

Bernie's Soft
copy

The Sword

**A Bible Study
for Northern India and Nepal
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Key Memory Verse

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Lesson 1

Unit 1:
John's Book The Sword

Mark 1:19-20

John 20:1-9,30-31 21:20-25

"I SAW HIM FOR MYSELF"**1. Goals:**

To show that the gospel of John is a reliable source of information about Jesus.

2. Learning Objectives:

⇒ By the end of this lesson, the student should be able to:

1. state some information about their teacher;
2. discuss various ways we communicate;
3. explain what an eye witness is;
4. explain why John wrote his book about Jesus.

3. Key Memory Verse:

"These have been written in order that you may believe that Jesus is.....the Son of God."

John 20:31 (GNB).

(a) Chinese whispers - 3 words at a time
(b) Kimer thetic - Words per person: pop up & say it: Class - puts it into order of bible

4. Bible Background:

John and his brother James were two of the four fishermen Jesus called to be His disciples. John was very close to Jesus, and, with Peter and James, was present at the Transfiguration and the raising of Jairus' daughter. He sat next to Jesus at the Last Supper and, as he stood by the cross, was asked by Jesus to take care of His mother Mary.

John later shared with Peter the leadership of the Jerusalem church (in its early years). Three of his letters are included in the New Testament and he was also the writer of the book of Revelation, which he wrote in exile on the island of Patmos.

John's gospel is quite different from the other three. John supplements the other accounts, and concentrates on interpreting and bringing out the meaning of Jesus' actions and words about himself. Clearly, the main aim of his book is to bring the reader to faith (20:30-31). John is not mentioned by name in the gospel but refers to himself as "the disciple whom Jesus loved".

5. Getting Started

Getting to Know You!

- ⇒ Introduce yourself to the class and write your name on the chalkboard.
 - You could tell the students a few personal details about yourself, such as where you live, the names and ages of your children (if applicable), something you enjoy doing and which church you belong to.
 - Explain why you are in India - that you are a Christian and you want to share with the class something about God and Jesus His Son, as told in the Bible.
 - Tell the students that you would like to get to know them better, and continue with one or more of the following activities:

Something About Me

- ⇒ Each student is given a small piece of paper on which they write or draw something which describes ~~their first encounter with Jesus~~. They should keep what they write or draw hidden. The students fold their papers over and they are collected in a container.
- ⇒ Choose a piece of paper and get the students to describe what it portrays..
- ⇒ Ask the students to put up their hands to suggest who might have written or drawn this statement. Place the papers with the name on it around the classroom.

6. Going On

John's Message

This man's name is John (write on chalkboard) and he is the author of one of the books in the Bible (show your Bible, opened at John's gospel).

Maybe John didn't realise just how famous his book would become. After all, he had been a fisherman all his life, not a writer. But he didn't stay a fisherman. Things changed!

John and his brother James worked as fishermen with their father, Zebedee. (Zebedee means thunder, loud talker, fighter, aggressive!) They had a couple of friends who were also fishermen and brothers. Their names were Peter and Andrew

- ⇒ Write these names on the board also; also write the names of Jesus Family on a family tree circle sheet.
- ⇒ Get the students to name their father and their brothers & sisters.
- ⇒ Create a family circle for each student.

They earned a good living from fishing on the lake of Galilee. They used huge nets which they cast over the side of their boat and pulled in - hopefully full of fish! Many people who lived nearby bought their fish.

Fishing was a good job for John and James, It was a good job. Maybe they thought they would spend their whole lives at that job. But things changed dramatically! One day someone came along who turned their lives upside down. It was Jesus.

Jesus came to the lakeside one day. He told them to leave everything and follow Him. Right then. They did just that - all four of them. They left everything to be with Him.

They soon found out he was the most amazing person they had ever seen or heard. For about three years John and the others went everywhere with Jesus. Jesus became John's best friend.

When Jesus healed a blind man - John was there.

- ⇒ Look up and get the students to read John 9:8-11.

When Jesus fed a huge crowd with a boy's lunch - John was there.

- ⇒ Look up & read John 6:10-11

When Jesus was crucified - John was there.

- ⇒ Look up & read John 19:16-18

God himself helped John remember well and write down carefully what he knew about Jesus. When we read John's book today God speaks to us and helps us understand and believe it.

6.1.1 Action

- ⇒ Find out what the students know about fishing, locally.
- ⇒ Show a picture or video of fishing, in the sea, in the rivers.

- ⇒ Play a short game of fishing, using a paper fish, stick & lines.
- ⇒ Put out the bait; drop the lines, catch the fish; bring them in; bleed them, gut them, fillet them; cook and eat.
 - Relate this to catching Christians .." I will make you fishers of men"
 - The bait = life/ word of God
 - The line =the invitation, alter call
 - The hook is Jesus
 - The bringing into the boat is the fellowship
 - The bleeding is the repentance
 - The cleaning is the gutting and filleting
 - The eating is the nurturing.

6.1.2 Message:

- ⇒ Draw the analogy:
 - We are fishers
 - Sticks and line are the Word and our testimony (refer to above)
 - Fish are the people whom God has touched, is touching, for inviting into the Kingdom.
 - Consider, Dynamite, clubbing, net for landing/nurturing, boat for Church of nourishment.

6.1.3 Conclusion

John explained in chapter 20, verse 30 and 31, why he wrote this book.

- ⇒ Read the Key Verse from your Bible, up to 'Son of God'.
- ⇒ Have each student write the lesson heading " I saw Him for Myself" on their piece of paper and stick it on their swords.
- ⇒ Read out and learn the Key memory verse. — Chinese Whispers — 3 words at a time
Translated
- ⇒ Select some students and get them to prepare a lesson around their experience, family, and this gospel message. Present this to the rest of the class and discuss/critique.

Lesson 2

Unit 1:
John's Book About Jesus

John 1:19-34,
John The Baptist's Announcement

"IT'S HIM"

1. Goal:

To teach that the coming of God's Son, to make us his friends, was so important that God sent someone to get his people ready.

2. Learning Objectives:

- ⇒ By the end of this lesson the students should be able to:
1. repeat the words of John the Baptist's message.
 2. state why God sent Jesus.
 3. Set the scene for showing the way, not being the way

3. Key Memory Verses

(God) loved us and sent his Son.

1 John 4:10 (RSV)

*These have been written in order that you may believe that Jesus is
...the Son of God.*

John 20:31 (GNB).

4. Bible Background

John the Baptist Waits

John the Baptist felt as if he had been waiting all his life. Waiting, waiting.

Even as a boy he felt different from the other kids. Sure he played and ran and tumbled with the best of them. He laughed and even fought with the other kids sometimes. But he knew he was different somehow. It was as if he was always waiting for something.

There was even something mysterious about his birth. People said his father lost the power to speak until the day John was named. The moment Zechariah wrote 'His name is John', he could speak again; and did he speak! He said all kinds of things about this baby named John and what he would do. Some of the old people in the village could still remember that day. John had even heard some of them whispering about an angel foretelling his birth.

