



Sample Packet

A NEW SONG

[Sample Packet]

A Vacation Bible School Program written and published by Pax Domini Press

Customer Service and Ordering Information - (419) 475-6140

www.pax-domini.com

Who is Pax Domini Press?

Pax Domini Press is a small but growing publishing company which aims to provide an alternative to the highly commercialized products of the leading Christian publishing houses.

What are some Pax Domini Press Products?

Pax Domini Press has published nine Vacation Bible School programs, each available for purchase at \$150. These programs include: *Lord, Have Mercy* (on Law and Gospel), *In the Name* (on the Holy Trinity), *I Am* (on the 7 I Am's in the Gospel of John), *According to the Scriptures* (on Christ in the Old Testament), *Take up the Cross* (on the baptismal life), *The Remission of Sins* (on Holy Absolution), *Fervent Love for One Another* (on Christian charity), *Five Words of Understanding* (on the ICHTHUS), and introducing *A New Song* (on the songs of Scripture).

Finally, *Pax Domini Press* has available three Sunday School curricula. Like the VBS program, this curriculum is produced for self-publication. One curriculum is entitled, *Teaching them to observe all things*, which takes the student through the entire Gospel of Matthew. Another curriculum is entitled, *A.D. The Acceptable Year of the Lord*. It follows the Gospels of the Historic Lectionary. Finally, a new curriculum, *The New Song*, teaches Scriptural backgrounds for the texts of the liturgy.

What is included in this sample packet?

Included in this sample packet are a picture of the front cover, brief explanations of the materials given in the kit, lessons from each level (1-4), a sample from the puppet show, and a sample from the daily prayer bulletin, including the hymn.

How does Pax Domini Press's Vacation Bible School program work?

Pax Domini Press produces a CD with all the files needed for a congregation to publish a VBS program. Included on the CD are the following:

1. PDF files of a Program Manual with guidance on program implementation, instructions for the craft, and ideas for recreation time.
2. PDF files of teachers editions of each student workbook.
3. PDF files of workbook pages for the student workbooks.
4. PDF file of chapel bulletin with prayer service for each day of the program.
5. PDF file of puppet show script for use with Level 1 material.
6. PDF files of advertising materials (door hangings, bulletins, bulletin headers)
7. Extra electronic images and PDF files to be used with Level 1 material (coloring pages, activity pages, etc.) or for the craft (patterns, verses, etc.)

With these resources, the congregation simply assembles the workbooks, bulletins, and craft materials. The cost of the VBS can cost anywhere from \$10/child to \$20/child (pending on whether the craft kit is purchased or not, also pending on how the workbooks are assembled).

How do the workbooks work?

The congregation receives a CD with color PDF files of workbooks for Levels 1-4. The congregation has permission to do whatever it wants with these files. They may do the following:

- (1) Simply print them off for the children (files may print in black and white as well)
- (2) Take them to a printing professional to make booklets for the children
- (3) Advanced copiers/printers may have capabilities to produce booklets from PDF files

Workbooks can also be ordered through Pax Domini Press for \$6/booklet.

Call (419) 475-6140 or go to the website, pax-domini.com.

What is the age range for this program?

- Level 1 Ages 4-5
- Level 2 Ages 6-7
- Level 3 Ages 8-9
- Level 4 Ages 10-12

What is the theme of *A New Song*?

The historic Christian liturgy is one of the greatest treasures we have. It so beautifully confesses a Gospel that is rooted in the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and the doctrine of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ. It also teaches the central mission of Jesus Christ, to save us from our sins by His death on the cross. Yet, many people are unaware of its many sublime facets. And being unaware, many Christians are willing to trade this awesome historic gift for modern services that are light in content.

A New Song is a small attempt to help remedy this problem, to help children learn some of foundations for the liturgy. This program will introduce the children to a few of the songs of Scripture that lay down the theology that undergird the liturgy.

Here is a summary of the lessons for the five days:

Title	Story	Theme
The Song of Moses	The Crossing of the Red Sea (Exodus 15: 1-21)	This song, like the liturgy, celebrates the Lord's great deed of salvation; it confesses what the Lord has done and <i>that</i> He has done it all; it glories in the great things going on at God's right hand, even as we do throughout the liturgy. Finally, it confesses that the Lord is the King of kings.
Holy, Holy, Holy	The Call of Isaiah (Isaiah 6: 1-7)	This eternal song, "Holy, Holy, Holy," lays down the background for the <i>Sanctus</i> , the canticle we sing in the liturgy. An amazing story, we see how we, like Isaiah, are in God's presence through worship. We are sanctified, like Isaiah, so that we may approach His throne in His grace.
Glory Be to God on High	The Angels Appear to the Shepherds (Luke 2: 1-20)	The song of the angels to the shepherds at the first Christmas lays down the opening words of the <i>Gloria in Excelsis</i> , another song we sing in the liturgy. The song confesses that heaven is now opened up to us through Christ's Incarnation. We have peace with God through Christ.

The Cup of Salvation	The Hymn at the Last Supper (Matthew 26: 19-30)	Sung at the Last Supper, the Hallel provides some of the language that we recognize in the liturgy today. What shall we render to the Lord for all His benefits? We take up the cup of salvation! How do we thank our Lord? We receive more of what He has to give...in communion.
Worthy Is the Lamb that Was Slain	The New Song (Revelation 5)	Tying up all the previous four songs, we get a revelation of what the saints in heaven are singing; indeed, they sing exactly what we saints on earth sing. They confess the good things happening at God's right hand, where the Lamb, the King, sits. They confess the redemption that comes by the blood of the Lamb.

What is the craft like?

Typical *Pax Domini Press* crafts meet a high standard of materials, meaning, and craftsmanship, requiring strong oversight by craft supervisors. The goal is a craft that engages the child artistically as well as theologically. The craft for *A New Song* fits these qualifications.

