

Bible workbook

Year 9

Term 3

Attribute of God: God is...	Page	Number of weeks	Number of pages
God is Creator (Part 2)	2	2	6
God is Wise	8	4	8
God is a Servant	16	4	8

Total: 23

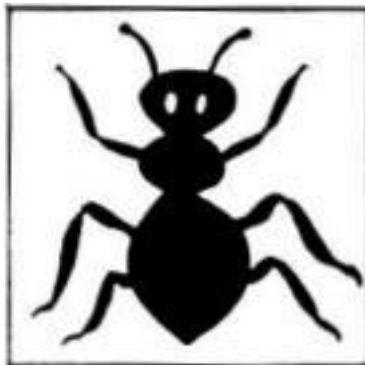
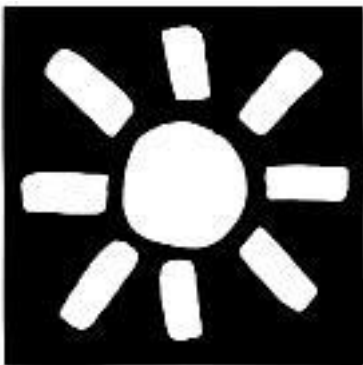
Acknowledgments:

Material in this workbook has been sourced from: LIFEPAK Home Schooling Curriculum, Alpha & Omega Publications

<https://www.aop.com/curriculum/shop-lifepac?filter=GL12> (free download samples)

Also:

Youth Aflame by Winkie Pratney (God is Wise)



God is Creator

The Creation of Mankind

Read Genesis 1:27–31 and chapter 2.

The source of man is God. The method by which man was made was Creation. The Source of Man. The Bible explains the origin, or source, of mankind as being a direct result of a special act of God. Genesis 1:1 tells us that “In the beginning God created....” This statement clearly shows that mankind had its beginning in God. We did not evolve as many scientists use the term; rather, we were created. God created man from the dust of the earth (Genesis 2:7).

The Method of Creation

Man’s body was made from dust, yet he was not complete. Next, God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and then man became a living soul. God created the first man from the elements of earth (Genesis 2:7). Then God gave man his spirit, which made him a complete creation. Thus, God created the total man to enjoy fellowship with Him.

The Original Nature of Man Genesis 1:26 and 27.

In his original nature, man was made in God’s image and as God’s friend. God’s Image. The very first man was different from men today. God created Adam (the first man) in His own image. An image is a likeness of something, so in some way Adam was like God, but how? God had created plant life, but it could not talk and share with Him. God created animals, but they could not share either. Man was different. He shared both language and fellowship with God. They walked and talked together. God gave him dominion over all His creation. Adam named every living creature (Genesis 2:19). Peace was among all of God’s creation and man enjoyed God’s presence continually. Adam was happy to live in the garden and to share the presence of his Creator daily.

Adam was a complete creation and no evil was in him. The reason we know Adam was good and complete is because God said of His creation, “...it was very good” (Genesis 1:31).

God’s Friend

God was satisfied with man and enjoyed his friendship. True friendship is based on choice. For two people to be friends, they must both choose to be friends. One other very important truth about man is that God created him with a personal choice. He told Adam he could not eat of the tree of knowledge because he would die. God gave man his first law to be voluntarily obeyed. Adam had the free choice to obey God and live in complete fellowship or to disobey God (sin) and suffer death; the choice was his to make. So God created man and woman with His blessing.

Mankind is unique because:

- We have a body, soul and an immortal spirit
- We use reason
- We can have a relationship with God
- We have a conscience



Complete these statements.

- 1.1 The first record of man's creation is found in the Bible book of _____.
- 1.2 To make something from nothing is called _____.
- 1.3 The first part of man that was made was his _____, then his spirit was given.
- 1.4 To change slowly from one thing into another means to _____.
- 1.5 Man was created from the _____ of the earth.

Write the letter of the correct answer on the blank.

- 1.6 The part of man first created was the _____.
- a. spirit b. soul c. body
- 1.7 The word *origin* means _____.
- a. beginning b. evolve c. soul
- 1.8 The record of man's creation is found in _____.
- a. Exodus 1 b. Genesis 2 c. Joshua 2:2



Answer these questions in your own words and in complete sentences.

- 1.9 How was man created? Explain the process in detail. _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- 1.10 What is the basic difference between *making* something and *creating* something? _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

1.11 List four facts about Adam.

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____

1.12 How do you know God was satisfied with His creation of Adam? _____

1.13 List three ways Adam was different from men today.

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

1.14 Explain briefly what the word *image* means. _____



Complete the crossword puzzle.

Across

- 1.15 2. Creator of Adam
- 3. First male creation
- 5. Place where Adam lived
- 7. Likeness of something
- 8. Disobey God

Down

- 1. God's second human creation
- 4. Creation Adam named
- 6. Penalty if Adam disobeyed

The crossword puzzle grid consists of empty squares. The numbered starting points are: 1 (top center), 2 (left of center), 3 (center), 4 (right of center), 5 (far left), 6 (left of center), 7 (left of center), and 8 (bottom right).

