

LOGOS Kids Club

Year 2 - Lesson 13 - Grades 1-2

Lesson Focus

Text: Luke 15:11-24

Question 13: What is repentance?

Answer 13: Repentance is turning from sin to God in obedience.

Objective: By God's grace each child will

1. Be able to give a simple definition for the word "repentance".
2. Come to genuine faith and repentance before the Lord Jesus.

Doc: \kcl\les13-12

Introduction

1. There is nothing like a homecoming. Perhaps you have had a brother or sister who has been away at school and when they return there is great joy in the home.

Perhaps your mom has been away for a time or your dad has been away - and when they return there is great joy. People returning to their loved ones is often a time of great rejoicing. Christmas time is a time like that when people return home.

2. I had a friend whom I knew many years ago. I met him at a Christian camp. I was his counselor \ leader. He was probably 11 or 12 years old when I first met him.

At camp I told him about God. We studied the Bible together. I encouraged him to give Jesus his life.

Well, years went on. This boy got older. He left his home and went to college. During his college days, and after college, this boy made some bad decisions. He participated in some sinful activities, breaking many of God's commands, which eventually led him to get a terrible sickness.

For a long time he stayed away from home. He was ashamed of his behavior, of his life.

Finally when he knew his death was nearing, he called his dad. His dad was so glad to hear from him. Then the boy told his dad that he had sickness that was killing him. He wondered how his dad would react. How would you have reacted?

3. You know the Bible speaks of a homecoming. It is a most wonderful homecoming of a boy coming home to his father. Jesus talked about it. He talked about it because it was a homecoming similar to the one all of us need to experience.

4. Today we will look at this homecoming found in Luke 15. Let's see the tragedy of the boy going away, why he decided to come back and how his father reacted when he came home. Listen to verse 11f as we look at the tragedy of the boy leaving his father.

Body

1. The boy leaves his father

Luke 15:11-16

¹¹ Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

¹³ "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. ¹⁴ After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. (NIV)

We see that a man had two sons. He cares very much and very well for them both. One day the youngest asks his father for his share of the estate.

In those days the older son would get a double portion of the inheritance, so this son probably got one-third of his father's estate. (An estate is all the things a person owns.) It was unusual for the son to receive it early. Usually when the father could no longer manage the estate, he divided it. But this time the father agreed to divide it early.

So the son took his inheritance and all of his other belongings and he left his father. He thought he was now free. He probably thought how great it was to be free from his father's control. Now he could do what he wanted, go where he wanted, eat what he wanted, go to bed when he wanted.

And this is just what he did. The Bible tells us he went out and wasted his money with riotous living. He probably went out drinking, partying... he probably participated in much sinful living, breaking many of the Ten Commandments.

But then it happened. Not only did he run out of money, but there was a famine in the land. Famine in the Bible was often a sign of God's judgment. There was very little food, so there were no generous people willing to give food to the likes of him.

In order to survive, the boy looked to be hired by a local farmer. He was given a job feeding the pigs, but he was not given anything by this man to live on. The Bible said he was so hungry that he coveted for the food of the pigs.

So, in our story so far, we have seen that the boy left his father thinking he would conquer the world. He thought he was free at last. But instead, he found himself a slave to a man, feeding his pigs. And a pig was a most detestable animal to the Jews.

You know the Bible makes it clear that we are all like this boy. We, too, have left our heavenly father. We have gone our own way. We have wanted freedom from God. We have not kept God as our first love. We called ourselves Christians but didn't live like it, thus bringing shame to God's name. We have not set aside time to worship and

remember God. Instead of listening in church and Sunday School we have played around. We have been disobedient to our parents and our leaders. We have hurt others with our words. All of us have been takers instead of givers and are guilty of coveting.... We all have sinned and gone our own way. We have separated ourselves from God and now we are under the His judgment.

2. The boy returns (repents)

But something amazing happened to this boy. Listen to the Bible as I read from verse 17 on.

Luke 15:17-19 ¹⁷ "When he came to his senses, he said, `How many of my father's hired men have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired men.' (NIV)

So here sat this boy. I am sure his clothing was tattered, his hair a mess, his feet muddy from working with the pigs, his stomach aching with hunger. Then the light went on! There he saw the foolishness of his way. He saw his sinfulness. He saw the wastefulness of his life. So he said, "What am I doing? I sit here dying of hunger, but I know even the servants in my Father's house have food enough to eat.

I'll go to my father, confess my sin before heaven and before him and ask to be a hired servant. I confess, I am not worthy to be his son. "

Boys, do you know that this is just what we need to do? We need to see our lives apart from God as wasteful. We need to see the foolishness of breaking God's commands. We need to see the emptiness of life separated from the father. Then we need to come to God and confess that we are not worthy; that we have sinned ; that we want only to be servants in His care. This is what the Bible calls **Repentance**. It is turning from sin to God in obedience.

And do you how God responds when we come to him in this way? Let's listen as I read on from verse 20.

3. The Father receives his son

Luke 15:20-24 ²⁰ So he got up and went to his father.

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

²¹ "The son said to him, `Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

²² "But the father said to his servants, `Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate. (NIV)

The boy got up and went to his father with his speech all ready. And what did he find? He found his father waiting for him. His father was waiting for his return.

In fact when the father saw his son, he ran to meet him, threw his arms around him and kissed him. He didn't care what his son looked like. He didn't care if mud was on his feet, that he had a tattered robe, that he was a mess.

The boy tried to confess his sin and his unworthiness, but his father interrupted his speech. He had a robe given to him (usually given to a guest of honor), a ring put on his finger (a sign of authority not of slavery), and sandals put on his feet.

The father declared a feast, a time of rejoicing. Why? Because his son was dead, he was lost, he had gone his own wasteful way, but now he returned, he was alive, he was found. It was truly a time to rejoice.

This is our heavenly Father's response. When we repent, when we come confessing our sinfulness, confessing our unworthiness, what do we find? We find the Father waiting ready to embrace us. He desires to take off our filthy clothes, our sinfulness, and to put on the clothes of Jesus' righteousness, His cleanness. He desires to take us from our slavery to sin and make us His sons.

Conclusion

1. My friend listened patiently as he waited for his dad's response. I'm sure the seconds he waited were painful. What would his dad say? He came asking to return when he had lived so disobediently and now he had a terrible sickness that he had caused himself.

After some thought, actually about this Bible passage, the dad said, "Son, I love you. Please come home. "

The son did come home. He spent his last days with his father and family. It was a joyous, though hard, time for the family.

2. The Father waits for you and for me. We all have gone our own way. We have left our father and are living lives as slaves to sin. Today the Father calls us to repent, to turn from our sin, to see its ugliness, and then to turn to Him in faith, love, and obedience. Have you done this?

Note: When you think of repentance think of a U-turn sign. Repentance is a U-turn, turning from sin to God in obedience. This is just what the prodigal son did. He no longer wanted to live life on his own. He wanted to live with and for his father.

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Instruction Time
Lesson 13

1. Review

Take time to review Q&A and memory verse for lesson 11-12. Allow several children to recite these lessons alone and then recite them as a group. If time permits give several other children an opportunity to recite all Ten Commandments (the verses) from memory in order. Be sure, though, that you leave time for your new memory verse.

2. Explain the verse

Acts 3:19 *Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, ...*

- ◆ What does it mean to repent? (It means to do a U-turn; to turn around.)
- ◆ When you repent what are you turning from and who are you turning to? (You are turning from sin and selfishness, and turn in faith to God.)
- ◆ What happens when we repent? (Before God, our sins are wiped out.)

3. Memorize the verse

Tape a verse - Work with the children memorizing the verse. After awhile have one child recite the verse on a tape recorder. Replay the verse and then have the child check his accuracy. Give each child a chance to recite and check his verse.

Lesson Review Questions

1. What did the youngest son do with the inheritance his father gave to him? (He spent it foolishly.)
2. Why do you think the youngest son left his father? (He did not appreciate all his father had done for him. He wanted to be free to do whatever he wanted.)
3. What happened to the younger son when he left his father? (He spent all his money and then had to feed pigs in order to earn money to live on. He suffered greatly.)
4. What happened to bring the son back to his father? (The son realized how foolish he had been to leave his father. He decided to return, confess his sin, and serve his father.)
5. How did the father react to his son's return? (He warmly received him back.)
6. What does it mean to repent? (To turn from sin to God in obedience.)
7. Have you returned to God?

LOGOS Kids Club

Lesson Focus

Text: Luke 18:35-43

Question 14: What does it mean to be saved by grace?

Answer 14: When I was helpless God rescued me from sin.

Objective: By God's grace each child will

1. Grow in his understanding of God's grace.
2. Come to see his need of God's grace and respond in faith.

Doc:\kcl\les14-12

Year 2 - Lesson 14 - Grades 1-2

Introduction

1. How many of you have ever been to Niagara Falls? I understand that it is a spectacular sight, watching gallon upon gallon of water rush down many hundreds of feet to the rocks below. In fact, it is such a sight that thousands of people each year travel to Niagara Falls in order to take in the thrill.

It was this thrill that brought several couples to Niagara Falls one winter. Wintertime can even be more thrilling because at times an ice bridge will form over the falls enabling brave individuals to walk across and get an even more spectacular view.

Two couples walked with a trained guide onto the ice bridge one winter. They carefully walked onto the bridge and were enjoying the site when all of a sudden they heard a large crack. Then they heard another. Before they knew it, ice blocks were breaking all around them. The two couples panicked. They were most certainly doomed. The ice was breaking up and they were going to drop to their death.

But there was one hope. Their tour guide was a well-trained naturalist. He knew the nature of what was happening. He encouraged them to follow him. The two couples only had a moment to reflect. They could try to get out of danger by themselves, or they could entrust themselves to this guide.

One couple chose to go their own way. Sadly they fell to their death. The other, because they knew they couldn't save themselves, entrusted their lives to their guide. They carefully and quickly followed their guide to safety. You can imagine how grateful they were for their guide.

2. Not many of us have been in a dangerous and hopeless situation. But if we found ourselves in one, we would have to decide if we would try to get out of it on our own, or if available, trust another person to get us out. Most likely we would not trust another

person unless we were convinced that we were unable and that the other person was able to save us.

3. You know the Bible speaks of a man who was in a helpless, hopeless situation. Let's see what this situation was and see how he was able to get free from it. Listen carefully because his story is actually our story, too. Turn with me to Luke 18.

Body

1. The man in need of grace

Luke 18:35 As Jesus approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging.

As the story begins, we see a man sitting by the roadside. What is his problem? Yes, he is blind. It is most probable that day after day this man is brought out by a family member to this place where he sits and begs. And then at the end of the day his family member comes and picks him up and takes him home. It is a terrible existence. The man can do very little. For life he is doomed to beg, unable to take in the sights around him, unaware of things around him that may trip him up or cause him harm, often needing help to do the simplest things, He is completely helpless, too, to do anything about his blindness.

You know the Bible says that we all have a problem very similar to this man. No, none of us is physically blind, but the Bible says that we are spiritually blind. On our own we can't understand who God is. We can't see His holiness or His love. In fact, we are so blind that the devil has his way in our life. He leads us around by our selfish hearts so that we do only what he wants us to do. The sad thing is that we are completely unable to do anything about it. With our selfish hearts in control, we have separated ourselves from our loving Father; like the prodigal son, we are unable to fix the mess we're in. Like the blind man, we are in desperate need of help.

2. A man encounters Jesus

But something marvelous happens one day to our blind man. Let's read on.