Five basic “bywords” come to the fore in this program: *King of kings, Holy, the Right Hand, Cup, and the Lamb.* These themes come up again and again in the various stories throughout the program. The craft ties each of these themes together in a model that is meant to convey the image revealed in Revelation 5 and which has been used throughout the history of the Church, especially in the Reformation Era through the likes of Albrecht Durer.



A picture is here given.

What about worship?

Pax Domini Press provides a worship folder which has a simplified Matins service for each day of the week. In the service are the Matins versicle, a Psalm, a hymn, a reading, a message, the Lord's Prayer, and the Apostle's Creed. The hymn uses original words – five verses summarizing the five lessons of the week – and puts them to the tune of several hymns which may be found in the hymnal.

The words of the hymn written for the program are here given:

Your Right Hand, Lord, Is Glorious
(for other tunes, see back of hymnal: 76 76 D)

Verse 1 (With Day One)

Your right hand, Lord, is glorious
It saves us valiantly.
By it all of our enemies
Are thrown into the sea.
You lead us to salvation;
Your mighty deeds we sing.
Now in Your mercy guide us,
Our Everlasting King.

Verse 2 (With Day Two)

The seraphim in heaven
Around Your highest throne,
Sing "Holy, Holy, Holy,"
For You are God alone.
And we, our sins confessing:
Sinful! Unclean! We say.
Oh God, our gracious Savior,
Take all our sins away.

Verse 3 (With Day Three)

We, born in Adam's sin, now
See Eden's doorway closed.
Our way, Your holy angel,
His flaming sword opposed...
See angels all around us!
They sing at Jesus' birth:
"To God on high be glory;
To men be peace on earth."

Verse 4 (With Day Four)

Your Son, our Savior, Jesus,
His Blood now sets us free.
He, in Your holy name, comes:
Most blessed may He be!
We take Your cup of mercy,
And call upon Your name.
We sing of all Your goodness.
Your benefits we claim.

Verse 5 (With Day Five)

Now sing we "Hallelujah"
The Three in One we praise,
Our Father, God Almighty,
To You our song we raise.
With Christ, the Lamb most holy,
At Your right hand, O Lord,
Who with the Holy Spirit:
Forever is adored.

What about the pre-schoolers?

The Level 1 material includes a puppet show (which older children may also enjoy) and a story booklet written in simple language. Also included is a teacher's book with suggestions and ideas for songs, games, and activities which will emphasize the theme for the day.

Congregations interested in expanding their program to include 3 year olds may also purchase *Let the Little Children Come unto Me*. This is a "catechism kit" with coloring books and a mini-VBS that teaches the Holy Trinity. See website for more details.

What else does the kit come with?

The kit also comes with recreation ideas. These recreation ideas are activities which incorporate the theme of the VBS. The kit also includes masters for canvassing, posters, and bulletin inserts. Finally, the kit gives some guidance and advice on running a VBS; it includes a check-list of things which must be done 3-4 months prior, 3-4 weeks prior, 3-4 days prior, during the VBS, and after the VBS.



Lesson One: The Crossing of the Red Sea

Isaiah 6: 1-7

Level 4 Sample

Memory Verse:

Isaiah 6: 3 – "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!"

Introduction

Last lesson we learned about the Song of Moses. We learned that the songs of the Bible are called canticles. Canticles are sung when the Lord does something for His people, and His people respond in song.

We learned that the Song of Moses had several features: (1) It was ALL about what the Lord had done; (2) it was all about the Lord's mercy; (3) it proclaimed the great things done at God's right hand; and (4) it proclaimed that the Lord is King. Many other songs from the Bible have these features.

Today we are going to learn about a canticle we sing in church called the *Sanctus*. The *Sanctus* is the song that goes, "Holy, Holy, Holy." This song comes from Isaiah 6 and from the Psalms.

The Call of Isaiah

Look at the picture here to the right. What does this picture show? Why is the Holy God separated from men?

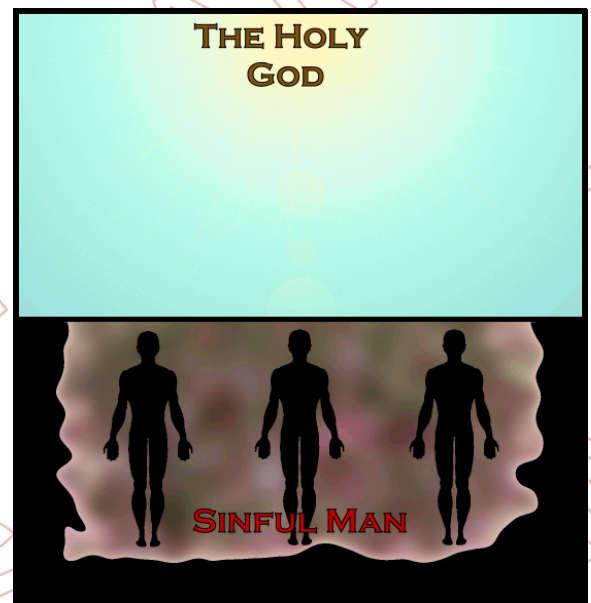
The answer is SIN. (Write "sin" above the men.) God is separate from us because of our sins.

Read Exodus 33: 20. What does God say to Moses here?

No one can see God and live. This is because He is holy, but we are sinners.

Yet, God wants to be merciful to us. He wants to forgive our sins and be with us. He loves us and does not want us to be abandoned to our sin and death.

So God comes to us. He came to Moses in a burning



bush. He came to Israel in the tabernacle, the tent of meeting. He came into the temple.