Do these word-study activities.

1.16 A word part that is added to the end of a root word is called a suffix. If the word part is added to the front of the root word, it is called a prefix. Study this list of prefixes and their meanings:

Prefixes	Words
re- again	redemptive
de- to do opposite	resurrection
con- against	re-creation
dis- not	dethrone
	confronted
	disobedience

Look at the following words. Write the root word and the suffix on the line next to the word. Use the dictionary if needed.

Word	Root Word	Suffix
created	a. _____	b. _____
enjoyed	c. _____	d. _____
likeness	e. _____	f. _____
absolutely	g. _____	h. _____

1.17 Write a definition of the following words on the blank beside the word.

- a. voluntarily _____
- b. fellowship _____
- c. unashamed _____

1.18 Select two compound words from this section and write them here:

- a. _____
- b. _____

Now, use each word properly in a sentence.

- c. _____

- d. _____

Test

Match these items:

- 1.01 _____ image
- 1.02 _____ death
- 1.03 _____ create
- 1.04 _____ evolve
- 1.05 _____ origin
- 1.06 _____ dust
- 1.07 _____ breath
- 1.08 _____ fellowship
- 1.09 _____ garden
- 1.010 _____ Creator
- 1.011 _____ choice
- 1.012 _____ unashamed
- 1.013 _____ Genesis
- 1.014 _____ Eve
- 1.015 _____ body

- a. to make from nothing
- b. beginning or source
- c. creation material
- d. enjoying one another
- e. first home of Adam
- f. penalty for Adam's disobedience
- g. a process of slow change
- h. Adam's decision to disobey God
- i. history book of Creation
- j. Adam's partner
- k. opposite of ashamed
- l. first part of man created
- m. the method used to make Adam a living soul
- God
- o. likeness
- p. tree of knowledge
- q. Cain and Abel

Complete these statements.

- 1.016 Adam was told by God not to eat of the tree of _____ .
- 1.017 The only creation to have fellowship was _____ .
- 1.018 God gave the first _____ to Adam to obey.
- 1.019 Adam _____ not to obey God.
- 1.020 The penalty for disobedience was _____ .

Write the letter of the correct answer on the blank.

1.021 Adam was created in God's _____ .

- a. likeness b. garden c. soul

1.022 The source of man is _____ and the method by which man was made was _____ .

- a. God b. Creation c. evolution

Define these words.

1.023 death _____

1.024 soul _____

1.025 voluntarily _____

1.026 created _____

1.027 image _____

1.028 origin _____

Answer this question:

1.029 Name two ways Adam differed from the animals as God's image.

a. _____

b. _____

Complete this item.

1.030 Describe in detail God's creation of man.

God is Wise

Wisdom is the ability to discern what is true, what is right and what is lasting. The opposite of wisdom is foolishness (being unwise), and unfortunately that is the prevailing human condition. The Bible however shows us how to be wise.

Wise answers to life's questions

1. What do you do with anger?

Righteous anger

There is *holy anger* in Scripture. *God* gets angry, and God does not sin. Holy anger is a righteous wrath, which is God's right. Holy anger is a righteous reaction to wrong done against other, especially God. It is always marked by some constructive action taken to end the wrong that created the anger. Jesus had righteous anger when he threw the money changers and sales people out of the temple (Matt 21:12-17). The Bible command is "be angry, and sin not" Ephesians 4:26; mark 3:5; Luke 17:1-2).

Selfish anger

Selfish anger is sin. It is caused by bitterness, envy and jealousy (Ephesians 4:40-32; Proverbs 16:32; 19:11). It damages the body physically by filling the system with tension, causing heart-attacks, ulcers and other physical ailments. It ruins our fellowship with others socially, destroying friendships and family relationships (Proverbs 21:19; 25:24).

The Bible warns against selfish anger. Christians are instructed not to befriend or be seen with an angry man (Proverbs 22:24). The person who is selfishly angry at his brother is in danger of judgement. God regards anger as a terrible sin.

Irritation often sparks selfish anger. An irritant is something frustrating you have no control over. Each day will bring us irritation. That is not the sin, but our failure to respond correctly to it is the sin. Acting in love strengthens our relationship with God. Reacting selfishly causes a barrier between ourselves and God.

Who and what are the irritants?

- People you engage with on a daily basis; people who 'rub you up the wrong way'
- Places where you live or work – it's inconvenient, missing something or has got something it shouldn't have
- Ourselves – our own defects or failures; our inability to live up to the standard we set for ourselves

When rage rushes up, what do we do?

