KIDS' CAMP CALIFORNIA

# THE EARLY LIFE AND MINISTRY OF JESUS

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| PARENT SIGNATURE: |  |

**2024 TEEN WORKBOOK** 

## This page is reserved for your counsellor who will be reviewing and marking your work.

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## PREFACE

This year at Kids Camp we will be studying the early life and ministry of Iesus!

You <u>must complete this workbook</u> to be able to enjoy Kids Camp, but **what you learn from it is up to you!** Remember the *reason* you're studying God's Word, and enjoy your studies!

There are some resources you will *need* to complete this study:

A Bible (multiple versions)

A Bible Dictionary

A Concordance

There are some other books that would be helpful to have, but are not necessary to your studies:

- Guide Book to the New Testament, HP Mansfield
- Nazareth Revisited, Robert Roberts
- The Messiah and His Ministry Vol. 1, Andrew E. Walker
- A Life of Jesus, Melva Purkis



#### Minute Meditation

Before arriving at camp, you will need to prepare a minute-long presentation about something you learned during your studies in the early life of Jesus. As you go through the workbook, think about which ideas and events are especially interesting to you. This will help you narrow down a subject for your minute meditation. Your meditation will be presented to your counsellors and group at camp.

#### Project Options

You are also required to complete a <u>project</u> accompanying your workbook. This will be presented to your group then displayed in the main hall.

Please <u>choose ONE</u> of the projects below to complete and present to your group at camp:



- 1. **Ministry Cartoon**: Create a cartoon booklet of one of the ministries of Jesus (the Opening ministry or the Galilean ministry). Be sure to include details from 4-6 of the events in the ministry in your cartoon.
- 2. **Write a Play**: Choose a few (3-5) major events during the first half of Jesus' ministry and write a play detailing the each of the "scenes" in your play. Remember to include stage directions and props/stage setup instructions for each scene. Write narrations that connect the lessons and themes of each scene to the next.
- 3. **Scrapbook**: Create a scrapbook of photos of the early ministry of Christ. Label each event and include a brief description of what is happening in each image. (Be sure to include 40+ pages.)
- 4. **Journal**: Write 6-8 journal entries from the point of view of one of the followers of Jesus. Include details from miracles he performed, parables he told, and the profound teachings he shared with his followers. Your completed journal should not be shorter than 15 pages.
- 5. **Bible Mark the Chronology Table**: Go through the Gospel Chronology table you created starting on <u>page viii</u> and mark each event in each
  - gospel. Remember to include the event, the location, the location number, and any parallel accounts in each note! Use the sample note at the right as a reference. (Your notes will be very helpful for your daily readings through the gospels starting in July!)

| TO GOVE                        | 100 2 10   | Matthew   | Mark                         | Luke                        | John   |  |  |
|--------------------------------|--|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------|--|--|
| 8-Jordan R.                    | Jesus baptized by<br>John  | 3:1-17    | 1:2-11                       | 3:1-23                      |        |  |  |
| 3 And in tho<br>Baptist, pread | Matthew 3 3 And in those days cometh John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Mark I  8- Jordan R Jesus baptized by John v1-17; Mk 1:2-11; Lk 3:1-23 |           |                              |                             |        |  |  |
| prophet,                       | <sup>2</sup> Even as it is written in Isaiah the prophet,  8- Jordan R Jesus baptized by John v2-11; Mt. 3:1-17; Lk 3:1-23                                   |           |                              |                             |        |  |  |
| Now in the                     | <b>Luke 3</b> e fifteenth year of the reasesar, Pontius Pilate be<br>Judaea, and Herod be  | eing v1-2 | rdan R Jesi<br>3; Mt. 3:1-17 | us baptized by<br>Mk 1:2-11 | y John |  |  |



## BEFORE YOU BEGIN...

#### Make a Plan!

You should be able to complete the workbook with time to spare by working on it **just a bit each day**. Don't try to wait till the last minute; you may not get it done in time, and you definitely won't get as much out of the study.

Work out your schedule. Everyone is busy, and it is always best to **schedule your time**.



How many days are left **before camp**? \_\_\_\_\_

How many **pages** are in this workbook? \_\_\_\_\_

**Divide** the number of pages in this book by the days you have left. \_\_\_\_\_

This is how many pages you should aim to complete each day.

Be sure to schedule a time each day to **complete your goal** for that day.

Completing a little bit each day over a few months will help you **absorb the information**, and help you get more out of your study.

#### Helpful Hints

 Don't forget to pray to God before you begin.

Ask Him to help you understand His Word, and He will!

- Use a **pencil** so that it is easier to correct mistakes.
- Read, re-read, & ask questions so that you understand what you are studying.
- Read everything in the workbook.



MANY times there is information given to you in the workbook, and then a question is asked about that information. Questions will be easier to answer if you have read the information given to you throughout the book.

We'll say it again: Read everything in the workbook. (That's why it's there!)

• If you get stuck on a question, put a **star** next to it and move on.

When you have completed the section, go back and try again.

You can ask a parent, friend, or Aunt or Uncle at meeting if you get stuck!

If you are *really stuck*, you can always email us (Uncle Greg & Aunt Michelle Robinson) if you need to. Our email is gregnmic@gmail.com.

Most of the questions in this workbook can be answered by carefully **reading the Bible** or reading the **information presented in the workbook itself!** 

But sometimes, a bit more effort is required. For some questions, you may need to reference a **Bible dictionary**, a **concordance**, or another Bible **translation**. Some questions will ask you to mark connections or definitions in your Bible to help you remember them later. They'll be marked with a ....
But if you come across a point that you find interesting, mark it in your
Bible, even if the question doesn't tell you to!

Our minds forget things if we aren't reminded of them over and over again.

Writing notes in your Bible is a great way to make sure you don't forget!

Don't forget to start every session with a **prayer** for God's guidance and His blessing on your studies!



The life of Jesus is an incredibly powerful story about service, love, redemption, and the call of the gospel.

As the workbook guides your study through Jesus' early life, take note of any lessons or principles Jesus shares that you can apply in your life!



The life of Jesus is recorded in four separate accounts: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Because there are **four** different gospel records, it's often difficult to find out when events actually happened, and in what order everything happened.

Throughout this workbook, we'll discuss many events that occurred during the early life of Jesus, and many events are recorded in multiple gospel records.

#### chronology

krə näləjē

a document displaying an arrangement of events in order of their occurrence

To help connect the four records, many who study the life of Christ will create a "chronology" of all the gospel records to give them a complete picture of all the events in the life of Jesus. Part of this workbook will help

Each time we look at a new event in the life of Jesus, you'll see a table. When you see a new table, flip back and add the new event(s) and

you create a chronology of your own!

the gospel references to the table on the next few pages.

You may notice the first column of our table just has a number. The number specifies the where the visit to this location fits into Jesus' ministry.

For example, Jesus is born Bethlehem. This is our first location, and is labeled 1 -Bethlehem. Then, he goes to 2 - Jerusalem (the second place he visits). When he returns to Bethlehem, we have labeled it 3 -Bethlehem, because it's the third location Iesus has visited in the record.

This pattern will continue throughout this table. The number should help you keep track of the timing of each event.



This table will need to be **filled out as you complete the workbook!** 

REMEMBER TO FLIP BACK EACH TIME YOU SEE A NEW EVENT TABLE AND ADD THE NEW EVENTS TO THIS TABLE.

We've filled in some of the table to get you started!

We recommend marking this page with a paperclip or sticky note (or by folding down the corner of the page) so you can flip back to it whenever you need to add something to the table!

|    | Location   | Event                             | Matthew | Mark   | Luke   | John   |
|----|------------|-----------------------------------|---------|--------|--------|--------|
|    |            | Ministry Prepara                  | tion    |        |        |        |
| 1  | Bethlehem  | Birth of Jesus                    |         |        | 2:1-21 |        |
| 2  | Jerusalem  |                                   |         |        |        |        |
| 3  | Bethlehem  |                                   |         |        |        |        |
| 4  | Egypt      | Escape to Egypt                   | 2:13-18 |        |        |        |
| 5  | Nazareth   |                                   |         |        |        |        |
| 6  | Jerusalem  |                                   |         |        |        |        |
| 7  | Nazareth   |                                   |         |        |        |        |
| 8  | Jordan R.  | Baptized by John                  | 3:1-17  | 1:2-11 | 3:1-23 |        |
| 9  | Wilderness |                                   |         |        |        |        |
| 10 | Jordan R.  |                                   |         |        |        |        |
| 11 | Cana       | Water to wine: first sign of John |         |        |        | 2:1-11 |
| 12 | Capernaum  |                                   |         |        |        |        |
|    |            | Opening Minist                    | try     |        | '      |        |
| 13 | Jerusalem  |                                   |         |        |        |        |
| 13 | Jerusalem  |                                   |         |        |        |        |

|    | Location                | Event                                | Matthew  | Mark    | Luke    | John    |
|----|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------|---------|---------|---------|
| 13 | Jerusalem               | Nicodemus' visit                     |          |         |         | 3:1-21  |
| 14 | At the Jordan           |                                      |          |         |         |         |
| 15 | Shechem                 |                                      |          |         |         |         |
| 16 | Galilee                 | Preaching in Galilee                 | 4:12     | 1:14    | 4:14-15 | 4:43-45 |
| 17 | Cana                    |                                      |          |         |         |         |
| 18 | Nazareth                |                                      |          |         |         |         |
|    |                         | General Galilean M                   | linistry |         |         |         |
| 19 | Capernaum               |                                      |          |         |         |         |
| 19 | Capernaum               | Peter, Andrew, James and John called | 4:18-22  | 1:16-20 |         |         |
| 19 | Capernaum               |                                      |          |         |         |         |
| 19 | Capernaum               |                                      |          |         |         |         |
| 20 | Galilee                 |                                      |          |         |         |         |
| 20 | Galilee                 |                                      |          |         |         |         |
| 20 | Galilee                 | Healing a leper                      | 8:1-4    | 1:40-45 | 5:12-16 |         |
| 21 | Capernaum               |                                      |          |         |         |         |
| 21 | Capernaum               |                                      |          |         |         |         |
| 21 | Capernaum               |                                      |          |         |         |         |
|    |                         | 2nd Passover                         |          |         |         |         |
| 22 | Jerusalem               |                                      |          |         |         |         |
| 22 | Jerusalem               |                                      |          |         |         |         |
| 23 | Likely<br>Capernaum     | Healing withered hand on sabbath     | 12:9-14  | 3:1-6   | 6:6-11  |         |
| 24 | Galilee                 |                                      |          |         |         |         |
| 24 | Galilee                 |                                      |          |         |         |         |
| 24 | Galilee                 |                                      |          |         |         |         |
| 25 | Capernaum /<br>Caesarea | Healing the Centurion's servant      | 8:5-13   |         | 7:1-10  |         |

|    | Location           | Event   | Matthew  | Mark    | Luke    | John   |
|----|--------------------|---|----------|---------|---------|--------|
| 26 | Nain               | Restoring life to widow's son                 |          |         | 7:11-17 |        |
| 27 | Galilee            |   |          |         |         |        |
| 27 | Galilee            |   |          |         |         |        |
| 27 | Galilee            |   |          |         |         |        |
| 27 | Galilee            |   |          |         |         |        |
| 27 | Galilee            | Jesus' relations hear Jesus is beside himself |          | 3:20-21 |         |        |
| 27 | Galilee            |   |          |         |         |        |
| 27 | Galilee            |   |          |         |         |        |
| 27 | Galilee            |   |          |         |         |        |
| 27 | Galilee            | The sign of the prophet Jonah                 | 12:28-45 |         |         |        |
| 27 | Galilee            |   |          |         |         |        |
| 27 | Galilee            |   |          |         |         |        |
| 27 | Galilee            |   |          |         |         |        |
| 27 | Galilee            |   |          |         |         |        |
| 27 | Galilee            | Calms the storm                               | 8:23-27  | 4:36-41 | 8:22-25 |        |
| 28 | Gadara             |   |          |         |         |        |
| 29 | Capernaum          |   |          |         |         |        |
| 29 | Capernaum          |   |          |         |         |        |
| 29 | Capernaum          | Jesus heals a dumb man                        | 9:32-34  |         |         |        |
| 30 | Nazareth           |   |          |         |         |        |
| 31 | Galilee            |   |          |         |         |        |
| 31 | Galilee            | Jesus sends out the twelve                    | 10:1-42  | 6:7-13  | 9:1-6   |        |
| 31 | Galilee            |   |          |         |         |        |
| 31 | Galilee            |   |          |         |         |        |
| 32 | Near<br>Bethasaida | 5000 fed                                      | 14:13-21 | 6:31-44 | 9:11-17 | 6:1-14 |



## INTRODUCTION

More people know the name Jesus Christ than *any other name* in the world. A quick online search shows that Jesus Christ is the **most famous person in history**. The things he did and the things he said have changed people's lives for almost 2,000 years. We don't have to look far in our daily lives to see proof of the life of Jesus Christ.