Luke 18:36-42 ³⁶When he heard the crowd going by, he asked what was happening. ³⁷They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by."

³⁸He called out, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

³⁹Those who led the way rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

⁴⁰Jesus stopped and ordered the man to be brought to him. When he came near, Jesus asked him, ⁴¹"What do you want me to do for you?"

"Lord, I want to see," he replied.

⁴²Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has healed you." (NIV)

So here was this man, sitting helplessly by the roadside begging, when he began to hear a lot of commotion. Unable to see, he began asking what was going on. The text seems to indicate that he asked repeatedly until he got his answer.

Someone finally told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by. Now do you think this was by accident that Jesus passed this way? I don't think so. I think Jesus was planning to help this man. That's why He came this way. That's what Jesus does with us as well. He sees us in our helplessness and comes to us through His word.

Well the man obviously knew about Jesus because he immediately called out, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" But if he really knew Him why did he call Jesus, the Son of David? Who were Jesus' earthly parents?

Actually he knew better than most who Jesus was. He called Him 'Son of David' because this was Jesus' special title. You see the Jews knew that one day God above would send a deliverer. He would be a special person who would deliver the people from their slavery. He would also perform some mighty miracles. So when the blind man heard it was Jesus, he rightly called out for his deliverer, the Son of David.

And what did he cry out for? Mercy. He wanted Jesus to give him something he did not deserve, but something he knew Jesus could alone give him. How do you think he cried out? The Scriptures tell us he cried out with a loud, strong voice.

Notice that some tried to stop him. The Bible tells us that they sternly told him to keep his peace. Or, in other words, they told him to shut his mouth. Perhaps with this they were suggesting that he was not worthy of Jesus' time and attention.

But these other men did not stop this man. In fact he kept on yelling louder and louder, "Jesus, have mercy on me." Did Jesus hear him? You bet he did. He called the man to himself. Others helped him come to Jesus. Then Jesus asked what he wanted Him to do for him.

Without hesitation the man said he wanted to regain his sight. Isn't that amazing? I am sure that thousands of people walked by this man but never once did he cry out to them to give him sight. Why did he do it this time? Because God in heaven had convinced him that Jesus was the deliverer sent from heaven and that he alone could free Him from His blindness. So in faith he cried for mercy and Jesus heard his cry.

And what did Jesus do? He told the man his faith had made him well. His belief in Jesus' ability to heal even the blind and his turning to Him as His only hope had won him a gift that he never could have gotten by Himself.

You know this is our story, too. We sit by the roadside of life totally blind. We are a slave to sin, separated from God's love, and in terrible danger of His judgment. And we can do nothing about it. Then Jesus comes our way. He helps us understand our problem. He helps us understand, too, that He alone can deliver us. Convinced by God of this, we cry out to Him for mercy, and God comes and gives us sight - He makes us new, not because we have earned it, or deserve it, but because of His great love and grace.

3. The results of the encounter

This is what happened to this man and immediately his life was changed. Look at the last verse.

Luke 18:43 ⁴³ Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, praising God. When all the people saw it, they also praised God. (NIV)

You know when we realize we are blind and sinful before God and unable to do anything about it, and when we cry out for mercy looking to Jesus in faith, at that point we have begun our new life with God.

And what will that new life be like? In part it will be a life of following God and of bringing glory to Him. We will no longer live for our self and our selfish desires; we will no longer be a slave to Satan. Instead we will be Jesus' follower, His servants, and will grow to love others as Jesus loved us. Others will see the change in us and will say God has done a marvelous work.

Conclusion

1. Like the people on Niagara Falls we all are in a dangerous situation. One direction leads to life if we follow our guide, the other leads to death. Which direction are you going?

2. Has God convinced you of your spiritual blindness? Do you see that your sin has separated you from God and placed you under His judgment?

Has God also helped you see Jesus Christ? Do you realize that He is God in human flesh who in love came to deliver us?

And have you cried out to Him for mercy? Have you asked Him to enter your life, forgive your sin, and enable you to live a life that honors Him?

3. I encourage you to respond to God. Cry out to Him for His mercy found in Jesus Christ. Become his child and begin following Him. Know His grace today.

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Instruction Time
Lesson 14

1. Review

Take time to review Q&A and memory verses for lessons 12 and 13. Give several children an opportunity to recite these lessons and then recite them as a group. If time permits also give several children (those who have not had the chance yet) an opportunity to recite all Ten Commandments in order. Be sure to leave enough time to work on the new verse.

2. Explain the verse

Ephesians 2:8 *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith... it is the gift of God.*

- ◆ This verse says that we have been saved. From what have we been saved? (We have been saved from sin – its death penalty and its power over us.)
- ◆ What is grace? (The undeserved favor of God in helping us get free from sin. It is a gift from God given out of His love, not something we have earned.)
- ◆ What is faith? (It is looking to Jesus as the only one who can help us and the rightful ruler of our lives.)

3. Memorize the verse

Erase a word: Recite the whole verse with the children. If a child can say the verse let him erase one word. Then recite the verse with the group. Continue this procedure until all the words are erased and each child has mastered the verse. Be sure to say the reference before and after the verse.

Lesson Review Questions

1. What problem did the man have who sat by the road? (He was blind)
2. Could the man do anything about his problem? (No, he was helpless to do anything about his blindness.)
3. Who came down the road one day? Was this an accidental meeting? (Jesus came down. This was no accident. Jesus wanted to help this man and show others that He was the Son of God.)
4. Why did the man cry out for mercy? (He knew he could do nothing to help himself.)
5. Why did the man call Jesus the “Son of David”? (He believed Jesus to be God’s deliverer sent from heaven.)
6. In what way are we helpless and in need of God’s mercy and grace? (Sin controls our hearts and only Jesus can set us free from sin to become His servants.)

LOGOS Kids Club

Year 2 - Lesson 15 - Grades 1-2

Lesson Focus

Text: John 15:1-12

Question 15: Why are good works important if they can't save me?

Answer 15: Good works show that God is living in me.

Objective: By God's grace each child will

1. Understand the place of good works in the life of a Christian.
2. Seek to produce the fruit of good works that bring glory to God.

Doc: \kclles15-12

Introduction

1. In Phoenix, during the winter, some of the trees lose their leaves. Where I grew up, in Chicago, most of the trees lost their leaves during the winter.

When looking at a tree during the winter it looks like the tree is dead. Every branch seems cold and lifeless. It has neither leaves nor fruit.

How could you tell which branches were alive and which were dead? Probably the best way would be to wait; that is wait until spring and summer when you can look at each branch and see which ones have leaves and fruit and which ones do not.

2. (Show example of branch with leaves and fruit and one that is obviously dead)

Here are two branches from a tree in my backyard. Which one is alive and which one is dead? How can you tell the difference? Yes, you tell the difference by looking at the leaves and the fruit. You know the one is alive and well because it bears fruit. The dead one, even though it looks like a branch does not have any life in it.

Why does one branch bear fruit and the other not? One branch has the life of the tree flowing through it, causing it to grow, and the other does not.

3. In a way, people can be like tree branches. Two people can stand up and say, "I am a Christian", but how do you know if they are really a Christian? (Allow for answer)

Jesus, before dying on the cross, shared with his followers an illustration that helped them answer the question, "How does one know who is really a Christian?" We will look at Jesus' lesson to answer the question "How do I know that I am a Christian?"

We will be talking about Jesus' words which are found in John 15.

Body

1. Jesus tells of the Father's work

Jesus began his illustration and said, "I am the vine and my Father is the vinedresser".

With these words Jesus was telling His followers to look at Him as if he were the stock of a vine. His followers knew very well what a grape vine looked like - it had a long stock with branches from which the grapes grew. Jesus was saying that he was that stock. They were to see themselves as the branches.

And what did He say the job of His Father is? The Father is the vinedresser; He is the one who works with the vine to make sure that it produces the most fruit.

How does He do this? As he inspects the branches and sees them hanging from the vine without fruit, He lifts or props them up. This action helps the branch to begin producing fruit. When He sees other branches which have **some** fruit, he prunes and cleanses these branches so that they will produce **more** fruit. He will try to cut off unnecessary parts of the branch so the sap in the tree will be used mostly to produce the fruit. You see, the Father's goal is for each branch to produce the most fruit. That's why the branches are there.

Now when the branches produce lots of fruit what will people think of the vinedresser? They will glorify Him. They will say that the one who is able to produce so much must be great.

Application

Do you see how this relates to you? Jesus is the vine - He is the stock, the source of life. We are connected to Him for the purpose of bearing fruit - much fruit. The fact is if we are not connected to Him we cannot bear fruit. Now the heavenly Father's job is to enable us to produce fruit in our lives. How does he do it? He does it through His Word. Sometimes He lifts us up and encourages us with His word. He encourages us to go a certain way or to live a certain way. At other times He sends us a word that shows us our sin. When He does this, His desire is to clean away those things that will hurt our growth.

The fact is, God makes you a Christian so that you will produce fruit. The fruit doesn't earn you the right to be a Christian, it shows that God is at work in you. God wants you to produce a lot of fruit, because when you do, you bring glory to God. People see the way you live and they say "Now that's a Christian. That person's God must be truly great!"

2. The fruit the Father produces

But what is the fruit God wants to produce in our lives? To answer that question let's think about the vine. What kind of fruit do you expect from a vine? Of course, grapes. What about from an apple tree? Of course apples. Then what kind of fruit do you expect from a 'Jesus' tree? Of course a person who lives like Jesus. And what would you say are the two most important character traits of Jesus? First was His obedience to His Father and second was His love for others. When Jesus was about to be crucified and be tortured by the wrath of God, He asked the Father to allow Him to escape all this. However, He quickly added that He wanted not His own will to be done, but His Father's

will. And then convinced it was His Father's will, Jesus gave His life for those who had rebelled against Him. He really showed His love.

Application

Do you know that when God works with you, those are the two things He wants to produce in you as well? The fruit that God wants to see in a Christian in great amounts is the fruit of obedience to God and love for others. God will certainly keep bringing His Word to you until you more and more show yourself to be like Jesus in these ways.

And there is one more fruit that will be seen. If you live in obedience to God and if you increase in your love for others, you are going to be a person who has great joy. Our happiness does not really come from toys, and getting things that we want. True joy comes from living in a way that honors God.

3. The branches' need for Jesus

Now if Jesus is the vine and you are the branches, what does that tell you about how important Jesus is? The fact is that we need Jesus. If we are cut off from Jesus (like these two branches that I showed you from my yard) we cannot produce fruit.

You see, all of the Christian life suggests how badly we need Jesus. Before we become a Christian we realize how badly we are in debt to God and how we can do nothing about it. We realize how lost we are and how we cannot do a thing about it. Then when God opens our eyes we see Jesus as our only hope. God enables us to turn from our sin and look to Jesus in faith and we become a true branch on Jesus' vine. We still, however, continue to need Jesus. Unless we daily trust in Him and cling to Him we cannot bear fruit and glorify our Father.

Conclusion

1. Back to our original question: How do you know that you are a Christian? Do you know the answer to this now? Just as you can tell which branch is connected to the tree by its fruit, so you can tell who is a Christian by their fruit or good works - by their obedience to God, their love for others, and their joy.

2. Which branch are you? Are you a true Christian who is bearing fruit and honoring your Father or are you a dried-up branch who really has no life in you? If you are like a dried-up branch, I urge you to come to Jesus. In His illustration Jesus said that the Father, when inspecting the vine, takes those branches which are all dried up and throws them into the fire. That is the end of all those who are not true Christians.

