

Daniel Obeys God Class Notes

Daniel 1:7 *To them the chief of the eunuchs gave names: he gave Daniel the name Belteshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishaël, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abed-Nego.*

OLD NAMES, NEW NAMES

1. Daniel became _____.
2. Hananiah became _____.
3. Mishaël became _____.
4. Azariah became _____.

DANIEL 1:8–16—THE YOUNG MEN’S OBEDIENCE

5. Daniel did not want to defile or spoil himself. What did Daniel think would defile him? The king’s _____.
6. Who brought Daniel favor with the chief of the eunuchs? _____.
7. How long was the test to last? _____.
8. Daniel and his friends asked only for _____ and _____.
9. After 10 days, Belteshazzar, Meshach, Shadrach, and Abed-Nego looked _____ and _____ than the others!

DANIEL 1:17–21—GOD’S BLESSINGS

10. God blessed the four young men with knowledge, skill, and _____.
11. God gave Daniel the gift of _____ in visions and dreams.

John 16:33 *These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”*

WORD BANK (#5–12)

wisdom	tribulation
vegetables	God
better	10 days
understanding	water
delicacies	fatter

12. What did Jesus say we will have in this world? _____.

Daniel Obey's God Class Notes Answer Key

Print one class notes for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.

Daniel 1:7 *To them the chief of the eunuchs gave names: he gave Daniel the name Belteshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abed-Nego.*

OLD NAMES, NEW NAMES

1. Daniel became Belteshazzar.
2. Hananiah became Shadrach.
3. Mishael became Meshach.
4. Azariah became Abed-Nego.

DANIEL 1:8–16—THE YOUNG MEN'S OBEDIENCE

5. Daniel did not want to defile or spoil himself. What did Daniel think would defile him? The king's delicacies.
6. Who brought Daniel favor with the chief of the eunuchs? God.
7. How long was the test to last? 10 days.
8. Daniel and his friends asked only for vegetables and water.
9. After 10 days, Belteshazzar, Meshach, Shadrach, and Abed-Nego looked better and fatter than the others!

DANIEL 1:17–21—GOD'S BLESSINGS

10. God blessed the four young men with knowledge, skill, and wisdom.
11. God gave Daniel the gift of understanding in visions and dreams.

John 16:33 *These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."*

12. What did Jesus say we will have in this world? Tribulation.

Interview with Four Hebrews Script

Cast: Talk Show Host, Belteshazzar (Daniel), Shadrach (Hananiah), Meshach (Mishael), Abed-Nego (Azariah)

Set/Props: Set a desk or small table and chair aside for the talk show host. Four empty chairs are set up in a semi-circle next to his seat. He will address a live audience (the rest of the class). Belteshazzar, Shadrach, Meshach, Abed-Nego are waiting off stage and enter at the appropriate time.

Talk show host enters the scene and sits down behind the table.

Talk Show Host: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. It's great to be here tonight. I am excited to introduce some special guests who join us from the king's palace. Let's welcome Belteshazzar, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego!

Belteshazzar and his friends enter and take their seats in the chairs.

Talk Show Host: Welcome, friends! You have quite a reputation. Everyone wants to know about the four Hebrews from Judah! Let's start with Belteshazzar. Tell us about your background.

Belteshazzar: *(Speaking respectfully.)* I lived in Judah. When your Babylonian army captured my country, I was brought to Babylon to live. I went through extensive training in the palace. The king's steward taught me your customs. Babylon is my new home. Now I am assigned to serve King Nebuchadnezzar.

Talk Show Host: We have heard so much about you. Including some odd things about your diet! You are definitely healthy, and you look better than many of the richest men from our country. Yet I'm told that you don't eat the food of a rich man. What can you tell us about that?

Shadrach: May I answer that question?

Talk Show Host: Of course! Thank you.

Shadrach: We serve the God of Abraham. God has commanded that we eat certain foods. Those foods are far different from the foods the king was asking us to eat. We are dedicated to God and His commands. We did not want to dishonor Him by obeying King Nebuchadnezzar and eating things that God would not approve of.

Meshach: When we heard about the food the king of Babylon wanted us to eat, we knew in our hearts we had to obey God—not the king.

Talk Show Host: You went against what the king told you to do? Weren't you scared to do that?

Abed-Nego: Scared or not, we knew what we had to do. We love God. And He demands that we obey Him. And that is what we wanted to do.

Talk Show Host: So what did you do? How did you get by with it? You were in prison and disobeying the king. That is unheard of!

Belteshazzar: God was gracious to us. We talked with the king's servant—the chief eunuch. We told him we could not eat the food of the king—food not permitted by God's laws.

Meshach: God moved the servant to show us kindness. And he allowed us to eat only vegetables and drink only water so we would not dishonor our holy God.

Talk Show Host: How could you survive on only vegetables and water? It seems you would have been sick.

Abed-Nego: That is what you would think. But the truth is, God blessed us for our obedience to Him. In fact, we were considered healthier, and we looked better than any of the other men in the palace who were eating the rich food from the king's table.

Belteshazzar: And when the king interviewed us, he chose us to serve him.

Talk Show Host: That's right. I heard that the king said there were none like the four of you! And not only were you healthy but you were wise! It is reported that you are far better than all the magicians and astrologers working for the king. You show incredible wisdom and can answer the king's questions clearly! How do you explain that?

Meshach: Again, God showed mercy to us. He has given us the wisdom and understanding we need to answer the king's questions and to serve him well.

Belteshazzar: Yes, God gave us all knowledge and skill in literature and wisdom. God honored our obedience to Him. God gets all the glory for the positions we now hold with the king. We can't take any credit for these things God has done for us.

Talk Show Host: *(To Belteshazzar.)* One more thing. What about the dreams and the visions? Is it true you have special power to know what these dreams mean?

Belteshazzar: Yes. Again, it is a very special gift from the Lord. I certainly could never understand visions and dreams on my own. Who could? The Lord has blessed me. God shows me the meanings of others' dreams. And it will allow me to serve the king better.

Talk Show Host: *(Looking at his watch.)* We're about out of time, ladies and gentlemen. But you heard it here first on Palace TV. The God of Abraham has blessed these Hebrew men because of their obedience. They did not want to disobey their God. And now Belteshazzar and his three friends are serving the king with knowledge, wisdom, and skill. And Belteshazzar has understanding in visions and dreams. These Hebrews are far better than the king's magicians and astrologers. And they do this all while living on a strict diet of vegetables and water! Thank you, gentlemen. And good night.

Memory Verse Review Sheet

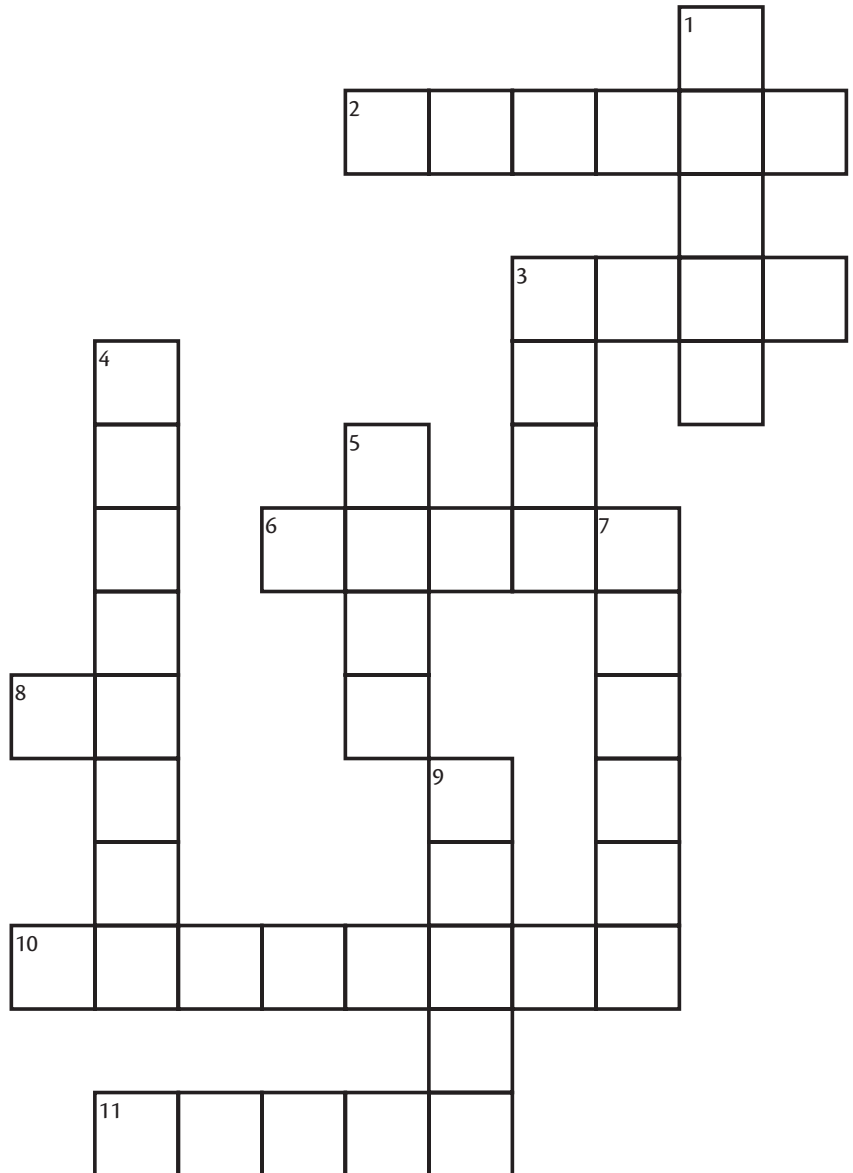
1. Complete the crossword puzzle using words from the memory verse.

ACROSS

2. Things we hope for or desire.
3. The one true God.
6. Something wet, clear, and satisfies thirst.
8. Opposite of she.
10. Our memory verse is located in the book of _____.
11. Male rulers who wear crowns.

DOWN

1. The part of our body that beats in our chest.
3. Similar to.
4. Anywhere.
5. What we hold on with.
7. Water that flows.
9. When one player follows another, they are taking _____.



2. What is our memory verse? Match the words from the crossword puzzle to the missing words in the spaces provided.

_____ 10A _____ 21:1 The _____ 11A _____ 1D _____ is in the
 _____ 5D _____ of the _____ 3A _____, _____ 3D _____ the _____ 7D _____ of
 _____ 6A _____; _____ 8A _____ 9D _____ it _____ 4D _____
 He _____ 2A _____.

Memory Verse Review Sheet

Answer Key

Things we hope for or desire. *Wishes.*

The one true God. *Lord.*

Something wet, clear, and satisfies thirst. *Water.*

Opposite of she. *He.*

Our memory verse is located in the book of *Proverbs.*

Male rulers who wear crowns. *Kings.*

The part of our body that beats in our chest. *Heart.*

Similar to. *Like.*

Anywhere. *Wherever.*

What we hold on with. *Hand.*

Water that flows. *Rivers.*

When one player follows another, they are taking *turns.*

Proverbs 21:1 The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, like the rivers of water;
He turns it wherever He wishes.

Use this answer key for the Memory Verse Review Sheet for Lessons 1–6.

God Is Awesome Class Notes

EZEKIEL'S VISION AND RESPONSE (EZEKIEL 1:1, 1:4, 1:26-28)

1. What did Ezekiel see when God opened the heavens before him? Visions of _____.
2. What did Ezekiel see? _____, _____, _____, _____, _____.
3. What was Ezekiel's vision showing him? The appearance of the likeness of the _____ of the Lord.
4. So what did Ezekiel do when he saw this? He fell on his _____.
5. Ezekiel heard the Lord's _____ as he observed the glory of the Lord.

ISAIAH'S VISION AND RESPONSE (ISAIAH 6:1-5)

6. Who did Isaiah see in his vision? The _____.
7. Where was the Lord sitting? On a _____.
8. What were the seraphim crying to one another around the throne of God? "_____, _____, _____ is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!"
9. What was Isaiah's reaction to seeing the Lord and heaven? He was _____.

JOHN'S VISION AND RESPONSE (REVELATION 1:12-17)

10. Who did the Apostle John see in his vision? The Son of Man, also called _____.
11. What did John do when he saw and heard the voice of Jesus in his vision? He fell _____ at Jesus's feet.

WORD BANK

Down	Great cloud	Lord
God	Holy	Brightness
Jesus	Fire	Voice
Whirlwind	Throne	Glory
Undone	Color	Face

God Is Awesome Class Notes Answer Key

Print one class notes for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.

EZEKIEL'S VISION AND RESPONSE (EZEKIEL 1:1, 1:4, 1:26-28)

1. What did Ezekiel see when God opened the heavens before him? Visions of God.
2. What did Ezekiel see? Whirlwind, great cloud, fire, brightness, color.
3. What was Ezekiel's vision showing him? The appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord.
4. So what did Ezekiel do when he saw this? He fell on his face.
5. Ezekiel heard the Lord's voice as he observed the glory of the Lord.

ISAIAH'S VISION AND RESPONSE (ISAIAH 6:1-5)

6. Who did Isaiah see in his vision? The Lord.
7. Where was the Lord sitting? On a throne.
8. What were the seraphim crying to one another around the throne of God? "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!"
9. What was Isaiah's reaction to seeing the Lord and heaven? He was undone.

JOHN'S VISION AND RESPONSE (REVELATION 1:12-17)

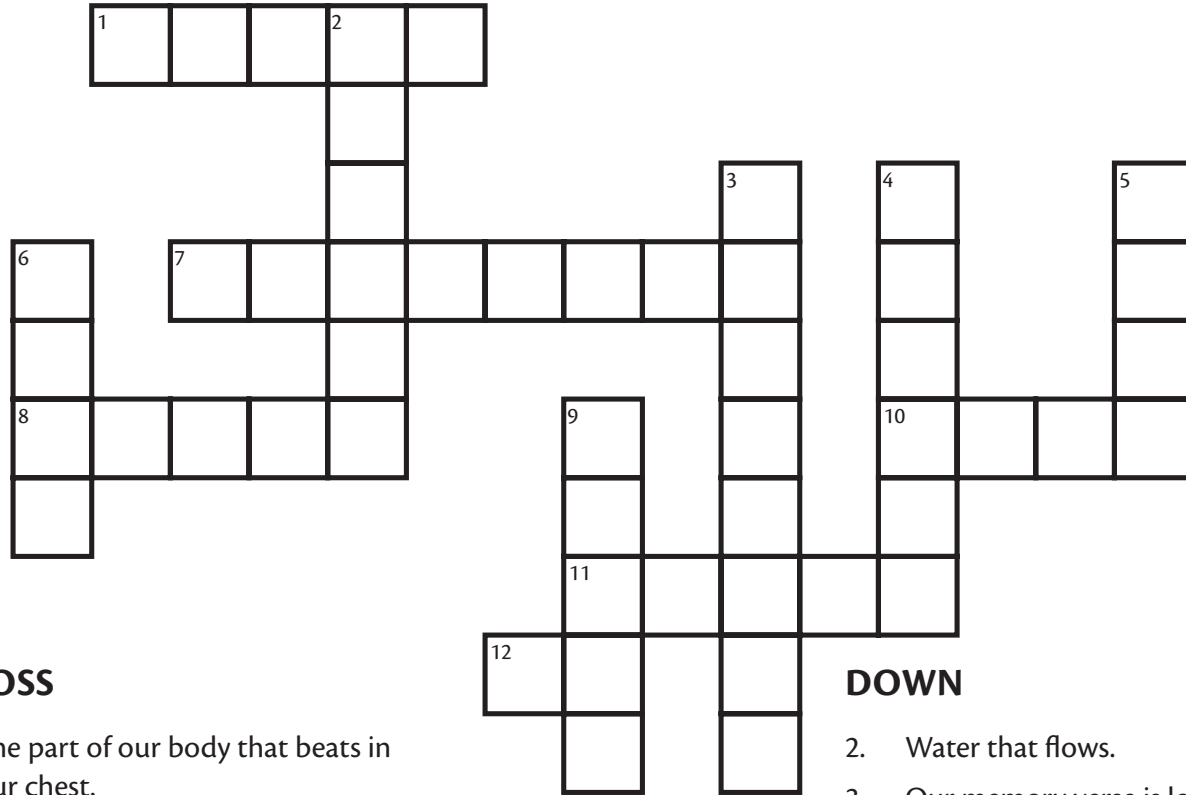
10. Who did the Apostle John see in his vision? The Son of Man, also called Jesus.
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WORD BANK

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God	Holy	Brightness
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Memory Verse Review Sheet

1. Complete the crossword puzzle using words from the memory verse.



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1. The part of our body that beats in our chest.
7. Anywhere.
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DOWN

2. Water that flows.
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4. Things we hope for or desire.
5. The one true God.
6. Similar to.
9. Something wet, clear, and satisfies thirst.

2. What is our memory verse? Match the words from the crossword puzzle to the missing words in the spaces provided.

_____ 3D _____ 21:1 The _____ 8A _____ 1A _____ is in the
 _____ 10A _____ of the _____ 5D _____, _____ 6D _____ the _____ 2D _____ of
 _____ 9D _____; _____ 12A _____ 11A _____ it _____ 7A _____
 He _____ 4D _____.

Psalm 68:35 O God, You are more **awesome** than Your holy places.

Nehemiah 1:5 And I said, “I pray, Lord God of
heaven, O great and **awesome** God . . .”

Nehemiah 4:14 Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, great and **awesome**,
and fight for your brethren, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your houses.

Nehemiah 9:32 Now therefore, our God, the great, the mighty,
and **awesome** God, who keeps covenant mercy.

Job 37:22 He comes from the north as golden
splendor; with God is **awesome** majesty.

Psalm 47:2 For the Lord Most High is **awesome**;
He is a great King over all the earth.

Psalm 66:5 Come and see the works of God; He
is **awesome** in His doing toward the sons of men.

Deuteronomy 7:21 You shall not be terrified of them; for the
Lord your God, the great and **awesome** God, is among you.

Psalm 99:3 Let them praise Your great and **awesome** name—He is holy.

Jeremiah 20:11 But the Lord is with me as a mighty, **awesome** One.

Daniel 9:4 O Lord, great and **awesome** God, who keeps His covenant and mercy
with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments . . .

Print and cut out the strips so each student has at least one.

**#1) Awe: A combination of fear,
wonder, and great respect.**

**#2) Ezekiel 1:28b So when I
saw it, I fell on my face, and I
heard a voice of One speaking.**

Print and cut the four mini-posters. Use tape or poster putty to attach the posters to the board as you lead the What Is Awe? Activity. See the What Is Awe? Teacher Guide.

**#3) Isaiah 6:5 So I said: “Woe is me,
for I am undone! Because I am a
man of unclean lips, and I dwell in
the midst of a people of unclean
lips; for my eyes have seen the
King, The Lord of hosts.”**

**#4) Revelation 1:17a And when I
saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead.**

Print and cut the four mini-posters. Use tape or poster putty to attach the posters to the board as you lead the What Is Awe? Activity. See the What Is Awe? Teacher Guide.

What Is Awe? Teacher Guide

Print one copy. Use this guide to lead the students through a discussion about God. You will use the 4 What Is Awe? Mini-posters from the Resource DVD-ROM as you lead the discussion. Pass out the God is Awesome Scripture Strips from the Resource DVD-ROM and have the students read them when appropriate.

? **How many of you use the word awesome?** *Allow discussion.*

When you say something is awesome you are saying you are in awe of it. We don't use the word awe very often. But we sure do use awesome. Awe and awesome are closely related. Let's talk about the word awe. It will help us better understand and properly use the word awesome. The dictionary says that awe can include several feelings. Awe can mean fear, wonder, and respect all at the same time.

