

PSALEL



Psalms

Youth Bible Study

by Pat Kampenga

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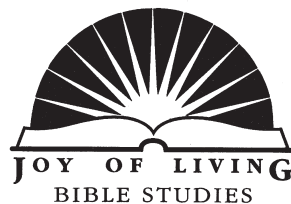
Joy of Living Psalms Youth Bible Study

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Psalms

Youth Bible Study

by Pat Kampenga



Before you begin

An ideal curriculum for home-school, Bible class, Sunday School or personal Bible Study, **Joy of Living Youth Curriculum** is flexible and easy to use. Each lesson covers the same scripture passage as the adult **Joy of Living Study**.

Age:

This course encourages students of various ages to develop a habit of personal Bible study. Since the study requires reading the Bible and writing answers to the questions, the minimum age should be about 6 years old. Although the questions are geared to about age 10, older students will profit by gaining a basic knowledge of the Bible. Students over the age of 14 may be mature enough to study the adult **Joy of Living** course.

The lessons:

The study is divided into weekly units. Each week is divided into three sections:

- a suggested class schedule including craft and game ideas
- leader's lesson sheets (these contain the answers for the lesson completed by the students during the previous week)
- student questions for the next lesson (these are passed out at the end of the class)

Students complete the written lessons at home and are encouraged to do a few questions each day rather than trying to complete all the questions in one day. This will aid the students in developing a pattern of daily Bible Study. The "HARD" and "RISKY" questions are to inspire the student to think and reason and help them dig deeper into God's Word.

For homeschool or personal Bible study:

The curriculum may be used in a variety of ways. Following are a few suggestions:

- Lessons may be completed by the individual student and graded for accuracy. Discussion time is optional, although it is encouraged.
- Students within the same family or group may work on the lessons together. A discussion time with a parent or other adult is suggested.
- Adults may work one-on-one with the student(s) while they complete the lesson.
- Lessons may be used as part of family devotions. Read the portions of scripture aloud and use the questions to prompt discussion of the Bible passage.

For use with groups:

There is great flexibility in implementing this curriculum. Since each class has its own needs, space, finances, and time frame the class schedule is supplied as a general outline and can be changed to suit specific situations and needs.

Each class session has free time, recreation/snack time, question discussion time, and craft time.

Remember - Keep the pace moving to avoid boredom and trouble, while providing continuity.

Suggested time SCHEDULE to be adapted to individual group:

- 15 - 20 min. - unstructured free time
- 15 - 20 min. - game/snack time
- 15 - 20 min. - discussion time
- remaining time for craft

Helpful Hints for Groups

Facility/Equipment

- Whatever the class size, access to a gym or large game room is worthwhile for team play and group activities.
- If the church has the room, a separate cupboard for supplies is a plus.
- A volleyball or similar ball is good to have on hand for a variety of games.

Discussion Time

- Use the counting off system to divide the class into groups for discussion time. (Avoid, if possible, separating into groups according to age or family.)
- Each discussion group should have an adult leader. Older children should not be used (unless absolutely necessary) as leaders or sitters; they are there for fellowship and learning, too.
- With many of the questions there is no right or wrong answer. The questions are to encourage the student to think and reason and to dig deeper into God's Word. However, since discussion time is also a form of teaching, the leaders are given answers on their question sheets to aid them in the discussion, with occasional commentary insights added in brackets.
- As you discuss the lesson be careful not to belittle a student's opinion or idea. Even if the answer is wrong you can encourage the student by saying something similar to, "I like to see that you're thinking, do you think perhaps....(then give the correct answer)" or "I can see that you are thinking about the question, does anyone else have thoughts on this question?"

Teachers/Leaders/Helpers

- The number of leaders and helpers is determined by the size of the class. The ideal situation is one discussion leader per every 5 children.
- In addition to the main leader, it is helpful to have a game leader, and craft leader.
- Responsibilities are determined within each class structure.
- Parent volunteers may be requested when extra help is needed. If there is a large number of children, the parents have to volunteer only once or twice the entire year.
- Scheduling parents to bring treats is a financial bonus. Keeping cost to a minimum is being a good steward of God's resources.

Game Time

Although board games, puzzles, hidden pictures, crosswords, coloring, and quiet activities do not keep the attention of active children, they should not be ruled out as alternative game time activities. Ball games, races, or tag games are suggested and favored to holding everyone's interest.

Suggestions for obtaining craft ideas & supplies:

Garage/yard/rummage sales

library craft books

children's magazines

YMCA, Park & Recreation Dept., churches (almost every city has a summer program for children, which includes a craft time; they may have leftover craft supplies they would like to donate)

Supplies to have on hand for crafts not in kits:

glue, glue sticks, glue gun

scissors (at least 1 pair for every 2 students)

paint (tempera-washable)

paint brushes

paper towels

newspapers

construction paper

crayons

colored markers

colored pencils

paper cups, napkins (snack time)

various items to pass in relay races

balls, basketball, nerf, etc.

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Psalms — Game & Craft List

	Game	Craft	Page
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PSALMS WEEK ONE

NO LESSON DISCUSSION

- 15 - 20 min. free time - games, fellowship;
- 15 - 20 min. snack and group recreation: CHAIN TAG
- Two players are chosen to be “IT”. They join hands and with their free hand try to tag the other players. The first player tagged joins hands between the two “IT”. The remaining players, when tagged, join the tag line between the original two “IT”. Only end players (IT) may tag. It is permissible for a player to break through or go under the joined hands of the line. When the chain has been broken, it must unite again before tagging resumes. The game ends when the last player is caught or when a time limit has been reached. The last two players tagged become “IT”. Set boundary lines to restrict play to a small area.
- 15 - 20 min. Since there is no lesson for them to discuss, this is a good time to go over the class rules. You may wish to have them share something about themselves, i.e. brothers, sisters, where they live, what they did over the summer, etc.
- to end of class CRAFT: Mod Podge Bookmark
- card stock (or heavy paper) 2 colors 2” x 7”
ribbon 1” wide (optional)
craft glue
Mod Podge
plastic bag
sponge brush, 1”
small magazine pictures or stencils to design & color
sequins
glitter
felt tip markers/crayons
- Cut out magazine pictures, small enough to fit on card stock, or use stencils to create own design. If using stencils, color before gluing to bookmark. Glue ribbon to back of card stock. Next, lay card stock on plastic bag. Choose design pieces and lay on bookmark so it is well-planned. Remove design pieces, remembering where each piece was, and brush a generous coat of gloss sealer (Mod Podge) on front of bookmark. This acts as glue. Now, replace design pieces where they were before. Allow a few minutes for the sealer to set. Then brush a very thick coat of sealer on the front of the bookmark, covering the design pieces completely. It will look very thick and white, but when it dries, it will be clear. It will take about 24 hours to dry. When dry, trim excess sealer from around the outside edges of the bookmark.

Read Psalm 16 verses 5 - 8.

1. *The Bible for Children, Simplified Living Bible Text* says in Psalm 16:5-6: “The Lord Himself is all I need. He is my food and drink, my highest joy! He guards all that is mine. He sees that I am given pleasant brooks and meadows! He has given me a beautiful portion!” What else does the Lord give us according to Lamentations 3:22-23?
2. Using your dictionary, what does counsel mean?
3. Who counsels David?
4. What does David say happens to him during the night?
5. **CHALLENGE:** If we are afraid at night, what do you think would be a good thing to do?
6. In Psalm 16:8 David says the Lord is always before him. What does Psalm 73:23 say about God’s closeness?

Read Psalm 16 verses 9 -11.

1. What does David say he will do because he knows the Lord is at his right hand helping him? See Psalm 16:9 for your answer.
2. The Psalms are filled with songs of praise to the Lord for all He does for His own. What do these verses say about rejoicing? Do you have them memorized? If not, why don’t you do that this week?

1 Thessalonians 5:16

Philippians 4:4

3. In Psalm 16:11, David says the Lord showed him the path of life. What do these verses say about the path of life?

Matthew 7:13-14

John 14:6

4. What is this life these verses are talking about?

PSALMS WEEK TWO

DISCUSSION LESSON 1

- 15 - 20 min. free time - games, fellowship
- 15 - 20 min. snack and group recreation: INDOOR BOWLING
- You will need 10 plastic bottles, for bowling pins, and a basket-ball. Arrange like the pins in a bowling alley (4 in front, 3 in the next row, 2 behind them, and 1 in back). Line up the pins about 25 feet from the bowling line. Each player has two tries. Give points equal to the number of pins knocked down with each ball.
- 15 - 20 min. discussion LESSON 1
- to end of class CRAFT: PAPER BEAD JEWELRY

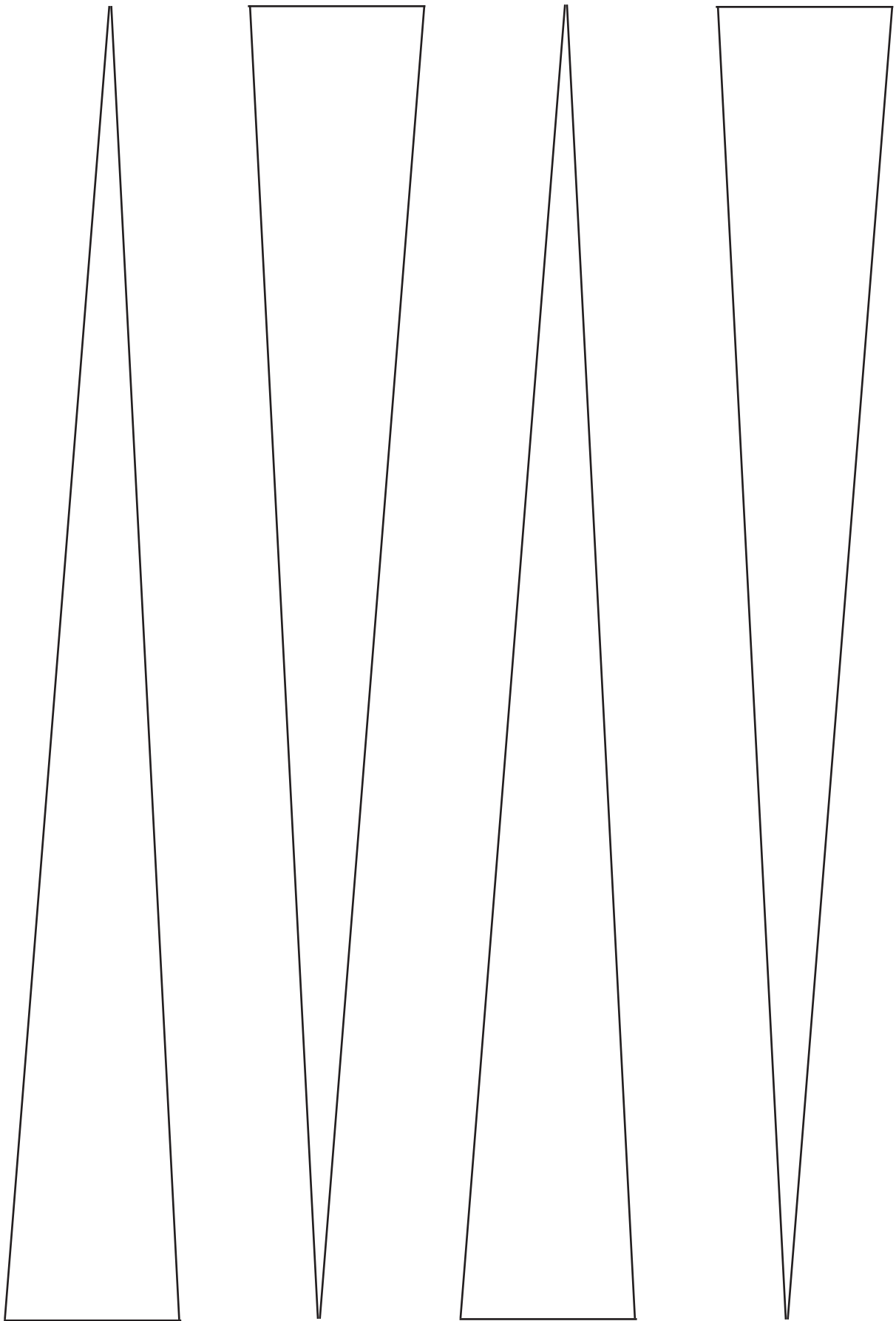
MATERIALS

pencil	8 1/2" x 11" white paper
ruler	scissors
waxed paper	small sponge brush
juice box straw	32" string or dental floss
Gloss Mod Podge, or white glue	
cardstock or heavy paper to make patterns (see next page)	
newspaper	
colorful magazine or catalog pages	

Prior to class: From cardstock or heavy paper make 1 triangle pattern for each student. (One copy of pattern makes enough triangle patterns for 4 students.)

