

Lesson: A Question About Fasting

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Mt. 9:14-15, Mk. 2:19, Luke 5:34-35

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that Jesus was the Messiah sent to save the world and bring joy to the hearts of those who believe.

Materials: Party Supplies (balloons, paper streamers, anything used to celebrate), invitations

Memory Verse: “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.” John 6:47

Lesson Summary

When the Pharisees and the scribes came to Jesus, they were always trying to trick Him with words from the Law. They were very angry with Christ and His disciples. On this occasion, they came to Him asking why His disciples did not fast as the Pharisees did or as John’s disciples did. To “fast” means to go without food or water for a period of time. Jesus knew the Pharisees and scribes were trying to trick him and He told them a parable. Remember a parable is a story with a meaning. Jesus knew the Jews would understand a story involving a wedding. The Jewish people celebrated a wedding for a long time. This was a time of great joy and celebration with lots of food much like the parties we have around Thanksgiving or Christmas with our families. Jesus wanted the Pharisees and scribes to see how foolish it was to consider fasting while He was with his disciples because he was the “Bridegroom”. Therefore, it was a time of celebration and joy greater than any party because the Messiah had come. This parable tried to point the Pharisees and scribes to the true identity of Christ, but they refused to believe. However, for the one who believes, we can find great joy in the fact that Christ was the promised Messiah sent to save the world!

BIBLE POINT: The Storehouse of Truth

Ideas to Illuminate

Illustration: Decorate the room with some party supplies and give each student a written or verbal invitation to come to the party. Tell them all about what is going to be at the party, including the food. Pick one student to be the bridegroom. Tell the others that they can only celebrate if the bridegroom is with them. If he/she is gone no one can eat or play. You can have the bridegroom leave the room for children to experience what it is like without the bridegroom.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Why did the Pharisees question Jesus about fasting?
2. Did the scribes know who Jesus was? How do you know?
3. Why did Jesus tell the story of the bridegroom?
4. Why should Jesus’ coming bring joy to those who believe?



Lesson: The Patched Garment

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Mt. 9:16, Mk. 2:21, Lk. 5:36, 2 Cor. 5:17

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that with a true confession of faith, Christ makes us a new creature.

Materials: 2 shirts (one nice & one with lots of holes), scissors, needle & thread, glue, markers, paper

Memory Verse: “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” 2 Corinthians 5:17

Lesson Summary

Jesus has performed many miracles prior to His discussion with the Pharisees and scribes. However, they continue to try to find fault with what He does and even question why He is with the sinners and Publicans. Jesus always responds by reminding them of who He is and what He was sent to do. He tells them He was sent to save the lost and heal the sick. This only makes them angrier and they continue to close their eyes to the truth of the Messiah that was foretold so long ago. The scribes and Pharisees continue to follow the old customs and laws of the Jewish faith. Jesus tries to help them see with the parable in today’s lesson. He describes the foolishness of trying to sew pieces of a new garment onto an old torn used garment. He says you then have destroyed two garments. He is trying to help the scribes and Pharisees to see that they are in need of salvation that only comes through Christ. We can never repair our old garment of sin with new works and traditions. Sacrifices, fasting, and even prayers are no good unless we have come to know Christ. When we accept Him and ask Him into our hearts, only then is our old garment of sin thrown away and replaced with the new garment of righteousness. This comes not from works or deeds, but through the saving blood of Christ.

BIBLE POINT: The Storehouse of Truth

Ideas to Illuminate

Illustration: Sit or stand in front of the class and show them the two shirts you have with you. Explain that you need to repair the old shirt because you can’t wear it like it is. Show them the holes and torn places in the shirt. Then hold up the new one and explain that you are going to cut pieces of the new shirt and sew it on the old.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Do you think it is a good idea to cut up the new shirt to sew on the old? Why or why not?
2. Why did the scribes and Pharisees hate Jesus?
3. Why do you think they would not listen?
4. What does it mean when the Bible says we are made new in Christ?



Lesson: Forgive Your Adversary

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Matthew 5:25, Luke 12:58, Luke 6:27, Matthew 5

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that God will judge us harshly if we do not forgive even our enemy.