Often John would wonder about why he felt different from the other kids. Sometimes he even felt scared about it all. What was going to happen to him? What did the future hold? He knew God had something special for him to do. But he wanted to be alone with God, to pray and to prepare himself. He wore camel-hair clothes and ate whatever he could find, sometimes even locusts and wild honey. But through those long months in the desert John grew close to God. He grew strong in the knowledge of God's plan. Soon, very soon it would begin.

John Prepares

When John the Baptist grew into a man he went into the desert to live by himself. He wanted to be the one. He didn't understand what it was, or when it would happen. But when he felt worried his old mother would say, "don't worry John, you'll understand it all soon enough. God will tell you when the time is right." So John waited

The Time Grows Closer

As John grew older, he knew the time was coming closer for him to do what God had planned. His old father would talk to him about it. "John, you have such an important task. It is your job to get all the people ready for the one who is coming - the great one God is sending to us. Get them ready, John! Tell them about Him. Tell them about God loving and forgiving them. Tell them about the one God is sending."

As John heard his old father speak he grew more and more sure that the time for him to act was not far away. There was a lot he didn't understand but he prayed and waited. God would tell him when the time was right.

The Task Begins

Finally John knew that he was ready and that the time was right. He left the desert and made his way to the river Jordan. There he began the task for which he had waited so long.

John's task was to get God's people ready. His message was more important than any other message God had ever given. Now John didn't have to wait any longer. Now he could do what God had told him.

John stood by the river. "Now is the time!" he shouted in his loud rough voice. "The promised one is coming. Get ready, get ready!" Day after day he told the people the same thing. "Stop sinning. Start living the way God wants you to. Now is the time! The promised one is coming. Get ready, get ready!"

The people listened to all John said. Each day John shouted his message and each day the crowds grew larger. People came from everywhere to hear John. They didn't just come to see the strange man in camel's hair clothes. They came to hear what he was saying.

"Now is the time!" John shouted in his resounding voice. "The promised one is coming. Get ready, get ready!" As they listened, many believed what John was saying. The people became more and more excited. The one God had promised was coming. He was coming soon. John baptised many people in the river. These people wanted to show everyone that they believed John's message and wanted to be ready for the one who was coming.

"It's Him!"

Finally the day came for the most important part of John's job. On this day John was preaching to the crowd and answering questions. Suddenly, he stopped and looked. There behind the crowds and coming down the bank towards him was a man. At once, John knew without a doubt that this man was

John's eyes opened wide in amazement and excitement. "What's wrong with him?" the people asked each other. Then John began to shout at the top of his voice, "It's him! It's him!".

The people began to murmur and they all turned to look towards where John was now pointing. John's loud booming voice sounded out: "It's Jesus! It's Him! He is the one you've been waiting for. He is God's Son. He will take away the sin of the world."

From that day on the crowds became smaller. They still came to hear John but now there was someone else they were more interested in - Jesus.

John knew he had done his job well. The people were ready when God's Son came and now they were listening to Jesus. John was pleased. His job was finished. He had done exactly what God had wanted him to do. Now Jesus was the one the crowds would follow. Jesus, God's Son, would show people how to become God's friends.

4.1 Conclusion

- ⇒ What was John's first message?
 - "Get ready! The promised one is coming!"
- ⇒ What did John say the day Jesus came to the river?
 - "Jesus is the one you've been waiting for. He will take away the sin of the world. He is God's Son."
- ⇒ How does our role resemble John's?

- ⇒ What are common signposts?
- ⇒ How can we become a signpost?
 - (A game around this, like blind leading the blind)

4.2 Activity

- ⇒ Outline the key points of John's life that made him different, (with the class).
- ⇒ Get the students in pairs to outline their lives which set them apart and made them different, prepared for God's call.
- ⇒ Do something about John the servant, pointing to Jesus, not to themselves. (Bit of a discussion of wrong emphasis/idols/sin.) What do I need rescuing from?
- ⇒ Draw pictures of my personal need for rescuing, write the words of John on the drawing, place it on the Sword.

⇒ Using Kinesthetic - go over Key Memory Verse... *Self*
 give 1 word to each - get each person to say words
 class to assemble whole verse.
 ⇒ Stick verse on sticks/swords).

Lesson 3**Unit 1:
John's Book About Jesus**

John 2:1-11, The Wedding At Cana

HE'S POWERFUL!

1. Goal:


To help the students understand that Jesus, God's Son, is someone worth believing in because he shares God's greatness, as seen in his power over creation.

2. Learning Objectives:

- ⇒ By the end of this lesson the students should be able to:
1. describe the miracle that Jesus performed;
 2. suggest what this event showed about Jesus;
 3. explain how Jesus' disciples reacted to what Jesus did;
 4. think about how knowing that this event happened can help us

3. Key Memory Verse

These have been written in order that you may believe that Jesus is ... the Son of God.

John 20:31 (GNB) **4. Getting Started****4.1 Weddings And Things That Go Wrong**

Invite the students to tell you about any weddings they have attended.

- ⇒ Show our wedding photo.

Then ask if anything ever went wrong on these occasions. You may have a story from your own experience, or you could briefly discuss some 'what if' situations, e.g. what if the bride's car broke down, what if there was a flash flood, what if the bridegroom got the chicken pox, etc. It's at time like this we wish we had the power to fix everything, just like that!

4.2 Going On

John went to a wedding with Jesus once. It was a great wedding. Jesus and his disciples were there, and many other guests, including Jesus' mother, Mary. Many years later John wrote about that wedding. This is what happened.

Mary Worries

Jesus' mother, Mary was worried. The servants had been working hard, carrying around the food and the wine. But now, the awful fact was, the wine was running out. People were beginning to ask for more. It was so embarrassing! What a disgrace for everyone, especially the bridegroom. People would laugh and talk about it.

Mary Speaks

Mary felt sorry for her friend. She wished there was something she could do. Then she had an idea. She knew Jesus was special, different from other men. She remembered all about Jesus' birth.

Now Jesus had a team of friends who had begun to follow him everywhere. Maybe he would do some thing special to help Mary's friend, the bridegroom. Maybe he could stop this party from turning into a disaster.

Mary went to where Jesus was sitting and whispered to him, "they have run out of wine. It's all gone." Jesus looked at her. Mary knew he was no longer under her authority. He made his own decisions. He was a man now, with other men following him. He would do what he knew to be best. Mary said no more. She walked away. She didn't know what Jesus would do. But she knew he would deal with the problem.

She went to where the servants were standing together, worrying about what to serve the guests. "I have told Jesus," she said. Just do what he tells you."

sight.

Mary Watches

She walked away quietly. The servants looked at each other in wonderment. Jesus? What could he do to help? What they needed now was wine - and they needed it now!