"I do not know, nor have I

or archaeologist who has

doubts about his (Jesus')

existence..."

heard of, any trained historian

Byron McCane, Atlantic University

Here are some ways that Jesus has **impacted our lives today**:

- Churches have been built in **millions** of cities around the world to honor him.
- Today, there are about **2,400,000,000** people in the world who claim to be **followers of Jesus Christ**. They are called Christians.
- Every year, most of the world sets aside a holiday in December to mark the birth of Jesus (Christmas), and one in the spring to

on earth.

mark his resurrection and his immortality (Easter). No one else has two days on the world's calendar attributed to their work on the earth. • The B.C./A.D. system we use to track the date is centered around the first coming of

Christ. Every day, we use Jesus to **mark the date**. This system is used by almost everyone

1. Can you think of any other visible ways that Jesus Christ has influenced our world? Try to come up with at least one and write it below.

In our study of the ministry of Jesus we are going to closely investigate the ministry of Jesus Christ to answer the question:

WHY IS JESUS CHRIST THE MOST FAMOUS PERSON IN HISTORY?

### JOHN'S GOSPEL TELLS US THAT GOD SENT THREE WITNESSES TO PROVE THAT JESUS WAS HIS SON AND THE MESSIAH THEY HAD BEEN WAITING FOR.

#### The first witness God sent was His Word.

- The Old Testament of the Bible told people all about God's plan to have a family. His family would love him, follow his directions and would be immortal just like Him.
- His family would start with a son who would invite people from all over the world to be a part of that kingdom. The kingdom is the most important subject of the Bible.
- 2. An Old Testament prophecy led King Herod to do a terrible thing in Bethlehem after the wise men came to him. What did King Herod do in Bethlehem?

#### The second witness God sent was John The Baptist.

- John was sent to prepare Israel for the coming of Jesus. He told thousands of people all about Jesus and the kingdom that was coming.
- He also told people that if they were going to be fit for the kingdom of God they had to change their ways and he called them to be baptized as a sign of their commitment.

#### The third witness God sent was <u>the miracles and signs</u> that Jesus did.

God gave Jesus His power to do miracles and signs so that people would realize that God was with Jesus and that He approved of what Jesus was doing. Jesus called many people who believed him to be a part of God's family.

#### THESE THREE WITNESSES WORKED TOGETHER TO MAKE JESUS FAMOUS.

**The old testament scriptures made** people look for the Messiah's coming. Their expectation was so strong that when <u>John the Baptist came</u>, people thought John was the Messiah and they came to him by the thousands!

John told the people that came to him that actually Jesus was the Messiah that they were expecting. And then, when Jesus started his ministry, **God gave him the ability to do miracles and signs** which drew people in from Israel and the countries all around.

3. Explain how God's desire to have a family can be a huge benefit for us.



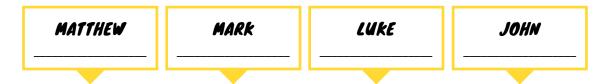
4. What is the greatest sign of all that God's plan is underway?

5. To fully be a part of the family of God we will need to be immortal. What is immortality?

After the death and resurrection of Jesus, the news about him spread far beyond Israel. It spread to <u>the whole world</u>. People all over wanted to hear about this man, the miracles he did, and the things that he said.

# THE MESSAGE OF JESUS CHRIST WAS <mark>SO IMPORTANT</mark> THAT GOD DIRECTED NOT JUST ONE PERSON TO RECORD THE EVENTS OF HIS LIFE, BUT 4 PEOPLE: MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE, AND JOHN!

6. Research the approximate date that each gospel was written and fill in the boxes below.



Each of the gospels records <u>different events</u> in Christ's life because each gospel focuses on a **different aspect** of the ministry of Christ. Some the gospels put the events in chronological order and others do not. As a result, it is easy for us to lose track of the chronological order of Christ's ministry when reading from just one gospel.

One of our goals of this workbook is to get straight in our minds the chronological sequence of the ministry of Christ. Each section of the workbook will begin with a table showing the chronology of the section, and the references in each gospel where the event is recorded.

Each time you see a table, don't forget to <u>flip back to the **chronology table** on page viii</u> to fill out your own chronology!

|   | Location  | Event                       | Matthew | Mark   | Luke    | John |
|---|-----------|-----------------------------|---------|--------|---------|------|
| 1 | Bethlehem | Birth of Jesus              |         |        | 2:1-21  |      |
| 2 | Jerusalem | Consecration of firstborn   |         |        | 2:22-39 |      |
| 3 | Bethlehem | Visit of wise men           | 2:1-12  |        |         |      |
| 4 | Egypt     | Escape to Egypt             | 2:13-18 |        |         |      |
| 5 | Nazareth  | Jesus's development         |         |        | 2:39-40 |      |
| 6 | Jerusalem | About his father's business |         |        | 2:41-50 |      |
| 7 | Nazareth  | An obedient son             |         |        | 2:51-52 |      |
| 8 | Jordan R. | Jesus baptized by John      | 3:1-17  | 1:2-11 | 3:1-23  |      |

Use the table above to answer the following questions:

- 7. Which gospel tells us the most about the early life of Jesus? Which one tells us the least?
- 8. Which of the above events is recorded in most of the gospels?

IN THIS WORKBOOK WE ARE GOING TO COVER JESUS' MINISTRY FROM HIS BAPTISM TO THE FEEDING OF THE 5000.



## MINISTRY PREPARATION

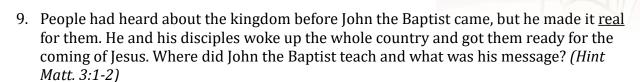
In order to prepare the people for their Messiah, God told **John the Baptist** to <u>announce the coming of Jesus</u>. He told John to invite people to have their sins forgiven and to join the fight against sin. Everyone in Israel knew about John the Baptist calling people to <u>repent and to be baptized</u>. They knew that he was leading the fight against sin. Thousands of people responded to John's preaching, and were baptized.

We have been talking about the fame of Jesus, but before anyone knew who Jesus was, John the Baptist was **famous** throughout Israel. He got the attention of the people because he was *different* from the other teachers in Israel.

He taught the people in a way that they could understand and with authority; his words were solid and they were simple.

John the Baptist was also different because neither money nor status was important to him, he didn't dress in expensive clothing, instead he wore camel's hair and about his waist a leather girdle. He didn't live in an expensive house, instead he lived in the wilderness and ate locust and wild honey.

# THE PEOPLE LOVED JOHN AND WERE EXCITED TO HEAR HIM TALK ABOUT THE MESSIAH AND THE KINGDOM!



10. Why do you think John refused to baptize Jesus at first?

11. Why do you think Jesus insisted in being baptized? (*Hint: baptism is for more than just the forgiveness of sins!*)

- 12. After Jesus was baptized, why do you think God's spirit was given to him?
- 13. The baptism of Jesus was effectively his introduction to Israel and to the world. What kind of an impact do you think God's words about His son, would have had on the people? What impact would they have had on Jesus?



|   | Location   | Event             | Matthew | Mark    | Luke   | John |
|---|------------|-------------------|---------|---------|--------|------|
| 8 | Jordan R.  | Baptized by John  | 3:1-17  | 1:2-11  | 3:1-23 |      |
| 9 | Wilderness | Jesus' temptation | 4:1-11  | 1:12-13 | 4:1-13 |      |

- 14. Right after Jesus was baptized, he was led by God out into the wilderness to be tempted. Matthew and Luke tell us that he was tempted by the devil, but Mark says he was tempted by Satan. What did Matthew and Luke mean when the used the term "devil"?
- 15. What did Mark mean when he said Jesus was tempted by "Satan"?
- 16. Explain in your own words why Mark is not contradicting Matthew and Luke by saying that Jesus was tempted by the devil.
- 17. Jesus experienced three different temptations in the wilderness. What do you notice in common between all three of the responses Jesus gave? How can we learn from this?

|    | Location   | Event                  | Matthew | Mark    | Luke   | John    |
|----|------------|------------------------|---------|---------|--------|---------|
| 9  | Wilderness | Jesus' temptation      | 4:1-11  | 1:12-13 | 4:1-13 |         |
| 10 | Jordan R.  | Jesus' first disciples |         |         |        | 1:19-51 |

After being tempted in the wilderness for <u>40 days</u>, Jesus returned to where he was baptized to get started on the work of preparing people for the kingdom.

John the Baptist was still baptizing there and some of John's disciples became disciples of Jesus.

- 18. Starting in John 1:19, the Jewish leaders sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to find out who John the Baptist was. Who were the three people that they asked John if he was?
- 19. John told them that he was no one, just a voice crying in the wilderness to prepare Israel for its king. Define the words below and explain why they are relevant to Jesus being Israel's king.

Messiah:

Christ:

Lord:

Jesus:

- 20. In your Bible, beside Matthew 1:1, mark all four definitions from above.
- 21. John the Baptist called Jesus "the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world". This was a reference to the passover lamb. How did the passover lamb save the Israelites in Egypt?



- 22. In your own words explain why John the Baptist was baptizing? (Hint: John 1:31)
- 23. Who had told John the Baptist to baptize people? (Hint: John 1:33)

24. When John the Baptist told two of his disciples that Jesus was the Lamb of God, they were so impressed that they followed Jesus to where he was staying. After spending time with him, Andrew (Peter's brother) was so excited that he ran to tell Peter about it. What did Andrew say to Peter?



25. The next day Jesus called Philip to follow him and he was so excited that he found Nathanael. What did he tell Nathanael about Jesus?

26. Why was Nathanael skeptical about Jesus being the Messiah?

- 27. After Nathanael talked with Jesus for a while what did he say about Jesus?
- 28. Andrew, Philip and Nathanael believed that Jesus was the Messiah in a short period of time. Why might they have been able to believe so quickly?

|    | Location  | Event                              | Matthew | Mark | Luke | John    |
|----|-----------|------------------------------------|---------|------|------|---------|
| 10 | Jordan R. | Jesus' first disciples             |         |      |      | 1:19-51 |
| 11 | Cana      | Water to wine - first sign of John |         |      |      | 2:1-11  |

After spending time near the Jordan River, where John was baptizing, Jesus went up to the northern part of Israel to Cana to attend a family wedding. It is likely that he had six disciples that with him at this time, but they were not what we would consider "full-time disciples" yet.

It was in Cana where Jesus began to **use miracles to get people's attention** so that people would listen to what he had to say:

- First of all they would <u>realize that God was with him</u> because he was able to do miracles.
- Then many would <u>listen to Jesus word and be amazed</u> at what he had to say.
- -And often people would see that there was a <u>spiritual lesson</u> that could be learned from the miracle.

The first miracle Jesus did is a good example of a miracle that had an important message behind it. In that miracle, he turned water into wine.

In the miracle Jesus took the water (the word of God) and used it to create wine (people willing to give their lives in God's service). The beauty of this miracle was that it perfectly described the work that Jesus had come to do.

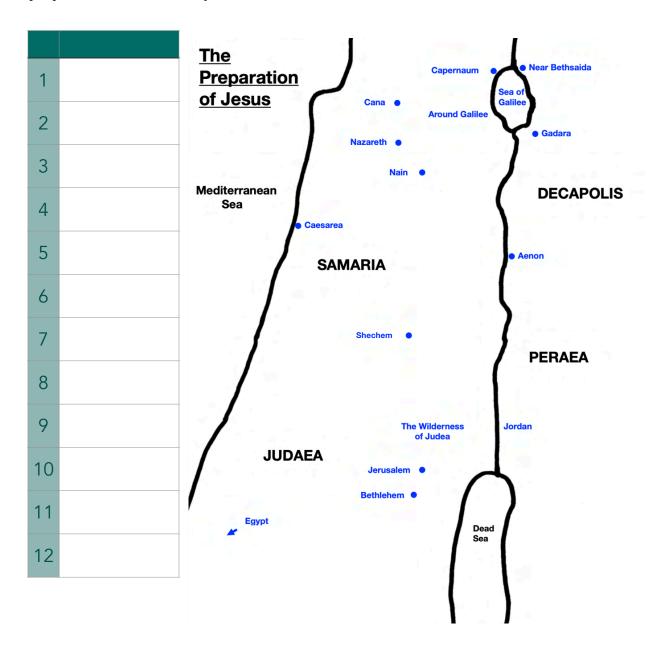
#### HE CAME TO EXPLAIN THE WORD OF GOD TO PEOPLE IN A WAY WOULD MAKE THEM WILLING TO USE THEIR LIVES IN THE SERVICE OF GOD.