In class: Cover work area with newspaper and then the waxed paper or old plastic table cloth. Using the triangle pattern trace and cut out 20 triangles from the magazine and/or catalog paper (this makes 20 beads). Lay a triangle with the side you *don't* want showing face down. Cover the triangle with Modge podge or watered down glue. (Modge Podge makes the beads shiny.) *Turn the triangle over.* Place the straw at the wide end of the triangle and begin rolling. Remove the straw from the center of the tube. Continue making beads until all are done. Allow to dry then string the beads. Tie the ends tightly together and you've made a necklace.

Triangle Pattern for Beads



PSALMS - LESSON 1 - ANSWERS

Read Psalm 16 verses 1 - 4.

1. In verse 1 what does David ask of the Lord? “Preserve me, O God: for in Thee do I put my trust.” (KJV)
2. Using your dictionary, what is the meaning of preserve? “To keep from injury or harm; save.” (HOLT)
3. According to Psalm 32:7 what else does the Lord do for us? “You are my hiding place from every storm of life. You even keep me from getting into trouble. You surround me with songs of victory.”
4. Who does David turn to for help? The Lord.
5. What kind of people does David want to hang around? “I want the company of the godly people in the land. They are true nobles.”
6. Who are these people according to 1 Corinthians 1:2? [Saints, Christians, believers, all who call on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.]
7. What happens to those who don't believe in Jesus according to Psalm 16:4a? “Those choosing other gods shall all be filled with sorrow.”
8. What does David promise the Lord in Psalm 16:4b? [Libation is a pouring out of wine or other liquid in honor of a god.] “I will not offer the sacrifices they do. I will never even speak the names of their gods.”

Read Psalm 16 verses 5 - 8.

1. *The Bible for Children, Simplified Living Bible Text* says in Psalm 16:5-6: “The Lord Himself is all I need. He is my food and drink, my highest joy! He guards all that is mine. He sees that I am given pleasant brooks and meadows! He has given me a beautiful portion!” What else does the Lord give us according to Lamentations 3:22-23? “The Lord never stops loving us. He keeps on showing us mercy. That alone has kept us from total destruction. Great is His faithfulness. His love and kindness begin fresh each day.”
2. Using your dictionary, what does counsel mean? “Advice; instruction. (HOLT)”
3. Who counsels David? The Lord.
4. What does David say happens to him during the night? (The Lord) “gives me wisdom in the night. He tells me what to do.”

5. **CHALLENGE:** If we are afraid at night, what do you think would be a good thing to do? [Pray and ask the Lord to be with us and to protect us.]
6. In Psalm 16:8 David says the Lord is always before him. What does Psalm 73:23 say about God's closeness? "Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand." (NIV)

Read Psalm 16 verses 9 -11

1. What does David say he will do because he knows the Lord is at his right hand helping him? See Psalm 16:9 for your answer. "Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure." (NIV)
2. The Psalms are filled with songs of praise to the Lord for all He does for His own. What do these verses say about rejoicing? Do you have them memorized? If not, why don't you do that this week?

1 Thessalonians 5:16 "Rejoice always."

Philippians 4:4 "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!" (NAS)

3. In Psalm 16:11, David says the Lord showed him the path of life. What do these verses say about the path of life?

Matthew 7:13-14 "Heaven can be entered only through the narrow gate! The highway to hell is wide. Its gate is big enough for the many who choose its easy way. But the Gateway to life is small. That road is narrow. And only a few ever find it."

John 14:6 "Jesus said, 'I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one can get to the Father except through Me.'"

4. What is this life these verses are talking about? [Eternity with Jesus.]

PSALMS - LESSON 2

Before you begin your lesson:

- a. Pray for God's Holy Spirit to help you answer the questions.
- b. Some questions may be too hard; it's ok to write "I don't know."
- c. Think about what God's Word is telling you for today.
- d. With some questions, it might be helpful to write the scripture verse on your paper.

Read Psalm 23, verses 1 - 2.

King David wrote this Psalm while he was shepherding his father's sheep. He knew what a good shepherd did to care for his sheep. The poem is written through the eyes of a sheep, and it tells the sheep's life story in the care of a good shepherd. As David thought about his care for his sheep, he also understood how the Lord takes care of His own sheep. A good book to read with this Psalm is *A Child's Look at the Twenty-third Psalm* by W. Phillip Keller. In the Bible, God's people are often called "sheep".

1. Using your dictionary, what do these words mean?

Lord (notice capital "L")

is

my

shepherd

2. **CHALLENGE:** Using the dictionary definitions of the first 5 words of Psalm 23, we learn that the shepherd rules, the sheep belong to the shepherd, the shepherd belongs to the sheep, and the shepherd takes care of his sheep. We also learn "is" means what's happening now. What does Hebrews 13:8 say about Jesus?

3. What does Jesus call Himself in John 10:14?

4. What can the person say if his shepherd is the Lord Jesus Christ?
5. What does Matthew 6:8b say about our needs?
6. Sheep scare easily. One reason is, they aren't very strong and can't fight for themselves. So, when the sheep in our poem tells us his shepherd makes him rest, we know he feels safe because his shepherd is close by in case he needs him. When we have fears, how do we know our Shepherd, Jesus, is close by so we can feel safe? Read Matthew 28:20b for your answer.

Read Psalm 23, verses 3 - 4.

1. Using your dictionary again, what does restore mean?
2. The sheep in our poem laid down and now he can't get up. He needs help. When we sin, or get into trouble, we need help too. Who helps us? See Psalm 46:1.
3. **HARD:** According to Ephesians 3:16, where does Jesus restore His sheep?
4. The shepherd makes sure he guides his sheep on a good path. Why does the shepherd do this? See Psalm 23:3c.
5. Sheep follow each other. So it is important for them to have a good leader, and not to follow one another. Jesus, our Leader helps us not to follow the crowd. What does 1 Corinthians 15:33 say about our friends?
6. "A dark valley" refers to trials, and hard times. What does James 1:2,3 say about trials?

7. The sheep isn't afraid to walk through a dark valley because the shepherd is with him. What does Psalm 107:13-14a say about the believer's Shepherd?

8. The shepherd's rod is used for protection, discipline, and examination. The staff is used for guiding and rescuing lost sheep. Both are a comfort to the sheep. According to Romans 15:4, how is God's Word a comfort to believers?

Read Psalm 23, verses 5 - 6.

1. **RISKY:** In your home, what needs to be done to the table before you sit down to eat?

2. What does Psalm 23:5a say the good shepherd does for his sheep before he takes them out to pasture?

3. What does John 14:2b say Jesus, our Good Shepherd does for us?

4. When you get a cut, Mom puts healing medicine on it. What does a good shepherd do for the sores of his sheep?

5. What does Psalm 147:3 say the Lord God does for His sheep?

6. What will follow the Christian all of his life?

7. What happens at the end of a Christian's life?

PSALMS WEEK THREE

DISCUSSION LESSON 2

- 15 - 20 min. free time - games, fellowship;
- 15 - 20 min. snack and group recreation: BIBLE BASKETBALL
- If space allows, form two equal teams. Choose which team will shoot first. Leader asks a Bible question. If the first team answers correctly, they shoot. If not, the question is given to second team. When a basket is made, two points are given. Game is ended either by a preset score, or time limit.
- 15 - 20 min. discussion LESSON 2
- to end of class CRAFT: S'MORES

MATERIALS

graham crackers
marshmallows
chocolate bars or chips
microwave
paper plate

Children know how to make these. Place graham cracker on paper plate. Put 1 marshmallow & chips on top, cover with another graham cracker. Place in microwave and heat until marshmallow begins to expand. Remove, and allow to cool slightly. Chocolate may melt, or may need to be heated again for a short time.

PSALMS - LESSON 2 - ANSWERS

Read Psalm 23, verses 1 - 2.

King David wrote this Psalm while he was shepherding his father's sheep. He knew what a good shepherd did to care for his sheep. The poem is written through the eyes of a sheep, and it tells the sheep's life story in the care of a good shepherd. As David thought about his care for his sheep, he also understood how the Lord takes care of His own sheep. A good book to read with this Psalm is *A Child's Look at the Twenty-third Psalm* by W. Phillip Keller. In the Bible, God's people are often called "sheep".

1. Using your dictionary, what do these words mean?

Lord (notice capital "L") "person having authority to rule over others [small "l"]; God, Jesus Christ [capital "L"]" (Holt) [David's meaning here is the all-encompassing Jehovah, the Lord God of Israel, the Creator of the world.]

is "Form of be used with 'he,' 'she,' 'it,' or singular noun subjects, **IN THE PRESENT TENSE** [emphasis author's) (Holt) [Notice the verb tense is not past or future, but present, it's happening NOW!]

my "Possessive case of the pronoun 'I'; of, belonging to, done, or made by me." (Holt)

shepherd Person who takes care of sheep; minister, priest, or other religious leader; to take care of, guide." (Holt)

2. **CHALLENGE:** Using the dictionary definitions of the first 5 words of Psalm 23, we learn that the shepherd rules, the sheep belong to the shepherd, the shepherd belongs to the sheep, and the shepherd takes care of his sheep. We also learn "is" means what's happening now. What does Hebrews 13:8 say about Jesus? "Jesus Christ IS the same yesterday, today, and forever."
3. What does Jesus call Himself in John 10:14? "I am the Good Shepherd and know My own sheep, and they know Me."
4. What can the person say if his shepherd is the Lord Jesus Christ? "So I have everything I need." [He knows his Good Shepherd will make sure he has enough to eat, protect him from getting hurt, take care of his wounds if he does get hurt. He trusts his Shepherd to take care of him.]
5. What does Matthew 6:8b say about our needs? "Remember, your Father knows just what you need. He knows it even before you ask Him!"
6. Sheep scare easily. One reason is, they aren't very strong and can't fight for themselves. So, when the sheep in our poem tells us his shepherd makes him rest, we know he feels safe because his

shepherd is close by in case he needs him. When we have fears, how do we know our Shepherd, Jesus, is close by so we can feel safe? Read Matthew 28:20b for your answer. “I am with you always, even to the end of the world.”

Read Psalm 23, verses 3 - 4.

1. Using your dictionary again, what does restore mean? “To bring back to a former or original condition; to put back into a former position or place.” (Holt)
2. The sheep in our poem lay down and now he can't get up. He needs help. When we sin, or get into trouble, we need help too. Who helps us? See Psalm 46:1. “God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.” (NIV)
3. **HARD:** According to Ephesians 3:16, where does Jesus restore His sheep? “I pray that His glorious riches will strengthen you inwardly He will do this through His Holy Spirit.”
4. The shepherd makes sure he guides his sheep on a good path. Why does the shepherd do this? See Psalm 23:3c. “For His name's sake.”
5. Sheep follow each other. So it is important for them to have a good leader, and not to follow one another. Jesus, our Leader helps us not to follow the crowd. What does 1 Corinthians 15:33 say about our friends? “Do not be deceived: ‘Bad company corrupts good morals.’” (NAS)
6. “A dark valley” refers to trials, and hard times. What does James 1:2,3 say about trials? “Dear brothers, is your life full of trouble and trials? Then be happy. When the way is rough, your patience has a chance to grow.”
7. The sheep isn't afraid to walk through a dark valley because the shepherd is with him. What does Psalm 107:13-14a say about the believer's Shepherd? “Then they cried to the Lord in their troubles. And He turned and saved them! He led them from the darkness.”
8. The shepherd's rod is used for protection, discipline, and examination. The staff is used for guiding and rescuing lost sheep. Both are a comfort to the sheep. According to Romans 15:4, how is God's Word a comfort to believers? “These things were written in the Bible long ago. They are there to teach us patience and to make us strong. Then we will look forward to the time when God will conquer sin and death.” [The shepherd today carries a rifle instead of a rod. In David's day, the rod was an extension of the owner's right arm. It stood as a symbol of the shepherd's strength, power, and authority in any serious situation. We get the slang term “rod” for gun from this meaning of the shepherd's rod. The staff identifies the shepherd. It's a symbol of closeness and fellowship between the shepherd and his sheep. All a sheep may need is to feel the pressure of that stick and he know his shepherd was near. The rod is a symbol of the Word of God, which gives direction. The staff of God is a symbol of the Holy Spirit, which comforts, encourages, and guides the believer.]

