUESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:1–6

Word of the Day: Submission

Peter says that a wife should submit to her husband. What this does not mean is that men are better than women, or that a husband can be mean to his wife in any way. What this does mean is that a wife is supposed to respect her husband so that he knows she loves him, as Peter says.

1. What kinds of things are disrespectful for a wife to do? *Examples include yelling at her husband, throwing things at him, saying mean things about him to other people when he is not around, etc.*
2. What kinds of things are respectful for a wife to do? *Examples include speaking nicely to her husband, not saying bad things about him when he is not around, and speaking the truth to him in a way that is not mean.*
3. If people treat one another with respect, how does it make their relationship better?
4. Is there anyone who is disrespectful to you? If so, how? How does it make you feel?
5. Is there anyone that you need to work to be more respectful to? Who?

WEDNESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:1–6

Word of the Day: Good deeds

Peter says that Christian women should be known for their good deeds and conduct.

1. What are good deeds? *Good things we do out of love for God and other people.*
2. What are some good deeds a loving wife does for her husband?
3. Why is it good to start serving other people when you are little to help you get ready to be married one day?
4. Parents, this is a good opportunity for everyone in the family to give some

examples of good deeds they have seen in the actions of other family members so as to encourage good deeds in one another.

THURSDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:1–6

Word of the Day: True beauty

Peter says that Christian women should dress with modesty. This does not mean that they should not dress attractively and nicely, but rather that they should not dress seductively. Too often girls and women are pressured to be only concerned about what they look like on the outside rather than the inside. However, since God looks at our hearts, we should look at people's hearts also and see that their true beauty is their love for God and holy character.

1. What is true beauty? *True beauty is what is in the heart of someone who loves God and other people.*
2. What is a gentle spirit for a woman? *Loving, kind, encouraging, and truthful.*
3. What is a quiet spirit for a woman? *She speaks wisdom and truth in a way that is loving and helpful for other people, including her husband.*
4. How does a woman's character make her beautiful?
5. What are some characteristics of a woman with beautiful character?

FRIDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:1–6

Word of the Day: Sarah

Peter says that there are parts of Sarah's life from Genesis that are a great example for other women. She was a very old woman, barren, and without any children. Yet God promised her that she would have a baby. Hebrews 11:11 says she had such great faith in God that she believed God would give her a baby. Therefore, Sarah is one example of a woman who trusted God to take care of her even when life was very difficult.

1. What does the name Sarah mean? *Sarah means "princess."*
2. How old was Sarah when God told her she would have a baby? *Sixty-five.*
3. How old was Sarah when she had the baby? *Ninety.*
4. Did Sarah trust God for the baby even though it required a miracle? *Yes (if you want you can read Hebrews 11:11 where it says this).*
5. What was the name of Sarah's son? *Isaac.*
6. What does Isaac mean? *Laughter.*
7. What can girls and women learn from Sarah's life?

SATURDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:1–6

Word of the Day: Holy women

Peter says that women (young and old) can learn a lot by studying the lives of the holy women who lived in the days of the Old Testament. So, today we will discuss some of the godly women in the Old Testament.

1. Name one godly woman at a time from the Old Testament, tell what you know about her story, and share what good things we can learn from her life. *Examples include that Sarah trusted God for a miracle baby, Ruth loved God and worked hard after her husband died, Esther loved God and saved God's people, the Proverbs 31 woman worked hard and took good care of her family, etc.*
2. Who are your favorite women in the Bible? Why?

MARRIAGE AND MEN

1 PETER 3:7

lesson 2

family questions

WITNESS

3

SUNDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:7

Word of the Day: Love

Peter says that Christian husbands are to be loving, kind, tender, and sweet to their wives. This is because marriage is a picture of Jesus' relationship with the church and husbands are to love their wives like Jesus loves the church. Love includes the words we say, the gifts we give, the time we spend together, how we serve, and how we touch one another.

1. Why does Peter say that husbands must love their wives? *Because husbands are to act like Jesus.*
2. How can our words be loving? How can our words be unloving?
3. How can our service be loving? How can our service be unloving (e.g., we only serve people who serve us)?
4. How can our gifts be loving? How can our gifts be unloving?
5. How can our time together with people be loving? How can we be unloving when we spend time with people?
6. How can the way we touch people be loving (e.g., hugs)? How can we touch people in a way that is unloving (e.g., shoving, hitting)?

MONDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:7

Word of the Day: Understanding

Peter says that one way that a husband can love his wife is to be understanding. This means he is considerate, thinks of things from her point of view, listens to her, and tries very hard to always think of her and do things that are best for her.

1. What does it mean to be an understanding person? *Examples include being a good listener, thinking of other people and not being selfish, trying to understand other people, being patient, kind, considerate, etc.*
2. Who do you know that is an understanding person who listens to you and helps you?
3. How good are you at being understanding toward other people?

4. Are there any people you can do a better job being understanding with?
5. What can you do to be more understanding with people?

TUESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:7

Word of the Day: Honor

Peter says that husbands are supposed to honor their wives. This means that a husband should not be rude to his wife, mean to his wife, speak in a mean way to his wife, ever threaten her or make her scared, or ever hit or hurt her in any way. Sadly, some men do not control their tempers and they are mean to their wives and children, which is a sin.

1. What does it mean to honor people? *Examples include it means we are to speak lovingly, act kindly, and treat people with respect.*
2. What do we call it when people do not honor other people? *Sin.*
3. What are some ways in which you have not honored someone?
4. What are some ways in which you have honored someone?
5. Is it easier to be friends with someone who honors you? Why?

WEDNESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:7

Word of the Day: Weaker

Peter says that when someone is stronger than another person it is a sin for the stronger person to bully and push around the weaker person. Sometimes men sin terribly by pushing around and bullying their wives and children just because they are not as strong and tough.

1. How should we treat someone who is weaker (e.g., younger children)? *We should love and protect them and not push them around or bully them.*
2. Is it a bad thing to be weaker than someone else? *No, everyone is weaker than someone else.*
3. What kinds of things do bullies do? *Examples include they call names, they hurt people's feelings, they push or hit others, they make people do what they do not want to do, etc.*
4. Is there anyone that you sometimes bully? *If so, explain.*
5. Is there anyone who sometimes bullies you? *If so, explain.*

THURSDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:7

Word of the Day: Heirs

Peter says that Christian husbands and wives are both heirs of God's grace. An heir is someone who is part of a family and gets all the benefits and rewards of being part of that family. What Peter is saying is that for Christians, God is our Father and he shares with us every good thing. So, when we go to heaven we will live in God's house, eat God's food, and enjoy God's kingdom, which the Bible says even has streets lined with gold.

1. What is an heir? *Examples include someone who gets to enjoy everything in their family and has a huge inheritance waiting for them.*
2. Who are God's heirs? *All Christians.*
3. What kind of things do you think God will have for you to enjoy in heaven?
4. What do you think heaven will be like?
5. Who do you want to meet in heaven?

FRIDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:7

Word of the Day: Prayer

Peter says that husbands who are mean to their wives will not have their prayers answered by God. What this means is that husbands who do not lovingly serve their wives will not be lovingly served by God until they change and stop sinning against their wives. God says this because sometimes people can be really mean to other people and God wants them to stop being mean and so he warns them to be nice.

1. What is prayer? *Examples include that prayer is talking to God.*
2. When we pray, do we have to get the words perfect or does God know our heart and what we are trying to say? *God knows our thoughts and hearts and so our prayer should be sincere but need not be perfect.*
3. How often do you pray to God?
4. Is there anything about praying to God that is hard for you?
5. What are God's answers to our prayers? *Yes, no, or later on.*
6. Why does God sometimes not answer the prayers of people? *If they are being mean to other people, God wants them to stop being mean and so he tells them he will answer their prayers and help them only if they want to be nice to people.*

SATURDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:7

Word of the Day: Marriage

The first marriage in the Bible is in Genesis 1 and 2. There, God made our first parents Adam and Eve. Then God brought them together and married them. Therefore, God created marriage to be for one man and one woman.

1. Who created marriage? *God did.*
2. Who can be married? *One man and one woman (Gen. 2:18–25).*
3. Do you ever want to be married? *Explain.*
4. What kind of person would you want to marry? *Examples include a Christian, a woman who is respectful, or a husband who is loving and kind.*
5. Do you have any questions about marriage?