Don't pretend to be a Christian. Give your life to Christ and then look for your Father to begin producing fruit in your life. That's why He makes you a Christian.

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Instruction Time
Lesson 15

1. Review

Take time to review Q&A and memory verse for lesson 14. Try to give each child an opportunity to recite this lesson and then recite it as a group several times. Be sure to leave ample time for the learning of the new verse.

2. Explain the verse

Ephesians 2:10 *For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works,*

- ◆ What do we mean that we are God's workmanship? (We are God's creation. He is making us into His masterpiece.)
- ◆ For what purpose is God creating us? (To do good works)
- ◆ What do we mean by doing good works? (Living in such a way that brings honor to God who created us and is re-creating us in Jesus.)

3. Memorize the verse

Ping Pong: Divide your group into two teams. Use your finger to represent the ping pong ball. Point to each team -- that team will say one word (or two) each time the finger points to them. Continue to do this through the verse several times until the verse is memorized. If a team cannot say their word in a few seconds, award the other team a point.

Lesson Review Questions

1. In His illustration Jesus said He was the vine. What did He say His Father was? (The vinedresser)
2. As a vinedresser what is the Father's job? (His job is to get the branches to produce as much fruit as possible)
3. What does God use to produce fruit in our lives - to encourage us and warn us? (He uses His Word among other things.)
4. Can a Christian produce fruit apart from Christ? Explain your answer. (No. Jesus is the life source. Apart from the life source we cannot bear any fruit.)
5. What kind of fruit does God want to produce in your life? (Obedience to God, love for others, joy.)
6. Is your branch producing fruit? Is God at work in your life producing good works that bring glory to Him?

LOGOS Kids Club

Lesson Focus

Text: Luke 1:26-56

Question 16: Why do Christians need to pray?

Answer 16: When Christians pray they give God their thanks, love and trust.

Objective: By God's grace each child will

1. Be able to give three reasons why Christians need to pray.
2. Show God his trust, thanks and praise through participation in a time of prayer.

Doc: \kclles16-12

Year 2 - Lesson 16 - Grades 1-2

Introduction

1. Have you ever gotten a gift that was exactly what you wanted? Something you asked your parents for not really expecting it, but hoping for it anyway? When you received such a gift how did you feel? How did you respond to your parents?
2. When I was a young boy we had had our usual Christmas. I had asked for a short wave radio from my parents. I didn't really expect to get it, but I hoped I would. After receiving several other gifts I figured there was no chance I would receive the radio. To my surprise, however, when all the gifts had been opened, my mother went to a different room and brought out a large box. Do you know what was in there? It was my short wave radio. I was so grateful. I thought that I received more than I deserved. I couldn't contain my joy. I thanked my parents over and over and tried to express my love for them.
3. The remaining weeks we have of club we are going to be talking about prayer. In a way, prayer is, at least in part, similar to my example above. Having received a gift of incredible worth, we have a great desire to respond to God in thanks, love and trust.
4. Our story today is about a woman who received an incredible gift from God. Let's see what that gift was and how she responded to God.

Body

1. An incredible gift given to Mary Luke 1:26-37

One day God sent the angel, Gabriel, to a city named Nazareth where a young unmarried woman named Mary lived. She was a common woman, not especially rich or classy, but happy because she was engaged to be married.

Gabriel spoke to Mary and said, "Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you."

Mary was frightened by this and wondered what the angel meant by this.

Gabriel told her not to fear because she had found favor with God, for she was to be the mother of a very, very, very special child. This child, whose name was to be Jesus, was to be called the Son of the Most High. He would have a Kingdom that would last forever. Of course, we know that this child would be God in human flesh and blood.

Now Mary was really puzzled by all this. First of all, she was not married and she had been very pure in her behavior. How could she be having a baby, much less a baby who was the Son of God?

Gabriel had just the right answer for her. He said that the Holy Spirit would come to her and "plant a seed" in Mary's tummy. This seed would grow to be the very Son of God. Now if Mary was having a hard time believing all this, Gabriel told her that "nothing is impossible with God". In fact, God was performing a miracle in her relative, Elizabeth, right now. Though Elizabeth was pretty old she was only 3 months away from having a baby. Nobody thought that was possible.

2. Mary responds to God for His incredible gift 1:38-56

Now if you were Mary how would you respond to all this? How would you respond to being chosen to bear the Son of God? How would you react to this gift?

Mary was humbled by all of this. She wondered why God would give her this incredible gift. Mary told Gabriel that she was the Lord's servant and she trusted Him to do with her as He wanted. So Mary first responded with trust, telling God that she trusted Him to do what was best for her and her people.

Next, Mary traveled to see her relative, Elizabeth. Sure enough, Elizabeth was pregnant. In fact when Mary reached the house and called out to Elizabeth, the baby leaped in Elizabeth's tummy and Elizabeth, with the Holy Spirit's help, began to say how blessed Mary was and how good it was that she had believed Gabriel's message.

At this Mary could not contain herself. All this was too wonderful for her. She began praying out loud. In her prayer she said how much she rejoiced in God. God had blessed her with an incredible gift even though she was a common woman. How thankful she was for this! She declared that God is mighty and holy and that He humbles the proud, but lifts up the lowly. She further thanked God for remembering His promises. He indeed was a God full of mercy who was now bringing the promised deliverer to His people.

Conclusion

1. Mary responded by showing her trust in God. She said God could do to her as He wanted. She also responded by thanking and praising God and expressing her love.

2. Do you know that those who are Christians have received an incredible gift? Though we were in great debt because of our sins; though we were lost and unable to find our way to God; though we were enemies of God because of our sin, God in His mercy came to us. He opened our eyes, paid our debt and led us to God. He removes all the filth of our sins from our hearts and replaces it with His Holy Spirit, who is God in us.

Can you imagine that? God being so loving that He removes sin from the hearts of His enemies and comes to live inside them?

How should we respond to this? Just as Mary did. We should burst out in prayer showing God our trust in Him, our thanks to Him, and our love for Him. When you have been changed by God there is no more natural response than to pray.

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Instruction Time
Lesson 16

1. Review

Take time to review Q&A and memory verse for lesson 15. Give several children an opportunity to recite the lesson and then recite it as a group. Be sure to leave plenty of time for learning the new verse.

2. Explain the verse

Psalm 107:1 *Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.*

- ◆ What is the Psalmist telling us to do? (Give thanks to the Lord.)
- ◆ Why are we to give thanks to the Lord? (We are to give thanks for God's goodness and love.)
- ◆ What does it mean that God's love endures forever? (It is very great. It goes on and on.)

3. Memorize the verse

Bean bag toss: Sit in a circle and give the first child a bean bag. He is to say the reference of the verse and then toss the bean bag to anyone else in the group. When that person catches the bean bag, he is to say the next word and then pass it on. Keep passing the bean bag until the verse is completely said. Try to make sure all children stay involved. To insure this, you might want to say that when a person has caught the bean bag once, he cannot catch it again until the next round.

Lesson Review Questions

1. What special gift did God give to Mary? (She was chosen to give birth to the Son of God.)
2. How did Mary respond when she received this gift? (She responded by giving her trust, love and thanks to God.)
3. How did Mary show her trust in God? (She said that she was willing to have happen to her whatever the Lord desired.)
4. What gift has God given to us? (He saved us not only from sin's penalty, but also from sin's power. He cleanses our hearts and comes to live inside.)
5. For what can we give praise and thanks to God? (For our salvation, for His protection and provision,...)

LOGOS Kids Club

Year 2 - Lesson 17 - Grades 1-2

Lesson Focus

Text: Luke 11:1-4, 9-13

Question 17: What does the phrase, "Our Father in heaven" teach me about prayer?

Answer 17: It teaches me to pray to God as my caring Father.

Objective: By God's grace each child will

1. Grow in knowledge and appreciation of the privilege of calling God "Father".
2. Learn to pray to God as his caring Father in heaven.

Doc: \kclles17-12

Introduction

1. Do you know how to pray? I mean do you **really** know how to pray? Do you know how God wants you to pray and what He wants you to pray for?

2. One day after Jesus had been away praying to His Father, one of the disciples came up to Jesus and said, "Lord, teach us to pray just as John taught his disciples". In a way this was an amazing request, for these men were not unfamiliar with prayer. They were Jews who were taught to pray, even several times a day.

Perhaps, though, they saw something different in Jesus. His prayers seemed to flow from His heart and what He said was full of rich ideas. So this brave disciple asked the Lord to teach them to pray. He was humble enough to realize that he didn't really know how to pray as he ought. I hope all of us here tonight will have that same humble attitude, wanting God to teach us to pray.

To the disciple's request Jesus replied, "Oh, just talk to God. Tell Him whatever is on your heart." Is that what Jesus said? No. The truth is Jesus gave the disciples a model prayer. It was a sample prayer that they could pattern their own prayers after.

This is what He said: **Matthew 6:9-13**

*9 "This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
10 your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

11 Give us today our daily bread.

12 Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'

For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever, Amen.

3. What did Jesus mean by all these words? Over the remaining weeks of LOGOS we are going to look very carefully at these words to see if we can learn to pray as God wants us to pray.

For today, however, we only have time to look at the very first phrase, “Our Father in heaven.” What can we learn about prayer from these opening words of the Lord’s prayer?

Body

1. The meaning of “Our Father”

As we begin let’s look at the first two words, “Our Father”. When you think of the word “Father” what comes to your mind? What is a father? (Allow for discussion)

- A father is one who gives us life.
- A father is one who is put in charge to care for us
- A father is one who is put in charge to protect us

Illustration: I am a father of two girls. With God’s help I brought them into this life. Every day I go to work so that I have enough money to care for them - to buy them food and clothing and to put a roof over their heads. At night I make sure the doors are bolted shut and I like to keep the door of my room open so I can hear if there is any problem. That’s, in part, what a father is - someone who gives us life, cares for us, and protects us.

Now how is it that God is **our** Father? Why did Jesus tell us to address God as “Our Father”? There is a way that all people can call God, Father, because He has given us all life. But Jesus has a more important meaning here. God is our Father, not only because He has given us physical life, but also because He has given us spiritual life. He loved us so that He gave us His Son to die for us so that our sins might be forgiven and we could become God’s very own sons. When John thought about this he was overjoyed. He exclaimed, “How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God. And that is what we are!”

Now we can enjoy a special relationship with God as our Father. We know that He is watching over us to care for us and protect us. That’s why Jesus told us to address our prayer to our Father. Prayer is the heart concern of a child spoken to his loving Father who is eager to hear. In fact, Jesus later said, “Ask and it shall be given to you. Seek and you shall find. Knock and the door shall be opened. For everyone who asks, receives; and he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks it shall be opened.” God, our Father, is eager to hear our prayers just the way a Father would be eager to hear the requests of his little child. Jesus wanted us to come to prayer remembering this.

2. The meaning of “in heaven”

Now Jesus added two words after “Our Father”. What are those words? Yes, in heaven. Why would Jesus add those two words? We all have earthly fathers most of whom seek to take care of us and protect us as best they can. Sometimes they make mistakes, but most dads try their best. When we pray, however, we are talking to our Father **in heaven**. He is a perfect Father who makes no mistakes. He owns all the riches in heaven and earth. He is all-powerful; there is nothing He cannot do.

To show what a special privilege we have to pray to our Father in heaven, Jesus gave an example. He said, *“Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a*

snake instead? 12 Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? 13 If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Jesus said when you ask your earthly fathers for something they usually give something good to you. They don't answer your request with something that will hurt. If earthly Fathers know how to give good gifts, then your heavenly Father really knows how. In fact He is ready to give you the best gift which is the Holy Spirit. God, our Father, wants to give you His Spirit to come and live inside and provide us with God's richest blessings.

