SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON QUARTERLY

D. A. Delaney

STANLEY HALL

DYNAMICS OF CHRISTIAN WITNESSING

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AID TO MORE EFFICIENT SABBATH SCHOOLS

The Sabbath School Worker

A fifty-six-page monthly journal full of invaluable helps for Sabbath school teachers and pupils.

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THE BLESSING OF DAILY STUDY

"The beauty and riches of the word have a transforming influence on mind and character."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 132.

"There is nothing more calculated to strengthen the intellect than the study of the Scriptures. No other book is so potent to elevate the thoughts, to give vigor to the faculties, as the broad, ennobling truths of the Bible. If God's word were studied as it should be, men would have a breadth of mind, a nobility of character, and a stability of purpose rarely seen in these times."—*Steps to Christ,* page 90.

"The more you search the Scriptures with humble hearts, the greater will be your interest. . . . Every day you should learn something new from the Scriptures."—*Testimonies,* vol. 5, p. 266.

My Daily Lesson Study Pledge

As one who greatly desires to improve his knowledge of the Scriptures, I pledge myself to the careful and prayerful study of some portion of my Sabbath school lesson each day of the week.

Name .....

LESSON TITLES FOR THE QUARTER

1. All Christians to Be Witnesses
2. Witnesses in Every Age
3. Objectives of Witnessing
4. The Revelation of God's Love
5. Christ-Centered Witnessing
6. Meekness and Humility in Witnessing
7. The Place of Prayer in Witnessing
8. Golden-Rule Religion
9. The Witness of God's Word
10. Influence of a Godly Life
11. Hindrances to Witnessing
12. The Informed Witness
13. Promise of the Spirit

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Sabbath School Lesson Quarterly

DYNAMICS OF CHRISTIAN WITNESSING

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

"God's church is the court of holy life, filled with varied gifts and endowed with the Holy Spirit. The members are to find their happiness in the happiness of those whom they help and bless."—*The Acts of the Apostles*, page 12.

Webster gives as one definition of the word *dynamics*: "The moving moral, as well as physical, forces of any kind, or the laws which relate to them." Our study this quarter is to deal not only with the motivating force for Christian witnessing, but also with the laws governing the principles of such witnessing.

Lesson 1, for January 5, 1963

All Christians to Be Witnesses

MEMORY VERSE: "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1:8.

STUDY HELPS: "Christian Service," pages 7-29; "Prophets and Kings," pages 303-310; "The Acts of the Apostles," pages 112-122; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

LESSON AIM: To show that every Christian is called to be a witness for Christ and, to the extent of his ability, to influence others to accept the Saviour.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

	Check Here
Sabbath afternoon: General survey.	☐
Sunday: Introduction; Questions 1-3.	☐
Monday: Questions 4, 5; begin reading Study Helps.	☐
Tuesday: Questions 6-8; read further from Study Helps.	☐
Wednesday: Questions 9-13.	☐
Thursday: Finish reading Study Helps.	☐
Friday: Review entire lesson.	☐

Lesson Outline

Introduction

I. A Ministry for Christians

1. Disciples called Christians. Acts 11:26, last part.
2. Believers baptized into the royal family. Matt. 28:19; Acts 2:41.
3. New creatures in Christ. 2 Cor. 5:17.
4. Ministers of reconciliation. 2 Cor. 5:18, 19.
5. Ambassadors for Christ. 2 Cor. 5:20.

II. Workers Together With God

6. Witnesses for Christ. Acts 1:8.
7. To every man his work. Mark 13:34.
8. Partners in service. 1 Cor. 3:9; 2 Cor. 6:1.

III. Children of Light

9. Light in the last days. Isa. 60:1.
10. Promises to light bearers. Isa. 60:2-5.
11. The Source of light. John 8:12.
12. The light of the world. Matt. 5: 14-16; 1 Peter 4:10, 11.
13. Walk in the light. John 12:35, 36.