WITNESS 4

SUFFERING

- lesson 1 – suffering to bless*
- lesson 2 – suffering to learn*
- lesson 3 – suffering to serve*
- lesson 4 – suffering to worship*



Trial: 8 Witnesses – family questions

SUFFERING TO BLESS

1 PETER 3:8-17

lesson 1

family questions

WITNESS

4

SUNDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:8-17

Word of the Day: Unity

Peter says that Christians should have unity of mind with other Christians in their church. By unity of mind, Peter does not mean that we agree on everything. But he does mean that we all think the same regarding the most important things. The kind of things that all Christians are supposed to have unity of mind about are things like believing the Bible is God's Word, there is only one God, that Jesus is God who died for our sin, that Jesus rose from death to give us new life, and that when we sin we should repent and when we are sinned against we should forgive.

1. What is unity of mind? *Examples include agreeing on the most important parts of Christianity.*
2. How can Christians have unity of mind? *By reading and studying the Bible with the help of God the Holy Spirit.*
3. What should Christians do if they do not have unity of mind and disagree about something important? *They should pray for God to teach them, study the Bible to find the truth, and learn from other godly people to help them.*
4. What happens when Christians do not have unity of mind? *Examples include they sometimes fight, or even stop being friends.*
5. Are there any things that your parents believe that you don't agree with? Explain.

MONDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:8-17

Word of the Day: Sympathy

Peter says that Christians are supposed to have sympathy. What this means is that Christians are supposed to be loving and consider other people and their feelings and needs. No one is perfect, everyone sins, and God is working on every Christian all the time. Sympathy is when we are loving, patient, kind, and helpful with one another. Sympathy is understanding that some people are just not good at some things, or that they won't be good at some things until they learn more, which takes time. Sympathy is not demanding that people be perfect, but loving them to help them always grow to be more like Jesus.

1. What are some ways that we can act without sympathy? *Examples include being mean, impatient, demanding, or expecting everyone to be like us.*
2. Who has shown you sympathy? How?
3. Who have you shown sympathy to? How?
4. How does God have sympathy with us? *Examples include he is patient with us, serves us, and works hard to help us all the time.*
5. When you are with younger children, how is it hard for you to have sympathy for them?
6. Are there any people it is hard for you to treat with sympathy? Who?

TUESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:8–17

Word of the Day: Brothers

Peter says that Christians should have brotherly love for one another. What he means is that because God is our Father, the church is like a family, and we should treat other Christians kind of like brothers treat one another. Brothers love one another, spend time together, do things together, help one another, and sometimes disagree or even fight but always work it out because they love one another.

1. How is the church like a family? *God is our Father and Christians are like brothers and sisters.*
2. How do loving brothers treat one another?
3. What are some ways that brothers sin against one another?
4. What does the Bible mean when it says Christians should love one another like brothers do?
5. Is there any Christian who has loved you like a brother? Who?
6. Is there any Christian whom you have loved like a brother? Whom?

WEDNESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:8–17

Word of the Day: Tender heart

Peter says that God the Holy Spirit helps us to have a tender heart. A tender heart is a heart that loves God, loves people, feels bad when someone has been hurt or sinned against, and wants to do the right thing. The opposite of a tender heart is a hard heart that does not submit to God, treat people nicely, or apologize when something wrong is done. Everyone gets a hard heart sometimes and needs to pray to Jesus, asking him to help us have a tender heart.

1. What is a tender heart?
2. What is the opposite of a tender heart? *A hard heart.*
3. How is a tender heart different than a hard heart?
4. Are people with tender hearts loving and happy? Why?
5. How is your heart lately, more tender or hard? Why?

THURSDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:8–17

Word of the Day: Humble mind

Peter says that Christians need a humble mind. A humble mind believes that the Bible is true, is willing to learn, does not pretend to know everything, listens to teachers and parents, and does not brag about what it knows and how smart it is. The opposite of a humble mind is a proud mind—like Satan’s—that does not obey God or humbly learn.

1. What is a humble mind?
2. Why do proud people not learn very much?
3. What does the Bible say about pride? *Parents, good verses to read and even memorize about pride include:*
 - “There are six things that the LORD hates, seven that are an abomination to him: haughty eyes.” (Prov. 6:16–17)
 - “Pride and arrogance and the way of evil and perverted speech I hate.” (Prov. 8:13)
 - “Everyone who is arrogant in heart is an abomination to the LORD; be assured, he will not go unpunished.” (Prov. 16:5)
 - “Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.” (Prov. 16:18).
 - “Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for ‘God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.’” (1 Pet. 5:5, cf. James 4:6)
4. Was Jesus humble or proud? Parents, if you want you can follow this point up by reading and discussing Philippians 2:1–11.

FRIDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:8–17

Word of the Day: Suffering

Sometimes Christians suffer because they sin or do something foolish. But Peter says that sometimes Christians suffer not because they have sinned or done anything wrong, but just because other people do not like Christians. The suffering

that Peter speaks of happens when others make fun of you because you are a Christian, they don't want to be your friend, or they don't understand why you read the Bible, pray, and go to church because they do not do those things so they think you are weird.

1. What kinds of things do Christians do that are different than what non-Christians do?
2. What kinds of things do Christians sometimes get made fun of for?
3. Has anyone ever picked on you because you are a Christian? *Explain.*
4. Did people pick on Jesus because he loved and obeyed God? What did they do to him?
5. How did Jesus respond to people who made fun of him and picked on him?
6. How can you be like Jesus when people pick on you for being a Christian?

SATURDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:8–17

Word of the Day: Apologetics

Peter says that Christians should lovingly answer any questions non-Christians have about Jesus, the Bible, and Christianity. This is called apologetics. Apologetics is when Christians study the Bible and Christian books and articles to find answers to people's questions to help them become Christians.

1. Are there any people who have asked you questions about the Bible or Jesus or Christianity? Who asked, and what questions did they ask?
2. Are there any questions you have about Jesus or the Bible or Christianity? *Parents, there are a number of good articles and book recommendations for apologetics at www.equip.org if your children are old enough to start doing further study on big questions about their faith.*
3. Why is it better to try and answer people's questions rather than argue and fight with them if they are being mean to you for being a Christian?
4. Parents, this is a good time for you to share the big questions you have wrestled with and how God helped you through books, friends, sermons, etc., to get the answers you needed.

SUFFERING TO LEARN

1 PETER 3:18-22

lesson 2

family questions

WITNESS

4

SUNDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:18-22

Word of the Day: Hero

Peter says that because Jesus' life was without any sin, he is the perfect example for us to learn from and follow. In this way, Jesus should be our hero. Unlike the heroes of cartoons and video games, Jesus is real and helps us be like him. Furthermore, when Jesus suffered because people were sinning against him, he forgave them and loved them.

1. What is a hero? *Someone we look up to, want to be like, etc.*
2. Who are some of your heroes? Why?
3. Why is Jesus the best hero of all?
4. What can you learn from how Jesus treated his enemies?
5. Are there any people sinning against you? *Explain.*

MONDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:18-22

Word of the Day: Reconciliation

Even though we were God's enemies because of our sin, Peter says that through Jesus we can be reconciled to God as friends. Reconciliation is when enemies become friends, when people who are not close become loving, and when conflict is replaced with peace. Because Jesus died for our sins on the cross, all our sins are forgiven and we can be reconciled to God through Jesus. Also, when people sin against one another, Jesus can forgive that sin and take it away so that people can be reconciled as friends too.

1. What is reconciliation?
2. What is the only way that people can be reconciled to God?
3. How does Jesus make it possible for people to be reconciled to one another?
4. What happens if people are not reconciled but are enemies?
5. Are you reconciled to God through Jesus? *Explain.*
6. Is there anyone you need to be reconciled to? *Explain.*

TUESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:18–22

Word of the Day: Noah

Peter uses Noah as an example for us to learn from. Noah lived in the desert when God told him to build a huge boat called an ark. Hebrews 11:7 says that Noah had faith in God. Noah demonstrated this faith by building an ark in the middle of the desert with the help of his sons for about 120 years. The ark was an enormous 1.4 million cubic feet, or the size of 522 modern railroad boxcars and was shaped like a battle ship. Noah suffered because people did not believe that a flood was coming. They made fun of Noah even though he preached for them to have faith in God. The flood eventually came and everyone but Noah and his family died because no one else got on the ark to be saved. Like Noah, today we live by faith that one day Jesus will come back and everyone will be sent to heaven or hell. Until that day comes, people will make fun of Christians like they made fun of Noah. We should still love people and preach the gospel to them like Noah did in hopes that they will have faith in God and will not suffer in hell like the people suffered in the flood.