Read Psalm 23, verses 5 - 6.

1. **RISKY:** In your home, what needs to be done to the table before you sit down to eat? The table must be set.
2. What does Psalm 23:5a say the good shepherd does for his sheep before he takes them out to pasture? “He prepares a table before me.” [Some of the best sheep grazing is on high ground “tables”. The shepherd spends time in this new pasture to make sure it is free of anything that could harm his sheep.]
3. What does John 14:2b say Jesus, our Good Shepherd does for us? “I go to prepare a place for you.” (NAS)
4. When you get a cut, Mom puts healing medicine on it. What does a good shepherd do for the sores of his sheep? He puts oil on its wounds.
5. What does Psalm 147:3 say the Lord God does for His sheep? “He heals those with broken hearts. He ties up their hurts and wounds.”
6. What will follow the Christian all of his life? “Your goodness and kindness shall be with me all of my life.”
7. What happens at the end of a Christian’s life? “And then I will live with You forever in Your home.”

Read Psalm 27, verses 7 - 10

1. In verse 7 David cries out to the Lord to hear and answer him. What does Isaiah 65:24 say?
2. David tells the Lord he hears Him call and will come. Read 1 Samuel 3:1-10. What was Samuel's response in verse 10?
3. What was Isaiah's response in Isaiah 6:8 to the Lord's call?
4. **PERSONAL:** What is your answer to the Lord when He calls you? Maybe He is calling you to be a missionary when you grow up. Maybe, He's calling you to receive His salvation. Maybe, He's calling you to apologize to someone because you hurt their feelings. Maybe, He's calling you to confess a sin so you won't be so anxious.
5. David doesn't want God to hide from him because he needs God's help. But, can we hide from God? What does Psalm 139:7-10 say to help you with your answer.
6. In Psalm 27:9b, David asks God not to desert him. What does David say about God in Psalm 118:6,8?

Read Psalm 27, verses 11 - 14.

1. In verse 11, David asks the Lord to teach him God's way, and to lead him on a straight path. What does Isaiah 45:2a say about the path the Lord takes us down?
2. **CHALLENGE:** How do we learn about the Lord's way?

3. A witness is someone “who has first-hand knowledge of something” (Holt). That means someone who saw something happen. In verse 12, David says there are people who are lying about him. Who else had to stand up against false witnesses in Mark 14:55,56?

4. What does Exodus 20:16 say?

5. What does Psalm 27:14 say?

6. Sometimes it’s hard to be patient. Especially if someone hurts us. We want to get even. But, what do these verses say about waiting for the Lord?

Proverbs 20:22

1 Thessalonians 5:15

7. **PERSONAL:** What one special thing did you learn from this Psalm? Did you learn to wait for the Lord to help you? Or did you learn there is salvation only in one name? Did you learn something about priests? Or what about patience? Did you know the Lord makes your path smooth? What would you like to thank the Lord for teaching you this week?

PSALMS WEEK FOUR

DISCUSSION LESSON 3

15 - 20 min. free time - games, fellowship;

15 - 20 min. snack and group recreation: SILLY HAND RELAY

Divide into two teams, and line up in two rows behind the start line. Place two containers for each team on the finish line. One container will always remain empty. Fill the other with work gloves and six small objects. If you can't find gloves, old socks will do.

The first player on each team, at the signal, runs to the container with the gloves and small objects, puts on the gloves, and one at a time transfers the objects to the empty container. When all six objects are in the container, player removes gloves and places them on top of the container. Player goes back to the end of line. Play continues until all players of one team are in their starting positions.

15 - 20 min. discussion LESSON 3

to end of class CRAFT: EGYPTIAN HIEROGLYPHS

An Egyptian Hieroglyphs kit with stamp symbols, stamp pad, guidebook, and chart may be obtained from The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, and Viking, A Division of Penguin Books USA, Inc, 375 Hudson Street, New York, New York 10014, written by Catharine Roehrig. Or use hieroglyphs books obtained from the local library.

Have a short lesson on the meaning of the hieroglyphs using simple word pictures. Then divide into teams. Each team "writes" out a previously written Bible verse. Exchange verses and see who can figure out the mystery message first. [This is not easy, but it is fun!]

PSALMS - LESSON 3 - ANSWERS

Read Psalm 27, verses 1 - 6.

1. In verse 1 David speaks of the Lord being his light. What does John 8:12 say about this light? “Later, Jesus spoke to the people. He said, ‘I am the Light of the world. If you follow Me, you won’t stumble through the darkness. Living light will guide your path.’” [The first 6 verses of this Psalm talk about God’s provisions and the encouragement He gives those who believe in Him.]
2. Also in verse 1, David says the Lord is his salvation. What does Psalm 68:19 say about God’s salvation? “What a great Lord! He carries our troubles each day. And He gives us salvation.”
3. What do these verses say about salvation?

John 3:16 “God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son. Anyone who believes in Him will not die but have eternal life.”

Acts 4:12 “There is salvation in no one else! Under all heaven there is no other name for men to call upon to save them.”

4. Why isn’t David afraid of an enemy army? “I know that God will save me.” Also, “though war break out against me, even then will I be confident.” (NIV)
5. What one thing does David want from the Lord? “I want to live in the Lord’s house all my life. I want to live near Him every day. I want to delight in His glory.”
6. In Old Testament times, there was a place in the tabernacle and temple called the Holy of Holies but only the High Priest could enter it. Also in there, was the ark of the covenant over which was the mercy seat. The mercy seat was the place where God told Moses He would meet with him. Read Hebrews 4:14-16. What does Hebrews 4:16 say is the way we can meet with God? “But Jesus the Son of God is our great High Priest. He has gone to heaven itself to help us. Therefore let us never stop trusting Him. This High Priest of ours understands how weak we are. He had the same temptations we do. But He never once gave way to them and sinned. So let us come boldly to the throne of God. There He will give us His mercy. And there we will find grace to help in times of need.”

Read Psalm 27, verses 7 - 10.

1. In verse 7 David cries out to the Lord to hear and answer him. What does Isaiah 65:24 say? “I will answer them before they even call to Me. While they are still talking to Me about their needs, I will go ahead and answer their prayers!”

2. David tells the Lord he hears Him call and will come. Read 1 Samuel 3:1-10. What was Samuel's response in verse 10? "And the Lord came and called as before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' And Samuel replied, 'Yes, Lord, I'm listening.'"
3. What was Isaiah's response in Isaiah 6:8 to the Lord's call? "Then I heard the Lord speaking 'Whom shall I send as a messenger to My people?' He asked. 'Who will go and speak for me?' And I said, 'Lord, I'll go! Send me.'"
4. **PERSONAL:** What is your answer to the Lord when He calls you? Maybe He is calling you to be a missionary when you grow up. Maybe, He's calling you to receive His salvation. Maybe, He's calling you to apologize to someone because you hurt their feelings. Maybe, He's calling you to confess a sin so you won't be so anxious.
5. David doesn't want God to hide from him because he needs God's help. But, can we hide from God? See Psalm 139:7-10 for your answer. [No.] "I can never be lost to Your Spirit! I can never get away from my God! If I go up to heaven, You are there. If I go down to the place of the dead, You are there. I might ride the morning winds. I might sail to the farthest oceans. But even there, Your hand will guide me. Even there, Your strength will support me."
6. In Psalm 27:9b, David asks God not to desert him. What does David say about God in Psalm 118:6,8? "He is for me! How can I be afraid? What can mere man do to me? It is better to trust in the Lord than in men."

Read Psalm 27, verses 11 - 14.

1. In verse 11, David asks the Lord to teach him God's way, and to lead him on a straight path. What does Isaiah 45:2a say about the path the Lord takes us down? "I will go before you and make the rough places smooth." (NAS)
2. **CHALLENGE:** How do we learn about the Lord's way? [Through Sunday School teachers, Awana, reading the Bible, Bible lessons, etc.]
3. A witness is someone "who has first-hand knowledge of something" (Holt). That means someone who saw something happen. In verse 12, David says there are people who are lying about him. Who else had to stand up against false witnesses in Mark 14:55,56? "Inside, the chief priests and the whole Jewish Supreme Court were trying to find something against Jesus. They wanted to find something that would be bad enough to put Him to death. But they couldn't find anything wrong with Him. Many people told lies about Jesus to get Him into trouble. But none of their stories agreed."
4. What does Exodus 20:16 say? "You shall not lie." "You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor." (NIV)

5. What does Psalm 27:14 say? “Don’t be impatient. Wait for the Lord. He will come and save you! Be brave and take courage! Yes, wait and He will help you.”
6. Sometimes it’s hard to be patient. Especially if someone hurts us. We want to get even. But, what do these verses say about waiting for the Lord?

Proverbs 20:22 “Don’t repay evil for evil. Wait for the Lord to handle the matter.”

1 Thessalonians 5:15 “See that no one pays back evil for evil. Always try to do good to each other and to everyone else.”

7. **PERSONAL:** What one special thing did you learn from this Psalm? Did you learn to wait for the Lord to help you? Or did you learn there is salvation only in one name? Did you learn something about priests? Or what about patience? Did you know the Lord makes your path smooth? What would you like to thank the Lord for teaching you this week?

PSALMS - LESSON 4

Before you begin your lesson:

- a. Pray for God's Holy Spirit to help you answer the questions.
- b. Some questions may be too hard; it's ok to write "I don't know."
- c. Think about what God's Word is telling you for today.
- d. With some questions, it might be helpful to write the scripture verse on your paper.

Read Psalm 34, verses 1 - 6.

1. What does David do when he gets discouraged?
2. **PERSONAL:** When you get into trouble, or when you aren't getting your own way, how do you act or feel?
3. **CHALLENGE:** Have you ever tried praising God as David did in Psalm 34:1? Why not try praising God this week when things aren't going your way instead of reacting as you usually do?
4. Praise is not always easy. What does Hebrews 13:15 say about praise?
5. What does David say about himself in these two verses?

Psalm 34:4

Psalm 34:6

6. What does Hebrews 11:6 say about seeking the Lord?

Read Psalm 34, verses 7 - 14.

1. When David says the Angel of the Lord protects and saves those who fear God, he is saying the Angel of the Lord is on guard all the time. What does Jesus say in Hebrews 13:5b?

2. What do you find out about angels in Hebrews 1:14?

3. **HARD:** One definition of “taste” is to experience. Romans 5:8 is one way we experience God’s kindness. What does this verse say? How do you know you’ve experienced God’s love?

4. Who is the happy or blessed person?

5. **CHALLENGE:** To fear the Lord means we are to respect Him, obey Him, and love Him. What does Psalm 33:8-10 say about this?

6. What do these verses say about the mouth and tongue?
James 1:26

James 3:9,10

James 3:2b

Psalm 141:3

Read Psalm 34, verses 15 - 22.

1. Who does the Lord listen to?

2. What does Psalm 33:18 say that is like Psalm 34:15?

3. What does 3 John 11 say about people who sin?

4. What do these verses say the Lord does for those who belong to Him, but are having lots of problems?

Psalm 34:18

Psalm 34:19

Psalm 145:18

5. **PERSONAL:** Are you having some problems right now? Is school work hard? Are you fighting with your brothers, sisters, or Mom or Dad? Why not stop right now and ask the Lord to help you. His word says He is near to you. He hears your voice. He will help you if you sincerely want Him to.

PSALMS WEEK FIVE

DISCUSSION LESSON 4

15 - 20 min. free time - games, fellowship;

15 - 20 min. snack and group recreation: BALLOON SMASH

Before class, purchase enough balloons for each player to have one; string is also needed.

Each player blows up his own balloon and ties it around the ankle. The object of the game is to step on everyone else's balloon while keeping your own from being popped. Emphasize that players must aim their feet only at the balloons and not at other players legs, or feet.

