

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Genesis

ENOCH

Genesis 5:1-32; Hebrews 11:5; Jude 14-15

Elementary Lesson

Year One, Quarter One, Lesson Five

[0050]

AIM: to use the story of Enoch to teach my students that God is looking for people who want to walk with Him.

OBJECTS TO HAVE: Pictures of your parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, as far back as you can
The largest family photo that you have (largest group)
A picture of a person walking alone on a trail through the woods
Your Bible

POINT OF CONTACT: I want to show you a picture that is very special to me. This is a picture of my parents, my mother and father. Obviously, I call them mom and dad. Now let me show you two more pictures. This is a picture of my mother's parents; and this is a picture of my father's parents. What do we call our parents' parents? That's right, we call them grandparents. Now let me show you some more pictures. These are my grandparents' parents. Can somebody raise your hand and tell me what you call your grandparents' parents? That's right...great-grandparents. And their parents are your great-great grandparents...and their parents are your great-great-great grandparents...and so on. How many of you have grandparents who are still alive? Do any of you have great grandparents who are still alive? Did any of you ever know your great grandparents? Very few people get to meet their great-great grandparents. Have any of you gotten to meet your great-great grandparents?

I'm going to tell you about someone today who knew his great-great-great-great grandparents! His name was *Enoch*.

STORY: Last week I told you the story about Cain and his brother Abel. After Abel died, and God could not bless Cain's life, God gave Adam and Eve another son, a son that God could bless. That son's name was *Seth*. Seth was Adam's son. Seth had a son, and named him Enos. Enos was Adam's grandson. Enos had a son, and named him Cainan. Cainan was Adam's great-grandson. Cainan had a son, and named him Mahalaleel. Mahalaleel was Adam's great-great grandson. Mahalaleel had a son, and named him Jared. Jared was Adam's great-great-great-grandson. Jared had a son, and named him Enoch. Enoch was Adam's great-great-great-great grandson. The thing is that, while all of these sons and grandsons were being born, their fathers just kept on living and living, so that when Enoch was born, Adam, and all of his other great-grandfathers, were still alive. You see, in those days, people lived for hundreds of years. So the earth was filled with people pretty quickly, since many people were being born, but few people were dying.

You can imagine that in a world like that, it was really easy to live your life and not really get noticed. It had to be difficult to "make your mark," to do something that would cause you to "stand out." But this man Enoch, this great-great-great-great grandson of Adam's, he did something that caused him to stand out from everyone else. Enoch did something that made him unique. God told us exactly what it was that Enoch did that caused him to stand out from everyone else. What was that thing? Did Enoch invent the wheel? No. Did Enoch build the first skyscraper? No. Did Enoch discover America? No. Then what did Enoch do that caused him to stand out from everyone else? The Bible says this is what it was: **Enoch walked with God**. That was the thing that Enoch did that caused him to stand out from everyone else.

You say, "Is that all? Didn't he do something big, or important, or amazing? Didn't he do something to change the world, or make a lot of money, or make him famous? That's all he did?" But God thought that walking with Him was pretty important. In fact, God thought it was so important that God told us about it twice in the seven short verses that talk about Enoch's life. He says it once in verse 22, and again in verse 24. It must have been pretty important to God for God to tell us about it twice in that short passage. The thing that defined Enoch's life was that he walked with God.

What does it mean that **Enoch walked with God**? It means that,

1. Enoch stayed in communication with God constantly. Enoch talked to God all of the time, and Enoch listened for God to talk to him all of the time.
2. Enoch was very close to God in all of his thoughts.

3. Enoch knew with all of his heart that God loved him, and he loved God with all of his heart.
4. Enoch only did things that pleased God.
5. Enoch only said words that pleased God.
6. Enoch only thought thoughts that pleased God.
7. Enoch did not want to do or say or think anything that would keep him away from God.
8. Enoch worked to obey God with every step that he took.
9. Enoch wanted to go where God was going.
10. Enoch told everyone he could about how wonderful God was.

The Bible says that Enoch had a testimony, or a *reputation* for walking with God. That means that everybody who knew Enoch knew that Enoch walked with God. (Hebrews 11:5). Enoch wanted everybody to know that he walked with God. If you said, “Do you know Enoch?” somebody would answer, “Isn’t he that guy that walks with God?” If somebody introduced Enoch to you, they’d say, “This is my friend Enoch. He walks with God.” Walking with God was what Enoch was known for.

I’ve told you some very special things about Enoch, that the thing that made him stand out was that he walked with God, and that everybody who knew Enoch knew that Enoch walked with God. But now I am going to tell you something very unusual about Enoch.

Enoch’s wife knew that her husband walked with God. Enoch’s children knew that their daddy walked with God. They knew that that meant that some days when they ate, Enoch would not be eating with them, because he was fasting as he walked with his God. They knew that it meant that some nights while they were sleeping, their daddy would be awake, because he was in the living room walking with God, or out in the yard walking with God. But they always knew that he would show up when and where he said he would be. They knew that, because people who walk with God are always dependable.

But one day when it was time for Enoch to come home, he was not there. They got a little worried, but then they thought, “Maybe he got involved in something that made him late. He’ll be here.” But he never came. He did not come home at all that night. The next day, Enoch’s wife began to check around to see if anyone had seen or heard from Enoch; but nobody had. Enoch’s wife went to find Enoch’s closest friends, but none of them had seen him, and Enoch had not told them where he was going. This was not like Enoch. He was so faithful and dependable, and he would never go off without telling someone where he was going and when he would be back.

