

HIS STORY PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 1.1: Before the Beginning Began

SCRIPTURE: JOHN 1:1-13

SUMMARY

All physical things in the universe — even man-made objects — have a cause. God is the one and only creator of all things and without Him, nothing would exist. Jesus was called “the Word,” and was with God in the beginning when He created all things. Yet even though Jesus is the creator, when He came down to earth to live among us, people did not recognize Him. Just as Jesus is the source of all created matter, so He is also the source of all light. In fact, He is the light which shines in the darkness of the world. John the Baptist came before Jesus and served as a witness to Jesus. All Christians are invited to do likewise, and be a witness for Jesus — the creator of the universe.



KEY VERSES:

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made. (John 1:1-3)

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 1.1 we learned that the Word, Jesus, God, is the unmade Maker.

KEY WORD:

Genesis: beginnings, creation or generations

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- What is the difference between man-made things, and things which God Himself created?
- Why do you think that in the Bible Jesus is also called “the Word”?
(**Hint:** Remember how God created the universe.)
- Why do you think the world did not recognize Jesus when He came down to earth?
- How can someone become a child of God?
- What did John the Baptist do?
- How should Christians be similar to John the Baptist?
- How does believing in Jesus as the sole creator of the universe change our lives and how we live?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

HIS STORY PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 1.2: Out of Nothing: Creation Week

SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 1:1-31

SUMMARY

All physical things in the universe — even man-made objects — have a cause. God is the one and only creator of all things and without Him, humans would not exist. God spoke into existence, and things were created just as He spoke them. After speaking each part of creation into existence, God called it good. In this way, we understood that the world God created was perfect in every way. In Genesis 1, God recorded every aspect of creation that was important for us to understand. Marveling in God's creation is a wonderful way for us to appreciate His power and presence in our lives.



KEY VERSE:

As it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations" — in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.
(Romans 4:17)

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 1.2 we learned that God made everything in creation out of nothing.

KEY WORDS:

Creatio ex nihilo: creation out of nothing

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- What is some evidence that all things having an original creator?
- If someone were to tell you that God did NOT create everything, how would you respond to them?
- Why do you think many people disbelieve Genesis 1?
- Why do you choose to believe God's creation account in Genesis 1?
- How does Abraham serve as an example of faith in God as the creator?
- Describe some ways in which God's creation is unique? What does that tell us about who God is?
- What should you do with the the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

HIS STORY PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 1.3: Imago Dei: I am Special

SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 1:26-27

SUMMARY

As part of His special creation, God also created humans. The creation of Adam and Eve was even more unique than the rest of the created things, because humans were created in the “image of God.” This does not mean humans are the same as God, but that certain aspects of God’s nature and character are also true of us. The fact that God created us in His image also is what gives humans inherent value above all other created things. God also shows special care to His people, and knows each person intimately. This intimate knowledge and care is what makes Him trustworthy, and enables Christians to go to Him not only as their creator, but as their Lord and friend.



KEY VERSE:

*So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.
(Genesis 1:27)*

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 1.3 we learned that we are made in God’s image.

KEY WORDS:

Imago Dei: image of God

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- Name an amazing man-made creation. What does that great “work” tell us about the person or people who made it?
- Name an amazing aspect of God’s creation. How does it tell us about God Himself?
- How are humans different from all the rest of God’s creation?
- What makes human life valuable to God?
- What are some common ways that we think that we are not valuable?
- Are all people valuable, or are some more valuable than others? Explain.
- Why can we trust God and go to Him with problems?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

HIS STORY PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 1.4: Boundaries: I am Limited

SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 2:8-17

SUMMARY

Universal boundaries and human limitations are part of God's design in the universe. Human limitations remind people that they are created by an all-powerful God, and that their abilities cannot compare to His. From Genesis 2:8-17, we see how God specifically designed the garden of Eden, and how He had reasons for each aspect of that design. Similarly, He designed Adam — the first human — and gave him a purpose for living. Ever since the creation, every honest person must admit their limitations and capabilities. Christians can learn to trust in God and rely on His unlimited power in their lives.



KEY VERSES:

*Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding. And prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors, and said, "Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed"?
(Job 38:4, 10-11)*

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 1.4 we learned that God gave Adam and Eve boundaries. He gives you and me boundaries as well.

KEY WORD:

Boundary: something that indicates bounds or limits

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- Why is it a good thing that God makes the rules about the universe?
- How does knowing the rules of life help us live life better lives?
- What is one way you know that you are very small and limited compared to God?
- Why are God's boundaries good?
- What task did God give Adam in the garden of Eden, and why was it exciting?
- Why do you think God told Adam not to eat from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil?
- What happens to us when we live our lives outside of God's boundaries?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

HIS STORY PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 1.5: Male and Female – I’m Not Alone

SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 2:7; 21-25

SUMMARY

The primary reason why God created Eve was to be with Adam, who was all alone in his work in the garden of Eden. God’s creation of Eve as a helper to Adam shows us the human need for relationships and interdependence. The description of Adam and Eve’s relationship in Genesis 2:21-25 also tells us how unique and special (sanctified) the male-female relationship is. Throughout the Bible, whenever issues related to marriage are discussed, this passage is referred to as the basis for understanding the male-female relationship, as well as the uniqueness of each person. In this lesson, we learn how God designed males and females for this special relationship.



