

Christ Timeline Unit



Outline of Lessons

<i>WEEK #1–Matthew: “Christ is King”</i>	
Sunday	“That it Might Be Fulfilled” Christ, the Promised Messiah of OT Prophecy
Wednesday	The Kingdom of Heaven Kingdom Parables
<i>WEEK #2–Mark: “Jesus, Our Servant and Sacrifice</i>	
Sunday	Jesus’ Ministry Servant on the Move 18 Miracles
Wednesday	Cost of Discipleship “Whoever Desires to Become Great”
<i>WEEK #3–Luke: “Jesus the Perfect Son of Man</i>	
Sunday	From Jesus Back to Adam–Luke 3 Jesus Eats With Sinners Zacchaeus; The Leper Cleansed
Wednesday	The “Lost” Parables–Luke 15
<i>WEEK #4–John: “Jesus, the Son of God”</i>	
Sunday	Jesus, The Word “Born Again”–John 3 The Power of Christ Seen in the 7 Miracles
Wednesday	Christ As God The “I AM” Statements

"CHRIST" Essential Knowledge and Skills



Essential Knowledge. Students will know that...

Lesson 1a	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jesus is the Promised Messiah of OT Prophecy. 2. Matthew portrays Christ as the Promised King.
Lesson 1b	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We must be ready for the Kingdom of heaven. 2. We must use what God has given us in the Kingdom of heaven. 3. We must minister to one another's needs in the kingdom of heaven.
Lesson 2a	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jesus came to earth to be our Servant and our Sacrifice. 2. Jesus had busy and active public ministry consisting of 18 miracles. 3. Jesus showed power and compassion through His miracles.
Lesson 2b	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jesus came to earth to be our Servant and our Sacrifice 2. Jesus had a busy and active public ministry consisting of 18 miracles 3. The Gospel of Mark shows Jesus' power and compassion through His miracles.
Lesson 3a	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the book of Luke, Jesus is portrayed as "The Perfect Son of Man." 2. Jesus came to "seek and save the lost." 3. Jesus came to call sinners to repentance.
Lesson 3b	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the book of Luke, Jesus is portrayed as "The Perfect Son of Man." 2. Jesus came to "seek and save the lost." 3. Jesus came to call sinners to repentance.
Lesson 4a	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the book of John, Jesus is portrayed as "Christ, the Son of the Living God." 2. Jesus is "The Word" that was with God in the beginning. 3. Jesus' power is shown through seven different miracles in the book of John
Lesson 4b	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the Gospel of John, Jesus is portrayed as "The Son of God." 2. SW know the Seven "I AM" statements of Jesus in the Gospel of John. 3. Review the main ideas from each of the Gospel accounts of Jesus' life

SKILL OBJECTIVES IN "CHRIST". Students Can...

1. Tell the four portrayals of Jesus as shown in the four Gospels:	<i>Matthew–Promised Messiah; Promised King</i> <i>Mark–Servant and Sacrifice</i> <i>Luke–The Perfect Son of Man"</i> <i>John–The Son of God; the Word</i>
2. Tell the seven "I AM" statements from the Gospel of John	
2. Define these words:	<i>Messiah, Parable, Disciple, Crucifixion, Resurrection, Redeem/Redemption</i>



CHRIST 1A—Christ, the Promised Messiah of OT Prophecy—Matthew

OBJECTIVES: Students will know that...

1. Jesus is the **promised Messiah** of OT Prophecy.
2. Matthew portrays Christ as the **promised King**.

Stories That Will Be Highlighted:

- Matthew Writes to a Jewish Audience to Show that Jesus Was the Promised Messiah of OT Prophecy
- The Visit of the Wise Men

Introduction:

1. Period of Silence.

- There are about 400 years in between the period of “silence” and the time when Christ was born.
- During this time period, several nations have been in control of the Jewish nation.
- **63BC---Rome** occupied **Israel** and was in control of the region all through NT history. The land is divided into three parts: *Galilee* (north), *Samaria* (Central) and *Judea* (South).
- **Herod the Great** was the king over Palestine during the time when Jesus was born. He was a Roman ruler who was given the governorship over Palestine. All the **Herods** that are mentioned in the NT are either **sons** or **grandsons** of **Herod the Great**.
- The **Temple** rebuilt by Zerubbabel and the people in the “Rebuild” time period was defiled in 163 BC. However, **Herod** rebuilt it and made it larger and more beautiful than **Zerubbabel’s temple**.

2. Now God is ready!

- Explain that we will study this unit by looking into the **four Gospels**; one each week, to see **Jesus** through their eyes. Today we will look at **Matthew’s** account of Jesus’ life.
- Have the students follow along in their “**Christ**” booklet and fill in information as we go along.

■ **Fill in the Blank:** Read Gal. 4:4-5--- *“But when the fullness of time came, God sent forth His son, born of a woman, born under the Law, in order that he might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive adoption as sons.”*

■ **WHO IS MATTHEW?** *Matthew was a tax collector, also known as “Levi.” He lived in Capernaum. He invited Jesus to a great banquet and invited his friends who were tax collectors.*

LESSON: PART 1—JESUS, THE PROMISED MESSIAH

1. God made many promises to His people in the Old Testament. Let’s look at the genealogy mentioned in Matthew 1.
2. As you look at the men’s names listed, do you see any of them that God made a promise to?
 - **Adam (and Eve and Serpent)—Genesis 3—“He will bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.”**
 - **Abraham—Genesis 12—“And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.”**
 - **David—2 Samuel 7:16—“And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever.”**
 - **Zerubbabel—Haggai 2:23—“...and will make you as a signet ring; for I have chosen you.”**

█ **FILL IN THE BLANK: 2 Corinthians 1:20–“For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.”**

█ **God has now, in Jesus, fulfilled all His Promises!!**

3. Matthew uses more OT quotes and references than any other gospel writer--almost 130!

█ **Matthew uses the phrase “that it might be fulfilled” 9 times in his gospel! He wanted the Jewish people to see Jesus as the Messiah that had been foretold by the prophets!**

(NOTE TO TEACHER: Students will have labeled index cards in their hands that have the OT prophecy on them. As you read the verses in Matthew, if a student has that OT prophecy, have him/her stand and read it at that time.)