Materials: paper, pencil

Memory Verse: “But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you,” Luke 6:27

Lesson Summary

Jesus began to teach some really radical ideas in the beginning of Matthew 5! He told the people that it was not only a sin to commit murder, but also if you just thought about it in your heart and mind. This was not what the Pharisees and scribes wanted to hear. They tried to appear holy before men, but this new teaching forced them to look at the sin in their hearts that no one could see. Jesus knew this because He knew what was in their hearts. As He began to teach, it became clear that we must guard our hearts from sin that no one can see. One of the teachings of Jesus came in the form of a parable about a man and his enemy or adversary. Jesus tells us in this parable that we must forgive our enemy quickly to avoid being brought before a judge (God) and sentenced to prison. Jesus was trying to help the people see that God would judge those who did not forgive—even their enemies. This is not easy to hear and it made the Pharisees even angrier with Jesus. Only those who truly wanted to know the Messiah would listen to this kind of teaching. Jesus knew this was the only way for us to truly be free from the one true enemy of mankind, Satan. Satan wants us to hold grudges, to hate, and to do bad things that will cause us to die in sin. However, Christ came to lead us into truth and give everlasting life.

BIBLE POINT: The Storehouse of Truth

Ideas to Illuminate

Illustration: Tell your students you want them to think of someone who has done something wrong or bad to them. Discuss some of things that could be included. Ask the student to chose one of those people and write a letter telling them that they forgive them. (Younger students can draw a picture and you can write for them.)

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Is it easy to forgive people who do bad things to us?
2. Why did Jesus say we must forgive others when they do wrong to us?
3. How can we ask God to help us forgive others?
4. What happens if we don't forgive others?



Lesson: The Unforgiving Servant

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Matthew 18:23-35, Matthew 5, Matthew 6:15

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that God will not forgive those who will not forgive others.

Materials: poster board, markers, note cards or index cards

Memory Verse: “But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”
Matthew 6:15

Lesson Summary

Peter came to Jesus with a question. He asked Jesus how many times do we have to forgive our brother? Jesus’ response was “seventy times seven” or as many times as he asks. Jesus then began to teach using another parable or story about king and his servants. Jesus tells them that a servant came to the king and was to be sold with his family because he could not pay the debt he owed the king. The servant begged for mercy and the king actually forgave the whole debt. He did not have to pay the king back and his family was saved! Some time later, this same servant went out and found a fellow servant that owed him only a small debt. The fellow servant could not pay, and the servant became very angry took him and had him cast into prison. He did not forgive the servant as the king had forgiven him. The king soon found out and became very angry. He told the servant since he did not forgive, he would not be forgiven until he paid back all the debt. Jesus used this parable to teach us that in God’s Kingdom we have been forgiven a great debt when we are forgiven our sins. You see we cannot pay the debt owed and God was moved with compassion to forgive us through the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross. That is our payment for sin. However, if we don’t forgive our fellow servant (our brothers in Christ), God will not forgive us.

BIBLE POINT: The Storehouse of Truth

Ideas to Illuminate

Illustration: Divide a poster into 2 halves and draw a line down the middle. On one side write the word “Punishment” and on the other side “Mercy”. Come up with several scenarios that illustrate someone doing something wrong to us. Have to students respond with what we think should be their punishment and then on the other side what would illustrate God’s mercy.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Is it hard to forgive and show mercy to others? Why?
2. What does the parable teach us about forgiving others?
3. Why does Jesus use this illustration to answer Peter’s question?
4. What was the debt he forgave for each of us who have accepted Him?



Lesson: Love Your Neighbor

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Luke 10:25-37

Lesson Objective: The student will learn who his/her neighbor is and verbalize ways they can show love toward their neighbor

Materials: Band-Aids, costumes to act out story

Memory Verse: You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself. Luke 10:27

Lesson Summary

One day a lawyer asked Jesus what he must do to inherit eternal life. He also asked, "Who is my neighbor?" Jesus tells a story about a Samaritan that showed love and compassion to his neighbor. A Jewish man was on his way from Jerusalem to Jericho when he was robbed and beaten and left to die along the road. Three people passed him by but only one was willing to help him. A priest saw the man but passed him by on the other side of the road. A Levite also came by and even stopped and looked at the man but stepped over him and kept walking. Finally, a man from Samaria came and saw the man. He saw how he was badly injured and needed help. The Samaritan took the man to an inn and washed his wounds and took special care of him. He even paid the host at the inn to take care of him until he was feeling better. This was an extraordinary deed by the Samaritan because Jews and Samaritans did not like each other. The Jews were mean to the Samaritans. This Samaritan showed the true meaning of loving your neighbor! At the end of the parable Jesus then asked, "Which of these was a neighbor to the man that fell among the thieves?" The lawyer answered saying "he that showed mercy upon him." Jesus then instructed him to go and do the same thing! Jesus wants us to love our neighbor. Remember that your neighbor is anyone you meet. We must show love and compassion to all we meet. Every person we meet needs to feel the love of Christ! It's up to his people to let the love of Christ shine through in all we do, not only to those we love but to those who may mistreat us also. It's the love of Christ that will save the Lost!