Conclusion

So when we pray Jesus wanted us not only to remember we are talking to our loving Father, but He wanted us to remember what a special Father He is. He is ready and eager to hear the prayers of His children; ready to give them the best gifts that will last forever.

That's why our answer today says that Jesus taught us to pray to God as our caring Father. We have the best Father in the world. He made us and now He watches over us and cares for us. He is eager, as well, to hear our prayers to Him. We have been given this most wonderful gift through God's Son, Jesus Christ, who died that we might be brought near to God, our Father. For this we must give thanks and we must not neglect this special relationship.

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Instruction Time
Lesson 17

1. Review

Take time to review Q&A and memory verses for lessons 15 and 16. Try to give each child an opportunity to recite both lessons. Also be sure to ask a few questions to make sure they still understand what they have memorized. Be sure to leave time to begin work on this week's memory verse.

2. Explain the verse

1 John 3:1 *How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! ...*

- ◆ What does the word lavished mean? (To pour out)
- ◆ How has God showed His great love for us? (By making us His sons through Jesus Christ)
- ◆ If God is our Father, what blessings are sure to be ours? (We know God will take care of us and protect us.)

3. Memorize the verse

Flip a coin. Divide your group into two groups. Assign one group to be the "heads" group and the other the "tails". Practice saying the verse together several times, then flip a coin. If it lands on heads, let the heads group recite the verse. If it lands on tails let the tails group say the verse. Repeat this until everyone has the verse memorized well.

Lesson Review Questions

1. How did Jesus say we should address God in our prayers? (We should address Him "Our Father".)
2. How does God become our Father? (Those who have trusted Christ for salvation have been brought back to God and have become sons of God.)
3. How does God act as our Father? (He gives us life, cares for us and protects us.)
4. What do we mean that God is our Father **in heaven**? (He, unlike our earthly fathers, is perfect and is all powerful. Thus He is better able to care for us and protect us. He gives perfect gifts to us.)
5. When you pray, do you remember that God is your Father in heaven?

LOGOS Kids Club

Lesson Focus

Text: 2 Kings 18-19

Question 18: What does it mean when I pray, “Hallowed be Thy name”?

Answer 18: It means that I want God’s name to be honored and praised.

Objective: By God’s grace each child will

1. Understand the meaning of the word “hallowed” and tell how God’s name was hallowed in the story.
2. Learn to pray as Jesus taught His disciples to pray, especially with prayers that seek to honor God’s name.

Doc: \\kcl\les18-12

Year 2 - Lesson 18 - Grades 1-2

Introduction

1. I want to honor someone today. This person is very wonderful. He is kind and loving. He is the most intelligent in the group. He is strong and handsome. He is like no other boy his age. (At this point call one of the children up. Put a robe and crown on him and have everyone clap.) (To the boy) We are thankful to have you in our room with us. We hope you are pleased with all we do. If there is any way we can please you, let us know.

2. Do you know what I have just done? I have “hallowed the name” of this boy. I have set him apart from the group as special and I have given him praise.

Today we are going to talk about the part of the Lord’s prayer that says, “Hallowed be thy name”. Do you know what the word “hallowed” means? Hallowed means holy which means “set apart”. To hallow God’s name is to set it apart as special just as we did to our friend today.

But what does it mean to hallow God’s **name**? What do we mean by name? By name we mean the whole person and all that He stands for. Thus we are setting apart as special all that God is. We are honoring him and praising Him for who He is.

3. When Jesus taught His followers to pray He said the first thing you pray for is that God’s name be hallowed. How do we pray like this? What would it sound like? Fortunately there is a story in the Bible about a man named Hezekiah who hallowed the name of God in his prayer. As we look at his story, and especially his prayer, I think we will have a better idea of what Jesus meant. Hezekiah’s story is found in 2 Kings 18-19.

Body

1. Background

Before we look at the King's prayer we want to be reminded what situation caused him to pray.

King Hezekiah was a king around 700 BC. He was a good king, trying to follow the Lord in all his ways. In fact, when Hezekiah became king he got rid of a lot of the false idols which were being worshipped in Israel.

During the early days of his reign something very important happened. The northern part of the kingdom of Israel, after years of disobeying the Lord, was taken into exile. An army from the land of Assyria came and fought against them. When they were victorious they took the people from their land and homes and forced them to live in Assyria. That's what exile is. This was God's judgment on them for their sin.

Perhaps Hezekiah was trying to avoid this same thing happening in the southern part of Israel. So he worked hard to bring back true worship and God seemed to bless him. God even made their nation strong enough to rebel against the same Assyrian army that had defeated the northern part of Israel.

But in time the Assyrians grew stronger. They went throughout the land conquering cities and countries. They even invaded Hezekiah's land and began conquering his cities. When Hezekiah saw this, he sent word to the King of Assyria admitting that he had rebelled and was willing to pay money to show that they would not rebel.

The King of Assyria made him pay money, but he was not satisfied with this. He also sent several of his commanders and a large army to Jerusalem where Hezekiah was. These men came to the wall protecting the city and began talking to several of Hezekiah's main men.

They wanted the men to tell Hezekiah not to trust in the Egyptians for protection. They said Egypt was weak and no match for the Assyrian army. They also said not to trust in the Lord. They said that this Lord was weak, too, especially since Hezekiah had destroyed many of His images. Basically they wanted Hezekiah to give up without fighting. Do you think these men were hallowing the name of the Lord?

When the men on the wall heard this they asked the Assyrian men not to speak in Hebrew but in Aramaic. They did not want to scare the other people who lived on the wall. But this only encouraged the Assyrian commander to speak more.

In fact the commander yelled to the people on the wall that they should not let Hezekiah deceive them. He told the people not to let Hezekiah deceive them into trusting in the Lord. He wanted the people to give up and be exiled to Assyria where life would not be so bad. The commander ended his argument by saying that no other god was able to stop the Assyrians and neither would the God of Israel. What do you think God thought of this?

Hezekiah's response

Well, Hezekiah was taken back by this message. The Bible says that he tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and went into the house of the Lord. He was greatly upset. Here was this great king and his commander threatening their very lives and saying that Israel's God would be no help.

While in the temple Hezekiah sent word to Isaiah the prophet asking him to pray for Israel. He said perhaps the Lord will hear these proud words of this commander.

When Isaiah received Hezekiah's message, he replied back from the Lord. He said, "Don't worry about the Assyrians. God has heard their words and they will not overthrow you. In fact they will hear a rumor and return to their land where the king of Assyria will be killed. "

Hezekiah was glad to hear Isaiah's words and shortly thereafter the Assyrians had to leave because they were needed for another battle. Perhaps Hezekiah thought God had already worked. But then he received a message from the commander of the Assyrians. The message was a warning that Hezekiah should not let his god deceive him because no god had stopped Assyria before and none would stop them in the future. Hezekiah was again taken back by this message.

So what did he do?

2. Hezekiah's prayer

Hezekiah took the letter, spread it out before him and began to pray. And this is what he prayed:**2 Kings 19:15-19**

15 And Hezekiah prayed to the LORD: "O LORD, God of Israel, enthroned between the cherubim, you alone are God over all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth. 16 Give ear, O LORD, and hear; open your eyes, O LORD, and see; listen to the words Sennacherib has sent to insult the living God.

17 "It is true, O LORD, that the Assyrian kings have laid waste these nations and their lands. 18 They have thrown their gods into the fire and destroyed them, for they were not gods but only wood and stone, fashioned by men's hands. 19 Now, O LORD our God, deliver us from his hand, so that all kingdoms on earth may know that you alone, O LORD, are God."

How does he begin his prayer? He doesn't start with his problem, does he? First he talks about who this God is. He says this God is enthroned above. He is the only God. He is the one who made the heavens and the earth. He is God over all the kingdoms of the earth. He takes time first in his prayer to remind Himself how great God is, how separate or holy or hallowed He. This is how all great prayer begins.

Then he goes into his request. He says, "Lord, you hear how the Assyrians have mocked your name. It is true that they have defeated all the other gods of the other nations, but they are only false idols." Then he says the most important part of his prayer.

He says, "Lord, deliver us" , but he does not stop there, because that is not his main concern. He says deliver us **so that** all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you alone are God. Do you see what he is most concerned about? He is concerned that the name of God be honored as it should be. He doesn't go to God only caring about himself and his needs. He has more important matters on his mind. He wants the name of His God to be hallowed or honored by all.

Children, we pray great prayers, the kind that Jesus taught his followers, when the goal of our prayers is not our own comfort, or our own safety, or our own pleasure, but rather when we pray for God's name to be praised and honored.

It is OK to pray for a sick brother, but pray so that others will honor God when he gets well. It is OK to pray for a good test score, but pray that a good score will somehow bring glory to God. Too many of our prayers are so little and so self-centered.

3. God's response to Hezekiah's prayer

Did God hear Hezekiah's prayer? He sure did. Isaiah sent word to Hezekiah that God had heard his prayer and was greatly pleased. In fact God himself would move now to answer that prayer. He would defend the city for His sake.

And do you know what happened? Look at verse 35. That night 185,000 Assyrians were struck dead by the angel of the Lord and when the king went home he was assassinated as God had previously foretold. Was God's name hallowed that day? Was it set apart as special? Did the Assyrians who remained and all the people of Israel think more highly of God that day?

Conclusion

When we are little children we pray "God bless mommy and Daddy." Or "Please can I have a puppy for Christmas" or "please help my brother get better" or "please help me get a good grade on my spelling test".

Now God is interested in every prayer of ours. He loves it when we talk with Him about things that concern us. But as we grow up, our prayers need to grow up, too. Instead of little prayers we need to learn to pray great prayers, big prayers. We need to pray that God's name be honored, be set apart above all. That's what it means to hallow God's name.

Start adding in your prayers this very important request: that in all things and above all things may God's name be honored in all our world.

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Instruction Time
Lesson 18

1. Review

Take time to review Q&A and memory verse for lesson 17. Give several children an opportunity to recite the lesson and then recite it several times as a group. Be sure to leave plenty of time for learning the new verse.

2. Explain the verse

Psalm 115:1 *Not to us, O LORD, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness.*

- ◆ To where did the Psalmist want the glory to go? (Not to himself or the people, but to God alone.)
- ◆ What did the Psalmist mean when he said he wanted glory to go to God's name? (He wanted God to be honored and praised.)
- ◆ Why did the Psalmist want glory to go to God? (Because God had showed His great love and faithfulness to the people. He alone was worthy of the glory.)

3. Memorize the verse

Add a word: Divide the team into two groups. Have one group say the first word only - then the other team should say that word plus the next word. Each time the team has a turn, they repeat all that has been said previously and add **one word**. Do this several times until the verse is learned.

Lesson Review Questions

1. What does it mean to hallow the name of God? (It means to bring honor and praise to God for who He is and all He has done.)
2. Who did not bring honor to the name of God in today's story? (The King of Assyria and his men.)
3. What was so special about Hezekiah's prayer? (Above all he asked that God's name would be honored in all the earth.)
4. How was Hezekiah's prayer answered? (God destroyed the Assyrian army thus protecting His people and showing He is worthy of all honor.)
5. In what way does this story teach us we can be better prayers? (Instead of selfish requests we can pray that God's name is honored or hallowed by more and more people.)

LOGOS Kids Club

Lesson Focus

Text: Daniel 6

Question 19: What does it mean when we pray, “Thy Kingdom come?”