Let's do this. Show me what fear would look like. *Have students act out fear. They can lift their hands and open their mouths as if they are really afraid of something in front of them.*

It is also wonder or amazement at something. I want all of you to show me what wonder or amazement would look like. It will look different from fear. *Wonder could be pointing upward, mouths open, eyes wide as though they are looking at something that is amazing!*

Another meaning for awe is respect or honor. What would you do if you wanted to honor someone? Or show great respect? How would that look? Let me see how you would look showing honor or respect. *Students might bow or curtsy at the waist and lower their head and eyes.*

You would talk differently to someone you were wanting to show respect to. You might say, "Yes, ma'am," or "Yes, sir!" You would say, "Please" and "Thank you!" You would probably watch your language so you wouldn't offend the person.

When we talk about being in "awe" of something we are talking about a combination of fear, wonder, and great respect. *Place mini-poster #1 on the board.*

We heard about the visions that Ezekiel, Isaiah, and John had when God revealed some of His glory to them. Let's review how they reacted.

Place mini-poster #2 on the board. Read this verse for me. Assign a reader to read the mini-poster. Ezekiel 1:28.

? **What did Ezekiel do?** *Fell on his face.*

? **Why did he fall on his face? What was he filled with at the sight of God's glory? You can look at this first poster for the answer.** *Awe—fear, wonder, respect.*

? *Place mini-poster #3 on the board. What about Isaiah? Will someone read this verse? Assign a reader. Isaiah 6:5.*

? **What did Isaiah do? What did he say?** *"Woe is me! I am undone."*

? **What was he feeling at the sight of God's amazing glory?** *Refer to mini-poster #1. Fear, wonder, respect—awe.*

? *Place mini-poster #4 on the board. What about John? Will someone read this verse? Assign a reader. Revelation 1:17.*

? **What did John do after he saw Jesus the Son of Man?** *Fell at His feet as dead.*

? **What do you suppose he was thinking or feeling at that moment? Why did he fall down as though dead?** *Refer to mini-poster #1. Fear, wonder, respect—awe.*

These men got a glimpse of God, Jesus, and the glory of heaven! That is AWESOME! And God is awesome. We have talked about many of God's attributes—that He is holy, sovereign, omnipotent, and many more. All of these attributes combine to make God completely awesome and worthy of our fear, wonder, and respect.

And God is truly worthy to be called awesome. But don't take my word for it. Let's see what the Bible has to say. I'm going to pass out these Scripture strips. I want you to line up in front of the class and read the verse you have. Listen carefully. You will hear what the Bible has to say about God.

Pass out the Scripture strips if you haven't done so yet. Have students read the verses.

Deuteronomy 7:21 You shall not be terrified of them; for the Lord your God, the great and **awesome** God, is among you.

Nehemiah 1:5 And I said, "I pray, Lord God of heaven, O great and **awesome** God . . ."

Nehemiah 4:14 Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, great and **awesome**, and fight for your brethren, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your houses.

Nehemiah 9:32 Now therefore, our God, the great, the mighty, and **awesome** God, who keeps covenant mercy.

Job 37:22 He comes from the north as golden splendor; with God is **awesome** majesty.

Psalms 47:2 For the Lord Most High is **awesome**; He is a great King over all the earth.

Psalms 66:5 Come and see the works of God; He is **awesome** in His doing toward the sons of men.

Psalms 68:35 O God, You are more **awesome** than Your holy places.

Psalms 99:3 Let them praise Your great and **awesome** name—He is holy.

Jeremiah 20:11 But the Lord is with me as a mighty, **awesome** One.

Daniel 9:4 O Lord, great and **awesome** God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments . . .

? What did all of those verses say about God? *He is awesome.*

Yes, God is described as awesome over and over in the Bible. He is awesome and worthy of all of our fear, wonder, and respect. We must take God seriously. He is a holy God. And as we learn more about God, we should have more fear, wonder, and respect for Him. He deserves all of our praise and honor.

God's New Covenant Class Notes

JEREMIAH'S PROPHECY (JEREMIAH 31:31-34)

1. What was the Lord going to make? A _____ Covenant.
2. In the New Covenant, where was God going to put His law? In the _____ and _____ of the people.
3. What did God say He would do for those in the New Covenant? He will _____ their sins and remember them no more.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE OLD AND NEW COVENANTS (HEBREWS 9:11-12)

The Old Covenant

4. The High Priest was a man and a _____.
6. _____ sacrifices were made for the redemption of sins.
8. The Priests sacrificed over and over, but their sacrifices could not take away _____.
10. Every day the priests offered sacrifices, but they could _____ take away sin.

The New Covenant

5. Jesus was without sin. He was a _____ High Priest.
7. Jesus shed His own _____ to bring redemption.
9. Jesus's _____ sacrifice offered forgiveness of sins.
11. Only Jesus's blood can take _____ sin forever.

WORD BANK

Minds	New	Blood
Hearts	Perfect	Not
Sinner	Sin	One
Animal	Away	Forgive

God's New Covenant Class Notes Answer Key

Print one class notes for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.

JEREMIAH'S PROPHECY (JEREMIAH 31:31-34)

1. What was the Lord going to make? A New Covenant.
2. In the New Covenant, where was God going to put His law? In the minds and hearts of the people.
3. What did God say He would do for those in the New Covenant? He will forgive their sins and remember them no more.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE OLD AND NEW COVENANTS (HEBREWS 9:11-12)

The Old Covenant

4. The High Priest was a man and a sinner.
6. Animal sacrifices were made for the redemption of sins.
8. The Priests sacrificed over and over, but their sacrifices could not take away sin.
10. Every day the priests offered sacrifices, but they could not take away sin.





The New Covenant

5. Jesus was without sin. He was a perfect High Priest.
7. Jesus shed His own blood to bring redemption.
9. Jesus's one sacrifice offered forgiveness of sins.
11. Only Jesus's blood can take away sin forever.

WORD BANK

Minds	New	Blood
Hearts	Perfect	Not
Sinner	Sin	One
Animal	Away	Forgive

Use this chart as a guide when placing your Lesson Mini-Posters on the board with poster putty or tape. You will be putting the posters up according to the numbers listed (1–15) as you get to them during the lesson. This will allow you and your students to see that there were differences between the Old and New Covenants. How beautiful it is to see how God's plan of salvation was perfectly accomplished through Jesus Christ.

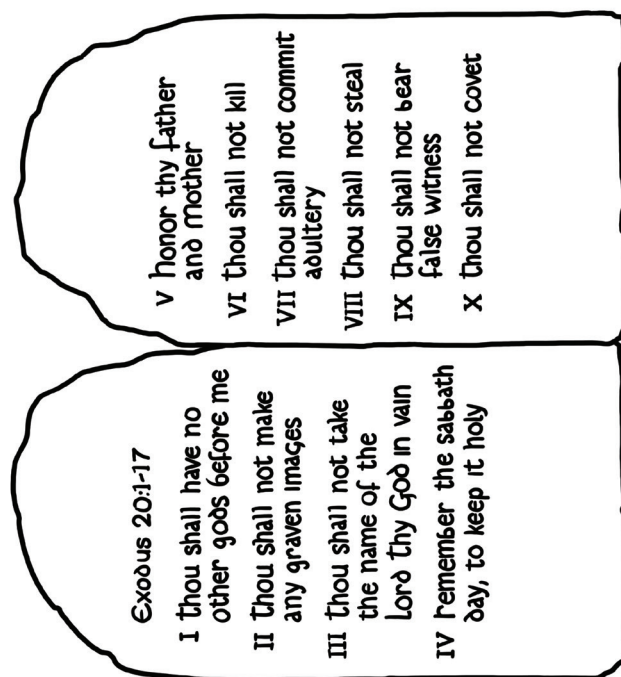
<div>Old Covenant</div> <div>1</div>		
<div><div>Ten Commandments (written on stone)</div><div>3</div></div>	<div><div><div><div>Genesis 22:1-7</div><div>1. Do not have other gods before me</div><div>2. Do not make idols</div><div>3. Do not take the name of the Lord your God in vain</div><div>4. Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy</div><div>5. Honor your father and mother</div><div>6. Do not murder</div><div>7. Do not commit adultery</div><div>8. Do not steal</div><div>9. Do not bear false witness</div><div>10. Do not desire what belongs to your neighbor</div></div></div><div><div>Y. Honor thy Father and thy Mother</div><div>1. Do not have other gods before me</div><div>2. Do not make idols</div><div>3. Do not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain</div><div>4. Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy</div><div>5. Honor thy Father and thy Mother</div><div>6. Do not murder</div><div>7. Do not commit adultery</div><div>8. Do not steal</div><div>9. Do not bear false witness</div><div>10. Do not desire what belongs to thy neighbor</div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div>9</div></div>
<div><div>The Old Covenant and all its laws were impossible to keep.</div><div>4</div></div>	<div><div></div><div>10</div></div>	<div><div></div><div>11</div></div>
<div><div>There were many priests. All the priests were sinners.</div><div>7</div></div>	<div><div></div><div>8</div></div>	
<div><div>All the sacrifices could not take away sin.</div><div>12</div></div>		
<div><div>New Covenant</div><div>2</div></div>	<div><div><div>New Covenant written on man's heart and mind.</div><div>5</div></div></div>	<div><div><div>Jesus alone could offer forgiveness of sins.</div><div>6</div></div></div>
<div><div><div>Jesus is the new, perfect High Priest.</div><div>13</div></div></div>	<div><div><div>Jesus's sacrifice put an end to animal sacrifices.</div><div>14</div></div></div>	<div><div><div>Jesus's one sacrifice offered forgiveness of sins.</div><div>15</div></div></div>

Old Covenant

1

Ten Commandments (written on stone)

3



Print and cut out one set of mini-posters. Color the blood red on posters 9, 10, 11, and 14. Arrange posters in order, so you can easily put them on the board during the lesson.

**The Old Covenant and all its
laws were impossible to keep.**

4

**There were many priests. All
the priests were sinners.**

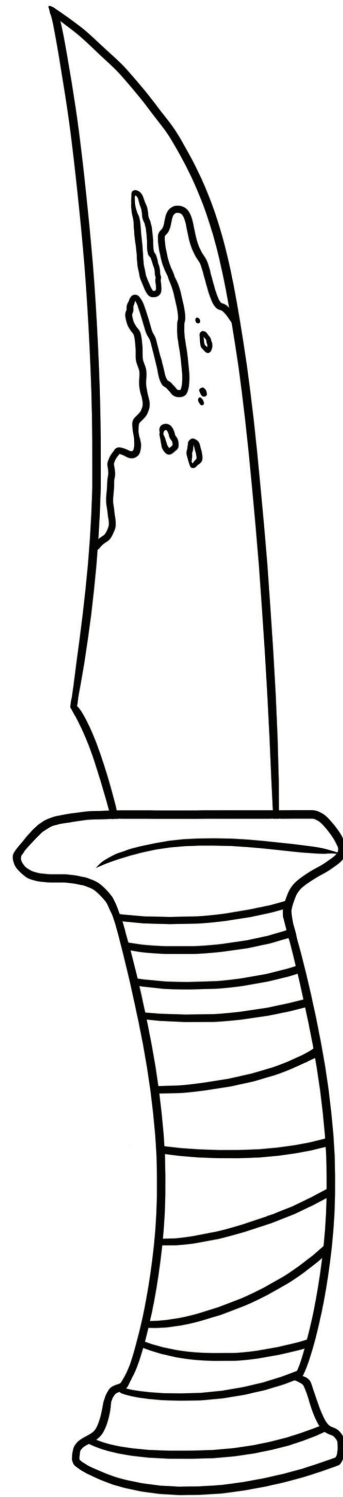
7

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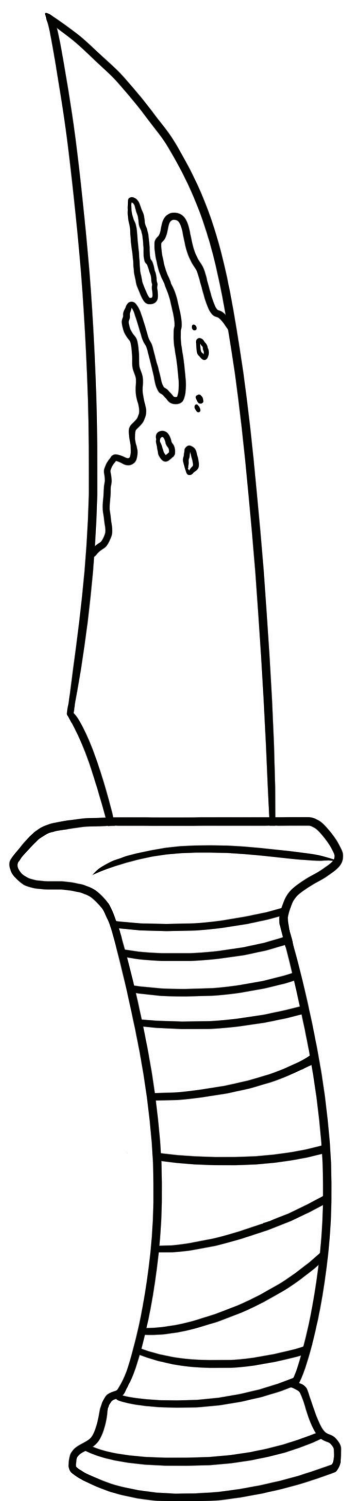
**Priests made
sacrifices over and
over to cover sin.**

8

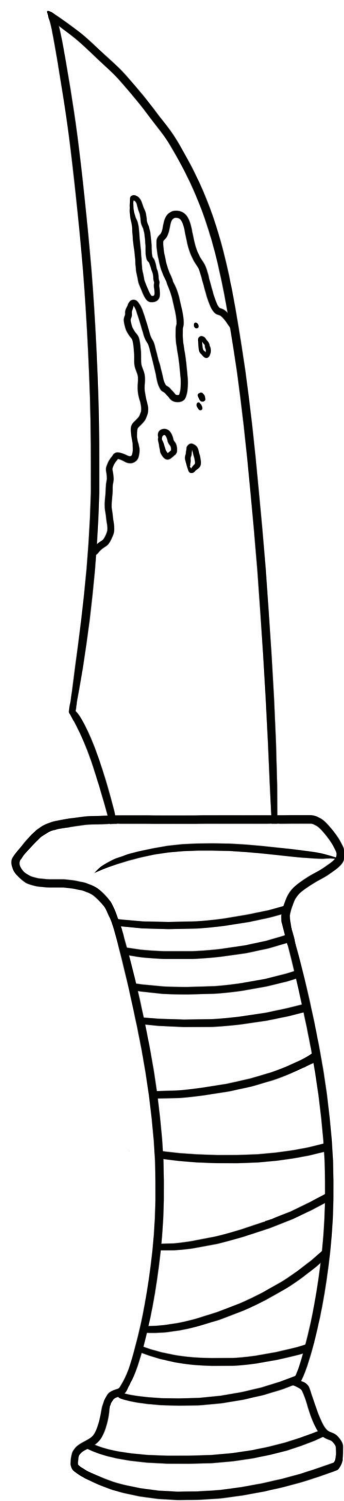


9

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10



11

Print and cut out one set of mini-posters. Color the blood red on posters 9, 10, 11, and 14. Arrange posters in order, so you can easily put them on the board during the lesson.

**All the sacrifices could
not take away sin.**

12

New Covenant

2

Print and cut out one set of mini-posters. Color the blood red on posters 9, 10, 11, and 14. Arrange posters in order, so you can easily put them on the board during the lesson.

**New Covenant written on
man's heart and mind.**

5

**Jesus alone could offer
forgiveness of sins.**

6

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**Jesus is the new,
perfect High Priest.**

13

**Jesus's sacrifice put an
end to animal sacrifices.**

14



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Jesus's one sacrifice offered forgiveness of sins.

15

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Memory Verse Review Sheet

1. Complete the crossword puzzle using words from the memory verse.

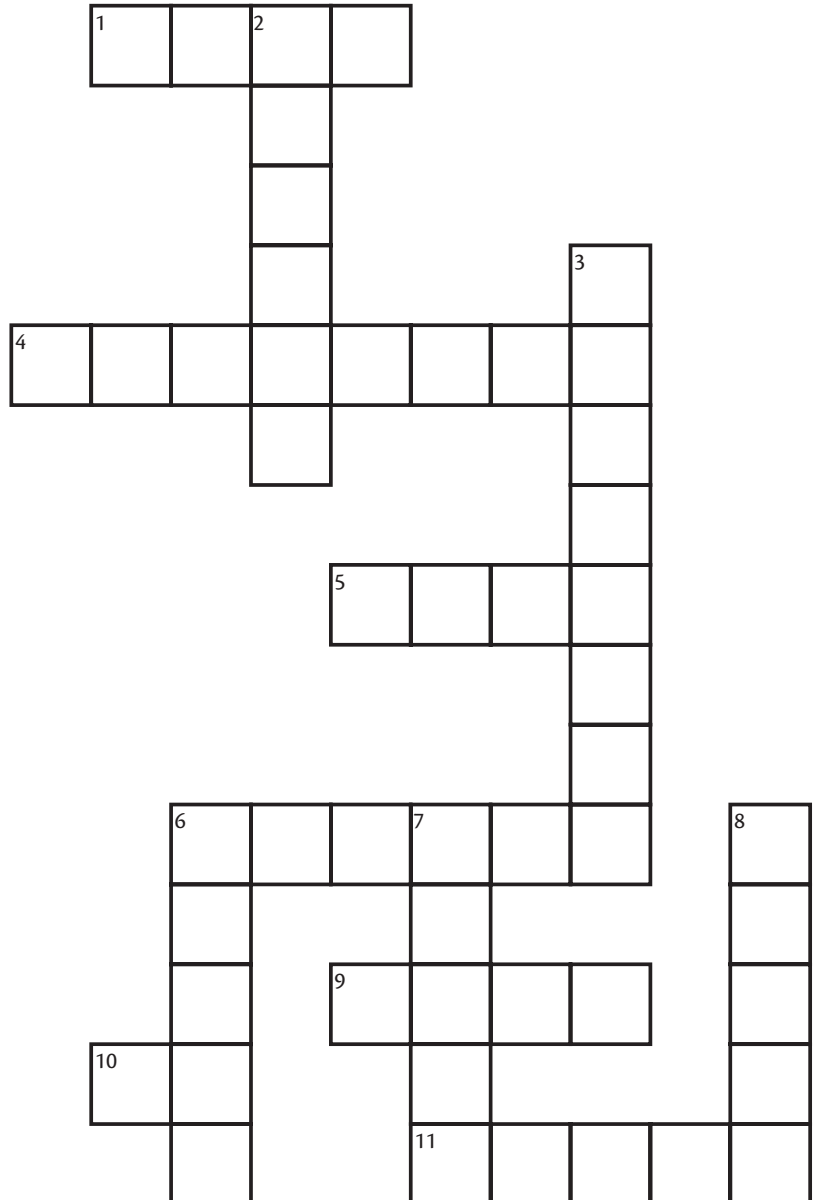
ACROSS

1. The one true God.
4. Anywhere.
5. Similar to.
6. Things we hope for or desire.
9. What we hold on with.
10. Opposite of she.
11. When one player follows another, they are taking _____.

DOWN

2. Water that flows.
3. Our memory verse is located in _____.
6. Something wet, clear, and satisfies thirst.
7. The part of our body that beats in our chest.
8. Male rulers who wear crowns.

2. What is our memory verse? Match the words from the crossword puzzle to the missing words in the spaces provided.



_____ 21:1 The _____ is in the
 _____ of the _____, _____ the _____ of
 _____; _____ it _____
 He _____.

God Protects Class Notes

PART 1: FAITH IN THE POWER OF GOD (Daniel 3:1, 3:4–6; 3:8, 3:12–15, 3:16–18, 3:21–27)

1. What did the king command the people to do? Worship a golden _____—an idol.
2. If they refused to bow down to the golden image they would be thrown into the burning _____.
3. Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego would _____ bow down to the gold image.
4. King Nebuchadnezzar was _____ at the men and commanded them to be brought before him.
5. What did Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego say when they were taken before the king?
 - a. ☐ God was able to deliver them from the furnace.
 - b. ☐ God would deliver them from the king's hand.
 - c. ☐ We do not serve other gods.
 - d. ☐ We will not worship the image you have set up.