- **Matthew 1:23** - a quote from Isaiah 7:14 (*“Behold a virgin...”*)
Jesus would be born to a virgin girl
- **Matthew 2:6** - a quote from Micah 5:2 (*“But you, Bethlehem...out of you shall come a ruler...”*)
Jesus will be born in Bethlehem
- **Matthew 2:15** - a quote from Hosea 11:1 (*“Out of Egypt I called My Son”*)
Jesus will flee to Egypt (as a child) to escape Herod, then return home
- **Matthew 2:18** - a quote from Jeremiah 31:15 (*“...Rachel weeping for her children...”*)
The killing of the baby boys in Bethlehem
- **Matthew 2:23** - a quote from Judges 13:5 (*“He shall be called a Nazarene”*)
Jesus grew up in a town called Nazareth
- **Matthew 3:3** - a quote from Isaiah 40:3 (*“The voice of one crying in the wilderness...Prepare the way of the Lord...”*) *John the Baptist will prepare the peoples’ hearts for the coming of the Messiah*
- **Matthew 11:13-14** - a quote from Malachi 4:5 (*“He is the Elijah who is to come.”*)
John the Baptist
- **Matthew 26:14-15** - a quote from Zechariah 11:12 (*Judas’ wage for betraying Jesus was 30 pieces of silver*) *Judas will betray Jesus to the authorities*
- **Matthew 27:35-36** - a quote from Psalms 22:18 (*“They divided My garments among them...”*)
The soldiers at the cross threw dice for Jesus’ clothing
- **Matthew 27:46** - a quote from Psalms 22:1 (*“My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?”*)
Actual quote of Jesus when He was on the cross



LESSON: PART 2–JESUS IS OUR KING

1. Chapter 2:1-12. The Visit of the Wise Men.

- **Matthew** is the only Gospel writer to record this story!
- The **wise men** (did you notice that it doesn't say how many wise men there were?!) were bringing **gifts** to a “King” and wanted to worship him. The 3 gifts, **gold, frankincense, and myrrh** were customary gifts given to royal children upon their birth.

- It appears that the **wise men of the east** were more “wise” in the way of God’s word than the Jewish people of the times. They were looking for a **sign** (the star in the east), found it, and then followed it to their “King.”
- **Gold** was given as an acknowledgment that the child was of royal birth.
- The **frankincense** was a sweet smelling perfume or spice that was used in the **holy oil** (in the lampstand) in the Tabernacle. Frankincense and myrrh are both resins (sap) that come from certain trees.
- **Myrrh** was used to anoint someone (like a future king); was mixed in with the flour for the **showbread** in the Tabernacle, and was used to **embalm** a dead body.
- **Matthew** is also the only gospel writer to record the story of Mary and Joseph’s **flight to Egypt** to escape Herod. He wanted to show that there was an implicit link between **Jesus** and the **nation of Israel**--**Jesus** relives the history of **Israel** and embodies in Himself the **future** of Israel as the people of God.



LESSON: PART 3—JESUS HAS ALL AUTHORITY

1. Fill in the Blank: *Matthew 28:18*-- “**All Authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.**”

- This is one of the **key verses** in the book of Matthew. God has given Jesus all authority in heaven and on earth. He has been made supreme by God. Whatever we do in word or deed, we should always look to Jesus for the authority to do so.
- Read Phil. 2:9 - 11--- “**God has highly exalted Him...**”
- Read Revelation 19:16--- “**King of Kings...**”



Does it bother you to think how people today blaspheme the precious name of Jesus? Jesus is our King---He has been put upon His throne by God, Our heavenly Father. How much respect do we have for our King, Jesus? We must be very careful when we speak of Jesus’ name. Many people in the world today use Jesus’ name as if it were a curse word. Christians must be ever-mindful of the precious name of our Lord and King!



Jesus is the head (ruler, king) of the church. God has given Him all authority. We must obey Him as we strive to live in His kingdom, the church. We must look to His words and the words He gave His own apostles for instructions on how we should live our lives, how we should worship and how others might be saved and added to the church.



CHRIST 1B–The Kingdom of Heaven–Matthew

Objectives:

1. We must be ready for the Kingdom of heaven.
2. We must use what God has given us in the Kingdom of heaven.
3. We must minister to one another's needs in the kingdom of heaven.

Stories to Be Highlighted:

Matthew 25:

1. The Parable of the Ten Virgins
2. The Parable of the Talents
3. The Judgment of the Nations
4. Matthew 16—The Keys to the Kingdom

Introduction:

1. Go over what we know so far about **Matthew** the writer; **Matthew**, the book:
 - **Jesus is: The answer to all God's promises**
 - **Jesus is: Our King**
 - **Key Phrase: "...that it might be fulfilled"---9 times in Matthew**
 - **Key Verse: Matthew 28:18-- "All authority has been given to Me..."**

LESSON: PART 1–THE KING (JESUS) HAS A KINGDOM (THE CHURCH)

1. The word "kingdom" is our "Key Word" in Matthew. It is used 56 times!
2. Jesus talked and taught a lot of things about the "Kingdom of Heaven" especially in Matthew.
3. In the New Testament, when the words "kingdom of heaven" are used, it usually means "the church."
4. Tonight we will read one chapter out of Matthew, **chapter 25**, to talk about the **Kingdom of Heaven** and what our response should be.