15 - 20 min. discussion LESSON 4

to end of class CRAFT: BOOKMARKS, RECIPE HOLDERS and PLANT PUSH STICKS

MATERIALS

small, flat wood shapes (flowers, animals, birds, etc.)

ribbon

glue

small silk flowers (optional)

sequins (optional)

glitter

felt markers

craft sticks

spring clothes pins

Color craft sticks, clothes pins and wood shapes with markers.

PLANT PUSH STICKS: Glue wood shape to one end of craft stick and decorate as desired.

RECIPE HOLDERS: Glue wood shape to "squeeze" end of clothes pin. Wood shape should be right side up when clothes pin is standing vertically on its "squeeze" end. This will help clothes pin stand as recipe is held in place for easy reading.

BOOKMARKS: Glue a piece of ribbon between two wood shapes; decorate.

PSALMS - LESSON 4

Read Psalm 34, verses 1 - 6.

1. What does David do when he gets discouraged? “I will praise the Lord no matter what happens. I will always speak of His glories and grace.”
2. **PERSONAL:** When you get into trouble, or when you aren't getting your own way, how do you act or feel? [Discouraged, depressed, angry, pout, stomp from the room, etc.]
3. **CHALLENGE:** Have you ever tried praising God as David did in Psalm 34:1? Why not try praising God this week when things aren't going your way instead of reacting as you usually do?
4. Praise is not always easy. What does Hebrews 13:15 say about praise? “With Jesus' help we will always offer our sacrifice of praise to God. We will do this by telling others of the glory of His name.”
5. What does David say about himself in these two verses?

Psalm 34:4 “For I cried to Him and He answered me! He freed me from all my fears.”

Psalm 34:6 “This poor man cried to the Lord. And the Lord heard him and saved him from his troubles.”
6. What does Hebrews 11:6 say about seeking the Lord? “You can never please God without faith. You cannot please Him without depending on Him. Anyone who wants to come to God must believe that He rewards those who truly look for Him.”

Read Psalm 34, verses 7 - 14.

1. When David says the Angel of the Lord protects and saves those who fear God, he is saying the Angel of the Lord is on guard all the time. What does Jesus say in Hebrews 13:5b? For God has said, ‘I will never fail you nor forsake you.’”
2. What do you find out about angels in Hebrews 1:14? “The angels are spirits who serve God. They are messengers sent to care for those who will receive His salvation.”
3. **HARD:** One definition of “taste” is to experience. Romans 5:8 is one way we experience God's kindness. What does this verse say? How do you know you've experienced God's love? “But God showed His great love for us. He sent Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.” [Answered prayer, salvation, protection, etc.]
4. Who is the happy or blessed person? “Happy are those who trust in Him (the Lord).”

5. **CHALLENGE:** To fear the Lord means we are to respect Him, obey Him, and love Him. What does Psalm 33:8-10 say about this? “Let everyone in all the world fear the Lord. Let men, women, and children stand in awe of Him. For when He spoke, the world began! It appeared at His command! And with a breath He can scatter the nations who hate Him.”

6. What do these verses say about the mouth and tongue?

James 1:26 “Anyone who says he’s a Christian but doesn’t control his tongue is fooling himself. His religion isn’t worth much.”

James 3:9,10 “Sometimes it (the tongue) praises our heavenly Father. Sometimes it breaks out into curses against men who are made like God. And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Dear brothers, surely this is not right!”

James 3:2b “If anyone can control his tongue, it proves he has control over himself.”

Psalm 141:3 “Help me, Lord, to keep my mouth shut. Help me to keep my lips sealed.”

Read Psalm 34, verses 15 - 22.

1. Who does the Lord listen to? “For the Lord sees those who live good lives. And He listens when they cry to Him.”

2. What does Psalm 33:18 say that is like Psalm 34:15? “But the eyes of the Lord are watching over those who respect Him. He looks for those who trust in His steady love.”

3. What does 3 John 11 say about people who sin? “Dear friend, don’t let his bad example control you. Follow only what is good. Those who do what is right prove they are God’s children. Those who continue in evil prove that they are far from God.”

4. What do these verses say the Lord does for those who belong to Him, but are having lots of problems?

Psalm 34:18 “The Lord is close to those whose hearts are breaking. He saves those who are sorry for their sins.”

Psalm 34:19 “The good man does not escape all troubles. But the Lord helps him in each and every one.”

Psalm 145:18 “He is close to all who call on Him sincerely.”

5. **PERSONAL:** Are you having some problems right now? Is school work hard? Are you fighting with your brothers, sisters, or Mom or Dad? Why not stop right now and ask the Lord to help you. His word says He is near to you. He hears your voice. He will help you if you sincerely want Him to.

PSALMS - LESSON 5

Before you begin your lesson:

- a. Pray for God's Holy Spirit to help you answer the questions.
- b. Some questions may be too hard; it's ok to write "I don't know."
- c. Think about what God's Word is telling you for today.
- d. With some questions, it might be helpful to write the scripture verse on your paper.

Read Psalm 37, verses 1 - 8.

1. What does David say happens to wicked people in verse 2?

2. What does James 4:14b say happens to everyone?

3. What doesn't fade away or disappear according to Isaiah 40:8?

4. According to John 5:24b what happens to those who believe in Jesus?

5. Sometimes we become upset when we see mean and wicked people succeed. According to these verses, what are believers in Christ to do?

Psalm 37:3a

Psalm 37:4a

Psalm 37:5a

Psalm 37:7a

Psalm 37:8

Read Psalm 37, verses 8 - 16.

1. David reminds us to not be angry in verse 8. What does Paul say about anger in Ephesians 4:31-32?
2. How are Psalm 37:11 and Matthew 5:5 alike?
3. What emotion does God show to the wicked in Psalm 37:12,13?
4. What does Hebrews 9:27 say about judgment?

Read Psalm 37, verses 17 - 26.

1. What does God do for the righteous according to verse 17b?
2. **CHALLENGE:** What do you think are the rewards David talks about in verse 18? See 1 Peter 1:3-4 to help you with your answer.
3. Who directs a good man's steps?
4. What else will the Lord do for His own according to Isaiah 58:11a?
5. What nice thing does David say about those who trust in the Lord?

Read Psalm 37, verses 27 - 40.

1. How are we to live according to what Jesus says in Luke 6:35-36?
2. How does a righteous man speak?
3. What do these verses say about the words of a righteous man?

James 1:5

Luke 12:12

4. What does Psalm 28:7a say about God's care for believers that is like Psalm 37:39-40?
5. **PERSONAL:** Are you willing to share in your class how the Lord is helping you?

PSALMS - LESSON 5 ANSWERS

Read Psalm 37, verses 1 - 8.

1. What does David say happens to wicked people in verse 2? “Soon they fade away like grass and disappear.”
2. What does James 4:14b say happens to everyone? “You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away.” (NAS)
3. What doesn't fade away or disappear according to Isaiah 40:8? “The grass dries up and the flowers fade. But the Word of our God shall stand forever.”
4. According to John 5:24b what happens to those who believe in Jesus? “I have something serious to say. Anyone who listens to my message and believes in god who sent me has eternal life. Such a person will never be condemned. He has already passed out of death into life.”
5. Sometimes we become upset when we see mean and wicked people succeed. According to these verses, what are believers in Christ to do?

Psalm 37:3a **“TRUST** in the Lord and do **GOOD.**” (NIV)

Psalm 37:4a **“DELIGHT** yourself in the Lord.” (NIV)

Psalm 37:5a **“COMMIT** your way to the Lord. (NIV)

Psalm 37:7a **“REST** in the Lord. **WAIT** patiently for Him to act.

Psalm 37:8 **“STOP** your anger! Turn off your wrath. Don't fret and worry. It only leads to harm.”

Read Psalm 37, verses 8 - 16.

1. David reminds us to not be angry in verse 8. What does Paul say about anger in Ephesians 4:31-32? “Stop being mean, bad-tempered, and angry. Fighting, harsh words, and dislike of others should have no place in your lives. Instead, be kind to each other and tenderhearted. Forgive one another just as God has forgiven you because you belong to Christ.”
2. How are Psalm 37:11 and Matthew 5:5 alike? Psalm 37:11: “But the meek will inherit the land and enjoy great peace.” Matthew 5:5: “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.” (NIV)
3. What emotion does God show to the wicked in Psalm 37:12,13 ? “The Lord is laughing at those who plot against the godly. For He knows their judgment day is coming.”
4. What does Hebrews 9:27 say about judgment? “It is planned that men die only once. And after that comes judgment.”

Read Psalm 37, verses 17 - 26.

1. What does God do for the righteous according to verse 17b? “But the Lord takes care of those He has forgiven.”
2. **CHALLENGE:** What do you think are the rewards David talks about in verse 18? See 1 Peter 1:3-4 to help you with your answer. “All honor to God, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is His great mercy that has given us the privilege of being born again. Now we are members of God’s own family. Now we live in the hope of eternal life. Why? Because Christ rose again from the dead. God has reserved for His children the priceless gift of eternal life. It is kept in Heaven for you. It is pure and spotless. It is beyond the reach of change and decay.”
3. Who directs a good man’s steps? “The steps of good men are directed by the Lord. He takes joy in each step they take.”
4. What else will the Lord do for His own according to Isaiah 58:11a? “The Lord will guide you always; He will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame.” (NIV)
5. What nice thing does David say about those who trust in the Lord? “Instead, the godly are able to be generous. They are free with their gifts and loans to others. And their children are a blessing.”

Read Psalm 37, verses 27 - 40.

1. How are we to live according to what Jesus says in Luke 6:35-36? “Love your enemies! Do good to them! Lend to them! And don’t worry about the fact that they won’t pay you back. Then your reward from heaven will be very great. And you will truly be acting like sons of God. For He is kind to the unthankful and those that are wicked. Try to show as much mercy as your Father does.”
2. How does a righteous man speak? “The mouth of the righteous man utters wisdom and his tongue speaks what is just.”
3. What do these verses say about the words of a righteous man?

James 1:5 “If you want to know what God wants you to do, ask Him. He will gladly tell you. He is ready to give wisdom to all who ask Him. He will not scold you.”

Luke 12:12 “For the Holy Spirit will give you the right words to say.”
4. What does Psalm 28:7a say about God’s care for believers that is like Psalm 37:39-40? “He is my strength and my shield from every danger. I trusted in Him and He helped me.”
5. **PERSONAL:** Are you willing to share in your class how the Lord is helping you?

PSALMS - LESSON 6

Before you begin your lesson:

- a. Pray for God's Holy Spirit to help you answer the questions.
- b. Some questions may be too hard; it's okay to write "I don't know."
- c. Think about what God's Word is telling you for today.
- d. With some questions, it might be helpful to write the scripture verses on your paper.

Read Psalm 91, verses 1 - 4.

The following words are taken from the NIV Bible translation. They may help you understand some of the meaning of this Psalm.

dwell "To live in a place; reside" (HOLT).

shelter "Anything that protects, covers, or shields. Protection from weather or other danger or inconvenience. To protect; defend" (HOLT).

shadow "Darkened image caused by something that blocks light" (HOLT). "Shelter from danger or observation. Conceal. To shade" (WEBSTER'S).

refuge "Safety or shelter. A place of safety or shelter. Anyone or anything offering peace or rest" (HOLT).

fortress "Stronghold; fort or fortification" (HOLT).

fowler "One who catches or kills wild birds" (HOLT).

snare "Kind of trap that catches game in a noose. Anything that entraps or entangles" (HOLT).

pestilence "Deadly, widespread, contagious disease; plague" (HOLT).

rampart "Protective wall or bank of earth around a fort. Any protection from danger" (HOLT).

1. **CHALLENGE:** This Psalm is a lesson in how to say nice things about ourselves to ourselves. With God's help, we can be our own pep team. Instead of saying to ourselves "I can't," we say to ourselves, "I am going to try. I think I can, with God's help." See if you can write verses 1-4 using your own words, now that you know the meanings of some of the words. If you can't do all the verses, try doing at least one.

Read Psalm 91, verses 5 - 13.

