

Teen Scene



4th Quarter Online Activities

Lesson 1 – A Protective Family

As chaos and disaster loom over us, how do we survive and navigate these threats to our safety and our faith?

(Taken from page 6)

During today's story, we discuss Moses and the sacrifice his mother made for him. She trusted that God would spare her son. Thankfully, God provided and delivered him into the hands of Pharaoh's daughter, who raised him as her own. By trusting God, we feel His love and know we are protected by Him. We can trust that God will find us when we are lost, and care for us when we feel alone, endangered or threatened.

Think about this: How much do you lean and depend on God when you are put in a difficult situation? Moses' mother trusted that God would protect her son, and He did. Do you have that type of faith?

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Lesson 2 – Expressing Thankfulness

In what ways have you experienced God’s faithful care in your life?

(Taken from page 10)

We as Christians know that God is always faithful. However, there are times we may feel as if God has forgotten about us, or we may think He has not kept His promises. Like in the lesson today, the Israelites were free from Pharaoh’s reign, yet they continued to complain and eventually rejected God altogether. They worshiped false or idol Gods, forgetting everything that God had brought them through. When things get a little tough for us, we too can sometimes turn our backs on God. The great thing about God is, He is always there with His arms wide open, ready to welcome us back. There may be consequences or punishment for turning away from Him, but like every good parent, He still forgives us.

Think about this: Think about your own life. Has your faith ever wavered? Like the people in the story today, they complained and had forgotten everything God had done for them because of the uncomfortable journey.

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Lesson 3 – Confidence Provides Necessary Courage

How can you reassure yourself that God is with you, even when it isn't obvious? (Taken from page 14)

Like in lesson two, we discuss how we must remember that God always keeps His promises, and He will be there waiting for us to return to Him when we stray away. Even when we don't realize it, God is always with us. It may seem as if He has forgotten about you, but rest assured, He has not. It is comforting to know that God has not forgotten us, even in the worst conditions. Even though He may not answer our prayers for deliverance in the ways we expect, He always works with and for us to bring us salvation, protection, and care. By knowing that God is with you, you can overcome insecurities and fears of inadequacy!

Think about this: What can you do each day to focus on God? What can you do on your really tough days to remember that God has not left you?

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Lesson 4 – Israel Rejects God in Favor of a Human King

What practices could you use to better listen to God’s direction for your life? (Taken from page 18)

It is important that we listen and follow God’s voice instead of our own or that of our family and friends. While family and friends may mean well, they don’t know the path God has for you. In 1 Samuel, the elders chose to listen to the people instead of following God’s voice. In the end they chose the “earthly” king. A king who could not heal, protect, and guide like the Lord. Just because the things our friends are doing looks cool, doesn’t mean it is cool and it doesn’t mean we have to go along with it.

Think about this: Has there been a time in your life where you went along with the crowd? How did that work for you? What are some ways can you put your faith in God more?

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Lesson 5 – The Heart of a Leader

How do you choose your friends and the social media influencers you follow? (Taken from page 22)

When making new friends, what is the first thing you notice about them? Is it their appearance, what type of phone they have, clothing, car, etc.? These are the things we should put last. We should befriend someone based on who they are on in the inside, not the materialistic things they may or may not have. Like in today's Scripture, God chose David to be the next king. It was because of David's heart, not because of who he was or the things he had. Material things come and go, but who a person is in their heart is what is valued most.

Think about this: David was known as a man after God's own heart. What does that phrase mean to you and how can you become more like David?

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Lesson 6 – God Chooses Us

How should we endeavor to treat one another as brothers and sisters in Christ? (Taken from page 27)

We are all brothers and sisters in Christ. This is a bond we should not take for granted. We should treat everyone we meet with the love and respect we deserve. Even though Paul was in prison in today's lesson that did not stop him from sharing the Gospel with others through his letters. Paul wanted the people to understand they were all included in Christ when they heard the Good News. There are none who are excluded from the Gospel of salvation; it is for all people.

Think about this: Do you struggle accepting everyone? Why or why not? Why should we welcome everyone with open arms?

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Lesson 7 – Wisdom as Enlightenment of Heart

How can you demonstrate wisdom during your struggles? (Taken from page 31)

Paul proclaims Christ as the ultimate source of wisdom and hope in Ephesians 1. It is only God's wisdom that is worth seeking. Taking into consideration the full magnitude of God's perspective overall, there can be no doubt that His wisdom covers any situation we may find ourselves in. Putting our faith and trust in Christ is the first step toward claiming and accessing the wisdom of the Lord. We gain knowledge and discernment through God as we seek revelation for a variety of situations we face individually and collectively.