WORD BANK

Not	Believed	Shut
Angel	Lions' Den	Fiery Furnace
Angry	Image	Four

6. What did the king see in the furnace? _____ men walking around, unhurt!

PART 2: GOD PROTECTED DANIEL (Daniel 6:10, 6:16–17, 6:22–23)

7. Daniel disobeyed King Darius and prayed to the one true God. What happened to him? He was thrown into a _____.
8. God sent His _____ to _____ the lions' mouths—Daniel was saved.
9. There was no injury on Daniel because He _____ in his God.

James 1:2–3 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance (NIV).

God helped Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego in their trials. But He did not take their trials away. They were challenged over and over because of their faith in the one true God. The Bible tells us that everyone who wants to live a godly life and follow Jesus Christ will suffer! That includes you and me if we trust Jesus. But God has promised that He will give us courage, strength, and His grace to get through any trial in our lives as we trust in Him.

God Protects Class Notes Answer Key

Print one class notes for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.

PART 1: FAITH IN THE POWER OF GOD (Daniel 3:1, 3:4–6; 3:8, 3:12–15, 3:16–18, 3:21–27)

1. What did the king command the people to do? Worship a golden image—an idol.
2. If they refused to bow down to the golden image they would be thrown into the burning fiery furnace.
3. Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego would not bow down to the gold image.
4. King Nebuchadnezzar was angry at the men and commanded them to be brought before him.
5. What did Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego say when they were taken before the king?
 - a. ☒ God was able to deliver them from the furnace.
 - b. ☒ God would deliver them from the king's hand.
 - c. ☒ We do not serve other gods.
 - d. ☒ We will not worship the image you have set up.
6. What did the king see in the furnace? Four men walking around, unhurt!

PART 2: GOD PROTECTED DANIEL (Daniel 6:10, 6:16–17, 6:22–23)

7. Daniel disobeyed King Darius and prayed to the one true God. What happened to him? He was thrown into a lions' den.
8. God sent His angel to shut the lions' mouths—Daniel was saved.
9. There was no injury on Daniel because He believed in his God.

James 1:2–3 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance (NIV).

God helped Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego in their trials. But He did not take their trials away. They were challenged over and over because of their faith in the one true God. The Bible tells us that everyone who wants to live a godly life and follow Jesus Christ will suffer! That includes you and me if we trust Jesus. But God has promised that He will give us courage, strength, and His grace to get through any trial in our lives as we trust in Him.

In Jeopardy Teacher Guide

Print one copy to use as a guide throughout this activity.

GAME SET-UP ON BOARD

Print and cut out the Category Titles and four copies of the Point Cards. Post the category titles across the top of the board as shown below. Then place one each of the four point cards (50, 100, 200, and 300) beneath each category title.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego	Daniel	Attributes of God	Mystery Question
50	50	50	50
100	100	100	100
200	200	200	200
300	300	300	300

GAME DIRECTIONS

1. Divide the class into teams of 3 or 4.
2. Teams will choose a question. For example, "Daniel for 300 points, please."
3. Ask the team the appropriate question from the In Jeopardy Questions sheet.
4. If the team gets it right, give team the paper with the point value from the board. If wrong, leave the paper on the board and move to the next team.
5. After all the questions have been asked, teams will add up their points. The team with the most points wins.

In Jeopardy Questions

Print one copy for your use.

SHADRACH, MESHACH, AND ABED-NEGO

50 points. What did King Nebuchadnezzar make out of gold? *A: An image, an idol.*

100 points. What did the king command the people do with this gold image? *A: Bow down and worship it.*

200 points. What was the punishment for those who refused to bow down to the gold image? *A: Thrown into the fiery furnace.*

300 points. How did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego react to the king? What did they say? *A: God can deliver us from the furnace; we will not worship the gold image; we will not serve other gods.*

DANIEL

50 points. The king commanded that no one pray to anyone but him. What did Daniel do that got him in trouble with the king? *A: He prayed to the true God.*

100 points. What did the king threaten to do to those who would not pray to him? *A: Throw them in the lions' den.*

200 points. What normally happened to people thrown in the lions' den? *A: They were killed by the lions.*

300 points. Daniel was not harmed by the lions. Who protected him? *A: God sent an angel to shut the lions' mouths.*

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

50 points. Which attribute means that God is all-powerful? *A: Omnipotent.*

100 points. Which attribute means that God is in control of all things? *A: Sovereign.*

200 points. Which attribute means that God knows all things? *A: Omniscient.*

300 points. Which attribute means that God is everywhere all the time? *A: Omnipresent.*

MYSTERY QUESTION

50 points. What made Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego so brave? *A: Their faith in God. They knew Him, and they trusted Him.*

100 points. How were the two accounts—that of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego and Daniel—the same? Give one answer. **(Question repeats three times. All three answers are listed here.)** *A: 1. They obeyed God—not the king. 2. All of them were saved miraculously by God. 3. They obeyed God because of their faith and trust in Him.*

200 points. How were the two accounts—that of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego and Daniel—the same? Give one answer. **(Question repeats three times. All three answers are listed here.)** *A: 1. They obeyed God—not the king. 2. All of them were saved miraculously by God. 3. They obeyed God because of their faith and trust in Him.*

300 points. How were the two accounts—that of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego and Daniel—the same? Give one answer. **(Question repeats three times. All three answers are listed here.)** *A: 1. They obeyed God—not the king. 2. All of them were saved miraculously by God. 3. They obeyed God because of their faith and trust in Him.*



Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego



Daniel

IN JEOPARDY CATEGORY TITLES: Print and cut out one set of these In Jeopardy Category Titles.

Attributes of God

Mystery Question

IN JEOPARDY CATEGORY TITLES: Print and cut out one set of these In Jeopardy Category Titles.

50

100

200

300

IN JEOPARDY POINT CARDS: Print and cut out four copies of these Point Cards, one set to be placed on the board under each category card.

Memory Verse Review Sheet

1. Complete the crossword puzzle using words from the memory verse.

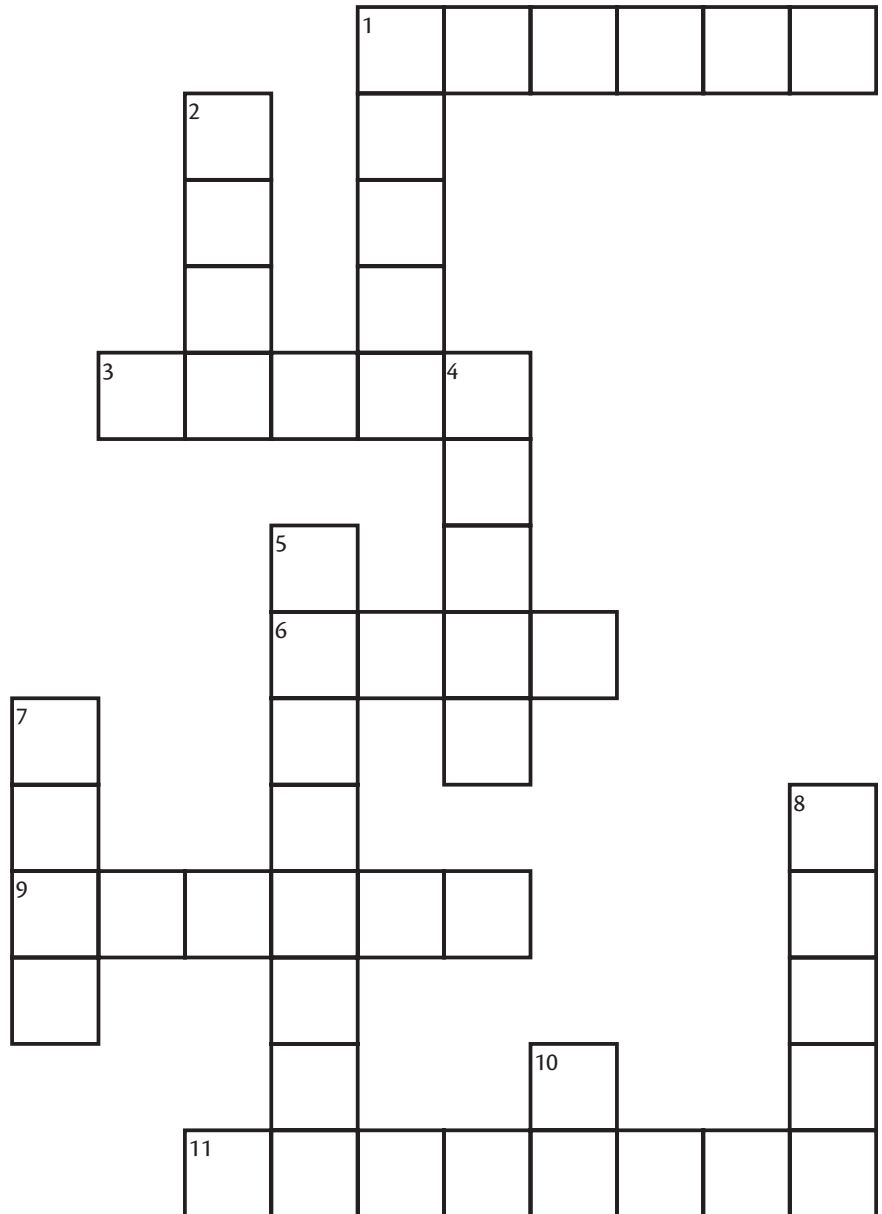
ACROSS

1. Things we hope for or desire.
3. The part of our body that beats in our chest.
6. What we hold on with.
9. Water that flows.
11. Our memory verse is located in the book of _____.

DOWN

1. Something wet, clear, and satisfies thirst.
2. Similar to.
4. When one player follows another, they are taking _____.
5. Anywhere.
7. The one true God.
8. Male rulers who wear crowns.
10. Opposite of she.

2. What is our memory verse? Match the words from the crossword puzzle to the missing words in the spaces provided.



_____ 11A _____ 21:1 The _____ 8D _____ 3A _____ is in
 the _____ 6A _____ of the _____ 7D _____ , _____ 2D _____ the _____ 9A _____
 of _____ 1D _____ ; _____ 10D _____ 4D _____ it _____ 5D _____
 He _____ 1A _____.

Reader's Theater Script

Characters: Narrator, Herald, Chaldeans, Nebuchadnezzar, Shadrach, Meshach, Abed-Nego, Counselors

PART 1 DANIEL 3:1, 3:4–6

Narrator: ¹Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height was sixty cubits and its width six cubits. He set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon. . . . ⁴Then a herald cried aloud:

Herald: (*Loud announcer's voice*) To you it is commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages, ⁵that at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, and psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, you shall fall down and worship the gold image that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up; ⁶and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

PART 2 DANIEL 3:8, 3:12–15

Narrator: ⁸Therefore at that time certain Chaldeans came forward and accused the Jews. . . .

Chaldeans: ¹²There are certain Jews whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego; these men, O king, have not paid due regard to you. They do not serve your gods or worship the gold image which you have set up.

Narrator: ¹³Then Nebuchadnezzar, in rage and fury, gave the command to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. So they brought these men before the king. ¹⁴Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying to them,

Nebuchadnezzar: Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the gold image which I have set up? ¹⁵Now if you are ready at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, and psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, and you fall down and worship the image which I have made, good! But if you do not worship, you shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. And who is the god who will deliver you from my hands?

PART 3 DANIEL 3:16–18

Narrator: ¹⁶ Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king,

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego: O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. ¹⁷ If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king. ¹⁸ But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up.

PART 4 DANIEL 3:21–27

Narrator: ²¹ Then these men were bound in their coats, their trousers, their turbans, and their other garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace. ²² Therefore, because the king's command was urgent, and the furnace exceedingly hot, the flame of the fire killed those men who took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. ²³ And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace. ²⁴ Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished; and he rose in haste and spoke, saying to his counselors,

Nebuchadnezzar: Did we not cast three men bound into the midst of the fire?

Counselors: True, O king.

Nebuchadnezzar: ²⁵ Look! I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.

Narrator: ²⁶ Then Nebuchadnezzar went near the mouth of the burning fiery furnace and spoke, saying,

Nebuchadnezzar: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, servants of the Most High God, come out, and come here.

Narrator: Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego came from the midst of the fire. ²⁷ And the satraps, administrators, governors, and the king's counselors gathered together, and they saw these men on whose bodies the fire had no power; the hair of their head was not singed nor were their garments affected, and the smell of fire was not on them.

Restoring Worship Class Notes

GOD IS SOVEREIGN (EZRA 1:1–6)

1. Who was the king? King _____ of Persia.
2. Who stirred the king's heart to let the people go home?
The _____.
3. God moved King Cyrus to allow the people to return and
build a _____ for God in Jerusalem.
4. The people left the country with _____ to help them build the Temple.

WORD BANK

sacrifices	praised	536
builders	good	Lord
Cyrus	priests	house
riches	mercy	515

THE TEMPLE BUILDING BEGINS (EZRA 3:10–11, 4:4–5, 6:15–17)

5. The _____ came and laid the foundation of the Temple of the Lord.
6. The _____ praised the Lord as the foundation was laid.
7. The people sang, "For He is _____, for His _____ endures forever
toward Israel."
8. And all the people shouted with a great shout and _____ the Lord.
9. When did the people start building the temple? _____ BC
10. When was the Temple finally done? _____ BC
11. When the Temple was completed, the people gathered together, celebrated, and offered
_____ to the holy God.

Restoring Worship Class Notes Answer Key

Print one class notes for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.

GOD IS SOVEREIGN (EZRA 1:1–6)

1. Who was the king? King Cyrus of Persia.
2. Who stirred the king's heart to let the people go home? The Lord.
3. God moved King Cyrus to allow the people to return and build a house for God in Jerusalem.
4. The people left the country with riches to help them build the Temple.

WORD BANK

sacrifices	praised	536
builders	good	Lord
Cyrus	priests	house
riches	mercy	515

THE TEMPLE BUILDING BEGINS (EZRA 3:10–11, 4:4–5, 6:15–17)

5. The builders came and laid the foundation of the Temple of the Lord.
6. The priests praised the Lord as the foundation was laid.
7. The people sang, "For He is good, for His mercy endures forever toward Israel."
8. And all the people shouted with a great shout and praised the Lord.
9. When did the people start building the temple? 536 BC
10. When was the Temple finally done? 515 BC
11. When the Temple was completed, the people gathered together, celebrated, and offered sacrifices to the holy God.

Memory Verse Review Sheet

1. Complete the crossword puzzle using words from the memory verse.

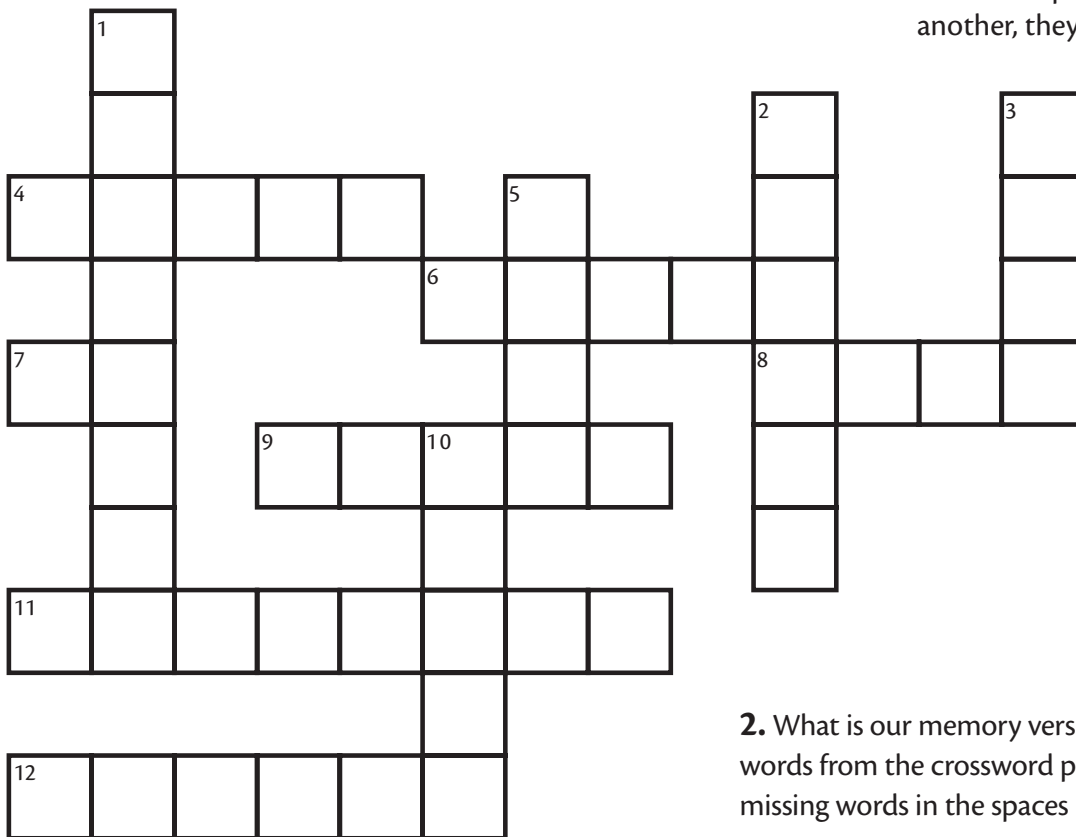
ACROSS

4. The part of our body that beats in our chest.
6. Male rulers who wear crowns.
7. Opposite of she.

8. What we hold on with.
9. Something wet, clear, and satisfies thirst.
11. Our memory verse is located in ____.
12. Water that flows.

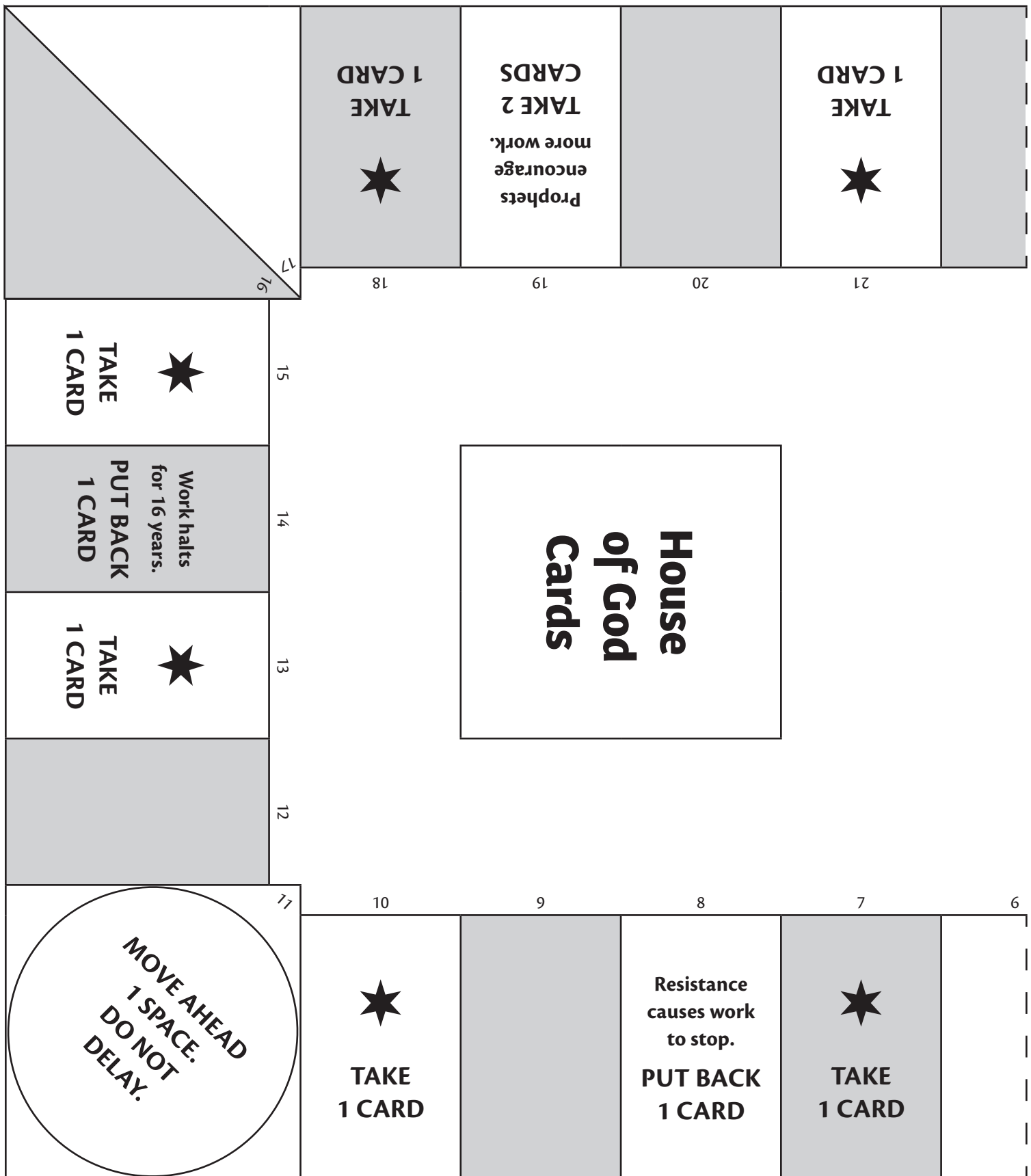
DOWN

1. Anywhere.
2. Things we hope for or desire.
3. The one true God.
5. Similar to.
10. When one player follows another, they are taking ____.