Answer 19: It means that we want God to rule in our hearts and in the world.

Objective: By God’s grace each child will

1. Be able to explain that “Thy Kingdom come” is a prayer for God’s growing rule in his heart and in the world.
2. Submit his own heart to the rule of Christ and begin praying that God’s Kingdom grows

Year 2 - Lesson 19 - Grades 1-2

Introduction

1. Over 500 years ago many men got in boats loaded with supplies in order to go and discover new lands. Since they were often sent out by a king, when they found a new land, they would plant their flag and claim this land for the King.

The land would now be part of the kingdom over which their king ruled. If there were any people living in the land they would have to follow the king’s rules. If he taxed them, they would have to pay taxes. If the king was angry with the people, he could punish them. If the king wanted to show them kindness, he could provide for their needs. This land was now under the king’s control.

2. In the Lord’s prayer our second request is “Thy Kingdom come.” In a way when we pray this, we are praying that in more and more places God would become King. We pray that more and more people will come under God’s rule; to live for him and to do His will. Like the explorer of old, we want to see more and more lands come under our King’s control.

3. The true Christian, however, is not only interested in everybody else coming under God’s rule, he is also interested in God ruling over every part of himself. The true Christian wants God to rule his tongue and all that it says; he wants God to rule the hands and all that they do; the eyes and all that they see; the ears and all that they hear; the feet and every direction that they walk.

4. In our story today we will see a man in whose heart God ruled; where God’s kingdom had come. We will also see that because of this man’s faithfulness and obedience to God, God’s kingdom or rule came to many more people. Our story is found in Daniel 6. Let’s see if we can tell where God’s Kingdom had come in this story.

Body

1. Our story takes place during the reign of a king named Darius. He had just become king after the tragic death of another king. In order to protect his kingdom Darius appointed 120 men to rule over different parts of the kingdom. Over these 120 men he also appointed 3 men, one of whom was Daniel.

2. Now Daniel was a person with a very special spirit. Because he loved God with his whole heart he wanted to do all things well. King Darius saw this and for this reason wanted to let Daniel rule over the whole kingdom for him.

The other rulers, however, did not like this idea. It might be that they were a little jealous. It might also be they were not lovers of Daniel's God. So they tried to find a way of accusing Daniel before the king, but they could not find anything to accuse him of. He did all things well. He was not dishonest, nor was he trying to serve only himself.

Application Do you know why Daniel was so honest in all he did for the king? It was because God ruled in his heart; God's kingdom had come to his life. David wanted to obey God in every way and he knew that God wanted him to serve the king well. So David, with God's help, worked hard at serving the king in honesty and for his best interest. Could this be said of you? Do others look at you and say they can find nothing really to accuse you of? If not, God's kingdom still needs to come more to your heart.

The men finally came up with a plan to get Daniel in trouble. If they couldn't find any dishonesty in Daniel maybe they could trap Daniel in his great love for God. So they went to the king and they said that all the rulers thought it a good idea if the king passed a law that no one should pray to any god or any thing except the king for the next 30 days. If they disobeyed they would be thrown into the lion's den. The King thought it was a good idea so he signed it into law. In those day a law signed by the king could not be changed.

3. Well Daniel heard that the law was signed and it would appear that he had a real problem. But for Daniel it was a simple matter, for God ruled in his heart. He knew that it was not right for any king to tell him he could not pray to God, so he went into his bedroom as he normally did, three times a day, and continued to pray. His heart was claimed for God's kingdom. No king on earth could change that.

4. As he prayed, Daniel's enemies were spying on him. As soon as they saw him pray they ran to the king to speak against him. They reminded the king of the law he had made and then they told him that Daniel paid no attention to the law.

The King was greatly upset by this - not by the fact that Daniel broke the law, but that he was going to be thrown to the lions. The King really respected Daniel and wanted him to rule the kingdom for him. So all day the king tried to figure out a way to get around his law. Later, Daniel's enemies came and reminded the king that the law could not be changed.

So the king gave orders for Daniel to be thrown into the lion's den. Before Daniel was thrown in the king said, "Your God whom you constantly serve will Himself deliver you."

Then Daniel was thrown into the pit and the king sealed the stone with his ring to ensure that no one tampered with the stone.

5. That night the king did not sleep well. The first thing in the morning he arose and went to the den to see if Daniel had been protected by God. When he arrived, he spoke with troubled voice, "Daniel, servant of the living God, whom you constantly serve, has your God been able to deliver you from the lions?"

Daniel replied that God had indeed stopped the mouth of the lions because God found him innocent of any crime. Then the king had Daniel taken from the pit. Upon examination he found Daniel to be without injury. Then the king ordered that the men who tricked the king into this law be thrown themselves into the lion's den. When they were thrown in, the lion's immediately tore them apart.

6. Then the king made a most amazing decree. Listen to his words:

Daniel 6:26-27 "I issue a decree that in every part of my kingdom people must fear and reverence the God of Daniel. "For he is the living God and he endures forever; his kingdom will not be destroyed, his dominion will never end. 27 He rescues and he saves; he performs signs and wonders in the heavens and on the earth. He has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions."

Did God's Kingdom get larger that day? Yes, because of the obedience of Daniel, God's kingdom grew larger. Darius decreed that Daniel's God, the one true and living God, must be feared and respected in all his land. He also declared that God's kingdom would never be destroyed.

Conclusion

1. So when we pray, "Thy Kingdom come" we are praying that God would rule more and more in our hearts and more and more in our world. We are praying that our hearts would be claimed for God's kingdom the way it was in Daniel's heart. We are also praying that more and more people would claim Jesus as the King of their life.

2. Has God's Kingdom come to your heart? Does God rule in your heart? Does He control what you say, what you do, what you see and hear, and where you go? Is it His will that is most important to you? If not, it is important that you come to Christ in faith, laying your life before him, confessing your sin.

If God does rule in your heart, then it must be your heart's desire to see God's kingdom growing and growing. In fact that is a sign that God rules in your heart. Those who know the Lord, let us pray that God's kingdom grows and let us live in such a way that others will see what it means for God to rule in our lives.

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Instruction Time
Lesson 19

1. Review

Take time to review Q&A and memory verse for lesson 18. Give several children an opportunity to recite the lesson and then recite it several times as a group. Be sure to leave plenty of time for learning the new verse.

2. Explain the verse

Philippians 2:10... *at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,*

- ◆ At whose name does this verse suggest every knee should bow? (Jesus')
- ◆ What is meant by "every knee should bow"? (That everyone will submit to the rule of Jesus; that everyone will admit that Jesus is the King over all.)
- ◆ Where does this verse suggest Jesus should be acknowledged as King? (Everywhere – in heaven, earth and under the earth.)

3. Memorize the verse

Echo (Echo) - Divide your group into two teams and tell them you are going to play the echo game. Have one team begin by reciting part of the verse and then have the other side "echo" what they heard. Have the first team make their way all the way through the verse and then switch roles.

Lesson Review Questions

1. Why was Daniel so careful to serve King Darius so well? (God ruled in his heart and he knew God expected him to serve his king well.)
2. What did some men try to do to get Daniel in trouble? (They tricked the king into signing a law which they knew Daniel would have to disobey.)
3. After the law was signed how did Daniel show that God ruled in his heart? (He continued to pray to his God as was his custom.)
4. Did God's Kingdom grow because of Daniel's obedience? (Daniel's obedience was used by God to bring Darius to declare that Daniel's God must be feared in all his realm.)
5. If God's Kingdom came to our city, how would things be different? (Many more people would live to worship and serve God. Also there would be much more love and harmony in our city.)

LOGOS Kids Club

Lesson Focus

Text: Daniel 3

Question 20: What does it mean when I pray, “Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven”?

Answer 20: I am praying that I, and others, will do God’s will.

Objective: By God’s grace each child will

1. Be able to explain what it means to pray, “Thy will be done...”
2. Seek to do God’s will no matter what the cost.

Doc: \kcl\les20-12

Year 2 - Lesson 20 - Grades 1-2

Introduction

1. What would you do if everyone in your class was cheating on a test? What would you do if they were asking you for the answers? This happened to me in high school. Sometimes our teacher would hand out a test and then she would leave the room. After she left, many of the students were talking with other students trying to get answers from them. Some students near me were trying to get answers from me as well. What should I have done? What if I didn’t help them and they threatened to beat me up? What if it would cost me their friendship?

2. The Bible gives us good advice as to what we should do in these situations. In fact the part of the Lord’s prayer that we are going to study tonight gives us a great deal of help. When Jesus taught His disciples to pray He said they should pray, “Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven”. What Jesus was telling His followers with these words was that they should pray that God’s will would be done perfectly and above all. Jesus was saying that Christians should want God’s will to be done no matter what that requires of them.

3. In our story today we are going to learn about three men who were willing to do God’s will and to accept whatever that meant for them. Their story is found in Daniel 3. As you listen, see if you can tell who really wants to see God’s will done and who really does not.

Body

1. Our story takes place during the reign of a man named Nebuchadnezzar. He was the mighty king of Babylon, the place where God’s people, Israel, were sent because of their disobedience to God. One day Nebuchadnezzar had made an image of gold that

was 90 feet tall and 9 feet wide. He called all his leaders together in order to dedicate it and to tell them how they must worship it.

So all the rulers came together and the king set the giant image before them. Then a herald proclaimed that when they heard a certain playing of music they were all to fall down and worship the idol. To fail to worship this idol was to show lack of support for Nebuchadnezzar and his gods, and it would result in being thrown into a furnace of fire.

Application Was Nebuchadnezzar doing the will of God when he made the image and commanded all his people to worship it? Clearly he was not. What have we learned about the will of God from our study of the Ten Commandments? The second command tells us not to make a graven image, nor to serve or worship it. Nebuchadnezzar was clearly going against God's will and was causing others to go against it as well.

2. Nevertheless, Nebuchadnezzar ordered his musicians to play their music and at once every one bowed their heads to the ground and worshipped the idol. That is, everyone except three young men named Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. These three young men believed in the true God and knew that it was God's will that they worship no one or nothing but the true God. These three young men wanted nothing but God's will to be done perfectly no matter what it cost them.

Application: How hard do you think it would have been for these three men to do what they did? Every leader in the land is bowing down to this idol, but they remain standing up. Would that have been hard? They also knew that to fail to bow down meant they'd be thrown into the fire. How would you have felt if you were in their place?

3. When some of the other leaders saw what these three men did, they went to Nebuchadnezzar and reported them. They reminded Nebuchadnezzar of his law and then stated that these three did not bow nor did they worship the same gods.

Nebuchadnezzar was furious about this, so he ordered them to be brought before him. When they arrived, Nebuchadnezzar was ready to give them one chance. They had previously helped Nebuchadnezzar in a big way. Perhaps he was trying to return the favor. So Nebuchadnezzar told them if they were ready to worship the image he would give them a second chance. But if they still refused to do it, he would put them in a furnace of fire and **no god would be able to deliver them from this.**

4. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego had a real problem on their hands. How would they respond to this threat to their lives? For most of us it would be a very hard decision, but for these three who only wanted to do the will of God, it was an easy decision.

They answered the king and told him they didn't even need to give him an answer. They believed that their God was able to deliver and they felt confident that He would. But they added, even if He did not deliver them, they still would not worship the idols or serve Nebuchadnezzar's gods.

Application Do you see how much these three wanted to do God's will. They said they would obey God's will no matter what. They were willing to accept whatever God had in store for their lives, even if it was death.