KEY VERSE:

*But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female.
(Mark 10:6)*

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 1.5 we learned that God made mankind as a unique and special part of His creation.

KEY WORD:

Unique: as having no like or equal, unparalleled, incomparable

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- God made each person with unique strengths and weaknesses. What is a strength (a neat way that God made you) that you like about yourself that shows your uniqueness?
- Why did God create Eve?
- Why do humans need basic relationships with other people?
- Why does God describe a man and woman coming together in marriage as them becoming “one flesh”?
- Are men and women the same, and are their unique abilities as men and women interchangeable? Why not?
- Why do you think God made men and women different?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

HIS STORY PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 1.6: Dominion – I Have Things to Do

SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 1:26

SUMMARY

God made humans in His own image, and gave him work to do on the earth. The fact that we are made in the image of God allows us to be productive and purposeful in work. God gave Adam and Eve many important tasks, such as naming the animals, multiplying the human race, and tending to the needs of the garden of Eden. From this we see that work is a God-given calling and thus, it is not a bad thing. In this lesson, we learn that God created work, and He has created each person with unique capabilities to accomplish that work.



KEY VERSE:

*Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."
(Genesis 1:26)*

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 1.6 we learned that God has made each of us for a specific purpose.

KEY WORD:

Calling: the purpose that God has for your life

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- What jobs did God give to Adam in the garden of Eden (three were mentioned in Genesis 1:28)?
- Did God give Adam these jobs before or after Adam sinned? How does that help us form a right understanding about work?
- Is work a good thing or a bad thing, according to what you learned about God's creation? Why or why not?
- What does it mean that God gave humans dominion (control) over the rest of the things on earth?
- How do we know that humans are superior to all other created things?
- Why did God rest on the seventh day of creation?
- What are some current jobs that you have in your life, which are similar to the jobs that God gave to Adam? Think about it!
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

HIS STORY PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 1.7: Everything Was Good

SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 1:31

SUMMARY

The final lesson about creation shows that everything God made was good in His eyes. There was not one aspect of creation which was displeasing to God. In Genesis 2:18, God calls it not good that Adam was alone, so He added to His creation by making Eve. From the goodness seen in the original creation, and the goodness we can still see even after sin, we see that God is fully good. He wants His people to know His goodness in creation. God's goodness is the only true standard for comparison. As we will see in the next unit, no matter how corrupted creation became due to sin, God's good creation shows us His intent for the world.



KEY VERSE:

*And God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good.
And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.
(Genesis 1:31)*

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 1.7 we learned that God made everything and that everything He made was good.

KEY WORDS:

True goodness: a God defined standard

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- What do you think God meant when He called everything that He created good?
- What was one aspect of the garden of Eden that God wanted to improve (even though it was already good)?
- What is the standard of true goodness?
- Why can we rely on God as being truly good compared to even our best efforts?
- What is one part of creation that you consider especially good? Why?
- What is the problem with comparing your goodness with the goodness of others?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

TREK 1: HIS STORY PARENT GUIDE

Unit 1 Review — Creation

SUMMARY

In the first unit of *Trek 1*, we study God's creation of the universe, and see that God spoke all things into existence according to His master design, and every aspect of His creation was completely good. God had a wonderful plan for His creation, and at the center of His plan was mankind — and the first created man, Adam. God even created Eve, so that they would work together and experience a special relationship. God placed boundaries in His creation within which humans are to accomplish the work God has given them. Though humans are limited, they are superior to the rest of creation because God made them in His image. As Christians understand God's creation, they are able to see His goodness and trust Him as a guide through life.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- What gives you confidence that God created the universe exactly as He said that He did?
- What do you admire about God when considering all that He created?
- What makes humans especially unique compared to the rest of God's creation?
- Why did God create Eve, and how were Adam and Eve to work together?
- Is work good? Why or why not and how do you know according to the Bible?
- What is the main job that God gave to Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden?
- If a friend were to ask you how the world got here, how would you go about answering them?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

HIS STORY PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 2.1: The Adversary

SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 3:1

SUMMARY

In this lesson, we learn that Satan is real. He is not an imaginary spiritual force, but he has a history, personality, and ongoing work in the world. Throughout the Bible – primarily from Isaiah 14:12 and Revelation 12:3-10 – we learn that Satan was an angel who somehow battled against God and was thrown out of heaven, taking a third of the other angels with him as his demons. Currently, Satan is at work in the world to tempt (as a roaring lion) people and to bring them to his side and away from God. He is the source of all evil. From Satan's personal one-on-one temptation of Jesus, we see that he is deceptive and makes empty promises in enticing people to sin. Christians can fight against Satan by knowing the truth of the Scriptures and standing strong against him.



KEY VERSE:

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.
(1 Peter 5:8)

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 2.1 we learned that Satan is the adversary of mankind.