(NOTE TO TEACHER: Please have the students fill out their booklet pages for "Matthew" as you tell the stories)

▀ Parable of the Ten Virgins: 25:1 - 13

1. Read the Parable.
2. The custom of waiting for the Bridegroom: In Bible times, the people who were invited to the wedding waited outside the appointed place for the bridegroom to come. It was kind of a game—seeing how long it took the man to show up! Once the bridegroom arrived (early or late as the case may be), the doors were locked and no one was admitted inside.
3. The young girls (virgins) who were waiting outside had no idea how long it would take for the bridegroom to show up. Five of them were prepared and brought enough oil to last as long as it took. The other five did not think ahead and were not ready.
4. While they were gone to buy more oil, the bridegroom came and locked the doors. The girls could not go in to the wedding when they returned!

- *How are some ways that we as Christians must be ready for Jesus to return?*
- *Why should we be watching and be prepared?*

▣ Parable of the Talents: 25:14 - 30

1. Read the parable.
2. The word "talents" meant a certain amount of money. See your Bible footnote to see how much. It was a large sum.
 - *The talents in the story represent gifts or abilities and even money. These are things that God has blessed us with.*
 - *The servants in this parable represent Christians*
 - *What do you think it means when Jesus says, "you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things?"*
 - *While we are waiting for the Lord to return, what should we be doing with our "talents"?*

▣ Judgment of the Nations: 25:31 - 46

1. Read Jesus' teaching.
2. The sheep and the goats represent Christians (sheep) and unbelievers (goats).
 - *What do you think it means when it says, "inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world"?—God has been preparing for the church since BEFORE He created the world. To "inherit" the kingdom, we must obey God in everything that He has given us in His word.*
 - *What is "everlasting fire"?—Hell*
 - *Who are "the least of these"?—anyone or all who have believed and obeyed Him, no matter what their station in life or their talents and abilities.*

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▣ Teachings from these Parables:

- We must be **prepared** and ready to meet Jesus at any moment.
- We are to be **busy** using the gifts that God has bestowed upon us on this earth.
- We are to minister to **one another's needs** as if each one was the Lord, Himself.



LESSON: PART 2—THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM. MATTHEW 16:13 - 20.

1. Read this passage.
2. **What is the “rock”?** *(the “rock” is Peter’s confession that Jesus is the Son of God)*
3. **What did Jesus mean when He said that He would give the “keys of the kingdom” to the apostles?** *(He means that He has given them authority to oversee the church. Thus, their teachings in the New Testament that we have recorded for us are to be obeyed fully and completely!)*
4. **How much authority did Jesus give Peter and the Apostles?** *(He told them that whatever they “bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever they loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” This means that not only did Jesus give the Apostles all teaching, He also gave them authority in His absence.)*
5. **What should we say when people tell us that we should only follow the teachings of Jesus in the gospels?** *(We should direct them to this verse and others that show explicitly that the Apostles were to be obeyed!)*



CHRIST 2A—Jesus, Our Servant and Sacrifice—Mark

Objectives—Students will know that...

1. Jesus came to earth to be our **Servant** and our **Sacrifice**.
2. Jesus had busy and active public ministry consisting of **18 miracles**.
3. Jesus showed **power** and **compassion** through His miracles.

Stories to be Highlighted:

1. Calling of the Disciples—“Fishers of men.”
2. Jesus’ Busy Ministry
3. The Attitude of a Servant—the Disciples Quarrel

Introduction--Review:

1. Review briefly the focus of Matthew’s gospel and what we learned—Review using the booklet pages for Matthew:

- That Jesus is our **King**
- That Jesus is the **answer to all God’s promises**
- That in the **kingdom of heaven**, we must be ready, be busy, and be ministering to the needs of others as if they were Jesus, Himself.

Introduction--New:

1. **Who Was Mark?**

- Also known as “John Mark;” young Jewish man of Jerusalem who accompanied **Paul** on his first missionary journey. He was a cousin of **Barnabas** and a friend of the Apostle **Peter**.
- Mark’s mother **Mary** had a large house that was used as a meeting place for believers in Jerusalem during the early years of the Church.
- **Peter** was probably Mark’s primary source of information. In 14:51-52, he may refer to himself as “a certain young man”. If so, some of the events of his gospel may be an eye-witness account.
- The Gospel of Mark was written in **Rome** to a **Roman** (gentile) audience.
- He goes right to Jesus’ ministry---leaves out the birth and younger years of Jesus.
- An often used word is “**immediately**” showing that Jesus was an active and busy person during the 3 years of His ministry. The word “immediately” is used in the book of Mark **31 times!** This word is found more times in Mark than in the rest of the New Testament books combined.
- Mark’s stories are **short** and there is a sense of **urgency** about them.

3. Today, we are going to see (through Mark’s eyes) that not only was Jesus a **King**, but also a **Servant** and a **Sacrifice**.

LESSON: PART 1—“FISHERS OF MEN”

1. Have students turn to **Mark 1**. Show how the story of Jesus (in Mark) begins with **John the Baptist**, Jesus’ baptism, His temptation, and the calling of the first disciples. Just scan these topics.
2. **Read 1:16-17**. I wonder what **Peter** and **Andrew** thought about being “fishers of men.”?

3. Turn now to **3:13 - 19**. Read about the others that Jesus called to be his disciples and what their jobs would be.
4. In the book of Mark, Jesus is going to let his **disciples** know just what it would mean to be a **follower** of Jesus and what it would **cost** them.