1. Tell me/us the story of Noah as best you can.
2. What did Noah do that showed he had faith in God? *He spent 120 years building the ark.*
3. What did people think of Noah while he was building he ark? *They made fun of him.*
4. Did Noah stop building the ark so that people would stop making fun of him? *No.*
5. Should we stop doing what is right because people make fun of us? *No.*
6. Will Jesus judge people one day like he did in the flood of Noah? *Yes.*

WEDNESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:18–22

Word of the Day: Cleansing

Peter says that Jesus died, was buried, and rose from death to cleanse us from our sins. He also says that Christians show that they belong to Jesus by being baptized. In baptism, we are put under the water like Jesus was put under the earth, and then brought up like Jesus rose from death. In doing this we show that we believe in and belong to Jesus and that he cleanses us from sin like water cleanses us from dirt.

1. How does baptism remind us of Jesus?
2. Does baptism make you a Christian? *No, believing in Jesus makes you a Christian but Christians who believe in Jesus get baptized to show they believe.*

3. Have you ever seen someone get baptized? What did you think?
4. How does Jesus cleanse us from sin like water cleanses us from dirt?
5. Have you been baptized? If so, what was it like? *If not, are you a Christian and would you like to be? Parents, this is a good time for you to see if your children are truly regenerated Christians and whether they are ready to be baptized.*

THURSDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:18–22

Word of the Day: Heaven

Peter says that after dying for our sin and rising from death, Jesus returned to heaven, where today he rules as God. In heaven, Jesus sits at the right hand of God, which is the seat of power and honor. From there he rules over all people and angels.

1. Is Jesus dead today?
2. Where is Jesus today?
3. Who does Jesus rule over today?
4. Is anyone more powerful than Jesus?
5. What do you think it will be like in heaven to see Jesus on his throne?

FRIDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:18–22

Word of the Day: Angels

Peter says that Jesus rules over all the angels. Unlike God, angels were created. Unlike God, an angel does not know everything, cannot do anything because they are not as powerful as God, and cannot be everywhere at one time. Angels are good spirits who love God, worship God, and serve God by helping God's people. Unlike people, angels do not have a body and they never die.

1. What is an angel?
2. Are angels as powerful as God?
3. Who made angels?
4. How do angels serve God?
5. Do angels have bodies like people do?

SATURDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 3:18–22

Word of the Day: Demons

In saying that Jesus rules over all angels, Peter is also saying that Jesus rules over bad angels, which are also called demons in the Bible. Bad angels do not love God. Instead, they follow Satan, who was a bad angel that tried to defeat God and was kicked out of heaven for sinning. Demons came with him to earth and they do bad things to people. Satan and demons tempt people to sin, tell lies about God, and hurt people. Because Jesus is more powerful than demons, Christians can pray to Jesus for protection and he will keep us safe from demons.

1. Who is Satan?
2. What are demons?
3. What kinds of bad things do demons do?
4. Is Jesus more powerful than demons?
5. How does prayer to Jesus protect us from demons?

SUFFERING TO SERVE

1 PETER 4:1-11

lesson 3

family questions

WITNESS

4

SUNDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 4:1–11

Word of the Day: God's will

Peter says that Christians should live their lives according to God's will for them. This means that we cannot always do what other people tell us, or even what we want to do. Instead, we are to trust that God is smarter than we are, loves us, and that doing what he says is always best.

1. Why is it best to do God's will for our lives?
2. How does reading and studying the Bible help us know God's will?
3. How does prayer help us know God's will?
4. How do Christian family and friends help us know God's will?
5. In what other ways can we learn of God's will for our lives?

MONDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 4:1–11

Word of the Day: Idolatry

Peter says that sin is ultimately caused by idolatry. Idolatry is when we love something or someone more than God. Sometimes, idolatry is taking good things (like sports, video games, or friends) and making them more important to us than God so that they become bad things because we are not using them rightly.

1. What is idolatry?
2. Which people and their opinions of you could become more important to you than God?
3. Which things do you enjoy so much that they could become more important to you than God?
4. How is Jesus better than idols? *Examples include he loves us, serves us, and lets us enjoy the good things he gives without worshipping them.*

TUESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 4:1–11

Word of the Day: Hospitality

Hospitality is opening our life and home to welcome people in and build friendships with them. Hospitality begins with God who has become our friend and welcomes us into his home for a huge party in heaven (Isa. 25:6–8). Hospitality includes having friends and family over, and especially neighbors and non-Christian friends. People do not often have others over to their homes for dinners and parties anymore, so this is an important ministry for Christians to love people.

1. What is hospitality?
2. What are some fun times you have had eating and playing at other people's homes?
3. What are your happiest memories of having people over to eat and play at your home?
4. When you have people over, what can you do to be unselfish and serve them?
5. Which people should you invite over to your home? *Parents, you may want to start planning more hospitality (if you don't do much at present) by hosting a community group, scheduling play dates, or having the neighbors over for a social time or holiday party.*

WEDNESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 4:1–11

Word of the Day: Grumbling

Peter says that a common sin for people is grumbling. Grumbling is when we talk back, argue, complain, and generally just have a bad attitude. The best-known grumblers in the Bible were the Israelites in the Old Testament. God made them walk around the wilderness for forty years because they would not stop grumbling against their leader, Moses, and God himself. They grumbled about everything from the food God gave them to eat to the water he gave them to drink.

1. What is grumbling?
2. Is grumbling a sin?
3. How long did the Israelites grumble in the days of Moses?
4. When was the last time you grumbled?
5. What do you grumble about most often?
6. Does grumbling help anything or make anything better?

THURSDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 4:1–11

Word of the Day: Spiritual gifts

Peter says that rather than grumbling, Christians should try and make the world a better place by using their spiritual gift(s) to serve people. Every Christian has at least one spiritual gift, and some Christians have more than one. Spiritual gifts are abilities God gives us to do ministry. When we use our spiritual gift(s) we are often happy because we are doing what God made us to do. Some of the spiritual gifts are teaching, leading, evangelism, helping, mercy, service, biblical counseling, encouragement, wisdom, administration, giving, faith, discernment, and hospitality.

1. What is a spiritual gift?
2. Who has spiritual gifts?
3. What kinds of things do you like to do for other people?
4. What might your spiritual gift be?
5. Why is helping people better than grumbling about them and more like how Jesus treats us?

FRIDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 4:1–11

Word of the Day: Ministry

Peter teaches that every Christian, no matter how young they are, has important ministry to do. In this way, every Christian is like a pastor who loves and helps people. Peter teaches that our ministry is with our hands and our mouths. With our hands we serve people for Jesus, and with our mouths we speak to people about Jesus.

1. What is ministry?
2. Who is in ministry?
3. What are the two kinds of ministry?
4. Do you feel you are better at helping people with the works of your hands or the words of your mouth?
5. Why is it nice of God to let us each do ministry?

SATURDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 4:1–11

Word of the Day: Glory

Peter says that all glory belongs to Jesus. He means that Jesus should be the most important person in our life and that we should do everything we can to make sure that other people see how wonderful he is. The word glory means something

like the blazing glow that happens in a fire. When we sit around a fire and put a stick in, the end of that stick glows red from the fire, or glories. So, when we walk with Jesus and stay close to him, we too burn with the glory of God so that other people see how Jesus changes our life and he gets all the glory for the good things we have and do.

1. Who should get all the glory?
2. How is glorying in Jesus sort of like putting a stick in a fire?
3. Do angels glorify Jesus? *Yes, they serve him and sing songs of worship to him.*
4. How does our singing worship songs to Jesus glorify him?
5. Is it possible to glorify Jesus in every area of life?
6. Is there any area of your life in which you are struggling to glorify Jesus?

SUFFERING TO WORSHIP

1 PETER 4:12-19

lesson 4

family questions

WITNESS

4

SUNDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 4:12–19

Word of the Day: Rejoice

Peter says that even though life can be very difficult, we need to find reasons to rejoice in God. God is good, and he is always good to us. Yet, when life is hard it can be difficult to see the ways God is being good to us. So, we should work even harder in tough times to see God's grace and love in our lives. One day when Jesus returns and sin is gone there will be nothing but rejoicing forever.