1. Don't explode. If you ARE right, you don't need to lose your temper; if you are wrong, you don't need to.

2. Don't explain. Trying to justify or defend yourself if you are angry with someone only makes it worse. Don't put up a wall 'to protect your rights'.
3. Don't excuse. Shifting the blame on to the one you feel was the cause of your anger irritates the other person. Instead of one, you now have two angry people.
4. Don't enclose it. To hold anger inside, silently fuming, is not the way to get rid of it. It will only make it worse. "Don't let the sun go down on your wrath" (Ephesians 4:2). Don't hold on to anger.

What to do with your anger

1. Examine the irritation causing the anger. God is allowing this to happen to test your meekness. Thank God for it because it's causing you to grow spiritually.
2. Examine your heart. Has this irritation caused you to sin?
3. Empty out bad attitudes, repent and receive forgiveness.

Youth Aflame by Winkie Pratney

2. What do you do with worry?

What are the main causes of worry?

1. Acceptance – do we have a sense of belonging; do people think well of us; do I feel loved and cared for by someone?
2. Accomplishment – do I have a longing to do something worthwhile, making the most of my talents and opportunities?
3. Provision – do I/will I have enough food, housing, clothes and money to meet my needs?
4. Possessions – do I have enough things to call my own?
5. Safety – do I fear sickness, accident, hurt, danger and disasters?
6. Security – what will tomorrow bring?

WHEN ANXIETY ATTACKS

Paul gives us the ingredients for inner peace while he's imprisoned and writing to his friends in Philippi. His advice is two-fold. When anxiety attacks, we have two weapons: prayer and thanksgiving. Read Philippians 4:6-7

HOW TO TRANSFORM YOUR THINKING

As Paul lays out the pathway to peace for his friends in Philippi, he encourages them to break negative thought patterns. He encourages them to replace negative thoughts with positive virtues. "Whatever is true, noble, pure, right, admirable and lovely — think on these things," Paul elaborates. This passage offers a replacement for mental torment. We stop stressful thoughts by focusing on virtues. Read Philippians 4:8-9

THE SECRET TO OVERCOMING STRESS

At the end of Paul's Pathway to Peace, he proudly explained, "I have learned the secret to being content." Paul wanted to share a secret with his friends at Philippi and with you, so

what is it? What's Paul's secret? In the context of stress and anxiety, Christ, contentment, and confidence are your secret recipe for overcoming stress. Read Philippians 4:10-13

Read the following Scriptures. List the reasons you don't need to worry.

- a. Psalm 18:29
- b. Psalm 46:1-3,7,10-11
- c. Psalm 73:25-26
- d. Psalm 84:11
- e. Jeremiah 29:11-14
- e. Jeremiah 29:11-14
- f. Jeremiah 32:27
- g. Lamentations 3:22-25
- h. Matthew 6:27
- i. Matthew 6:32
- j. Matthew 6:34
- k. Philippians 3:8-12
- l. Romans 8:28
- m. 1 John 4:4

3. How can share the truth with those who argue against it?

As Christians, we must work hard to know the truth and know how to recognize worldviews (the way a person thinks and the reasoning behind a person's thoughts). We must be patient and loving, as well, as wise. If we can learn to listen and think, God can give us confidence in the face of any argument.

Most people who argue against Christianity are only repeating what they have heard. If pressed to explain what they mean, or to give examples, they do not know what to say. For example, someone may say, "The Bible is full of mistakes." But they are at a loss when asked to provide an example. As we learn to listen and ask good questions, we can respond with confidence and patience.

Another reason people argue is because they do not wish to submit their life to Jesus. People do not wish to admit their sin, so they cover things up with fancy sounding arguments. You may ask, "If I answered all of your questions, would you submit your life to Jesus?" Many times, they will say, "no," and end the conversation.

Bible verses on giving answers for our faith:

“Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.” 1 Peter 3:15b-16 (NIV)

“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.” 2 Timothy 2:15 (NIV)

“Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.” 2 Timothy 2:23-26 (NIV)

Remember, most people are only repeating what they have heard teachers, media, or other people say. Don't panic when you face opposition. Learn to listen, think, and how to ask them specifically what they mean.

Most importantly, stick to talking about God's plan of salvation (John 14:6). If you do not know something, just tell them you'll look it up and talk to them about it later. Make sure you stick to the good news of Jesus!

Author: Dawson McAllister of Dawson McAllister Live! 1997

Answering the atheist

An atheist is someone who has rejected known reality. The Bible says, “The fool has said in his heart – there is no God” (Psalm 14:1). He has actually said, “No God for me!” An Atheist deliberately rejects reality. He hides from the Truth. He orders his life as if there was no God. No one arrives at atheism by calm, logical and unprejudiced reason. Honest reason leads to discovering God (Hebrews 11:6). The moral law of God is written in every person's heart. An atheist's 'front' is always a brazen excuse for a life of selfishness and rebellion.