KEY WORD:

Adversary: person, group, or force that opposes and attacks

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- In the lesson, you learned that Satan was originally an angel. What happened to him and the other angels that followed him?
- In what ways is Satan's power less than God's power?
- In what ways is Satan like a roaring lion – as he is described in your key verse this week?
- What were some of Satan's strategies when he was tempting Jesus in the desert?
- How did Jesus answer Satan when Satan made up lies to Him and misquoted Scripture to Him?
- What is a simple example of how Satan goes about tempting us in our everyday lives?
- What are some ways that we can fight against Satan's temptations in our own lives?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

HIS STORY PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 2.2: Temptation

SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 3:1-5

SUMMARY

The first temptation of Satan was against Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden, when he tricked them into eating from the tree which God had already told them not to eat. But temptation itself is not the problem. Adam and Eve gave in to the temptation and acted on the temptation, introducing sin to the human race. Still today, Satan is the source of all temptation in the world, and he – and not God – is the tempter. Giving in to temptation prevents people from receiving the blessings that God wants to give. Everyone faces temptation, and no temptation is entirely unique. It is God's will for Christians to resist temptation by clinging to Him.



KEY VERSE:

No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and He will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation He will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.
(1 Corinthians 10:13)

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 2.2 we learned that we all are tempted.

KEY WORD:

Temptation: a time/period of testing

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- What was the lie that Satan told Eve when he tempted her to eat from the tree?
- Why do you think Adam and Eve gave in to Satan's temptation?
- From the story of Adam and Eve, what can you learn about how Satan tempts people?
- Does God ever tempt anyone to sin? How do you know?
- From your key verse, what does *temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man* mean for us?
- Is being tempted within itself wrong, or just giving in to temptation?
- How does sinning prevent us from receiving God's blessings?
- What are some examples of Satan's ongoing activity in the world today?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

HIS STORY PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 2.3: Sin

SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 3:4-7

SUMMARY

In this lesson, we learn that sin is at the very essence of every person. Adam and Eve responded to the temptation of Satan by believing what he falsely had to say about the fruit of the tree. In doing so, they turned their backs on the truth that God had already told them about that fruit. Personal sin in each person's life is expressed in a similar way. This sin separates all people from God, because a perfect God cannot allow imperfection into His presence. Ultimately, sin shows us our need for God and demonstrates that everyone is in need of being saved.



KEY VERSES:

*But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."
(Genesis 3:4-5)*

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 2.3 we learned that sin is our desire to be God.

KEY WORD:

Sin: our desire to be God

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- It certainly would be easier and more comfortable to ignore sin, but why is it so important that we know what sin is?
- What is sin? Put it into your own words.
- What do you think motivated Adam and Eve to give in to Satan's temptation?
- In what ways is sin "all about us"?
- Why does sin always seem so positive and enticing in the moment of temptation?
- Is it possible for a person to never (past, present, and future) have sin in their life? Why?
- Why does God prohibit sin from entering His presence?
- How does sin show us that we need God in our lives?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

HIS STORY PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 2.4: Hiding From God

SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 3:8-11

SUMMARY

In reading the account of Adam and Eve's first sin, we see them instantly hide from God and try to cover up their actions. Ever since, this has been the natural pattern for everyone in responding to their own sin. But since God is all-present and all-knowing — the same characteristics which make Him so loving toward us — people are afraid for Him to see their sin. It is normal for people to fear God because of sin, because sin indeed separates all people from God. Only by admitting sinfulness to God can someone be restored to the right relationship with God that He originally created us to have.



KEY VERSE:

And no creature is hidden from His sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.
(Hebrews 4:13)

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 2.4 we learned that Adam and Eve felt shame and hid from God after they sinned.

KEY WORD:

Shame: the painful feeling following the actions of something dishonorable

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- Why is it impossible for someone to hide from God?
- Adam and Eve knew that God was all-knowing and cared for them. Why then did they hide from God after they first sinned?
- How does the word *shame* describe Adam and Eve's emotions before God when they sinned?
- In your experience, why does sin create a feeling of distance from God?
- What makes it so hard to admit a sin to someone — like a parent, teacher or friend?
- What do you think draws people back to sin even when they know it's wrong and that God sees them?
- Why do you think it is important for us to admit to God that we are sinners?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

HIS STORY PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 2.5: The Wreckage: Death, Suffering and Pain

SCRIPTURE: ROMANS 5:12-14

SUMMARY

This lesson describes the wreckage brought about by sin. Both the physical world and everyone's individual lives are wrecked by sin. The sin of Adam and Eve has trickled through every generation, and the same consequences they felt have been felt by everyone since. Specifically, Genesis 3:12-19 tell us that personal hardships at work, pain in child-bearing, basic human frustrations, and physical death (including illnesses and disease) are all brought about by sin. All these symptoms of sin point people to God, and to how He alone can save.



KEY VERSE:

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned.
(Romans 5:12)

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 2.5 we learned that sin caused a huge amount of wreckage for all humanity.

KEY WORD:

Wreckage: remains or fragments of something that has been broken

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- Why do you think Adam blamed Eve, and Eve blamed the serpent, when God confronted them about their sin?
- Why is it hard to take personal responsibility for sins we commit?
- Was there physical death before sin entered the world? Why or why not?
- In the lesson, you learned how God cursed the serpent, the earth, women, and men. What were some of those curses?
- What are some of the consequences of sin that you see in everyday life?
- Imagine and discuss: How would life today be different if Adam and Eve had never sinned?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

HIS STORY PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 2.6: Expelled

SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 3:13-24

SUMMARY

Adam and Eve were thrown out of the garden of Eden as a result of their eyes having been opened by the knowledge of good and evil. They were now corrupted in a world which had been corrupted by the consequences of sin. After Adam and Eve were put out of the garden, they experienced separation from God. The Bible teaches that full satisfaction and peace are not possible on the earth while people were stuck in their sinfulness. All unfulfilled human longings and emotions can be understood when looking at this account in Genesis 3:13-24. Yet even though separated from God, Christians can still receive God's blessings as they trust His promises.