1. **PERSONAL:** Are you ever afraid? What does the first part of verse 5 say, which is God's promise to you?
2. God promises to protect Christians. But they shouldn't take dangerous chances, either. What does Proverbs 3:4-6 reminds Christians to do everyday?
3. Read Matthew 4:5-7. Who is speaking and who is listening?
4. What answer was given in Luke 4:12 and who gives it?
5. Psalm 91:11 talks about angels. What do these verses say about angels?

Psalm 34:7

Hebrews 1:14

Read Psalm 91, verses 14 - 16.

1. God will rescue, protect, and answer the prayers of Christians. But what are three things the Christian has to do?

2. What will God do when we are in trouble?

3. God promises to help us in everything we do. He knows what is going to happen tomorrow, but we don't. That is why Christians trust Him to take care of tomorrow. Sometimes we have trouble. Sometimes we have clear sailing. It is easy to trust God when it is clear sailing, when we don't have any problems. You might be in some troubles now. What does the prophet Habakkuk say about troubles in chapter 1, verses 2-4 of his book?

4. Habakkuk's prophecy in chapter 3, verses 15, 16 says "Your horsemen marched across the sea. The mighty waters piled high. I shake when I hear all this. My lips quiver with fear. My legs give way under me. I shake in terror. I will quietly wait for the day of trouble to come upon our enemies." What encouragement does Habakkuk give himself in verses 17-19 of chapter 3?

5. Habakkuk was a real person. He had feelings of love, anger, doubt, and all the feelings you have, but he was going to trust God no matter what happened. Here is a quote from another person in the Bible who had many troubles . Using the following formula what does this quote say? Replace the numbers with the correct letters, and write the whole verse in the space below.

1 = A, 2 = E, 3 = I, 4 = O, 5 =U.

"Th 4 5 g h H 2 s l 1 y m 2, y 2 t w 3 l l 3 h 4 p 2 1 n h 1 m."

— J 4 b 13:15 (NIV)

PSALMS - WEEK SEVEN

DISCUSSION LESSON SIX

15 - 20 minutes free time - games, fellowship

15 - 20 minutes snack and group recreation: HIT THE PENCIL

Divide into two teams. On opposite sides of the room, mark a START line for each team, and a line in the center separating them. Place a pencil on this line, between the two teams. In turn each player has five tries to hit the pencil off the line (you may have them use a bean bag, ball or rolled up piece of paper to try to hit the pencil). When the pencil is hit, the team scores a point. You can set a goal in points, or a time limit.

15 - 20 minutes discuss LESSON 6

to end of class CRAFT: SAND PAPER PAINTING

MATERIALS

used, bright color crayons white construction paper
iron newspaper
sandpaper sheets, new or used; or used sander belts

Cut the sandpaper into squares 3" x 3" or larger as desired. Draw a simple design onto the sandpaper and color in. Be sure to press firmly on the crayon and get as much color onto the sandpaper as possible. (The crayons will probably not be usable after this project.) Detail is not necessary in the finished product, as you are creating an impressionist print. Lay newspaper over work area; place colored sandpaper face up on newspaper. Cover sandpaper with white construction paper. With iron setting on low heat, lightly press the top of the construction paper, until the crayon melts. Remove construction paper and allow to cool.

PSALMS ANSWERS LESSON 6

Read Psalm 91, verses 1 - 4.

The following words are taken from the NIV Bible translation. They may help you understand some of the meaning of this Psalm.

dwelt “To live in a place; reside” (HOLT).

shelter “Anything that protects, covers, or shields. Protection from weather or other danger or inconvenience. To protect; defend” (HOLT).

shadow “Darkened image caused by something that blocks light” (HOLT). “Shelter from danger or observation. Conceal. To shade” (WEBSTER’S).

refuge “Safety or shelter. A place of safety or shelter. Anyone or anything offering peace or rest” (HOLT).

fortress “Stronghold; fort or fortification” (HOLT).

fowler “One who catches or kills wild birds” (HOLT).

snare “Kind of trap that catches game in a noose. Anything that entraps or entangles” (HOLT).

pestilence “Deadly, widespread, contagious disease; plague” (HOLT).

rampart “Protective wall or bank of earth around a fort. Any protection from danger” (HOLT).

1. **CHALLENGE:** This Psalm is a lesson in how to say nice things about ourselves to ourselves. With God’s help, we can be our own pep team. Instead of saying to ourselves “I can’t,” we say to ourselves, “I am going to try. I think I can, with God’s help.” See if you can write verses 1-4 using your own words, now that you know the meanings of some of the words. If you can’t do all the verses, try doing at least one. [If no one has been able to do this, skip, or do some in class.]

Read Psalm 91, verses 5 - 13.

1. **PERSONAL:** Are you ever afraid? What does the first part of verse 5 say, which is God’s promise to you? “Now you don’t need to be afraid of the dark.”
2. God promises to protect Christians. But they shouldn’t take dangerous chances, either. What does Proverbs 3:4-6 remind Christians to do everyday? “Perhaps you want favor with both God and people. You might want to be known for good judgment and common sense. If so, then trust the Lord with all your heart. Don’t ever trust yourself. In all you do, put God first. He will direct you and crown your efforts with success.”

3. Read Matthew 4:5-7. Who is speaking and who is listening? “Then Satan took him to Jerusalem. He led Jesus to the roof of the Temple. ‘Jump off,’ he said. ‘Prove you are the Son of God. For the Scriptures say, ‘God will send his angels. They will lift you up in their hands. And you will not strike your foot on a rock.’” The angels will keep you from being smashed on the rocks below.”
4. What answer was given in Luke 4:12 and who gives it? “Jesus replied, ‘The Scriptures also say, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to a foolish test.’”
5. Psalm 91:11 talks about angels. What do these verses say about angels?

Psalm 34:7 “For the Lord saves those who respect him. The Angel of the Lord guards them.”

Hebrews 1:14 “The angels are spirits who serve God. They are messengers sent to care for those who will receive salvation.”

Read Psalm 91, verses 14 - 16.

1. God will rescue, protect, and answer the prayers of Christians. But what are three things the Christian has to do? Verses 14 and 15a: Love God, trust in God’s name, call to God. “For the Lord says, ‘Because he loves me, I will rescue him. I will make him great because he trusts in my name. When he calls on me, I will answer.’”
2. What will God do when we are in trouble? Verse 15b: “I will be with him in trouble. I will save him and honor him. I will satisfy him with a full life. I will give him my salvation.”
3. God promises to help us in everything we do. He knows what is going to happen tomorrow, but we don’t. That is why Christians trust Him to take care of tomorrow. Some times we have trouble. Sometimes we have clear sailing. It is easy to trust God when it is clear sailing, when we don’t have any problems. You might be in some troubles now. What does the prophet Habakkuk say in chapter 1, verses 2-4 of his book? “O Lord, how long must I call for help before you will listen? I shout to you, but it does no good. There is no answer. ‘Help! Murder!’ I cry. But no one comes to save me. Must I forever see this sin and sadness all around me? Wherever I look I see oppression and cheating. I see men who love to argue and fight. The law is not kept. There is not justice given in the courts. For there are far more wicked people than righteous.”
4. Habakkuk’s prophecy in chapter 3, verse 15, 16 says: “Your horsemen marched across the sea. The mighty waters piled high. I shake when I hear all this. My lips quiver with fear. My legs give way under me. I shake in terror. I will quietly wait for the day of trouble to come upon our enemies.” What does Habakkuk say to himself in verses 17-19 of chapter 3? “When it happens, the fig trees will be destroyed. No blossoms or fruit will be left. The olive crops will all fail, and the fields will lie empty. The flocks will die in the fields, and the cattle barns will be empty.”

Even when all this happens, I will rejoice in the Lord. I will be happy in the God of my salvation. The Lord God is my strength. He will give me the speed of a deer. He will bring me safely over the mountains.”

5. Habakkuk was a real person. He had feelings of love, anger, doubt, and all the feelings you have, but he was going to trust God no matter what happened. Here is a quote from another person in the Bible who had many troubles . Using the following formula what does this quote say? Replace the numbers with the correct letters, and write the whole verse in the space below.

1 = A, 2 = E, 3 = I, 4 = O, 5 =U.

“Though He slay me, yet will I hope in Him.”

— Job 13:15

PSALMS - LESSON 7

Before you begin your lesson:

- a. Pray for God's Holy Spirit to help you answer the questions.
- b. Some questions may be too hard; it's ok to write "I don't know."
- c. Think about what God's Word is telling you for today.
- d. With some questions, it might be helpful to write the scripture verse on your paper.

Read Psalm 92, verses 1 - 4

1. What does David say is a good thing to do?

2. What does Psalm 147:1 say that is like Psalm 92:1?

3. Using your dictionary, what is the meaning of these words?

kind (not "class" definition)

faithful

4. Psalm 92:2 says we should thank God for His kindness in the morning, and thankful for His faithfulness at night. What does Lamentations 3:22,23 say?

5. Psalm 66:1 says "Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands." (KJV) What are the two ways mentioned in Psalm 92:3 we can make that joyful noise?

6. **RISKY:** God knows and cares about everything we need. Read the following verses to find how God cared for His people, and how He still cares for us.

Deuteronomy 8:3,4

Matthew 6:25,34

7. Moses wrote the book of Deuteronomy to the nation of Israel. The Apostle Peter wrote the Epistle 1 Peter to the first century Christians. What do these verses say is the reason God does wonderful things for us?

Deuteronomy 7:7-8a

1 Peter 2:9a

Read Psalm 92, verses 5 - 9.

1. **CHALLENGE:** Read Psalm 104:5-9. What do you think is the miracle mentioned in Psalm 104:9
2. What can't the fool or senseless man understand?
3. What does Psalm 37:20a say about God's enemies?
4. What does John 3:36a say about the wise man?

Read Psalm 92, verses 10 - 15.

In The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe, Aslan the lion gives up his life for his friends. The story is called an allegory, which means "story in which the characters and happenings stand for ideas or qualities such as truth, loyalty, virtue, etc." (Holt) In the Bible, sometimes things, such as trees, stand for something else.

The cedar tree is graceful, its wood is very strong, and it smells good. Some cedar wood is used for building ships, chests, and closets. The sweet smell of the wood drives away insects that could destroy the tree. Even pencils can be made of cedar. The cedar wood oil is used in perfumes and medicines, and in microscopes to increase the amount of light that passes through the lenses.

The palm tree can be very tall, 100 feet high, or it can be short, only 3 feet high. The leaves on some can be as long as 50 feet. Palm trees have big and small seed. They grow near water, in forests, or out in the open. Their fruit is eaten, the flowers of some contain sugar, and the stem of some contain starch to make flour. Some seeds are so hard buttons, knobs and even chessmen can be made from them. The leaves of some contain wax from which candles are made. The palm branch stands for joy and victory, and is given in honor.

1. **CHALLENGE:** Using the above information about the palm and cedar trees, write down the tree you think fits these Bible scriptures.

“God is a sweet smell in our lives. It is the scent of Christ within us. It is an aroma to both the saved and the unsaved all around us. Those who are not being saved smell death and doom. But to those who know Christ we are a life giving perfume. But who can do such task as this?” 2 Corinthians 2:15,16.

“No one lights a lamp and hides it! Instead, he puts it up on a lampstand. That way it will give light to all who enter the room.” Luke 11:33

“You should be filled with light within, with no dark corners. Then your face will shine, too. It will look as though a floodlight is shining on you.” Luke 11:36

“Later, Jesus spoke to the people. He said, ‘I am the Light of the world. If you follow Me, you won’t stumble through the darkness. Living light will guide your path.’” John 8:12.