LESSON: PART 2—A BUSY MINISTRY

1. Have students briefly scan the next few chapters to see how many **miracles** they can come up with. **18 miracles** are written about in Mark! Mark shows us that Jesus was a very **busy** person during His 3 year ministry! What kinds of miracles do you see Jesus doing in the book of Mark?

▣ *His miracles show us His power, and also His compassion for people who were suffering.*

LESSON: PART 3—ATTITUDE OF A SERVANT

1. Read Mark 9:33 - 35. Why were the disciples arguing? Over who would be the greatest!

▣ *What does Jesus say about a person who wants to be first in the Kingdom of Heaven? He should be last of all and servant of all! Does that sound like the usual way to be "first"?*

▣ *In the book of Mark, we are going to see something unusual: I call it "the Rule of Opposites."*

- Jesus says that whoever wants to be first shall be last!
- He says that whoever wants to be great should be the servant of all!
- And also, whoever wants to be first should be the slave of all!

2. Read Mark 10:35 - 45. "Whoever Desires to Become Great."

- Which disciples wanted to sit on His right and left hands?
- What are the differences between rulers of the world and leaders in the kingdom?
- What are the two things (in vs. 45) that Jesus says he came to do in this world? *To serve and to give His life as a ransom for many!*
- Verse 10:45 is our key verse for the book of Mark. Remember it!

▣ Read Phil. 2:5 - 11, then fill in the blanks in your workbook: *"Have this mind in yourselves..." We are to pattern our lives after the life of Jesus---He was a servant---we must also be a servant.*

LESSON: PART 4–THE “MESSIANIC SECRET” IN MARK.

1. On several occasions in Mark Jesus tells someone not to **tell**, either who He is or what they have seen that would demonstrate who He is. In fact, He says “**Tell no one**” **9 times!** Why do you think that Jesus wanted to keep His identity as the Messiah a secret? Here are some possibilities:

- *To avoid being considered just a “miracle worker.” Jesus did not want people to follow Him just to see Him do tricks. He wanted them to know that He came as the Son of God to bring salvation and forgiveness from sin, not just healing and miracles.*
- *To avoid unwanted publicity; this would keep Him from doing His work here on earth.*
- *He came to suffer and serve and sacrifice Himself, not simply to display His power.*
- *To avoid the premature death that increased popularity could bring.*



CHRIST 2B–Part 2–Jesus, Our Servant and Sacrifice–Mark

Objectives—Students will know that...:

1. Jesus came to earth to be our **Servant** and our **Sacrifice**.
2. Jesus had busy and active public ministry consisting of **18 miracles**.
3. Jesus showed **power** and **compassion** through His miracles.

Stories to be Highlighted:

1. Feeding of the 4,000
2. Blind Bartimaeus
3. Cost of Discipleship
4. Peter Denies Jesus
5. The Crucifixion

INTRODUCTION:

1. Review briefly the focus of Mark's Gospel, using the **booklet pages** and referring to the things we filled in last Sunday.
 - ✦ Jesus is our **Servant** and our **Sacrifice**
 - ✦ Key word—"immediately" used 31 times
 - ✦ Key verse—"For even the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve and to give His life a ransom for many." 10:45
 - ✦ How many **miracles** are recorded in Mark? 18 miracles!

LESSON: Part 1—THE COMPASSION OF JESUS. Mark 8.

- *There are 18 miracles mentioned in the book of Mark. They are used to demonstrate the **compassion** of Christ and also His **power**. "Compassion" means a sympathetic awareness of others' distress together with a desire to alleviate it. Jesus was very aware of the sufferings of the people around Him and sought to help them.*

(Have students fill out their booklet pages for MARK as the stories are read)

■ **Four Thousand Are Fed. Read Mark 8:1 - 9**

- ✦ How many days had the people been following Jesus with nothing to eat? *Three*
- ✦ What was Jesus concerned about if He let them go to their homes? *That they would faint along the way*
- ✦ How many loaves of bread were found? *seven*
- ✦ How many baskets of leftovers were taken up? *seven*

■ **A Blind Man is Healed. Read Mark 8:22 - 26**

- ✦ Who was brought to Jesus so that He might "touch" him? *a blind man*
- ✦ What did Jesus put on his eyes? *spit and his hands*

- What did the man see first? *"men walking like trees"*
- Then what did Jesus put on his eyes? *His hands again*

LESSON: PART 2–THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP. Mark 8:34 - 38.

■ **Fill in the blank:** *"Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross, and follow Me."*

- What did Jesus mean by "Take up his cross"? *That the life of a disciple would not be an easy one. Jesus, himself died on a cross.*
- According to **verse 35**, what is the cost of being a disciple of Jesus? *Our lives—everything we have.*

LESSON: PART 3–PETER DENIES KNOWING JESUS. Mark 14:26 - 31; 66 - 72.

1. Read the first part of the story. **Review 14:28 - 31** where all the disciples including Peter vowed not to deny Jesus even if they had to die.
2. **Read verses 66 - 72.** Why do you think Peter denied knowing Jesus? Was he afraid?
3. How do you think he felt after doing this? How would you feel if you denied knowing who Jesus was? The scriptures tell us that Peter went out and wept bitterly.
4. This is not the end of this story as we will see in just a moment.

LESSON: PART 4–JESUS IS CRUCIFIED. Mark 15:1 - 41.