When God called the prophets to speak His Word, He also came to them. He came to Isaiah the prophet. Today we learn about the call of Isaiah.

Read Isaiah 6: 1-7 and fill in the blanks below:

1. The Lord was sitting on a _____, high and lifted up.

2. The train of His robe filled the _____.

3. The _____ had six wings.

4. The angels cried _____

5. The house was filled with _____.

6. Isaiah said, "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of _____

lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of _____ lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The LORD of hosts."

7. The seraphim touched Isaiah's lips with the live coal and said, "Your _____ is taken away, and your _____ purged."



When Heaven Meets Earth

Isaiah saw the Lord on His heavenly throne, high and lifted up. This detail reminds us of the Song of Moses, how Moses sang that the Lord is the great King above all other kings.

But Isaiah also saw the Lord *in the temple*, and he saw the Lord's train fill *the temple*. The throne is heavenly, but the temple is earthly.

Which of the following is true?

_____ Isaiah was lifted up out of earth into heaven.

_____ Isaiah was on earth, and heaven was on earth.

Isaiah never left earth. Heaven came to him! But this was terrifying to him. As we read above, no one can see God and live. Isaiah said, "I am undone!"

But the seraphim did something for Isaiah. He took away his sin with the coal from the fire.

Why did the coals from the altar forgive Isaiah's sin? Read Exodus 30: 10 and Leviticus 17: 11.

The coal that touched Isaiah's lips were used with the sacrifices. The sacrifices were for the sins of the people. Through these sacrifices, God forgave His people their sin. Now, God could come among them, and they would not die. Isaiah saw the great King of heaven, but he did not die.



Discuss the following questions:

1. We are in God's presence every week at church. Why do we not die? How are we able to come into God's presence and not die?
2. We too are forgiven, but we are not forgiven by the coal from an altar. Whose Blood was shed for us? Whose Blood cleanses us from all sin?
3. In church, how are we forgiven so that we can come into God's presence?
4. When do we sing, "Holy, Holy, Holy"?

Hosanna!

In church, we sing "Holy, Holy, Holy," but we also sing, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna!" We first sing what the angels in Isaiah 6 sang, but then we sing something else. Where do we get these words?

Read Matthew 21: 1-9, 15. Who sang "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD! Hosanna in the highest!?" Who especially sang these words in verse 15?



Hosanna means "save us." Like Isaiah, we are in the presence of God. With the angels we sing "Holy, Holy, Holy."

But we are also with the children singing, "Hosanna." We beg Jesus to save us, and He does! How does Jesus come in the name of the Lord in church?

Activity: Word Search

Answer the following questions and find the word in the word search:

1. A biblical song is a _____.
2. The seraphim three times sang this word.
3. This prophet was called by God.
4. The train of the Lord filled the _____.
5. Isaiah saw the Lord sitting on His _____.
6. The seraphim took a coal from the _____.
7. Isaiah said, "I am a man of _____ lips."
8. This word means "save us."
9. In church, when we sing "Holy, Holy, Holy," we sing the song of _____.
10. When we sing "hosanna," we sing the song of _____.



U S A A I C T E H O Y
 N N C T N H Y L O H L
 C I S H R G I A A H T
 L A A O I E E I P M E
 E D N U T L A L L E T
 A E D T N S D O S H C
 N R L E I C H R O R H
 C H I M L C N O E N E
 E T S P E A L S S N A
 N L A L T A R E A N A
 A G E E A N N A S O H

Use the code in the chart below (row, column) to find the letter to put into each box. The final word is the name of the canticle we sing in church:

ROW	COL	ROW	COL	ROW	COL	ROW	COL	ROW	COL	ROW	COL
1,	2	3,	9	7,	1	7,	6	5,	5	5,	4



Lesson Three: The Angels Appear to the Shepherds

Luke 2: 1-20

Level 3 Sample

Memory Verse:

Luke 2: 14 – “Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!”

Introduction

In the last lesson, we learned how Isaiah was called by God. He was in the temple, and suddenly he saw the seraphim singing “Holy, Holy, Holy.” Isaiah was terrified because he had “seen the King, The LORD of hosts.” As we learned, no one can see God and live.

Why can no one see God and live? Because He is “Holy, Holy, Holy,” but we are “sinful and unclean.” Because of sin, the door to heaven is shut to us.



The Way to Paradise is Shut

When God created the world, He also made the first humans. They were named Adam and Eve. He put Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. He told them that they could eat from any tree in the Garden of Eden but the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.

One day, the devil came to Eve as a snake. He tempted Eve to eat from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Eve ate from this tree, and she also gave the fruit to Adam. Adam also ate. Both Adam and Eve sinned against the Lord.