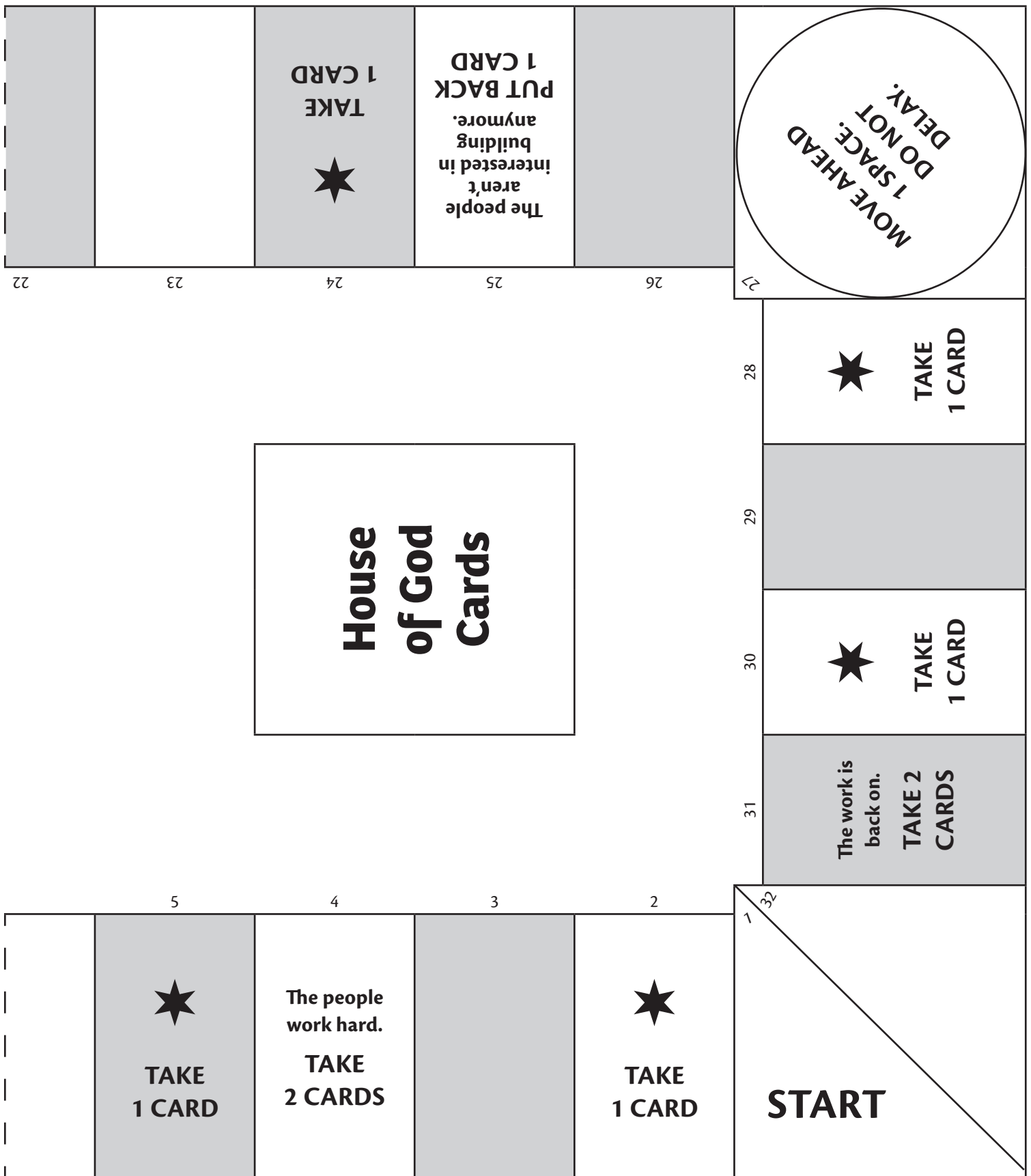


2. What is our memory verse? Match the words from the crossword puzzle to the missing words in the spaces provided.

_____ 11A _____ **21:1** The _____ 6A _____ 4A _____ is in
 the _____ 8A _____ of the _____ 3D _____, _____ 5D _____ the _____ 12A _____
 of _____ 9A _____; _____ 7A _____ 10D _____ it _____ 1D _____
 He _____ 2D _____.



GAME BOARD: Print, cut out, and tape together one Game Board for every two teams of 2–4 students each. Teams will pick Game Numbers out of the cup to determine how many spaces they will move. For each correct answer, the team will draw a House of God Card from its stack of cards.



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2

2

2

2

2

2

2

2

4

4

4

4

4

4

6

6

6

6

8

8

GAME NUMBERS: Divide the students into teams of 2–4 students. Print and cut out one set of Game Numbers for every two teams. Numbers will be used to determine spaces to move on the Game Board.

Restore the Temple Game Teacher Guide

Print one for your use.

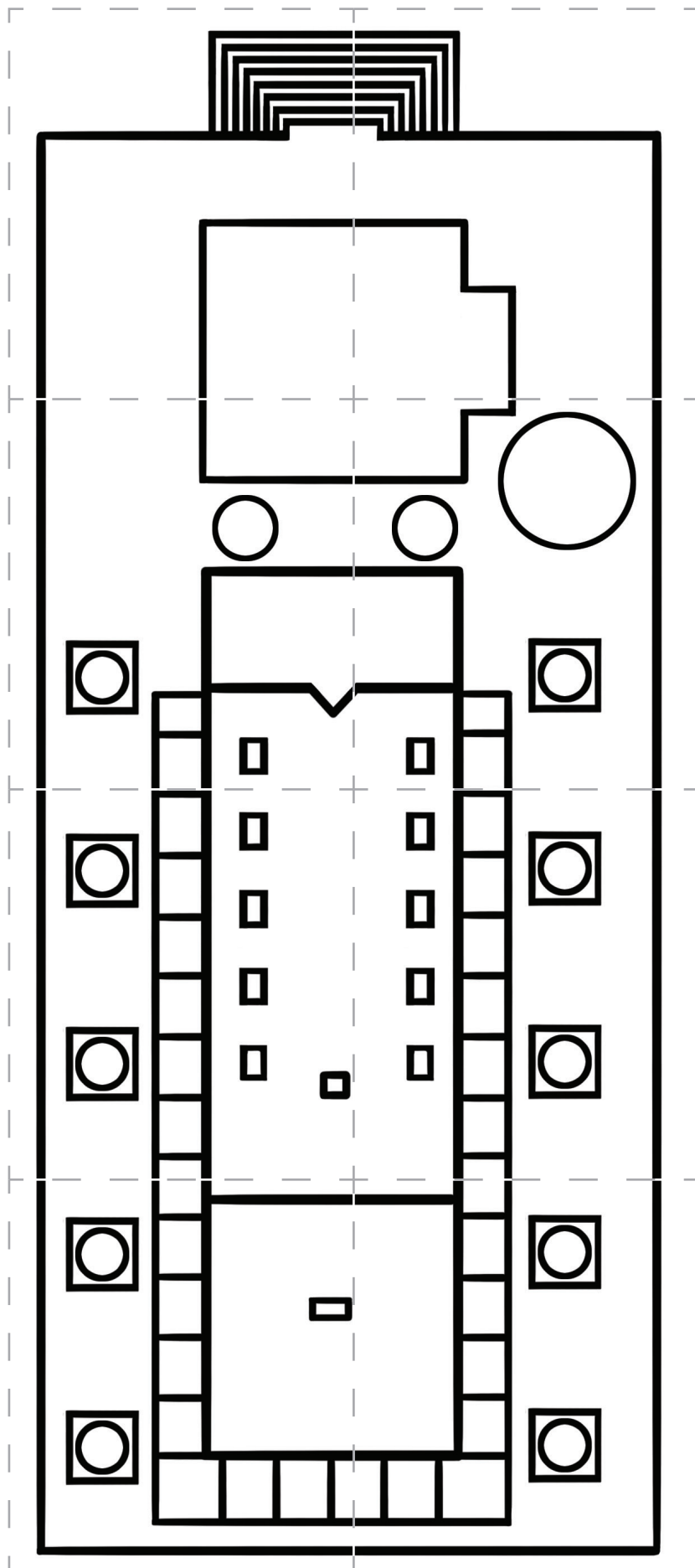
GAME PLAY DIRECTIONS

1. Divide the class into teams of 2–4 students. The teams will compete against each other using one Game Board.
2. Print and assemble one Game Board for every two teams before class.
3. Explain to the teams that the goal of the game is to collect all of their House of God Cards and build their Temple first. They should assemble the House of God Cards as the game progresses.
4. You will ask each team a question. If players answer it correctly, they will pick a number card, move that many spaces, and follow the directions on the space where they land.
5. The team that collects all its House of God Cards and builds its Temple first, wins.

QUESTIONS

Use these questions for the game. Repeat as needed.

1. What book of the Bible were we reading in the lesson today? *Ezra.*
2. Who was the king of Persia in this lesson? *King Cyrus.*
3. Who stirred the king's heart to let the people go home? *The Lord.*
4. Who did the king allow to go home to Jerusalem? *The Jews who had been captured 70 years earlier.*
5. What was given to the people before they left Babylon for Jerusalem? *Treasures, riches.*
6. What were the people going to build? *The House of the Lord.*
7. Where was the Temple to be built? *Jerusalem.*
8. What did the builders do first? *Put down the foundation of the Temple of the Lord.*
9. Why did the building stop for many years? *The people in the land wanted to stop them.*
10. Who led the people in praising the Lord as the foundation was laid? *The priests.*
11. How long did it take them to build the Temple? *21 years.*
12. When the Temple was finally built, what did the people do? *Celebrated!*
13. What did the priests offer in the new Temple? *Sacrifices to God.*



HOUSE OF GOD CARDS: *Print and cut out one set of cards per team. Each team will draw from its own set of House of God Cards during the game.*

God Uses Esther Class Notes

PART 1 What happened in Esther? (Esther 2:8–9, 2:16–17, 2:21–23, 3:8–10)

1. The nation of _____ is the location of all the events in the book of Esther.
2. The king became angry with the _____ and removed her from the throne.
3. The king wanted a new queen, so he gathered the beautiful young _____ of his kingdom.
4. Hegai, who was in charge of all the women, liked _____ above all the other women and treated her well.
5. Esther came before the king. The king _____ her more than all the other women.
6. He put the royal _____ on Esther's head and made her queen.
7. After Esther became Queen, Mordecai overheard two men who were planning to kill the _____.
8. Mordecai told Queen Esther. Queen Esther told the king. The king's life was saved. The men were _____ on a gallows.
9. The plot to kill the king was recorded, including the fact that it was _____ who warned the queen that the king was in danger.
10. _____ hated the Jews and used his power to get the king to order their destruction.

PART 2 God protected the Jews (Esther 4:15–17, 8:3–8)

11. Mordecai pleaded with Esther to go before the king. Because she had not been invited, the king could _____ her on the spot!
12. Esther told Mordecai to gather the Jews and _____ for three days before she approached the king.
13. When Esther approached the king, he _____ her.
14. The chronicles reminded the king that it was Mordecai who had _____ his life in the past.
15. At the second banquet, Queen Esther told the king of Haman's wicked plot to kill all the _____.
16. The king cancelled Haman's letter. Mordecai and Queen Esther wrote another letter from the king that _____ the Jews and saved the lives of God's people in Persia.

king	saved	Jews	Esther	loved	fast
hanged	welcomed	crown	Mordecai	kill	women
queen	Haman	protected	Persia		

God Uses Esther Class Notes Answer Key

Print one class notes for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.

PART 1 What happened in Esther? (Esther 2:8–9, 2:16–17, 2:21–23, 3:8–10)

1. The nation of Persia is the location of all the events in the book of Esther.
2. The king became angry with the queen and removed her from the throne.
3. The king wanted a new queen, so he gathered the beautiful young women of his kingdom.
4. Hegai, who was in charge of all the women, liked Esther above all the other women and treated her well.
5. Esther came before the king. The king loved her more than all the other women.
6. He put the royal crown on Esther's head and made her queen.
7. After Esther became Queen, Mordecai overheard two men who were planning to kill the king.
8. Mordecai told Queen Esther. Queen Esther told the king. The king's life was saved. The men were hanged on a gallows.
9. The plot to kill the king was recorded, including the fact that it was Mordecai who warned the queen that the king was in danger.
10. Haman hated the Jews and used his power to get the king to order their destruction.

PART 2 God protected the Jews (Esther 4:15–17, 8:3–8)

11. Mordecai pleaded with Esther to go before the king. Because she had not been invited, the king could kill her on the spot!
12. Esther told Mordecai to gather the Jews and fast for three days before she approached the king.
13. When Esther approached the king, he welcomed her.
14. The chronicles reminded the king that it was Mordecai who had saved his life in the past.
15. At the second banquet, Queen Esther told the king of Haman's wicked plot to kill all the Jews.
16. The king cancelled Haman's letter. Mordecai and Queen Esther wrote another letter from the king that protected the Jews and saved the lives of God's people in Persia.

king	saved	Jews	Esther	loved	fast
hanged	welcomed	crown	Mordecai	kill	women
queen	Haman	protected	Persia		

Memory Verse Review Sheet

1. Complete the crossword puzzle using words from the memory verse.

ACROSS

4. Water that flows.
5. What we hold on with.
6. Something wet, clear, and satisfies thirst.
7. When one player follows another, they are taking ____.
8. Opposite of she.
10. Male rulers who wear crowns.
11. Anywhere.

DOWN

1. The one true God.
2. The part of our body that beats in our chest.
3. Our memory verse is located in ____.
6. Things we hope for or desire.
9. Similar to.

2. What is our memory verse? Match the words from the crossword puzzle to the missing words in the spaces provided.

A crossword puzzle grid is shown, consisting of white squares for letters and black squares for empty space. The grid is 10 squares wide and 14 squares high. The numbered starting points for the words are as follows:

- 1: Down, starting at (4, 1)
- 2: Down, starting at (2, 8)
- 3: Down, starting at (8, 1)
- 4: Down, starting at (4, 6)
- 5: Across, starting at (1, 7)
- 6: Across, starting at (5, 10)
- 7: Across, starting at (1, 12)
- 8: Down, starting at (5, 13)
- 9: Down, starting at (2, 14)
- 10: Across, starting at (1, 15)
- 11: Across, starting at (1, 18)

_____ **21:1** The _____ is in
 _____ 3D _____ 10A _____ 2D
 the _____ of the _____, _____ the _____
 _____ 5A _____ 1D _____ 9D _____ 4A
 of _____; _____ it _____
 _____ 6A _____ 8A _____ 7A _____ 11A
 He _____.
 _____ 6D

Royal Relay Teacher Guide

Print one copy.

GAME SUPPLIES

- Two scepters (wrapping paper tubes, dowel rods, or yardsticks)
- Royal Relay Cards printed and cut apart
- Tape, ribbon, and/or string to use on the Royal Relay Cards

GAME PREPARATION

Print and cut out one set of Royal Relay Cards. Place large loops of tape, ribbon, or string on the back of each card. Scatter the cards face down on the floor at the front of the class.

GAME DIRECTIONS

- Divide the class into two teams.
- Give each team a scepter.
- Teams will take turns using the scepter to pick up one of the Royal Relay Cards, return it to their team, and answer the question. (Each card should have a loop of tape, ribbon, or string on the back.)
- If they answer correctly, teams will keep the cards and earn a point. If not, the card should be returned to the floor.
- Game is finished when all the cards are used up. The team with the most cards/points for correct answers wins.

QUEEN ESTHER RELAY QUESTIONS

1. Where did the events in the book of Esther take place? *Persia.*
2. What happened to the first queen? *The king got angry and removed her from the throne.*
3. What was Esther's background? *She was Jewish.*
4. Who raised Esther after her parents died? *Mordecai.*
5. Why were all the beautiful young women brought to the palace? *The king was looking for a new queen.*
6. Who did Hegai, the man in charge of the women in the palace, especially like? *Esther.*
7. What did the king think about Esther when she went in to see him? *He loved her.*
8. Who was the man who wanted Mordecai and all the Jews dead? *Haman.*
9. Where would Mordecai sit? *Within the king's gate.*
10. What did Mordecai overhear? *A plot to murder the king.*
11. Who did the king crown as the new queen? *Esther.*
12. Who did Haman, the king's servant, hate and want destroyed? *Mordecai and the Jews.*
13. What did Esther call the Jews and Mordecai to do before she went to see the king? *Fast, no food or water for three days, pray.*
14. Who was willing to perish to save the Jews? *Esther.*
15. The king could not sleep. What did he hear from the chronicles about Mordecai? *Mordecai had saved the king's life by telling Esther about a plan to kill him.*
16. Why was Esther so scared to go to see the king to ask for his help? *She could be killed. She was not invited to see him.*
17. What did the king do when Esther approached? She knew she would not be killed because of this. *The king lowered his royal scepter.*
18. Who ended up dying by the king's order? *Haman.*
19. Who wrote the new decree or letter that saved the lives of the Jews, Queen Esther, and Mordecai? *Queen Esther and Mordecai.*
20. Who is the main character of the book of Esther in the Bible? *God.*

1. Where did the events in the book of Esther take place?

2. What happened to the first queen?

3. What was Esther's background?

4. Who raised Esther after her parents died?

5. Why were all the beautiful young women brought to the palace?

6. Who did Hegai, the man in charge of the women in the palace, especially like?

ROYAL RELAY CARDS: Print onto cardstock and cut out one set of cards. See the Royal Relay Teacher Guide for game directions.

7. What did the king think about Esther when she went in to see him?

8. Who was the man who wanted Mordecai and all the Jews dead?

9. Where would Mordecai sit?

10. What did Mordecai overhear?

11. Who did the king crown as the new queen?

12. Who did Haman, the king's servant, hate and want destroyed?

ROYAL RELAY CARDS: Print onto cardstock and cut out one set of cards. See the Royal Relay Teacher Guide for game directions.

13. What did Esther call the Jews and Mordecai to do before she went to see the king?

14. Who was willing to perish to save the Jews?

15. The king could not sleep. What did he hear from the chronicles about Mordecai?

16. Why was Esther so scared to go to see the king to ask for his help?

17. What did the king do when Esther approached? She knew she would not be killed because of this.

18. Who ended up dying by the king's order?

ROYAL RELAY CARDS: Print onto cardstock and cut out one set of cards. See the Royal Relay Teacher Guide for game directions.