BIBLE POINT: The Storehouse of Truth

Ideas to Illuminate

1. Band-Aid Relay: Divide your class into teams. Have one child be the injured man and let the others be the Samaritan man. Each team member must race to place Band-Aids on the man before the allotted time ends. The first team to place the most band aids on the man wins.
2. Role Play: Have your children act out the story.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Which of these three men was a neighbor to the injured man?
2. Who is your neighbor?
3. Why is it important that you love your neighbor?



Lesson: Follow the Road to Life

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Mt 7:13-14, Luke 13:24

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that there are two paths in life that we can choose from but only one leads to Heaven.

Materials: paper or any material needed to make a road, snacks or prizes

Memory Verse: Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able. Luke 13:24

Lesson Summary

While Jesus was journeying through cities and villages toward Jerusalem, one of his followers asked him a question. He asked, "Lord are there few that be saved." Jesus answered him by using a parable of two paths to describe the way into the Kingdom. On one, the gate is straight and the path is narrow while the other, the gate is wide and broad is the path. The straight gate and narrow path leads to Heaven. Jesus said few there be that find this path. The word straight means difficult. The gate that leads to destruction is wide. This gate is easily seen and probably very attractive. It draws people in! This gate is an easy gate to go through and an easy path to take. This path does not require any type of obedience to God and His Word. However, this is the gate that will lead to Hell. Sadly, this is the gate that most people will choose. Picture a road with a lot of people walking down it doing bad things. These people are living a life filled with sin yet believe they are on the right path. This is the road to Hell!!! Now picture a road that only has a few people on it but these people love God with all their hearts and are obedient to all his commandments. These people are on the path that will lead to eternal life! This is the path to Heaven! We must be sure that we have chosen the right path. If the path you are on provides a life that is contrary to the word of God, then you must turn around and go the other way!! There is only one way to heaven! It's not an easy path to choose but it is the path that we can't afford to pass by! We must choose the straight and narrow way—God's way!!

BIBLE POINT: The Storehouse of Truth

Ideas to Illuminate

Using several sheets of paper, make two paths. One should be wider than the other. Let the children choose a path. One should lead to a dead end or closet(Hell) while the other leads to a snack or prize(Heaven). If possible do not let the children see the end result of the paths.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. How does Jesus describe the path that leads to Heaven? Destruction?
2. How can we be sure we are on the right path?



Lesson: Jesus is the Only Way to God

Teacher Preparation

Readings: John 10:1-16; John 14:16

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that Jesus is the only way that we can be saved and have eternal life.

Materials: costumes for role play.

Memory Verse: Jesus saith unto him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father but by me." John 14:6

Lesson Summary

What is a door used for? We use doors to help us get inside a room, to keep strangers out, to keep the cold/hot air out, and to protect us from things outside. Doors are the proper way to enter into a room or building. Jesus spoke using a parable to teach those without understanding of his word. He stated "I am the door: by me if any man entereth in, he shall be saved and shall go in and out, and find pasture." He also stated "He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth some other way, the same is a thief and robber." The sheep know the shepherd's voice and follow him. There are many people that say they are a Christian but have not truly accepted Jesus into their hearts. They may even tell you that there are many different ways to be a Christian. People try to use all sorts of things to get to God like good works, giving lots of money, and giving their time to church activities. However, God says there is only one way to get to God, and that is through His Son Jesus Christ!! In him alone are we able to have communion with God and make it to heaven one day!! Jesus is like a door, we must come through him if we want to know more about God. It is through Jesus that we find forgiveness, peace, happiness, love, healing, and heaven. If people tell us that we can get to heaven by any other way then we know that they are like the thieves in Jesus' story in John chapter 10. We can't buy our way into heaven or even be a really good person and make it to heaven. We must ask Jesus into our hearts and live for him! He must become our Shepherd! We have to be willing to follow him and listen to his voice at all times.

BIBLE POINT: The Storehouse of Truth

Ideas to Illuminate

1. Play a game of follow the leader.
2. Allow one child to be the shepherd and one to be the thief /wolf. Let the others be the sheep. Let them act out the story of the Good Shepherd.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Who is the Good Shepherd?
2. Is it true that we can work our way to heaven by good deeds and giving money?
3. What must we do to make it to heaven?
4. Why does Jesus say "I am the door of the sheep?"