Mary sat down and waited to see what would happen. What **would** Jesus do? She wasn't sure herself. Jesus got up and quietly spoke to the servants. They followed him to the six huge water jars standing beside the wall. Then, at his instruction they began to fill the water jars from the well nearby. The jars were huge; each one held about 100 litres. Mary watched. The servants looked confused, but they did as Jesus said. He did seem to know what he was doing.

Mary watched as Jesus spoke to one of the servants. The servant looked surprised and asked Jesus a question. Then, shaking his head and muttering, he filled a wine flask from one of the water jars and began walking to where the man in charge of the feast was sitting. Halfway there he stopped and turned to Jesus with a look that said, 'Do you really mean it?' Jesus nodded back to him and the servant kept walking. Mary wondered what Jesus was up to; but still she said nothing and did nothing.

Mary Waits

The servant gave the flask to the man in charge and stepped back - as if he wanted to be out of the way for whatever would happen next. The man poured some of the liquid into his cup and took a sip. Mary waited with her breath held. If it was only water, there would be an outcry!

The servant kept his eyes down, waiting for a reaction when the water was tasted. He was getting ready to point to Jesus and say "He told me to give it to you!"

But there was no angry reaction. Instead the man took another sip and leaned back with a long sigh of pleasure. He smiled and then called out across the room to the bridegroom, "You scoundrel, you've kept the best wine till last. Lets have another round - fill all the cups - we'll drink to the bride and groom!"

The guests were laughing and enjoying them- selves. The bridegroom looked puzzled - he didn't know he'd kept the best wine till last - he'd been worried that they might even run out. But that could be sorted out later. He caught Mary's knowing smile. Something was going on - but for now let's enjoy the party.

Mary is Amazed

Mary laughed with relief. Water into wine! She hadn't thought of that solution. Servants were scurrying everywhere now, filling up every cup in

The bridegroom would never live it down. "What a wedding" they'd say. "We won't forget that one in a hurry. There wasn't even enough wine. It ran out before the party was over. Huh!"

Mary looked across at her son, Jesus. She smiled her thanks to him. Water into wine! There was much about her son that she did not understand. Mary's heart filled with wonder. This son of hers - what would the future hold? He was no ordinary man!

Mary was not the only one who watched everything with amazement. Jesus' disciples had never seen anyone do anything like this! Who was he? They remembered what John the Baptist had said: "This man is the Son of God". And, from that day, they knew he was someone they could believe in.

4.3 Conclusion/Discussion

- ⇒ What was the amazing thing that Jesus did at the wedding?
- ⇒ Why was it so amazing?
- ⇒ Why do you think that he did this miracle?
- ⇒ What did this show about Jesus?
 - He could do things that only God could do; he could create things; he was more powerful than any other man. He cared about the needs of his friends.
- ⇒ How did Jesus' disciples react to what happened?
 - They believed in him; they began to understand that he was different from other people.
- ⇒ How can knowing this about Jesus help us?
 - Discuss the elements of the story from Jesus actions (⊗Party , friends, wine, Mother, request, faith: water into wine, tasteless into taste: old life into new life :Discuss in pairs when Jesus did this for each one of us: For married couples, Discuss what gift Jesus gave at our wedding, pray about this))

We know Jesus is powerful and that encourages us to trust him and admire him.

He is someone worth believing in.

4.4 Alternative Activities

- ⇒ This is an ideal narrative for the class to mime. The teacher or a good reader from the class could read the passage from the Good News Bible or New International Version while a small group acts it out.
- ⇒ Game of hide the jar of water, blindfold a student, get students to sneak up and hide/pinch the bottle and then try and guess who has it!

⇒ Learn Mary Verse - Chinese Whispers - 3 at a time
 ⇒ Write on sword.

Lesson 4**Unit 1:
John's Book About Jesus**

John 5:1-18, Healing At the Pool

HE CARES!**1. Goal:**

To help the students understand that Jesus, God's Son, is kind and strong and that he is someone in whom they can put their trust.

2. Learning Objectives:

⇒ By the end of this lesson the students should be able to:

1. discuss the concept of trust and their own experience of trusting others;
2. describe how Jesus showed strength and kindness;
3. explain why the religious leaders reacted with anger to Jesus;
4. discuss how they think John may have felt about Jesus after seeing the way he dealt with the man at the pool;
5. have the opportunity to talk to Jesus about things they are worried about.

3. Key Memory Verse

*These have been written in order that you may believe that Jesus is
the Son of God.*

John 20:31 (GNB)

Give all your worries to Him, because He cares for you

1 Peter 5:7 (International Children's Bible)

4. Getting Started

Trust

- ⇒ In this introductory time, aim to get the students thinking about 'trust'. It is not necessary to round off the discussion neatly. It's much more important to get them thinking about trust and expressing their own ideas. You can refer back to this in the conclusion when they can consider why Jesus is someone who can be trusted. It would be good to encourage students to see that it is good to trust in someone who really cares and who will really take action as promised.
- ⇒ Is it hard to trust other people completely? Why?
- ⇒ It's not always easy knowing whom to trust, is it?
- ⇒ What about Jesus? What kind of person is he? Can he really be trusted to be interested in you and your problems?

The event we are going to hear about today might help you work out why Jesus is someone it is good to trust.

5. Going On

John had seen Jesus do many amazing things. He knew Jesus had power that no one else had. He could even make wine on the spot! John's faith in Jesus was growing but there was still a lot that John did not understand about him.

A Famous Pool

Jesus and his disciples were in Jerusalem and Jesus had taken them to visit a famous pool. All around this pool were crowds of people. It was said that at special times the water in this pool was able to heal sick people. All kinds of sick people would gather around the pool hoping to be healed. There were sick old people, blind and deaf people, crippled and paralysed people. They believed that, when the water rippled and bubbled, the first person into the pool would be healed. The water rippled from time to time because of an underground spring that fed into the pool.

John followed Jesus as he walked slowly amongst the sick people. It made him sad to see them all like this. Jesus seemed to be saddened too.

Jesus stopped near a man who was lying on an old mat. His legs were thin and useless.

As he lay there his eyes were looking at the water. He was watching to see it ripple. An old lady sitting nearby saw Jesus looking at the man. "Been like that for nearly forty years, 'he has,'" she said. "Ha, he still hopes for a cure, if he could ever get to the water fast enough. Don't we all?"

A Man In Need

Jesus looked at the man and asked him a question. "Do you want to get well?" "Sir", the sick man answered, "there's no one to help me get into the pool when the water starts to move. I've tried to be the first one into the water; but someone else always gets in before I can."

John was listening carefully. The man had been sick for so long that he seemed to have given up hope of ever getting well. He didn't even answer Jesus' question. He could only think about the water.

A Man Of Action

What Jesus did next made John gasp with surprise. Jesus looked at the man kindly and said to him, "Stand up. Pick up your bedroll and walk." John held his breath. Suddenly the sick and despairing man was filled with strength. He wanted to stand up. He wanted to be strong and well again; and when he tried, his legs were full of new strength. He leapt to his feet in surprise and joy.