**19. Who wrote the
new decree or
letter that saved
the lives of the
Jews, Queen
Esther, and
Mordecai?**

**20. Who is the main
character of the
book of Esther in
the Bible?**

ROYAL RELAY CARDS: Print onto cardstock and cut out one set of cards. See the Royal Relay Teacher Guide for game directions.

SINGLE

SINGLE

SINGLE

SINGLE

SINGLE

SINGLE

SINGLE

SINGLE

DOUBLE

DOUBLE

DOUBLE

DOUBLE

DOUBLE

DOUBLE

TRIPLE

TRIPLE

TRIPLE

TRIPLE

TRIPLE

TRIPLE

HOME RUN

HOME RUN

HOME RUN

HOME RUN

Print and cut out one or two copies. Put the Hits in a cup.

Bible Baseball Scripture Sheet

LESSON 1

Daniel 1:8–9, 1:12, 1:15–17

⁸ But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself. ⁹ Now God had brought Daniel into the favor and goodwill of the chief of the eunuchs. . . .

¹² "Please test your servants for ten days, and let them give us vegetables to eat and water to drink. . . ."

¹⁵ And at the end of ten days their features appeared better and fatter in flesh than all the young men who ate the portion of the king's delicacies. ¹⁶ Thus the steward took away their portion of delicacies and the wine that they were to drink, and gave them vegetables. ¹⁷ As for these four young men, God gave them knowledge and skill in all literature and wisdom; and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.

LESSON 2

Ezekiel 1:4, 1:28

⁴ Then I looked, and behold, a whirlwind was coming out of the north, a great cloud with raging fire engulfing itself; and brightness was all around it and radiating out of its midst like the color of amber, out of the midst of the fire. . . .

²⁸ Like the appearance of a rainbow in a cloud on a rainy day, so was the appearance of the brightness all around it. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord. So when I saw it, I fell on my face, and I heard a voice of One speaking.

Isaiah 6:1, 6:5

¹ In the year that King Uzziah died, I [Isaiah] saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. . . .

⁵ So I said: "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts."

Revelation 1:17

¹⁷ And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last."

LESSON 3

Jeremiah 31:33–34

³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. ³⁴ No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.

Hebrews 9:11

¹¹ But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation.

LESSON 4

Daniel 3:5–6, 3:17, 3:25

⁵ . . . at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, and psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, you shall fall down and worship the gold image that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up; ⁶ and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. . . ."

¹⁷ "If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king. . . ."

²⁵ "Look!" he answered, "I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God."

Daniel 6:16, 6:22

¹⁶ So the king gave the command, and they brought Daniel and cast him into the den of lions. But the king spoke, saying to Daniel, “Your God, whom you serve continually, He will deliver you. . . .”

²² “My God sent His angel and shut the lions’ mouths, so that they have not hurt me, because I was found innocent before Him; and also, O king, I have done no wrong before you.”

LESSON 5

Ezra 1:1–2

¹ Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and also put it in writing, saying,

² Thus says Cyrus king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the Lord God of heaven has given me. And He has commanded me to build Him a house at Jerusalem which is in Judah.

Ezra 3:10–11

¹⁰ When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the Lord, the priests stood in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites, the sons of Asaph, with cymbals, to praise the Lord, according to the ordinance of David king of Israel. ¹¹ And they sang responsively, praising and giving thanks to the Lord:

“For He is good, for His mercy endures forever toward Israel.” Then all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the Lord, because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid.

LESSON 6

Esther 2:7–8, 2:17

⁷ And Mordecai had brought up Hadassah, that is, Esther, his uncle’s daughter, for she had neither father nor mother. The young woman was lovely and beautiful. When her father and mother died, Mordecai took her as his own daughter. ⁸ So it was, when the king’s command and decree were heard . . . that Esther also was taken to the king’s palace, into the care of Hegai the custodian of the women . . .

¹⁷ The king loved Esther more than all the other women, and she obtained grace and favor in his sight more than all the virgins; so he set the royal crown upon her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.

Esther 4:16

¹⁶ Go, gather all the Jews who are present in Shushan, and fast for me; neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. My maids and I will fast likewise. And so I will go to the king, which is against the law; and if I perish, I perish!

Esther 8:5

⁵ And [Esther] said, “If it pleases the king, and if I have found favor in his sight and the thing seems right to the king and I am pleasing in his eyes, let it be written to revoke the letters devised by Haman . . . which he wrote to annihilate the Jews who are in all the king’s provinces.”

Esther 8:8

⁸ You yourselves write a decree concerning the Jews, as you please, in the king’s name, and seal it with the king’s signet ring; for whatever is written in the king’s name and sealed with the king’s signet ring no one can revoke.

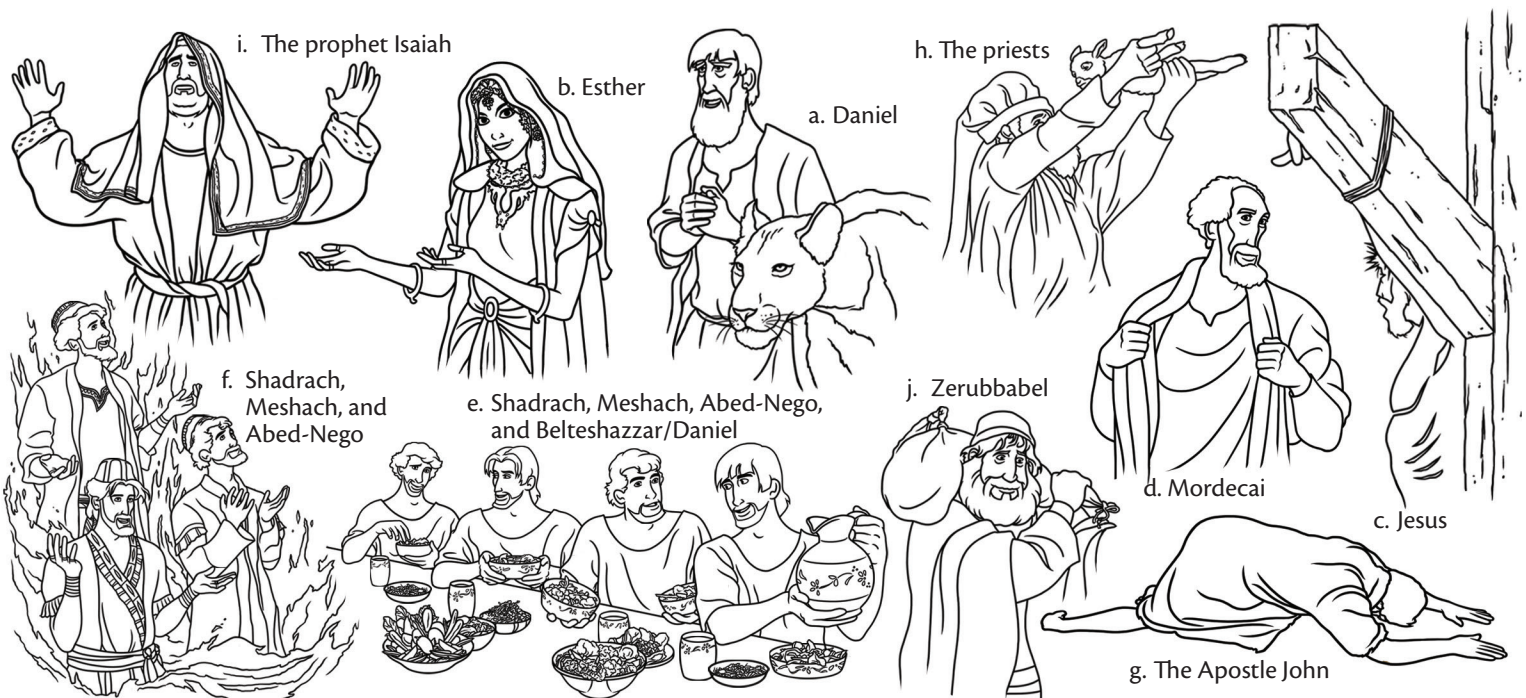
96	114	89
124	99	103
117	106	120
100	121	88
129	118	98
122	105	125
128	92	101

Print one copy and cut out the Point Cards. Put the points in an envelope or appropriate container to use during the Memory Verse Review Game.

Name That Person

Read the description then match the event to the person it goes with. Look at the Lesson Theme Posters if you need help!

1. Who fell at Jesus's feet as though dead when he had a vision of heaven? (Lesson 2) _____
2. Who were placed in a fiery furnace when they broke the king's law by refusing not to bow down to a golden idol? (Lesson 4) _____
3. Who was used by God to encourage Esther to approach the king of Persia? (Lesson 6) _____
4. Who led the first group of Jewish captives back to Judah after 70 years of captivity? (Lesson 5) _____
5. Who said, "Woe is me, for I am undone" when he saw the glory of the Lord in a vision? (Lesson 2) _____
6. Who refused to eat the king's food because it was forbidden by Jewish law? (Lesson 1) _____
7. Who offered the one sacrifice to take away the sins of all who would believe? (Lesson 3) _____
8. Who was chosen to be queen even though she was a Jew living in the pagan land of Persia? (Lesson 6) _____
9. Who was thrown into a den of lions when he broke the king's law that said no one could pray to God? (Lesson 4) _____
10. Who made the sacrifices day after day under the Old Covenant? (Lesson 3) _____

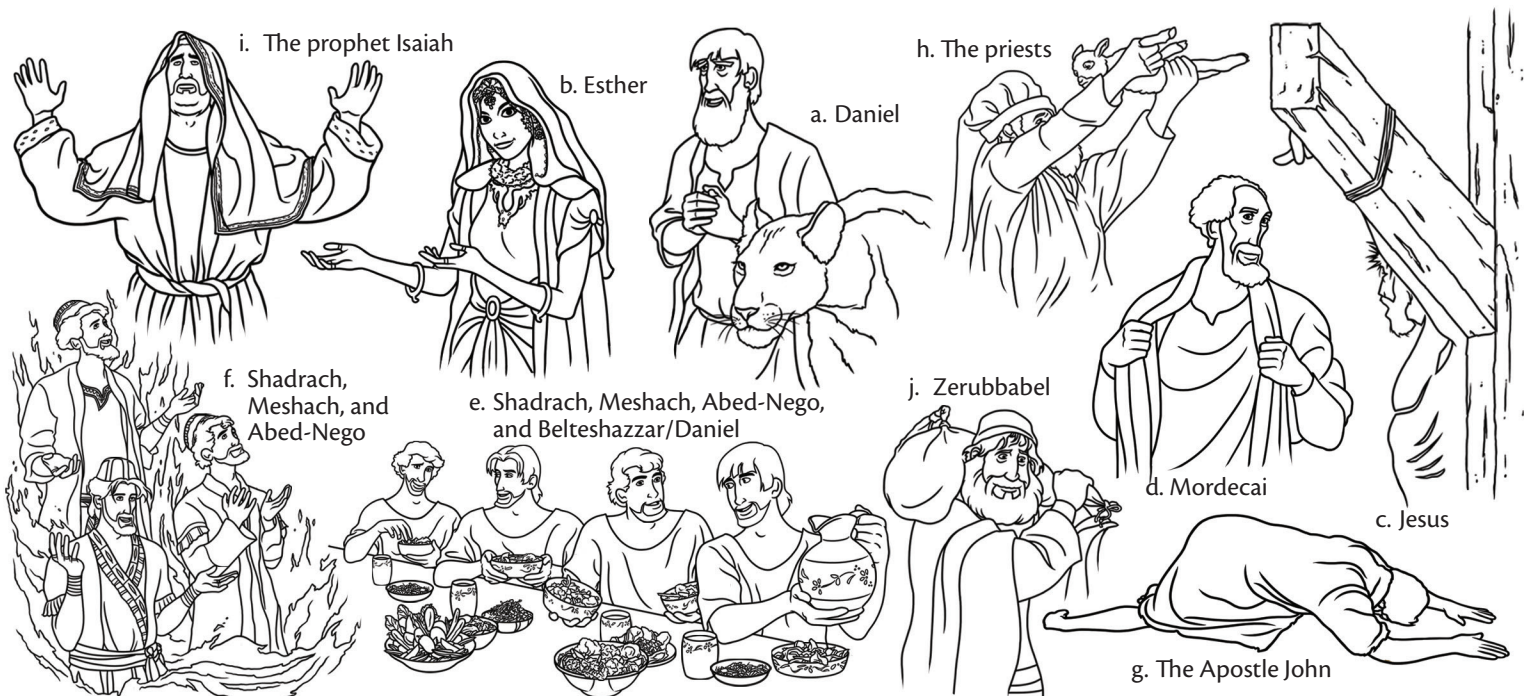


Name that Person Answer Key

Print one worksheet for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.

Read the description then match the event to the person it goes with. Look at the Lesson Theme Posters if you need help!

1. Who fell at Jesus's feet as though dead when he had a vision of heaven? (Lesson 2) g
2. Who were placed in a fiery furnace when they broke the king's law by refusing not to bow down to a golden idol? (Lesson 4) f
3. Who was used by God to encourage Esther to approach the king of Persia? (Lesson 6) d
4. Who led the first group of Jewish captives back to Judah after 70 years of captivity? (Lesson 5) j
5. Who said, "Woe is me, for I am undone" when he saw the glory of the Lord in a vision? (Lesson 2) i
6. Who refused to eat the king's food because it was forbidden by Jewish law? (Lesson 1) e
7. Who offered the one sacrifice to take away the sins of all who would believe? (Lesson 3) c
8. Who was chosen to be queen even though she was a Jew living in the pagan land of Persia? (Lesson 6) b
9. Who was thrown into a den of lions when he broke the king's law that said no one could pray to God? (Lesson 4) a
10. Who made the sacrifices day after day under the Old Covenant? (Lesson 3) h



God Is Awesome! Script

Characters: Arielle, Tessa, and Max talking together at school.

Tessa: Did you see that movie last night? It was awesome!

Arielle: Oh, yeah. And the costumes were great! They really were awesome. It was so amazing. Don't you think so, Max?

Max: Well, I saw it, and I really liked it, but I don't think I would call it AWESOME! That is a strong word to use for a movie!

Tessa: What are you talking about, "a strong word"? It was awesome!

Max: Well, like I said, it was really cool, the costumes were great, the special effects were unbelievable.

Arielle: That's right! Like Tessa said, the movie was awesome!

Max: No. I just don't like using that word to describe a movie.

Tessa: What is your problem with that word?

Max: Well, you may not get it.

Arielle: Um. Please Max. We'll get it!

Max: Well, first of all, what do you think awesome means?

Tessa: Really cool!

Arielle: Right. It means something is really neat.

Max: That is our first problem. That is not the meaning of that word. If something is awesome it should fill us with awe!

Tessa: Fill us with awe? What do you mean?

Max: Well, awe is a sense of fear, wonder, and great respect.

Arielle: Fear? Wonder? Great respect? I never heard that before.

Max: Yes. And who do you know who deserves all that? Who deserves all of our respect? Who is so great and so powerful that we should be filled with wonder and holy fear?

Tessa: No one but God, I guess.

Max: That's right. We know from the Bible that God is awesome! He is the Creator of all things. In fact, He created everything by just speaking it all into existence. And He controls everything that goes on in this universe! He is working all things all the time so His perfect plans will be done.

Tessa: Well, yeah, we know that. But are you saying we shouldn't say awesome? Is there something wrong with it? Is it a sin?

Max: No, of course not. It's just that the Bible describes God over and over as awesome. And if the Bible calls God awesome, that is what I want to call Him.

Tessa: I agree. God is awesome! But why can't we use the word at other times?

Max: You can, Tessa. That is up to you. But I don't feel right describing a movie, my clothes, a skateboard, or a high score on a video game in the same way the Bible describes the AWESOME God!

Arielle: I think I understand. I mean if we believe God is who He says He is, and He has done so many wonderful things...if we really believe He is holy and deserves ALL the glory from the people He created—

Tessa: (*Interrupting Arielle*)—That does make sense! If He is the God we say He is, and we believe that nothing in the universe could possibly be greater than Him—especially a movie made by men—we shouldn't describe Him the same way we describe the movie.

Arielle: Right. Because when we call the movie or anything else awesome, we really aren't full of wonder! And certainly not respect—it's just a movie!

Max: That's right. And that is why I try to reserve the word AWESOME to describe God. I just don't think the word fits for anyone but Him. After all, everything was created by Him and comes from Him.

Arielle: And I guess nothing that He created can be as great or awesome as He is!

Tessa: So, getting back to the movie! It was really good, right?

Max: Yes! It was. I enjoyed it.

Arielle: But it really wasn't awesome! I'm going to try to reserve that word for God alone.

Restoring God's Law Class Notes

PART 1 Ezra Leads the People Home (Ezra 7:6–10, 8:31)

1. Ezra prepared his heart to _____ the Law of the Lord, to _____ it, and to _____ the statutes.
2. The hand of _____ was upon them as they traveled.
3. God delivered them from the hand of the _____ as they went.

PART 2 The Sin of the People (Ezra 9:1–3, 5–6)

4. Ezra was very upset when he heard of the people's sins against God. He was so upset he tore his _____ and plucked _____ from his head and his beard.
5. Ezra was completely astonished at what he had heard, he fell on his knees, spread out his hand to the Lord and _____.
6. Ezra was ashamed before God because of the _____ and _____ of the people against God.

PART 3 Repentance (Ezra 10:1–3, 10:10–11)

7. While Ezra prayed and wept, the people came before him. They, too, were weeping because of their _____ against God.
8. Ezra told the people to _____ their sin to the Lord, do the _____ will, and _____ themselves from the people of the land who did not worship God, including their wives.
9. The Jews repented of their sin and turned back to the one true _____.

WORD BANK

sin	do	God	robe
God	prayed	confess	sin
hair	guilt	seek	Lord's
separate	enemy	teach	

Restoring God's Law Class Notes Answer Key

Print one class notes for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.

PART 1 Ezra Leads the People Home (Ezra 7:6–10, 8:31)

1. Ezra prepared his heart to seek the Law of the Lord, to do it, and to teach the statutes.
2. The hand of God was upon them as they traveled.
3. God delivered them from the hand of the enemy as they went.

PART 2 The Sin of the People (Ezra 9:1–3, 5–6)

4. Ezra was very upset when he heard of the people's sins against God. He was so upset he tore his robe and plucked hair from his head and his beard.
5. Ezra was completely astonished at what he had heard, he fell on his knees, spread out his hand to the Lord and prayed.
6. Ezra was ashamed before God because of the sin and guilt of the people against God.

PART 3 Repentance (Ezra 10:1–3, 10:10–11)

7. While Ezra prayed and wept, the people came before him. They, too, were weeping because of their sin against God.
8. Ezra told the people to confess their sin to the Lord, do the Lord's will, and separate themselves from the people of the land who did not worship God, including their wives.
9. The Jews repented of their sin and turned back to the one true God.

WORD BANK

sin	do	God	robe
God	prayed	confess	sin
hair	guilt	seek	Lord's
separate	enemy	teach	

Ezra and the People's Repentance Script

Cast: Reader #1, Reader #2, Reader #3, Ezra, and God.

Reader #1: *(speaking in a formal and serious tone throughout)* This is the account of the Jews in Jerusalem. It takes place after they lived 70 years in captivity in Babylon.

Reader #3: *(breaking character/looking around at the others)* Captivity? Why were they in captivity?

Readers #1 and #2: *(still serious)* Because they had sinned against the Lord!

Reader #3: *(still out of character)* Oh, yeah.

Reader #1: *(clearing throat to begin dramatically)* The Lord moved the heart of King Cyrus to send the first group of Jews back to Jerusalem. They were led by Zerubbabel.

Reader #3: Zerubbabel rebuilt the Temple and reestablished worship in Jerusalem.

Reader #2: After these things, the Lord moved the heart of a new king in Persia, King Artaxerxes, who sent more Jews back to Jerusalem.

Reader #1: This time the priest and scribe Ezra led them.