Four major problems make a man or a woman call themselves and atheist:

1. **Pride:** When a person rejects truth to build his own philosophy, they may say, “I don't need a crutch like God. To challenge an atheist who says “There is no God”, ask them, “Do you know everything there is to know in the whole world?” When they say “no”, then say, “Do you think that God could exist in that area you don't know about?”
2. **Bitterness:** Some people reject God because of a deep hurt in life – a “root of bitterness.” They say, “If there was a God, why did he let this happen to me?” To answer this, you could say (with compassion), “Tell me about the God you don't believe in.” After they have described their concept of God, say, “I don't blame you

for not believe in that God.”. Tell them about the God who loves them and is grieved by the tragedy of sin in the world.

3. **Moral impurity:** A person living in immorality often claims atheism. Their rejection of God and his word is a rebellion against authority. They reject anything or anyone who interferes with their personal pleasure. To challenge this person, say, “imagine for a whole week you DID believe in God. Would you have to change some of the things you are doing?” If they say “yes”, then you can say, “It’s not really a question of whether you believe in God. It’s a question of whether you want to follow him.”
4. **Teaching:** Many young people are brought up in a God-denying environment, and are influenced to conform to the stand of their parents or their school. This kind of atheism can be challenged by a personal friendship with a Christian who brings Truth to light. Once they know the Truth, it takes more faith for an atheist NOT to believe.

Youth Aflame by Winkie Pratney

Exercise:

Work in pairs to make a list of 2 objections a non-Christian might have to the Christian faith.

Then write a paragraph for each on how you would defend the faith.

Share your work with the class.

Here are some common understandings held by non-believers:

- Does God exist? – No!
- Where did I come from? – Everything is a product of evolution.
- Where am I going? – There is no Heaven or Hell. When I die, I have no further existence.
- Why is there suffering? – If God is so powerful, why doesn’t He put an end to all suffering?
- What is right and wrong? – Everyone can choose their own ‘right’ and ‘wrong’.

4. How can we be “in the world but not of the world”?

John 17:15-21 NLT (Jesus’ prayer for his disciples prior to his death)

I’m not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one. They do not belong to this world any more than I do. Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth. Just as you sent me into the world, I am sending them into the world. And I give myself as a holy sacrifice for them so they can be made holy by your truth. “I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me.

John 15:18-19 ESV

“If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.

1 John 2:15 ESV

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

1 Peter 2:9 ESV

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

How do we live in the world, but not become ‘worldly’?

1. We must be willing to put behind us forever, the things that are contrary to the Lord's will (1 Corinthians 6:9-11). We are sanctified as we separate ourselves from further practicing unrighteousness.
2. We must never compromise when it involves agreeing with or sharing in things contrary to the Lord's will (2 Corinthians 6:14-18; 7:1).
3. Our lives are not meant to conform to the world, but we should aim to be transformed into the people that the Bible tells us to be (Romans 12:1,2). Just because “everybody's doing it” doesn't make it right or wrong.
4. We must understand that we are not abandoning those in the world. Instead, we want to encourage them to also live according to God's principles and moral standards (Matthew 5:13-16).
5. We want to recognize that this world is not our home. We must not seek to make it so (Philippians 1:21-26; 2 Corinthians 5:6-9).

<https://www.bible.ca/ef/expository-john-17-15-17.htm>

Who controls the world?

Although God is in ultimate control, at this present moment, and until Jesus returns, the world is under the control of Satan.

2 Corinthians 4:4:

Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News. They don't understand this message about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God.

The Bible teaches that Satan is the god of this world, but the true and living God owns the earth and the fullness thereof (1 Corinthians 10:26). The Devil is only the god of the world's

evil political, religious and moral system. As such, Satan needs a way to communicate his evil desires with those evil men and women who are willing servants.

Satan also deceives many people by imitating Christ's ministers. Most of the people who are following the Devil, (witchcraft), think they are doing the right thing.

John 12:31 - Jesus tells us “. . . now the prince of this world will be driven out.”

The War

The war between God and Satan has been raging since Satan sinned in heaven. When Jesus was born, the war between God and Satan entered a new phase. Satan knew better than the people of the world who Jesus was and so he motivated King Herod to kill all the babies under two years of age. But God rescued the infant Jesus by having Joseph move the little baby to Egypt. That was Satan's first major attempt against Jesus.

The next major attempt that we know about occurred at the start of His ministry. Satan tried to motivate Jesus to sin when He was out in the wilderness for 40 days without food (Matt. 4:2). Satan tempted Jesus three times. Each time he hoped Jesus would sin, but each time Jesus quoted scripture to him. Jesus never gave in to sin. If Satan had been able to motivate Jesus to sin, Satan would have won; Jesus would have become a sinner, and His death would have been meaningless. He would not have been a perfect person and would not have been able to forgive our sins. Jesus' death would not have had any value.

Satan's Lost Power

The scriptures tell us that Satan is in control of this world for a while. God is allowing Satan to have control. This truth can be found in many passages. Here are some of them.

. . . in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience (Eph. 2:2).

