

Teen Scene



1st Quarter Online Activities

Lesson 1 – Promises and Consequences

How is a relationship with God similar to a relationship with others in your life? (Taken from page 7)

During today's story, we discussed relationship and what it means to have a relationship with the Lord. What are the qualities of a good, solid relationship? Relationships that last are built on healthy communication, expressions of care, and clearly defined boundaries and expectations. Openness, availability, and loyalty should be our ways of honoring and maintaining these connections. By following these principles, we can cultivate a close relationship and strong connection with God. We demonstrate our availability to receive God's blessings and follow His Word by praying regularly and interacting with Him.

Think about this: How much time do you spend with God? How much time do you spend talking to, texting, or facetimeing with your friends? Now compare how much time you spend on social media. Do you give God His equal share? There is nothing wrong with spending time with friends or scrolling social media, however we must make sure we spend time with Him as well. Our relationship with Him is the only one that truly matters.

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Lesson 2 – Fear Not!

How do you usually handle the difficulties you face in your life? (Taken from page 11)

It is inevitable that everyone will struggle and face difficult and challenging situations. Our responsibilities and conflicts increase as we grow older, not only for ourselves, but also for our communities and world. Individually or collectively, we seem incapable of overcoming many of these challenges. In the face of difficulties or challenges, how can we keep our hope? In today's lesson from Isaiah, we are reminded to trust and believe in the Lord. Our circumstances may seem hopeless, but God offers us help and gives us hope.

Think about this: When you're in a difficult situation, as easy as it may seem to just turn to friends, or other worldly things, we must always turn to the Lord first. We cannot give into temptation to help us face the challenges. God is bigger than our biggest struggle. Lean on God to overcome the things that are causing you to stumble.

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Lesson 3 – Not by Our Own Devices

Do you recognize God’s love and acceptance, even when you’ve made a mistake? (Taken from page 14)

When you get into trouble with your parents, do your parents still love you? Of course, they do. Parents only want what’s best for their children. The same is true with God. He only wants the best for His children. In today’s lesson the Israelites were worshiping false gods and idols, yet God still loved them. God was quite disappointed with Israel, but He still loved them. Like any good parent, God warned them, and scolded them, and then like the good God He is, He delivered them.

Think about this: There is no mistake too big for God to forgive. Always go to God for forgiveness and He will welcome you back with open arms. He forgave the Israelites repeatedly. You be different. When you make a mistake, ask for forgiveness, and try to do better next time.

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Lesson 4 – Living Right over Empty Rituals

What is the difference between hollow praise and genuine worship? (Taken from page 19)

In today's lesson, Isaiah emphasizes the importance of sincere acts over empty rituals. It's great that we go to Sunday school, church, Bible study, etc., but if we don't have sincerity in our hearts, it's all for nothing. As we learn more about the Lord and His Word, we can build a closer relationship with Him. Going to church just to please others or to brag about going to church, but not to praise Him, is the wrong motivation.

Think about this: Are there any ways in church that you can encourage or motivate people to learn more about God? How can you strengthen your faith and open your heart more to God?

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Lesson 5 – Promises of Restoration and Gladness

Do you desire to have a stronger connection with the Lord? (Taken from page 22)

How do you establish a connection with God? Just like in a previous lesson we talked about having a relationship with our friends. We communicate with our friends by talking to them, texting them, or using FaceTime. While we can't text or facetime with God, we can talk to Him. That is how we build a connection with Him. By studying His word and praying to Him, we spend time with Him.

Think about this: This week, challenge yourself to spend time with God. On Monday, spend 10 minutes reading the Bible or talking to God, and then add on five minutes per day after that. If you are not sure where to begin, use the Home Daily Devotional Readings from your Sunday school books.

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Lesson 6 – Wisdom and Foolishness

Where do you turn for wisdom when you are in need of advice? (Taken from page 27)

What does wisdom mean to you? What qualities does it take to become a wise person? Who is a wise person in your life? Through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, God revealed His true wisdom and power, which we can never produce on our own. Turn to the cross, to Jesus, and to God when you are in doubt or need rock solid advice.

Think about this: Who is the wisest person you know? Turn to that person for guidance, whether it be your Sunday school teacher, pastor, or parents. However, the only One who is the wisest of them all, is Christ.