KEY VERSE:

Remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. (Ephesians 2:12)

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 2.6 we learned that sin causes separation from God.

KEY WORD:

Separation: a place, line, or point of parting

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- How did the knowledge of good and evil separate Adam and Eve from God?
- You learned that when Adam and Eve ate from the tree, they became "like God," at least in certain ways. Why do you think God threw them out of the garden?
- What do you think Adam and Eve missed most when they were thrown out of the garden of Eden?
- Describe spiritual death in your own words and how you think it affects us today?
- Does the Bible present the garden of Eden as a real place or as a fictional story?
- What are some of the blessings God has given us even while we struggle in being physically separated from His presence?
- Should you ever expect to feel complete peace and happiness while you are living in a sinful earth? Why or why not?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

HIS STORY PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 2.7: Shedding Blood

SCRIPTURE: HEBREWS 9:11-28

SUMMARY

Once Adam and Eve were thrown out of the garden of Eden and started living under the curses, they experienced the full effect of separation from God. The barrier that this separation created needed to be torn down in some way. Blood sacrifices (with animals in the Old Testament) were the way that God prescribed individual sins to be forgiven. But while individual sins could be forgiven by sacrifices in the Old Testament, these sacrifices could never entirely solve the problem of sin itself. This is why Jesus Christ came to be the ultimate sacrifice for our sin problem once and for all. Through the shedding of Jesus' blood on the cross, people can be forgiven of sin and their separation with God replaced by a relationship with the creator.



KEY VERSE:

Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins. (Hebrews 9:22)

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 2.7 we learned that in order for sins to be forgiven blood must be shed.

KEY WORD:

Remission: the release as from a debt, penalty, or obligation

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- Why is it not possible for anyone to pay (take care of) their own sin?
- What is the only way that sin can be paid for, and how does that make sense? (**Note:** This is a deep-thinking question!)
- Explain the word *remission* in your own words, and how did an animal sacrifice provide remission?
- Why did the Old Testament sacrifices have to be redone over and over again?
- How does the judgment of our sin make us fearful in a good way?
- How did Jesus accomplish our remission (forgiveness) of sin?
- As you think about Jesus' payment for our sin, what do you find to be wonderful about what He did on our behalf?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

TREK 1: HIS STORY PARENT GUIDE

Unit 2 Review — The Fall

SUMMARY

In Unit 2 of *Trek 1*, we learn about the dominating flaw of humanity — sin and the separation from God that it has caused. Adam and Eve first sinned by giving in to the temptation of the serpent and eating from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, which God had told them not to eat. Satan is the source of all sin, and the one who brought the temptation to Adam and Eve. After Adam and Eve sinned, God sent them out of the garden, and they experienced life under the curse of sin. Life under the curse creates ongoing separation from God, which can only be taken care of through sacrifices — death. Jesus Christ ultimately sacrificed to pay for sin once and for all.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- How does Satan go about tempting people?
- What do you think motivated Adam and Eve to give in to the temptation of the serpent?
- What happened to Adam and Eve after they sinned?
- What are some of the consequences of sin in the world today?
- Discuss: Can people ever achieve a satisfied life while being separated from God?
- How was Jesus a perfect sacrifice for the remission of our sin?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

"HIS STORY" PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 3.1: Noah

SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 6-8

SUMMARY

The consequences of sin were passed through the generations all the way until the time of Noah. Genesis 6:5-8 describes how intensely wicked the earth had become, and God decided to destroy mankind by sending a worldwide flood. He chose to rescue Noah and his family, because Noah was a righteous man beyond all others. God used Noah to build an ark to accomplish His purposes. Despite the mocking of people all around him, Noah built the ark in obedience to God, and he and his family — along with two of each kind of animal — were rescued from the flood to preserve life on earth. Through this event, God reset the course of human history with Noah's family, and made a covenant to never again destroy the entire earth by flood.



KEY VERSE:

*They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life.
(Genesis 7:15)*

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 3.1 we learned that Noah built an ark, designed by God, as the only way to save humanity. Likewise, Jesus is the only way to be saved.

KEY WORD:

Saved: rescued from danger or death

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- How did the Bible describe Noah? What was special about his life?
- How do you think God felt about all the wickedness on the earth that He created?
- God decided not to give the world more time to correct itself. Why do we often think that time will fix everything?
- What was God accomplishing by destroying all of mankind?
- Why did God choose to rescue Noah and his family?
- In what ways do you think it was hard for Noah to maintain trust in God while building the ark?
- What is a covenant? Describe it in your own words.
- How does God rescuing Noah remind you of Jesus?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

"HIS STORY" PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 3.2: Abraham and Isaac

SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 22

SUMMARY

God chose a man named Abraham for a very special purpose, and although Abraham and his wife were very old, God promised them a son. In their old age, they miraculously had a son named Isaac, but later God commanded Abraham to sacrifice Isaac. Abraham obeyed God and took Isaac to the mountain where he was to be sacrificed, all the while trusting God to provide a substitute sacrifice for Isaac even though he did not see one. Just as Abraham was about to kill Isaac, God provided a sacrifice in Isaac's place. Because of Abraham's obedience, God promised to bless Abraham mightily. The great truth of this lesson is both that God rewards faith, and that He provides a sacrifice — ultimately the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross.