- 29. In your Bible, next to John 2:3, mark: Wine represents blood which symbolizes a life given in God's service.
- 30. In your Bible, next to John 2:6, mark: Water represents the Word of God
- 31. In John 2:3, Mary told Jesus that the people at the wedding had run out of wine. If the people at the wedding were a symbol of Israel at the time of Jesus, what could be said about Israel at that time?
- 32. What would be signified by the water that Jesus used to make the wine?
- 33. In your own words, explain how Jesus used God's Word to convince people to use their lives in God's service.
- 34. John 2:11 says that when Jesus performed this miracle, his disciples believed on him. How would their careful consideration of this miracle have helped them to believe?

|    | Location  | Event                         | Matthew | Mark | Luke | John   |
|----|-----------|-------------------------------|---------|------|------|--------|
| 11 | Cana      | Water to wine - first miracle |         |      |      | 2:1-11 |
| 12 | Capernaum | Jesus visits Capernaum        |         |      |      | 2:12   |

After the wedding at Cana, Jesus, his mother, his brethren, and his disciples went to a city called Capernaum. Jesus used Capernaum as the base of his ministry. It was like his headquarters. In fact, Matthew 9:1 calls Capernaum, "his own city."

- 35. On the table below, fill in the 12 places Jesus visited during the Preparation of his Ministry.
- 36. Then, on the map below, label and number the 12 places we have shown in the chronology tables so far. Connect the dots to show where Jesus went during the preparation of his ministry.





## OPENING MINISTRY

|    | Location  | Event                                | Matthew | Mark | Luke | John    |
|----|-----------|--------------------------------------|---------|------|------|---------|
| 12 | Capernaum | Jesus visits Capernaum               |         |      |      | 2:12    |
| 13 | Jerusalem | First Passover - cleanses the temple |         |      |      | 2:13-22 |

Jesus' ministry had its public debut in Jerusalem at the Passover. People came from <u>all over the Roman Empire</u> every year for Passover and it is estimated that there would have been over **two million people** in the city when Jesus began his ministry.

Having so many people come to Jerusalem to worship would have given the priests and Levites in Jerusalem a fantastic opportunity to <u>teach people from all over the world about God and about the kingdom</u>.

UNFORTUNATELY, THE JEWISH LEADERS SAW THE
PASSOVER AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE MONEY AND
THERE WAS VERY LITTLE FOCUS ON HELPING PEOPLE TO
BE SAVED FROM THEIR SINS.

37. John 2:14 tells us that, in the temple, Jesus found people selling oxen, sheep, and doves as well as people who exchanged money of different currencies. Research these practices and describe what was wrong with them.



38. What should have been happening in God's temple? (Hint: Isa. 56:7)

39. What is a "house of merchandise"?

- 40. What did Jesus do to the people who were making his Father's house a house of merchandise?
- 41. What do you think people thought when Jesus, an unknown man, cleansed the temple?
- 42. Why do you think no one stopped him? (*Hint: v17*)
- 43. How well known would Jesus have been in Jerusalem after cleansing the temple?
- 44. Why do you think the leaders of the Jews asked Jesus for a sign after he had cleansed the temple?
- 45. Next to John 2:19, mark the following: The Jews would bring destruction of the literal temple and Jesus' resurrection would lead to the spiritual temple.

|    | Location  | Event                                | Matthew | Mark | Luke | John    |
|----|-----------|--------------------------------------|---------|------|------|---------|
| 13 | Jerusalem | First Passover - cleanses the temple |         |      |      | 2:13-22 |
| 13 | Jerusalem | Miracles make many believe           |         |      |      | 2:23-25 |

Everyone in Jerusalem at the Passover would have been talking about Jesus cleansing the temple. They might have wondered if Jesus had come to condemn them. But then, Jesus started to do something that no one had ever seen before. He started to **perform miracles**, healing people from all kinds of sickness and disease.





46. What does John 2:23 say happened to the people when they saw the miracles that Jesus did?

|    | Location  | Event                      | Matthew | Mark | Luke | John    |
|----|-----------|----------------------------|---------|------|------|---------|
| 13 | Jerusalem | Miracles make many believe |         |      |      | 2:23-25 |
| 13 | Jerusalem | Nicodemus' visit           |         |      |      | 3:1-21  |



47. In John 3:1, we meet a man named **Nicodemus** who was a Pharisee. Research what a <u>Pharisee</u> is and write what you discover about Pharisees below.

48. Nicodemus was also one of the religious rulers of the Jews, belonging to the Sanhedrin. Research what the <u>Sanhedrin</u> is and write what you discover below.

- 49. John 3:10 also tells us that Nicodemus was a <u>master</u> in Israel. What does this word "master" mean?
- 50. Nicodemus was a one of the many people in Jerusalem that believed that God was with Jesus. Why did he believe that?
- 51. Why do you think Nicodemus came to Jesus at night?

In John 3:3, Jesus almost seems to cut Nicodemus off as he speaks. He tells him that people can't be in the kingdom of God unless they are **born again**. Jesus was telling Nicodemus that unless people are given eternal life by God, they will not be in the kingdom. Jesus then goes on to explain to Nicodemus the process of being **born of the spirit**: the process that leads to immortality and the kingdom.

**Being born of the spirit** is an amazing process that starts when we hear the Word of God and try to understand it. As we learn and comprehend the Word of God, it takes root in our minds and it takes the place of our normal human thinking. Instead of being selfish, <u>we learn to consider others</u>.

52. Look at Galatians 5:22-23 and write out the changes that being born of the spirit will make in us.

When we listen to God and work to understand His Word, the process of rebirth begins:

We **learn** why God created the earth and we see that we can be a part of His work.

We come to **love** God's work and when we do we choose to follow God's will rather than our own.

Our **thinking changes** to be more like the thinking of our Father.

Our actions and our daily habits change.

Our **character changes** and we become a person God can use in His kingdom.

## AND IF WE BECOME A PERSON GOD CAN USE IN THE KINGDOM, THEN HE WILL GIVE US ETERNAL LIFE, AND WE WILL BE FULLY BORN OF THE SPIRIT!

The process of spiritual rebirth is a simple, logical process, but it was one that Nicodemus, the teacher of Israel, did not understand. Like most of the people at the Passover, he believed Jesus was from God because he saw the miracles, but his belief was just <u>superficial</u> at first. When he saw the miracles, his belief wasn't enough to make him fit for God's kingdom, but <u>it was enough to make him want to hear more!</u> It was enough to **spark interest** in Jesus and in the kingdom!

- 53. In your own words, explain why Bible study is an important part of spiritual rebirth.
- 54. How did it become clear that Nicodemus did not understand the process of being born of the spirit or spiritual rebirth in John 3:4?

- 55. In John 3:5, Jesus talks about being born of water, or being baptized. Why is baptism like being born again? When a person is baptized what are they committing to do with their life?
- 56. Jesus went on to explain to Nicodemus that **the son of man** (the man that God had chosen to be the the ruler of the world, i.e. Jesus Christ) was going to have die on the cross in order to save sinners. To prove his point he refers to a story from the Old Testament where Moses put a brass snake on a pole. Where is that story recorded in the Old Testament? Mark the reference in the margin of your Bible.
- 57. In that story, anyone who had been bitten by a snake could look at the snake on the pole and they would be saved from the bite of the snake. What did Jesus tell Nicodemus was our equivalent of looking at the snake on the pole? (*Hint: John 3:15*)



- 58. In the Bible, a snake or serpent is a symbol of sin. It is an appropriate symbol because being bitten by a serpent leads to death, just like sin. Since we all sin, we are like the people dying from serpent bites in the wilderness. In the Bible, we could say that Eve was bitten by the thinking of the serpent, or we could say that she listened to the serpent instead of God. What resulted from her and Adam eating of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil?
- 59. In John 3:16, Jesus told Nicodemus that sinners can be saved from the bite of sin by believing in Jesus on the cross, and that by believing we can have everlasting life. What do you think it means to believe in Jesus on the cross?
- 60. In John 3:19-20, Jesus told Nicodemus that he had brought God's word (light) into the world but that people did not want to hear it. Why did he say that they did not want to hear God's Word?

|    | Location  | Event                              | Matthew | Mark | Luke | John    |
|----|-----------|------------------------------------|---------|------|------|---------|
| 13 | Jerusalem | Nicodemus' visit                   |         |      |      | 3:1-21  |
| 14 | Jordan R. | John witnesses in support of Jesus |         |      |      | 3:22-36 |

After their trip to the Jerusalem for the Passover, Jesus' fame spread throughout Israel. People from <u>all over the country</u> had seen what Jesus did at the Passover and their belief had sparked them into action. Soon <u>thousands and thousands of people</u> were coming to Jesus at the Jordan River to be baptized.



61. We are told that Jesus was baptizing in Judaea. This was probably at the place John the Baptist had originally been baptizing. Where does John 3:23 tell us that John the Baptist had moved his place of baptizing to? Why do you think John the Baptist moved his work to this new place?

62. In your own words, explain the concern that John the Baptist's disciples had about Jesus baptizing in verse 26.

- 63. What was John the Baptist's response in verses 27-28?
- 64. What did John the Baptist mean when he said, "He must increase, but I must decrease?"
- 65. John the Baptist was one of the key witnesses that God used to prove that Jesus was the Messiah. What does John the Baptist say or do in this section that shows he was an excellent witness?

- 66. In John 3:36, John the Baptist said, "He that believeth on the son hath everlasting life:" What did Jesus say to Nicodemus that was similar to this?
- 67. Why do you think belief in Jesus is necessary for everlasting life?

|    | Location  | Event                                 | Matthew | Mark | Luke | John    |
|----|-----------|---------------------------------------|---------|------|------|---------|
| 14 | Jordan R. | John witnesses in support of Jesus    |         |      |      | 3:22-36 |
| 15 | Shechem   | Teaching the woman of Samaria and her |         |      |      | 4:1-42  |

After baptizing thousands of people in the Jordan River, Jesus and his disciples left Judea to go to the northern part of Israel near the Sea of Galilee.

Normally, a Jew that was traveling from the southern part of Israel to the northern part of Israel would *not* travel through the region of Samaria. Instead, they would travel all the way around Samaria (*see map*) because they did not want to have anything to do with the Samaritans as some of the Samaritan beliefs were wrong. But Jesus was going to go right through Samaria because in Shechem there were people that he was going to help believe.

68. Why does Jesus go to so much trouble to help people to believe?



69. Jesus came to a city called Sychar, which is also known as Shechem. What does John 4:5-6 say was special about Shechem?

| 70. Near the city of Shechem was a mountain called Mt. Gerizim. Research Mt. Gerizim t | 0 |
|--|---|
| find out why the Samaritans thought Shechem and Gerizim were the proper places t       | 0 |
| worship God and write your findings below.   |   |
|  |   |

71. Why was the woman of Samaria surprised that Jesus asked her for water to drink?

Iesus turned the whole situation around for the Samaritan woman so that he could teach her about eternal life. Instead of her drawing ordinary water from the well, Jesus showed her that he could draw eternal life from the word of God for her.

#### HE COULD DO THIS BECAUSE HE WAS THE MESSIAH.

- 72. What did Jesus mean by the gift of God? (Hint Rom. 6:23)
- 73. Regular water is critical for life; without water all of us would die. In your own words explain how the Word of God is critical for eternal life.
- 74. Jesus told the woman that if she drank living water she would never thirst again. What did he mean by that?
- 75. After Jesus showed the woman that he knew that she had had five husbands, and that the man she was living with was not her husband what did she perceive that Jesus was?



76. Jesus told the woman that the important thing was that people worship God spirt and in truth.

Mark the following in your Bible next to John 4:24: spirit - sincerely, not for show truth - not just following the traditions

- 77. Why do you think it's significant that woman left her pot at the well?
- 78. What did the woman do when she got back into the city?
- 79. The people of the city came to believe in Jesus because of what the woman said, and because they heard the words of Jesus themselves. Which belief do you think was stronger? What can we learn for ourselves from this?