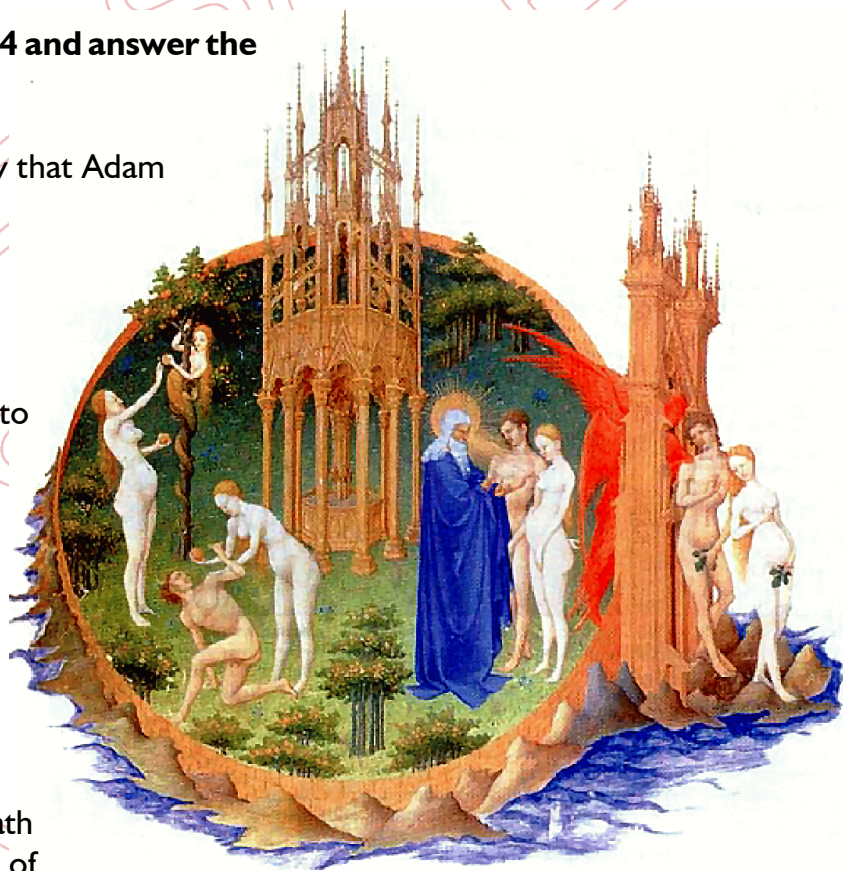
The Lord found Adam and Eve, and He punished them for sinning. He told Eve that she would have pain in childbirth. And then He cursed Adam as well.

Pick up the story from Genesis 3: 17-24 and answer the following questions:

1.) In verse 19, where does the Lord say that Adam would return? What does this mean?

2.) Could Adam and Eve ever go back into the Garden of Eden? Why or why not?

3.) Discuss how the picture here to the right demonstrates what happened in the story.



When Adam and Eve sinned, death entered God's perfect world. Because of sin, we die.

Look at the following verses and underline the two words that are in each verse:

Romans 6: 23 – The wages of sin is death.

James 1: 15 – Sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

Romans 5: 12 – Through [Adam] sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.

The Way to Paradise is Opened

Sin keeps us from heaven. Sin brings death. But God loved us, so He sent His Son to be a human being just like us. This Son is Jesus. Jesus is just like us, but He did not sin.

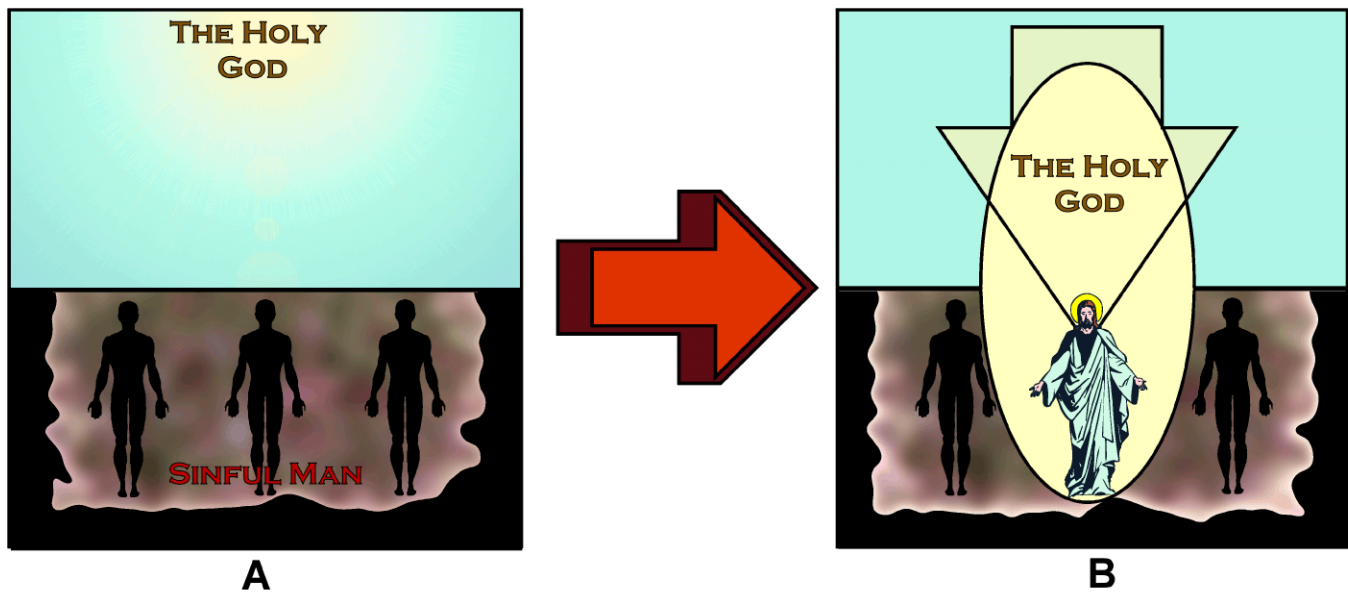
Jesus did not sin like Adam. Adam closed the door to Paradise, but Jesus opened it back up. When Jesus was born, heaven was no longer closed to us!

Read Luke 2: 1-20 and discuss the following questions:

1. What great event is being told in this passage?
2. In verse 9, what exactly shone around the shepherds?
3. What “good tidings” did the angels have for the shepherds?
4. Write down here exactly what the angels were singing:

The angels sang that there was “peace on earth.” Jesus is born; God and man are at peace with each other.

All people are born with original sin. They are born with the sin of Adam. They are kept out of heaven. But Jesus did not have original sin. If we are born of Jesus, we too will be free of sin. Heaven will be opened to us again!