I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in Me (John 14:30)

. . . in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God (2 Cor. 4:4)

We know that we are of God, and that the whole world lies in the power of the evil one (1 John 5:19).

Satan is called the prince of the power of the air, the ruler of this world, the god of this world, and then we are told that the world lies in his power. But Satan does not have absolute power. It is only for a while.

Victory Over Death

When Jesus died on the cross, God was finally able to forgive our sins forever, and to rescue us from spiritual death (1 Cor. 15:54-57). But the wonderful truth is that Jesus rescued us from Satan's control.

Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil . . . (Heb. 2:14)

Satan can blind the spiritual eyes of the world (2 Cor. 4:4) and prevent men and women from understanding the scriptures (Matt. 13:19). Satan used to control death, but not anymore. Men and women can now live forever with God. Without the death and resurrection of Jesus, every man and woman faced living forever in the Lake of Fire (Rev. 20:11-15). Now by believing or trusting in Jesus to forgive their sins, men and women can now be forgiven and live forever with God.

Satan cast out forever

Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out. And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself. But He was saying this to indicate the kind of death by which He was to die (John 12:31-33).

Jesus spoke of His own death when He said that He would be lifted up and as a result he would draw all men to Himself. Jesus was predicting His death on a Roman cross. That was the victory over Satan and as a result Satan will someday be cast into the Lake of Fire and live there forever (Rev. 20:10). Jesus has defeated Satan!

<https://www.neverthirsty.org/bible-qa/qa-archives/question/is-satan-in-control-of-this-world/>

Don't live like the world

The world is the system of ideas and ways of living that are against God. The true disciple of Jesus has been saved from it, and must refuse to live like it, keep clean from it and remain against it. Worldly living is copying the standards of unsaved people, instead of living like Jesus. Resist the temptation to do what is 'in' at the time. The way of the crowd is usually the wrong way (Matthew 7:13-14). The disciple of Jesus has been called to go against the crowd.

Exercise

Work in pairs.

1. Make a list of things in society around you that God would say are 'worldly'. What alternatives could you give for Christian living?
2. God has given us art, music, dance, food and drink, literature, media and communications for our enjoyment and to fulfil our needs. Choose one of these and explain how Satan has corrupted it.
3. Should you believe everything you hear/see on the news media? Why or why not?

God is a Servant

Serving is a requirement of the Christian faith.

Read Matthew 25:31 – 46.

In this passage, who are the sheep and who are the goats?

The words of Jesus in this passage are clear. Caring for the needy, the hurting, the poor and the hungry is not just an optional extra in the Christian faith. It is an outworking of our faith.

Some people think that saying the sinner's prayer is all there is to becoming a Christian. But Jesus explains that there is more. As well as believing in Jesus the Son of God, we are expected to obey him.

Jesus commands that we are to love God with our heart, mind, souls and strength, and to love our neighbour as ourselves. (Matthew 22:37-39)

In the parable of the Sower, (Matthew 13:1-9), many came to Jesus, but not many remained. This can happen when people are attracted to the Christian life because they think it will benefit them. They come because of what they can get out of it ... maybe extra happiness, more friends, financial blessing ... but they do not count the cost.

Jesus says, "Take up your cross and follow me." (Matthew 16:24-26)

In Matthew 25:37-40, How does Jesus describe the importance of caring for the needy?

In verses 41-46, who are the people of Jesus' left?

How are they different from those on his right?

What are the consequences for those who ignore the needy?

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'" (Matthew 7:21-23 ESV)

Serving Jesus is doing his will. This is different to salvation by works.

Most religions, apart from Christianity, teach that you can get to heaven by doing good works and following certain rules. Christianity is the only faith that offers salvation through repentance and love for Jesus. But once we step through the door of salvation, good works must follow. For those who truly love Jesus, serving will be a natural desire. If we love him with our whole heart, we will want to serve him.

Jesus – the greatest servant who has ever lived

Vocabulary

approximation - Quality or state of being close or near to.

bier - A platform supporting a coffin.

campaigns - Courses of action for some special purpose.

compassion - Sympathetic consciousness of another's distress together with the desire to alleviate it.

entourage - A group of people who usually accompany someone; an association of people.

inhabited - Having occupants in residence.

legion - A very large number; multitude.

omnipotence - The quality of being all-powerful.

parables - Stories that teach a divine truth, usually taken from everyday life.

paralytic - Affected with loss of the ability to move.

prodigal - A person who is wasteful and careless with his possessions.

sequence - Order of succession.

squandered - Spent extravagantly or foolishly.

synoptic - Presenting or taking the same or common view. It is often used to describe the three similar Gospels: Matthew, Mark, and Luke; i.e., the "synoptic Gospels."

The Gospels

The four Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John— tell the story of the most important person who ever walked the face of the earth. They tell the story of Jesus, the Son of God. These Gospels tell us about the events of Jesus' life and the words that He spoke in different ways and in a different sequence of events. The reason for these differences among the four Gospels is that the human writers of the Gospels were writing the story of Jesus from different perspectives, guided they were by the Holy Spirit.