THE LESSON

Introduction

"The Lord calls upon us for confession of His goodness. 'Ye are My witnesses, saith the Lord, that I am God.' Isa. 43:12.

"Our confession of His faithfulness is Heaven's chosen agency for revealing Christ to the world. We are to acknowledge His grace as made known through the holy men of old; but that which will be most effectual is the testimony of our own experience. We are witnesses for God as we reveal in ourselves the working of a power that is divine. Every individual has a life distinct from all others, and an experience differing essentially from theirs. God desires that our praise shall ascend to Him, marked by our own individuality. These precious acknowledgments to the praise of the glory of His grace, when supported by a Christlike life, have an irresistible power that works for the salvation of souls."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 347.

A Ministry for Christians

1. What name was given to the disciples at Antioch? Acts 11:26, last part.

NOTE.—A Christian is one who accepts Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour and depends solely upon Him for salvation from sin.

"It was in Antioch that the disciples were first called Christians. The name was given them because Christ was the main theme of their preaching, their teaching, and their conversation. Continually they were recounting the incidents that had occurred during the days of His earthly ministry, when His disciples were blessed with His personal presence. Untiringly they dwelt upon His teachings and His miracles of healing. With quivering lips and tearful eyes they spoke of His agony in the garden, His betrayal, trial, and execution, the forbearance and humility with which He had endured the contumely and torture imposed upon Him by His enemies, and the godlike pity with which He had prayed for those who persecuted Him. His resurrection and ascension, and His work in heaven as the Mediator for fallen man, were topics on which they rejoiced to dwell. Well might the heathen call them Christians, since they preached Christ and addressed their prayers to God through Him."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 157.

2. What were the disciples to administer to all who become followers of Christ? Matt. 28:19; Acts 2:41.

NOTE.—New believers were to be baptized "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." Thus they became members of the royal family, children by adoption of the heavenly King. Gal. 4:5; Eph. 1:5. "It was God who gave to them the name of Christian. This is a royal name, given to all who join themselves to Christ."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 157.

3. What is to be the experience of one who accepts Christ? 2 Cor. 5:17.

NOTE.—"Through the power of Christ, men and women have broken the chains of sinful habit. They have renounced selfishness. The profane have become reverent, the drunken sober, the profligate pure. Souls that have borne the likeness of Satan have become transformed into the image of God. This change is in itself the miracle of miracles. A change wrought by the Word, it is one of the deepest mysteries of the Word. We cannot understand it; we

can only believe, as declared by the Scriptures, it is 'Christ in you, the hope of glory.' "—*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 476.

4. What ministry did Paul say was committed to him? 2 Cor. 5:18, 19.

NOTE.—"In the trust given to the first disciples, believers in every age have shared. Everyone who has received the gospel has been given sacred truth to impart to the world. God's faithful people have always been aggressive missionaries, consecrating their resources to the honor of His name, and wisely using their talents in His service. . . .

"With hearts filled with sympathy and compassion, they are to minister to those in need of help, bringing to sinners a knowledge of the Saviour's love. Such work calls for laborious effort, but it brings a rich reward. Those who engage in it with sincerity of purpose will see souls won to the Saviour, for the influence that attends the practical carrying out of the divine commission is irresistible."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* pages 109, 110.

5. What distinctive title is given to ministers of reconciliation? 2 Cor. 5:20.

NOTE.—The word "ambassador" is from the Greek, *presbeuo,* "literally, 'to be older,' and thus 'to be an elder,' 'to be an ambassador.' This characterizes the ambassador as one distinguished by dignity and experience, and therefore vested with authority. Christ's ambassadors become such by virtue of prior attachment to Him and to His cause (see on Acts 14:23). They are distinguished for their fidelity (1 Cor. 4:1, 2; 1 Tim. 1:12), their zeal, their personal understanding of and experience with the great truths of the gospel, and their diligence in study, in prayer, in soul winning, and in building up the church. There is no greater dignity or honor than that of being an ambassador for Christ and the kingdom of heaven."—*S.D.A. Bible Commentary,* on 2 Cor. 5:20.