Lesson: Be Persistent in Prayer

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Luke 11:5-10

Lesson Objective: The student will learn to be persistent in prayer

Materials: anything to act out the story

Memory Verse: And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. Luke 11:9

Lesson Summary

In Luke chapter 11, we read about a man who came to a friend in need of bread. He needed some bread because he had a friend coming to his house and he did not have anything to feed him. . However he waited until it was really late to go to his house and ask for this bread. When he got to his friend's house, he knocked and asked for the bread but the friend told him he could not give him any bread. It was late and all his family was asleep and he didn't want to disturb them. However, the man kept knocking and asking for the bread!! He was persistent. The bible says that the friend finally gave the man the bread, not because he wanted to be a good friend but because he was persistent. He would not leave the man alone! The bible tells us that we are to be persistent in our prayers unto God. We are to ask, seek, and knock until we get the answer!! Sometimes when we pray we expect for God to answer our prayer right then. However, sometimes we have to be patient and continue to ask. We have to be willing to pray as long as it takes to get the answer we need from God. It is our persistence in our prayer that will get the attention of God! It's important not to give up or get discouraged. We need to ask boldly knowing that Jesus hears our prayers and trust he knows what's best for us.

BIBLE POINT: The Storehouse of Truth

Ideas to Illuminate

1 Have the children act out the story.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What did the man need from his friend?
2. Why did the friend tell him "No" at first?
3. What caused him to change his mind?
4. What Does Jesus tell us to do?



Lesson: The Guests of the Wedding

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Luke 14: 7-11

Lesson Objective: The student will learn to choose to be humble.

Materials: Bible, paper, crayons

Memory Verse: “God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.” (James 4:6).

Lesson Summary

Jesus was invited to eat at the home of one of the chief Pharisees on the Sabbath Day. Jesus watched and saw how the other invited guests were scrambling to be the first to sit in the most popular seats. Jesus then told them a story to teach them a lesson about humbleness. In this story, there was a wedding and guests were invited to attend. Jesus taught that it is better for the guests to choose to sit in the unpopular seats. Then, if they are asked to move to a popular seat, they and everyone around them will be happy. But, if the guests chose to sit in the popular seats and are asked to move to the unpopular seats, they will be embarrassed and ashamed. Jesus wants us to see that when we put ourselves in places of honor and think of ourselves as more important than others, we have a proud spirit. The bible says, “God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble”. (James 4:6)

BIBLE POINT: The Storehouse of Truth

Ideas to Illuminate

Using a piece of paper and crayons, have each child make a placemat with the bible verse on it. Keep them in the classroom to use for the next several lessons.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Which guest had a proud spirit?
2. Which guest had a humble spirit?
3. Do you think sitting by the most important people makes you important?
4. Is humbleness sitting in the unpopular seat and looking sad?



Lesson: The Wedding Banquet

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Mt 22:2-9; Acts 13:46

Lesson Objective: The student will learn to accept the call of God.

Materials: Bible, party decorations (keep decorations for next week), invitations, special snack, placemats from last week, paper, crayons

Memory Verse: “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” (Romans 10:13).

Lesson Summary

In the parable of the Wedding Banquet, Jesus is teaching us that we must accept the invitation to salvation that has been provided. There are three invitations to salvation spoken of in this story. All three unfold to reveal the call God has sent out to gather His people; and the great lengths He has gone thru to reach the lost souls. The first invitation was delivered to the Israelites by the prophets and Jesus. Israel did not accept the invitation and did not turn their hearts toward God. The second invitation was delivered to the Israelites by the disciples after Jesus was crucified. It included the message, “all things are ready”. Israel still did not turn their hearts towards God. Some had business interests that were more important to them. Some even killed God’s servants for delivering the invitation. The third invitation has been given and continues to go out today; being delivered by followers of Christ. The invitation is no longer just for Israel, but now for everyone who will accept it. “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” (Romans 10:13).

BIBLE POINT: The Storehouse of Truth

Ideas to Illuminate

1. Decorate the room for a party. When the children come in tell them you are expecting some very special guests. Have the RSVP invitations in your hand. After everyone sits down, read the RSVP notes to find out that everyone who was invited is too busy to come. Enjoy your special snack as you teach the lesson.

2. The children can make an Invitation to Salvation.

Example:

To: Whosoever will

From: Jesus

For: Salvation and freedom from sin

Bring: Repentance

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What is the call of God?
2. Who is invited?