Reader #1 and 3: The hand of the Lord was upon Ezra and the Jews as they traveled 1,000 miles to Jerusalem.

Reader #2: When he arrived, Ezra found out that the Jews in Jerusalem were disobeying God by marrying foreign women who worshipped idols.

Reader #3: What bad news! Ezra tore his clothes, plucked out some hair, and fell down in prayer.

Readers #1, 2, and 3: Here is what Ezra said.

Ezra: *(read with passion taken from Ezra 9:6–15)* O my God, I am too ashamed to lift up my face to You. Our sins are terrible! Since the days of our fathers to this day we have sinned against You. Because of our sin, You delivered us into the hands of the kings of the lands and allowed us to be mistreated. And now the Lord has shown us grace, to allow a few to escape. For we were slaves. Yet our God did not forsake us in our bondage but extended mercy to us. And now, O God, we have turned from You again in our sin. For You commanded us, saying,

God: The land you are entering is an unclean land. The uncleanness of the people of the lands, with their abominations, have filled it. Now therefore, do NOT give your daughters as wives nor their sons in marriage, nor take their daughters for your sons in marriage. And NEVER seek the peace of the pagans. Then you will remain strong and eat the good of the land, and leave it as an inheritance to your children forever.

Ezra: But we did not listen then and sinned against You again. And we suffered captivity as Your punishment. But You have AGAIN given us deliverance—bringing us home after 70 years of captivity in Babylon. And now I see that Your people have yet AGAIN broken Your commandments. We have joined in marriage with people of foreign nations who do not worship You alone! You would be right to consume us all together and leave no survivors. But You are righteous, gracious, and merciful, O God of Israel. In spite of our sin and guilt, You have again spared Your people from Your judgment.

Reader #3: As Ezra prayed, the people heard. They were moved to tears and convicted of their sins, so they asked for God's forgiveness.

Reader #1: They knew they were sinning against God by taking pagan wives.

Reader #3: *(breaking character/looking around at the others)* Wait a minute. I have another question. Why didn't God want them to marry people from foreign lands?

Reader #1: *(still formal and serious)* Because the people of other lands worshipped other gods.

Reader #2: God commanded them, "You shall not intermarry with them, for they would turn away your sons from following me, to serve other gods."

Reader #3: *(still out of character)* Oh. I get it. If a Jew married a pagan who worshipped false gods, then he could be influenced to worship the false gods, too. God wouldn't like that! There is only one true God worthy of our worship. What happened next?

Reader #2: The people confessed their sin to the Lord.

Reader #1: The people agreed to do the Lord's will.

Reader #3: The people separated themselves from the pagan wives.

Readers #1, 2, and 3: This was the account of Ezra and the people's repentance in Jerusalem.

Memory Verse Review Sheet

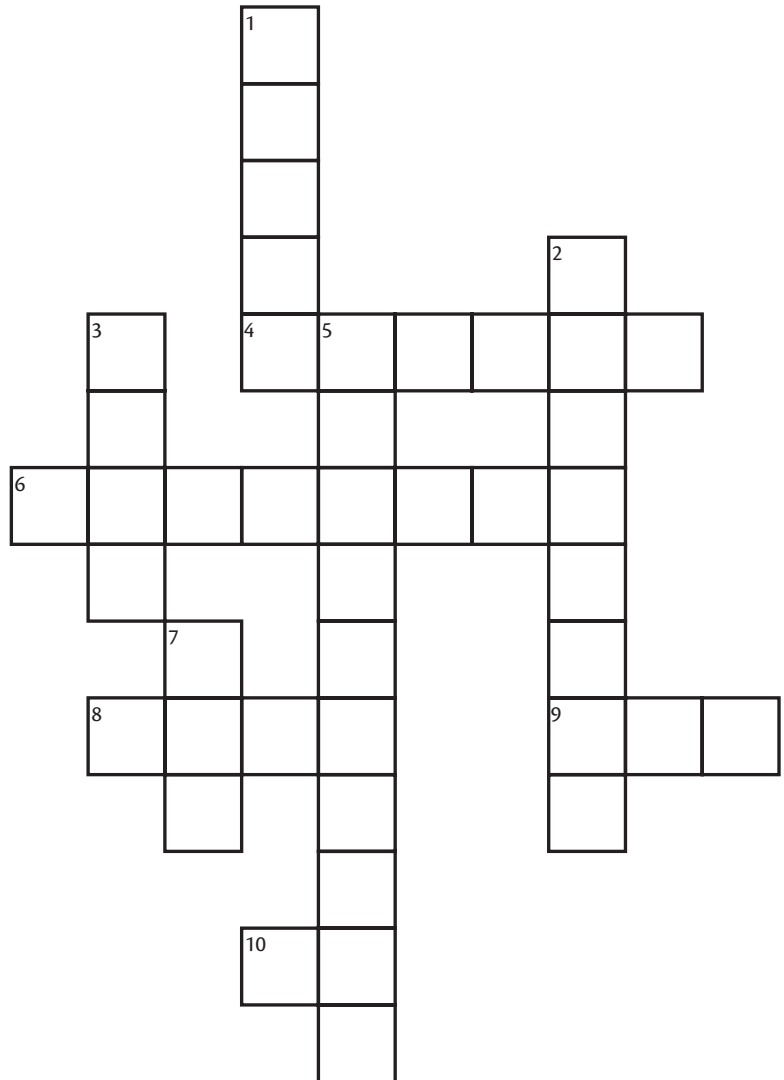
1. Read the memory verse from the Memory Verse Poster. Don't forget to say the Scripture reference! Next, complete the crossword puzzle using words from the memory verse.

ACROSS

4. A name for the sky above and also for the place God lives.
6. To keep safe or to save.
8. A great number, a multitude. It rhymes with toast.
9. The whole amount.
10. Opposite of "off."

DOWN

1. The name of the planet we live on.
2. Our memory verse is located in the book of _____.
3. The one true God.
5. All that exists.
7. The opposite of "me."



2. What is our memory verse? Match the words from the crossword puzzle to the missing words in the spaces provided.

_____ 2D **9:6** _____ 7D **alone are the** _____ 3D ; _____ 7D **have made** _____ 4A
the _____ 4A **of heavens, with** _____ 9A **their** _____ 8A , **the** _____ 1D **and**
 _____ 5D _____ 10A **it, the seas and** _____ 9A **that is in them. And** _____ 7D
 _____ 6A **them** _____ 9A . **The** _____ 8A **of** _____ 4A **worships** _____ 7D .

Repeat the verse and reference to a friend or teacher. Did you get it right?

Memory Verse Review Sheet

Answer Key

A name for the sky above and also for the place God lives. *Heaven.*

To keep safe or to save. *Preserve.*

A great number, a multitude. It rhymes with toast. *Host.*

The whole amount. *All.*

Opposite of “off.” *On.*

The name of the planet we live on. *Earth.*

Our memory verse is located in the book of *Nehemiah.*

The one true God. *Lord.*

All that exists. *Everything.*

The opposite of “me.” *You.*

Nehemiah 9:6 You alone are the Lord; You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and everything on it, the seas and all that is in them. And You preserve them all. The host of heaven worships You.

Use this answer key for the Memory Verse Review Sheet for Lessons 8–12.

Rebuilding the Walls Class Notes

PART 1 Nehemiah hears the bad news about Jerusalem. (Nehemiah 1:3–7)

1. When Nehemiah heard the bad news about Jerusalem, he sat down and _____ and mourned for many days.
2. Nehemiah fasted and _____ to God as he wept and mourned.

PART 2 Nehemiah goes back to Jerusalem. (Nehemiah 2:1–6, 2:17–18)

3. The king asked Nehemiah what he wanted. Before Nehemiah answered, he turned to God in _____.
4. Nehemiah asked to return to the _____, Jerusalem.
5. Nehemiah wanted to return to Jerusalem so he could rebuild the _____ that had been burned with fire.
6. Nehemiah told the people that the hand of _____ had been good upon him.
7. The people answered saying, “Let us rise up and _____.”

PART 3 Nehemiah takes action to protect the work. (Nehemiah 4:7-9, 4:16–20)

8. There were people who tried to stop the work—these people were very _____ about the building project.
9. Those against Nehemiah had a plan. They would _____ Jerusalem and create confusion.
10. Nehemiah was ready for an attack. All his workers carried their _____ and were ready to defend.
11. At the sound of the _____, the men would stop working, come together, and defend the wall against attack.
12. Nehemiah told the people, “Our God will _____ for us.”

WORD BANK

God	attack	swords	trumpet
fight	rebuild	prayed	walls
prayer	wept	city	angry

Rebuilding the Walls Class Notes Answer Key

Print one class notes for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.

PART 1 Nehemiah hears the bad news about Jerusalem. (Nehemiah 1:3–7)

1. When Nehemiah heard the bad news about Jerusalem, he sat down and wept and mourned for many days.
2. Nehemiah fasted and prayed to God as he wept and mourned.

PART 2 Nehemiah goes back to Jerusalem. (Nehemiah 2:1–6, 2:17–18)

3. The king asked Nehemiah what he wanted. Before Nehemiah answered, he turned to God in prayer.
4. Nehemiah asked to return to the city, Jerusalem.
5. Nehemiah wanted to return to Jerusalem so he could rebuild the walls that had been burned with fire.
6. Nehemiah told the people that the hand of God had been good upon him.
7. The people answered saying, “Let us rise up and rebuild.”

PART 3 Nehemiah takes action to protect the work. (Nehemiah 4:7-9, 4:16–20)

8. There were people who tried to stop the work—these people were very angry about the building project.
9. Those against Nehemiah had a plan. They would attack Jerusalem and create confusion.
10. Nehemiah was ready for an attack. All his workers carried their swords and were ready to defend.
11. At the sound of the trumpet, the men would stop working, come together, and defend the wall against attack.
12. Nehemiah told the people, “Our God will fight for us.”

WORD BANK

God	attack	swords	trumpet
fight	rebuild	prayed	walls
prayer	wept	city	angry

Memory Verse Review Sheet

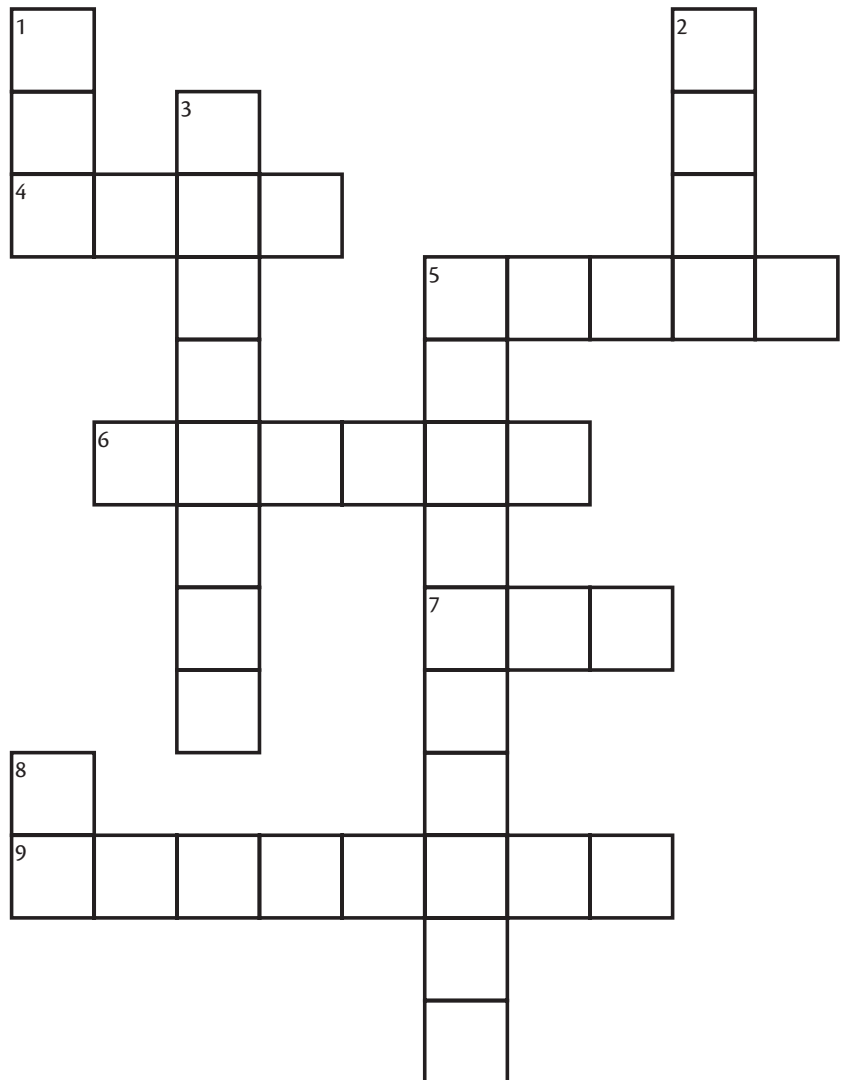
1. Complete the crossword puzzle using words from the memory verse.

ACROSS

4. The one true God.
5. The name of the planet we live on.
6. A name for the sky above and also for the place God lives.
7. The opposite of "me."
9. Our memory verse is located in the book of _____.

DOWN

1. The whole amount.
2. A great number, a multitude. It rhymes with toast.
3. To keep safe or to save.
5. All that exists.
8. Opposite of "off."



2. What is our memory verse? Match the words from the crossword puzzle to the missing words in the spaces provided.

_____ 9A **9:6** _____ 7A **alone are the** _____ 4A ; _____ 7A **have made** _____ 6A

the _____ 6A **of heavens, with** _____ 1D **their** _____ 2D , **the** _____ 5A **and**

_____ 5D _____ 8D **it, the seas and** _____ 1D **that is in them. And** _____ 7A

_____ 3D **them** _____ 1D . **The** _____ 2D **of** _____ 6A **worships** _____ 7A .

Repeat the verse and reference to a friend or teacher. Did you get it right?

Pick a Point Questions

Ask these questions during the Pick a Point Game. Allow teams to look up the answer in the Bible, if necessary. Repeat the questions if time allows.

1. What did Nehemiah do when he heard the bad news about Jerusalem? *Nehemiah 1:4. Sat down and wept.*
2. The king asked Nehemiah what was wrong with him. What did Nehemiah do before he answered the king? *Nehemiah 1:4. Prayed.*
3. What had happened to the walls around Jerusalem? *Nehemiah 1:3. The walls had been broken down and the gates burned with fire.*
4. Which attribute of God describes God as being in control of everything? *Sovereign.*
5. Can you recite our last memory verse? It was Proverbs 21:1. *The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes.*
6. What did the king notice about Nehemiah? How did Nehemiah's face look? *Nehemiah 2:2. Sad.*
7. Where did Nehemiah want to go? *Nehemiah 2:5. Back to Jerusalem in Judah.*
8. What did Nehemiah want to rebuild? *Nehemiah 2:5. The wall of Jerusalem.*
9. Not everyone wanted the walls rebuilt. What did the people want to do to stop Nehemiah and his workers? *Nehemiah 4:7. Attack Jerusalem and create confusion.*
10. What did Nehemiah tell all the workers to carry with them? *Nehemiah 4:17. Their weapons, swords.*
11. And if trouble came to Jerusalem and they came under attack, what would the warning be to the city? *Nehemiah 4:20. The sound of a trumpet.*
12. Nehemiah believed someone would fight for them. Who was that? *Nehemiah 4:20. God.*
13. What is the memory verse we are working on now? *Nehemiah 9:6 You alone are the Lord; You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and everything on it, the seas and all that is in them. And You preserve them all. The host of heaven worships You.*

1**1****1****12****12****12****36****36****36****60****60****60****0****0****0****10****10****10****24****24****24****50****50****50****72****72****72****100****100****100**

GAME POINT CARDS: Print 1–2 copies and cut the cards apart. These will be used to score your Pick a Point review game today. You may want to keep them in a box or envelope.

God's Word Proclaimed Class Notes

PART 1 Ezra reads, and the people realize their sin against God. (Nehemiah 8:2–3, 8:5–9)

1. The leader Ezra was a _____.
2. He read from the book of the _____—God's Word.
3. Ezra read from early _____ until lunch time!
4. When Ezra began to read, the people _____ up. This was a sign of respect for God and His Word.
5. As Ezra read, the people answered, "_____." This meant they agreed with the Word of God that Ezra was reading.
6. Why were the people crying as they heard the Word of God read?
 - a. They were standing too long.
 - b. They couldn't understand God's Word.
 - c. They understood God's Word and were sorry for sinning against God.
7. The leaders in the city declared the day good and holy because the _____ was read and understood. The people repented of their sins and turned back to God.

PART 2 The people continue to read and confess. (Nehemiah 9:1–3)

8. As the people heard more of the Word of God, they fasted, put on sackcloth, and put dust on their heads. These were _____ signs that they were truly sorry for their sins against the holy God.
9. The people listened to the Word of God, confessed, and worshipped for about _____ hours!
10. The Word of God has the power to _____ hearts.

WORD BANK

Law	six	Amen
stood	priest	outward
Word of God	morning	change

God's Word Proclaimed Class Notes Answer Key

Print one class notes for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.

PART 1 Ezra reads, and the people realize their sin against God. (Nehemiah 8:2–3, 8:5–9)

1. The leader Ezra was a priest.
2. He read from the book of the Law—God's Word.
3. Ezra read from early morning until lunch time!
4. When Ezra began to read, the people stood up. This was a sign of respect for God and His Word.
5. As Ezra read, the people answered, "Amen." This meant they agreed with the Word of God that Ezra was reading.
6. Why were the people crying as they heard the Word of God read?
 - a. They were standing too long.
 - b. They couldn't understand God's Word.
 - c. They understood God's Word and were sorry for sinning against God.
7. The leaders in the city declared the day good and holy because the Word of God was read and understood. The people repented of their sins and turned back to God.

PART 2 The people continue to read and confess. (Nehemiah 9:1–3)

8. As the people heard more of the Word of God, they fasted, put on sackcloth, and put dust on their heads. These were outward signs that they were truly sorry for their sins against the holy God.
9. The people listened to the Word of God, confessed, and worshipped for about six hours!
10. The Word of God has the power to change hearts.

WORD BANK

Law	six	Amen
stood	priest	outward
Word of God	morning	change

Exalt the Lord Game Teacher Guide

INSTRUCTIONS

- Print one copy of this Teacher Guide for your use.
- Print and cut out one copy of the Call Out Cards. Put them in a jar or other container.
- Print one Exalt (Bingo) Card for each student.

SUPPLIES

- Exalt Cards, buttons or pieces of paper to cover squares, a jar to place the call out cards in

GAME DIRECTIONS

Play this game like Bingo. Students will cover the spaces on their game cards as you read the Call Out Cards.

- Pass out one EXALT (Bingo) Card (use all 6 versions).
- Pass out game card space covers (buttons, candy, beans, pennies, etc.) to use to cover squares on game cards.
- Pick a Call Out Card from the jar. Read it to the class. Set it aside to confirm the winner later.
- Students cover the matching square on their card.
- The first student to get five covered squares in a row calls out, "Exalt the Lord!" and wins the game.

Nehemiah 9:6 God is Creator who alone is God.	Nehemiah 9:17 You are gracious and merciful.	Nehemiah 9:25 They ate and were filled.
Nehemiah 9:7 You chose Abram and brought him out of Ur.	Nehemiah 9:17 You are ready to pardon.	Nehemiah 9:27 You were merciful to save them from their enemies.
Nehemiah 9:8 You are righteous.	Nehemiah 9:17 You are abundant in kindness.	Nehemiah 9:28 You heard them cry out and saved them.
Nehemiah 9:9 You saw our fathers' affliction in Egypt.	Nehemiah 9:17 You are a merciful God.	Nehemiah 9:28 They did evil before You.
Nehemiah 9:11 You brought the people through the Red Sea.	Nehemiah 9:19 You led them by pillars of cloud and fire.	Nehemiah 9:29 They acted proudly.
Nehemiah 9:13 You gave the Law to Moses on Mount Sinai.	Nehemiah 9:21 You provided clothes for 40 years.	Nehemiah 9:16 They did not heed Your commands.
Nehemiah 9:14 You made known to them Your holy Sabbath.	Nehemiah 9:22 You gave them kingdoms and nations.	Nehemiah 9:17 They refused to obey.
Nehemiah 9:15 You gave them bread from heaven.	Nehemiah 9:23 You multiplied their children.	Nehemiah 9:18 They made a molded calf to be their god.