Soon the town put together a search party to find him. For days they looked everywhere that they could possibly think of to look. They didn’t find a single trace of where Enoch had gone.

The Bible says Enoch “was not found.” But the Bible tells us where Enoch had gone. Here is what the Bible says: “By faith, Enoch was translated (changed) that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him; for before his translation, he had this testimony, that he pleased God.” Hebrews 11:5.

God said, “Enoch, because everybody knows that you walk with me, I have a special job for you to do that only you can do. You are going to help me teach the world that if they are walking with me, they have nothing to fear. Since everybody knows that you walk with me, they know that I would never let anything bad happen to you. Since death is a mystery to everyone in the world, you are going to help them understand that mystery a little bit better.”

Enoch said, “Lord, whatever you say! What do you want me to do?”

God said, “I am going to change your body into the body that you need to have to live in heaven; and then you are going to come home to heaven with me now.” Instead of Enoch dying the normal death that everyone expects to die, God changed Enoch, and then took him home to heaven. Because Enoch walked with God, God was able to use Enoch in a very special way. Enoch will forever be known as the man who walked with God, and he will forever be known as the man who never died.

You say, “That sounds kind of mysterious to me! I’m not sure that I understand that!” All you need to know is that God is looking for people to walk with Him; and if we will walk with Him, He will show us some wonderful things that we cannot learn any other way. Do you want to walk with God?

Let’s learn our memory verse. **Romans 5:8 – *But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.***

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Teen and Adult Lesson

Year One, Quarter One, Lesson Five

[0050]

Teacher, choose one of the following truths to expand upon in teaching this portion of Scripture to your teen/adult class. Teach and apply the truth that you choose using statements and illustrations that are most helpful and applicable to your students.

- I. **GOD TAKES SPECIAL NOTICE OF THOSE WHO HUNGER TO WALK WITH HIM.** Of these first ten generations, God made special notice of Enoch, not because of his talents or accomplishments, but because he walked with God. Twice in this brief bio of Enoch God says, “Enoch walked with God.” The fact is, Enoch’s entire existence was defined by, “Enoch walked with God.” All ten of the men in this genealogy pleased God to some degree; but Enoch’s walk with God was unique among them. God is looking for people who strive to walk with Him.
 - a. Enoch stayed constantly in communication with God.
 - b. Enoch paid close attention to his personal relationship with God.
 - c. Enoch was very close to God in all of his thoughts.
 - d. Enoch knew with all of his heart that God loved him, and Enoch loved God with all of his heart.
 - e. Enoch actions, words and thoughts were only those things that pleased God.
 - f. Enoch worked to obey God with every step that he took.
 - g. Enoch wanted to go wherever God was going.

- II. **IT PLEASURES GOD WHEN WE HAVE A REPUTATION FOR WALKING WITH HIM.** Hebrews 11:5. Enoch “had this testimony,” that is, it is what he was known for. Everybody is ultimately known for something. God is pleased when we are willing to be known for our walk with Him.

- III. **GOD TEACHES GREAT TRUTHS TO THOSE WHO WALK WITH HIM.** Enoch was a prophet whose preaching was well known for many generations. Jude 14, 15. God revealed to Enoch that an outpouring of judgment was coming, for Enoch named his son *Methuselah*, which literally means, *when he dies, there shall be a sending forth*. Methuselah died in the year 1656 AM (After Man), the same year that God judged the world with the Flood. The life of Enoch’s son Methuselah was a fulfillment of Enoch’s prophecy.

- IV. **WE WALK WITH GOD “BY FAITH.”** Hebrews 11:5. The concept of walking with God is still a great mystery, until a person chooses to jump in and learn how to walk with God. That’s when the mysteries begin to be revealed. The choice to jump in is a step of faith. Everyone who has ever chosen to take the leap and learn to walk with God has done so by faith; there is no other way.

- V. **GOD HAS A SPECIAL PURPOSE FOR THOSE WHO WALK WITH HIM.** Genesis 5:24, Hebrews 11:5. Enoch did not die; God “translated,” or changed him from his earthly body to his heavenly body, without the dread and pain of physical death. Though Enoch was the seventh from Adam, only Adam had faced death among these ten patriarchs when Enoch was translated. God used the man who was known for walking with God, to let his people know that those who walk with Him have nothing to fear, that though there must be mysteries regarding the ending of this life, God has something very special for those who know Him. This was the purpose that God used Enoch to fulfill. When you walk with God, God likewise has a great purpose that He will use you to fulfill. **THE MAN WHO WALKS WITH GOD ALWAYS REACHES HIS DESTINATION.**

Enoch

Genesis 5:18-24, Hebrews 11:5, Jude 14-15
[0050]

Enoch Walked With God

I. GENESIS 5:18-24 Enoch's Biography

18-20 Enoch, the son: his name means "instructed, trained up"

21-23 Enoch, the father: his son's name means "when he dies, judgment"

24 Enoch, the believer: he walked with God

II. HEBREWS 11:5 Enoch's Faith

5a Enoch lived by faith

5b Enoch never died

5c Enoch's disappearance was a mystery to the people of his day

5d People who knew Enoch knew that he pleased God

III. JUDE 14-15 Enoch's Ministry

14a Enoch represents the seventh human generation

14b Enoch preached, and his message was known

14c-15 Enoch preached judgment and the coming of Christ

Romans 5:8

*But God commendeth His love toward us, in that,
while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*