Look at the diagram above. Discuss the following questions:

- 1.) In frame A, why are God and man separated?
- 2.) Which frame is before Jesus came to us, and which frame is after Jesus came to us?
- 3.) Did we go up to God, or did God come to us?
- 4.) Frame B shows how the man in the middle is free of sin. He is God in flesh. He is at peace with God. But what about the other two men? How will they “get” in Him?

The answer to this last question is important! We must all have what Jesus has to give. Jesus gives us forgiveness by taking our sins and giving us His righteousness. He takes our sins. He gives us forgiveness.

Look at what happens in the frame here. Explain what is happening:

- 1.) What happened to the sin of the two men?
- 2.) What is happening to Jesus?
- 3.) What has happened to the two other people in the frame?
- 4.) How did this happen to them?
- 5.) What eventually happened to Jesus after dying?

The Gloria in Excelsis

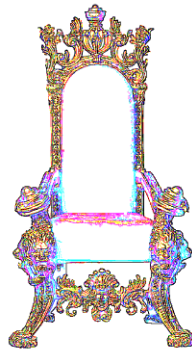
In church we sing the same thing that the angels sang when Jesus was born. We sing, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, goodwill toward men."

Why do we sing this song? We sing it because we are forgiven! We are allowed to enter into heaven at church. We even get to eat a great supper with the Lord! Because we have peace with God, we join the angels and sing the same song that they sing.



Activity: Glory to God in the Highest

Read the *Gloria in Excelsis* from the hymnal. Imagine what is seen as the song is sung. Draw what we sing about using the throne below. Use a speaking bubble and write what we sing.





Lesson Four: The Hymn at the Last Supper

Matthew 26: 19-30

Level 2 Sample

Memory Verse:

Psalms 116: 12-13 – I will take up the cup of salvation, And call upon the name of the LORD.

Introduction

We have learned some great songs of the Bible. We learned what Moses sang when God saved Israel from Egypt. We learned what Isaiah heard sung in heaven when God called him. We learned what the angels sang when Jesus was born.

Do the (T) rue and (F) alse based on the songs we have learned so far:

1. _____ Moses sang of the good things that God's right hand did for him.
2. _____ God does not mind if we sin.
3. _____ Sin closes the door to heaven to us.
4. _____ We have peace because Jesus came to earth to die for our sins.
5. _____ In songs, we sing about what we have done.
6. _____ We must be forgiven if we come near God.

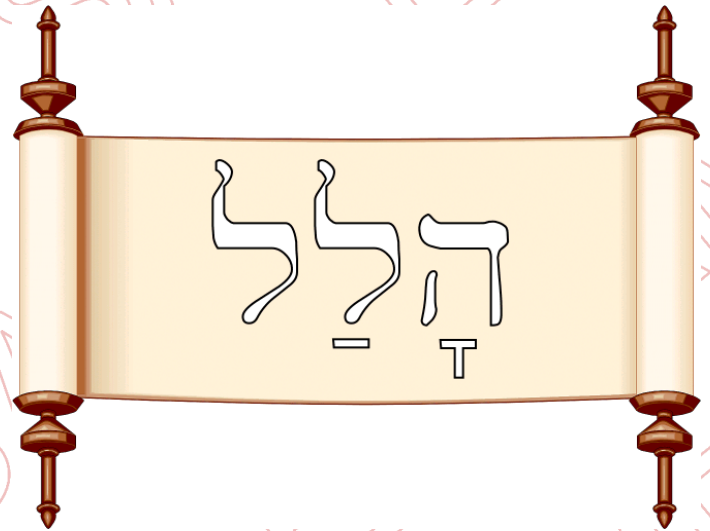
The Hallel

Today we will learn about a fourth song, the Hallel. *Hallel* means “praise.”

Shade in the Hebrew letters in the scroll here:

These letters are Hebrew. The Old Testament was written in Hebrew. It reads backwards! The big letters are consonants. The little letters on the bottom are vowels.

This word is “Hallel.” This word is found many times in the Book of Psalms.



Find the Book of Psalms in a Bible. Open the Bible in the middle, and it will often be the Book of Psalms.

The word *Hallel* means “praise.” The word *Hallelujah* means “praise the Lord.”

Find chapters 113-118 in the Book of Psalms. These chapters are also called the Hallel.

The people of Israel sang the Hallel when they celebrated the Passover. Once a year they celebrated the Passover. Let us review what the Passover is:

To review the Passover, use the following words to fill in the blanks:

blood	Israel	pass over	plagues
Moses	Passover	slaves	heart
firstborn sons	lamb		

The people of _____ were _____ in the land of Egypt. They prayed to the Lord, and He sent _____ to free them. Moses went to the Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and told him to let his people go. Pharaoh said, “No.” Then the Lord sent _____ upon Egypt. Each time there was a plague, the Pharaoh would tell Moses he could leave with his people, but then he would harden his _____. Finally, the Lord had one last

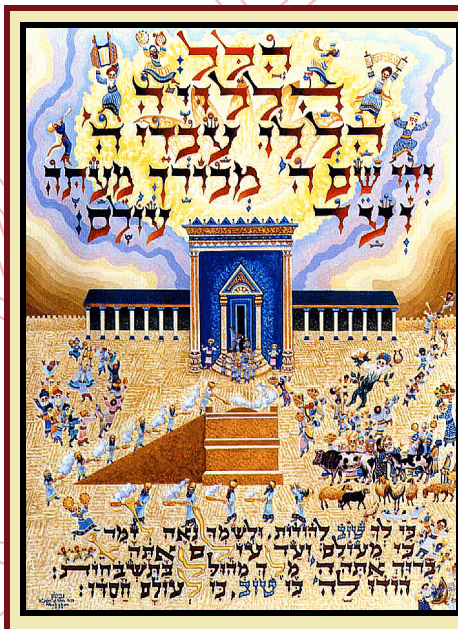
plague for Egypt. On a certain night, He would send His angel to kill the _____ of Egypt.