1. **Read 15:1 - 5.** Jesus is put on trial before **Pilate**, the Roman governor.
 2. **Read 15:6 - 14.** A prisoner was always released for the **Feast of Passover**. There was a criminal named **Barabbas** that was in prison at this time. Pilate was convinced that the people would want him to release Jesus instead of Barabbas, but they wanted **Jesus** instead!
 3. **Read 15:15 - 20.**
 - **Verse 17**--What clothes did the soldiers put on Jesus in order to mock Him? Why do you think they put "purple" on him and a crown made out of thorns?
 - **Verse 22**--What was the name of the place where Jesus was crucified? Golgotha; means "skull." The area was shaped like a skull.
 - **Verse 27**--Who was crucified along with Jesus? two robbers
 - **Verses 33 - 37**--At what hour did Jesus die? Ninth--3:00 p.m.
 - **Verse 38**--What was torn in two from top to bottom when Jesus died? The veil of the temple
 - **Verse 39**--Who was the man who said "Truly this man was the Son of God!"?
- **How did Jesus become "our sacrifice?"** *He was sacrificed (put to death) for our sins. He became the lamb that was the substitute sacrifice for our own sins. He had no sins, and therefore became the "perfect" sacrifice. None other will ever be required!*

LESSON: PART 5—A FAVORITE VERSE! Mark 16:7

1. Read **Mark 16:7**. Only in the book of **Mark** is this verse written this way (*“and Peter”*).
2. **Jesus** wanted **Peter** to know that he was **forgiven** and to not be discouraged by his former sin, but to **repent** and go on.
 - ▣ *Jesus gave Peter a second chance just like He does with us. Isn't it wonderful that we have such a forgiving Savior such as Jesus?*
 - ▣ *Peter was encouraged to go on and be a better man because Jesus forgave his sin.*



CHRIST 3A–Jesus, the Perfect Son of Man–Luke

Objectives—Students will know that...

1. In the book of Luke, Jesus is portrayed as “The Perfect Son of Man.”
2. Jesus came to “seek and save the lost.”
3. Jesus came to call sinners to repentance.

Stories to be Highlighted:

1. Jesus Grows Up
2. The Temptation of Christ (Luke 4)
3. Jesus Heals the Leper (Luke 5)
4. Jesus Eats with Sinners (Luke 5)

Introduction:

1. Using the Student Booklet pages, review very briefly the things we have learned so far about Jesus from **Matthew** and **Mark**.
2. **Who is Luke?**
 - *Luke was a **Gentile Christian** that we read about in the book of **Acts**. He was a traveling companion of **Paul** on his second missionary journey, and also a Christian worker who helped to establish young churches.*
 - *He was **physician** by trade. He was writing to a man named **Theophilus**.*
 - *The Book of **Acts** is **volume two** of this set of two books---Luke and Acts. Theophilus was also a gentile. It is thought that perhaps **Paul** gave Luke much of his material about Jesus.*

LESSON: PART 1–JESUS IS THE PERFECT SON OF MAN

1. Jesus was not only divine, but also human. He was perfectly human; the only human to ever be perfect. The Greeks were always searching to become perfect. ***Can man ever be perfect without God?***
2. Luke, in his gospel, writes to show us that Jesus was **perfect** and that He was the **Son of Man**. In fact, the words “Son of Man” are the **key words** in Luke. This phrase is used 25 times by Luke!

Using the Student Booklet pages...

- Read 2:40**, then fill in the blank: “And the child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom and the grace of God was upon Him.”
- Read 2:52**, then fill in the blank: “And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and men.”
3. **Read 3:21 - 22. Jesus’ Baptism.** As our **best** and **greatest example**, Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist to **fulfill all righteousness** and to be **pleasing to God**. At this moment Jesus received “Sonship” and God set Him apart to begin a dedicated life of service. His baptism was a public statement of His commitment to God. This was also an act of humility and submission

on the part of Jesus. This act was an example to us of obedient faith, of burial and resurrection. It was also a visualization of an "old and new" theme (an end to the old, and a beginning of the new). It was also an answer of a good conscience.

▣ Those who refuse to be baptized set themselves above Jesus, the Son of God.

4. Read 4:1 - 13. Jesus is Tempted by the Devil.

- The Devil tried every temptation on Jesus, but He resisted. He was perfect and did not sin.
- Did you see that Jesus used scriptures from the OT that He had memorized to resist Satan? Isn't that a great example for us?
- Notice that Satan departed from Him until an opportune time. The Devil was not through with Jesus yet! Also, is there any sin that we are tempted with that Jesus did not experience? No, in all ways He was tempted as we are, yet without sin.
- Luke wanted his readers to know that Jesus was the Son of God and lived a perfect life without sin, even though He experienced all the trials and temptations that we do even today!

LESSON: PART 2--JESUS CAME TO CALL SINNERS TO REPENTANCE.

1. Jesus understands all of our sorrows, sadness, and weaknesses. He knows what it is like to live on this earth. He could see the outcasts of society, He could see the hearts of everyone, sinners and righteous alike.
 2. Read 5:12 - 15. Jesus Heals the Leper.
 - **Leprosy** was a terrible disease that was greatly feared in those days. Lepers were to be cast out of public places, they were not to be touched---even their clothes were not to be touched!
 - They were to call out "**unclean--unclean!**" wherever they went so that people would know to avoid them.
 - Notice that Jesus **touched** the man. He was willing to cleanse the leper---and not only this leper, but others as well.
- ▣ *When we are covered with sin, we are like the leper and his skin. We are unclean spiritually, and will eventually die spiritually. But Jesus can cleanse us with His precious blood, and we are completely healed from the terrible disease of sin.*
- ▣ *Jesus was willing to "touch" the leper so that he could be well. Even though we are covered with sin, Jesus is not disgusted or shocked by us. He wants very much for us to be "healed." We can always go to Jesus for spiritual healing!*

LESSON: PART 3–JESUS EATS WITH SINNERS.