“Last of all, let your strength come from the Lord’s power within you.” Ephesians 6:10

“Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise partook of the same nature, that through death He might destroy him who has the power of death, that is, the devil.” (Hebrews 2:14, RSV)

“The next day, the crowd in Jerusalem heard that Jesus was coming. And a huge crowd of Pass-over visitors went out to meet Him. They took palm branches and waved them. They shouted, ‘The Savior! God bless the King of Israel!’” (John 12:12,13)

PSALMS WEEK SEVEN

DISCUSSION LESSON 7

15 - 20 min. free time - games, fellowship;

15 - 20 min. snack and group recreation: SIMPLE RELAY:

You will need a ping-pong ball, a large spoon, a container for each team. With masking tape, mark start and finish lines on the floor. Divide class into teams. Give the first player in each team a spoon. Place a ping-ball on the floor in front of each team. Place the containers across from each team at the Finish Line. At the signal, the first player picks up the ball with the spoon, races to the finish line, drops the ball in the container, races back to the next in line, hands off the spoon, and goes to the end of the line. The next player repeats the first sequence. Play continues until one team has all team players in their starting positions

15 - 20 min. discussion LESSON 7

to end of class CRAFT: BOOK SAFE

MATERIALS:

an old hardcover book with about 200 pages in it
rubber cement
ruler
pencil
Exacto or hobby knife

With pencil mark 1" from all four sides. Use ruler to connect the marks, making a triangle. Using the hobby knife, cut out the center of the rectangle, two to three pages at a time. This makes the "well" of the safe. Brush the four walls of the "well" with rubber cement; allow to dry. Book is now a "safe". But, when sitting on a shelf, it looks like an ordinary book.

PSALMS - LESSON 7 ANSWERS

Read Psalm 92, verses 1 - 4.

1. What does David say is a good thing to do? “It is good to say thank you to the Lord. It is great to sing praises to Him.”
2. What does Psalm 147:1 say that is like Psalm 92:1? “Praise the Lord! Yes, praise the Lord! How good it is to sing His praises! How delightful, and how right!”
3. Using your dictionary, what is the meaning of these words?

kind (not “class” definition) “Affectionate, loving; of a sympathetic nature.” (WEBSTER)

faithful “Loyal, trustworthy.” (HOLT)

4. Psalm 92:2 says we should thank God for His kindness in the morning, and thank Him for His faithfulness at night. What does Lamentations 3:22,23 say? “The Lord never stops loving us. He keeps on showing us mercy. That alone has kept us from total destruction. Great is His faithfulness. His love and kindness begin fresh each day.” [We can look at this cyclically. When we rise in the morning, we thank and praise the Lord for His protection and safe keeping during the night, as we slept. At the end of the day we again thank Him for His protection, help, forgiveness, etc. throughout the day. We repeat this each morning and evening.]
5. Psalm 66:1 says “Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands.” (KJV) What are the two ways mentioned in Psalm 92:3 we can make that joyful noise? [With singing and playing musical instruments.]
6. **RISKY:** God knows and cares about everything we need. Read the following verses to find how God cared for His people, and how He still cares for us.

Deuteronomy 8:3,4 [He gave them food, their clothes didn’t wear out, and their feet didn’t swell (even though they walked through the desert) for forty years.]

Matthew 6:25,34 [We shouldn’t worry about food, drink, or clothes because God knows we need those things. “Don’t worry about tomorrow,” God will take care of it.]

7. Moses wrote the book of Deuteronomy to the nation of Israel. The Apostle Peter wrote the Epistle, sometimes called “Letter”, 1 Peter to the first century Christians. What do these verses say is the reason God does wonderful things for us?

Deuteronomy 7:7-8a “He did not choose you because you were a larger nation than any other. You were the smallest of all! It was because He loves you.”

1 Peter 2:9a “But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light.” (NIV)

Read Psalm 92, verses 5 - 9.

1. **CHALLENGE:** Read Psalm 104:5-9. What do you think is the miracle mentioned in Psalm 104:9 “And then You set a border for the seas. You did this so they would never again cover the earth.”
2. What can't the fool or senseless man understand? “No fool can understand this: The wicked seem to grow like weeds. But still, there is only eternal death ahead of them.”
3. What does Psalm 37:20a say about God's enemies? “But evil men shall die.”
4. What does John 3:36a say about the wise man? “And all who trust God's Son to save them have eternal life.”

Read Psalm 92, verses 10 - 15.

In The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe, Aslan the lion gives up his life for his friends. The story is called an allegory, which means “story in which the characters and happenings stand for ideas or qualities such as truth, loyalty, virtue, etc.” (Holt) In the Bible, sometimes things such as trees stand for something else.

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The palm tree can be very tall, 100 feet high, or it can be short, only 3 feet high. The leaves on some can be as long as 50 feet. Palm trees have big and small seed. They grow near water, in forests, or out in the open. Their fruit is eaten, the flowers of some contain sugar, and the stem of some contain starch to make flour. Some seeds are so hard buttons, knobs and even chessmen can be made from them. The leaves of some contain wax from which candles are made. The palm branch stands for joy and victory, and is given in honor.

1. **CHALLENGE:** Using the above information about the palm and cedar trees, write down the tree you think fits these Bible scriptures.

“God is a sweet smell in our lives. It is the scent of Christ within us. It is an aroma to both the saved and the unsaved all around us. Those who are not being saved smell death and doom. But to those who know Christ we are a life giving perfume. But who can do such task as this?” 2 Corinthians 2:15,16. [Cedar tree.]

“No one lights a lamp and hides it! Instead, he puts it up on a lampstand. That way it will give light to all who enter the room.” Luke 11:33 [Palm tree.]

“You should be filled with light within, with no dark corners. Then your face will shine, too. It will look as though a floodlight is shining on you.” Luke 11:36 [Cedar tree.]

“Later, Jesus spoke to the people. He said, ‘I am the Light of the world. If you follow Me, you won’t stumble through the darkness. Living light will guide your path.’” John 8:12. [Palm or cedar tree.]

“Last of all, let your strength come from the Lord’s power within you.” Ephesians 6:10 [Cedar tree.]

“Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise partook of the same nature, that through death He might destroy him who has the power of death, that is, the devil.” (Hebrews 2:14, RSV) [Cedar tree.]

“The next day, the crowd in Jerusalem heard that Jesus was coming. And a huge crowd of Pass-over visitors went out to meet Him. They took palm branches and waved them. They shouted, ‘The Savior! God bless the King of Israel!’” John 12:12,13 [Palm tree.]

PSALMS - LESSON 8

Before you begin your lesson:

- a. Pray for God's Holy Spirit to help you answer the questions.
- b. Some questions may be too hard; it's okay to write "I don't know."
- c. Think about what God's Word is telling you for today.
- d. With some questions, it might be helpful to write the scripture verses on your paper.

Read Psalm 103, verses 1 - 5.

1. People believe David wrote this Psalm. What does he tell himself and us to do in verse 1?

2. In David's Psalms he often told the Israelites to remember what God had done for them. He wanted them to remember God's help in the long ago past, when they left Egypt and conquered the land God had promised. He also wanted them to remember how God had helped them when they were in the middle of other problems. The Exodus of the Jews from slavery in Egypt was 200-300 years before this Psalm was written, yet David reminds them to remember all God had done for them. God wants us to remember everything He has done for us, too. Below are verses telling the miracles of God. Underline the miracle God performed.

Exodus 3:1-2 "One day Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro. Jethro was the priest of Midian. Moses was out at the edge of the desert near Horeb, the mountain of God. Suddenly the Angel of the Lord appeared to him as a flame of fire in a bush. Moses saw that the bush was on fire. But it didn't burn up."

Exodus 12:3,5-7,12,13 "Announce this to all the people of Israel. Every year, on the 10th day of this month, each family shall get a lamb. This animal shall be a year-old male. It can be either a sheep or a goat. It cannot have any defects.... On the evening of the 14th day of this month, all these lambs shall be killed. Their blood will be put on the two side frames of the door of every home. It will also be put on the panel above the door. Use the blood of the lamb eaten in that home.... For I will pass through the land of Egypt tonight. I will kill all the oldest sons and firstborn male animals in all the land of Egypt. And I will bring judgment upon all the gods of Egypt. For I am the Lord. The blood you have placed on the door posts will be proof that you obey me. When I see the blood I will pass over you. I will not destroy your firstborn children when I smite the land of Egypt."

Exodus 14:21,22 "Meanwhile, Moses stretched his rod over the sea. The Lord opened up a path through the sea. There were walls of water on each side. And a strong east wind blew all that night. It dried the sea bottom. So the people of Israel walked through the sea on dry ground!"

Joshua 6:16,20 “The seventh time the priests blew a long, loud trumpet blast. When they did, Joshua yelled to the people, ‘Shout! The Lord has given us the city!’ So, the people heard the trumpet blast. And when they did, they shouted as loud as they could. Suddenly the walls of Jericho crumbled and fell before them. And the people of Israel poured into the city! They attacked from every side and took it!”

1 Samuel 17:34-37 “But David would not give up. ‘I am the shepherd of my father’s sheep,’ he said. ‘Lions and bears come and take lambs from the flock. But when they do, I go after them with a club. I take the lambs right from their mouths! If they turn on me, I catch them by the jaw and club them to death. I have done this to both lions and bears. And I’ll do it to this heathen Philistine too. For he has insulted the armies of the living God! The Lord has saved me from the claws and teeth of the lion and the bear. And he also will save me from this Philistine!’”

1 Samuel 17:45,50 “David shouted in reply, ‘You come to me with a sword and a spear. But I come to you in the name of the Lord of the armies of heaven and of Israel. I come in the name of the God whom you have defied. So David killed the Philistine giant with a sling and a stone.’”

3. Read verses 1-5 in Psalm 103 again. What does David list as the things God has done for us?

4. **HARD:** How did God forgive all our sin? Underline the answer in the following verses.

John 1:29 “The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him. He said, ‘Look! There is the Lamb of God who takes away the world’s sin!’”

Ephesians 1:7 “He has so much kindness! He took away all our sins through the blood of his Son. This saved us.”

Hebrews 9:14 “So how much more will the blood of Christ cleanse our lives and hearts. His sacrifice frees us from the old rules so we can serve the living God. Christ was perfect, without a single sin or fault. By the eternal Spirit, he gave himself to God to die for our sins.”

1 Peter 1:18,19 “God paid a ransom to save you from the impossible way your fathers tried to take. The ransom he paid wasn’t gold or silver as you very well know. But he paid for you with the precious blood of Christ. He was the sinless, spotless Lamb of God.”

Read Psalm 103, verses 6 - 12.

1. **CHALLENGE:** Verse 8 says God is compassionate, gracious, slow to anger and full of love. Do you think God's people obeyed Him and that's why God is slow to anger and full of love? Read Nehemiah 9:16,17 for your answer.

2. What does 1 Timothy 2:4 say is God's reason for being slow to get angry?

3. What does Romans 6:23 tell us the payment, or punishment, for sin should be?

4. **RISKY:** Can you measure God's love? The following verses are clues for your answer.

Psalm 100:5

Lamentations 3:22

Ephesians 3:18

5. How far away has God put the sinner's sins? See Psalm 103.

Read Psalm 103, verses 13 - 18.

1. Using your dictionary, what does the word compassion mean?

2. If you asked your mom or dad for some cookies or ice cream, they would not give you poison. How does God say the same thing in these verses?

Luke 11:13

James 1:17

3. **CHALLENGE:** What do you learn in Psalm 139:13-18 about how you were formed?
4. **HARD:** David compared man's life with a flower and grass. How does James 4:13-15 encourage you to trust God?

Read Psalm 103, verses 19 - 22.

1. Not everyone worships God now. Someday everyone will bow before Him. What does God say about Himself and Jesus in these verses?

Isaiah 45:21c-24

Philippians 2:10,11

2. What does Ezra say about God in Nehemiah 9:6?
3. How does David end this Psalm?

PSALM - WEEK NINE

DISCUSSION LESSON EIGHT

15 - 20 minutes free time - games, fellowship

15 - 20 minutes snack and group recreation: CAR LOT

Evenly divide into groups. Each group calls themselves by a name of a car. Choose "It." Draw a starting line upon which all "cars" are to stand, and a finish line that must be reached before being tagged. "It" stands in center of the two lines and calls out a name of a car. That car group tries to reach the finish line before being tagged by "It." If tagged, they sit where tagged. They also may tag other runners from their sitting position. If "It" calls "Car Lot" everyone races to the finish line. Repeat game as many times as desired, choosing different players to be "It."

15 - 20 minutes discuss LESSON 8

to end of class CRAFT: DECOUPAGE ROCK PAPER WEIGHT

MATERIALS

magazine pictures

glue

flat rock 3-4 inches across

regular scissors

pinking/decorative shears

paint brush

clear plastic spray or shellac

Wash the rock with soap and water and dry before class. Cut out the picture for the rock. Look at the rock to see its best laying position so the top can be determined for decoration. Later the rock will be used as a paperweight. Apply glue to the back of the chosen picture and lay it on the side chosen as the top of the rock. Press the picture into any dimples or crevices in the rock. Use enough glue on the picture to soak it, making it flexible. When dry, shellac and dry again.