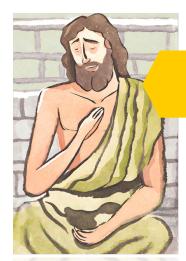


80. In the end, Jews (Jesus and the disciples) and Samaritans (the woman at the well) were able to work together to **share the good news of the kingdom** with the people of the city. What can we learn from this?

- 81. The fame of Jesus exploded when his public ministry began with the miracles he did in Jerusalem and because of it many people went out to the Jordan to be baptized by Jesus' disciples. Then Jesus went to the religious capital of the Samaritans and we are told that many more believed on Jesus. What did the Samaritans call Jesus at the end of verse 42?
- 82. What other Bible character was called the Savior of the world? Why would it be amazing that that was the Samaritans in Shechem used that title for Jesus?

|    | Location | Event  | Matthew | Mark | Luke    | John    |
|----|----------|--|---------|------|---------|---------|
| 15 | Shechem  | Teaching the woman of Samaria and her people |         |      |         | 4:1-42  |
| 16 | Galilee  | Preaching in Galilee                         | 4:12    | 1:14 | 4:14-15 | 4:43-45 |

- 83. Mark 1:14 tells us that at about this time, Jesus heard that John the Baptist had been put in prison by Herod. Why might this have been difficult news for Jesus to hear?
- 84. John 4:45 tells us that when Jesus came preaching in the region of Galilee, the people recognized him and accepted him. Where did they recognize him from?



85. Luke 4:14 tells that the fame of Jesus went through all the region round about. What does verse 15 say contributed to that fame?

|    | Location | Event                          | Matthew | Mark | Luke    | John    |
|----|----------|--------------------------------|---------|------|---------|---------|
| 16 | Galilee  | Preaching in Galilee           | 4:12    | 1:14 | 4:14-15 | 4:43-45 |
| 17 | Cana     | Jesus heals the nobleman's son |         |      |         | 4:46-54 |

John's gospel keeps showing us how Jesus worked to help people believe in him. **Belief is critical** because belief leads to eternal life. But the belief God is looking for is <u>not just the kind of belief we might have in Jesus if we saw him healing people</u>.

God is looking for belief that goes deeper than that. He is looking for a belief that is based on an understanding of Him and His ways.

## GOD WANTS US TO BELIEVE IN HIM <u>ENOUGH</u> FOR IT TO <u>CHANGE</u> OUR THINKING AND OUR CHARACTER.

86. Sometimes, God helps to build our belief by bringing hard times into our lives. We call those hard times trials. In the story of the nobleman, what trial came into his life?

- 87. How did his trial help his belief in Jesus to be stronger?
- 88. In John 4:48, Jesus challenged the nobleman by saying that without signs and wonders he would not believe. Did the nobleman believe without seeing the miracle?
- 89. Another amazing thing about belief is that it is contagious, that is one persons belief can help others to believe, too. Who else came to believe in this section?

|    | Location | Event                          | Matthew | Mark | Luke    | John    |
|----|----------|--------------------------------|---------|------|---------|---------|
| 17 | Cana     | Jesus heals the nobleman's son |         |      |         | 4:46-54 |
| 18 | Nazareth | Jesus is rejected at Nazareth  |         |      | 4:16-30 |         |

Luke 4:14-15 tells us that the fame of Jesus went through the <u>whole region of Galilee</u>. It also tells us that he taught in the synagogues and that people praised him for his teaching!

But when Jesus came to **his hometown of Nazareth**, that was not the case. Something made it harder for the people of Nazareth to believe.

Jesus had grown up in Nazareth with his parents: Joseph and Mary, and he had worked in Nazareth as a carpenter. If you lived in Nazareth and you needed work done on your house Jesus would have been one of the people that you might have called to do the work for you. Many of the people of Nazareth would have heard about the miracles that Jesus was doing and they would have been excited when he came home to Nazareth.



- 90. What does Luke 4:16 tell us that Jesus usually did in Nazareth on the sabbath?
- 91. On that day, Jesus read from Isaiah 61:1-2: a passage that described what the Messiah would do when he came. List all of the things that Isaiah prophesied that the Messiah would do in Isaiah 61:1-2.

92. After reading those verses, Jesus closed the book and sat down and everyone was watching him. Then he explained to them that he was the one that Isaiah was talking about, he was the Messiah. At first everyone was amazed at what he was saying, but then someone said, "Isn't this Joseph's son." Why do you think the fact that Jesus was from their own town might have made it harder for them to believe?

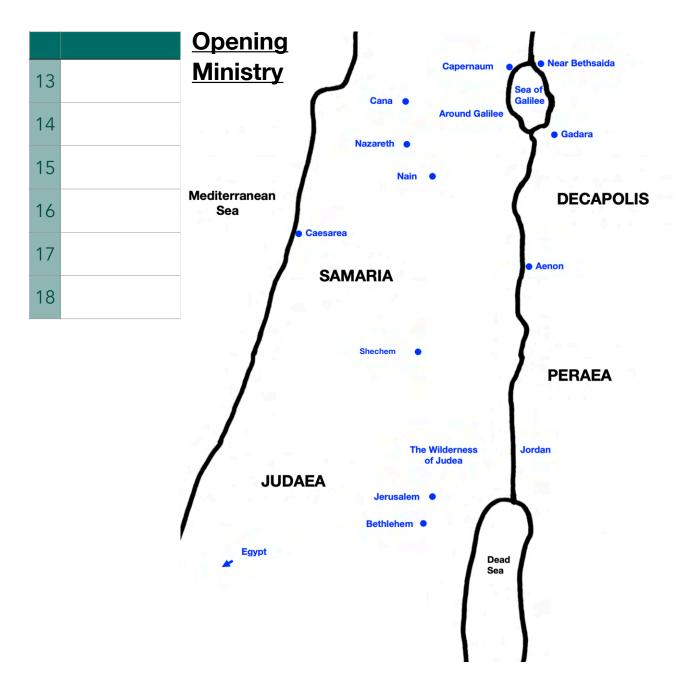
Then, in verse 23, Jesus said to them, 'You are going to ask me to heal the sick people of Nazareth just like I did in Capernaum.' But Jesus wasn't going to do that. Matthew 13:58 tells us that Jesus did not do many miracles in Nazareth **because of their unbelief**. Jesus certainly <u>could have</u> done miracles on the people of Nazareth but he only performed miracles when the miracles would help people to believe.

93. Can you think of another time when Jesus refused to perform a miracle that was not to help others believe?



- 94. In verses 25-27, Jesus compared Nazareth to Israel in the days of Ahab and Jezebel. In those days Elijah and Elisha were two well know prophets in Israel, but Elijah helped a woman from Zerephath and Elisha healed a leper from Syria because Israel did not have faith in God. In the same way, Jesus would not be able to help many in Nazareth because of their lack of faith. What did the people in the synagogue do in verses 28-29 when they heard this comparison?
- 95. What miracle did Jesus end up doing in Nazareth in verse 30?
- 96. How did the response of the people of Capernaum in verse 32 compare to the response of those in Nazareth?

- 97. On the table below, fill in the places Jesus visited during the Preparation of his Ministry.
- 98. Then, on the map below, label and number the places we have shown in the chronology tables so far. Connect the dots to show where Jesus went during the Opening Ministry.





## GALILEAN MINISTRY

After being rejected in Nazareth, Jesus <u>focused his work in the region of Galilee</u>. This ministry is often referred to as the **Galilean Ministry**. During this ministry, Jesus stayed in a house in the city of Capernaum which was located on the north shore of the Sea of Galilee. <u>Capernaum became the home base or headquarters</u> of his work in the area.

|    | Location  | Event                         | Matthew | Mark    | Luke    | John |
|----|-----------|-------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|------|
| 18 | Nazareth  | Jesus is rejected at Nazareth |         |         | 4:16-30 |      |
| 19 | Capernaum | Jesus headquarters            | 4:13-17 | 1:14-15 | 4:31    |      |

- 99. Matthew tells us that Jesus' preaching in Capernaum fulfilled a prophecy given to Isaiah. Where can we find this prophecy?
- 100. What does Matt 4:17 tell us was the key message of Jesus' preaching?

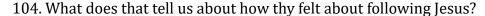
|    | Location  | Event                                 | Matthew | Mark    | Luke | John |
|----|-----------|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|------|------|
| 19 | Capernaum | Jesus headquarters                    | 4:13-17 | 1:14-15 | 4:31 |      |
| 19 | Capernaum | Peter, Andrew, James, and John called | 4:18-22 | 1:16-20 |      |      |

As Jesus geared up his ministry in Galilee he called <u>Peter, Andrew, John, and James</u> to leave their nets and their ships to come help him spread the word of the kingdom.

You will remember that Peter, Andrew, John, and likely James had already become followers of Jesus back in John 1. But here Jesus is calling them to leave their old way of life and to follow him in the work of **preaching the kingdom**.

- 101. What type of fishermen did tell Peter and Andrew that he would make them?
- 102. What word does Matthew use to describe how Peter and Andrew left their old lives as fishermen? What does that tell us about how thy felt about following Jesus?

103. What word does Matthew use to describe how James and John left their old lives as fishermen?





|    | Location  | Event                                | Matthew | Mark    | Luke    | John |
|----|-----------|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|------|
| 19 | Capernaum | Peter, Andrew, James and John called | 4:18-22 | 1:16-20 |         |      |
| 19 | Capernaum | A demoniac healed                    |         | 1:21-28 | 4:32-37 |      |

Luke 4:32-37 tells us that a man in the synagogue had a spirit of an "unclean devil". This can be a confusing term for us, but it was just the term that people in Jesus's day used for an illness or a disease that people could not explain.

In Luke 4, like most other cases, a person possessed by a demon or having a devil was just a person with a mental illness.

Many people had <u>diseases that were visible</u> like leprosy, fevers, deafness, blindness, dumbness, and defects of the bones, joints and muscles. These diseases could be explained because they were visible.

But people with illnesses that could not be explained, were said to be possessed by **demons or devils**.

105. Next to Luke 4:33, mark the following: spirit of unclean devil = mental illness

The people Capernaum were astonished by the teaching of Jesus because he spoke with <u>power</u> (Luke 4:32). His words were <u>so powerful</u> that they could overpower human thinking and many people were becoming believers.

Jesus' words were powerful because he taught **God's way of thinking** to the people. God's way of thinking is sometimes called the thinking of the spirit. It is very different from our normal human way of thinking. Our natural, human way of thinking is selfish because it is focused on doing what we want, with little concern for others. Human thinking is often called human nature or the thinking of the flesh.

Jesus was having great success in showing people that they should **put God first in their thinking**, because if they did God would be able to use them in His kingdom.

In the miracle of the healing of the demoniac, the thinking of the flesh is shown to be like a mental illness. It is something that needs to be <u>driven out</u> if a person is going to be able to think properly and is going to be a part of the kingdom of God.

106. In Luke 4:35-36, Jesus healed the man that had a mental illness. What term is often used in the Bible for the wrong thinking that all of us suffer from?

107. Luke 4:36 says that when the man with the mental illness was cured the people were amazed at Jesus' words. Why were they amazed?



108. Why were the people in Capernaum astonished with the teaching of Jesus in verse 32?

109. What do you think the lesson of Jesus driving out the man's mental illness was?

110. Luke 4:37 tells us that Jesus' fame "went out into every place of the country round about". What do you think this means?

|    | Location  | Event             | Matthew | Mark    | Luke    | John |
|----|-----------|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|------|
| 19 | Capernaum | A demoniac healed |         | 1:21-28 | 4:32-37 |      |
| 19 | Capernaum | Many healed       | 8:14-17 | 1:29-34 | 4:38-41 |      |

When Jesus was in Nazareth, he did not perform many miracles because the people of Nazareth were <u>not ready to accept him</u>. In Capernaum however, **many people** came to Jesus and **many were healed**.

111. In Luke 4:38-41, we read the account of Peter's mother in law being healed of a great fever. What did she do after she was healed?