1. **Read 5:27.** Tax Collectors in those days often cheated people by collecting more than was required by the government and keeping the rest for themselves.
2. Notice that **Matthew**, or “Levi” got up immediately and left everything to follow Jesus. He later became one of His 12 disciples! Imagine! A **tax collector** who became an **apostle**!
3. At the **banquet** that Levi held for Jesus in which there were many tax collectors, Jesus was criticized by the Pharisees and teachers of the law for **eating with sinners**.

■ *Key verse for Luke–5:32. Fill in the blank: “I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”*

■ *Jesus was very interested in finding people who were lost. They really needed Him! Jesus is still hoping to find sinners even today so that they can be saved.*



CHRIST 3B—Jesus Came to Seek and Save that which was Lost—Luke

Objectives—Students will know that...:

1. In the book of Luke, Jesus is portrayed as “The Perfect Son of Man.”
2. Jesus came to “seek and save the lost.”
3. Jesus came to call sinners to repentance.

Stories to be highlighted:

1. Jesus Meets Zacchaeus (19)
2. The Lost Sheep (15)
3. The Lost Coin (15)
4. The Lost Son (15)

Pre-Session:

Review the things we have learned so far about Jesus in the three gospels:

- **Matthew**—Jesus is the **Promised Messiah** and our **King**
- **Mark**—Jesus is a **Servant** and our **Sacrifice**
- **Luke**—Jesus is the **Perfect Son of Man**

NOTE TO TEACHERS: We have 2 sets of index cards (for two teams) that include information from the gospels we have studied that the students can match up in their teams to have a fun review. You might want to do the same.

LESSON: PART 1—JESUS CAME TO SEEK AND SAVE THE LOST. ZACCHAEUS.

1. **Read Luke 19:1 - 10.** Remember, in our last lesson we learned that tax collectors in that time were hated by the people because they cheated them out of their money and kept it for themselves. Zacchaeus was a “**Chief Tax Collector.**” This means that he was looked down upon all the more!
2. **Zacchaeus** is like us---we are sinners, just like he was. We are lost without Jesus, just as he was.
3. The words, “**sins**”, “**sinners**”, and “**sinful**” are used 26 times in the book of Luke!

■ **Key verse: 19:10. Fill in the blank:** “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

■ **Jesus was always concerned with those who were lost. We today must not turn away from people who we think are very sinful—these are the ones who need Jesus the most!**

LESSON: PART 2–THE “LOST” PARABLES. CHAPTER 15.

1. Read 15:1 - 8. “The Lost Sheep.”

- Jesus cares about **each one of us** (each sinner), just like the shepherd cares about his sheep, even if he has 100!
- Jesus is concerned about the **one soul** that is lost---He has come to this earth to save that one soul. Jesus is looking for lost people.

2. Read 15:8 - 10. “The Lost Coin.”

- Women were given **necklaces** made of **precious coins** in those days as part of their **dowry** when they married.
- This woman had lost **one coin** out of that necklace. Even though it was small, it was very **valuable** because of the sentimental nature of the necklace. Also, the necklace is **incomplete** without the coin that is lost.

■ *Each one of us has great value to Jesus! There is incompleteness when one of us is lost. Look at the trouble the woman went to in order to find that coin. Jesus will work just as diligently to make sure we are not lost!*

3. Read 15:11 - 32. “The Lost Son.”

- The son was **headstrong** and **willful**--he wanted his own way and to go out on his own, even though he was not **wise**.
- He **wasted** his inheritance and did not live **wisely** or **Godly**.
- The **father** was looking for the son from a far way off. The father was **compassionate** and **forgiving**, and ready to restore the son to his former state.
- The **older brother** was not so forgiving or compassionate—he seemed **jealous!**
- The younger son asked for forgiveness and told his father that he was willing to be only a servant in his father’s household.
- In his sinful life, the son was **dead**, as we are **dead in our sins** without Jesus.
- Once he came home, he was alive and found, just as we become **alive** when we come to Jesus. We are dead in sin before/**alive** in Christ after cleansing from baptism. **Romans 6.**

■ *In this story, the **FATHER** represents God, the **YOUNGER SON** represents sinners and the **OLDER BROTHER** represents those who are righteous.*

THINGS TO LEARN FROM THESE "LOST" PARABLES:

I want you to remember these parables and keep them tucked into your hearts so that you won't forget them ever.

- 1. There may come a time in your life when you will feel lost, like the younger son when he was in the pigpen. I want you to remember that you may return to God at any time and He is ready to forgive you if you repent.*
- 2. Just like the father in the story of the lost son, God will be looking for you and waiting for you to come home to Him!*
- 3. Never believe that you can't return to God! God wants men everywhere to turn to Him because He loves them very much and wants all people to be saved.*



CHRIST 4A—Jesus is the “Word;” the Seven Miracles—John

Objectives—Students will know that...:

1. In the book of John, Jesus is portrayed as “Christ, the Son of the Living God.”
2. Jesus is “The Word” that was with God in the beginning.
3. Jesus’ power is shown through seven different miracles in the book of John

Stories to Be Highlighted:

Jesus the Word

Jesus and Nicodemus

The Power of Christ as Seen in the 7 Miracles

Introduction:

1. **Who is John?** John was one of the 12 Apostles. He was the brother of James. His father and mother were **Zebedee** and **Salome**. They were **fishermen** by trade and **Galilean**. He is called “**the disciple whom Jesus loved**” and one of the last surviving witnesses of the Lord. He also wrote **1, 2 and 3 John and Revelation**. When he was old, he was exiled for a while to the **Isle of Patmos** (Rev. 1:9). This gospel book was written later than the other gospels and contains many different stories than the others.
2. The **key word** is “**believe**.” It occurs 60 times in the book of John!
3. The **key verse** is **John 20:31**. Read beginning with vs. 30:
 - *“And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.”*

LESSON: PART 1—JESUS IS THE “WORD.” John 1

1. Read **John 1:1 - 5**. Let’s list some things that this passage says about Jesus:
 - He was with God in the **beginning**.
 - All things were made **through** Him.
 - He is described as “**life; light of men; the light that shines in the darkness.**”
 - He is “the **Word**” and the “**Word**” is God.
2. Read **John 1:9 - 14**. Other things we can learn about Jesus:
 - He is the **true light**
 - The **world** did not know Him
 - His own did not receive Him.
 - Those who have received Him have been given the right to become children of God--- those who **believe** in His name.
 - The Word became flesh. He was full of grace and truth.