Everyone around was filled with amazement. The man jumped and danced around making such a noise. People pushed forward to see what had happened. Everyone was shouting and talking while they tried to work out what had happened.

Jesus and his friends quietly slipped away. John's head was whirling with excitement. This Jesus - he could heal a man with a word and make him walk again! And what kindness he showed. Why, that poor old fellow didn't even know Jesus and hadn't even asked for help; but Jesus had cared for him and helped him. John was filled with admiration for his new and powerful friend. He would follow him anywhere.

The Religious Leaders / Men Of Anger

However, there were some other men who were certainly not filled with admiration for Jesus. They were filled with rage!

The religious leaders had all kinds of rules for one day of the week. This was called the Sabbath day. They had rules of their own, not rules given by God. One rule said that no one could carry a bedroll on the Sabbath day.

Of course, after the man had realised that Jesus had healed him completely, he did just what Jesus had told him to do. He picked up his bedroll and hurried home to tell his family; but on the way home he was seen by the religious leaders.

"What do you think you are doing, man?" they said to him. "You know our rules say you cannot carry a bedroll on the Sabbath day. You are in serious trouble!"

"But you don't understand," said the man. "I've just been healed! This man came up to me at the pool over there and healed me. He's the one who told me to pick up my bedroll and take it home. He's the one who told me to do it. Don't go blaming me!"

"Who told you to do such a thing?" They demanded. "I don't know who he was. I've never seen him before," said the man; and he hurried away.

The religious leaders were furious. They didn't think about how wonderful it was that the man had been healed. They just knew they didn't want anyone interfering with their rules. No one!

An Important Message

Some days later Jesus and his disciples were at the Temple. "Look Jesus," said John. "There's that man you healed at the pool." Jesus made his way to where the man was standing.

"You're well again," said Jesus. The man looked around with surprise. He knew Jesus' face and recognised his voice. "Yes, yes, I am well again," he said. "You're that man Jesus, aren't you?" Jesus looked at him kindly, "Stop sinning or something worse might happen to you." The man looked startled at these words and mumbled something in reply as he turned away to disappear in the crowd.

I'm God's Son

Now that the man knew who had healed him he went straight to the religious leaders. He informed them it was Jesus who had told him to carry his bedroll on the Sabbath day.

It didn't take them long to track Jesus down. "Why did you heal that man on the Sabbath day and tell him to carry his bedroll? Who do you think you are?"

Jesus had an answer for them. "God doesn't stop caring for people on the Sabbath day and I don't stop caring for people either. I do the same things as my Father God does." Jesus did not back down one little bit in front of these important-looking leaders. John was amazed once again at how strong and sure of himself Jesus was.

The religious leaders hated Jesus for disagreeing with them and standing up to them. They realised that he was claiming to be God's Son and they hated him for it. They hated Jesus also because people were beginning to take more notice of him than of them. They began to make plans to get rid of him once and for all.

5.1 Conclusion/Discussion

- ⇒ In what way did Jesus show that he is strong? He showed strength and power to heal the man and he showed strength when the religious leaders tried to oppose him. He wasn't afraid of them.
- ⇒ What else did Jesus show about himself in the way he treated the sick man? He showed his kindness and willingness to help him.
- ⇒ Why did the religious leaders get so upset with Jesus? He disagreed with them; he wouldn't follow their rules; he claimed to be equal with God; he wasn't afraid of them.

- ⇒ How do you think John felt about Jesus after he had seen what happened? Allow the students to express their own opinions in answer to this question. You could encourage them to see that John was impressed with Jesus' strength and kindness.
- ⇒ Develop an activity based on this story.

(People on a Newspaper - need to hold the paper together, gets as many people as possible to stand on the paper.)

(People fall backwards off a desk into arms of those catching them)

(Body Surfing)

- ⇒ Mine Memory Verse (Luke 1)
- ⇒ Verse on board.

Lesson 5

Unit 2:
Jesus Did It All For Us

John 13:1-17, Jesus Washes Disciples' Feet

JESUS LOVES US**1. Goal:**

To teach the students that Jesus' love for us, and his willingness to serve us, led to his death.

2. Learning Objectives:

⇒ By the end of this lesson the students should be able to:

1. relate the story of Jesus taking the servants role;
2. discuss what this incident revealed about Jesus;
3. state that it was love that made Jesus willing to serve his friends.

3. Key Verse

... he came to serve and to give his life to redeem many people.

Mark 10:45 (GNB)

4. Getting Started

⇒ Choose two Students to play 'Mahendra & Puspa' and present the following dialogue to the class.


Mahendra and Puspa - Servants

Mahendra: What a man!

Puspa : Who? Me?

Mahendra: Ah, no, Puspa, not exactly. I was just looking through this book.

Puspa: About a man?

- Mahendra : That's right. It's those stories about Jesus we had at church.
- Puspa : Oh.
- Mahendra : *Dreamily.* What a man!
- Puspa : Mahendra , you already said that!
- Mahendra : Well, I'd like to see you heal someone who couldn't walk.
- Puspa : I couldn't. But then you couldn't take a bottle of water and turn it into a decent drink either!
- Mahendra : True! What a celebrity! He could do anything, couldn't he? I reckon it'd be so unreal to be famous.
- Puspa : Yeah. You wouldn't have to do anything you didn't want to.
- Mahendra : You could wear the best clothes and boss everyone else around. I bet Jesus could even tell the Prime Minister and Governor and everyone what to do! I bet he lived in a palace.
- Puspa : Yeah, full of servants.
- Mahendra: I bet he even had slaves to do up his sandals. And scratch his back for him.
- Puspa : With all that power he could do whatever he liked.
- Mahendra: 'Cept, I never heard about his servants, Puspa. I've heard of his friends, the disciples.
- Puspa : But Jesus didn't get them to do everything for him, did he Mahendra?
- Mahendra: I'm sure he could have.
- Puspa: But did he?
- Mahendra: I don't know. 
Would do it.

⇒ Did Jesus use his power to get others to serve him?

⇒ Today's story is about Jesus and his Friends. Listen carefully and see if you can discover anything about a servant.

4.1 Going On

Peter and John Get Ready

The city of Jerusalem was crowded with visitors. It was Passover time and people had come from far and near to celebrate. Everywhere you looked there was activity. People were bustling here and there, getting ready. Some were carrying food home to prepare. Others were cleaning, sweeping, preparing for visitors. Jesus and his twelve special friends were planning to celebrate the holiday in Jerusalem and Peter and John had the job of organising the special Passover dinner. There was much to do, a bit like getting the Christmas dinner ready. First they had to find a suitable house in which to eat the meal, and then there was the food and drink to pre-prepare, tables and chairs... all the usual things needed for a party or special dinner, and there was one more thing as well.