- 112. In Luke 4:40, we read that when the sun was setting the people brought their sick to Jesus to be healed. They waited because they believed that it was wrong for Jesus to heal on the sabbath. Research the timing of the sabbath to find out why they waited until the sun was setting.
- 113. In Luke 4:42-43, Jesus went out of the city to be alone for a while, but the people came to him and asked him to stay in Capernaum. What was Jesus' answer?

|    | Location  | Event                                     | Matthew            | Mark    | Luke    | John |
|----|-----------|---|--------------------|---------|---------|------|
| 19 | Capernaum | Many healed                               | 8:14-17            | 1:29-34 | 4:38-41 |      |
| 20 | Galilee   | Preaching in Galilee: Sermon on the mount | 4:23-25;<br>ch 5-7 | 1:39    | 4:44    |      |

Jesus fame was spreading, even beyond Israel! Everywhere Jesus went, the people were <u>amazed at the miracles</u> he did and the <u>power of his words</u>. His teaching helped make the lives of people better and people loved Jesus because of that. We are starting to see why Jesus is the **most famous person in history**.

After preaching in Capernaum, Jesus began to teach all over the region of Galilee. He started in the synagogues and soon his preaching <u>outgrew the synagogues</u> so he had to find places to teach that would hold more people!

In this section, we are going to use the gospel of Matthew as our guide.

- 114. What was the message that Jesus taught as he went through the synagogues of Galilee?
- 115. Matthew 4:24-25 shows us that the effect that Jesus had on people extended far and wide. List the places mentioned in these verses.

The <u>kingdom of God</u> that Jesus and the disciples taught was all about God's desire to have a family. God created the earth and He created people specifically for this purpose.

# HE WANTED **PEOPLE THAT LOVED HIM** AND WANTED TO BE LIKE HIM TO LIVE ON THE EARTH.

Unfortunately, people do not automatically love God and they do not automatically want to be like Him. Loving God and loving His ways can only happen when a person learns about

God and sees that God's ways are smarter than man's. To get people to learn about God, Jesus used miracles to bring people to him so that he could teach them.

By the time we get to Matthew chapter 5, Jesus had many, many followers, so he brought them up into a mountain, sat down and began to teach them. Chapters 5-7 give us amazing details about Jesus' teaching and they are often called **The Sermon on the Mount**.

The first twelve verses of Matthew 5 make up what are called the beatitudes, a beatitude is a supreme blessing, the greatest blessing. And the greatest blessing a person could ever receive would be to become a part of God's family in the kingdom.

THE BEATITUDES DESCRIBE THE **CHARACTERISTICS** OF PEOPLE WHO WILL RECEIVE THE GREATEST BLESSING OF ALL, ETERNAL LIFE IN THE KINGDOM.

THE BLESSING OF ETERNAL LIFE IN THE KINGDOM WILL BE GIVEN TO PEOPLE THAT:

Are selfless and give up the flesh's desires because they want to be in God's kingdom.

Are sad when they realize how far from God they have been.

They will be comforted.

Are humble, and accept God's ways and can be shaped by God. They are the people God will put in charge of His kingdom.

Are no longer satisfied with what the world has to offer, instead they want spiritual things.

They will be be filled with spiritual things.

Have compassion for others.
God will have compassion on them.

Are totally committed to God. They will see God, being accepted by Him.

Work to bring people together by showing them righteousness. They will be part of God's family.

Experience hostility because they are a part of the kingdom of God.

Their reward is great in heaven.

116. Choose your favorite two beatitudes from the paraphrased list and explain why you chose them.

117. In Matthew 5:14-16, Jesus told the people that they were the light of the world and that they were the ones that could help the rest of the world to see (learn about) God and his plan.

What did he tell them they should do to make their light shine?



118. Many people would have thought that Jesus had come to get rid of the Law of Moses and to set up a whole new religion. What did Jesus say he had come to do with the Law and the prophets?

- 119. In Matthew 6:1, Jesus told them not to do their good deeds for other people to see. What could be wrong with doing good deeds for others to see?
- 120. In Matthew 6:5-6, Jesus told the people not to be like the hypocrites when they prayed. What is a hypocrite?
- 121. Where should we be praying?
- 122. In Matthew 6:7-9, Jesus told them not to pray with empty phrases. What do you think he meant by that?



123. In the Lord's prayer, Jesus showed the basics of prayer. Which phrase gives glory to God? At what point in the prayer does he praise God?

124. Which phrases were about the kingdom?

- 125. Which phrases were about a request to God for our needs?
- 126. Based on the pattern of the Lord's prayer what three components should we include in our prayers?
- 127. In Matthew 6:14-15, Jesus talked about forgiveness. What do we need to make sure we do if we want God to forgive us? Explain your answer.
- 128. In your own words, explain what Jesus was saying in Matthew 6:19-21.

- 129. What did Jesus mean when he said, "seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added to you?"
- 130. In Matthew 7:1-5, Jesus talks about judging others and he talks about a mote and a beam. What is a mote and what is a beam? Mark the definitions in your Bible next to verse 3.

131. In your own words explain the lesson behind the example of the mote and the beam.

132. What is a "strait gate"? (Matthew 7:13-14) Mark your answer in your Bible next to verse 13.

133. What does verse 14 tell us about how many people are going to be in the kingdom?



134. It is very easy for us to call God or Jesus our Lord, but if we actually think of them as our Lord we will <u>do what they say</u>. How does the meaning of the word Lord fit in with this idea?

135. Jesus ended his sermon on the mount with the parable of the house built on a rock. In this parable he showed the people that they needed to do more than just hear his words. What else did they need to do?

136. What did he compare a house built on a rock to?

137. What did the parable indicate would happen to people that heard the words of Jesus but did not do what he said (that built their house on the sand)?

138. What does Matthew 7:28-29 tell us people thought of the sermon that Jesus gave on the mountain?

|    | Location | Event                                      | Matthew            | Mark | Luke   | John |
|----|----------|--|--------------------|------|--------|------|
| 20 | Galilee  | Preaching in Galilee - sermon on the mount | 4:23-25;<br>ch 5-7 | 1:39 | 4:44   |      |
| 20 | Galilee  | Teaches Peter true discipleship            |                    |      | 5:1-11 |      |

The sermon on the mount captures the details of the message that Jesus taught the people when he was able to get them to stop and listen to him. He taught them about the kingdom and about the changes that they would need to make in their lives if the were going to be a part of the kingdom. The message he taught the people was a message that they had not heard before. He taught them about God's desire for them to be in the kingdom and the people were **thrilled with this message**.



# THE MESSAGE OF THE KINGDOM IS STILL THRILLING PEOPLE 2,000 YEARS AFTER THE MINISTRY OF CHRIST.

- 139. What was the core message that Jesus taught that changed people's lives and made him the <u>most famous person</u> in history?
- 140. What did Jesus do in Luke 5:1-3 so that he could speak to the many people that had come to hear him?
- 141. In Matthew 4, Jesus told Peter, Andrew, James, and John that he would make them fishers of men. What were they apparently still also fishers of here in Luke 5?
- 142. After Jesus had finished speaking what did he ask Simon Peter to do? What does verse 7 say about how many fish they caught?
- 141. Why do you think Peter told Jesus to depart from him because he was a sinful man?

142. What did Jesus mean when he said, "from henceforth you will catch men"?

|    | Location | Event                           | Matthew | Mark    | Luke    | John |
|----|----------|---------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|------|
| 20 | Galilee  | Teaches Peter true discipleship |         |         | 5:1-11  |      |
| 20 | Galilee  | Healing a leper                 | 8:1-4   | 1:40-45 | 5:12-16 |      |

By this time in his ministry, Jesus had healed many people of many diseases, but up to this point in the there is no record of him healing a person of leprosy. Leprosy was a disease that was **very different from other diseases**:



It was a disease of the skin and in many cases it would infect a person's whole body: from the sole of their feet to the top of their head.



It was a disease that became very visible to others.



It was very contagious and could infect others, so people that had leprosy had to live outside the camp.



There was **no cure** for leprosy.

Because of these characteristics, leprosy was a symbol of sin in the Bible and people in Jesus' time would have recognized this.

142. In the spaces below write how sin is like leprosy:

A:

B:

C:

D:

143. How badly infected was the man with leprosy (Luke 5:12).

144. What two things did Jesus do to make the leper clean?

When a person was thought to have leprosy, they went to the priest to find out if they actually did. If they had leprosy, the priest would separate them from the rest of the people.

**Priests could not cure leprosy, they could only diagnose it**: they could only let people know that they had leprosy.

The Law of Moses was similar to this. It could diagnose sin, but it did not have the power to forgive sins. By healing a man with leprosy, Jesus was showing the people and the priests the wonderful news that **God had given him the power to forgive sins**.



145. In Luke 5:14, Jesus told the man to show himself to the priest for a testimony or proof to him. What news was Jesus trying to show the priests?

146. Jesus also told the man not to tell people about being made clean. Did the man follow Jesus' instructions? (Hint: check the parallel accounts)

|    | Location  | Event                   | Matthew | Mark    | Luke    | John |
|----|-----------|-------------------------|---------|---------|---------|------|
| 20 | Galilee   | Healing a leper         | 8:1-4   | 1:40-45 | 5:12-16 |      |
| 21 | Capernaum | Heals the paralyzed man | 9:2-8   | 2:1-12  | 5:17-26 |      |

Mark tells us that when the leper told everyone about being healed from leprosy, large crowds surrounded Jesus and he had to stay in secluded places. The cleansing of the leper was incredible because leprosy represented sin.

When Jesus returned home, the news spread quickly, and soon the house where he was staying was **packed with visitors**.

- 147. Some of those visitors were Pharisees and doctors of the law. Where does Luke says that they had come from?
- 148. How did the men that brought the paralyzed man ("taken with a palsy") get him in front of Jesus?
- 149. In Luke 5:20, Jesus said something to the paralyzed man that we would not have expected. What did he say to him?
- 150. What were the scribes and Pharisees thinking when Jesus said that?
- 151. How did Jesus prove to everyone that God had given him the power to forgive sins?
- 152. In Matthew 9:8, what did the crowds do when they saw the miracle that proved that Jesus had the power to forgive sins?

|    | Location  | Event                   | Matthew | Mark    | Luke    | John |
|----|-----------|-------------------------|---------|---------|---------|------|
| 21 | Capernaum | Heals the paralyzed man | 9:2-8   | 2:1-12  | 5:17-26 |      |
| 21 | Capernaum | The call of Matthew     | 9:9-13  | 2:13-17 | 5:27-32 |      |

After Jesus showed that God had given him the authority to forgive sins by healing the leper and the lame man, many people were **thrilled** because they could now see that the kingdom was for them too. Before Jesus had come, it would have seemed to most people that the kingdom was only for the religious leaders, who seemed to be righteous. But now they knew that because <u>Jesus could forgive sins</u> they could be a part of the kingdom too. One of the best examples of this was a man named Levi or Matthew. **Matthew became a disciple** and wrote the gospel of Matthew.



153. Matthew was a publican or tax collector. Why do you think tax collectors were looked down upon by the Pharisees and scribes? (Hint: you may have to do some research)

154. Luke 5:28 describes how Matthew left everything and followed Jesus. Who else in our studies did that?

155. Matthew was so excited that he had been invited to join Jesus and the disciples, and that salvation was open to him that he made a great feast. Why do you think he invited other publicans to the feast?

156. Why were the scribes and Pharisees upset with Jesus and the disciples in Luke 5:30?

|    | Location  | Event                   | Matthew | Mark    | Luke    | John |
|----|-----------|-------------------------|---------|---------|---------|------|
| 21 | Capernaum | The call of Matthew     | 9:9-13  | 2:13-17 | 5:27-32 |      |
| 21 | Capernaum | Jesus discusses fasting |         | 2:18-22 | 5:33-39 |      |

There were some people that thought that Jesus and the disciples shouldn't have gone to Matthew's feast but instead should have fasted (abstained from eating) like the disciples of John and the disciples of the Pharisees did. This, however, would have stopped them from helping Matthew share the good news of salvation with his fellow publicans. The feast was an opportunity to tell others about Jesus' ability to forgive sins.

The Law of Moses was designed to show people what sin was, but the Law of Moses could do nothing to save a person that had sinned. Jesus Christ was given the authority to forgive sins and **so he could save people from sin**. This meant that people could be counted worthy by God of a place in the kingdom. **This was the gospel** or the good news that Jesus and the disciples shared with the world.

In the parable given in Luke 5:36-39, this gospel is the new garment, and the new wine.