5. This angered Nebuchadnezzar even more. He was so enraged by this that it twisted his face. So he gave orders to heat up the furnace even more (probably by increasing the bellows) and to tie-up the three youths. Finally he ordered that they be cast into the furnace. Because of the great heat in the furnace, when the king's men tried to put the three in, they perished in the flames. They did, however, manage to get Shadrach, Meshach and Abednago into the furnace.

6. Just then an amazing thing happened. When Nebuchadnezzar looked into the furnace, instead of seeing three men being consumed by the flames, he saw four men walking around in the flames. I'm sure Nebuchadnezzar did a double take. Were his eyes really seeing what he thought he saw? He asked those around him if they had indeed only put three men in the flames. They assured him that they had.

So Nebuchadnezzar called out to the three. He said, "Servants of the most high God, come out". And so the three came out without a singed hair, not even smelling of smoke. When Nebuchadnezzar saw this he responded by saying, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednago. He sent his angel to protect them because they trusted in Him by not obeying the King's command. I make a decree that anyone who speaks against their God should be torn limb from limb and their house reduced to ruins. This is to be so because there is no other god who can deliver like this."

Conclusion

1. Do you see what happened when three young men purposed in their hearts that no matter what, they would obey God's will? Because they only wanted to obey God and because they were willing to accept whatever came their way, God's name was honored or hallowed and His kingdom was expanded. That's how the prayer works together. When God's people will commit themselves to doing the will of God no matter what, God's name is honored and His kingdom expands.

2. God wants children today who will be like Shadrach, Meshach and Abednago. He wants young people who will do their Father's will and accept whatever God has in store for them.

- He wants children who will not cheat on a test even if everyone else is and it will cost them loss of friends.
- He wants children who will not be selfish or disobedient to their parents even though everyone else is.
- He wants children who will not steal, nor lie, nor covet but who will love others the way Christ has loved them.

3. The fact is that none of us will be able to be like the three youths in our story, nor will we with pure hearts pray "Thy will be done" until God comes and lives inside of us. For without Christ we can do nothing. We need to cry out for His mercy asking Him to enter our lives and help us to live for God's will no matter what.

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Instruction Time
Lesson 20

1. Review

Take time to review Q&A and memory verse for lessons 18-19. Give several children an opportunity to recite the lesson and then recite it several times as a group. Be sure to leave plenty of time for learning the new verse.

2. Explain the verse

Jeremiah 7:23 *Obey me, and I will be your God and you will be my people.*

- ◆ What special relationship does God want to have with us? (He wants us to be His people and He wants to be our God.)
- ◆ As His people what does God expect of us? (Love shown in obedience)
- ◆ What could you say about someone who really wants to do God's will? (He must be part of the people of God.)

3. Memorize the verse

Group response - Divide your team into two groups. Divide the verse into two sections and assign a section to each group. Have each group then read their part in sequence. Read through the verse this way covering up one section at a time. Then repeat the process, switching the lines to be read. Finally have the whole group recite the whole verse.

Lesson Review Questions

1. What did Nebuchadnezzar do that showed he was not interested in doing God's will? (He made an image and forced his people to bow down to it)
2. Who refused to bow down to the image Nebuchadnezzar made? (Daniel's three friends)
3. Why did they refuse to bow down? (They knew it was against God's will to bow down to any person or thing other than the true God.)
4. What was the penalty for disobeying the king? (They were thrown in a fiery furnace.)
5. How did Daniel's friends obedience result in God's name being hallowed and His kingdom expanding? (When God rescued them from the furnace, the king acknowledge their God as the true God, and required others to treat the name of this God with respect.)
6. Are you willing to obey God no matter what the cost?

LOGOS Kids Club

Lesson Focus

Year 2 - Lesson 21 - Grades 1-2

Text: 1 Kings 17:1-16

Question 21: What does it mean when we pray, "Give us this day our daily bread?"

Answer 21: It means that we are trusting God alone to provide all we need.

Objective: By God's grace each child will

1. Come to understand that God is the giver of all that he has.
2. Learn to acknowledge God as the giver of all and trust in Him alone to provide.

Doc:\k\les21-12

Introduction

1. A little boy was bringing home a loaf of bread. Someone said, "What have you there?" "A loaf." "Where did you get it?" "From the baker." "Where did the baker get it?" "He made it." "Of what did he make it?" "Flour." "Where did he get the flour?" "From the miller." "Where did he get it?" "From the farmer." "Where did the farmer get it?"

Then the truth dawned upon the boy's mind, and he replied, "From God!" "Well, then, from whom did you get that loaf?" "Oh, from God."

2. Where does all that you have come from? You might answer that it comes from your dad or mom. If asked where they got it you might say "the store". If asked where the store got it you might say like the little boy "from the mill or from the farm". If we asked long enough we would be sure to see that everything comes from God.

If you had answered that you get things from the money your parents earn, we could ask how it is that they have health and ability to earn money. Again the answer is that every good and perfect gift comes from God.

3. The Bible is clear that God is the giver of all good things. All the food we have, all the clothes we wear, the air we breathe, the roof over our heads. All is from Him and for this reason we should always look to Him and Him alone to provide us with all we need. If all comes from God why would we look elsewhere?

4. Our story today will help us see that God is the provider of all we have. Our story should also help us to understand what this part of the Lord's prayer (Give us this day our daily bread) really means.

Body

1. Our story takes place when a man named Ahab was King over Israel. As King he was to lead the people in serving the one true God, but sad to say Ahab was a very evil king. He did not follow the true God but instead worshipped gods named Baal and Asherah. He also married a very evil woman named Jezebel. The two of them led the people of Israel away from God.

2. Because of their evil God set out to punish them. He had warned the people, years earlier, that if they forsook Him, He would punish them. One way He would punish them was to bring drought (no rain) and famine (no food).

So God raised up his prophet Elijah to bring news to Ahab and Jezebel that judgment was coming. God often uses difficult things in our lives to bring us back to Him. Elijah told Ahab that there would be neither dew nor rain until God, through him, would say so. God would show Ahab that He is the one in control of all things and the giver of all good gifts.

Application: What would happen when God stopped all the rain? The land would dry up, water and food would be scarce, and the animals would soon die out. You see, the God who controls the rains, and who also causes the sun to shine is really the one who gives us food and drink. Without His loving care we would not be able to survive.

3. The lack of rain and food would also affect Elijah. How would he survive during three years of no rain? God, the giver of all good gifts, had a plan. He commanded Elijah to go to the brook, Cherith. There he would be able to drink water from the brook. God would also provide meat and bread sent by ravens.

So Elijah obeyed what God commanded and he went to the brook. There for a long time he was able to drink from the brook. Also, every day God sent ravens to him who brought him bread and meat for the morning and then again for the evening. Each day God provided just what Elijah needed.

Application: How much food did God provide for Elijah each day? He provided just enough for each day, never too much, never too little. Do you know why God gave only a day's worth of food? Most likely because God wanted Elijah to learn to trust Him. That is the same reason we pray "give us this **day** our **daily** bread." We pray only for what we need this day so that we will continue to trust God for the next day. Often when we have too much we tend to forget that God is the Provider of all good gifts.

4. One day the water dried up in the brook. It had not rained for so long that now even this very good source of water was dried up. Now what was Elijah to do? Could God take care of him? Again, God had a plan.

He told Elijah to go to a town name Zarephath where God would provide for him through a widow who lived there. So immediately Elijah left. When he found the widow she was gathering sticks. He asked her for some water to drink. She was happy to provide this for him. But when he asked for a bread cake, she explained that she was gathering wood in order to make her last bread cake for her and her son. Then she expected to

die because her food was all gone. **Why would God send Elijah to a woman who was eating her last meal?**

Elijah then encouraged her not to fear. He told her to make a bread cake and give to him first. He assured her that she would be able to make another for herself and her son because the Lord would keep the oil flowing and the flour multiplying until He chose to let it rain again.

What would you do if you were the woman? Would you give your last bread cake to this man or would you think he was trying to trick you in order to get his own food? The woman, however, did exactly as Elijah said. She made a cake for Elijah and gave it to him. Then, to her surprise, she was able to make another bread cake for herself and her son. In fact the Bible says that she was able to eat for many days because the Lord did not allow the oil or the flour to run out.

Application: Do you again see how God is the giver of all good gifts? If He does not want the supply of oil and flour to run out He can make it last. If He wants to shut off the rain, He does so. If He wants to feed His prophet by ravens, He does so. God is truly the Giver of all good gifts.

Did you notice again how much food God provided for the widow and her son? It was enough bread for each day. Each time she made bread she thought it was her last. She needed to trust God for her daily bread. Note that she not only trusted God for her own daily bread, she was trusting God for Elijah's as well. In a way, that is why we pray "give **us** this day **our** daily bread." As Christians we are not just concerned for our own daily bread but also for the bread of others. Our prayers should never be self-centered.

Conclusion

1. A little boy, having read with his mother the story of how God fed Elijah by the ravens, sat on the wintry night in a fireless room beside a bare table. With a simple, childish trust, he asked his widowed mother if he might set the door open for God's ravens to come in. "I feel sure they must be on their way," he said. The trustful mother granted the request. The Mayor of the city, passing by, was attracted by the sight of the open door (truly odd in winter), and entered, inquiring the cause. When he learned the reason, he said, "I will be God's ravens!" He relieved their needs then and afterwards.

The little boy truly believed that God was the Giver of all gifts and to show his faith he wanted the door open. God sent one of His servants to supply what this family needed. God truly is the giver of all good gifts.

2. Do you realize that all that you have comes from God, out of His goodness and mercy? If you really believe this you will

A. Trust only in God to provide you with all you really need. You will look to Him alone the way a baby bird looks to his mother.

B. As you enjoy what God provides you will do so with a grateful heart. A grateful heart shows that you really believe that God alone is the Giver of all good you are enjoying.

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Instruction Time
Lesson 21

1. Review

Take time to review Q&A and memory verses for lesson 19-20. Give several children an opportunity to recite these lessons and then recite them as a whole group. Be sure to leave plenty of time for working on the new verse.

2. Explain the verse

James 1:17 *Every good and perfect gift is from above...*

- ◆ Where do all gifts come from? (From above)
- ◆ What is meant by “from above”? (From God)
- ◆ What kind of gifts does God give? (Good and perfect. Note: God, who is good and perfect, gives gifts that display His character.)

3. Memorize the verse

Cover a word - Write the verse on the chalkboard. Recite it a couple of times together. Then take 2 pieces of tagboard and cover two of the words in the verse. Have a child recite the verse. If he recites it correctly allow him to cover two new words and repeat the process. Give several children a chance to do this. Work on the verse until everyone has it mastered.

Lesson Review Questions

1. How did God show Ahab He is the giver of every gift? (He withheld the rains so that there was drought and famine in the land.)
2. How did God give Elijah his daily bread? (He gave water from the brook, food from the ravens, and then He provided from the resources of the widow.)
3. Did God give Elijah and the widow more than their daily bread? Why or why not? (God gave only their daily bread. He wanted them to trust Him day by day.)
4. Why do we pray “Give **us our** daily bread”? (We are to pray not just for our personal needs, but also for the needs of others, especially God’s family.)
5. How should we respond, knowing the God is the Giver of every good and perfect gift? (We should praise God for all we have and trust Him alone to take care of us day by day.)

LOGOS Kids Club

Lesson Focus

Text: Matthew 18:21-35

Question 22: What does it mean when I pray, “Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors”?

Answer 22: It means that I am asking God to forgive my sins and to help me forgive others.

Objective: By God’s grace each child will

1. Come to understand the greatness of the debt he owes God.
2. Call out to God for the forgiveness of sins and for grace to forgive others as he has been forgiven.