LESSON: PART 2–JESUS TALKS TO NICODEMUS. John 3

1. **Nicodemus** was a **Pharisee** who came to talk to Jesus secretly at night. He seemed to be genuinely interested in what Jesus had to say.
2. **Read 3:3.** Jesus told him that to enter the kingdom of God one must be **“born again.”**
3. **Verse 4.** Nicodemus was confused. How can a man be born again?
4. **Verse 5.** Jesus explained that we must be born of the “water and the Spirit.”

■ *Jesus is saying that we must be baptized in water; but not only that, the Holy Spirit must also come into our lives to give us spiritual transformation. We must be spiritual people in God's kingdom. This was a new idea to most Jewish people.*

5. Read John 3:16 - 20.

■ *God loved the world so much that He sent His Son Jesus to save it. In verses 19 and 20 it says that men preferred darkness rather than light. What does “darkness” mean? What does “light” mean in these verses? Jesus says that many people will reject the gift of God's Son because they prefer a sinful life to a Godly life.*

LESSON: PART 3–THE POWER OF CHRIST SEEN IN THE SEVEN MIRACLES.

■ *John carefully selected 7 miracles out of the many that Jesus performed in order to persuade his readers to believe in Jesus. Each one of these represents life-changing results of belief in Jesus:*

1. **Water into Wine (John 2:1 - 10).** The wine that Jesus made from the water was far superior to the wine that was served by the steward beforehand. When Jesus came to earth and established the church, the *Law of Moses* was replaced with the *grace of God*. “Grace” is a gift from God (salvation by Christ) that we did not deserve.
➤ *This miracle shows us that Jesus had power over **QUALITY**.*
2. **Healing of Nobleman's Son (John 4:46 - 53).** This miracle shows us that faith in Jesus produces **spiritual wellness and restoration**. The nobleman believed Jesus would heal his son without His being there. The son was healed, just like we are healed when we are baptized into Christ. We must also have faith in Christ to be spiritually well.
➤ *This miracle shows us that Jesus had power over **DISTANCE**.*
3. **Healing of the Paralytic (John 5:1 - 9).** In Jesus, weakness is replaced by strength. Before we were “in Christ” we were lame because of our sins. When we put on Christ, we become strong. Belief in the gospel message of Jesus brings spiritual restoration.
➤ *This miracle shows us that Jesus had power over **PHYSICAL INFIRMITY**.*
4. **Feeding the Multitude (John 6:1 - 14).** Jesus satisfies spiritual hunger. Discuss what “spiritual hunger” might be. We will talk later about Jesus being the “bread of life.” Introduce students to this concept. Discuss Deuteronomy 8:3--“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.”
➤ *This miracle shows us that Jesus had power over **QUANTITY**.*

5. **Walking On the Water (John 6:15 - 21)**. Jesus transforms fear to faith. We must not be afraid like Peter was, but believe that Jesus is who He says He is. And when we believe, fear no longer controls us.
 - *This miracle shows us that Jesus had power over NATURE.*

6. **Sight to the Man Born Blind (John 9)**. People who are physically blind live in a dark world. All they see is darkness. People who are living in sin are living in spiritual darkness. Jesus overcomes this darkness brought on by sin and brings in light!
 - *This miracle shows us that Jesus had power over DARKNESS.*

7. **Raising of Lazarus (John 11)**. Just as Jesus was able to grant life to Lazarus again, the gospel message brings people from life to death.
 - *This miracle shows us that Jesus had power over DEATH.*



CHRIST 4B—Jesus is the Son of God—John

Objectives—Students will know...:

1. *In the Gospel of John, Jesus is portrayed as “The Son of God.”*
2. *The Seven “I AM” statements of Jesus in the Gospel of John.*
3. *Review the main ideas from each of the Gospel accounts of Jesus’ life*

Stories to be highlighted:

1. *The Seven “I AM” Statements of Jesus*
2. *Review of other three Gospels*

Introduction:

1. Review with the class the “**Jesus is:**” focuses from the four Gospels.
 - **Matthew**—Jesus is our **King**; Jesus is the **answer to all God’s promises**
 - **Mark**—Jesus is a **servant**; Jesus is our **sacrifice**
 - **Luke**—Jesus is **perfect**; Jesus is the **Son of Man**
 - **John**--Jesus is the “**word**”; Jesus is the **Son of God**
2. Review the **key words, phrases and verses** that we learned during the last lesson from the Gospel of John:
 - **Key Phrase**---I AM. Is found in John 61 times!
 - **Key Verse**--John 20:31. *“And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.”*
 - **Key Word**—“**believe**”. Is found 60 times in the book of John.