157. In your Bible, next to Luke 5:36, mark: new garment = gospel, old garment = the law

158. In your Bible, next to Luke 5:37, mark: new wine = gospel

old bottle = rejectors of the gospel

159. Luke 5:39 explains that the Pharisees resisted the teaching of Jesus because they were used to the Law of Moses and actually preferred it. Was the Law of Moses actually better than what Jesus was teaching? Explain your answer.

|    | Location  | Event                          | Matthew | Mark    | Luke    | John   |
|----|-----------|--------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| 21 | Capernaum | Jesus discusses fasting        |         | 2:18-22 | 5:33-39 |        |
|    |           | 2nd Passover                   |         |         |         |        |
| 22 | Jerusalem | Cures the lame man at Bethesda |         |         |         | 5:1-47 |

In John 5:1, John tells us that it was once again the time of the Passover feast, and Jesus was in Jerusalem. Jesus was now 1 and a half years into his ministry and he had 2 years left before his death.

The <u>common people loved the teaching of Jesus</u>, but the Jewish <u>leaders would not accept the gospel</u> that Jesus taught because they preferred their own corrupted version of the law of Moses. Their version of the Law of Moses turned many of God's helpful commandments into strict burdensome regulations that had no spiritual benefit. An example of this was the sabbath. God had commanded Israel to rest on the sabbath.

# GOD INTENDED THEM TO STOP DOING THEIR OWN WORK ONE DAY PER WEEK, AND TO SPEND IT DOING HIS WORK INSTEAD.

But the Jewish leaders made it difficult to for anyone to do God's work on the sabbath. And in this account they decided to kill Jesus for healing a lame man on the sabbath.

- 160. How long does John 5:5 say that the lame man had been lame?
- 161. What did Jesus say to the lame man in John 5:8?

- 162. What did the Jews say to the lame man after he was cured?
- 163. What did the Jews decide to do when they found out that Jesus told the man to take up his bed and walk? Why?
- 164. In verse 17, why did Jesus say that he worked on the sabbath?
- 165. In verse 18, why were the Jewish leaders upset when Jesus called God his Father?

Jesus was not trying to make himself equal with God, he was trying to get the Jewish leaders to see that **he is the son of God**. He continued to refer to God as his Father and himself as God's son. He explained to the Jewish leaders that the things he did were the things he had seen his Father do, that God loved him, and that God was showing him what He was doing so that Jesus could learn.

166. One of the powers God gave to His son is explained in verses 21, 25, and 28. What was that power?

In verse 27, Jesus told them that he had also been given the power to execute judgment. He said the reason God gave him that authority was because **he is the son of man**. The title "son of man" is a title that differentiates Jesus from all the rest of mankind. We are sons of man, because our parents are human while Jesus is THE son of man because **he is THE (one and only) man God has chosen to be the ruler over His creation** and the rest of mankind.



167. What is the significance of Jesus being THE son of man?

168. Why would it make sense for God to give the authority to execute judgment over His creation to THE son of man?

Jesus wanted the Jewish leaders to know that <u>they could have eternal life</u> if they would just come to him. But there was something that kept them from accepting Jesus as the son of God and the son of man, and as a result, kept them from living forever in the kingdom. Their problem was that <u>they were more interested in what other people thought of them than in what God thought of them</u>. **They wanted to look important to other people.** We can easily fall into the same trap, doing things so others will see how good we are. The Jewish leaders loved the respect that they got from the people and <u>that kept them from accepting lesus</u> as the son of God and the son of man.

169. Can you think of a time when you thought what other people thought of you was more important than what God thought? If you can and you are willing write it below.

170. Verse 45 helps us to understand the limitations of the Law of Moses. The Law of Moses was given to show people that they were sinners and as sinners they deserved death. Why was the gospel that Jesus taught so much better?

|    | Location  | Event                          | Matthew | Mark    | Luke  | John   |
|----|-----------|--------------------------------|---------|---------|-------|--------|
| 22 | Jerusalem | Cures the lame man at Bethesda |         |         |       | 5:1-47 |
| 22 | Jerusalem | Picking corn on sabbath        | 12:1-8  | 2:23-28 | 6:1-5 |        |

Because Jesus had healed the lame man on the sabbath, and because the Jewish leaders were looking for something to accuse Jesus of, they were <u>constantly looking for Jesus to break the sabbath</u>. On their way home from Jerusalem, Jesus and the disciples went through corn fields, picked corn and ate it on the sabbath.

171. What did some of the Pharisees ask Jesus when they saw him doing this in Luke 6:2?



172. In Luke 6:5, Jesus told the Pharisees that he was Lord of the sabbath. The word Lord means master or ruler of the sabbath. How much authority do you think the Lord of the sabbath would have over how the sabbath was used?

173. Why do you think it would make sense that the son of God and the son of man would also be the Lord of the sabbath?

|    | Location            | Event                            | Matthew | Mark    | Luke   | John |
|----|---------------------|----------------------------------|---------|---------|--------|------|
| 22 | Jerusalem           | Picking corn on sabbath          | 12:1-8  | 2:23-28 | 6:1-5  |      |
| 23 | Likely<br>Capernaum | Healing withered hand on sabbath | 12:9-14 | 3:1-6   | 6:6-11 |      |

174. The contest between Jesus and the Jewish leaders became focused on the law of the sabbath. Jesus claimed that God had given him the authority to be the lord of the sabbath while the Jewish leaders claimed Jesus was breaking the law of the sabbath. In your own words explain what was happening in Luke 6:7.

- 175. What did Jesus say in verse 9 that got right to the core of the purpose of the sabbath?
- 176. Who was doing good on the sabbath and who was doing evil?
- 177. How did the Pharisees respond when Jesus healed the man? (*Hint: look at Matthew 12:14 as well.*)

|    | Location            | Event                                 | Matthew  | Mark   | Luke   | John |
|----|---------------------|---------------------------------------|----------|--------|--------|------|
| 22 | Likely<br>Capernaum | Healing withered hand on sabbath      | 12:9-14  | 3:1-6  | 6:6-11 |      |
| 24 | Galilee             | Partial circuit of the Sea of Galilee | 12:15-21 | 3:7-12 |        |      |

We can only imagine how Jesus must have felt, knowing that the Pharisees wanted to kill him for doing God's work on the sabbath. Matthew 12:15 tells us that he withdrew himself and that great multitudes followed him and he healed them all. Jesus did not fight back against the Pharisees, instead he kept doing God's work and kept teaching the people though miracles.

178. What did Jesus say to the people in verse 16 to help him to be able to keep working without having to deal with the Pharisees?

Don't forget to work on filling out your chronology starting on page viii each time you see one of these tables!

tables

Next, Matthew quotes Isaiah chapter 42:1-3, which is a prophecy which describes the ministry of Christ, especially after the Pharisee had decided to kill him.

- 179. In your Bible, next to Matt. 12:18, mark: Jesus would teach the gospel to the whole world
- 180. In your Bible, next to Matt. 12:19, mark: Jesus' teaching would be quiet and gentle.
- 181. In your Bible, next to Matt. 12:20, mark: Jesus would make people's faith grow.
- 182. In your Bible, next to Matt. 12:21, mark: The whole world will trust in Jesus.
- 183. Explain how Isaiah's prophecy would have helped encourage Jesus to keep his ministry going even though the Pharisees were trying to kill him.

|    | Location            | Event                                 | Matthew  | Mark    | Luke    | John |
|----|---------------------|---------------------------------------|----------|---------|---------|------|
| 22 | Likely<br>Capernaum | Healing withered hand on sabbath      | 12:9-14  | 3:1-6   | 6:6-11  |      |
| 24 | Galilee             | Partial circuit of the Sea of Galilee | 12:15-21 | 3:7-12  |         |      |
| 24 | Galilee             | Appointment of the apostles           |          | 3:13-19 | 6:12-16 |      |

184. Encouraged by the words of Isaiah Jesus chose twelve men to be his apostles. In your Bible, next to Luke 6:13, mark: apostle = one sent

185. What did Jesus do all night before he chose his 12 apostles?

186. Fill in the boxes below with the names of the 12 apostles.



|    | Location | Event                       | Matthew | Mark    | Luke    | John |
|----|----------|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|------|
| 24 | Galilee  | Appointment of the apostles |         | 3:13-19 | 6:12-16 |      |
| 24 | Galilee  | Sermon on the plain         |         |         | 6:17-49 |      |

As Jesus continued his Galilean ministry, he continued to teach the people the gospel of the kingdom, just as he had in the sermon on the mount. In every city he went, his miracles called attention to him, and his words changed people's lives. He showed them a better way to live.

187. Choose a lesson from the sermon on the plain that you think could help you to live a better life and explain your choice.

188. In your Bible, next to Luke 6:17, mark: similar message to the sermon on the mount.

|    | Location                | Event                           | Matthew | Mark | Luke    | John |
|----|-------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|------|---------|------|
| 24 | Galilee                 | Sermon on the plain             |         |      | 6:17-49 |      |
| 25 | Capernaum<br>/ Caesarea | Healing the Centurion's servant | 8:5-13  |      | 7:1-10  |      |

189. It seems likely that the centurion mentioned in this section was Cornelius the centurion found in Acts 10. Where was Cornelius the centurion from?

190. In Luke 7:3, who did the centurion send to Jesus to ask him to heal his servant?



- 191. When Jesus started to go to the house of the centurion, the centurion's servants came to tell him that the centurion did not feel worthy to have Jesus come into his house. Who do you think the centurion thought was greater himself or Jesus?
- 192. What lesson could the Jewish leaders have learned from the Centurion's respect for Jesus?
- 193. In Luke 7:8, the centurion compared Jesus' authority over disease to his authority over his soldiers, but obviously Jesus' authority was much higher. If the centurion got his authority from Caesar, where must Jesus have gotten his authority from?
- 194. How do your answers to the previous few questions help explain Jesus' comments to the people about the faith of the centurion in Luke 7:9?

|    | Location                | Event                           | Matthew | Mark | Luke    | John |
|----|-------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|------|---------|------|
| 25 | Caperanum<br>/ Caesarea | Healing the Centurion's servant | 8:5-13  |      | 7:1-10  |      |
| 26 | Nain                    | Restoring life to widow's son   |         |      | 7:11-17 |      |

After healing the centurion's servant, Luke tells us that Jesus and the crowds with him went to a city near Nazareth called Nain. When Jesus and the crowds with him came to the city gate to enter the city, a dead man was being carried out in a coffin.

195. In your own words, explain how Jesus brought the widow's son back to life.

196. What does Luke 7:12 tell us about the dead man and his mother?

197. In Luke 7:13, we are told that Jesus had compassion on the woman. In your own words, explain what it means to have compassion on someone.



198. What did the dead man do when Jesus began to speak to him?

199. After Jesus raised the man to life, what two conclusions did the people come to about Jesus in Luke 7:16.

|    | Location | Event                          | Matthew | Mark | Luke    | John |
|----|----------|--------------------------------|---------|------|---------|------|
| 26 | Nain     | Restoring life to widow's son  |         |      | 7:11-17 |      |
| 27 | Galilee  | John sends messengers to Jesus | 11:2-19 |      | 7:18-35 |      |

You will remember John the Baptist's willingness to step aside for the ministry of Jesus, allowing the work of Jesus to increase while his work decreased. John's public ministry was stopped completely when Herod put him in prison. John was kept in prison for about eighteen months and his disciples were allowed to visit him.

200. Luke 7:18 tells us that John the Baptist's disciples "showed him of all these things." What are the things his disciples might have shown him? How would hearing about these things help encourage John even though he was in prison?

201. What did John the Baptist do that showed that he still had doubts about whether or not Jesus was the Messiah?

- 202. What did Jesus do to show John's disciples that he was the Messiah?
- 203. The miracles that Jesus did for John the Baptist's disciples to see had been prophesied in the Old Testament. They provided proof that he was the Messiah. In your Bible, next to Luke 7:22, mark: |sa 353-6; 42:6-7; 6|1; 8|4-15
- 204. After John's disciples left, Jesus told the people that among those born of women there was no greater prophet than John, but that he that is least in the kingdom would be greater than John. What do you think Jesus meant by that?
- 205. Before Jesus came, John the Baptist was the greatest prophet that had ever come to Israel and Luke 7:29 tells us that all the people that heard him, "justified God". To "justify God" is to say that God is right and that what He has asked us to do is right. How would baptism be a symbol of people agreeing to do what God has asked them to do?