PSALMS ANSWERS LESSON 8

Read Psalm 103, verses 1 - 5.

1. People believe David wrote this Psalm. What does he tell himself and us to do in verse 1? “I will bless the holy name of God with all my heart.”
2. In David’s Psalms he often told the Israelites to remember what God had done for them. He wanted them to remember God’s help in the long ago past, when they left Egypt and conquered the land God had promised. He also wanted them to remember how God helped them when they were in the middle of other problems. The Exodus of the Jews from slavery in Egypt was 200-300 years before this Psalm was written, yet David reminds them to remember all God had done for them. God wants us to remember everything He has done for us, too. Below are verses telling the miracles of God. Underline the miracle God performed.

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Exodus 12:3,5-7,12,13 “Announce this to all the people of Israel. Every year, on the 10th day of this month, each family shall get a lamb. This animal shall be a year-old male. It can be either a sheep or a goat. It cannot have any defects.... On the evening of the 14th day of this month, all these lambs shall be killed. Their blood will be put on the two side frames of the door of every home. It will also be put on the panel above the door. Use the blood of the lamb eaten in that home.... For I will pass through the land of Egypt tonight. I will kill all the oldest sons and firstborn male animals in all the land of Egypt. And I will bring judgment upon all the gods of Egypt. For I am the Lord. The blood you have placed on the door posts will be proof that you obey me. When I see the blood I will pass over you. I will not destroy your firstborn children when I smite the land of Egypt.”

Exodus 14:21,22 “Meanwhile, Moses stretched his rod over the sea. The Lord opened up a path through the sea. There were walls of water on each side. And a strong east wind blew all that night. It dried the sea bottom. So the people of Israel walked through the sea on dry ground!”

Joshua 6:16,20 “The seventh time the priests blew a long, loud trumpet blast. When they did, Joshua yelled to the people, ‘Shout! The Lord has given us the city!’ So, the people heard the trumpet blast. And when they did, they shouted as loud as they could. Suddenly the walls of Jericho crumbled and fell before them. And the people of Israel poured into the city.! They attacked from every side and took it!”

1 Samuel 17:34-37 “But David would not give up. ‘I am the shepherd of my father’s sheep,’ he said. ‘Lions and bears come and take lambs from the flock. But when they do, I go after them with a club. I take the lambs right from their mouths! If they turn on me, I catch them by the jaw and club them to death. I have done this to both lions and bears. And I’ll do it to this heathen Philistine too. For he has insulted the armies of the living God! The Lord has saved me from the claws and teeth of the lion and the bear. And he also will save me from this Philistine!’”

1 Samuel 17:45,50 “David shouted in reply, ‘You come to me with a sword and a spear. But I come to you in the name of the Lord of the armies of heaven and of Israel. I come in the name of the God whom you have defied.’ So David killed the Philistine giant with a sling and a stone.”

3. Read verses 1-5 in Psalm 103 again. What does David list as the things God has done for us? Verse 3-5: He forgives all my sins. He heals me. He brings me out from hell. He surrounds me with love and tender mercies. He fills my life with good things! My youth is made new like the eagle’s!”

4. **HARD:** How did God forgive all our sin? Underline the answer in the following verses.

John 1:29 “The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him. He said, ‘Look! There is the Lamb of God who takes away the world’s sin!’”

Ephesians 1:7 “He has so much kindness! He took away all our sins through the blood of his Son. This saved us.”

Hebrews 9:14 “So how much more will the blood of Christ cleanse our lives and hearts. His sacrifice frees us from the old rules so we can serve the living God. Christ was perfect, without a single sin or fault. By the eternal Spirit, he gave himself to God to die for our sins.”

1 Peter 1:18,19 “God paid a ransom to save you from the impossible way your fathers tried to take. The ransom he paid wasn’t gold or silver as you very well know. But he paid for you with the precious blood of Christ. He was the sinless, spotless Lamb of God.”

Read Psalm 103, verses 6 - 12.

1. **CHALLENGE:** Verse 8 says God is compassionate, gracious, slow to anger and full of love. Do you think God’s people obeyed Him and that’s why God is slow to anger and full of love? Read Nehemiah 9:16,17 for your answer. “But our ancestors were proud and stubborn people. They would not listen to your commands. They would not obey. They forgot the miracles you did for them. Instead, they broke away from you. They chose a leader to take them back as slaves to Egypt! But you are a God of forgiveness. You are always ready to forgive. You are kind and full of mercy. You are slow to become angry. You are full of love and mercy. You didn’t leave them.”

2. What does 1 Timothy 2:4 say is God's reason for being slow to get angry? "He longs for all to be saved and to understand the truth."
3. What does Romans 6:23 tell us the payment, or punishment, for sin should be? "Sin makes us die. Through Christ, God gives us life that never ends."
4. **RISKY:** Can you measure God's love? The following verses are clues for your answer. [God's love cannot be measured.]

Psalm 100:5 "For the Lord is always good. He is always loving and kind. And his faithfulness goes on and on. It reaches to all generations."

Lamentations 3:22 "The Lord never stops loving us. He keeps on showing us mercy. That alone has kept us from total destruction."

Ephesians 3:18 "May you be able to know, with all God's children, God's love. May you know how long, how wide, how deep, how high His love is. May you taste this love for yourselves. It is so great you will never see the end of it."

5. How far away has God put the sinner's sins? See Psalm 103. Verse 12: "He has taken our sins far away from us. He has taken them as far as the east is from the west."

Read Psalm 103, verses 13 - 18.

1. Using your dictionary, what does the word compassion mean? "Sympathy for the sorrow or suffering of others, with a desire to help"(HOLT).
2. If you asked your mom or dad for some cookies or ice cream, they would not give you poison. How does God say the same thing in these verses?

Luke 11:13 "Even sinful persons like yourselves give children what they need. Don't you see that your heavenly Father will do at least as much as that for you? He will give the Holy Spirit to those who ask."

James 1:17 "Whatever is good and perfect comes to us from God. He is the Creator of all light. He shines forever without change or shadow."

3. **CHALLENGE:** What do you learn in Psalm 139:13-18 about how you were formed? "You made all the parts of my body. You put them together in my mother's womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully! It is amazing to think about! Your workmanship is wonderful! How well I know it! You were there while I was being made! You saw me before I was born. You planned each day of my life before I began to breathe. Every day was recorded in your book! How precious this is, Lord! How great to know you think about me all the time!"

I can't even count how many times your thoughts turn toward me. And when I wake in the morning, you are still thinking of me!"

4. **HARD:** David compared man's life with a flower and grass. How does James 4:13-15 encourage you to trust God? "Some of you say, 'Today or tomorrow we are going to this town. We will stay there a year, and make a profit.' Listen! How do you know what is going to happen tomorrow? For the length of your lives is like the morning fog. Now you see it. But soon it is gone. You should say, 'If the Lord lets us, we shall live. We will do this or that.' Otherwise you will be bragging about your own plans. Such pride never pleases God."

Read Psalm 103, verses 19 - 22.

1. Not everyone worships God now. Someday everyone will bow down to Him. What does God say about Himself and Jesus in these verses?

Isaiah 45:21c-24 "For there is no other God but me, no, not one! I am a just God and a Savior. Let all the world look to me for salvation! For I am God. There is no other. I have sworn that every knee in the world shall bow to me. And every tongue will swear to obey me. And I will not go back on my word, for it is true. 'In the Lord is all my righteousness and strength,' the people shall say. And all who were angry with him shall come to him and be ashamed."

Philippians 2:10,11 "At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow in Heaven and on earth and under the earth. Every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. This is to the glory of God the Father."

2. What does Ezra say about God in Nehemiah 9:6? "Then Ezra prayed, 'You are the only God. You made the skies and heavens. You made the earth and seas and all that is in them. You take care of it all. And all the angels of heaven worship you.'"
3. How does David end this Psalm? With praise. Verses 21,22: "Yes, bless the Lord, you armies of angels. Praise him, you who serve him all the time. Let everything everywhere bless the Lord. And how I bless him too!"

PSALMS - LESSON 9

Before you begin your lesson:

- a. Pray for God's Holy Spirit to help you answer the questions.
- b. Some questions may be too hard; it's okay to write "I don't know."
- c. Think about what God's Word is telling you for today.
- d. With some questions, it might be helpful to write the scripture verses on your paper.

Read Psalm 137, verses 1 - 9.

1. What story do you think this Psalm is telling and where is it taking place?

2. The Bible is God's book. In it He tells the history of the world as well as Israel's history. His rules, which we call Commandments and Laws, are there too. What do these verses say about God's Laws?

Deuteronomy 11:13

Deuteronomy 30:10

3. Read 2 Chronicles 36:11-20. Why were the Israelites prisoners? Your answer is found in this passage. Be sure to give the verse where you found your answer.

4. What do these verses say is God's answer to our sin?

Romans 6:5

Romans 6:23

5. **HARD:** The Israelites were world famous for their music, and their captors wanted them to sing for them. But the Israelites refused. They wanted to sing only in Jerusalem. What does Isaiah 2:3 say will one day happen in Jerusalem?

Read Psalm 138, verses 1 - 8.

1. **CHALLENGE:** This Psalm is different than Psalm 137. How is it different?

2. Using your dictionary, what does faithful mean?

3. What do these verses say about God's faithfulness?

Lamentations 3:23

2 Timothy 2:13

4. In Psalm 138:3, David said God answered his prayers. What do these verses say happens when we pray?

Isaiah 65:24

Matthew 7:7

5. Besides himself, who else does David say will praise the Lord?

6. When you are in trouble, what does Isaiah 43:1,2 say God will do for you?

7. What did Jesus do for Peter in Matthew 14:28-31?

8. What do these verses say about God's right hand?

Psalm 60:5

Psalm 108:6

Mark 14:62

9. What does Jeremiah 29:11 say about God's plans for you?

10. When will God's plan for you be finished? See Philippians 1:6.

PSALMS WEEK TEN

DISCUSSION LESSON 9

- 15 - 20 minutes free time - games, fellowship; you may want to begin this craft early so the glue has a chance to dry between stages.
- 15 - 20 minutes snack and group recreation: **MUSICAL CHAIRS**
- Line up 1 less chair than the number of players. Use as many rows as you wish. Try to make reaching the chairs a challenge. Play music, clap hands, sing, ring a bell, etc. as players march around the chairs. When the noise stops, players must be the first to reach an empty chair. When all but one are seated, standing player leaves the game and one chair is removed. Play resumes until all but one chair and two players remain. Last seated player wins.
- 15 - 20 minutes discuss **LESSON 9**
- to end of class **CRAFT: NEGATIVE GLUE PICTURE**

MATERIALS

white glue (quick drying)	oil pastel crayons
black or dark construction paper	bowls
paint brushes (optional)	food coloring (optional)

Have the children begin this craft when they first arrive. Draw a design, geometric or a picture, on the construction paper with the glue. Caution: if the glue is spread too thickly, it will not dry in time to finish the craft. The paint brushes can be used, or use fingers. If desired, color the glue with food coloring and place in bowls for easy accessibility. The glue should dry in about 2 hours. Color in the spaces without the glue (negative spaces) with the pastels.

PSALMS ANSWERS LESSON 9

Read Psalm 137, verses 1 - 9.

1. What story do you think this Psalm is telling and where is it taking place? The Psalmist, sitting with other singers, is recalling the Israelites' captivity in Babylon. Their time there was so difficult, even the singers were unwilling to sing. Also, the job of the singers was to make music to the Lord, and they didn't want the Lord dishonored by the mocking Babylonians. They are alongside the canals of Babylon. [Canals ran through Babylon which may have been dug by the Israelite captives. The canals were used to irrigate the farm land.] This Psalm also pronounces a curse and vengeance. Anger and bitterness are expressed from the Psalmist. David was probably not the Psalmist, since the commentaries didn't mention who wrote it and it takes place after the captivity which came after David's time.
2. The Bible is God's book. In it He tells the history of the world as well as Israel's history. His rules, which we call Commandments and Laws, are there too. What do these verses say about God's Laws?