Bring out a basin and towel. In those days people walked everywhere and the roads were dusty or muddy. Not tarred. People wore sandals, so you can imagine what state their feet were in when they arrived at a party! It was the custom to have a servant at the door with clean water and a bowl and towel to freshen up the guests' feet before they sat down to eat... Not a very pleasant job for the servant, but it certainly made the guests feel better after walking the dirty roads!

The Guests Arrive

At last Peter and John felt that everything was ready. They'd done well to organise it all in time. They were pleased and felt important that they had been asked to get the special meal ready. But when Jesus and his friends arrived that night, people quickly realised that something was missing. There was no servant at the door to wash their feet! They all **needed** their feet washed. What should they do? Peter thought about it. He wanted his feet washed but he didn't want to do it himself, and he certainly didn't want to wash his friends' feet either! That was **servant's** work. "Why should I do it?" he thought. He shuffled around trying to forget about his dirty feet, hoping, maybe, that one of the others w

The others weren't able to forget about their dirty feet either, though they tried. "It would be good to put my feet in some cool clean water," thought one of the others. "I wonder who will wash our feet." Everyone was thinking the same thing, but no one wanted to help. "That's not my job," thought each man. "I don't want to do such an unpleasant job, not even for my friends." And they all pretended they didn't care about their dirty feet and went and sat down at the table.

But Jesus was different, He looked at the 12 men. He knew what they were thinking. He knew they were too proud to do a servant's job, even to help their friends. It made him sad to think that not one of them would forget his own feelings and do what needed doing. Jesus thought about how God had sent him to these people "I must show them" he thought, "I must let them know what it means to be God's friends".

Jesus washes their feet.

Jesus didn't fuss. Without a word, he stood up and went over to the water jar. He took off the clothes that he was wearing for the special meal, and put a towel around his waist. He looked just like a servant. Jesus poured some water into the basin and went over to one of his friends. Gently he washed off all the dirt and dried the man's feet, then he moved on to the next pair of feet. Ah! That felt good! Nice clean feet again! But what a surprise! That was no servant down on his knees washing all those grubby feet. It was Jesus! The Lord Himself! It was all very embarrassing. Jesus was no servant, he was greater than all of those men. Why should he be the one to do the unpleasant work?

It was too much for Peter when Jesus brought the basin and towel to him. "Lord, surely you are not going to wash my feet!" He said. "Peter, I know you're surprised," said Jesus, "But later you will understand". "No Lord, no" answered Peter. "You'll never wash my feet." Jesus looked at him and gently replied, "Peter, you must let me help you or you'll never be able to be part of God's family".

Jesus knew that before long he would choose to do something far harder than washing dirty feet. He would die on the cross to take the blame for all the wrong things we think and do, and Jesus knew that unless he did that, we could never belong to God's family.

After Jesus had spoken to him, Peter was very keen to have Jesus help him. Soon everyone's feet were clean and Jesus got up. Dried his hands, put on his good clothes again, and joined the others at the table. Jesus had done what none of the others would do. Jesus' friends thought much about what had happened. "He must love us all so much" they said "to do that unpleasant job for us, it seems that he will do everything to help us". Jesus turned to his friends and said, "Do you understand what I have done for you? It is true that I am your leader, but I am really here to help you. Remember what I have done for you and love and help one another.

4.2 Conclusion

⇒ Have the students discuss this scene.

- What is it to serve?
- How would it feel to wash feet?
- How would it feel to have your feet washed.
- Whose feet should we wash in our Class?
- Whose feet should we wash in our church.
- Discuss Jesus words to Peter

Actress

- Prepare the class for a foot-washing service.

OR
Leaders feed/serve students.

Words on their Seward

Cultural effect?
Pistone

Lesson 6

Unit 2:
Jesus Died For Us

John 18 & 19 Jesus Trial and Death

JESUS DIED FOR US

1. Goal:

To teach the students that Jesus' died for us, though He was innocent of any wrong doing, to make it possible for us to be God's friends.

2. Learning Objectives:

⇒ By the end of this lesson the students should be able to:

1. Recount the facts of Jesus trial and death;
2. State that Jesus was innocent yet he chose to die
3. Compare the old and the new testament methods of dealing with Sin.

3. Key Verse

... He came to serve and to give his life to redeem many people.

Mark 10:45 (GNB)

4. Getting Started

⇒ Select two students to read the following dialogue:

Mahendra: You will not believe this, Puspa!

Puspa: No, Mahendra? Try me.

Mahendra: You know how Jesus did the servant's job at the party?

Puspa: I Know, Yuk! All those dirty feet! I still can't believe He did that.

Mahendra: Well, wait till you hear this.

- Puspa: What?
- Mahendra: This
- Puspa: What's this?
- Mahendra: Its my Bible, I was just reading about Jesus being arrested.
- Puspa: So I believe; Jesus was arrested.
- Mahendra: It says... Hang on, let me find it
- Puspa: This had better be good
- Mahendra: It says, and I quote "Jesus knew everything that was going to happen to Him"
- Puspa: Oh sure! If he had known, he would have headed for the hills, or caught a boat to China.. anything to get away from dying on the cross.
- Mahendra: I said you wouldn't believe it.
- Puspa: Its not that I don't believe it. Its just pretty amazing, that's all. However could he stick around and let them do that to him?
- Mahendra: I know, pretty awesome, isn't it!
- Puspa: How could he stand it? Being hung an a cross? Ugh!
- Mahendra: I'm sure that there was a very good reason.
- Puspa: There'd need to be.
- Mahendra: He had a good reason for washing his friend's feet.
- Puspa: What?
- Mahendra: He was showing them something when he washed their feet.
- Puspa: Mahendra, either say what you mean or be quiet, I do not know what you're on about.
- Mahendra: All I'm saying is that He did have a reason for dying. Its the sane one that made Him serve those friends of his at the party. That reason made Him choose to die, even though he could have stopped it all from happening.

- Puspa: A reason for dying? It would have to be something very very important!
- Commentary: Puspa is right. There was a reason. Mahendra's right also. Anyone who chooses to die on a cross would have to have a very good reason. Do you know why Jesus chose to die, even though he was powerful enough to stop people killing him? (He had turned water into wine, He had healed cripples, and raised dead people)

5. Going On

- Bernie : Getting students to read the texts, trace the prophetic references in the old testament to the Dying on the cross.
(Genesis, Cain & Abel, Isaac, Blood on the lintels, Psalm 22, Isaiah)
- Dawn: getting students to read the texts, show in drama how the OT Jews dealt with sin (day of atonement, scapegoat)

Jesus is arrested

My name is John. I was one of Jesus' disciples at the time it happened. You know, I can still remember it Just as though it happened yesterday.

After that party where Jesus washed our feet, we all walked to Gethsemane, the garden where we often met. Well, nearly all of us walked there; Judas was not with us. He had left early; but he turned up before long, complete with guards and soldiers to arrest our master. We were amazed, but Jesus didn't even look surprised. "Who is it you are looking for?" He asked. "Jesus of Nazareth" the soldiers answered. "I am he" said Jesus perfectly calmly ... as if he had been expecting them.