1. Why should we rejoice in God?
2. Why is rejoicing in God sometimes harder when life is tough?
3. What reasons do you have to rejoice in God?
4. What has God done in your life that you should be thankful for?

MONDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 4:12–19

Word of the Day: Spirit

Peter says that Christians can worship God because they have the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is God and the third member of the Trinity. He has forever lived in relationship with God the Father and God the Son (Jesus Christ) in perfect love, communication, and joy. Because the Holy Spirit lives in Christians, he teaches us about God, convicts us of sin that separates us from God, and enables us to worship God.

1. Who is the Holy Spirit?
2. How does the Bible teach us that the Holy Spirit is a person and not just a force? *He is a person who can be grieved (Eph. 4:30), resisted (Acts 7:51), and insulted (Heb. 10:29).*
3. Is the Holy Spirit God? *Yes (Acts 5:3–4; 2 Cor. 3:17–18).*
4. Does the Holy Spirit live in everyone? *No, only Christians (Eph. 1:13–14).*
5. What does the Holy Spirit do for Christians? *Examples include he saves us, convicts us of sin, teaches us the Bible he inspired to be written, gives us spiritual gifts, gives us love for Jesus, helps us to pray, and helps us to worship God.*

TUESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 4:12–19

Word of the Day: Worship

Everyone worships someone or something. Worship is giving ourselves for someone or something because they are most important to us. Worship includes singing but is much bigger than that and is our whole life. Some people worship their job, or their hobby, or their sport, or what other people think of them. Christians worship God the Father through God the Son by the power of God the Holy Spirit. Peter says that when people are being made fun of for being Christians it is a good time to worship God by staying devoted to him and doing what is right.

1. What is worship?
2. What is the opposite of worship? *Idolatry, worshipping someone or something other than God.*
3. Is worship just singing or is it singing plus all of life?
4. Why do some people stop worshipping God when people make fun of them for being a Christian?
5. Do you worship God? Why, or why not?
6. Is there anything we could do to include more worship singing in our family? *Parents, this may include buying some worshipful music for your child's iPod, listening to worship music in the car and singing together, etc.*

WEDNESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 4:12–19

Word of the Day: Consequence

When we sin, there are consequences. Peter says that Christians should not be people who suffer because of their sinful choices. Peter says that we should not be murderers who hurt people, thieves who steal from people, evildoers who sin against people, or meddlers who gossip about people and stick our nose in things that are not our business. When we sin in these ways there are bad consequences for us and other people. By seeing the harm that is caused by the consequences of our sin, we learn the importance of worshipping God in all of life.

1. What is a consequence?
2. What are the consequences of sinful choices for us and other people?
3. What is murder?
4. What is stealing?
5. What is evildoing?
6. What is meddling?

THURSDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 4:12–19

Word of the Day: Shame

Peter says that people who sin and do not repent and change feel shame. This means that they feel guilty, bad, sad, and frustrated. People who have shame tend to hide their sin from other people and often try to pretend that things are fine when they are not. However, Peter says that Christians should not be stuck in feeling ashamed. This is because Jesus died to forgive our sins and by the power of the Holy Spirit we can repent and change so that we no longer do the things we are ashamed of.

1. Why do people feel shame?
2. What is shame?
3. What kinds of things do ashamed people often do?
4. How should Christians deal with shame from sin?
5. Is there any secret sin you are ashamed of?

FRIDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 4:12–19

Word of the Day: Trust

Peter says that when our life is difficult and people are making fun of us for being a Christian it is more important than ever to trust God. This includes trusting that he does exist, does love us, will help us, is ultimately in control of our lives, and in eternity will sort everything out and make it right. This trusting in God is one of the ways that we worship God.

1. What does it mean to trust God?
2. Why is it sometimes harder to trust God in tough times?
3. Have you ever struggled to trust God? *Explain.*
4. Parents, take some time to explain to your children a season or circumstance in which you struggled to trust God, what you learned through that struggle, and answer any questions they may have about your experience in trusting God.

SATURDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 4:12–19

Word of the Day: Good works

Peter says that even when life is tough and people are making fun of us for being Christians, we still need to do good works. Good works are those things we do because God loves us and we want to obey him because we love him. Good works is

simply doing the right thing even when no one sees us except God and even when people are not thankful for what we do.

1. What are good works?
2. What good works did Jesus do even when life was difficult?
3. Why should a Christian do good works?
4. What kind of good works does God want you to do?
5. What things make it hard for you to keep doing your good works?

WITNESS 5

HUMILITY

- *lesson 1 – humble pastors*
- *lesson 2 – humble christians*

Trial: 8 Witnesses – family questions



5

HUMBLE PASTORS

1 PETER 5:1-5

lesson 1

family questions

WITNESS

5

SUNDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 5:1–5

Word of the Day: Elders

Peter speaks of the leaders of the church and calls them elders, which is a word that means the same thing as the word pastor. Elders are the male pastors who teach the Bible, care for the people, and lead the church. Peter also says that he is an elder-pastor of the people in his church.

1. What is an elder-pastor?
2. What kinds of things do elders-pastors do?
3. Do you know who the elders at your Mars Hill campus are? *Parents, if not and you want to find out, the Executive Elders are listed on the Mars Hill Church website (www.marshillchurch.org) under "About," and the campus elders are listed on each campus' page.*
4. What would happen to a church if it did not have good pastors?
5. What can you be praying about for your church and pastors?

MONDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 5:1–5

Word of the Day: Witness

Peter says that he was a witness to the sufferings of Jesus Christ. This means that he knew Jesus personally and was with him for three years. Peter saw Jesus get arrested, crucified, and rise from death. In a day when there were no video cameras or audio recorders, the testimony of an eyewitness was the best way to know the facts about someone's life. So, Peter is one of the best people to tell us the truth about Jesus.

1. What was Jesus' relationship with Peter?
2. How many years was Peter a disciple of Jesus?
3. Was there anyone who saw more of Jesus' three years of ministry than Peter? *No, Peter saw Jesus the most.*
4. If people disagree with Peter about Jesus' life, should we believe Peter or them?

5. How do we know Peter is not lying about Jesus? *He suffered for being a Christian and was crucified upside down, which is not something he would have endured for a lie.*

TUESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 5:1-5

Word of the Day: Chief Shepherd

Peter says that in every church, Jesus is the Chief Shepherd. What this means is that Jesus is ultimately the senior pastor. This means that all other pastors work for Jesus and he is their boss. So, pastors are supposed to read the Bible and pray so that they do what Jesus wants.

1. Who is the senior pastor of our church?
2. How do the pastors know what Jesus wants them to do?
3. Whose church is Mars Hill, the elders' or Jesus'?
4. Is there anyone at Mars Hill who is above Jesus?
5. What kind of trouble happens when a pastor acts like he can do whatever he wants and not what Jesus wants?

WEDNESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 5:1-5

Word of the Day: Crown

Peter says that pastors, like all Christians, do not get their reward in this life. Rather, those who faithfully served Jesus will get a crown of righteousness in Jesus' kingdom. In Peter's day princes and princesses, along with victorious athletes, wore crowns. So, crowns were very special and it was a great honor to wear one. To get a crown from Jesus will be the greatest honor we will ever receive. Once we get our crown we can take it off our heads and lay it at Jesus' feet to honor him for allowing us to live a life that honors him.

1. Do faithful Christians get their ultimate reward in this life or heaven?
2. Who wore crowns in Peter's day?
3. Who will crown us in heaven?
4. Do you think not getting our reward in this life will be worth it when we see Jesus face to face and he crowns us?
5. If you live as a faithful Christian, what do you think you will do when you meet Jesus and he crowns you?

THURSDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 5:1–5

Word of the Day: Authority

Peter says that elders-pastors are to graciously, humbly, and lovingly exercise their authority in the church. This authority means that when a pastor asks a Christian in their church to do something because it's in the Bible, they are supposed to respect their pastor and do what he asks.

1. Why does God give some people, like pastors, authority over other people?
2. What should you do if someone in authority tells you to do something that is a sin?
3. What should you do if someone in authority (e.g., parent, pastor, teacher, coach) asks you to do something that is in the Bible?
4. What happens to people, including children, who do not obey godly authority?

FRIDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 5:1–5

Word of the Day: Young people

Peter says that sometimes young people have a hard time listening to and obeying older people. For children, this includes parents, grandparents, and teachers. Still, younger people need to learn to listen to and obey older people who love them and love Jesus. This is so that the older people can help teach and train the younger people.