KEY VERSES:

*And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."
(Genesis 22:13-14)*

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 3.2 we learned that God provided a sacrifice for Abraham in place of his only son, Isaac. God provided a sacrifice for humanity in sending His one and only Son, Jesus.

KEY WORD:

Sacrifice: forfeiting of something highly valued for the sake of something considered having greater value

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- What do you think Abraham was thinking as he was taking Isaac to the mountain where he was to be sacrificed?
- How does Abraham's obedience in taking Isaac to be sacrificed demonstrate incredible faith?
- Why did Abraham tell Isaac "God Himself will provide a lamb for a burnt offering" even though Abraham did not actually have a lamb with him and God had not told him that exactly?
- In what way did the lamb save Isaac's life?
- In what way is Jesus Christ similar to the lamb that was used in place of Isaac?
- After seeing Abraham's great faith, what was the great blessing that God promised to him?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

"HIS STORY" PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 3.3: Moses

SCRIPTURE: EXODUS 6:2-13

SUMMARY

In Exodus 6:2-13, as well as the entire account of Moses' life, we see that just as God kept His promises to Abraham, He kept His promises to Moses. God told Moses that He was going to lead the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt, and that Moses would be God's instrument to accomplish this. God declared that He was going to deliver the people from Egypt and take them to be His own people. That promise was a follow-up to God's promise to Abraham hundreds of years earlier. It also presents a picture of how Jesus Christ delivers His people from sin just as God delivered His people from slavery in Egypt.



KEY VERSE:

*Say therefore to the people of Israel, "I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from slavery to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment."
(Exodus 6:6)*

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 3.3 we learned that Moses was instrumental in delivering God's people from the bondage of Egyptian slavery. God also sent His Son, Jesus, to deliver us from the bondage of our sin.

KEY WORD:

Deliverance: the act of being saved from oppression

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- What do you think were Moses' greatest fears when he was receiving these instructions from the Lord?
- Why do you think God chose to reveal Himself to Moses through a burning bush?
- Do you think Moses thought the Israelites would believe him when he told them that God was going to lead them out of Egypt? Why or why not?
- How was God's promise to Noah and Abraham similar to the promise He made to the Israelites?
- Why do you think God wanted to deliver the people from Egypt?
- What are some ways that Moses had to trust in God alone during this whole process of being led out of Egypt?
- How was God delivering the people from slavery in Egypt similar to His delivering sinners from their sin by Jesus' blood?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

"HIS STORY" PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 3.4: David

SCRIPTURE: 2 SAMUEL 7:8-16

SUMMARY

The adventure of God's promises of rescuing and establishing His people continues with David, who rose from being a little known ordinary shepherd to the King of Israel. God alone is the one who established David as the King of Israel, just as He alone is the one who delivered the people from Egypt, provided the sacrifice for Abraham in place of Isaac, and made a way of rescue for Noah and his family. God makes another promise that He will establish this kingdom forever on David's throne. While David was a great earthly king over Israel, this promise of a kingdom forever ultimately points down the road to Jesus in the next lesson.



KEY VERSE:

Of the increase of His government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over His kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.
(Isaiah 9:7)

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 3.4 we learned that David's throne will be established forever. Jesus Christ is the King of kings who rules and reigns on David's throne.

KEY WORD:

Kingdom: a state or government having a king or queen as its head

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- What do you think David's emotions were when he thought back on how he went from being a small, ordinary shepherd to the King of Israel?
- How does David's life story show us that God is sovereign (fully in control)?
- Why is God trustworthy with our own life stories, just as He was trustworthy for David's?
- What are some ways that God owns and controls the course of history?
- How was the kingdom that God gave to David a way that God kept His original promise to Abraham?
- What does God's promise to continue David's kingdom forever tell us about His power?
- What do you think are some laws or rules that would be important in God's kingdom?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

"HIS STORY" PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 3.5: Emmanuel

SCRIPTURE: JOHN 1:9-17

SUMMARY

Previously, we saw that God promised the kingdom of David to last forever. In this lesson, we see that Jesus was born into a family that was in the generational line of David. When Jesus came to earth, He became as a king in that line, and He remains that king in heaven for eternity. *Emmanuel* means "God with us," because Jesus came to earth and lived among average humans. Jesus shows how God was not willing for humans to continually live in their condition separated from God. But God demonstrated His amazing love by sending Christ to live among us, though He was God and deserved much more, and ultimately to die for our sin.



KEY VERSES:

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.
(John 1:14, 17)*

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 3.5 we learned that Jesus became flesh and dwelt among us.