Jesus is tried.

The soldiers arrested Jesus and tied him up and led him away. We followed them, Peter and I. First they went to the High Priest's house, where they examined Him by asking questions. Huh, He annoyed the authorities by quietly asking what He had done wrong. Of course, they could not say that he had done Nothing wrong. Totally innocent of any wrong doing, he was!

Then they took him to the governor's palace. Governor Pilate could tell that Jesus was not guilty. He knew it was all a plot by the religious leaders to get rid of Our Lord. He wanted to release Jesus but those men were determined. The strange thing was that Jesus did not look as if He was at the mercy of the leaders. He looked ... well I know it sounds ridiculous, but He looked ... in charge.

Peter and I were there when Pontius Pilate eventually ordered Jesus to be crucified. I remember the sinking feeling I had when they bought Jesus out. He had been whipped and beaten up. They had put a crown made out of a thorn bush on his head. But you know, He still had that look about Him. He looked as if he was there by choice. For a reason. Watching him, I got the feeling that he could have stopped them at any time. The priests and others thought that they had him, but Jesus knew differently, and later on, we knew too.

Jesus is crucified.

We saw the soldiers take Jesus off to the hill of the skull to put him to death. As we all followed behind, I saw Mary his mother, trying to force her way through the crowd.

“John, John “ she called. “What’s happening? What are they doing? Where are they taking Jesus?”

“You should not be here Mary” I said to her. “He wouldn’t want you to see this. Why don’t you go home?”

“They’re going to crucify him, aren’t they?” said Mary. “Isn’t there anything we can do?”

“What can we do against the Roman soldiers?” I answered.

And there was nothing that we could do. Like everyone else, we just followed the soldiers. And there in front of them was Jesus, stumbling under the weight of his cross. We didn’t realise at the time, but he was carrying that cross for us - He had never done anything wrong; he allowed himself to be crucified for us.

It makes me so sad ... Oh where was I? Sorry. He was carrying that cross, then they nailed him up on it. We saw it all. He hung there on that cross and they put a sign on top that said “The king of the Jews’. And they took his clothes and divided them between the soldiers. Not all of them, they threw dice to decide who would get Jesus’ cloak. You know King David wrote centuries ago about that happening, in a way it showed God, not the soldiers was in control, and Jesus let them do it all. He chose to die like that. Can you imagine any one choosing that? What a man He was!

Anyway, there we were, right near Jesus’ feet. It was awful for us watching. For Him it must have been unbearable pain, unbearable sin. Totally innocent he was, yet he hung there like a criminal. We stayed there for quite a while, and finally we heard him say in a loud voice, “The job is done!” he sounded so exhausted but somehow pleased. Then he died.

5.1 The Reason

⇒ Have this word displayed on a blank sheet of paper.

Commentary

The job is done.. He was there for a reason alright, and he did it!

He didn't just faint, as some people claim. The soldiers made sure of that. Just to be certain, one of them stuck a sword into his side. He was dead alright.

They didn't even bother to break his legs as they normally did when they crucified someone. Its amazing you know! God must have known what was going to happen to his son, Jesus. About 1000 years ago, God helped King David to write about a man whose bones would not be broken. I am sure that God always knew that that Jesus would have to die, but have no fear, for God is in control. I do believe that Jesus' death is part of God's plan to turn bad into good.

After Jesus died, some of his friends came and buried him in a tomb. He did not stay there though ... there was no way anything even death could have power over Jesus ... but that is another story!

⇒ What reason would be good enough for Jesus to go through that horrible trial, suffering and death?

- The bible says that he knew what was going to happen and he endured it all until the job was done.

⇒ What was the job he was doing? What was the reason He died?

- We are the reason!

⇒ Now show the film of Jesus death

⇒ Be available for any discussion afterwards

- Consider: ^{effects of the cross} salvation, redemption, Righteousness, justification, sanctification, Glorification. .

- Consider dealing with sin - the cross as a reference point
 - ~~planning~~ identifying common sins & translated on a man
 - ~~submit~~ placing it on the cross - bearing it
 - walking away free

Lesson 7

Unit 2:
Jesus Rose For Us

John 20; 1-18 The resurrection

JESUS ROSE FOR US**1. Goal:**

To teach the students that Jesus' rose from the dead for us, as he said he would do, and showed that he was the son of God.

2. Learning Objectives:

- ⇒ By the end of this lesson the students should be able to:
1. Explain what Jesus resurrection tells us about his identity;
 2. Point to evidence that Jesus did indeed come back to life;
 3. Display some understanding of the importance of the resurrection.

3. Key Memory Verse

*... "Christ has been raised from the dead and will never die again ..
Death will no longer rule over him".*

Romans 6:9

4. Getting Started

- ⇒ Dawn to get students to work in groups and read and summarise on the board passages predicting Jesus resurrection.
- Jesus made a claim which even his closest friends found hard to believe. He said that he would come back to life after he died. No wonder it was difficult to believe! And now he was dead. The time had come to find out if his claim was really true or not.
- ⇒ Let's find out what happened next.

5. Going On

Heartbroken Mary

Mary Magdalene was heartbroken. She had actually been there when the soldiers had crucified Jesus. She had heard him cry out "The job is done!" but she did not understand what he had meant. She had seen him die ... was it only the day before yesterday?

Mary thought back to the day when she had first met Jesus. Her life had been a nightmare up until then .. but Jesus had changed things and helped her to become a different kind of person. Now the man who had rescued her was dead. Executed. His body had been taken down from the cross and then quickly buried another man's tomb in a garden outside of Jerusalem. It had all been done in such a hurry that those who had loved Jesus had not had the chance to give him a proper funeral.

It was early Sunday morning. Mary and some other women were walking slowly towards the garden tomb. None of them talked - they were all lost in their own private grief. Each carried a bundle of spices and oil which were to be used to clean up the body.

AS they got nearer to the tomb, Mary wondered how these women were going to move the huge rock that had been rolled across the entrance to the tomb caved in the rock.

The empty tomb.

She need not have worried about that! When they got close enough to the tomb to see it through the trees, the women stopped dead in their tracks. There was no rock, just a dark gaping hole into the tomb. Mary couldn't believe her eyes. Someone had stolen the body. But who? Why? Someone had better go and tell John , Peter and the others.

Mary hurried back to town. She went straight to where she knew Peter and John were hiding in case the soldiers decided to arrest them as well. She banged on the door. She banged again. Inside she could hear muffled talking, and the sound of footsteps. "Who is it?" said Peter.

"It's me, Mary" she said. "Quick, open up!" The door was opened and there stood Peter. Hair everywhere. It was early and he wasn't expecting visitors.

