

PRETEEN

June — July — August 2018

Unit 1 — Judges: Muscles, Morals, and Miracles

Unit Bible Truth: Sin brings serious consequences, but God faithfully shows mercy to His people.

Unit Goals

To help preteens . . .

- Realize the importance of making choices that help fulfill God's plans
- Recognize that sin brings serious consequences
- Appreciate God's faithfulness and willingness to use imperfect people to carry out His plans
- Choose to live as close to God as possible, relying on His love and mercy

Verse-a-Month Club Verse: "Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commands" (Deuteronomy 7:9).

JUNE 3, 2018

Lesson 1 — Covenant of Love

Scripture: Judges 1--2

Bible Study: "So God Raised Up Judges"

Bible Truth: God blesses those who love and obey Him, but judges those who break their relationship with Him.

Goals

To help preteens . . .

- Discover how God used judges during Israel's history
- Grow in the understanding that all choices have consequences
- Consider the possible consequences of certain kinds of choices

JUNE 10, 2018

Lesson 2 — Samson, the Strong Man

Scripture: Judges 13:1--15:17

Bible Study: "Samson and the Spirit of the Lord"

Bible Truth: God calls people to do special tasks, but they must choose to live out this calling.

Goals

To help preteens . . .

- Realize that their choices affect their ability to fulfill God's desires for their lives
- Want to make choices that help them live out God's purposes for their lives
- Evaluate the choices they are currently making

JUNE 17, 2018

Lesson 3 — And His Strength Left Him

Scripture: Judges 16:4-22

Bible Study: “Samson’s Close Shave”

Bible Truth: God’s people suffer the consequences of sinful choices.

Goals

To help preteens . . .

- Grasp more fully the serious consequences of making sinful choices
- Repent of any sinful choices they have been making
- Strengthen their commitment to live God’s way

JUNE 24, 2018

Lesson 4 — Samson’s Final Choice

Scripture: Judges 16:21-31

Bible Study: “Samson and the Temple of Doom”

Bible Truth: Although sin brings serious consequences, God continues to show mercy to us.

Goals

To help preteens . . .

- Realize that God’s mercy is greater than our sin
- Understand that God can use imperfect people to accomplish His will
- Choose to live God’s way, knowing that God’s mercy surrounds them

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Unit 2 — PATHWAYS TO JOY

Unit Bible Truth: God’s people experience joy as they live in right relationships with God and others.

Unit Goals

To help preteens . . .

- Discover what Jesus taught us about living as God’s people
- Know the difference between the world’s ideas of happiness and the joy God’s people can experience
- Examine their attitudes and priorities in light of the Beatitudes
- Experience increasing joy as they seek to live out the teachings of the Beatitudes

Verse-a-Month Club Verse: “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.” (Matthew 5:6).

JULY 1, 2018

Lesson 5 — Pathways of Humility and Gentleness

Scripture: Matthew 5:1-12; Luke 14:1, 7-11

Bible Study: “Humble, Gentle, and Joyful!”

Bible Truth: We experience joy when we are humble before God and gentle with others.

Goals

To help preteens . . .

- Understand what the Beatitudes are and why they are important to our lives as Christians
- Discover what it means to be “poor in spirit” and “meek”
- Value and practice these qualities

JULY 8, 2018

Lesson 6 — Pathway of Righteousness

Scripture: Matthew 5:4, 6; Luke 18:9-14

Bible Study: “The Pharisee and the Tax Collector”

Bible Truth: We can only experience joy when we first feel sorrow for sin and long for God and His righteousness.

Goals

To help preteens . . .

- Know what it means to “mourn” and to “hunger and thirst for righteousness”
- Examine their lives to see whether righteousness is a priority
- Repent of any known sin

JULY 15, 2018

Lesson 7 — Pathways of Mercy and Peace

Scripture: Matthew 5:7, 9; 18:21-35

Bible Study: “The Unmerciful Servant”

Bible Truth: We experience joy when we show mercy to others, and help people live in peace.

Goals

To help preteens . . .

- Grow in their understanding of what it means to be “merciful”
- Recognize the importance of trying to bring about peace among people
- Consider whether there is anyone they need to forgive
- Commit themselves to a lifestyle of mercy and peacemaking

JULY 22, 2018

Lesson 8 — Pathway of a Pure Heart

Scripture: Matthew 5:8; 13:44-46

Bible Study: “Pure Hearts and Hidden Treasure”

Bible Truth: We experience joy when we treasure our relationship with God more than anything else.

Goals

To help preteens . . .

- Begin to understand what it means to be totally committed to God
- Reflect on the place God has in their lives
- Commit themselves to making their relationship with God their highest priority

JULY 29, 2018

Lesson 9 — Pathway of Persecution

Scripture: Matthew 5:10-12, 43-48; Luke 23:26-27, 32-43

Bible Study: “From Sermon to Suffering”

Bible Truth: We experience joy, even when we suffer persecution, because God is with us.

Goals

To help preteens . . .

- Know what persecution is
- Realize that Christians should not be surprised if they are persecuted, and they should feel honored to suffer for Jesus
- Find comfort in God’s presence and promises when they face persecution for their faith
- Respond to persecutors as Jesus taught us by word and example

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Unit 3 — YOU’VE GOT GIFTS

Unit Bible Truth: God gives spiritual gifts so they can accomplish His work as a community of believers.

Unit Goals

To help preteens . . .

- Understand what spiritual gifts are
- Realize that all Christians receive spiritual gifts, and all the gifts are important to God’s work
- Begin to identify spiritual gifts in themselves and others
- Discuss how their spiritual gifts can contribute to the growth and unity of the Church

Verse-a-Month Club Verse: “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms” (1 Peter 4:10).

AUGUST 5, 2018

Lesson 10 — What Is a Spiritual Gift?

Scripture: Romans 12:3-8; Acts 9:19b-30

Bible Study: “Talents or Spiritual Gifts”

Bible Truth: Spiritual gifts are special abilities God gives Christians for doing His work.

Goals

To help preteens. . .

- Discover what a spiritual gift is
- Know the difference between a spiritual gift and a talent
- Begin to consider what spiritual gift God has given them

AUGUST 12, 2018

Lesson 11 — Why Do We Receive These Gifts?

Scripture: Acts 18:1-3, 18-28; Ephesians 4:1-16

Bible Study: “Gifts with a Purpose”

Bible Truth: God gives Christians spiritual gifts so they can work within the Church and help it grow.

Goals

To help preteens. . .

- Expand their thinking about the purpose of spiritual gifts
- Think about ways people use their spiritual gifts for God’s glory
- Continue to identify their spiritual gifts and how these can contribute to God’s work

AUGUST 19, 2018

Lesson 12 — Is There a Better Gift?

Scripture: Acts 15:36-41; 1 Corinthians 12

Bible Study: “Spiritual Gifts Are Important”

Bible Truth: Every spiritual gift is important in accomplishing God’s work.

Goals

To help preteens. . .

- Recognize the importance of every spiritual gift
- Value, but not envy, others’ spiritual gifts
- Commit to join with other Christians to do God’s work

AUGUST 26, 2018

Lesson 13 — What Are Our Gifts?

Scripture: Acts 6:1-7; 1 Peter 4:7-11

Bible Study: “Live Out Your Gifts”

Bible Truth: God wants Christians to use their spiritual gifts to serve others and bring praise to himself.

Goals

To help preteens. . .

- Review the purpose of spiritual gifts
- Further identify their spiritual gifts by using a survey
- Clarify ways to use their spiritual gifts