KEY WORD:

Emmanuel: God with us

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- What does *Emmanuel* mean for us?
- What comes to your mind when you consider that Jesus experienced the same kind of physical life that we do?
- How does the gift-giving of the Christmas season remind you of Jesus?
- We know that Jesus is God. What does it tell you about God that He came down from His majesty in heaven to live in this world?
- What do you think people were thinking when they saw Jesus' miracles?
- Though we know Jesus never sinned, what do you think were some of the hardest parts about living on earth for Him?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

"HIS STORY" PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 3.6: The Christ

SCRIPTURE: LUKE 23:26-49

SUMMARY

The death of Christ is the turning point of history. Finally, in the death of Jesus, the ongoing penalty of personal sin can be forgiven. For the first 30 years of His life, Jesus looked like an ordinary man with an ordinary upbringing from an ordinary town, and until His three-year personal ministry there was not much to suggest He was all that different from anyone else. But He lived a perfect life even though He faced the same degree of temptations as anyone else. His bloody death on a Roman cross paid for all the sin of anyone who trusts Him. Christ was the Anointed One — the chosen one — who would deliver His people from their sin and rescue them. After the death of Jesus, sacrifices would no longer be necessary to take away sins. This lesson reminds us of the immeasurable and eternal love of Christ.



KEY VERSE:

*Therefore He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant.
(Hebrews 9:15)*

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 3.6 we learned that Jesus is the Christ, God's Anointed One, who takes away the sins of humanity. He is the promised Savior, the perfect sacrifice for our sins.

KEY WORD:

Christ: Anointed One

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- Why do you think Jesus looked like an ordinary human with an ordinary upbringing?
- Why did the people of the time want to crucify Jesus?
- Why did Jesus allow Himself to be killed even though He could have stopped it because He was God?
- Agree or disagree and discuss: Jesus' death was the greatest human injustice of all time.
- Which do you think was greater — the physical pain, or the emotional pain — for Jesus while He was on the cross?
- How was Jesus' death the perfect sacrifice for our sin? Explain
- What do you think Jesus' followers were thinking when He was hanging on the cross?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?
- What are some ways that we can act as if Jesus never died even though we claim to be saved? How do you think that makes Him feel?

"HIS STORY" PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 3.7: Resurrection

SCRIPTURE: LUKE 24:1-12

SUMMARY

The resurrection of Jesus from the dead separates Christianity from every other religion. Why would anyone follow a weak leader? But Jesus is the triumphant, victorious leader of His people because He demonstrated His resurrection power. When Mary Magdalene found the tomb empty and ran to tell Peter and John about it, the emotional swing of defeat and victory was felt by all who knew and trusted Him. Because of the resurrection, Christians can have full confidence that Jesus not only died for their sin, but that He has power over the grave. And the same power that raised Jesus from the grave is at work in the personal lives of every Christian.



KEY VERSES:

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.
(1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 3.7 we learned that Jesus rose victoriously from the grave.

KEY WORD:

Redemption: the purchase back of something that had been lost, by the paying of a ransom

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- How do you think Jesus' followers were feeling once He was taken off the cross and put in a tomb?
- What does *redemption* mean in your own words?
- Why do you think Peter and John ran to the tomb when Mary Magdalene told them the body was missing?
- What does Jesus' resurrection tell us about God's power?
- In what ways does Jesus' resurrection give you confidence in His power at work in your life?
- Mary clung to Jesus after she saw Him raised from the dead. What things prevent us from clinging to Jesus in our lives?
- If Jesus hadn't risen from the dead, would Christianity be all that much different than any other world religion? Explain.
- How is the resurrection of Jesus similar to the accounts of Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

TREK 1: HIS STORY PARENT GUIDE

Unit 3 Review — Redemption

SUMMARY

Unit 3 of *Trek 1* describes how God has a plan for the redemption of His people. Ever since Adam and Eve committed the first sin, humans were separated from God, and they were living under the consequences of that separation. But God's plan was to bring His people out from underneath the weight of that separation by forgiving their sin. He did this by showing that He had a rescuing intent with Noah and the flood that He wanted to make a great nation for Himself through Abraham, that He was a mighty deliverer for His people through Moses, and that He establishes an eternal kingdom through David. Ultimately, it was Jesus' historical death on the cross and His resurrection from the dead that paid for the sins of all who would trust Him. And all who do indeed trust Him are made a part of His eternal kingdom in heaven.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- Why did God choose to destroy mankind at the time of the flood?
- What can you learn from Abraham and his amazing faith?
- Since God delivers His people from hard times, try to describe how much He can be trusted in your own life?
- What do you learn about God's power from the amazing journey of David from shepherd to King?
- What does Emmanuel mean and how did Emmanuel change the entire course of history?
- Describe how Jesus is our ultimate sacrifice?
- What does "redemption" mean in your own words?
- How does the fact that Jesus rose from the dead impact our lives as Christians today?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

"HIS STORY" PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 4.1: The Ascension

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 1:6-12

SUMMARY

After Jesus had risen from the dead, Jesus' followers naturally assumed He would make Himself a powerful earthly king on David's throne right then and there. But Jesus told them this would not be happening yet, and instead gave them a final command before He left the earth by ascending into heaven. The final command Jesus gave was for His followers to be witnesses for Him all around the world – to tell others about Him. He would provide help by sending the Holy Spirit to be with them. This command gives all Christians a mission in life. And while Jesus was ascending into heaven, two angels in the sky told His followers that Jesus would be returning again in the same way in which He left.