NOTE TO TEACHERS: We usually play a game where we have two teams and we have cards with all the main ideas from each of the Gospels on index cards, plus information about each of the Gospel writers. The kids race to match them with the correct book or author. Example: Jesus is a servant = Mark; tax collector = Matthew

LESSON: PART 1—THE SEVEN “I AM” STATEMENTS OF CHRIST

1. John 6:35. “I am the bread of life.”

1. **Read 6:30 - 35.** Jesus told the people that He was the “bread of life” the day after He had fed the 5000. Notice that Jesus makes reference to the manna which the children of Israel ate during their wilderness years. God provided them with this bread (the only bread they had to live on) everyday without fail.
 - *God has now provided us with “bread from heaven” which is Christ! He “gives life to the world.” He has promised us that we will never thirst and never hunger. But He is talking about spiritual thirst and hunger. Just as bread nourishes and feeds our bodies, Jesus nourishes and feeds ours souls; and through Him, we can have everlasting life!*

2. John 8:12 and 9:5. "I am the light of the world."

1. **Read 9:1 - 5.** Jesus healed the man that was born blind. The **disciples** were confused. They thought that the man was blind because of some **sin** that he or his parents committed. But Jesus helped them to "**see**" that this provided an opportunity for God to show forth His power.
2. The **Pharisees** threw the blind man who had been healed by Jesus out of the synagogue because Jesus had healed him on the **Sabbath**. The man believed that Jesus was a prophet, but they did not agree with him. **Read 9:35 - 41.** The Pharisees were "**blind**" in the way that the world is spiritually blind and cannot "see" that Jesus is truly the Son of God.

➤ *Jesus is the light that shines in this dark world of sin. His life and teachings show us who believe the way out of this spiritual darkness. Sadly, many people of the world today are "blind" to the truth of the Gospel message. And just like the Pharisees, they refuse to see the salvation that Jesus brings. Belief in Jesus helps us to "see" the truth in the words of the Bible and the blessings that God has blessed us with through Jesus.*

3. John 10:7, 9. "I am the door."

1. **Read 10:1 - 10.** Jesus is using the example of sheep going in and out of their pens. He said to His disciples that He was like the door or gate that the sheep went in and out of to escape dangers from those who would harm them, and by which they could find pasture to feed upon.

➤ *Jesus is the only way (door) into spiritual salvation. Jesus gives abundant life to His followers if they go through the "door" that He has provided into His church. Only in the church is safety or salvation found.*

4. John 10:11, 14. "I am the good shepherd."

1. **Read 10:11 - 16.** Jesus cares for us like a shepherd cares for his sheep. He laid down His life for us just like a shepherd would for his sheep.

➤ *No one else can provide for us like Jesus can. His love and care for us is so great that He even died for us that we might be saved! Notice also, that Jesus mentions that there is another flock of sheep which He intends to bring into the fold. He is talking about the Gentiles, which will be offered salvation later.*

5. John 11:25. "I am the resurrection and the life."

1. **Read 11:20 - 27.** Remind the students that Lazarus is dead now four days, and Jesus and His disciples have come to be with the family. Later on in this chapter, Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead!

➤ *Jesus assures Martha (and us) that even though our physical bodies will die one day, we will live on spiritually. Jesus Himself will rise from the dead soon after this story. Because He overcame death, we also will be raised to a "new life" if we believe.*

6. John 14:6. "I am the way, the truth and the life."

1. In this chapter, Jesus is sharing His last meal with the disciples. He is trying to tell them that He will be going away. They are having a hard time understanding.
2. **Read 14:1 - 7.** Jesus is telling them that no one can know the Father or come to the Father except through Him.
 - *Jesus tells His disciples clearly that He is the only way to the Father—the one way to salvation. There is salvation in no one else! In the world today, many people believe that there are numerous ways to be saved and to have eternal life. But Jesus tells us in this verse that His way is the **ONLY** way.*

7. John 15:1 - 5. "I am the true vine."

1. **Read 15:1 - 10.** Jesus is using an illustration about grapevines and their branches and fruit. Branches must be attached to the central vine in order to produce grapes. A branch cannot make grapes or even live unless is attached to the living vine.
2. Notice that Jesus tells us that God is the vinedresser—the man who takes care of the plants.
 - *We must be connected to Jesus in order to live and in order to produce fruit. God (the vinedresser) requires that the branches (believers) bear fruit. If they do not, they will be taken away and burned.*
 - *By abiding in Jesus (being connected to His vine), we may live and have joy and experience His love. Part of bearing fruit for the Lord is obeying the commandments that He has given us (vs. 10).*

 Who else called Himself "I AM"? God! (Exodus 3)

If there is time, play the **20 questions** game to review what we have learned from studying the four gospels.



20 QUESTIONS-CHRIST TIMELINE UNIT

1. In what Gospel is Jesus portrayed as a "King"? Matthew
2. In what Gospel is Jesus portrayed as a "Servant"? Mark
3. In what Gospel is Jesus portrayed as a "Perfect Man" or "The Son of Man"?
Luke
4. In what Gospel is Jesus portrayed as "The Son of God"? John
5. Which two gospel writers were apostles? Matthew and John
6. In which gospel is the phrase, "that it might be fulfilled" repeated several times? Matthew
7. In which gospel is the phrase, "now it happened" repeated several times?
Luke
8. In which gospel is the word "immediately" repeated several times? Mark
9. In which gospel is the word "believe" repeated several times? John
10. How much authority has Jesus been given in heaven and on earth? All (Matt. 28:18)
11. Fill in the blank: "I came not to be served, but _____." (to serve) Mark 10:45
12. Fill in the blank: "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save that which was _____." (lost) Luke

13.Fill in the blank: "But these are written that you might _____..."

(Believe) John 20:31

14.Fill in the blank: "In the beginning was the _____."(Word) John

1:1

15.Which 2 of the gospel writers were apostles? (Matthew and John)

16.Which Gospel writer was a gentile? (Luke)

17.Which Gospel writer was a good friend of Peter? (Mark)

18.Name one of the "I AM" statements that Jesus made about Himself.

19.Name another of the "I AM" statements that Jesus made about Himself.

20.The miracle of the feeding of the five thousand shows us that Jesus has power

over _____. (Quantity)