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Lesson 7 – Trust and Encouragement

In what ways can you become a Christlike example in your community?
(Taken from page 31)

Think about Christlike attributes. What are they? Reading the Bible, praying, visiting senior citizens in the nursing home, inviting others to church with you, etc. Are you doing these things already in your community? When you are Christlike others should see God in you by your actions, the way you speak, the way you treat others, etc. You can recite scriptures as much as you want, but if your heart is full of hate, that is not Christlike at all. Even the devil knows the Bible, but you must have a sincere heart as well.

Think about this: Be encouraged to share the Gospel with others. You can do so by simply telling them about Jesus. Also, don't be afraid to tell others that you are child of God. There is nothing to be ashamed of. God is not ashamed of you, so you should not be ashamed of Him.

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Lesson 8 – The Rich and the Poor

How can you work to improve your judgment of others? (Taken from page 35)

Have you ever made a snap judgment about someone solely based off appearance? If you have, you're not alone, most of us have done it in some form or fashion. However, when we think about it, is that fair? Is it fair to make snap judgments based on how someone looks? Would you like it if someone based their opinion on you just based on your appearance? Probably not. No one likes to be judged. How would we feel if God based His love on us simply because of the clothes we wear? Sounds silly, right? God loves us based on what's in our hearts, not the clothes we wear.

Think about this: In today's lesson, God tells us that we should value people based on their God--given value, not by our own or society's standards. We should make sure we judge people based on what's in their hearts, not based on appearance.

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Lesson 9 – An Important Role

What do you think about people who are hypocrites? (Taken from page 38)

Think about the word hypocrite. What does that mean to you? Do you know of anyone who is a hypocrite? Do you know any Christians who are hypocrites? In today's lesson Peter tells the people to get rid of all evil and all lying. He also warns them not to be hypocrites. Peter instructs them to not be jealous or speak evil of others.

Think about this: Don't get caught up in the world and do things of the world (smoke, drink, premarital sex, etc.) and then go back and tell others what they should and should not do. In other words, like the old saying goes, "practice what you preach".

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Lesson 10 – Love in Difficult Times

Can you recall something God has done for you? (Taken from page 43)

In today's lesson we talk about the Prodigal Son. Even though the prodigal son left his family, and took his share of money, and spent it all on worldly things, God was still with him. God never left him. Even when the prodigal son comes back, not only does his earthly father welcome him back with open arms, so does his heavenly Father—God. Whenever you feel as though you have walked away from God, you can always run back to Him.

Think about this: God will never leave or forsake us – Deuteronomy 31:8. Take a piece of paper, write down all the things that God has done for you today. When you are finished with your list, turn it over and write a prayer to God, thanking Him for all the things He has done for you.

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Lesson 11 – The Wonder of Childlike Qualities

How can you be more childlike in your pursuit of God? (Taken from page 46)

In today's lesson we talk about the word "childlike" and having childlike qualities. When we hear that word, we may think of being like a small child (silly, careless, or naïve). In this lesson the word childlike is meant to be us relinquishing our power and authority over to the Lord. God also wants us to be humble like little children.

Think about this: We know that God wants us to humble ourselves. How can we do that? How can we be humble? Even though you are teenagers, think of ways you can be more childlike when it comes to Jesus and God's kingdom.

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Lesson 12 – Different, but the Same

Do you look for opportunities to share the Good News with others? (Taken from page 50)

Today's story is about the Samaritan woman at the well. Jesus asked her for some water, and Jesus offered her something invaluable in return—living water. Jesus also told her all about her life: the fact that she had five different husbands. She was flabbergasted that He knew that information, and then was astounded that she was talking to the Messiah, Himself. She then went to run and tell others about Jesus.

Think about this: When you have the chance to minister to others like the woman at the well, do you do it, or are you afraid of being judged? The Samaritan woman told the people there that there was a man at the well who had told her everything that she had ever done. She convinced the people to come and see for themselves. When we witness something miraculous and we know God did it, why should we keep it to ourselves? We shouldn't. We should run and tell like the Samaritan woman did.

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Lesson 13 – One with Mental Illness

How can you show more compassion to the marginalized members of society? (Taken from page 55)

Today's story is about the man who is possessed by demons. The man lived alone in tombs away from society since he was considered to be a danger to himself and to others. When the man saw Jesus, he immediately knew who Jesus is. Thankfully, Jesus drove the unclean spirit out of the man and the man was so overjoyed that wanted to go with Him. How would you treat someone who may be mentally unstable? Would you treat them differently, avoid them all together or try to make friends?

Think about this: Even though people are different from us, that does not give us any reason to treat them differently. If someone is suffering from some type of illness that does not mean they don't belong in modern society (that is unless they are a danger to themselves or to others). We should be accepting of all people just as Jesus does.