KEY VERSE:

*And when He had said these things, as they were looking on, He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him out of their sight.
(Acts 1:9)*

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 4.1 we learned that Jesus rose into heaven and temporarily left the disciples with a mission to share the gospel with the world.

KEY WORD:

Ascension: a rising up

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- Why do you think Jesus' followers were so eager for the kingdom to be restored right then and there?
- What was Jesus' final command to His followers before He left earth? What did He want them to do?
- How is Jesus' final command still important for us today?
- What do you think Jesus' followers were thinking they would miss most when Jesus was physically leaving earth?
- What does it mean to share your faith with others?
- What is the most challenging thing about sharing your faith?
- What promise did the angels give the people as they were watching Jesus ascend into heaven?
- What are some other promises that God kept from some of our previous lessons, and how do they affect how we think about the promise that Jesus will return again?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

"HIS STORY" PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 4.2: The Church

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 2:40-47

SUMMARY

After Jesus ascended into heaven, more and more people began to follow the message of Jesus. All these people gathered together in what is called the Church – the Body of Christ. The Church was distinct from other types of gatherings, in that the Church focused on the Bible's teaching, prayer, fellowship (spending quality time together), and providing for the needs of each other. The church had an immediate, dramatic impact on earth as God's people went from a small collection of Jesus' followers to an ever-growing body of believers. The church plays an extremely important role for all believers in the world today as the body in which Christians gather to accomplish God's mission together.



KEY VERSE:

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.
(Acts 2:42)

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 4.2 we learned that God established the Church to be His representation of the kingdom of God here on earth.

KEY WORD:

The Church: the whole body of professing believers in Jesus Christ throughout the world

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- What things first come to mind when you think of the church?
- Why does God compare the church to a human body? How is it similar?
- What types of things does the church do?
- We know that learning about the Bible is important. What are some ways that we can make sure we learn about the Word?
- What things should Christians do when they spend time together?
- Agree or disagree: A church is not just a building with a steeple on top. Why or why not?
- How would your life as a Christian be different if you weren't an active part of a church?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

"HIS STORY" PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 4.3: Saul of Tarsus

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 9:1-22

SUMMARY

Conversion is the complete change of belief and the way someone lives life. Saul was a Jewish man who ferociously persecuted the church, even leading in the stoning of an early believer named Stephen (Acts 8:1). Despite his background, God decided to dramatically confront Saul with Himself by blinding him on his journey to Damascus and appearing to him in the sky. At this time, Saul was converted to Jesus, and later his physical eyes were opened again. But the conversion of Saul (his new name became Paul), was more about his entire spiritual eyes being opened than just his physical eyes. Spiritual conversion involves going from being separated from God to having a relationship with God through Jesus Christ. While not all conversions are nearly as dramatic, Saul's conversion is a beautiful example of how God wants to change people who follow Him.



KEY VERSE:

*And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized.
(Acts 9:18)*

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 4.3 we learned that Christ gives us new eyes to see. Paul had an encounter with Christ on the road to Damascus that would change his entire life.

KEY WORD:

Conversion: a complete change of belief and person

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- What happens to someone when they are converted?
- What was Saul's life like before he was converted?
- Why do you think Christians were afraid of Saul after he claimed to be converted?
- Why do you think God gave Saul a new name — Paul?
- Saul's conversion was especially dramatic, but how is every conversion similar to his?
- When Paul opened his eyes and received back his sight, how do you think the world looked different to him?
- What does it tell us about God that He saved Saul even when he was so violent in persecuting the church?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

"HIS STORY" PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 4.4: Already, but Not Yet

SCRIPTURE: PHILIPPIANS 3:8-14

SUMMARY

The two important concepts learned in this lesson are justification, and sanctification. These are theological words that describe both how someone becomes a Christian, and how they grow as a Christian. Someone is justified when Jesus' blood forgives them of their sin and they are made right with God, no longer being under the penalty of sin. Justification is a one-time event in the life of a brand new Christian. After someone is justified, the goal of the Christian life is to become like Jesus Christ. Sanctification is the process of growing in Christ by forgetting the old life, and pursuing hard after the new life in Christ. In this way, the work of Christ has been accomplished in Christians, but they have not fully arrived at being like Jesus. Christians will have to wait for heaven to fully realize the goal of the Christian life.



KEY VERSE:

*Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me His own.
(Philippians 3:12)*

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 4.4 we learned that we are saved from our sins and God declares us righteous. However, becoming more like Jesus is a process.

KEY WORDS:

Justification: God declaring sinners not guilty but righteous on the basis of the death of Jesus as payment for their sin

Sanctification: the process of spiritual growth that occurs as believers give control of their lives to the Holy Spirit

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- Describe how God can declare a person not guilty of their sins even though they have committed them?
- How is sanctification a process and not a one-time thing?
- What is the goal in living the Christian life?
- How should the Christian view the life they used to live before they came to Jesus?
- Paul told Christians in Philippians 3 to work very hard in following Christ. What types of things do you think he had in mind when he said this?
- How come God still accepts us in our relationship with Him even when we mess up and sin?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?
- What are some of the earthly distractions that keep us from following Jesus as hard as we should?
- Brainstorm together: What are some ways that we can work harder as we grow in Christ?