Workers Together With God

6. As witnesses for Christ, how extensive was the work the disciples were called to do? Acts 1:8.

NOTE.—"The apostles now perceived more fully the meaning of the words of Christ, 'Ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.' Acts 1:8."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 107.

7. In one of His parables how did Christ teach that all His followers were expected to be workers? Mark 13:34.

NOTE.—"To every man is given his work —not merely work in his fields of corn and wheat, but earnest, persevering work for the salvation of souls. Every stone in God's temple must be a living stone, a stone that shines, reflecting light to the world. Let the laymen do all that they can; and as they use the talents they already have, God will give them more grace and increased ability."—*Testimonies,* vol. 8, p. 246.

8. What was the high privilege enjoyed by Paul and his associates? 1 Cor. 3:9; 2 Cor. 6:1.

NOTE.—"We should all be workers together with God. No idlers are acknowledged as His servants. The members of the church should individually feel that the life and prosperity of the church are affected by their course of action."—*Christian Service,* page 10.

Children of Light

9. What rallying call did God give to His people anciently? Isa. 60:1.

10. What promise of success was held out to God's faithful light bearers? Isa. 60:2-5.

NOTE.—This command has meaning to Seventh-day Adventists today as well as to ancient Israel. We are to do in our time the work of witnessing that Israel might have done in ancient times.

"To meet the conditions existing at the time when darkness covers the earth, and gross darkness the people, the church of God has been commissioned to cooperate with God in shedding abroad the light of Bible truth. To those who seek to do their part faithfully as bearers of precious light, is given the assurance: 'The Lord shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.' "—*Testimonies to Ministers,* page 458.

11. What is the Source of the Christian's light? John 8:12.

12. As the light of the world, what are Christians to do, and for what purpose? Matt. 5:14-16; 1 Peter 4: 10, 11.

NOTE.—"Everyone who is connected with God will impart light to others. If there are any who have no light to give, it is because they have no connection with the Source of light."—*Historical Sketches,* page 291.

13. What will be our experience if we do not walk in the light God has given us? John 12:35, 36.

NOTE.—"God has appointed His children to give light to others, and if they fail to do it, and souls are left in the darkness of error because of their failure to do that which they might have done, had they been vitalized by the Holy Spirit, they will be accountable to God. We have been called out of darkness into His marvelous light, in order that we may show forth the praises of Christ."—*Christian Service,* page 21.

> "Higher than the highest human thought can reach is God's ideal for His children."—*Education,* page 18.

Lesson 2, for January 12, 1963

Witnesses in Every Age

MEMORY VERSE: "For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many." Mark 10:45.

STUDY HELPS: "Education," pages 51-70; "The Great Controversy," pages 79-82; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

LESSON AIM: To show that God has never been without witnesses during the long centuries of sin, and that He has His faithful representatives in the world today.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

	Check Here
Sabbath afternoon: General survey.	☐
Sunday: Questions 1-4.	☐
Monday: Questions 5-8.	☐
Tuesday: Questions 9, 10; begin reading Study Helps.	☐
Wednesday: Questions 11, 12; read further from Study Helps.	☐
Thursday: Finish reading Study Helps.	☐
Friday: Review entire lesson.	☐

Lesson Outline

Introduction

I. Old Testament Witnesses

1. Joseph in Pharaoh's court. Ps. 105:17-22; Acts 7:9, 10.
2. Moses surrenders the throne. Heb. 11:24-27.
3. Elisha called from the plow. 1 Kings 19:19.
4. Daniel in Babylon's palace. Dan. 1:17-20; 2:48, 49.

II. New Testament Witnesses

5. Christ came to minister. Luke 19:10; Mark 10:45.
6. Dorcas of Joppa. Acts 9:36-42.
7. Paul called into service. Acts 9:1-6, 20.
8. Secret of John's witness. 1 John 1:1-4.