Doc: \\kc\les22-12

Year 2 - Lesson 22 - Grades 1-2

Introduction

1. About 50 years ago, before most of us were born, there was a terrible war. We call it the second World War. It was terrible because the German army took many Jews and treated them terribly. They took them from their homes, packed them into railroad cars and shipped them to concentration camps.

At these camps, the soldiers severely mistreated the people. They gave them little to eat, gave them no privacy, worked them hard, made them suffer in the cold, and treated them like dogs. Many died a terrible death. Those who survived took many years before they recovered from such terrible treatment.

2. One woman who experienced all this was Corrie Ten Boom. Years after the war Corrie met up with one of the soldiers who was responsible for mistreating all the people. To make a long story short, this man wanted to be forgiven by Corrie Ten Boom for the things he had done. He reached out his hand to her hoping she would shake his hand as a sign of forgiveness. But would she forgive him? Should she forgive him?

3. Hopefully none of us will ever be treated the way Corrie and her family were, but each of us will be wronged by others. People are likely to call us names, cheat us from things we feel we deserve, and treat us in many unloving ways. Even people who are close to us may hurt us deeply. But how are we to respond to them? Should we forgive them?

4. Thankfully God’s Word helped Corrie and will help us answer these questions. In fact Jesus told a very powerful parable found in Matthew 18. Let’s listen to it and see what wonderful truth it teaches us about forgiveness.

Body

Matthew 18:21-22

²¹ Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?"

²² Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. (NIV)

As our story begins we see Peter asking a question. He wants to know how many times he should forgive. Peter offers a very commendable answer. He says 7 times which was 4 more times than the religious rulers of the day suggested. So Peter probably felt pretty good about his suggestion.

But as usual, Jesus blows Peter out the water. He says not seven times but seventy times seven or really Jesus was saying you should forgive countless times. There should be no end to the times you forgive.

Well, upon hearing this, you may have the question, "Why do we forgive countless times?" To this question Jesus' parable is directed. Let's read on.

Matthew 18:23-27

²³ "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants.

²⁴ As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him.

²⁵ Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

²⁶ "The servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.'

²⁷ The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go. (NIV)

In His parable Jesus told of a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. One man who was brought before him owed him 10,000 talents. Now just the number 10,000 sounds like a lot. If it were 10,000 dollars it would be a lot but it would not be impossible to pay it back. Just how much was 10,000 talents?

Well, to understand how much was owed we must know a little about their currency. In those days one denarii equaled one day's wage of the common laborer. One talent equaled 6000 denarii or 6000 days or 16.5 years of labor for the common laborer. That means that 10,000 talents were equal to 165,000 years of work for the common laborer. It was certainly worth over a billion dollars.

The servant could in no way pay that size of debt so the king said that the man and his families and all they owned be sold so that the debt could be repaid. Obviously the debt wouldn't be close to being repaid.

Upon hearing this, the servant fell to his knees and begged for mercy. He asked for patience and promised to pay back everything (though certainly he never could).

But the response of the king was amazing. The Bible says that the King took pity on the man and forgave the debt and let him go free.

Application

You know this is not just a story with a nice ending, it is a story about you and me. God is that King and He does keep accounts with each of us. The fact is, each of us is in great debt before God because we sin against Him and we do not give Him what we owe Him. We all go our own way. We lie, we cheat, we steal, we have bad thoughts about others, we make fun of other people, we gossip, we are selfish, we fight to be first in line, to have the biggest piece of cake, to be the most popular, we disobey parents, teachers, club leaders... we could go on and on. And day after day we owe God for a multitude of sins. But we also owe God supreme love, and to love others, and we fail to do that. And each time we fail we create a huge debt.

So here we stand before God, our great King, owing Him a great debt which we could never repay in 2000 lifetimes. And all we can do is to cry out for mercy. All we can do is beg God not to give us the judgment we deserve, which is to be cast into hell for eternity.

Do you see yourself in this way, separated from God by a huge debt that you can never repay, and in danger of being cast away from God forever?

But just as the king in the parable forgave, so does our God. In response to our cry for mercy, He declares us forgiven and sets us free. To the debt we owe that we could never pay, He releases us as we come to Him and call on His name.

Now how should anyone feel who has been forgiven so great a debt? He should be ever grateful to his master and be willing to serve Him forever. But how did the servant in the parable react? Let's look now at verses 28 and following to see what happened.

Matthew 18:28-35

²⁸ "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.

²⁹ "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.'

³⁰ "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt.

³¹ When the other servants saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed and went and told their master everything that had happened.

³² "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to.'

³³ Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?'

³⁴ In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

³⁵ "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart." (NIV)

In this part of the parable the forgiven servant now goes out and finds someone who owes him. The difference is that what he owes is very, very, very small compared to what the forgiven servant had owed. In fact the amount is only worth 100 days' wage for the common laborer. It is a sum of money that could be repaid easily.

And how did he react to his debtor? He grabbed him and choked him and demanded that he pay up. How then did his debtor react? He asked for mercy the same way the forgiven servant had asked for forgiveness. But did he get the same response? No, the forgiven servant threw his debtor into prison until he could pay up what he owed.

Now let me ask you, how can you pay a debt when you are in prison. In Israel this would have meant up to a seven- year prison sentence.

Word got out, however, how the forgiven servant had treated this man. When the king found out He was outraged. He immediately called for the servant . When he arrived the king rebuked him. He called him a wicked servant. He reminded him of how he had forgiven him. He told him that he should have had mercy on his debtor in the same way he had had mercy on him. In anger the king gave the man to the torturers until the debt was repaid. And how long would it take to repay? An eternity.

Application

Again this part of the parable is not just a story. It is a lesson for us, for if we are like the forgiven servant, we need to listen to the warning he received. It is true that in our life people will sin against us, they will wrong us. As we said, they may call us names, steal from us, walk out of our lives..... They may even mistreat us the way Corrie Ten Boom was mistreated.

But one thing is certain, any hurt that we endure from another is very, very, very,very small compared to the debt we owe God. That is one of the main points of this parable. And if God is willing to forgive us when we cry out for mercy, what should be our response when another cries out to us for mercy?

According to this lesson our response should be to freely forgive this person, to freely extend mercy to him. For if we refuse to do this, then we bring the anger of God upon us for our sins. That's what Jesus said in the last verse. So shall My heavenly Father do to each of you who does not forgive each other from the heart.

Conclusion

1. Corrie Ten Boom had a really difficult decision. Should she shake the hand of this man who had so badly treated her and her family? Should she forgive him? At first she did not feel that she could forgive him, but after considering the great love of God and all that He had forgiven her, she reached out her hand. Truly, only someone changed by God's forgiveness could do what she did.

2. So what do you do when someone wrongs you? First you remember how greatly you have sinned against your heavenly Father. You remember how enormous a debt the Father has against you. Then remember the mercy He extended to you, how He

forgave you your sins. Then, in turn, extend mercy to your brother, remembering it is very small compared to the Father's mercy.

I believe those who have truly realized their great sinfulness before God and then have received His forgiveness, will truly have the God-given desire and grace to forgive others.

3. Do you have anything against a brother? Are you holding a grudge against someone? Forgive as you have been forgiven for Christ's sake.

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Instruction Time
Lesson 22

1. Review

Take time to review Q&A and memory verse for lesson 21. Give each child a chance to recite both the answer and memory verse. Be sure to leave plenty of time for working on the new verse.

2. Explain the verse

Colossians 3:13... *Forgive as the Lord forgave you.*

- ◆ What does it mean to forgive? (To give up all desire to punish someone for a wrong they have done you.)
- ◆ According to this verse, how should we forgive? (As the Lord has forgiven us.)
- ◆ How has the Lord forgiven us? (Though our sins were many and our debt great, God, in Christ, has forgiven us.)

3. Memorize the verse

Contrast - Divide the verse into words. Have the class say the first word loudly, the second word softly. Keep alternating all through the verse. Then try a new contrast. Alternate between having the children sit for a word and stand for a word. If you wish try the contrast between quickly and slowly. Caution: be sure children exercise respect for the Word of God as they participate in this exercise.

Lesson Review Questions

1. How much did the first servant owe the king? (10,000 talents of silver; 165,000 years wage for the common laborer.)
2. Could the servant have paid the debt that he owed? (No – the debt was much too large.)
3. How did the servant get out from under that huge debt? (He cried for mercy and the king freely forgave him.)
4. In what way are we all like the servant? (We are in debt to God because of our sin and since the debt is so large we can do nothing about it.)
5. How can we find relief from our debt? (We, too, must come to God and cry out for His great mercies.)
6. As Christians who have been forgiven such a large debt, how should we treat people who wrong or offend us? (We must forgive as the Lord forgave. Knowing God's forgiveness compels us to do just that.)

LOGOS Kids Club

Lesson Focus

Text: Matthew 26:31-35, 69-75

Question 23: Why do we pray, “and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil”?

Answer 23: We pray this because we need God’s help not to give in to sin.

Objective: By God’s grace each child will

1. Come to understand his own weakness in regard to sin and temptation.
2. Learn to rely on God each day for strength to fight temptation.

Doc: \lkc\les23-12

Year 2 - Lesson 23 - Grades 1-2

Introduction

1. What does it mean to be weak?

- I have a cat who often shows me he is weak. When he wants to go outside he can’t just grab the door handle and open the door and go out. He sits by the door and meows. Also when he wants food he can’t just open the door to the refrigerator and get what he wants. He again must sit by the fridge and meow until I get the idea he wants something. He is weak. By himself he is unable to do many things.
- When I was a baby of about 9 months or so I would stand by one of the cabinet doors in the kitchen, look up at my mom with great big eyes and say, “Ookie, ookie”. You see I was weak. I was unable to open the door of the cabinet by myself and get the “cookie” I wanted, so I looked up at my mom for the help I needed.
- The other day my car broke down. It started making some really terrible noises and I knew I was in trouble. I was weak - I didn’t have the understanding of what to do to make my car better. So - I called a good friend of mine who knows a lot about cars and he told me exactly what to do. Now I could have ignored the fact that I was weak and I could have started pulling things out, but I still would have been there today trying to fix it.

2. Did you know that the Bible talks about our weakness? Not our weakness to open doors, fix cars or get cookies, but our weakness to fight sin. That is the reason Jesus taught us to pray, “and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil”. Jesus knows us even better than we know ourselves and He knows that we are weak when it comes to sin.

3. How many of us, right after church or LOGOS clubs, have gotten into an argument with a brother or sister, or have disobeyed our parents by not getting ready for bed or by not coming immediately to the table? I mean right after we have been to church,

learning about God and His ways, we live as if we hadn't been to church for ages. We are weak when it comes to sin.

4. There is a story of a man in the Bible who was weak like all of us in the area of fighting sin, but he didn't realize it. Jesus had to teach him this very important lesson. Let's talk about this man for a few minutes. His name is Peter and his story is found in Matthew 26.

Body

1. Background

Our story takes place shortly after Jesus had gathered his disciples for the Last Supper. You'll remember during the last supper He took bread and broke it and said it was to remind them of his broken body. Then He took wine and passed it around and said it was to remind them of His blood that would be poured out so that they could be forgiven. After doing this Jesus and the disciples went out to the Mount of Olives. I'm sure all of this was puzzling to His followers, but what He told them next was even more puzzling.

2. Matthew 26:31-35

³¹ Then Jesus told them, "This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written: "I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered."³² But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee."

³³ Peter replied, "Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will."