"Peter, He's gone," said Mary. "The Lord's body, its gone, somebody stole it"

"How do you know?" asked Peter.

"We went there this morning to fix up the body, but when we got there, someone had already rolled the rock away"

Peter and John see.

John grabbed his coat. "I'm going to see, Come on Peter" and with that he rushed past Mary and down the street. For a second, Peter stood there with a dazed expression on his face, then he rushed out after John, with Mary following.

They raced through the early morning sunlight towards the tomb, where John, being the fitter of the two, arrived first. Putting his hand on the wall of the opening, he peered into the semi-darkness. All he could see lying there were the cloths in which they had wrapped Jesus. As he was looking in, Peter came pounding up, and immediately went past John and went into the tomb. He, too, saw the cloths lying there, but he also saw the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head, lying by itself. "Why would anyone stealing the body bother to unwrap it", he thought.

Then John went in. Mary had not imagined it. But what could have happened? The body was gone all right. But why? There was nothing they could do there anyway, so they went back to town.

Mary meets Jesus.

Meanwhile, Mary who had not been able to keep up with Peter and John, arrived back at the tomb. The disciples, Peter and John, had already gone. Suddenly it all became too much for her, and she began to weep. All the events of the past few days crowded in on top of her. She moved towards the tomb and looked inside. It was then that Mary had a fright; inside the tomb were two angels. Before she could say anything, the angels said,

"Woman, why are you weeping?"

Mary replied, "because they have taken away my Lord, and I don't know where they have taken him". Again she began to cry, and turned around to hide her tears from the strangers. As she turned, she caught sight of someone else in the garden. Again she tried to hide her face. She did not want this gardener to see how upset she was. The man said "Why are you so upset? Who are you looking for?"

Suddenly Mary had a thought. Maybe this gardener had something to do with the disappearance. With her face still hidden, she said, "Sir, if you know where he is, please tell me, and I'll go and bring him back."

Then the man said just one word.. "Mary"

There was only one person who could say her name in such a loving, gentle way. Mary whirled around. There standing in front of her, was Jesus. All she could say was "Teacher"

Jesus smiled at her and said, "Go and tell the others".

So for a second time, Mary ran and found herself thumping on the door. As you can imagine, the disciples found her news hard to believe; however they soon changed their minds... but that's another story.

5.1 Conclusion

When Jesus claimed that he would come alive again, he actually meant it. His friends had not really understood or believed his claim, but suddenly three days after his death, they realised that it was true. Jesus was not a liar or a fake, the Bible was true, too. He actually was alive! Like no other person before or after Him, Jesus rose from the dead to show us the way.

His enemies had not beaten him after all. He proved that he had conquered death and would live forever and ever. And we have a share in this victory also. He showed us that he is the Son of God Himself, who always does exactly what he says he will do.

5.2 Activities.

- ⇒ Get the class to join in groups and conduct its own research;
- ⇒ Read the story of Thomas from John 20:24-29

Drama: fight - black/white
- evil/good
- evil thinks its one - 3 days
- Good reasons
Comer's song

Lesson 8

Unit 2:
Jesus Lives For Us

John 21; 1-19 Jesus appears on the Beach

JESUS LIVES FOR US**1. Goal:**

To teach the students that Jesus' is alive and with his people as they follow him.

2. Learning Objectives:

- ⇒ By the end of this lesson the students should be able to:
1. Give reasons why Peter felt ashamed and alone;
 2. Recount the details of Jesus appearance on the seashore;
 3. Explain the significance of Jesus words to Peter,.
 4. Describe how Jesus is with his followers today.

3. Key Memory Verse

... *"I will be with you always to the end of the age.*

Matt 28:20

(Mime)

4. Getting Started

Its lonely without a friend:

- ⇒ Dawn to relate some of our move from Hamilton to Auckland, From Auckland to Hamilton and the effects of loneliness on the children Esp Sam/Hannah

4.1 Going On

- ⇒ This reading can be mimed for greater effect)

Alone and depressed

Not only had Jesus been Peter's best friend, he had also been Peter's leader for the past three years. Peter had left his job and family so that he could be with Jesus all of the time.

Now that Jesus was gone, Peter was absolutely lost. Jesus had risen from the dead, and Peter and the other disciples had actually seen and talked to him, but it just wasn't the same anymore. Jesus' friends only saw him now and again. He wasn't with them all the in the flesh time as he used to be.

Peter was very depressed. He and the others had been spending their time meeting together and waiting for Jesus to turn up again. Things were no longer under Peter's control. What made things worse was that peter was still feeling guilty about how he had acted way back when Jesus was arrested. He had told people that he didn't know Jesus and that he was not Jesus Friend.

⇒ You might like to get the students to read this.

This all made Peter rather restless. Finally he had had enough of the waiting around. He looked around at all the others who were with him in the room. They all needed a bit of relaxation.

Going Fishing.

Peter stood up. "Listen you lot, I can't take much more of this. I'm going fishing. Who is coming with me?" (## He refers back to what he knows best, his former lifestyle!)

"That's not such a bad idea," said Nathaniel

"Count us in too," said the others. So an hour later, Peter, John, Thomas, Nathaniel and three others were pushing a boat out into the sea of Galilee. They spent the whole night fishing, but each time they pulled the nets in, there was nothing in them. (### Working on own strength produces nothing but tiredness!)

As the sun began to rise, the friends of Jesus had caught nothing, and they decided to quit. They weren't far from land, and as it grew lighter, they noticed someone standing on the shoreside. Sound carries well across smooth water first thing in the morning, and they all clearly heard the man calling to them.

"Hey, have you caught anything?"

"No" said Peter, grumbling. "Not a thing".

The voice came across the water again, "throw your net over the other side of the boat".

Peter looked at the others, shrugged, and said, "Can't do any harm".

So the men threw out the net one last time, then began to haul it in.

The haul of fish.

“Look”, said Thomas. “We’ve got a few this time”.

There were loud groans as the fishermen tried to pull in the net, but it was far too heavy. There were so many fish in it - and John wasn’t pulling. He was looking at something else. Peter looked up at his friend who was squinting at the shore. “Peter” said John, “that’s Jesus”.

Peter swung the boat towards the shore. It had to be Jesus. He had done exactly the same thing once before. Peter grabbed his gear and jumped straight overboard. The water wasn’t deep, and Peter was able to wade ashore. All sorts of things were going through his mind. More than anything else, he wanted to be with Jesus again, for there was still a sense of guilt, of having to make up for having let Jesus down.

The other fishermen were following behind in the boat dragging behind them the net full of fish.

An unexpected meal.

When they had finally made it to shore, Jesus had a small fire going, and there was the delicious smell of bread and freshly cooked fish - just the thing for people who had been out on the water all night long.

Jesus looked up as the men approached. “Bring over some of these fish and come and have some breakfast” he said to them.

Do you love me?

As they ate, Peter found himself wishing that it could be like this all of the time. When they had finished, Jesus took Peter aside.