Each human author, whether it was Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John, wanted to emphasize a particular aspect of Jesus' life.

For example, John emphasized the divinity and majesty of Jesus. Luke, a physician (doctor), emphasized Jesus' healings and His ministry to the lowly and unfortunate. Luke also showed Jesus at prayer more than the other three Gospels. Mark, who wrote the shortest of the four Gospels, tells us the bare essentials of Jesus' life and ministry and often emphasizes the sufferings that Jesus and his disciples endured. Matthew is the most "Jewish" of the Gospels. Matthew emphasizes in several places how Jesus fulfilled the Old Testament.

Even though there are distinct differences among the four Gospels, there are also many similarities. In the essentials, all four Gospels are the same. All four Gospels are in substantial agreement about the importance of Jesus Christ and about His life, death, and resurrection. They all agree in the essentials because the one true author of all four Gospels is God, the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit inspired all four human writers of the Gospels to write the truth about the life and ministry of Jesus.

Jesus conducted two types of ministry in Galilee—one that was public and one that was private. In his public ministry in Galilee, Jesus spoke and ministered to the crowds and people who came to Him from various places.

In His private ministry in Galilee, Jesus spoke and ministered mainly to his disciples, especially the twelve that He chose to be His apostles. In His public ministry, Jesus was very open and healed the hurts of all who came to Him.

In his private ministry, Jesus tried to help His disciples learn more about Him and about the Kingdom of God. In private, He often explained to His disciples the meaning of His teachings known as parables.

The second important aspect of Jesus' Galilean ministry is that Jesus conducted both tours in Galilee and retreats from Galilee during the period of time in which He ministered there.

Jesus made the small village of Capernaum His home and "mission base" in Galilee. During His three tours in Galilee, Jesus publicly presented Himself as the Messiah. During His retreats from Galilee, He thoroughly taught His chosen disciples and trained them to carry His Word into the world.

The Miracles of Jesus

Much of Jesus' public ministry was accompanied by miracles. These miracles were extraordinary and supernatural occurrences in nature and in the lives of people. Examples of miracles included physical healings, deliverances from evil spirits, calming of storms and winds, restoring the dead to life, and multiplying food.

Four Main Purposes

The miracles of Jesus had four main purposes, and they could accomplish more than one of these purposes at the same time. First, Jesus' miracles were a sign of His Person and of His work. In other words, these miracles gave people insight into who Jesus was and what He had come to do. For example, when He healed a paralytic, Jesus said, "But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins..." (Mark 2:10). Jesus wanted people to know that He had the power to forgive sins, and He demonstrated that power by physically healing the paralyzed man.

A second purpose of Jesus' miracles was to reveal His divine compassion. There are many places in the Gospels where Jesus portrays his compassion for people. For example, when great crowds followed Him, Matthew records "But when he [Jesus] saw the multitudes, he