- When Peter said that did he think he was weak? No, he thought if everyone else was weak, surely, he would still be strong. Did Jesus agree with him? Let's continue and find out.

³⁴ "I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "this very night, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times."

³⁵ But Peter declared, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." And all the other disciples said the same. (NIV)

- Did Jesus convince Peter of his weakness and his need of God? It didn't sound like it. It even seemed that Peter was leading the other disciples astray with his self-confidence.

3. After this, Jesus went to the Garden of Gethsemane to talk with His Father. He knew a great temptation was coming and He wanted to be walking with His Father all the way. So while Jesus prayed and prepared for the trial of His life, the disciples got blurry eyed and fell asleep. They were showing their weakness in this, too. They, like we, all have bodies that get really tired and make us forget to prepare for the battles of each day.

4. When Jesus finished praying Judas came with many others to take Jesus by force. One of Jesus' disciples tried to protect Jesus by cutting off the ear of one of the men who came. Jesus healed the man's ear and told His followers to put away their swords. All these things must take place to fulfill the Scriptures. Shortly after that, the disciples left Jesus and ran away. So much for being strong.

5. One of Jesus' followers, Peter, did follow from a distance as Judas and others took Jesus to trial. He waited in the courtyard outside the high priest's home while Judas and others tried to get people to tell lies about Jesus so that they could put Him to death.

6. Matthew 26:69-75

⁶⁹ Now Peter was sitting out in the courtyard, and a servant girl came to him. "You also were with Jesus of Galilee," she said.

⁷⁰ But he denied it before them all. "I don't know what you're talking about," he said.

⁷¹ Then he went out to the gateway, where another girl saw him and said to the people there, "This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth."

⁷² He denied it again, with an oath: "I don't know the man!"

⁷³ After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, "Surely you are one of them, for your accent gives you away."

⁷⁴ Then he began to call down curses on himself and he swore to them, "I don't know the man!"

Immediately a rooster crowed. ⁷⁵ Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken: "Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times." And he went outside and wept bitterly. (NIV)

Conclusion

1. Did Peter realize he was weak now? He had stood before Jesus stating that even if everyone else fell away he would not. Then when two servant girls and another person accused him of being a follower of Jesus (which he was) he denied even knowing Christ. He was weak. He tried to protect himself, but in order to do so he denied the Lord Jesus. Peter cried greatly about this.

2. You see children, the Bible clearly shows us that we are weak when it comes to sin. Even when God comes and lives inside us, we still have our sinful nature which wants its own way and wants its own honor. That's why Jesus taught us to pray that God not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. He knew we are weak and need God's strength to fight sin. Jesus knew that the devil prowls about like a roaring lion seeking someone to eat up.

3. So today Jesus bids us to pray to God, admitting our weakness and our great need of God's help to stay away from sin's traps. I encourage you at the start of every day to pray, asking God to help you face the temptations that will come your way. Yes, we are weak, but He is strong!

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Instruction Time
Lesson 23

1. Review

Take time to review Q&A and memory verses for lessons 21 and 22. Give several children an opportunity to recite each lesson and then recite both lessons as a group. As always, be sure to leave adequate time for working on the new verse.

2. Explain the verse

Matthew 26:41 *“Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation.*

- ◆ What is a temptation? (A temptation is a kind of attraction to evil.)
- ◆ Give examples of temptations children your age have to face. (Temptations to be selfish, to steal, to lie,...)
- ◆ How does this verse tell us we can avoid temptation? (By being watchful and praying. Don't let temptation take you by surprise. Be ready for it.)

3. Memorize the verse

Fill in the blank - Write the complete verse on the board and recite it several times with the children. Next erase 2-3 words and recite the verse again. Replace the erased words and erase 2-3 new words and recite the verse again. Do this until all students have mastered the verse.

Lesson Review Questions

1. Did Peter think he was weak? How do you know? (No, he told the Lord that if everyone else disowned the Lord, he would not.)
2. How did Peter show his weakness? (He denied the Lord three times, even before servant girls.)
3. How did Jesus prepare Himself for the temptations He knew were ahead of Him? (He went to the garden and prayed.)
4. Why do we pray “and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one”? (We pray this because we are weak and need God's strength so that we will not fall into temptation.)
5. What are things that tempt you most? (Answers vary) How can you help defeat those temptations? (By recognizing your weakness, by praying to God for His strength, and by being watchful. Realize that we are in a battle against sin and the devil.)

LOGOS Kids Club

Year 2 - Lesson 24 - Grades 1-2

Lesson Focus

Text: Rev. 7:9-17

Question 24: What do I mean when I pray, “For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever”?

Answer 24: When I pray this I am saying that God will always be the all powerful King.

Objective: By God’s grace each child will

1. Understand that the God who reigns now will reign forever.
2. Surrender his life to the service of God, the King.

Doc:\kcl\les24-12

Introduction

1. Have you ever wanted to know the future? Have you ever wanted to know if you would win a baseball game or not? Have you ever wondered whom you might marry or what kind of job you might have or who you might have for a teacher next year or... Have you ever been reading a book and wanted to read the last chapter so you could know how everything turns out in the end?

2. You know the Bible is a book that is interested in the future, too. In fact at least one whole book of the Bible talks much about the future. Do you know what that book is? (Revelation) In this book we get a peek at what the future holds.

3. Knowing the future is especially important to us as we pray as the Lord taught His followers to pray. Who remembers what the first three requests are in the Lord’s prayer. (Hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done...) As we pray the things the Lord taught us to pray about, many of them concern the future. Do you ever wonder if what we pray for will ever come to pass?

When you look around, sometimes you wonder. Instead of seeing more and more people hallowing God’s name, we see many people saying He does not exist. Instead of seeing more and more people coming to acknowledge God as King and starting to do His will, we see many doing the opposite.

4. Do we have any reason to hope that the things Jesus told us to pray about will come true? Will His Name be hallowed, His kingdom come and His will be done? I think our Bible lesson today, taken from Revelation 7, gives us every reason to hope. Let’s look carefully together at this exciting chapter.

Body

1. Background

As we said, the book of Revelation talks much about the future. In fact this book tells us about a time when God will unleash His anger upon man. For hundreds of years, even thousands, God has been patient with man. Though they have gone their own way and rejected God as King, He has been kind to them. But the time is coming when God's patience will end and He will bring to earth a time of great trouble. He will once and for all show all mankind that He indeed is in charge; that He alone is King!

It will be a terrible time, a time of great trouble and disaster. There will be frequent earthquakes, famine, signs in the heavens, war, and poisoning of the waters. All of this will happen because God will pour out His anger on mankind in a way the earth has never seen before. And then He will finish the plan He established in the first place.

2. As all of this was being explained to John, the one who wrote the book of Revelation, God allowed John a peek into heaven. He allowed him to see past all the difficult times that were ahead for the earth and to see something of God's kingdom in heaven. What exactly did he see? Let me read a bit of what John wrote:

⁹ After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ And they cried out in a loud voice:

*"Salvation belongs to our God,
who sits on the throne,
and to the Lamb."*

As John looked into the heavenly scene **what did he see?** He saw a huge multitude of people from every place on earth all dressed in white robes standing before the throne. **Who was near the throne?** The lamb who is Jesus Christ who died to take away the sins of the world. **And what were these people doing?** They are praising the Lamb saying the He has brought to them salvation. They had been saved from sin, from its penalty and its power that ruins lives, and now they were enjoying salvation from the very presence of sin. Together they were proclaiming that God indeed saves.

The author also sees some others. Who are they? Let's read vr. 11-12

¹¹ All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying:

*"Amen!
Praise and glory
and wisdom and thanks and honor
and power and strength
be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!"*

Who else was seen here? Angels, elders and four living creatures. **And what were they doing?** Worshiping God. **What were they saying?** They were saying Amen which is to say, "It is a truth" or "it is certain". What is the truth? That praise, glory, wisdom, honor, thanks, power and strength will go to God forever. Did you know that this is exactly what we pray for at the end of the Lord's prayer. (For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.) And this is exactly what God showed John would be true when He brought it to pass.

But there is more that John learned. Let's listen. (Read vr. 13-17)

¹³ Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes -- who are they, and where did they come from?"

¹⁴ I answered, "Sir, you know."

And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ Therefore,

"they are before the throne of God

and serve him day and night in his temple;

and he who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them.

¹⁶ Never again will they hunger;

never again will they thirst.

The sun will not beat upon them,

nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷ For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd;

he will lead them to springs of living water.

And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes." (NIV)

What else did John learn from this? He learned that one day all those who have been cleansed by the blood of Jesus Christ, whose sins have been removed by Jesus the Lamb, will be brought before the presence of God on the throne. They will stand before God, accepted by Him. These will be freed from all the troubles of the earth, especially those of the last days, and will be free to serve God perfectly, day and night. God will take special care of them. They will never again hunger, or thirst, or grow tired, or weep. God will wipe away every tear. He will be their perfect shepherd and lead them to living water. He will protect them. It is a glorious picture, isn't it?

Conclusion

1. This is why Jesus taught us to pray at the end of our prayer, "For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever". We pray this because we believe that in the end God will reign as the supreme King and we who have become His children will

serve and worship Him forever. As we take a look at the end of the book that God has written we see this as the end of the story.

2. If these things are true, that one day God's name will be perfectly hallowed, His kingdom will fully come, His will be done perfectly, and that to Him forever will be the power and the glory, how should we live until those days come to pass? Let me share two important things with you:

A. It is true that one day God shall unleash His anger. He has been patient throughout the ages. He has allowed men to rebel. But a day is coming when His anger against sin will be unleashed and those who do not know Him will be punished. Since you know this is true, shouldn't you seek the Lord? Shouldn't you come to Him and lay your life before Him? Shouldn't you plead with God until you know in your heart that in Christ you have been accepted by Him?

B. When the apostle Peter thought about the end of time, he came to the conclusion that in light of the future, we all should live holy lives. We ought to walk with God, seeking to live for Him. He is the King. He shall reign forever. One day those who are His will live with Him forever in His care. It makes most sense to begin **now** living under His care, serving Him as He directs. God calls us to be His servants starting now. Are you serving Him with your whole heart, mind and soul?

LOGOS Kids Club
Memory Instruction Time
Lesson 24

1. Review

Take time to review Q&A and memory verse for lesson 23. Allow every child to recite this complete lesson and then recite it as a group several times. Be sure to leave plenty of time for working on the new verse.

2. Explain the verse

Exodus 15:18 *The LORD will reign for ever and ever.*

- What does it mean to reign? (To rule over others as King)
- Who shall reign as King? (The LORD)
- How long shall the Lord reign as King? (Forever and ever, without end)

3. Memorize the verse

Puzzle - Write the verse on an 8-1/2 X 11-1/2 piece of paper. Cut the paper into pieces forming a puzzle. Mix the pieces up and then have children put them in order. Then recite the verse together many times. Each time you recite the verse take away one piece of the puzzle. When all pieces have been taken children should have memorized the verse.

Lesson Review Questions

1. Will God always be patient with mankind? (No. There will come a time before Christ's 2nd coming when God shall unleash His anger upon man.)
2. For what are the people before the throne praising God? (For His salvation from the penalty, power and even presence of sin.)
3. Who else was around the throne? What were they doing? (Angels surround the throne praising God who will reign forever.)
4. What will it be like for those who stand before God's throne? (These are those who are accepted by God and will serve Him forever. They will have no more hunger, pain, thirst or tears. God will make all things new.)
5. Since God will indeed reign forever, how should you respond to Him now? (We should get right with God and, by His grace, commit to serve and love Him all of our life.)