1. Why do young people sometimes not listen to older people?
2. Which older people in your life are you supposed to listen to?
3. Are there any things that older people tell you to do that you do not feel is right?
4. Why should you be thankful that there are older people in your life to love you and help you grow up?

SATURDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 5:1–5

Word of the Day: Humble leaders

Peter says that God opposes the proud and gives grace to the humble. Pride is a terrible sin, and so God cannot bless proud people. Humility is a great virtue, one that Jesus had while on the earth. Peter warns that people in authority (like pastors) can get proud and need to be humble so that God can bless them and help them. So, every Christian—beginning with the pastors—should pursue humility by the grace of God and repent of pride whenever it shows up.

1. Why is humility better than pride?
2. Why are humble people easier to live with than proud people?
3. In what areas of your life do you struggle with pride?
4. Who do you know that you think is humble? Why?
5. Who looks up to and follows you and needs you to set a humble example?

HUMBLE CHRISTIANS

1 PETER 5:6-14

lesson 2

family questions

WITNESS

5

SUNDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 5:6–14

Word of the Day: Exaltation

Peter says that Christians should not be like other people who always do everything they can to be noticed, be in charge, and be lifted up. Instead, Christians should humbly work hard and do what God wants them to do. Then, if God wants to raise them up to be leaders, famous, or powerful, he can do that for them.

1. In what ways do humble people treat others better and nicer than proud people do?
2. Why are humble people better leaders than proud people?
3. Have you ever had to work with a leader who was proud and selfish? What was that like?
4. Is there anyone whom you have been proud with and need to be humble with instead?
5. What kinds of things do we do when we are acting proud?
6. What kinds of things do we do when we are acting humble?

MONDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 5:6–14

Word of the Day: Anxiety

Anxiety is anything that makes us worried, stressed out, and frustrated. Everyone has anxiety in their life at various times for various reasons. Peter tells us the best thing to do when we are anxious is to cast our anxieties on God because he cares for us.

1. What is anxiety?
2. Does God care for us? *Explain.*
3. Since God cares for us, how can we cast our anxieties on him?
4. What can you do to turn to God when you have anxiety (e.g., pray, get some alone time to journal or think, read the Bible, sing worship songs to God)?

TUESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 5:6–14

Word of the Day: The devil

Peter says that the devil is like a lion roaming around looking for people to hurt. The devil is a bad angel who does not love God, does not tell the truth, and wants us to sin and disobey God. Peter tells us to resist him, which means we are to love God, believe the truth of the Bible, do what God wants us to do, and ask God to help us and forgive us when we sin.

1. Who is the devil?
2. What kinds of things does the devil want us to do?
3. How can we resist the devil?
4. Is Jesus more powerful than the devil? What things can Jesus do that the devil cannot do (e.g., forgive our sins, change our hearts, help us be good)?

WEDNESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 5:6–14

Word of the Day: Dominion

Peter says that Jesus Christ has all dominion. The word dominion refers to how big Jesus' kingdom is. Jesus is a king who rules over all peoples, times, places, and things as the King of kings and Lord of lords. There is no one more powerful than Jesus. Peter promises that because he loves us, Jesus our powerful king will right every wrong in his wonderfully perfect kingdom.

1. What does dominion mean?
2. How far does Jesus' rule as king reach?
3. Is there any king or ruler above Jesus?
4. Is Jesus a king that loves his people? Explain how we know this.
5. What do you think Jesus' kingdom of heaven will be like?

THURSDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 5:6–14

Word of the Day: Eternity

Peter says that Jesus will rule as king forever and ever. The word that explains this is eternity. Eternity means that there will be no end in heaven. Christians will live forever with Jesus and there will not be any death or any end to our lives with Jesus.

1. What does eternity mean?
2. Will we die in heaven, or live eternally with Jesus and each other?

3. How nice will it be to live with people we love forever and no one dying?
4. Who do you want to meet in heaven (e.g. from the Bible or church history or deceased Christian family and friends) other than Jesus?
5. What kind of fun things will you want to do in heaven forever and ever?

FRIDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 5:6–14

Word of the Day: Amen

As he nears the end of his letter, Peter says “amen.” That word means “let it be” or “yes, I agree.” When people say “amen,” they are agreeing with God and saying with their mouth that what God says is good. Nearly every time “amen” is used in the Bible, it is spoken by worshipers who agree with a portion of Scripture that has been taught or read, or a word that has come from God. So, it is okay when we hear a sermon in church or hear someone teach the truth of the Bible to say “amen” out loud to show that we agree with it.

1. What does “amen” mean?
2. Why is it a good thing for us to sometimes say “amen”?
3. Why is it good for us to close our prayers with “amen”?
4. Are there any parts of the Bible or worship songs you like so much that when you hear them you want to say or shout “amen”? Which ones?

SATURDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 1 Peter 5:6–14

Word of the Day: Friends

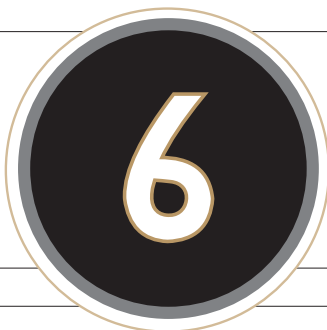
Peter tells the Christians that they should greet one another with a holy kiss. In that day, that was how people who were friends said hello to one another. In our day, some people still greet one another with a kiss, like a husband and wife, or a parent or grandparent who gives a kiss to their children or grandchildren. But most of the time shaking hands or hugging is how we say hello and only a parent or grandparent should give a kiss on the head or cheek to a child. The big idea Peter is teaching is that Christians are to be friends with one another and greet one another in love.

1. Why did Peter tell people to kiss one another?
2. Should we kiss people we meet? *No, only our parents or grandparents.*
3. What are some nice ways to greet people, especially our friends?
4. Who are your friends?
5. How does it make you feel when your friends greet you lovingly?
6. What can you do to be nicer and kinder to your friends?

WITNESS 6

FAITH

- *lesson 1 – faith in your new birth*
- *lesson 2 – faith in your new life*



Trial: 8 Witnesses – family questions

FAITH IN YOUR NEW BIRTH

2 PETER 1:1-4

lesson 1

family questions

WITNESS

6

SUNDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 1:1–4

Word of the Day: Apostle

Peter begins his second letter by saying he is an apostle of Jesus Christ. God's senior leaders in the Old Testament were the prophets, and God's senior leaders in the New Testament were the apostles. By the power of the Holy Spirit, the prophets and the apostles wrote for us the Old and New Testaments (Eph. 2:20). Like the Old Testament prophets, the New Testament apostles preached and did many miraculous signs (Acts 2:43). The apostles were literally eyewitnesses to the resurrection of Christ (Acts 1:21–26). For this reason, apostles do not exist today, though the function of their office does continue in a limited sense. For example, apostleship is used in a secondary sense to refer to such people as Barnabas (Acts 14:4, 14), Silvanus and Timothy (1 Thess. 1:1; 2:6) and Andronicus and Junias (Rom. 16:7). They, like apostles today, were gifted individuals sent out to move from place to place in order to begin and establish local churches as church planters (Acts 13:3–4). This gift also includes the capacity to minister cross-culturally as a missionary (Acts 10:34–35; Eph. 3:7–8).

1. What is an apostle?
2. What kinds of things did apostles do?
3. Are there apostles today who can write the Bible?
4. What is church planting? *Parents, Mars Hill is actively involved in church planting and you may want to show your children the Acts 29 Church Planting Network website (www.acts29network.org) so they can see some of the church planters our church is helping to serve and so they can pray for those church plants.*
5. What is a missionary? *Parents, you may want to tell your children about a missionary named Arjuna Mars Hill has supported for years. Arjuna lives in India where he runs a school for orphans as part of his orphanage, has a seminary, and has planted hundreds of churches through Vision Nationals (www.visionnationals.org).*

MONDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 1:1–4

Word of the Day: Equality

Peter says that all Christians have a salvation that is equal to his. This means that every person equally bears God's image, every Christian is equally forgiven and saved by Jesus, and that God is like a Father who does not favor any of his children but equally loves and care for every single one of his children. This means that even a young Christian or new Christian has the same access to God the Father through Jesus as Peter the great apostle who was friends with Jesus and wrote two books of the Bible.