Deuteronomy 11:13 "You must carefully obey all of his commands that I am going to give you today. You must love the Lord your God with all your hearts and souls. You must truly worship him."

Deuteronomy 30:10 "He will rejoice if you but obey the commands written in this book of the law. He will be glad if you turn to the Lord your God with all your hearts and souls."

3. Read 2 Chronicles 36:11-20. Why were the Israelites prisoners? Your answer is found in this passage. Be sure to give the verse where you found your answer. [They sinned against the Lord.] Verses 14-16: "All the leaders of Judah worshiped the idols of the nations around them. Even the High Priests did this! In this way they made the Temple of the Lord in Jerusalem unclean. The Lord God of their fathers sent his prophets to warn them. For he loved his people and his Temple. But the people laughed at the messengers of God. They would not listen to their words. They mocked the prophets until the Lord's anger could not be held back. There was no longer any hope for them."
4. What do these verses say is God's answer to our sin?

Romans 6:5 "We were helpless sinners who had no use for God. Then Christ came at just the right time and died for us."

Romans 6:23 "Sin makes us die. Through Christ, God gives us life that never ends."

5. **HARD:** The Israelites were world famous for their music, and their captors wanted them to sing for them. But, the Israelites refused. They wanted to sing only in Jerusalem. What does Isaiah 2:3 say will one day happen in Jerusalem? “Come! All the people will say. ‘Let us go up the mountain of the Lord. Let us go to the Temple of the God of Israel. There he will teach us his laws, and we will obey them.’ For in those days the world will be ruled from Jerusalem.” [This will happen during the millennium, the thousand-year reign of Christ on earth.]

Read Psalm 138, verses 1 - 8.

1. **CHALLENGE:** This Psalm is different than Psalm 137. How is it different? Psalm 137 is a sad Psalm, one that ends in a curse, and it has no praise in it. Psalm 138 is one of praise. Each verse says something about praise or thanksgiving.
2. Using your dictionary, what does faithful mean? “Steadfast in affection or allegiance. Firm in adherence to promises or in observance of duty” (WEBSTER’S).

3. What do these verses say about God’s faithfulness?

Lamentations 3:23 “Great is his faithfulness. His love and kindness begin fresh each day.”

- 2 Timothy 2:13 “When we are weak in faith, he is faithful to us. He cannot disown us if we are a part of himself. He will always carry out his promises to us.”

4. In verse 3, David said God answered his prayers. What do these verses say happens when we pray?

Isaiah 65:24 “I will answer them before they even call to me. While they are still talking to me about their needs, I will go ahead and answer their prayers.”

Matthew 7:7 “Ask, and you will be given what you ask for. Look hard, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened to you.”

5. Besides himself, who else does David say will praise the Lord? Verse 4: “Every king in all the earth shall give you thanks, O Lord. For all of them shall hear your voice.”

6. When you are in trouble, what does Isaiah 43:1,2 say God will do for you? “But now the Lord who made you, O Israel, is speaking up. He says, ‘Don’t be afraid, for I have bought you from sin and slavery. I have called you by name. You are mine. You might go through deep waters and great trouble. But I will be with you. You might go through rivers of hardship. But I won’t let you drown! You might walk through the fire of oppression. But you will not be burned up. The flames will not consume you.’”

7. What did Jesus do for Peter in Matthew 14:28-31? “Then Peter called to him, ‘Sir, is it really you? If it is, tell me to come over to you. Let me walk on the water.’ ‘All right,’ the Lord said, ‘come along!’ So Peter went over the side of the boat. And he walked on the water toward Jesus. But then he looked around at the high waves. He was very afraid and began to sink. ‘Save me, Lord!’ he shouted. So Jesus reached out his hand and saved him. ‘O man of little faith,’ Jesus said. ‘Why did you doubt me?’”

8. What do these verses say about God’s right hand?

Psalm 60:5 “Then you can save your dear people. Use your strong right arm to save us.”

Psalm 108:6 “Save us and help us with your right hand, that those you love may be delivered.”

Mark 14:62 “Jesus said, ‘I am. You will someday see me sitting at the right hand of God. And I will come back to earth in the clouds of Heaven.’”

9. What does Jeremiah 29:11 say about God’s plans for you? “‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ says the Lord. ‘They are plans for good and not for evil. I want to give you a future and a hope.’”

10. When will God’s plan for you be finished? See Philippians 1:6 “God began the good work within you. I am sure he will finish it until Jesus Christ comes back.”

PSALMS - LESSON 10

Before you begin your lesson:

- a. Pray for God's Holy Spirit to help you answer the questions.
- b. Some questions may be too hard; it's ok to write "I don't know."
- c. Think about what God's Word is telling you for today.
- d. With some questions, it might be helpful to write the scripture verse on your paper.

Read Psalm 139, verses 1 - 6.

1. What does David say the Lord knows about him? See verse 1 for your answer.

2. What does Hebrews 4:13 say?

3. **PERSONAL:** Since you know God knows everything about you, do you think you need to change some of your actions or the things you do? Would you like to share with your class?

4. What does Psalm 139:4 say?

5. What does Proverbs 15:28 say? A Living Bible would be helpful if you have one.

6. **PERSONAL:** Have you had to say "I'm sorry" to someone because you spoke before you thought?

7. **RISKY:** Is God honored when bad words, or angry words are spoken?

Read Psalm 139, verses 7 - 12.

1. Which verse says you can't hide from God?

2. What does God say about Himself in Jeremiah 23:23,24?

3. According to Isaiah 29:15 what do evil people think about God?
4. But, what do you learn the truth is in Job 34:21,22?
5. In the Bible, sometimes darkness is linked with evil. How do we know God has no evil in Him? See 1 John 1:5 for your answer.

Read Psalm 139, verses 13 - 18.

1. If you have an encyclopedia or medical book, find a picture of the human body. Notice all the different parts of the body such as the bones, muscles, veins, and organs. What does David say in Psalm 139:13,14 about his body?
2. David says God has plans for his life. What does Jeremiah 29:11 say about God's plans for a believer's life?
3. What does 2 Kings 19:27a say about the plans you make?
4. God has a special book for those who believe in Him. What does Daniel 12:1c say about this book?

Read Psalm 139, verses 19 - 24.

1. How do the wicked act toward God?
2. David says God's enemies are his enemies too. He even says he hates God's enemies. What are Christians taught to do about their enemies in Luke 6:27,28?

3. Read Romans 12:19,20 to find out why Christians are to do what Luke 6:27,28 says.

4. **CHALLENGE:** Write out Psalm 139:23,24. After you have written it, memorize it and make it part of your prayer life every day.

5. **CHALLENGE:** Look in your church hymnal for a song written by J. Edwin Orr, titled “Cleanse Me”. This song is the same as Psalm 139:23,24.

PSALMS WEEK EIGHT

DISCUSSION LESSON 10

15 - 20 min. free time - games, fellowship;

15 - 20 min. snack and group recreation: CIRCLE TAG

All players stand in a circle at an equal distance from each other. At the signal, they begin to run in a clockwise direction. Each player is to tag the player in front of him without being tagged by the person behind. Once tagged, the player leaves the circle. The last player tagged is the winner.

15 - 20 min. discussion LESSON 10

to end of class CRAFT: WOODEN TRIVET

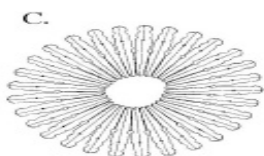
MATERIALS

Spring type clothespins
paint & brushes

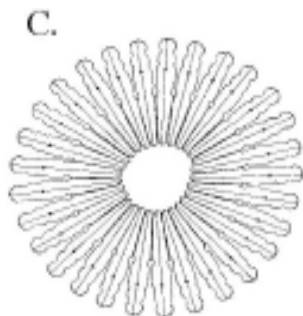
tacky glue
acrylic spray



About thirty spring type clothespins (A) are needed for each trivet. Twist the pins so that the two sides come apart, remove metal spring fasteners. Glue the completely flat sides of each pair of pin halves together, keeping the narrow end tips even (B). Next, glue two pairs together side by side at the straight edge, near the bottom of the pins (so that the seam of the glued edge is facing up). Be sure the tips are kept even. As gluing continues, the pins form a circle .



When trivet is formed, it can be painted, stained, or a message can be printed on it with a black permanent marker. Spray with clear acrylic spray to retain color or stain. (You may run out of time before you paint or stain.)



PSALMS - LESSON 10 ANSWERS

Read Psalm 139, verses 1 - 6.

1. What does David say the Lord knows about him? See verse 1 for your answer. “O Lord, You have tested my heart. You know everything about me.”
2. What does Hebrews 4:13 say? “God knows about everyone everywhere. Everything about us is wide open to the eyes of our living God. Nothing is hidden from Him to Whom we must explain all we have done.”
3. **PERSONAL:** Since you know God knows everything about you, do you think you need to change some of your actions or the things you do? Would you like to share with your class?
4. What does Psalm 139:4 say? “You know what I am going to say. You know this even before I say it!”
5. What does Proverbs 15:28 say? A Living Bible would be helpful if you have one. “A good person thinks before he speaks. Evil people pour out their evil words without a thought.”
6. **PERSONAL:** Have you had to say “I’m sorry” to someone because you spoke before you thought?
7. **RISKY:** Is God honored when bad words, or angry words are spoken. [NO]

Read Psalm 139, verses 7 - 12.

1. Which verse says you can’t hide from God? [verse 7] “I can never be lost to Your Spirit! I can never get away from my God!”
2. What does God say about Himself in Jeremiah 23:23,24? “Am I a God who is only in one place? Do they think I cannot see what they are doing? Can anyone hide from Me? Am I not everywhere in heaven and earth at the same time?”
3. According to Isaiah 29:15 what do evil people think about God? “How terrible it will be for those who try to hide their plans from God. They try to keep Him from knowing what they are doing! ‘God can’t see us,’ they say to themselves. ‘He doesn’t know what is going on!’”
4. But, what do you learn the truth is in Job 34:21,22? “For God watches the deeds of all mankind. He sees them all. No darkness is thick enough to hide evil men from His eyes.”
5. In the Bible, sometimes darkness is linked with evil. How do we know God has no evil in Him? See 1 John 1:5 for your answer. “God has given us a message to pass on to you. It is that God is Light and in Him is no darkness [evil] at all.”

Read Psalm 139, verses 13 - 18.

1. If you have an encyclopedia or medical book, find a picture of the human body. Notice all the different parts of the body such as the bones, muscles, veins, and organs. What does David say in Psalm 139:13,14 about his body? “You made all the parts of my body. You put them together in my mother’s womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully. Your workmanship is wonderful! How well I know it!”
2. David says God has plans for his life. What does Jeremiah 29:11 say about God’s plans for a believer’s life? “‘For I know the plans I have for you’ says the Lord. ‘They are plans for good and not for evil. I want to give you a future and a hope.’”
3. What does 2 Kings 19:27a say about the plans you make? “I know everything about you. I know all your plans and where you are going next.”
4. God has a special book for those who believe in Him. What does Daniel 12:1c say about this book? “But all of your people whose names are written in the Book will be saved.”

Read Psalm 139, verses 19 - 24

1. How do the wicked act toward God? “For they speak against Thee wickedly, and Thine enemies take Thy name in vain.” (NAS)
2. David says God’s enemies are his enemies too. He even says he hates God’s enemies. What are Christians taught to do about their enemies in Luke 6:27,28? “Listen, all of you! Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. Pray for the happiness of those who curse you. Ask God to bless those who hurt you.”
3. Read Romans 12:19,20 to find out why Christians are to do what Luke 6:27,28 says. “Dear friends, if people are mean to you, don’t try to get even. Leave that to God. He has said that He will pay them back. Instead, feed your enemy if he is hungry. If he is thirsty give him something to drink. If you do this you will be ‘heaping coals of fire on his head.’ That means he will feel bad about what he has done to you.”
4. **CHALLENGE:** Write out Psalm 139:23,24. After you have written it, memorize it and make it part of your prayer life every day. “Search me, O God, and know my heart. Test my thoughts. Point out anything You find in me that makes You sad. Lead me along the path of everlasting life.”
5. **CHALLENGE:** Look in your church hymnal for a song written by J. Edwin Orr, titled “Cleanse Me”. This song is the same as Psalm 139:23,24.