The people of Israel would be protected from the angel by slaying a _____ and by painting its _____ on

the doorposts and lintels. When the angel saw the blood, he would _____ these houses. That night, Israel was freed from Egypt.

Every year, the people of Israel remembered this great event by observing the _____ every year.

Every year, the people of Israel went to Jerusalem for the Passover. Thousands of people came from all over the world to go to Jerusalem. It was quite a sight! And on the way to Jerusalem, they sang the Hallel.



Look at the following passages from the Hallel. Discuss what they mean. Discuss whether these verses are sung during church today:

Psalm 116: 12-13 – What shall I render to the LORD For all His benefits toward me? I will take up the cup of salvation, And call upon the name of the LORD.

Psalm 116: 15 – Precious in the sight of the LORD Is the death of His saints.

Psalm 118: 1 – Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.

Psalm 118: 16 – The right hand of the LORD is exalted; The right hand of the LORD does valiantly.

Psalm 118: 26 – Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!

On the night that He was betrayed...

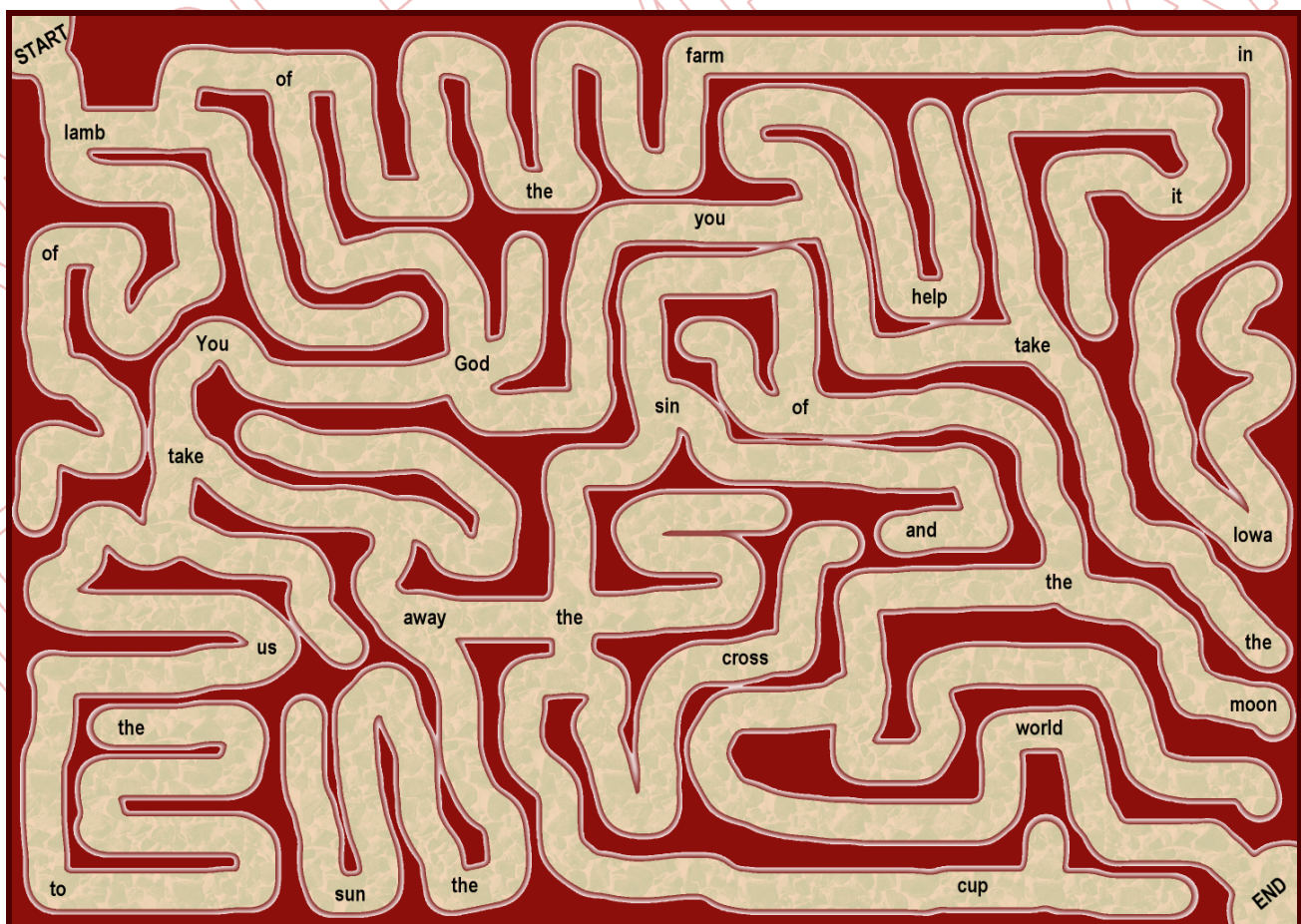
Jesus kept the Passover the day before He died on the cross. But He made it into something greater than it was.

Listen to Matthew 26: 19, 26-30. Discuss following questions:

1. What did Jesus say of the bread?
2. What did Jesus say of the cup?
3. What did Jesus give with His Body and Blood?
4. What did Jesus and the disciples do before going to the Mount of Olives?

Activity: Jesus Our Passover

Find the correct path and circle the words on the right path. What do they say?



Who is our Passover Lamb? _____



Lesson Five The New Song

Revelation 5

Level 1 Sample

In heaven, all the saints and angels sing a new song unto the Lord. What is the new song?

St. John was a disciple of Jesus. He preached Jesus and because he preached Jesus, he was imprisoned on an island. He could not leave the island. The island was called Patmos.