III. Latter-Day Witnesses

9. A people of prophecy. Rev. 14:12; 12:17.
10. Witnessing under persecution. Rev. 20:4.

IV. The Witness God Accepts

11. Those who exercise faith. Heb. 12:1, 2.
12. Those who endure chastening and lead holy lives. Heb. 12:11-15.

THE LESSON

Introduction

"Sacred history . . . presents many noble examples of men whose characters were formed under divine direction, men whose lives were a blessing to their fellowmen and who stood in the world as representatives of God. Among these are Joseph and Daniel, Moses, Elisha, and Paul—the greatest statesmen, the wisest legislator, one of the most faithful reformers, and, except Him who spoke as never man spake, the most illustrious teacher that this world has known."—*Education,* page 51.

Old Testament Witnesses

1. In what high position in Egypt was Joseph placed by God's providence? Ps. 105:17-22; Acts 7:9, 10. See Gen. 41:38-46.

NOTE.—"From the dungeon Joseph was exalted to be ruler over all the land of Egypt. . . . The same fidelity to God was manifest when he stood in the palace of the Pharaohs as when in a prisoner's cell. . . . Through Joseph the attention of the king and great men of Egypt was directed to the true God; and though they adhered to their idolatry, they learned to respect the principles revealed in the life and character of the worshiper of Jehovah."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 222.

2. What key position in Egypt did Moses refuse in order to answer God's call to service? Heb. 11:24-27.

NOTE.—"Moses was fitted to take preeminence among the great of the earth, to shine in the courts of its most glorious kingdom, and to sway the scepter of its power. His intellectual greatness distinguishes him above the great men of all ages. As historian, poet, philosopher, general of armies, and legislator, he stands without a peer. Yet with the world before him, he had the moral strength to refuse the flattering prospects of wealth and greatness and fame, 'choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season.' "—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 246.

3. From what humble work did Elijah summon Elisha to be his successor to the prophetic office? 1 Kings 19:19.

NOTE.—Elisha was a farmer whom God called to be His witness to Israel in a time of widespread apostasy. He was one of

the most faithful of reformers. God confirmed Elisha's testimonies to His people with numerous miracles by the hand of this faithful prophet.

4. In what positions of honor were Daniel and his companions placed in old Babylon? Dan. 1:17-20; 2:48, 49.

NOTE.—"God brought Daniel and his associates into connection with the great men of Babylon, that in the midst of a nation of idolaters they might represent His character. . . .

"As God called Daniel to witness for Him in Babylon, so He calls us to be His witnesses in the world today. In the smallest as well as the largest affairs of life, He desires us to reveal to men the principles of His kingdom. Many are waiting for some great work to be brought to them, while daily they lose opportunities for revealing faithfulness to God."—*Prophets and Kings,* page 487.

New Testament Witnesses

5. Why did Christ come to our world? Luke 19:10; Mark 10:45.

6. What works of love distinguished a disciple at Joppa? How did her death and resurrection affect the cause of Christ? Acts 9:36-42.

NOTE.—"In Joppa there was a Dorcas, whose skillful fingers were more active than her tongue. She knew who needed comfortable clothing and who needed sympathy, and she freely ministered to the wants of both classes. And when Dorcas died, the church in Joppa realized their loss. It is no wonder that they mourned and lamented, nor that warm teardrops fell upon the inanimate clay. She was of so great value that by the power of God she was brought back from the land of the enemy, that her skill and energy might still be a blessing to others."—*Testimonies,* vol. 5, p. 304.

7. How was one of the great apostles called into service? Acts 9:1-6, 20.

8. How did the aged apostle John explain the secret of his successful witness for Christ? 1 John 1:1-4.

NOTE.—"Above all his companions, John the beloved disciple yielded himself to the power of that wondrous life. He says, 'The life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness and show unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us.' 'Of His fullness have all we received, and grace for grace.' . . .