Think about this: What are some ways you can gain God's wisdom?

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Lesson 8 – God Made Us for a Purpose

What do you believe your purpose in life is?

(Taken from page 34)

Do you believe you were created for a purpose? Do you have a special skill that you believe God gave to you? Is there something you're just naturally good at (writing, drawing, sports, etc.?) This may be a talent, or this may be your purpose in life. Only God can help you find the answer. In today's lesson we learn that God created each of us for the purpose of doing good. Every single one of us is part of God's creative design, and that design is embedded in us through Christ.

Think about this: Are you walking in your purpose? How can you figure out what your purpose is in life?

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Lesson 9 – Tools Available to Withstand Injustice and Evil

Do you trust in the tools God has provided for your protection?

(Taken from page 38)

As we confront evil and sin in our daily lives, God cares for all our needs, including our safety. Even in dealing with the unseen evil forces in the world, God offers us protection; we are assured we will overcome even the most daunting challenges through prayer and faith in Him. As His children, God has not abandoned or left us. Instead, He has given us all the tools we need to defend ourselves against all that this world has to offer. The armor has been provided by God, but it is our responsibility to put it on and stand our ground. Having faith in God is essential before this can happen. Only then will we be able to truly wear the armor. Our faith in God gives us strength, and from this strength, we are able to act with full understanding that we rely solely on Him and are constantly in communication with Him.

Think about this: When the evil of this world gets the best of us, do you put on the whole armor of God? What is the one piece of armor you are always armed with?

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Lesson 10 – God’s Promise

Do you struggle with your trust in God’s promises?

(Taken from page 43)

In today’s lesson the angel of God told Zechariah that he would bear children, but Zechariah doubted him. Elizabeth and Zechariah weren’t able to have children due to their age and history. Since Zechariah had little faith and doubted God, He made him mute (unable to speak). Even though Zechariah doubted, God kept His promise and gave him a son. We must remember that nothing is impossible for God.

Think about this: Has God already answered some of your prayers? If so, how has He done so? How did you know your prayers were answered?

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Lesson 11 – Zechariah Redeemed

Do you share in the blessing of others and rejoice when their prayers are answered? (Taken from page 46)

We read in last week's lesson that Zechariah doubted God and God made him mute. Despite this, God still blessed Zechariah and Elizabeth with a son, John. When people witnessed that Zechariah could speak (after writing his son's name on a tablet), they knew there was something special about him. Zechariah spread the word that the angel told him, that his son, John the Baptist, would prepare the way for the coming Messiah. Zechariah praised God for allowing him to have a son that God would use to give the people hope.

Think about this: Have you witnessed a miracle in your life? If so, what was it? If not, how would you be able to recognize that it was from the Lord?

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Lesson 12 – John Prepares the Way

What do you believe makes a spiritual leader effective and good?

(Taken from page 50)

Today's story is a continuation of John the Baptist. In this lesson he is all grown up and is spreading the Good News of the coming Messiah. Even before John was born, God already had a plan for his life. The same can be said for us as Christians, before we were even born, God knew us and knew that we had a purpose. John the Baptist faithfully did what he was instructed to do. John ministered and told people to turn away from their sinful ways and to be baptized with water. He preached that One would come to baptize in the Holy Spirit. John the Baptist was a servant for God and played a significant role in the coming of Jesus.

Think about this: When you have the chance to minister to others like John the Baptist, do you do it, or are you afraid of being judged? John the Baptist did not care how he looked to others, he had a mission, and that was to tell others about the Messiah. How can you be more like John the Baptist and put self aside and spread the Gospel?

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Lesson 13 – Open to Be Chosen

Do you believe God's blessings truly endure forever? (Taken from page 50)

We all know that we have a purpose in life (as we've studied in the previous lesson), but are we open to be chosen like Mary? We all know Mary as the mother of Jesus, would that be a role you'd be willing to take on graciously? Instead of Mary questioning God, she simply praised Him for choosing her. Mary is revered and honored for being the mother of our Savior. This honor and blessing weren't lost to Mary, which was the reason she felt moved to sing. Mary understood what was being asked of her and she willingly accepted the calling on her life.

Think about this: We thank God that He chose us to spread His Word, and to sing His praises. What are some other way we can worship and express our gratitude like Mary did with her song?