One Sunday, John was worshiping Jesus. Suddenly, John saw Who He was worshiping! He saw Jesus surrounded by all the angels and archangels. He saw all the saints who had died. He saw all the company of heaven.

In heaven there was a throne, and on this throne was the Lord God Almighty. In His right hand He had a scroll. No one could open the scroll. No one could know God's Word! No one could see what God's will was! In the same way that the door was once shut to us, so was the scroll shut. No one could open it.

John wept because no one could open it. But then one of the saints came to John and said, "Do not weep. Jesus, the lion of the tribe of Judah, has won the victory! Jesus can open the scroll! Jesus will show us God's Word! Jesus IS God's Word!"



Then in the middle of the throne, in the middle of all the saints, in the middle of all the company of heaven, John saw a Lamb. The Lamb looked as though it had been slain, like the Passover Lamb. This Lamb was Jesus, the Lamb of God which takes away the sin of the world!

The Lamb took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne. Suddenly all the saints burst out singing a new song to the Lord. They sang, "You are worthy to take the scroll and open its seals. For You were slain and have redeemed us to God by Your Blood. You have made us kings and priests to our God, and we shall reign on the earth."

Then all the angels and archangels, and all the company of heaven sang, "Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing!"

Then every creature that lives on earth, in the sea, and under the sea sang, "Blessing and honor and glory and power be to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever?"



Then the saints said “Amen” and bowed down and worshiped God forever and ever.

Our New Song

We also sing the new song unto the Lord. Every week in church we sing to the Lamb Who sits at the right hand of the Father. Every week in church we sing how we also are saved by the Blood of the Lamb. Every week in church we give God glory and honor and blessing.

Here are some of the things we sing in church every week in the new song:

“Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.”

“Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of world,
have mercy upon us.”

“Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabbaoth.
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.”

“In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

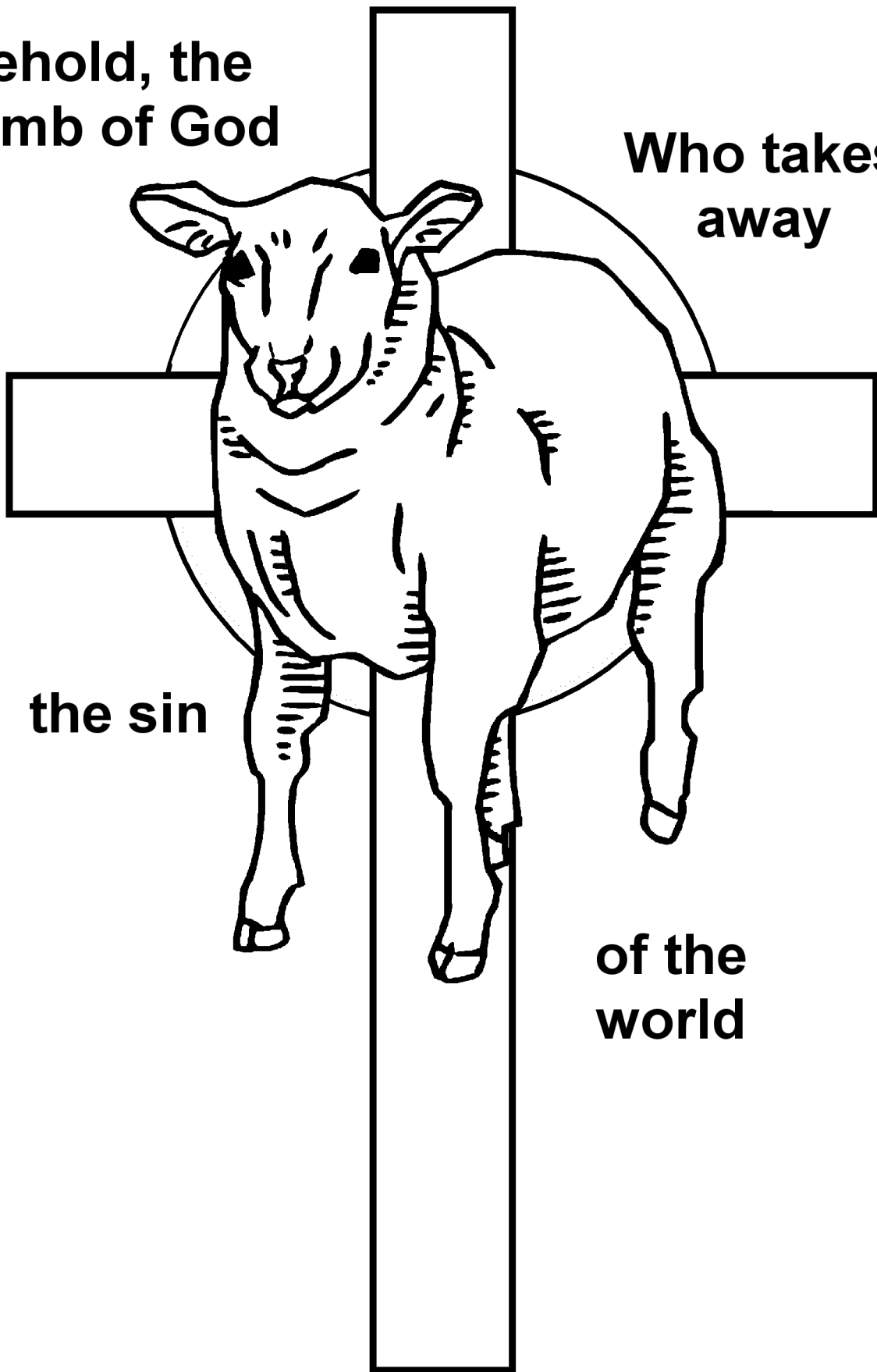
“Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!”