CALL OUT CARDS: Print and cut out one copy of these call out cards. Put them in a jar or other container.

E**X****A****L****T**

God is Creator who alone is God. Nehemiah 9:6	You gave the Law to Moses on Mount Sinai. Nehemiah 9:13	You are abundant in kindness. Nehemiah 9:17	You led them by pillars of cloud and fire. Nehemiah 9:19	They did evil before You. Nehemiah 9:28
You chose Abram and brought him out of Ur. Nehemiah 9:7	You made known to them Your holy Sabbath. Nehemiah 9:14	You are a merciful God. Nehemiah 9:17	You multiplied their children. Nehemiah 9:23	They acted proudly. Nehemiah 9:29
You are righteous. Nehemiah 9:8	You gave them bread from heaven. Nehemiah 9:15	FREE	They ate and were filled. Nehemiah 9:25	They did not heed Your commands. Nehemiah 9: 16
You saw our fathers' affliction in Egypt. Nehemiah 9:9	You are gracious and merciful. Nehemiah 9:17	You provided clothes for 40 years. Nehemiah 9:21	You were merciful to save them from their enemies. Nehemiah 9:27	They refused to obey. Nehemiah 9:17
You brought the people through the Red Sea. Nehemiah 9:11	You are ready to pardon. Nehemiah 9:17	You gave them kingdoms and nations. Nehemiah 9:22	You heard them cry out and saved them. Nehemiah 9:28	They made a molded calf to be their god. Nehemiah 9:18

E**X****A****L****T**

They made a molded calf to be their god. Nehemiah 9:18	You multiplied their children. Nehemiah 9:23	You gave them kingdoms and nations. Nehemiah 9:22	They did evil before You. Nehemiah 9:28	You are a merciful God. Nehemiah 9:17
You gave the Law to Moses on Mount Sinai. Nehemiah 9:13	They ate and were filled. Nehemiah 9:25	You provided clothes for 40 years. Nehemiah 9:21	You brought the people through the Red Sea. Nehemiah 9:11	You made known to them Your holy Sabbath. Nehemiah 9:14
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God is Creator who alone is God. Nehemiah 9:6	They acted proudly. Nehemiah 9:29	You led them by pillars of cloud and fire. Nehemiah 9:19	You saw our fathers' affliction in Egypt. Nehemiah 9:9	You gave them bread from heaven. Nehemiah 9:15

EXALT CARDS: Print one Exalt (Bingo) Card for each student. Be sure to use all six versions of the card.

E**X****A****L****T**

You heard them cry out and saved them. Nehemiah 9:28	You gave the Law to Moses on Mount Sinai. Nehemiah 9:13	They acted proudly. Nehemiah 9:29	You led them by pillars of cloud and fire. Nehemiah 9:19	You are gracious and merciful. Nehemiah 9:17
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E**X****A****L****T**

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E**X****A****L****T**

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E**X****A****L****T**

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EXALT CARDS: Print one Exalt (Bingo) Card for each student. Be sure to use all six versions of the card.

Memory Verse Review Sheet

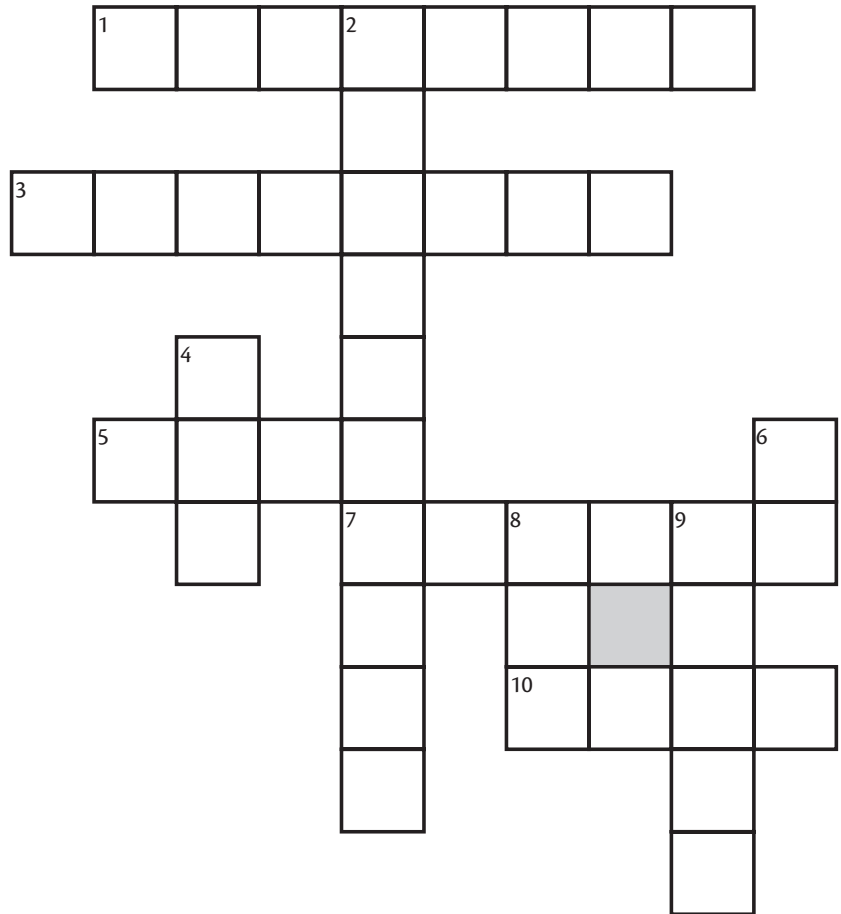
1. Complete the crossword puzzle using words from the memory verse.

ACROSS

1. Our memory verse is located in the book of _____.
3. To keep safe or to save.
5. A great number, a multitude. It rhymes with toast.
7. A name for the sky above and also for the place God lives.
10. The one true God.

DOWN

2. All that exists.
4. The opposite of "me."
6. Opposite of "off."
8. The whole amount.
9. The name of the planet we live on.



2. What is our memory verse? Match the words from the crossword puzzle to the missing words in the spaces provided.

_____ 1A 9:6 _____ 4D alone are the _____ 10A ; _____ 4D have made _____ 7A
 the _____ 7A of heavens, with _____ 8D their _____ 5A , the _____ 9D and
 _____ 2D _____ 6D it, the seas and _____ 8D that is in them. And _____ 4D
 _____ 3A them _____ 8D . The _____ 5A of _____ 7A worships _____ 4D .

Repeat the verse and reference to a friend or teacher. Did you get it right?

Aim2Please God Teacher Guide

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS

- Print one Aim2Please God Teacher Guide for your use.
- Print one Aim2Please God Target for every team of 2–4.
- Print one Aim2Please God Answer Sheet for every team of 2–4.
- Print one Aim2Please God Questions for your use.
- Bring in a water bottle cap for each student or team.

GAME INSTRUCTIONS

- Divide the class into teams of 2–4 depending on the size of your class. You may want to adapt so each student plays on his/her own.
- Give each team a target, an answer sheet, and a water bottle cap.
- Firmly tape all the edges of the targets onto a smooth table surface for each team.
- Teams will answer the questions you ask on the answer sheets. Each team that answers correctly may take a turn flicking the bottle cap onto the target and will then record the score on the answer sheet.
- Students should take turns flicking the bottle cap for their team. NOTE: Flicking is done by laying the bottle cap on the table and using pointer or middle finger and thumb to push or flick the cap to the target.
- Repeat the questions if time allows.

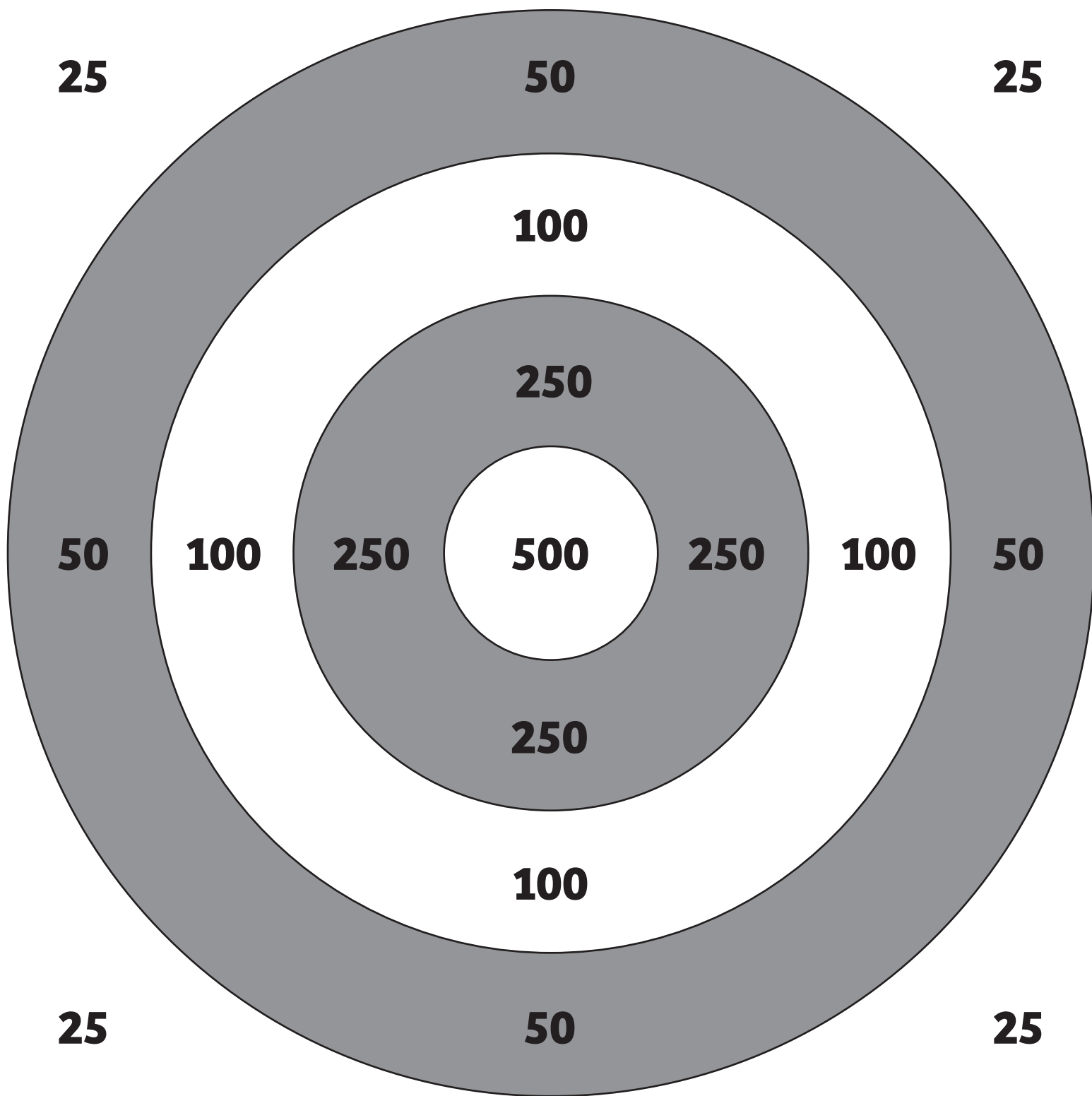
TEACHER GUIDE: *Print one copy for your use.*

Aim2Please God Questions

(MALACHI 1:6-8, 1:13-2:2, 2:7-9)

1. Do you remember how God described Himself in Malachi 1:6?
 - a) As Creator.
 - b) As a mighty king.
 - c) As the Father and as a Master.
 - d) As the one true God.
2. What was a priest, according to Malachi 2:7?
 - a) A servant of the most high God.
 - b) The messenger of the Lord.
 - c) A descendant of Levi.
3. God demands reverence. What does “reverence” mean?
 - a) To honor, adore, glorify, and respect.
 - b) To think about.
 - c) To follow.
4. The priests were despising God’s name. What does despise mean?
 - a) Delight in.
 - b) Disrespect.
 - c) Hate or reject.
5. Why didn’t God accept the animals the priests were sacrificing?
 - a) They were not perfect as the Law commanded.
 - b) They were blind, sick, and lame.
 - c) Both a and b.
6. Did God accept the defiled offerings from the priests? Yes No
7. The table of the Lord was defiled, according to Malachi 1:12. What does “defiled” mean?
 - a) Too hot to touch.
 - b) Falling apart.
 - c) The wrong color.
 - d) Ruined or spoiled.
8. God said He was a great king, and His name was to be feared. He would punish the disobedient priests. What was He going to do?
 - a) Curse them.
 - b) Destroy them.
 - c) Forgive them.
 - d) Fire them and get new priests.
9. The priests were to lead the people. What did the priests cause the people to do?
 - a) Offer perfect sacrifices to God.
 - b) Praise God with honor and reverence.
 - c) Stumble in their obedience to the Law.
10. What is the reference of the memory verse we are working on?
 - a) Isaiah 53:6
 - b) Nehemiah 9:6
 - c) Proverbs 21:1
 - d) 1 Samuel 16:7

QUESTIONS: Print one copy for your use.



TARGET: Print one Aim2Please God Target for each team of 2–4 students.

Answer Sheet

- _____ 1. a) As Creator. b) As a mighty king. c) As the Father and as a Master.
d) As the one true God.
- _____ 2. a) A servant of the most high God. b) The messenger of the Lord. c) A descendant of Levi.
- _____ 3. a) To honor, adore, glorify, and respect. b) To think about. c) To follow.
- _____ 4. a) Delight in. b) Disrespect. c) Hate or reject.
- _____ 5. a) They were not perfect as the Law commanded. b) They were blind, sick, and lame
c) Both a and b.
- _____ 6. Yes No
- _____ 7. a) Too hot to touch. b) Falling apart. c) The wrong color. d) Ruined or spoiled.
- _____ 8. a) Curse them. b) Destroy them. c) Forgive them. d) Fire them and get new priests.
- _____ 9. a) Offer perfect sacrifices to God. b) Praise God with honor and reverence.
c) Stumble in their obedience to the Law.
- _____ 10. a) Isaiah 53:6 b) Nehemiah 9:6 c) Proverbs 21:1 d) 1 Samuel 16:7
-

Answer Sheet

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- _____ 10. a) Isaiah 53:6 b) Nehemiah 9:6 c) Proverbs 21:1 d) 1 Samuel 16:7
-

ANSWER SHEET: Print one Aim2Please God Answer Sheet for each team of 2–4 students.

Worshipping God Class Notes

THE SACRIFICES THAT WERE MADE (Malachi 1:6–8, 1:13–2:2, 2:7–9)

1. _____ is both Father and Master.
2. As Father, God demands _____.
3. As Master, God demands _____.

Reverence: To honor, adore, glorify, and respect.

4. The priests did not honor God. They _____ or hated His name.

Despise: to hate or reject.

Defiled: Something that is ruined, spoiled, not perfect.

5. The food offered on God's altar was _____—not perfect.
6. The animals were blind, lame, and sick. Far from _____.
7. God demands perfect sacrifices. These sacrifices were _____ acceptable because they were not perfect.
8. God did not like the imperfect sacrifices. He would curse the priests and their _____.
9. The _____ were messengers for God.
10. God was angry at the priests because of their disobedience. They were causing the people to _____ at the Law.

WORD BANK

reverence	not	perfect
honor	defiled	blessings
stumble	God	
despised	priests	

Psalms 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart—these, O God, You will not despise.

Contrite: Feeling sorry for a sin.

Worshipping God Class Notes Answer Key

Print one class notes for each student. Keep the answer key for your use..

THE SACRIFICES THAT WERE MADE (Malachi 1:6–8, 1:13–2:2, 2:7–9)

1. God is both Father and Master.
2. As Father, God demands honor.
3. As Master, God demands reverence.

Reverence: To honor, adore, glorify, and respect.

4. The priests did not honor God. They despised or hated His name.

Despise: to hate or reject.

Defiled: Something that is ruined, spoiled, not perfect.

5. The food offered on God's altar was defiled—not perfect.
6. The animals were blind, lame, and sick. Far from perfect.
7. God demands perfect sacrifices. These sacrifices were not acceptable because they were not perfect.
8. God did not like the imperfect sacrifices. He would curse the priests and their blessings.
9. The priests were messengers for God.
10. God was angry at the priests because of their disobedience.
They were causing the people to stumble at the Law.

WORD BANK

reverence	not	perfect
honor	defiled	blessings
stumble	God	
despised	priests	

Psalms 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart—these, O God,
You will not despise.

Contrite: Feeling sorry for a sin.

Memory Verse Review Sheet

1. Complete the crossword puzzle using words from the memory verse.

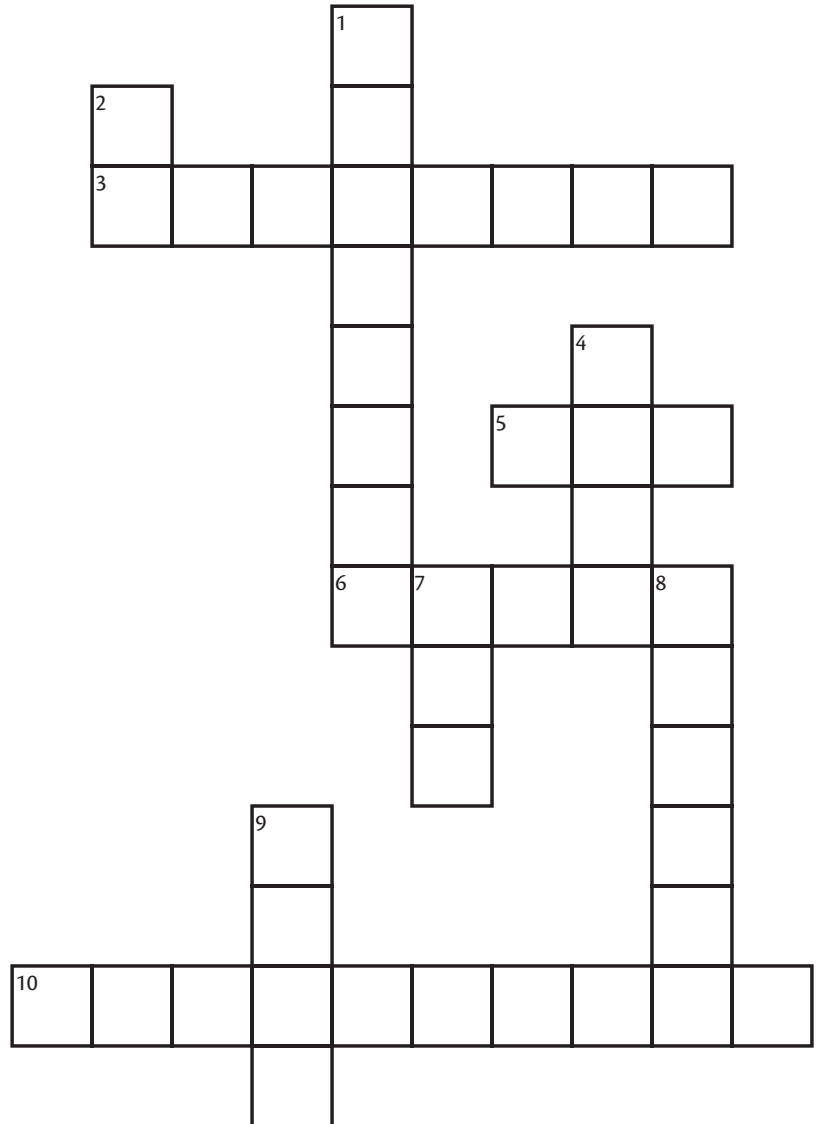
ACROSS

3. Our memory verse is located in the book of _____.
5. The opposite of "me."
6. The name of the planet we live on.
10. All that exists.