Lesson: The Wedding Garment

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Mt 22:10-14; Eph 4:24; Col 3:10,12; Rev 3:4;19:8

Lesson Objective: The student will learn the necessity of purity.

Materials: Bible, white robes, decorations and placemats from previous lessons

Memory Verse: “And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.” (Eph 4:24).

Lesson Summary

The invitation to salvation is for everyone. It doesn't matter how you dress or how you behave before you receive the invitation. We were all once sinners and needed to repent and accept Jesus Christ as our Savior. Once we accept Him we are clothed in wedding garments and are worthy to enter into the kingdom of heaven. The wedding garment represents righteousness and holiness, which only come by the presence of God in our lives. In the parable of the wedding garment the Lord comes to see the guests who have accepted their invitation. He finds that all the guests have put on their wedding garments except one. This man has a rebellious spirit and thinks he can enter into the kingdom his own way. He has no intentions of being clothed in the appropriate garment. The Lord tells his servants to tie the man's hands and feet and throw him out into the darkness forever. He was not found worthy to enter. There is only one way to enter the kingdom of heaven and that is through Jesus Christ. When we accept Jesus into our hearts we put on the wedding garment which says, I am not my own; I am a new man clothed in God's righteousness and holiness.

BIBLE POINT: The Storehouse of Truth

Ideas to Illuminate

Using your party decorations and placemats from the previous lessons, clothe all but one child in a white robe and act out the story from the lesson.

for Class Discussion:

1. What does the wedding garment represent?
2. Who can wear the wedding garment?
3. Why was the man not clothed in the wedding garment?
4. What was he trying to do?
5. What is the only way to enter the kingdom of heaven?



Lesson: The Lost Sheep

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Mt 18:12-13; Lk 15:4-7; 1 Pet 2:10,25; Lk 5:32

Lesson Objective: The student will learn to rejoice in recovering what was lost.

Materials: Bible, stuffed sheep, Adult shepherd costume, optional special snack

Memory Verse: “For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.” (Mt 18:11).

Lesson Summary

Jesus refers to lost souls as lost sheep. Before we are saved, we have no shepherd to protect us, and are in grave danger of the enemy. Jesus came to save all the lost sheep on earth. Every time a lost soul is saved, great rejoicing takes place in heaven. We, too, should always rejoice when we see someone give their heart to Jesus. As young disciples we can help Jesus find lost sheep by telling them about Jesus and what he’s done for us.

BIBLE POINT: The Storehouse of Truth

Ideas to Illuminate

1. Before class hide the stuffed sheep somewhere in the class. After you read the lesson have someone come in dressed like a shepherd who is looking for his lost sheep. The children can help the shepherd look for the lost sheep and celebrate with a special snack once the lost sheep is found.
2. Have the shepherd sit in the middle of the circle of children. Every child should put their hands behind their back and the shepherd should close his eyes. The leader places the stuffed sheep in one of the children’s hands. The shepherd opens his eyes and has three chances to guess which child has the lost sheep.

for Class Discussion:

1. Have you ever found a lost toy or something you really liked? How did it make you feel?
2. What does Jesus refer to as lost sheep?
3. What does it mean to be found?
4. Are you a lost sheep or a found sheep



Lesson: The Tower

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Luke 14:28-30

Lesson Objective: The student will learn to calculate the cost of following Jesus.

Materials: Bible, blocks or anything stackable

Memory Verse: “But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.” (Mt 24:13).

Lesson Summary

Think of yourself as a tower. After you are saved and begin to serve the Lord, the building process begins. You love the Lord for what He’s done for you, and you read your bible and pray every day. God starts building walls on your strong foundation. He is in control of everything and has all the construction plans and materials needed to complete the work. During the building process you start to realize there are sacrifices to serving God. Your tower can’t be completed unless you allow God to have complete control of your life. You must decide if you are willing to make the sacrifices needed to allow God to complete the work, no matter the cost. He is either Lord of all or He’s not Lord at all.

BIBLE POINT: The Storehouse of Truth

Ideas to Illuminate

1. Allow the children time to build a tower on their own. Then, give the children specific instructions on how to build a strong tower.
2. Take two plastic cups the same size and cut one in half. Pour water to the top of the whole cup to demonstrate a good, complete strong tower that can be used by the Lord. Pour the water from that cup into the half-cup and watch the water spill out to demonstrate how a half built tower is of no use to the Lord.

for Class Discussion:

1. Have you given your heart to Jesus?
2. Are you willing to make sacrifices to follow Jesus?
3. Are you allowing Him to be in control of your life?