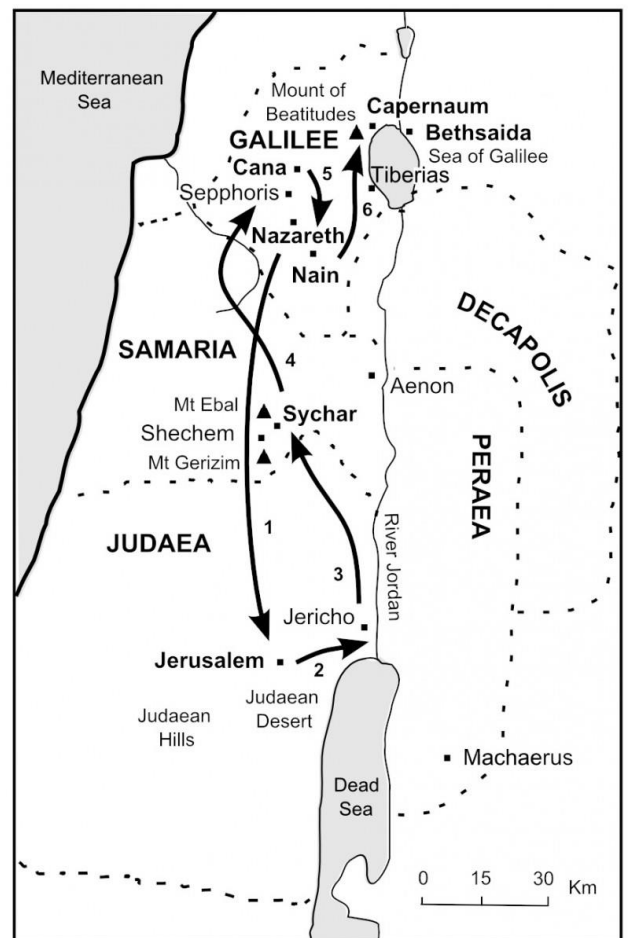
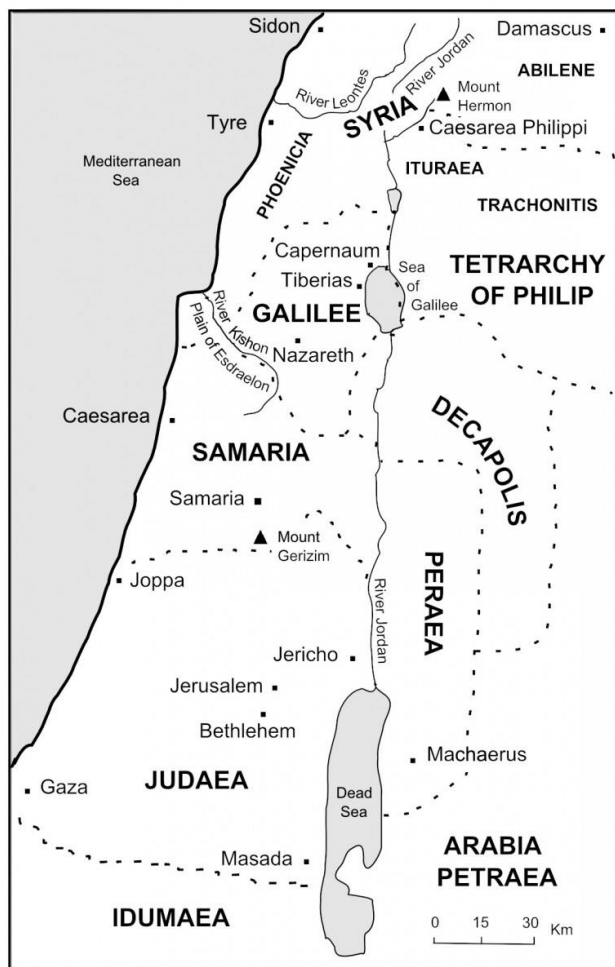
was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad as sheep having no shepherd.” (Matthew 9:36).

A third purpose of Jesus’ miracles was to instruct His disciples about the importance of faith. The synoptic Gospels tell the story of a storm that blew up on the Sea of Galilee while Jesus and the disciples were crossing it on a boat (Matthew 8:23–27; Mark 4:35–41; Luke 8:22–25). The disciples became fearful and thought they were going to drown. Jesus rebuked the storm, and the wind and the waves calmed down. The disciples were amazed at this nature miracle of Jesus. Jesus then asked them (Luke 8:25), “Where is your faith?” Jesus used this situation and performed a miracle in order to teach the disciples to have faith in Him and not be afraid.

A fourth purpose of the miracles of Jesus was to glorify the heavenly Father. For example, the miraculous raising from the dead of the son of a widow from the village of Nain in Galilee. When the boy was miraculously raised to life again, the townspeople who saw the miracle “glorified God” (Luke 7:11-17). When Jesus displayed the marvelous power of God, many people were moved to give glory to the Father in heaven.

Jesus’ miracles both revealed and demonstrated His power and authority.

Maps of Israel during Jesus’ time on earth



Questions and Activities

Complete the following statements.

1.1 The four Gospels tell us about the events of Jesus' life and His words in different ways and in a different _____ of events.

1.2 The Gospel of John emphasizes the a. _____ and b. _____ of Jesus.

1.3 Matthew is the most _____ of the Gospels.

1.4 In the _____, all four Gospels are the same.

1.5 The one true author of all four Gospels is _____.

1.6 Jesus conducted two types of ministry in Galilee—one that was a. _____ and one that was b. _____.

1.7 Jesus conducted both a. _____ in Galilee and b. _____ from Galilee during His ministry there.

1.8 Jesus made the small village of _____ His home and "mission base" in Galilee.

1.9 Christ's _____ were extraordinary and supernatural occurrences in nature and in the lives of people.

1.10 List four purposes of Christ's miracles.

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____



Miracles of Jesus in chronological order

Turning water into wine at the wedding in Cana: **John 2:1-11**

Jesus heals an official's son at Capernaum: **John 4:46-54**

Wondrous catch of fish on the lake of Gennesaret: **Luke 5:1-11**

Jesus drives out an evil spirit in Capernaum: **Mark 1:21-28; Luke 4:31-37**

Jesus heals the fever of Peter's mother-in-law: **Matt. 8:14-15; Mark 1:29-31; Luke 4:38-39**

Jesus heals many sick and oppressed in Capernaum: **Matt. 8:16-17; Mark 1:32-34; Luke 4:40-41**

Jesus heals the sick and demon-possessed: **Matt. 4:23-25**

Jesus cleanses a man with leprosy: **Matt. 8:1-4; Mark 1:40-45; Luke 5:12-16**

Jesus heals a paralytic let down through a roof: **Matt. 9:1-8; Mark 2:1-12; Luke 5:17-26**