“Peter, do you love me?” he asked. That really hurt Peter. Surely Jesus didn’t need to ask this question. Of course he loved Jesus and he said so. Then Jesus said, “look after my followers”.

After this, Jesus asked the same question again, “Peter, do you love me?” “How could Jesus have any doubt about it”, thought Peter. Then Peter remembered that he had said that he didn’t know Jesus, and how he had let Jesus down. Peter went red and became very hot; no wonder Jesus wanted to make sure. Again Peter replied to Jesus that he loved him. Again Jesus looked at him and said, “Look after my followers”.

Finally Jesus asked the same question once more.. “Peter do you love me?” Peter was lost for words. He said, “Lord, you know everything, you know that I love you”.

Then Jesus smiled and said “take care of my followers. Some hard things are going to happen to you, Peter, keep following me.”

4.2 Conclusion.

⇒ Discuss evidence of Jesus resurrection:

- Appearance to Mary
- His talking with Thomas
- His cooking
- His eating.

⇒ Discuss in pairs what it means to look after Jesus followers, in this day, in this time. Discuss it as a class.

⇒ Go back to fishing game in lesson 1; bring out futility of fishing without Jesus.

Consider:

- = Fish with a sweet
- = Feed it to another student - no hands - using ^{finger} ~~hand~~
- = Never successful
- = I don't want you to have it - I want it

Lesson 9**Unit 2:
Jesus Sent His Spirit For Us**

Acts 2; The Holy Spirit comes at Pentecost

JESUS SENDS HIS SPIRIT

1. Goal:

To teach the students that Jesus' Spirit is alive and active with his people as they follow him.

2. Learning Objectives:

⇒ By the end of this lesson the students should be able to:

1. Understand the promises of Jesus about the Holy Spirit;
2. Understand the role of the Holy Spirit;
3. Explain the significance of the Holy Spirit for Christians;.
4. Experience the Holy Spirit in their lives.

3. Key Memory Verse

... "My Father and I will come to you and we will make our home in you"

John 14,23

4. Introduction

4.1 The Holy Spirit was there in the very beginning of the Universe

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters"

Gen 1

- Hovering = Remain suspended in one place "Collins Concise"
 = No movement
 = No support
- Over the waters = near the waters , not heavens or earth, or the deep

4.2 On what or who is the waters, that at the very moment of creation, the Spirit of God remains in one place over?

"Whosoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life"

John 4,13

" If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. Whosoever believes in me, streams of living water will flow from within him"

John 7,38

" Then John gave this testimony; I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on Him. The one who sent me to baptise with water told me; the man on whom you see the spirit come down and remain (hover) is he who will baptise with the Holy Spirit. I have seen and I testify that this is the Son of God."

John 1,29

⇒ **Answer:** The Holy Spirit hovers over Jesus, the son of God, at the very moment of creation.

4.3 The Holy Spirit was promised by Jesus to us as the one to come

7. *"It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away the Counsellor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you."*

John 16

⇒ Counsellor = One who gives advice or guidance on conduct or behaviour

- <Give personal examples of Counselling.>
Family, Prison, Work

8. *"When he comes he will **convict** the world of **guilt** in regard to **sin.**"*

- Convict = to pronounce someone guilty
- Guilty = responsible for an offence or misdeed
- Sin = archery = missing the mark or target.

13. *“But when He the Spirit of truth comes, he will **guide** you into all **truth.**”*

- Guide = to lead the way, to control the movement or course of
- Truth = Jesus = “I am the way, the truth, and the light, John 14,6

14. *“He will **bring glory to me** by taking from what is mine and making it known to you.”*

- Role is self effacing, lighthouse, make the glory of Jesus known to us.
- Glory of the temple.
- Elaborate: Redeemer, forgiver, Sanctifier, Justifier, Righteous, Glorifier

“But the counsellor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things, and will remind you of everything I have said”

John 14,26

“I will put My law in their minds and write them in their hearts.... No longer will a man teach his neighbour or his brother, because they will all know Me’

John 14,26

4.4 The Holy Spirit is a full time guide for Us

Ensuring that His plan is fulfilled in us and worked out through us.

Unlike any other world religions:

“We know that we live in Him and he in us, because He has given us His spirit. We know and testify that the Fr has sent His Son to be Saviour of the world. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God.

And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.

God is love; Whoever lives in Love, Lives in God, and God in Him”

1 John 4 13

“And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His spirit”

Eph 2,22

“If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching, My father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home in him”

John 14,23

At DSW we have a coaching scheme, to provide on the job training, to coach staff, to encourage them. The reality is that it never happens, all of us are too busy, too preoccupied, to be really present to our staff. Good intentions at the start of each year are broken.

Here in the words of Jesus is a coaching scheme without equal, without compromise. The very God, our creator, deliverer, redeemer, lives in us, guiding, teaching, encouraging, forgiving, teaching, until the day we see Him face to face!

His investment in us, His insurance that what he has begun in us will not fail, is a total commitment.

4.5 The Holy Spirit was promised to Us

"I will pour out My Spirit on all peoples, Your sons & daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions"

Joel 2,28

*"I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been **clothed with power from on high.**"*

Luke 24,49

"You will receive Power when the Holy spirit comes on you, and you will be My witnesses, in Jerusalem, in all Judaea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth"

Acts 1,8

Holy Spirit = Baptism, I conditioned God, HS BUT not tongues...!

"Father, into your hands I commit my Spirit."

Luke 23,46

4.6 This is God's plan and design

To create, redeem, and guide us. To be happy with Him in heaven forever. To walk and talk with Him, Creator & creation, Man & God at table, sat down.

Thru the Holy Spirit.

Dawn and I were born Catholics, We were brought up in that faith. For 35 years I was a good Catholic. Then we attended a Life in the spirit seminar, at a church in Heretaunga in Upper Hutt. There, we gave our lives to Jesus, and we received His Holy Spirit. We worked in the Catholic Church for a further 15 years, until the Holy Spirit called us out of the Catholic Church, to an AOG Church in Hamilton where we would learn to Live in Pentecost.

- We are all invited to be a post Pentecost people.
- It is His purpose for us.

- Thru illness, iniquity, sin to eternal life in Jesus.
- To prepare a bride for His Son.
- To reign with Him, in the kingdom of God.
- To have power to reign and live and be purified ,and be holy, and love.

Old Testament

God chooses the Israel nation to herald His Name and His Glory throughout the earth.

They disobey and He removes His blessings, He promises hope through His prophets.

New Testament

Jesus comes as our redeemer, to bring salvation and glory to all the peoples of the earth. To serve and to rule.

Pentecost

The Holy spirit comes to teach us, to guide us, to empower us, to reign in His blessings, and to bring the news to all nations.

⇒ Which part of the Testament are you living in?

Give thank to him, for what he has already done.

Come Holy Spirit

⇒ Perhaps talk now about the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit.

⇒ Pray for him to come!