1. What does equality mean?
2. Is every Christian equally loved by God?
3. Is every Christian equally forgiven of all their sin by Jesus?
4. Does every Christian have equal access to God through Jesus Christ?
5. Who are some of the most influential Christian leaders you can think of? Do you think you have as much love from and access to God as they do? Why or why not?

TUESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 1:1–4

Word of the Day: Righteousness

Righteousness is being free from sin and condemnation in God's eyes. Peter says that our righteousness comes from Jesus. This is very different from other religions where people are wrongly told to make themselves righteous. In Christianity Jesus makes us righteous by his love and grace. Righteousness is having a right relationship with God. Jesus did two amazing things for us on the cross. First, he died to take away our sin. Second, he died to give us his perfect and holy righteousness. Therefore, God sees us as righteous through Jesus and gives us the Holy Spirit to live a righteous life like Jesus did.

1. What is righteousness?
2. What does Jesus take from us on the cross?
3. What does Jesus give to us on the cross?
4. Do we love God first and try to do good things so that he will love us, or does God love us first and help us to do good things?
5. Is righteousness something we give ourselves, or something Jesus gives us?
6. Who has Jesus given us to help us live righteous lives? *The Holy Spirit.*
7. Explain some ways the Holy Spirit helps us to live a righteous life like Jesus.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 1:1–4

Word of the Day: God – Jesus

Peter says that that Jesus Christ is “our God.” Some people say that Jesus was just a good man but not really God. But the Bible is clear that Jesus was and is God.

1. Jesus said he came down from heaven (John 6:38, 41–42, 60, 66). How does this show that Jesus is God?
2. Jesus performed miracles. How does this show that Jesus is God?
3. Jesus said he is God (Mark 14:61; John 10:30–33). Do you think Jesus was lying when he said he is God?
4. Jesus said he was sinless (John 8:46). Is there anyone but God who is perfect and sinless?
5. Jesus forgave sin (Mark 2:5). Can anyone but God forgive our sin (Ps. 51:4)?
6. Jesus said he is the only way to heaven (John 11:25; 14:6). Does anyone know the way to heaven or have the keys to open heaven besides God?
7. Do you believe Jesus was and is God? Why or why not?

THURSDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 1:1–4

Word of the Day: Savior

Peter says that Jesus is our savior. A savior is someone who saves other people from a terrible fate. Jesus saves us from Satan, sin, death, hell, and the wrath of God.

1. What is a savior?
2. Who is our savior?
3. What does Jesus save us from?
4. Can anyone else save us like Jesus?

FRIDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 1:1–4

Word of the Day: Divine power

Peter says that Christians have been given God’s divine power. This means that the Holy Spirit lives in and through Christians to empower them to live the Christian life. The Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus at his baptism and rested upon him to show that all of Jesus’ life and ministry was done by the power of the Holy Spirit. The same Holy Spirit who gave power to Jesus gives divine power to us.

1. What is divine power?
2. What does it mean that Christians have divine power?
3. What are some ways in which the Holy Spirit empowers us? *Examples include to serve God, to say no to sin, and to grow as Christians to be more like Jesus.*
4. What questions do you have about the Holy Spirit?

SATURDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 1:1–4

Word of the Day: Promises

Peter says that God has given us promises in Scripture. The Bible's promises assure us of blessings in this life and in heaven. The blessings promised by God include adoption into his family the church (2 Cor. 6:16–7:1), forgiveness of sin (1 John 1:9), answer to prayer (Luke 11:9), deliverance from temptations (1 Cor. 10:13), sustaining grace for difficult times (2 Cor. 12:9), provision for all needs (Phil. 4:19), reward for obedience (James 1:12), and eternal life (Luke 18:29–30; John 3:16; Rom. 6:22–23). Faith is when Christians believe that God's promises are true and live that belief out practically.

1. What is a promise?
2. What are some promises God gives us in the Bible?
3. Why do you think God puts promises in the Bible?
4. Do you think there are any promises that God will not fulfill?
5. What are some of your favorite Bible promises? Why?

FAITH IN YOUR NEW LIFE

2 PETER 1:5-15

lesson 2

family questions

WITNESS

6

SUNDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 1:5–15

Word of the Day: Virtue

This week we will examine seven character traits of a Christian that the Holy Spirit works to form in us. The first character trait Peter mentions is virtue. Virtue basically means excellence. When a person does what God intends for them, they are virtuous. Since God made us to glorify him, virtue happens when, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we glorify God in whatever it is we are doing. Jesus is our perfect example because his virtue was perfect.

1. What is virtue?
2. How does the Holy Spirit help us to have virtue?
3. What are some ways the Holy Spirit has helped you to grow in virtue?
4. Who do you know that you think has virtue? Why?

MONDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 1:5–15

Word of the Day: Knowledge

The second character trait that Peter mentions is knowledge. Knowledge is learning about who God is, what the Bible says, and how to live our lives with God. Growing in knowledge takes time and work. There are many ways to gain knowledge, including prayer, Bible study, church attendance, book reading, and listening to wise people. Jesus is our example of knowledge because as a boy he grew in knowledge (Luke 2:52).

1. What is knowledge?
2. What are some ways to grow in knowledge?
3. What methods have been most helpful for you to gain knowledge?
4. What do you want to learn about?
5. Do you think you get enough time reading (or, if the children are younger, being read to)?

TUESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 1:5–15

Word of the Day: Self-control

The third character trait that Peter mentions is self-control. Self-control is the ability to say no when you are supposed to. Self-control includes not letting your anger carry you away, not letting your friends talk you into sin, and not letting Satan drag you into sin. To be good at something requires self-control. For example, athletes and musicians have to practice a lot and have self-control if they want to be any good. Like them, Christians need to work hard at practicing their faith and having self-control. And, Jesus is our perfect model of self-control because he never gave in to sin.

1. What is self-control?
2. What happens to people who do not have self-control?
3. Why is it good to have self-control?
4. In what areas of your life do you feel you have self-control?
5. What are some areas of your life that you need to grow in self-control?

WEDNESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 1:5–15

Word of the Day: Steadfastness

The fourth character trait that Peter mentions is steadfastness. Steadfastness is like patience and the ability to hang in there and persevere when life is tough. The opposite of steadfastness is simply giving up. People who give up when things get hard do not make good Christians, good spouses, good parents, good employees, or good friends. So, steadfastness is very important to develop so that you can learn not to be a quitter. Jesus is our perfect example of steadfastness because he did not quit even when they crucified him.

1. What is steadfastness?
2. What is the opposite of steadfastness?
3. Why is it bad to be a quitter?
4. In what areas of your life are you steadfast?
5. In what areas of your life are you a quitter?
6. Who do you know that is steadfast and what can you learn from them?

THURSDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 1:5–15

Word of the Day: Godliness

The fifth character trait that Peter mentions is godliness. Godliness means “God-likeness,” or acting like God would act and wants us to act. In other words, godliness is worshiping God well by living like Jesus lived. Godliness is living our life for God, with God, and by God in both the big and little things. Godliness is very practical and includes how we speak to people, how hard we work, how honest we are, how truthful we are, and how loving we are. Jesus is our perfect example of godliness because he never sinned and he did everything God the Father wanted him to do.

1. What does godliness mean?
2. Why is it important to live our lives like Jesus lived his earthly life?
3. What are some practical ways for you to practice godliness?
4. Who are some of the godliest people you know? Why do you think they are godly?

FRIDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 1:5–15

Word of the Day: Affection

The sixth character trait that Peter mentions is affection. The word in the original Greek, in which this letter was written, is the same word we use for the city of Philadelphia, which is called “the city of brotherly love.” The affection that Peter speaks of is brotherly love among Christians. Affection is not just pretending to love someone, but rather actually loving them with Jesus’ love given to us to share by the Holy Spirit. Affection helps us to be patient, serve, encourage, and rebuke people out of love as needed. Jesus is our perfect example of affection because he has loved us.

1. What is affection?
2. How is loving someone different from pretending to love someone?
3. What are some ways in which you can show your affection to people?
4. Who has been affectionate with you and how do you see their affection?
5. Is there anyone you have affection for?
6. Is there anyone you have difficulty having affection for? *Explain.*

SATURDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 1:5–15

Word of the Day: Love

The seventh character trait that Peter mentions is love. The kind of love that Peter is speaking of is sacrificial love (the original Greek calls this agape), by which we do not just feel loving, or say loving words, but actually do loving things that are hard for us to do. This kind of love includes loving people who are tough to love, and even loving our enemies. Jesus is our perfect example of agape love because he has loved sinners and even his enemies and went to the cross to die for them—the greatest act of love ever.