DOWN

1. To keep safe or to save.
2. Opposite of "off."
4. A great number, a multitude. It rhymes with toast.
7. The whole amount.
8. A name for the sky above and also for the place God lives.
9. The one true God.

2. What is our memory verse? Match the words from the crossword puzzle to the missing words in the spaces provided.



_____ 3A 9:6 _____ 5A alone are the _____ 9D ; _____ 5A have made _____ 8D
 the _____ 8D of heavens, with _____ 7D their _____ 4D, the _____ 6A and
 _____ 10A _____ 2D it, the seas and _____ 7D that is in them. And _____ 5A
 _____ 1D them _____ 7D . The _____ 4D of _____ 8D worships _____ 5A .

Repeat the verse and reference to a friend or teacher. Did you get it right?

A Message of Hope Class Notes

THE MESSENGER (Malachi 3:1, 4:5; Luke 1:13–17)

1. The Lord would send a _____.
2. The people had been seeking and waiting for the _____, the promised Messiah.
3. This messenger would _____ the way for the Lord.
4. Jesus would put an end to the Old Covenant. He was the Messenger of the _____.
5. John the Baptist was the messenger Malachi prophesied about. The one who would prepare the people for the coming of the _____—Jesus Christ!
6. Many would _____ at the birth of John the messenger.
7. John, the messenger, would be _____ in the sight of the Lord.
8. John, the messenger, would be _____ with the Holy Spirit.
9. John, the messenger, would _____ many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God.
10. John the Baptist was the messenger who would come in the spirit and power of the great prophet _____.
11. Like the messenger Malachi prophesied, John the Baptist came to _____ a people prepared for the Lord.

WORD BANK

prepare	make ready	filled	Messiah
rejoice	Lord	Elijah	great
turn	Messenger	New Covenant	

A Message of Hope Class Notes Answer Key

Print one class notes for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.

THE MESSENGER (Malachi 3:1, 4:5; Luke 1:13–17)

1. The Lord would send a messenger.
2. The people had been seeking and waiting for the Lord, the promised Messiah.
3. This messenger would prepare the way for the Lord.
4. Jesus would put an end to the Old Covenant. He was the Messenger of the New Covenant.
5. John the Baptist was the messenger Malachi prophesied about. The one who would prepare the people for the coming of the Messiah—Jesus Christ!
6. Many would rejoice at the birth of John the messenger.
7. John, the messenger, would be great in the sight of the Lord.
8. John, the messenger, would be filled with the Holy Spirit.
9. John, the messenger, would turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God.
10. John the Baptist was the messenger who would come in the spirit and power of the great prophet Elijah.
11. Like the messenger Malachi prophesied, John the Baptist came to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.

WORD BANK

prepare

make ready

filled

Messiah

rejoice

Lord

Elijah

great

turn

Messenger

New Covenant

Memory Verse Review Sheet

1. Complete the crossword puzzle using words from the memory verse.

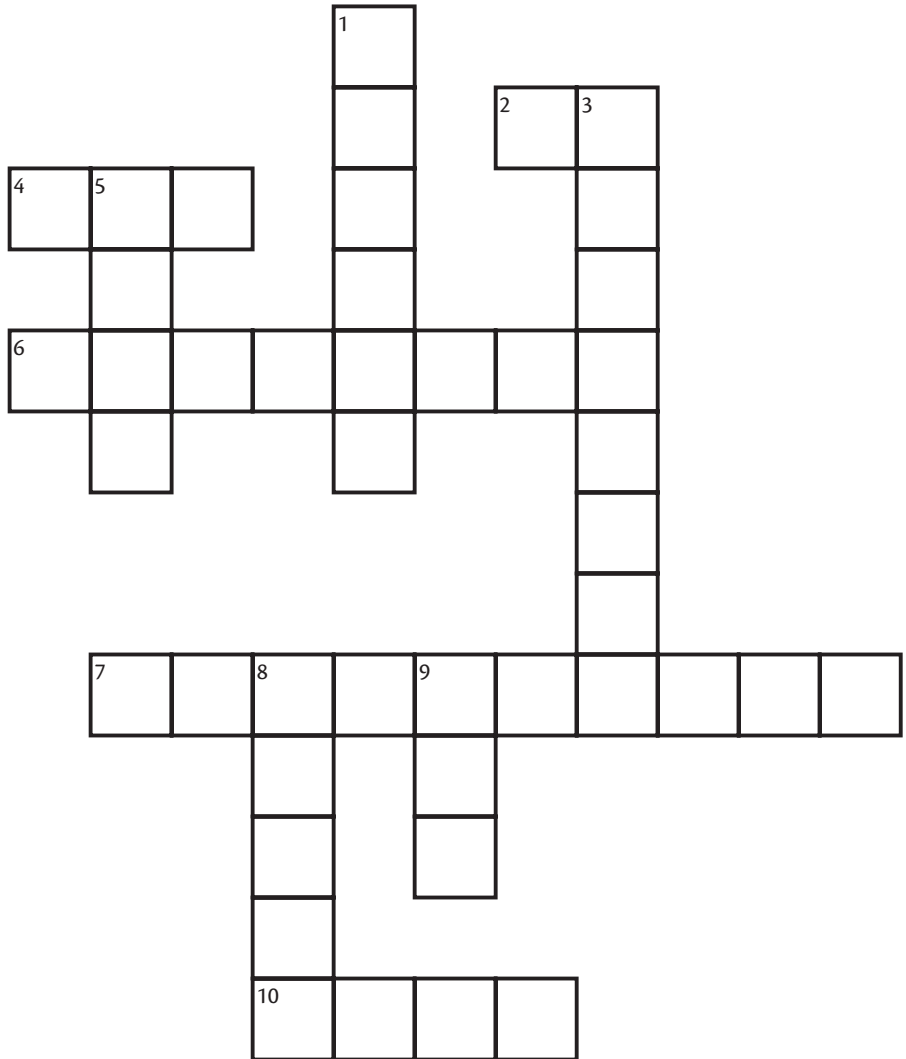
ACROSS

2. Opposite of "off."
4. The whole amount.
6. To keep safe or to save.
7. All that exists.
10. A great number, a multitude. It rhymes with toast.

DOWN

1. A name for the sky above and also for the place God lives.
3. Our memory verse is located in the book of _____.
5. The one true God.
8. The name of the planet we live on.
9. The opposite of "me."

2. What is our memory verse? Match the words from the crossword puzzle to the missing words in the spaces provided.



_____ 3D 9:6 _____ 9D alone are the _____ 5D ; _____ 9D have made _____ 1D
 the _____ 1D of heavens, with _____ 4A their _____ 10A, the _____ 8D and
 _____ 7A _____ 2A it, the seas and _____ 4A that is in them. And _____ 9D
 _____ 6A them _____ 4A. The _____ 10A of _____ 1D worships _____ 9D.

Repeat the verse and reference to a friend or teacher. Did you get it right?

Old Testament Prophecy:

Behold, I send My messenger,
and he will prepare the way
before Me. (Malachi 3:1)

New Testament Fulfillment:

Behold, I send My messenger
before Your face, who will
prepare Your way before
You. (Matthew 11:10)

Old Testament Prophecy:

Behold, I will send you Elijah
the prophet. (Malachi 4:5)

New Testament Fulfillment:

He will also go before Him
in the spirit and power
of Elijah. (Luke 1:17)

Old Testament Prophecy:

Behold I will send you Elijah
the prophet. (Malachi 4:5)

New Testament Fulfillment:

And if you are willing to
receive it, he is Elijah who is
to come. (Matthew 11:14)

Print and cut out one set of 12 cards for every 2 students. Put each set in an envelope or paper clip them together.

Old Testament Prophecy:

And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children. (Malachi 4:6)

New Testament Fulfillment:

He will also go before Him . . . to 'turn the hearts of the fathers to the children'. (Luke 1:17)

Old Testament Prophecy

I send My messenger to prepare the way. (Malachi 3:1) Who was it?

New Testament Fulfillment:

John the Baptist

Old Testament Prophecy:

He is the Messenger of the New Covenant (from Malachi 3:1). Who is it?

New Testament Fulfillment:

Jesus

Print and cut out one set of 12 cards for every 2 students. Put each set in an envelope or paper clip them together.

Scripture Sheet

OLD TESTAMENT

Malachi 3:1

¹ “Behold, I send My messenger,
And he will prepare the way before Me.
And the Lord, whom you seek,
Will suddenly come to His temple,
Even the Messenger of the covenant,
In whom you delight.
Behold, He is coming,”
Says the Lord of hosts.

Malachi 4:5

⁵ Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet
Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of
the Lord.

NEW TESTAMENT

Luke 1:13–17

¹³ But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. ¹⁴ And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. ¹⁵ For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother’s womb. ¹⁶ And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷ He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, ‘to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,’ and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”

SINGLE

SINGLE

SINGLE

SINGLE

SINGLE

SINGLE

SINGLE

SINGLE

DOUBLE

DOUBLE

DOUBLE

DOUBLE

DOUBLE

DOUBLE

TRIPLE

TRIPLE

TRIPLE

TRIPLE

TRIPLE

TRIPLE

HOME RUN

HOME RUN

HOME RUN

HOME RUN

Print and cut out one or two copies. Put the Hits in a cup.

Bible Baseball Scripture Sheet

LESSON 8

Ezra 7:6

⁶This Ezra came up from Babylon; and he was a skilled scribe in the Law of Moses, which the Lord God of Israel had given. The king granted him all his request, according to the hand of the Lord his God upon him.

Ezra 9:2–3

²“For they have taken some of their daughters as wives for themselves and their sons, so that the holy seed is mixed with the peoples of those lands. Indeed, the hand of the leaders and rulers has been foremost in this trespass.” ³So when I heard this thing, I tore my garment and my robe, and plucked out some of the hair of my head and beard, and sat down astonished.

Ezra 10:11

¹¹[Ezra the priest said to them] “Now therefore, make confession to the Lord God of your fathers, and do His will; separate yourselves from the peoples of the land, and from the pagan wives.”

LESSON 9

Nehemiah 1:3–4

³And they said to me, “The survivors who are left from the captivity in the province are there in great distress and reproach. The wall of Jerusalem is also broken down, and its gates are burned with fire.” ⁴So it was, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned for many days; I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven.

Nehemiah 4:16, 4:20

¹⁶So it was, from that time on, that half of my servants worked at construction, while the other half held the spears, the shields, the bows, and wore armor; and the leaders were behind all the house of Judah.

²⁰“Wherever you hear the sound of the trumpet, rally to us there. Our God will fight for us.”

LESSON 10

Nehemiah 8:2–3, 8:6, 8:9

²So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly of men and women and all who could hear

with understanding on the first day of the seventh month. ³Then he read from it in the open square that was in front of the Water Gate from morning until midday, before the men and women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law.

⁶And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God. Then all the people answered, “Amen, Amen!” while lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground.

⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn nor weep.” For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the Law.

LESSON 11

Malachi 1:6, 1:8

⁶A son honors his father, and a servant his master.

If then I am the Father, where is My honor?

And if I am a Master, where is My reverence?

Says the Lord of hosts to you priests who despise My name. Yet you say, “In what way have we despised Your name?”

⁸And when you offer the blind as a sacrifice, is it not evil? And when you offer the lame and sick, is it not evil? . . .

Malachi 2:2

²“If you [priests] will not hear, and if you will not take it to heart, to give glory to My name,” says the Lord of hosts, “I will send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings . . .”

LESSON 12

Malachi 3:1

“Behold, I send My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight. Behold, He is coming,” says the Lord of hosts.

Luke 1:17

¹⁷[John the Baptist] will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, “to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,” and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.

Changed by God's Word Script

Characters: Lilly, Emma, Andrew, Mason

Lilly is sitting, reading her Bible. Her friends Emma, Andrew, and Mason approach her.

Lilly: Hi, guys! What's going on?

Emma: Hey, Lilly! We are on our way to the fields. There are some good soccer games going on this morning.

Andrew: Yeah, do you want to come with us?

Lilly: Oh, thanks. But I'll pass. I have some more reading to do. I have to be ready for class tomorrow.

Mason: Ummm. Lilly! Tomorrow isn't Monday! Tomorrow is Sunday; we don't have school.

Lilly: I know, Mason! I'm not talking about school. I'm talking about church.

Emma: What? You have classes at church? And you have to get ready for them?

Andrew: That sounds like a drag.

Mason: Not much fun, Lilly! You poor thing.

Lilly: Oh no! You don't have to feel sorry for me. I love it! I'm doing some of it right now.

Emma: Well, what are you reading?

Lilly: The Bible!

Andrew: The Bible? Let's go guys, let's get out of here. It's going to get deep!

Mason: Stop it, Andrew.

Andrew: Sorry! Do you read that book every Saturday?

Lilly: Well, actually I try to read it every day!

Emma: What? Every day? Don't you get tired of reading the same thing over and over?

Lilly: It might seem like I would. But first of all, it is a very big book! And I can't always remember everything I read. So reading it over isn't bad at all.

Mason: But still, every day? I often wondered why people do that. We know it is about God. But it seems like once you know who God is, you shouldn't need to read it anymore. What is the big deal?

Lilly: Well, I don't think we can get to know God that easily. This whole book is about God and what He has done and how He has done it. It talks about so much—from the very beginning—from Creation.

Emma: Well, why do you read it? What's the point?

Lilly: It's kind of hard to explain. But, reading the Bible has changed me. It has changed how I think, how I act, what I want to do. It has really taught me a lot. I find that I want to do what honors God, because He is so great!

Andrew: Yeah. I've noticed that. It's like you aren't the same. You actually seem nicer!

Lilly: Thanks, Andrew, I think! If I'm different, it is because I'm reading God's Word. And it seems like the more I learn about God, the more I WANT to learn about Him.

Mason: That's kind of weird how that works. You learn about God from the Bible, and then you read the Bible more so you can know Him better, right?

Lilly: That's it. Perfect!

Emma: Well, isn't the Bible about Jesus? How does He fit in?

Lilly: Jesus is God! And the Bible has taught me sooo much about Jesus, too! In fact, when I think about it, learning about Jesus is what REALLY changed me.

Andrew: Like what? What about Him changed you? His miracles? Didn't He heal people and stuff?

Lilly: Yes, He did amazing things while He was alive, but what really changed me was how He died! And why He died.

Mason: Didn't He die for sinners? On the Cross?

Emma: Yeah! That's right. It was horrible. I saw the movie. But how did that awful death change you?

Lilly: Well, because He died for me.

Andrew: What? What do you mean?

Lilly: God sent Jesus to die for sinners. The Bible says that ALL of us are sinners. Think about it. Have you ever told a lie? Or stolen something? Or used God's name like a cuss word?

Emma: Oh, yeah.

Andrew: Sure!

Mason: Who hasn't?

Lilly: That's my point, we all have sinned. And God hates sin. He is holy and can't look at sin.

Emma: That sounds like trouble, Lilly. What do we do?

Lilly: Well, that is what changed my life. And Jesus's death did it! You see, the Bible taught me about God and His holiness. And the Bible taught me that I was a sinner and that God hates my sin! It made me feel terrible!

Andrew: So, what about Jesus?

Lilly: Hang on. I learned from the Bible that God has to punish ALL sin! And that punishment is eternal! And it means going to hell forever.

Mason: Hell? Really? For lying?

Lilly: Yes, Mason. For lying. For telling even ONE lie. But that is where Jesus comes in. He is very good news for us. God knew we would all sin and we would all need to be punished. But, God made a plan. And that plan included someone taking our punishment for us. It had to be someone perfect who never sinned. Well, that couldn't be any normal person.

Emma: And that's why Jesus came! And that's why He died.

Andrew: So, what are you saying? Jesus took our punishment on the Cross?

Lilly: Yes, Andrew. Jesus did do that. And He said that whoever would believe in Him, repent of their sins, turn away from sin, and turn to God, would be saved by His perfect sacrifice. It is such good news. It is all in the Bible. And it has changed my life!

Mason: Do you think it could change my life?

Lilly: Yes, it can change anyone's life who will humbly turn to Jesus and accept the free gift of His forgiveness for their sins.

Emma: Lilly, could you bring me with you to your class sometime? I think I'd like to learn more about Jesus!

Mason: Me, too! I'd like to learn how to change like you have.

Andrew: Let me know when you go. I'll come with you.

Lilly: Sure! I'd love to!

What Happened? Crossword Puzzle

Complete the crossword puzzle by answering the questions. Look at the Lesson Theme Posters if you need a hint!

ACROSS

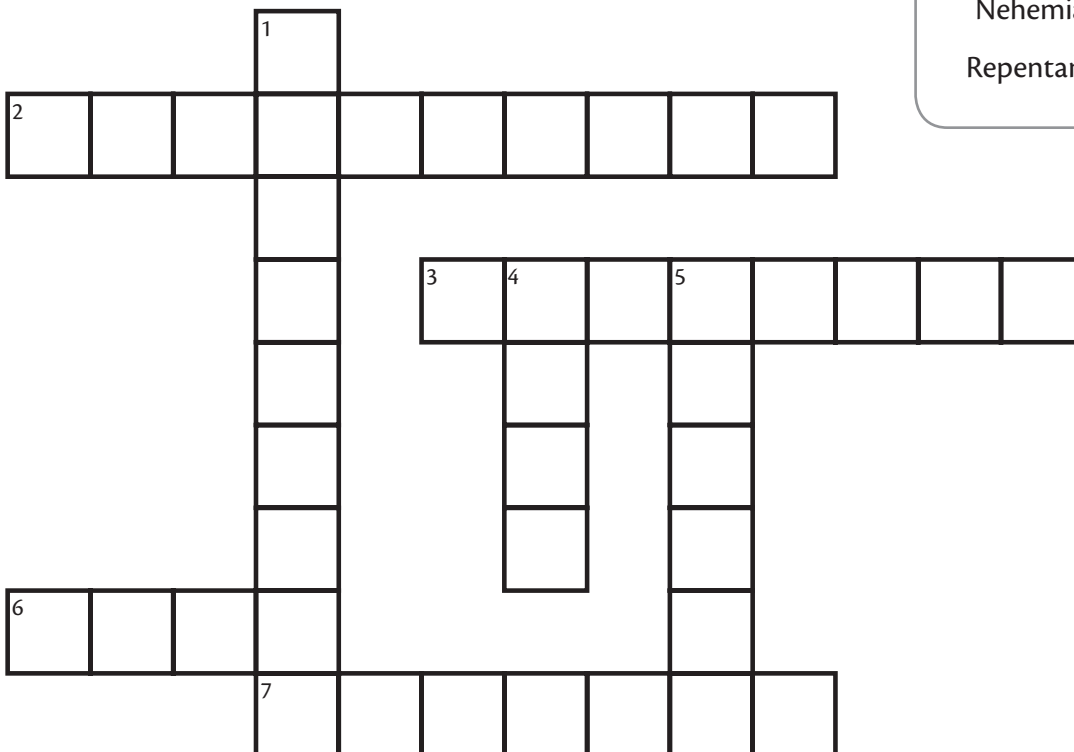
2. As Ezra preached, the people wept. These were tears of _____ for their sins.
3. Who prayed and then acted in order to rebuild the walls around Jerusalem?
6. Malachi's message of _____ told of John the Baptist who would prepare the way for the Messiah.
7. Which prophet of God warned the priests and people who were sacrificing lame and blind animals to God?

DOWN

1. Nehemiah was in Persia when he heard that the walls were broken down in another city. Which city needed the walls to be rebuilt?
4. Who preached to the people telling them, "Separate yourselves from your pagan wives!"?
5. Which great prophet was John the Baptist compared to?

WORD BOX

Hope	Ezra
Malachi	Elijah
Nehemiah	Jerusalem
Repentance	



What Happened? Crossword Puzzle Answer Key

Print one puzzle for each student. Print the answer key for your use.

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ACROSS

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