"HIS STORY" PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 4.5: He's Coming Back!

SCRIPTURE: 1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-5:11

SUMMARY

Not only did Jesus ascend into heaven and start doing great works in the Church, but He gave a promise to return again at some point in the future. Christians do not know when exactly Jesus will return, but the Bible does tell us how He will return. First Thessalonians 4:13-5:11 describes that Jesus will rapture (call up to heaven) all of the Christians who physically have died while also calling all the Christians that are alive at the time up into heaven. But since Christians are waiting for this to happen, they must have patience and readiness for that day. The promised rapture is obviously not yet fulfilled. However, Christians can have the same confidence that Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David had about God's promises to them.



KEY VERSES:

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17)

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 4.5 we learned that Jesus is coming back!

KEY WORD:

Rapture: the return of Christ for believers

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- Why do you think the very early Christians were worried when fellow Christians died?
- Describe what happens at the time of the rapture?
- Since we don't know the exact time of Jesus' return, what are some ways that you can live and wait patiently?
- What do you think will be the most mind-blowing part about being with Jesus forever?
- What temptations make it hard to wait eagerly for Jesus' return?
- Think back to the promises God made to Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David. How is Jesus' promised return similar?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

"HIS STORY" PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 4.6: Rewards

SCRIPTURE: 2 CORINTHIANS 5:10,
ROMANS 14:10, REVELATION 3:11-12

SUMMARY

The Bible talks clearly about the reality that our actions matter. In the end, when we stand before the judgment seat of Christ the life of every believer will be evaluated. The apostle Paul talks about how the life of the believer is similar to a race run by an athlete. An athlete enters and runs a race to win and obtain the prize. When Christ evaluates our lives, all of our acceptable and eternal actions will last forever. However, our unacceptable actions will be burnt up. We will place those eternal rewards at the feet of Christ. For those who do not trust in Christ as well as Satan and his fallen angels, will be cast into the lake of fire to be separated from God forever. Everything we do matters.



KEY VERSE:

*For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.
(2 Corinthians 5:10)*

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 4.6 we learned that we will be rewarded and held accountable for the things we do.

KEY WORD:

Bema: a victor's platform

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- What do you think it will be like to stand before Christ and have our lives evaluated by Him?
- Is anyone able to enter into eternity based only on the way they lived their life? Why or why not?
- What will happen to those who do not have Jesus Christ's forgiveness in eternity?
- How does the fact of hell make you feel about those who do not know Jesus?
- How is God the only one who is qualified to evaluate people?
- Why do we find it easy to compare ourselves to others and judge them? Is this ever right to do?
- What are some areas of life that you think people are often most nervous about when they consider having to appear before the judgment seat of Christ?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

"HIS STORY" PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 4.7: New Heaven/New Earth

SCRIPTURE: REVELATION 21-22:5

SUMMARY

The Bible provides a picture of how everything will conclude in the end times. God will ultimately wipe out the old order of things including the fallen earth. He will create a new heaven and a new earth to replace the old one. In this new, eternal creation, Jesus will be the King sitting on David's throne, and the pain and frustration caused by the fall of Adam and Eve – the consequences of sin – will no longer be felt. Satan and all of hell will be destroyed forever in a lake of fire, and all who belong to God will worship Him forever. Seeing how the whole story ends provides an eternal perspective for Christians who are intent on living their lives for Jesus.



KEY VERSES:

*And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be His people, and God Himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."
(Revelation 21:3-4)*

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 4.7 we learned that God will create a new heaven and a new earth. Believers will spend eternity with Him and live happily ever after.

KEY WORD:

God's kingdom: the eternal and perfect rule and dominion of Jesus Christ forever

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- Why do you think God will create a new heaven and a new earth?
- How will the new heaven and new earth be different from the earth we live on now?
- Who is the everlasting King on the throne of David in the new heaven and new earth?
- What will happen to Satan and his followers in the end?
- What role will God play in the new heaven and new earth with all His people?
- How does the knowledge of the new heaven and the new earth inform our lives today?
- When you are in heaven for eternity, what types of things about your life right now do you think will matter then?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?

TREK 1: HIS STORY PARENT GUIDE

Unit 4 Review – Consummation

SUMMARY

In Unit 4 of *Trek 1*, we see that God provides an ultimate picture of the end of all things, and how humans can respond to God's invitation of a relationship with Him. When Jesus ascended into heaven, He gave all his followers – which would become the Church – a great command to be His witnesses throughout the world. This mission defines not only the ongoing work of the Church, but also the work of the Holy Spirit on earth in the hearts of individuals who are converted. Just as Saul was converted from death to life, everyone who calls on Jesus' name is converted. And upon being converted, the process of becoming like Christ begins, and ends when all of God's people will worship Him eternally in the new heaven and new earth.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
- What was the last command of Jesus before leaving earth and how is it important for us today?
- Describe what happens when someone is converted.
- What is the purpose of the Church, and why should every Christian be involved in it?
- How does a Christian grow in their faith?
- What is the rapture, and how will God bring an end to the world as we know it?
- What will God's judgment be like, and how will He go about judging all people?
- What does the end of the story look like in heaven?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?