1. What is love? *Parents, you may also want to read 1 Corinthians 13:4–7, which is a good memory verse for kids about love.*
2. Is love just what we feel and say, or also what we do? *Explain.*
3. How have people shown you they loved you?
4. Why should we love people who are hard to love, or even our enemies?
5. How does Jesus show his love to us?

WITNESS 7

DOCTRINE

- lesson 1 – doctrine from true teachers*
- lesson 2 – doctrine from false teachers (pt. 1)*
- lesson 3 – doctrine from false teachers (pt. 2)*

Trial: 8 Witnesses - family questions



DOCTRINE FROM TRUE TEACHERS

2 PETER 1:16-21

lesson 1

family questions

WITNESS

7

SUNDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 1:16–21

Word of the Day: Myths

Peter says that Christianity is built on historical facts whereas other religions and beliefs are built on myths. The facts of Christianity include Jesus being born, living on the earth performing miracles and teaching, dying on the cross, and resurrecting from death. Other religions and false teachings are not built on historical facts like these but rather on untrue myths and speculation. One example is Mormonism, which teaches that God the Father is a highly evolved man who became a god, that Jesus was the half-brother of Lucifer, that people can become gods and rule their own planets, and that the ancient Israelites migrated to the Americas and became the ancestors of the Native American Indians, which has zero genetic or archaeological support.

1. What is a myth?
2. What is the difference between a myth and a fact?
3. Is Christianity built on myth or fact? Explain.
4. Is there anything in the Bible you think may be a myth and not a fact? Explain.

MONDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 1:16–21

Word of the Day: Lord

Peter calls Jesus “Lord.” Peter means that Jesus is God who rules and reigns over everyone and everything from his exalted throne in heaven. Practically, this also means that every aspect of our life is under the lordship of Jesus. There is nothing in our life that should be disconnected from Jesus.

1. What does it mean that Jesus is Lord?
2. Is Jesus the only Lord, or are there other gods who are lords too?
3. Who and what does Jesus rule over?
4. Is there any part of our life that does not belong to Jesus’ rule?

TUESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 1:16–21

Word of the Day: Son of God

God the Father called Jesus his Son at Jesus' baptism. Jesus called himself the Son of God (e.g., John 10:36), and often referred to God as Father. Peter also calls Jesus the Son of God. He means that Jesus is the same as God the Father; they have the same attributes, such as both being the Creator. When the Bible says that Jesus is the Son of God, it means that Jesus is God. The Bible is not saying that Jesus is a created being whom God the Father made, but rather that Jesus existed as God with the Father in heaven in eternity past. God the Father sent Jesus into the world for the mission of saving sinners.

1. Is Jesus the Son of God?
2. When was Jesus first called the Son of God? *At his baptism by God the Father.*
3. What does it mean that Jesus is the Son of God?
4. Is anyone else the Son of God just like Jesus is?
5. What does the language of Father and Son tell us about the love between God the Father and Jesus Christ?

WEDNESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 1:16–21

Word of the Day: Eyewitnesses

Peter says that he was an eyewitness to the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In particular, Peter mentions being present at the baptism of Jesus when God the Father spoke from heaven and the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus like a dove so that the entire Trinity was revealed. Peter was a disciple of Jesus who learned from Jesus as they spent time together for three years. Peter heard Jesus teach, saw Jesus perform miracles, saw Jesus die, and saw Jesus after his resurrection. Therefore, no one knows more about Jesus than Peter. Furthermore, since there was no technology in that day to record Jesus, the best way to know what he actually said and did is to believe the testimony of eyewitnesses like Peter. Peter had nothing to gain from telling lies about Jesus, and was even crucified upside down for worshiping Jesus—he would not have done that if he was not sure Jesus was God.

1. What is an eyewitness?
2. Why is it important to listen to eyewitnesses if we want to know the truth about something that happened?
3. List some parts of Jesus' life that Peter witnessed firsthand.
4. Why should we believe that Peter was telling the truth about Jesus and not lying?

5. Why is it important to know that the Bible was written by eyewitnesses to Jesus (e.g., 1 John 1:1–4) or from the testimony of eyewitnesses (Luke 1:1–4)?

THURSDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 1:16–21

Word of the Day: Inspiration

Peter says that the men who wrote the Bible did not make up what it says. Instead, they said what God the Holy Spirit inspired them to say. Inspiration means that God the Holy Spirit helped men write the exact words that God wanted to have written (see also 2 Tim. 3:16). So, Peter is teaching that the Bible was written by men and God working together, with the Holy Spirit leading them to write God's Word perfectly. This makes the Bible perfect and unlike any other book that has ever been written or ever will be written.

1. What is inspiration?
2. Who wrote the Bible?
3. Is any book as perfect as the Bible?
4. How does God the Holy Spirit speak to us through the Bible?
5. Why do you think God went to so much trouble to give us the Bible?

FRIDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 1:16–21

Word of the Day: Inerrancy

Inerrancy is the doctrine that because the Scriptures are inspired by God the Holy Spirit, they are perfect and without error. This doctrine is inextricably tied to the character of God himself. God cannot lie (2 Sam. 7:28; Titus 1:2; Heb. 6:18). So, the entire Bible is without any error or contradiction, unlike every other uninspired writing and utterance (Num. 23:19; Ps. 12:6; 119:89; Prov. 30:5–6).

1. What does inerrancy mean?
2. Do you believe the Bible is inerrant? Why or why not?
3. Is there any other inerrant book besides the Bible?
4. If the Bible is inerrant, why should we be careful to study it correctly and learn exactly what it is saying?

SATURDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 1:16–21

Word of the Day: Scripture

Peter speaks of the books of the Bible as Scripture. The New Testament (NT) speaks of the Old Testament (OT) as Scripture, for which the Greek word is *graphe*, meaning “writing.” The word *bible* comes from the Greek word for book. Holy Bible, therefore, means the “Holy Book.” It contains sixty-six separate books. The thirty-nine books of the OT record the time from creation to Jesus’ life on earth. The twenty-seven books of the NT begin with the four gospels, which are biographies of Jesus’ life, and then proceed to instructions to various Christians and churches. The OT covers a few thousand years of human history, and was written over the course of more than one thousand years. The NT covers just the first century of church history. The NT was originally written in Greek and every book was completed by the close of the first century. The OT was originally written in Hebrew on papyrus—a form of paper made out of reeds; the New Testament was written on parchments (prepared animal skins). A lecturer at the University of Paris created the Bible’s chapter divisions in the early 1200s, which accounts for our current 1,189 chapter divisions. The Bible’s 31,173 verse divisions were fully developed by 1551, in an effort to provide addresses (not unlike those on our homes) that would help us find particular sections. Over 77 percent of the Christian Bible is the OT. The OT has 929 chapters and 23,214 verses. The NT has 260 chapters and 7,959 verses.

1. How many books are in the Bible?
2. How many books are in the OT?
3. How many books are in the NT?
4. What time in history does the OT record?
5. What time in history does the NT record?
6. What were the original languages of the OT and NT?

DOCTRINE FROM FALSE TEACHERS (PART 1)

2 PETER 2:1-10A

lesson 2

family questions

WITNESS

7

SUNDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 2:1–10a

Word of the Day: False teachers

Peter warns Christians that there are false teachers. False teachers pretend to speak for God, but what they teach is not true and does not agree with the Bible. They are simply liars. False teachers are always very popular. They tell people what they want to hear, rather than the truth. They often enjoy the power, fame, and attention they receive. Christians are warned not to believe their ideas, follow their teaching, read their books, or attend their meetings because they work for Satan and not God.

1. What is a false teacher?
2. What is the difference between a false teacher and a true teacher?
3. How can you tell who is a true teacher and who is a false teacher?
4. Why are false teachers so popular?
5. How should you respond to false teachers and their false teaching?
6. What are some examples of false teaching you have heard?

MONDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 2:1–10a

Word of the Day: Heresy

In warning Christians against false teachers, Peter says that they teach destructive heresies. A heresy is a false teaching, or a lie, that does not agree with what Christians have always agreed that the Bible teaches. Examples of heresy include saying that God is not a Trinity, that there is more than one God, that Jesus is not God, that Jesus did not rise from death, that you can go to heaven without Jesus, and that you do not need to repent of some sins such as sexual sin (heterosexual and homosexual). Entire religions such as Mormonism and Jehovah's Witnesses, along with very liberal "Christianity," are built on heresy. Heresy is destructive because it gives us the wrong picture of God and builds our life on lies instead of truth.