Jesus heals a man at Bethesda: **John 5:1-15**

Jesus heals a man's withered hand on the Sabbath: **Matt. 12:9-14; Mark 3:1-6; Luke 6:6-11**

Jesus heals a great multitude of people: **Matt. 12:15; Mark 3:7-12**

Jesus heals a centurion's slave in Capernaum: **Matt 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-10**

Jesus raises a widow's son from the dead in Nain: **Luke 7:11-17**

Jesus heals a blind, mute, demon-possessed man: **Matt. 12:22-23; Luke 11:14-23**

Jesus heals an 18-year long crippled woman: **Luke 13:10-17**

Jesus Calms a Storm on the Sea: **Matt. 8:23-27; Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:22-25**

Jesus casts demons into a herd of pigs: **Matt. 8:28-34; Mark 5:1-20; Luke 8:26-39**

Jesus heals a woman with an issue of blood: **Matt. 9:20-22; Mark 5:25-34; Luke 8:42-48**

Jesus raises Jairus' daughter back to life: **Matt. 9:18,23-26; Mark 5:21-24,35-43 Luke 8:40-42,49-56**

Jesus heals two blind men: **Matt. 9:27-31**

Jesus heals a demon-possessed and mute man: **Matt 9:32-34**

Jesus heals many people: **Matt.14:14 Mark 6:34; Luke 9:11**

Jesus Feeds 5,000 Plus Women and Children: **Matt. 14:13-21; Mark 6:30-44; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-15**

Jesus walks on water: **Matt.14:22-33; Mark 6:45-52; John 6:16-21**

Many sick people are healed by touching Jesus' garment: **Matt. 14:34-36; Mark 6:53-56**

A gentile woman's demonized daughter is healed: **Matt. 15:21-28; Mark 7:24-30**

Jesus heals a deaf and mute man: **Mark 7:31-37**

Jesus heals the mute, blind, lame, and impaired: **Matt. 15:29-31**

Jesus feeds 4,000 plus women and children: **Matt. 15:32-39; Mark 8:1-13**

Jesus heals a blind man at Bethsaida: **Mark 8:22-26**

Jesus transfigured on the mount: **Matt. 17:1-13; Mark 9:2-13; Luke 9:28-36**

Jesus heals a boy with an unclean spirit: **Matt. 17:14-20; Mark 9:14-29; Luke 9:37-43**

Temple tax miraculously found in a fish's mouth: **Matt 17:24-27**

Jesus heals a man born blind: **John 9:1-41**

Jesus cleanses ten lepers: **Luke 17:11-19**

Jesus heals a man with dropsy on the Sabbath: **Luke 14:1-6**

Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead in Bethany: **John 11:1-45**

Jesus restores sight to Bartimaeus in Jericho: **Matt. 20:29-34; Mark 10:46-52; Luke 18:35-43**

Jesus curses the fig tree: **Matt. 21:18-22; Mark 11:12-14,20**

When being arrested Jesus heals a servant's ear: **Luke 22:50-51**

Another miraculous catch of fish: **John 21:4-11**

<https://yeshuahboyton.com/42-miracles-of-jesus-in-order/#41>

Activity

Work with a partner.

Choose three miracles of Jesus. Give a summary in your own words of these miracles. Who was involved? Where did the miracle occur if known? What impact did it have on those who experienced the miracle?

Class sharing: Your teacher can ask pairs of students to share their findings on different miracles.

Test

Match the following items.

- 1 _____ Matthew
- 2 _____ John
- 3 _____ Mark
- 4 _____ Luke
- 5 _____ the Holy Spirit
- 6 _____ public and private
- 7 _____ disbelief in Christ
- 8 _____ miracles
- 9 _____ Capernaum

- a. Jesus' "mission base" in Galilee
- b. caused Jesus' shift from miracles to parables
- c. extraordinary and supernatural occurrences
- d. emphasizes the suffering that Jesus and His disciples endured
- e. the most Jewish of the Gospels
- f. emphasizes healings and prayer of Jesus
- g. emphasizes the divinity and majesty of Christ
- h. two types of Jesus' Galilean ministry
- i. true author of the four Gospels

Answer true or false

1. _____ All four Gospels are in substantial agreement about the importance of Jesus and about His life, death, and resurrection.
2. _____ Jesus conducted both tours in Galilee and retreats from Galilee during the time of His ministry there.
3. _____ Jesus, the Son of God, came to destroy the works of the devil.

Complete the following:

1. One of the purposes of Jesus' miracles was to reveal His divine _____
2. In James 4:7, the Bible says, "Resist the _____ and he will flee from you."
3. The miracle of _____ is the only miracle of Jesus that is recorded in all four Gospels.
4. The Jewish people expected a _____ like Moses who would also be the Messiah.
5. Through the miracle of the feeding of the five thousand, we should recognize that Jesus can _____ our every need.
6. Jesus showed through His actions and words that He had come to _____ sinners, not to condemn them.