206. In Luke 7:30, what did the Pharisees and lawyers do instead of saying God was right?

|    | Location | Event                          | Matthew  | Mark | Luke    | John |
|----|----------|--------------------------------|----------|------|---------|------|
| 27 | Galilee  | John sends messengers to Jesus |          |      | 7:11-17 |      |
| 27 | Galilee  | General appeal to come to him  | 11:20-30 |      |         |      |

- 207. By this time in his ministry, Jesus had done many mighty works or miracles, but Matthew 11:20 tells us that even thought people had seen the mighty works, many people had failed to do one very important thing. What had the people not done?
- 208. In Matthew 11:28, Jesus called people that labored and were heavy laden to come to him, promising them rest. How does Paul describe the rest of Jesus in Hebrews 4:10?

209. What is a yoke and how would we take Jesus' yoke on ourselves?

210. Why do you think Jesus' yoke would be easy?

|    | Location | Event                                       | Matthew  | Mark | Luke    | John |
|----|----------|---|----------|------|---------|------|
| 27 | Galilee  | General appeal to come to him               | 11:20-30 |      |         |      |
| 27 | Galilee  | Anointed in the house of Simon the Pharisee |          |      | 7:36-50 |      |

While he was in Galilee, a Pharisee invited Jesus to eat with him. At first it is not clear why the Pharisee invited him, but as the story continues it becomes clear that the Pharisee was trying to show that Jesus was not a prophet.



211. What conclusion had the people of Nain come to in Luke 7:16 that might have caused this Pharisee to want to prove Jesus was not a prophet?

- 212. What did the woman do with her tears and the ointment that she brought?
- 213. In Luke 7:40, Jesus proved to the Pharisee that he was a prophet. How did he do this?
- 214. What did the Pharisee say to himself while the woman was touching Jesus?
- 215. In your own words explain what Jesus said to the Pharisee in Luke 7:41-42. How did it apply to the woman and the Pharisee?

## 216. Complete the chart below to illustrate the contrast between the Pharisee and the woman:

| Pharisee - loved little                       | Woman - loved much             |
|---|--------------------------------|
|   | washed my feet with tears      |
| gave me no kiss                               |                                |
|   | anointed my feet with ointment |
| did not believe that Jesus could forgive sins |                                |



217. In the end, what did Jesus say had saved the woman?

218. What kept the Pharisee from having his sins forgiven?

|    | Location | Event                                       | Matthew | Mark | Luke    | John |
|----|----------|---|---------|------|---------|------|
| 27 | Galilee  | Anointed in the house of Simon the Pharisee |         |      | 7:36-50 |      |
| 27 | Galilee  | Women minister to Jesus of their substance  |         |      | 8:1-3   |      |

219. Luke 8:2-3 mentions three women that went along with Jesus and the disciples as he preached from village to village. Who were the three women?

220. How did the women help with the ministry of Jesus?

|    | Location | Event   | Matthew | Mark    | Luke  | John |
|----|----------|---|---------|---------|-------|------|
| 27 | Galilee  | Women minister to Jesus of their substance    |         |         | 8:1-3 |      |
| 27 | Galilee  | Jesus' relations hear Jesus is beside himself |         | 3:20-21 |       |      |



221. Mark 3:20-21 tells us that Jesus' friends heard that there were so many people following him that he did not have time to eat. What did Jesus' friends (should be relatives) think about this?

222. What did they set out to do?

|    | Location | Event   | Matthew  | Mark    | Luke | John |
|----|----------|---|----------|---------|------|------|
| 27 | Galilee  | Jesus' relations hear Jesus is beside himself |          | 3:20-21 |      |      |
| 27 | Galilee  | Heals a demoniac                              | 12:22-23 |         |      |      |
| 27 | Galilee  | They claim he heals by Beelzebub              | 12:24    | 3:22    |      |      |
| 27 | Galilee  | Warns of unforgivable sin                     | 12:25-37 | 3:23-30 |      |      |
| 27 | Galilee  | The sign of the prophet Jonah                 | 12:28-45 |         |      |      |

We have included four events in this section because they all make up one story in the ministry of Christ.

223. Back in Capernaum 19, Jesus healed a man with the spirit of an unclean devil. In Matthew 12:22, he again healed a man possessed with a devil. What does it mean to be possessed with a devil?

224. In Matthew 12:23, we are told that when Jesus performed the miracle, people said, "Is not this the son of David?" But that was very different from what the Pharisees said. In verse 24, where did the Pharisees claim Jesus got the power to cast out devils?

**Beelzebub was a Philistine god** whose name means <u>lord of the flies</u>. He was thought to have control over the devils or demons, which we know were just sicknesses or diseases. The Pharisees were saying that <u>Jesus was not doing miracles by the power of God</u> (The Holy Spirit), but by the power of a <u>false God or the prince of the demons</u>.

- 225. What is Beelzebub?
- 226. What power did the Pharisees say Jesus was using to heal the sick and diseased?
- 227. Jesus then explained to them that the prince of the devils fighting against his own devils would be ridiculous. It would be like the general of an army fighting against his own soldiers. Explain what Jesus meant when he said that a house divided against itself would not stand?
- 228. Since it was ridiculous that Jesus was healing people by Beelzebub: the prince of the the devils, whose power <u>must he have been using</u> to heal people?
- 229. What does Matthew 12:28 say about that?
- 230. In Matthew 12:31, Jesus said that all sin and blasphemy can be forgiven. What does the word <u>blasphemy</u> mean?

In the same verse, Jesus says that <u>blasphemy against the Holy Spirit cannot be forgiven</u>. The Holy Spirit is the power of God, and it is only His power which can save us from our sins. **If we speak evil of, and deny God's power to save, and forgive us, then we will not be forgiven**.

231. What should the Pharisees have done so that their blasphemy of God's power would have been forgiven?

232. In Matthew 12:33, Jesus told the Pharisees to think about trees; good trees bring forth good fruit and bad trees bring forth bad fruit. Since the miracles Jesus was doing were good, the source of the miracles must also be good. What was the source of the miracles that Jesus did? Was the source good?



233. Explain in your own words. "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."

234. When it comes to the things we say, getting rid of bad thoughts is better than filtering them out. Explain this in your own words and give examples.

In Israel, a <u>prophet would give a sign</u> to show that the words that they were speaking were from God. They would prophesy some event and when it happened the people would know that the prophet was from God. Jesus did many miracles and yet the **people kept asking for signs**.

235. Jesus told them that the only sign they would be given was, the sign of the prophet Jonah. In your own words, explain what Jesus meant by the sign of the prophet Jonah. (Matthew 12:39-41)

|    | Location | Event  | Matthew  | Mark    | Luke | John |
|----|----------|--|----------|---------|------|------|
| 27 | Galilee  | The sign of the prophet Jonah                | 12:28-45 |         |      |      |
| 27 | Galilee  | His mother and brothers seek to restrain him | 12:46-50 | 3:31-35 |      |      |

236. When Jesus' family had heard that Jesus was getting carried away with his work, they thought that they should go help him. What did they do when they arrived to help him, while he was talking to the people?

237. Who did Jesus say were his brother and sister and mother?

|    | Location | Event  | Matthew  | Mark    | Luke   | John |
|----|----------|--|----------|---------|--------|------|
| 27 | Galilee  | His mother and brothers seem to restrain him | 12:46-50 | 3:31-35 |        |      |
| 27 | Galilee  | The parables of the kingdom                  | 13:1-52  | 4:1-34  | 8:4-18 |      |

With the Jewish leaders geared up against him, Jesus' teaching was running into a lot of opposition, and it was difficult for his word to penetrate the minds of the people. As a result, Jesus often used parables so people would listen to what he had to say and remember what he said. A parable is a simple story that has an important lesson to it. Parables help us understand what God is telling us by making us think hard to figure out the lesson.

Working to figure out the lesson of parable is a lot of fun and when we understand it **the lesson comes alive and we remember the lesson**. The parables of Jesus are very powerful because they teach us lessons about <u>eternal life</u>. In Matthew 13, Jesus used parables to teach people all about the kingdom of God. We are going to look the first of these parables called the parable of the sower.

The parable of the sower is considered by many to be "the master parable" because it shows us how we should think about parables and it gives a very clear lesson for us. The many details of this parable are all explained to us by Jesus himself.

# HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE PARABLES THAT HE WAS GIVING TO THE PEOPLE HAD SPIRITUAL LESSONS THAT THEY SHOULD TAKE TO HEART.

The parable of the sower showed the people that there would be very <u>different reactions</u> to what that Jesus and the apostles were teaching. <u>Some would hear it and be changed by it, but most would let that opportunity slip away</u>.

238. What does the seed represent? (Hint: Matthew 13:19)

239. Fill in the table below to show how different people would react to the word of the kingdom:

| Soil Type    | What happened to the seed? | Reaction to the word of God sown in their minds |
|--------------|----------------------------|---|
| way side     |                            |   |
| stony ground |                            |   |
| among thorns |                            |   |
| good ground  |                            |   |

240. Explain the benefits of teaching in parables.

|    | Location | Event  | Matthew | Mark   | Luke        | John |
|----|----------|--|---------|--------|-------------|------|
| 27 | Galilee  | The parables of the kingdom  | 13:1-52 | 4:1-34 | 8:4-18      |      |
| 27 | Galilee  | Jesus relations again try to restrain him (possibly a duplicate of Matthew 12:46-50) |         |        | 8:19-2<br>1 |      |

Some think that this is Luke's record of the event in Matthew 11:46-50 and Mark 3:31-55 while others think that Jesus' relations came a second time to try to restrain him.

|    | Location | Event  | Matthew | Mark | Luke    | John |
|----|----------|--|---------|------|---------|------|
| 27 | Galilee  | Jesus relations again try to restrain him (possibly a duplicate of Matthew 12:46-50) |         |      | 8:19-21 |      |
| 27 | Galilee  | The cost of following Jesus  | 8:18-22 | 4:35 |         |      |

241. After giving the parables of the kingdom, Jesus decided to sail with his disciples to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. Before they left for the other side of the lake, a certain scribe came to Jesus. What did he ask of Jesus? (*Hint: Matthew 8:19*)

242. In Matthew 8:20, Jesus told the scribe that, "the son of man" had no place to lay his head. Think back to the account of the curing of the lame man of Bethesda where we discussed the importance of Jesus' title, "the son of man". Why would it be strange that "the son of man" did not have a place to lay his head?

|    | Location | Event                       | Matthew | Mark    | Luke    | John |
|----|----------|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|------|
| 27 | Galilee  | The cost of following Jesus | 8:18-22 | 4:35    |         |      |
| 27 | Galilee  | Jesus calms the storm       | 8:23-27 | 4:36-41 | 8:22-25 |      |

243. In Luke 8:22-23, what was Jesus doing as they sailed across the Sea of Galilee?

244. What happened to the boat when the storm hit?

245. In the Bible, the seas represent the nations of the world. If Jesus has the power to calm the seas what does Jesus have the power to do to the nations? When will that happen? Find a verse that shows this.



246. In your own words explain how the disciples must have felt when the storm stopped and there was calm.

|    | Location | Event                        | Matthew | Mark    | Luke    | John |
|----|----------|------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|------|
| 27 | Galilee  | Calms the storm              | 8:23-27 | 4:36-41 | 8:22-25 |      |
| 28 | Gadara   | Cures the Gadarene demoniacs | 8:28-34 | 5:1-20  | 8:26-40 |      |

247. Looking at Luke 8:26-36, we see that after the storm on the Sea of Galilee, Jesus and the disciples arrived in the country of the Gadarenes and they met a man that was possessed with devils. What kind of an illness did this man have?



248. What does Luke 8:35 say about the man's condition after he was healed by Jesus?

249. Why is Luke 8:35 a great verse to use to show others that the devils and demons that Jesus drove out were really just mental illnesses?

250. In a way, all of us have been born with a wrong mind or a wrong way of thinking. We naturally want to do things that are contrary to the will of God, we want to do what our flesh desires. But the Word of God can change us and help us to be in our right mind. What did the unclean spirits (the wrong way of thinking) cause the pigs to do?

251. What does Luke 8:39-40 tell us that the man, out of whom wrong thinking had been driven, was now able to do? What is the lesson for us?

|    | Location  | Event   | Matthew | Mark    | Luke    | John |
|----|-----------|---|---------|---------|---------|------|
| 28 | Gadara    | Cures the Gadarene demoniacs                  | 8:28-34 | 5:1-20  | 8:26-36 |      |
| 29 | Capernaum | Jairus pleads with Jesus to heal his daughter | 9:18-19 | 5:22-24 | 8:41-42 |      |
| 29 | Capernaum | Woman touches the hem of Jesus' garment       | 9:20-22 | 5:25-34 | 8:43-48 |      |
| 29 | Capernaum | Jesus raise Jairus' daughter from death       | 9:23-26 | 5:35-43 | 8:49-56 |      |

252. Luke 8:40 tells us that when Jesus returned to Capernaum, the people were waiting for him. What does Mark 5:21 say that shows us that the fame of Jesus continued to build?