1. What is a heresy?
2. What do we call someone who teaches heresy?
3. What are some examples of heresy you have heard of?
4. How can we know what is a heresy and what is not?
5. What can we do to learn the Bible so that we don't believe heresy?

TUESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 2:1–10a

Word of the Day: Blasphemy

In warning Christians against false teachers, Peter says that false teachers commit blasphemy. Blasphemy is telling lies about God to insult him, attack him, mock him, and demean him. Someone has to be very arrogant to blaspheme God and they often encourage other people to do the same. One example would be devout atheists who say that there is no God and make fun of people who do believe in God.

1. What is blasphemy?
2. Is it okay to blaspheme God? Why not?
3. What is an example of blaspheming God?
4. Do you know anyone who blasphemes God? Explain.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 2:1–10a

Word of the Day: Greed

Peter says that false teachers are motivated by greed. Greed means that we love money even more than God and will do just about anything to get more money. False teachers do not teach what the Bible says because they would rather teach whatever people pay them to teach so they can make more money. Since people want to hear nice things, false teachers only say nice things and do not speak much about sin or call people to repent of sin so they can make lots of money speaking to people and selling their books (e.g., Jer. 6:14; 8:11; Isa. 30:10).

1. What is greed?
2. Why is greed a bad thing?
3. Should we do what is right, or what makes people happy?
4. Why do false teachers only say nice things?
5. What are some things in the Bible that are hard to hear but still true?

THURSDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 2:1–10a

Word of the Day: Condemnation

Peter warns that false teachers will face condemnation when they stand before God. What this means is that some people teach a lot of lies in this life and lead a lot of people astray. But God is watching them and knows everything they think, say, and do. One day they will stand before God and he will judge them, condemn them, and sentence them to hell forever. This is a good thing because false teachers are lying about God and hurting people and they need to be dealt with by God.

1. What is condemnation?
2. Will God allow any non-Christian to avoid condemnation?
3. Why is condemnation from God a good thing?
4. Does God ever make a mistake and wrongly condemn someone, as sometimes happens in our courts when innocent people are condemned to jail?

FRIDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 2:1–10a

Word of the Day: Protection

In addition to promising the condemnation of false teachers, Peter reminds Christians that God promises protection for them. Protection means that God loves us, keeps an eye on us, helps us, and gets us through this world safely into heaven. As an example of protection, Peter mentions Noah, whom God saved from the flood, and Lot, whom God saved from the destruction of the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah by getting him out of town just in time. Peter is stressing that even if the world gets dark and false teachers are everywhere, we can trust God and his protection of us.

1. What is God's protection?
2. How did God protect Noah and his family?
3. How did God protect Lot?
4. Can you think of any other people in the Bible that God protected?
5. Do you believe God will protect you from condemnation and get you to heaven safely? Why or why not?

SATURDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 2:1–10a

Word of the Day: Despise

In warning Christians about false teachers, Peter says that they despise authority. To despise means that they do not listen to godly people, do not submit to godly people, and do not learn from godly people. Instead, they only believe themselves, and they only listen to people who agree with them. People who despise godly authority are proud and dangerous like Satan, who also despised God's authority. People who despise authority always want to teach but never want to learn and end up being false teachers who disobey and rebel against God. Sadly, those who despise godly authority also lead others astray to join them in fighting against God.

1. What does it mean to despise godly authority?
2. What kinds of things do people who despise godly authority do and not do?
3. Can you think of some examples in the Bible or church history of people who despised God and godly authority? If so, what happened to them?
4. What godly authority do you need to ensure that you do not despise?

DOCTRINE FROM FALSE TEACHERS (PART 2)

2 PETER 2:10B-22

lesson 3

family questions



SUNDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 2:10b–22

Word of the Day: Bold

In warning Christians against false teachers, Peter notes that they are often bold. This means that they are very confident, pushy, and certain that they are right and that other people are wrong. Even though they are wrong, their boldness makes them seem convincing so that some people wonder if they are not actually false teachers. What Peter is teaching is that someone can be sincere, confident, convincing, bold, and still wrong and a false teacher.

1. What is boldness?
2. How are bold people sometimes convincing?
3. If someone is sure they are right, does that always mean they are right?
4. Can you think of anyone in the Bible or church history who was bold but wrong?
5. Can you remember any of the times Peter was bold but was wrong in his life? *Examples include when he told Jesus what to do, and when he cut a man's ear off with a sword when he was not supposed to.*

MONDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 2:10b–22

Word of the Day: Deception

Peters warns that false teachers practice deception. By deception, he means that they lie, do not tell the whole truth, and manipulate things to say what they want them to say. They are hypocrites who teach one thing but do another. Deception is a bad thing. The Bible says that Satan is the deceiver who deceived Eve; so, when we deceive people we are doing what Satan does.

1. What is deception?
2. Who was the first being to deceive people?
3. What are some ways people try to deceive other people?
4. Does God try to deceive people?

5. Why is it important to tell the whole truth and not try to deceive people?
6. Is there any deception, including secrets, in your life?

TUESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 2:10b–22

Word of the Day: Ignorant

In warning Christians about false teachers, Peter says that they are ignorant. To be ignorant means you do not know what you are talking about. Ignorant people often have strong opinions, boss people around, and loudly tell other people what they think. Regardless, ignorant people do not know what they are talking about so all of their beliefs, opinions, and judgments are foolish. When it comes to Jesus and the Bible, lots of people are ignorant and don't know what they are talking about.

1. What does it mean to be ignorant?
2. What do ignorant people need to do to learn about Jesus and the Bible?
3. Why do some people act like they know what they are talking about when they do not?
4. Do you ever pretend to know something you are ignorant about? Explain.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 2:10b–22

Word of the Day: Sin

Peter says that false teachers like to sin and they encourage other people to sin too. False teachers often have something bad in mind that they want to do. But rather than repenting, they create ways to make it sound like doing the bad thing would actually be a good thing. Other people who also want to do the bad thing then listen to the false teacher so that they too can have a reason to do the bad thing.

1. What is sin?
2. How do false teachers and sin work together?
3. Why do people who want to sin like false teachers?
4. What kind of sins do you think false teachers today want people to do?
5. When you want to sin should you believe what the Bible says or go find a false teacher to say doing a bad thing is okay? Why?

THURSDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 2:10b–22

Word of the Day: Going astray

In warning Christians against false teachers, Peter says that they have gone astray. The Bible speaks of Christians as walking with God along a narrow path. Sin is when we go astray and wander from God to go and do our own thing. Peter has already told us in his letters that God is our Father and we are his children. So, wandering astray from God is like a child wandering away from their parent to get lost or even hurt.

1. What does it mean to wander astray from God?
2. What are some things people do to wander astray from God?
3. Why is it dangerous to wander away from God?
4. Why are some reasons that people wander astray from God?
5. Have you ever wandered astray from your parents? What was that like and what does that teach you about the importance of not wandering astray from God?

FRIDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 2:10b–22

Word of the Day: Slavery

Peter warns that false teachers promise freedom but only provide slavery. What he means is that when people sin they become a slave to their sin. For example, if someone chooses to abuse food, alcohol, or drugs, they become a slave to it and cannot stop doing it. Their sin becomes like a slave master that rules over them and harms them. In this way, Peter is speaking about slavery that we choose for ourselves through our sin.

1. How does sin become slavery to us?
2. How are real slaves treated?
3. How does sin treat us like slaves?
4. Does God treat us like slaves? Explain.
5. How is true freedom the ability to stop sinning by Jesus' help?

SATURDAY

Bible Reading This Week: 2 Peter 2:10b–22

Word of the Day: Defiled

In warning against false teachers, Peter says that they are defiled. By defiled, Peter means that they are people who do dirty things and want other people to join them in doing dirty things. These dirty things are sins that make our soul dirty and do not help us grow to be holy like Jesus.

1. What does it mean to be defiled?
2. What is the dirtiest you have ever been? How did you get clean?
3. How does Jesus cleanse us from our sin?
4. After Jesus has cleansed us from our sin, why is it foolish to sin again and get dirty?
5. Do you know anyone who does dirty things and wants you to do them too? Explain.