“For Thou only art holy.”

“He ascended into heaven,
and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty.”

**Behold, the
Lamb of God**

**Who takes
away**



the sin

**of the
world**

Sample of a Chapel Service for a Day

Friday Prayer

Pastor: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Children: Amen.

Pastor: O Lord, open my lips.

Children: And my mouth will declare your praise.

from Psalm 149

Pastor: Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song, And His praise in the assembly of saints.

Children: Let Israel rejoice in their Maker; Let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.

Pastor: Let them praise His name with the dance; Let them sing praises to Him with the timbrel and harp.

Children: For the LORD takes pleasure in His people; He will beautify the humble with salvation.

Pastor: Let the saints be joyful in glory; Let them sing aloud on their beds.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Hymn	<i>Your Right Hand, Lord, Is Glorious</i> [pg. 7]
Scripture Reading	Revelation 5
The Apostles' Creed	[back page]
Message	<i>The New Song</i>
Lord's Prayer	
Prayers	
Benediction	

Sample of Puppet Show Script

Lesson Three Glory Be to God on High

[Jessie and Nickolai are on the stage with hangdog faces, feeling bad about getting in trouble. They were put outside by their mom and dad.]

Nickolai: Ohhhhhhhhh boy...

Jessie: Yeah, you said it...ohhhhhhhhh boy...

Nickolai: We really did it this time, didn't we...

Jessie: Yes we did.

Nickolai: Jessie, you'd better tell the kids what we did.

Jessie: Oh, kids, you won't believe it. But Nickolai and I are in SOOO much trouble. This morning, Nickolai and I were playing tug-o-war with a rope. Well, the game got kinda outta hand. First, we were both pulling SOOO hard, and then Fluffball here let go of the rope, so I went flying into mom's precious vase that was behind me, and it BROKE! Brilliant move letting me go, Nickolai!

Nickolai: Oh, but let me tell the kids what YOU did then. So, Jessie gets all mad at me, and starts chasing me all over the house. She was so mad at me she didn't care what she was running over. And she ran into a lamp and broke IT!

Jessie: That was only after YOU scratched up all the floors with your long nails! Get those things trimmed!

Nickolai: And after YOU ran into mom causing her to spill hot coffee onto herself.

Jessie: Ohhhhhhhhh boy...

Nickolai: Yeah, you said it....ohhhhhhhhh boy. Anyways, kids, that's why Jessie and I were kicked out of the house. We are locked outside for the day. We are grounded.

Jessie: Yup, locked outside. The door is shut. Closed. We are barred, banned, and banished. We are exiled from entry. We can't go in. Going in is forbidden. Entering is prohibited and proscribed!

Nickolai: OK, Jessie, I think they get the point...Kids, the door is shut and we can't go in. It's that simple.

Jessie: But we will go back in tonight. Later this evening mom is going to open the door for us, and then we can go back inside.

Nickolai: Hey Jessie, I think there's some good that can come from this, because our banishment reminds me of our story for today. Y'know, how Adam and Eve were banished from the Garden of Eden? Adam and Eve sinned against God, and God banished them from heaven. The door was

shut to them.

Jessie: Yes, that's right. They were locked outside. The door to heaven was shut. They were barred, banned, and banished. They were exiled from entry! Proscribed, prohibited...

Nickolai: Not again! Kids, the door to heaven was shut, and they couldn't go back in. That's because they sinned against God.

Jessie: And not only them, but all their children. In fact, everyone who ever lived was locked outside because of their sins, because everyone is born in sin!

Nickolai: Not everyone, Jessie! One Person in all history never sinned. Do you remember Who that was?

Jessie: Oh yes! I know....but maybe the kids can answer that question. Who was the one Person in ALLL of history who never sinned and was not born into sin?

[When someone says "Jesus" the script continues...]

Jessie: That's right! Jesus. Jesus never sinned. And you know what that means?

Nickolai: What does that mean?

Jessie: I'll tell you what that means. It means the door is opened again! The doorway to heaven is opened! The bars were broken! The banishment ended! The ban was lifted! The exile ceased! No longer prohibited or proscribed!

Nickolai: Oh great, here we go again. Kids, the door to heaven opened up again. It's as simple as that.

Jessie: And that's why the shepherds, who were keeping their flocks by night, saw all the multitude of angels around them. It's because the door to heaven was opened! If the door to heaven opens up, that's what you see. You see the angels of heaven.

Nickolai: And you hear them singing. You hear them singing, "Glory be to God on high."

Jessie: And the coolest thing is that you also sing "Glory be to God on high" in church every week. You know, the canticle that goes...

[Jessie and Nickolai sing the *Gloria in Excelsis* from the liturgy...]

Nickolai: We sing that song because in church, we are in the company of angels. We are with the angelic host, the heavenly throngs, the multitudes of angels!

Jessie: That's because the door is opened at church.

Nickolai: And the door is opened because Jesus died for all our sins. We are baptized and forgiven, and so we can enter into heaven. That's what happens at church. We enter into heaven. We can't see it, but we are with Jesus, and Jesus is at the right hand of the Father. We are in heaven!

Jessie: Right, but we must be forgiven to be in heaven. That's why the pastor forgives our sins before we go up to communion. Jesus uses the pastor to forgive us all our sins so that we can go through

the doorway into heaven.

Nickolai: Yup. Just like Jessie and me. Later tonight, mom will forgive us and let us back inside.

Jessie: Until then...

Nickolai: Yeah, yeah...I know...banned, banished, barred, exiled from entry, prohibited and proscribed from going in...

Jessie: It was all your fault...

Nickolai: You just can't take a joke.

Jessie: I'll show you!!

[Jessie and Nickolai start fighting again...]