253. Why did Jairus come and fall down at Jesus' feet? 254. In Mark 5:23, what did Jairus ask Jesus to do for him? 255. Why was Jairus' request so urgent? 256. As Jesus was going to Jairus' house, who stopped his progress? 257. What did the woman that had the issue of blood do that stopped Jesus' from going directly to Jairus' house? While Jesus was helping the woman with the issue of blood, someone from Jairus' house came and told Jairus not to trouble Jesus because his daughter had died. Jairus would have been devastated by this news. He had hoped that Jesus would lay his hands on her and that she would be healed, but now she was dead and if she was dead, Jesus would not be able to touch her without being defiled by her dead body. FOR JAIRUS, ALL HOPE WOULD HAVE BEEN LOST IF IT HAD NOT BEEN FOR THE IMPORTANT LESSON HE HAD JUST LEARNED FROM THE HEALING OF THE WOMAN WITH THE ISSUE OF BLOOD. 258. What was it that made the woman that touched Jesus' garment whole of her sickness? 259. Why do you think when it came to healing, that belief was stronger than touching? How would your answer apply to spiritual healing? 260. What did Jesus say to Jairus in Luke 8:50?

When Jesus and Jairus arrived at Jairus' house, Jesus told the people that the maid was not dead but sleeping. What Jesus meant was that since she was about to be raised to life again, it was like she was asleep and the reason she was about to be raised again was because of the **faith of Jairus**.

261. How had the healing of the woman with an issue of blood helped save Jairus' daughter?



262. After healing Jairus' daughter Jesus asked her parents not to tell others what had happened. How does Matthew 9:26 help us to understand why Jesus said this?

|    | Location  | Event                                   | Matthew | Mark    | Luke    | John |
|----|-----------|---|---------|---------|---------|------|
| 29 | Capernaum | Jesus raise Jairus' daughter from death | 9:23-26 | 5:35-43 | 8:49-56 |      |
| 29 | Capernaum | Jesus heals two blind men               | 9:27-31 |         |         |      |

- 263. After Jesus was able to heal Jairus' daughter and the woman with an issue of blood because of their belief, what did Jesus say had opened the eyes of two the blind men?
- 264. Once again, Jesus asked the people he healed not to tell everyone about the miracle he had performed. What did the blind men do instead?

|    | Location  | Event                   | Matthew | Mark | Luke | John |
|----|-----------|-------------------------|---------|------|------|------|
| 29 | Capernaum | Jesus heals 2 blind men | 9:27-31 |      |      |      |
| 29 | Capernaum | Jesus heals a dumb man  | 9:32-34 |      |      |      |

265. After healing the two blind men, a man that could not speak was brought to Jesus. How did the multitudes respond to this miracle?

266. Once again, the Pharisees tried to discredit Jesus, where did they say Jesus' power to heal had come from?

|    | Location  | Event                     | Matthew  | Mark  | Luke | John |
|----|-----------|---------------------------|----------|-------|------|------|
| 29 | Capernaum | Jesus heals a dumb man    | 9:32-34  |       |      |      |
| 30 | Nazareth  | Another visit to Nazareth | 13:54-58 | 6:1-6 |      |      |

In Matthew 13:54-58 and Mark 6:1-6, Jesus seems to have made a second visit to Nazareth. It is also possible that this visit to Nazareth is the same as the one we read about in Luke 4:16-30.

267. What happened at the end of Jesus's visit to Nazareth in the Luke 4 record that is not mentioned in Matthew and Mark?

|    | Location | Event                      | Matthew  | Mark   | Luke  | John |
|----|----------|----------------------------|----------|--------|-------|------|
| 30 | Nazareth | Another visit to Nazareth  | 13:54-58 | 6:1-6  |       |      |
| 31 | Galilee  | Tour of Galilee            | 9:35-38  |        |       |      |
| 31 | Galilee  | Jesus sends out the twelve | 10:1-42  | 6:7-13 | 9:1-6 |      |

268. Matthew 9:35-38 helps us to understand how Jesus was feeling as he went through Israel teaching in many cities and villages. The good news he gave the people was all about the kingdom. If you were telling a neighbor about the kingdom what would you tell them? How would you explain it to them? Write a short paragraph about the kingdom and the things you would tell your neighbor about it.

269. Not only was Jesus telling the people about the kingdom, he was also helping them by healing their diseases! Jesus could see that the people of Israel were really struggling, having no real hope, weary and alone. What does Matthew 9:36 say about how Jesus felt when he saw the multitudes?

- 270. There should have been many more leaders in Israel that were doing the work of helping the people, but as we have seen in our study most of the Jewish leaders cared more about themselves than they did the people. Explain what Jesus meant in Matt. 9:37 when he said, "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few."
- 271. Name the 12 people that Jesus sent out to help the people.
- 272. What did Jesus call the 12 disciples when he sent them out to preach? What does that word mean?
- 273. In your Bible, next to Matthew 10:2. mark the meaning of the word apostle.
- 274. What did Jesus tell the twelve to do as they were going to the lost sheep of the house of Israel?
- 275. Jesus told the twelve not to take money or extra clothes with them as they went so that the people they were helping would provide for them. Why do you think the people they were helping the apostles would benefit from providing for their needs?





276. Because the twelve had been given God's power to do miracles people would know that their message was also from God. Because of this, the twelve needed to make sure that they were not associated with people that did not agree with God's message, or who rejected the gospel of the kingdom. What did Jesus tell the twelve to do in Matthew 10:11-14 to make sure that did not happen?

|    | Location | Event                                       | Matthew | Mark    | Luke  | John |
|----|----------|---|---------|---------|-------|------|
| 31 | Galilee  | Jesus sends out the twelve                  | 10:1-42 | 6:7-13  | 9:1-6 |      |
| 31 | Galilee  | Herod and the circumstances of John's death | 14:1-12 | 6:14-29 | 9:7-9 |      |

- 277. The works of Jesus were spreading through the land of Israel so quickly that Herod heard about all that Jesus was doing and he was perplexed. Who does Luke 9:7-8 say people thought Jesus was?
- 278. How was John the Baptist put to death?
- 279. What did John the Baptist's disciples do after they had buried John the Baptist's body?
- 280. What does Matthew 14:13 tell us that Jesus did after hearing about the death of John the Baptist? Why do you think he did this?

|    | Location | Event                                       | Matthew | Mark    | Luke  | John |
|----|----------|---|---------|---------|-------|------|
| 31 | Galilee  | Herod and the circumstances of John's death | 14:1-12 | 6:14-29 | 9:7-9 |      |
| 31 | Galilee  | Apostles return and report                  |         | 6:30    | 9:10  |      |

281. When the 12 apostles returned from preaching they met with Jesus, who had just learned about the death of John the Baptist. In Mark 6:31, what did Jesus invite the twelve to do with him in a desert place? Why did he ask them to do that?

|    | Location        | Event                      | Matthew  | Mark    | Luke    | John   |
|----|-----------------|----------------------------|----------|---------|---------|--------|
| 31 | Galilee         | Apostles return and report |          | 6:30    | 9:10    |        |
| 32 | Near Bethasaida | 5000 fed                   | 14:13-21 | 6:31-44 | 9:11-17 | 6:1-14 |

- 282. What did the people do when they saw Jesus and his disciples leaving for the desert place?
- 283. When the people caught up to Jesus in the desert place, what did Jesus do? (Hint: look at Luke 9:11.)
- 284. What did the disciples suggest Jesus do at the end of the day?
- 285. What did Jesus tell the disciples to do?
- 286. What did Jesus do with the 5 loaves and 2 fish?
- 287. In the Bible, bread represents the Word of God. Here, Jesus took the bread and gave it to his disciples to share with the people. Explain how this is a good representation of the work that the disciples were going to be doing from that point on.
- 288. After feeding the five thousand, the people decided that Jesus should be their king and they decided to take Jesus and force him to be king. In Mark 6:45, what did Jesus do to his disciples so that they would not get caught up with the crowd in forcing him to be king? What did Jesus himself do to escape the crowd?



Jesus had **never been more famous**! There were thousands of people that wanted to make him their king and they were willing to do it by force. It must have been amazing to have seen so many people following Jesus. But the acceptance of Jesus was at its peak.

For the rest of his ministry <u>his popularity would steadily decrease</u>. In fact, just one year later, Jesus would be killed by the people he had come to save as many of people would call for his death on the cross. **People that seemed to be believers in Jesus lost their faith and turned on their savior.** 

289. Why do you think so many the people stopped following Jesus?

Most people had been <u>infatuated</u> with the <u>miracles that Jesus did</u>, but they **failed to really hear the words** he spoke.

The same is true today. Most of the world has heard of Jesus, most have heard of the miracles he did and the message that he taught, and yet most people do not really believe in Jesus. Unfortunately, because they do not believe, they will not have a part in the kingdom to come.

290. What do you think stops people that know about Jesus from believing enough to be saved?

The parable of the sower helps us to understand why some people believe and some do not. It helps us to look at our own lives to see if we are **doing what we should so that we will have the belief necessary to be in the kingdom**.

Will we be like the wayside: our minds so full of worldly things that the Word of God cannot get into it?

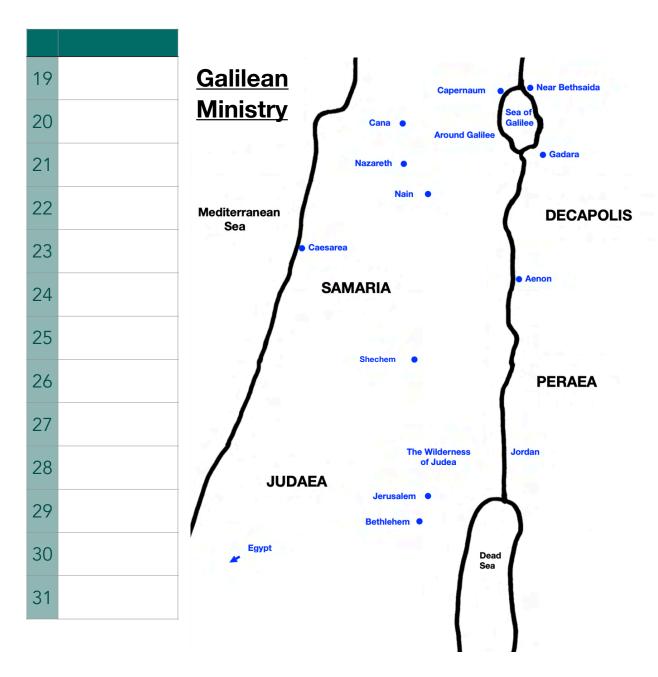
Will we be like the stony soil: having our belief wither away because we did not take the time to have a deep understanding of Jesus' words?

Will we be like the **thorny soil**: spending all our time and energy on the money, things, and the cares of this life?

Will we be like the **good soil:** spending time in the word of God and working it out in our minds so that we believe?

291.On the table below, fill in the places Jesus visited during the Preparation of his Ministry.

292. Then, on the map below, label and number the places we have shown in the chronology tables so far. Connect the dots to show where Jesus went during the Opening Ministry.



293. The last question is a personal one.

We have looked at the first part of the ministry of Jesus and we have seen that he was sent to the world by God so that **anyone who believes in him can have everlasting life**. The smartest thing we can do with our lives is to work to build our belief. What <u>practical steps can you take in your life</u> so that you will truly believe in Jesus Christ?



### CONGRATULATIONS!! YOU HAVE ALMOST FINISHED YOUR WORKBOOK!!

Before your workbook is complete, you'll need to:

Go back and finish any questions or sections you skipped! (Remember to fill out the entire chronology table at the beginning of the workbook!)

Make sure you have completed your project for Kids' Camp this year. (see pg. iii)

Make sure you have written and practiced your Minute Meditation. (see pg. iii)

Get your parent to sign the front of the workbook confirming you have completed all these things

#### NOW YOU HAVE COMPLETED YOUR WORKBOOK!

DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR WORKBOOK, PROJECT, AND MINUTE MEDITATION TO CAMP!