"He who loves Christ the most will do the greatest amount of good. There is no limit to the usefulness of one who, by putting self aside, makes room for the working of the Holy Spirit upon his heart, and lives a life wholly consecrated to God."—*The Desire of Ages,* pages 250, 251.

Latter-Day Witnesses

9. How are God's people in the last days distinguished from the world about them? Rev. 14:12; 12:17.

NOTE.—The names of James and Ellen White, Joseph Bates, and a few others stand out among the pioneers in the remnant church. Let us note just two:

a. Ellen G. White. "Her experience was one of earnest Christian labor, of sacrifice for the Master she loved. Separated oftentimes from her children, denied the comforts of home life in her extensive travels, handicapped frequently by physical suffering, meeting the natural prejudice and opposition which existed in many minds against her work, she labored on, faithfully and untiringly, even to the close of life. She rests from her labors, but her works follow her."—F. M. Wilcox, *The Testimony of Jesus* (1944 ed.), p. 160.

b. Joseph Bates. "From the beginning of his connection with the second advent movement he traveled much; and in his championing of the views upon which

Seventh-day Adventists came to unite, though in his fifties and sixties, he undertook journeys and endured hardships that often overcame younger men. He traveled in Canada in the depths of winter, wading deep snows and enduring below-zero temperatures; he ranged the mountains of Vermont and New Hampshire; he led the way into the forests and swamps of Michigan and the prairies and woods of Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin. Preaching, visiting in the homes, writing, and drawing the scattered sheep into bands and preparing and appointing shepherds over them, Father Bates, as he came to be called in his later years, was pioneer and more than pioneer. . . .

"His soul was engrossed in the blessed hope of the soon-coming Christ."—Arthur W. Spalding, *Captains of the Host,* pages 42, 43.

10. What honor and reward will be received by many who give their lives witnessing for Christ? Rev. 20:4.

The Witness God Accepts

11. What must characterize the life of those who would be witnesses for God? Heb. 12:1, 2.

12. What preparation for witnessing does the apostle Paul admonish Christians to make? Heb. 12:11-15.

NOTE—"Human effort will be efficient in the work of God just according to the consecrated devotion of the worker—by revealing the power of the grace of Christ to transform the life. We are to be distinguished from the world because God has placed His seal upon us, because He manifests in us His own character of love. Our Redeemer covers us with His righteousness.

"In choosing men and women for His service, God does not ask whether they possess worldly wealth, learning, or eloquence. He asks, 'Do they walk in such humility that I can teach them My way? Can I put My words into their lips? Will they represent Me?'

"God can use every person just in proportion as He can put His Spirit into the soul temple. The work that He will accept is the work that reflects His image. His followers are to bear, as their credentials to the world, the ineffaceable characteristics of His immortal principles."—*The Ministry of Healing,* page 37.

Lesson 3, for January 19, 1963

Objectives of Witnessing

MEMORY VERSE: "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

STUDY HELPS: "Christian Service," pages 77-112; "Christ's Object Lessons," chapter, " 'Go Into the Highways and Hedges;' " "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

LESSON AIM: To show that the objectives of witnessing are threefold: (1) The salvation of souls; (2) the glory of God; (3) the spiritual development of the witness himself.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

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Sabbath afternoon: General survey.	☐
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Wednesday: Questions 12, 13; read further from Study Helps.	☐
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Friday: Review entire lesson.	☐

Lesson Outline

Introduction

I. Salvation of Lost Sinners

1. Value of our soul. Luke 15:3-7.
2. Jesus weeps over Jerusalem. Luke 19:41-44; Matt. 23:37, 38.
3. "The end of our faith." 1 Peter 1:9.
4. True values. Mark 8:36, 37.

II. The Glory of God

5. Glory ascribed to God's name. Rev. 15:2-4; Matt. 6:13, last part.

III. Salvation of Our Own Souls

6. Responsible for the lost. Ezek. 3:17-20.
7. Jonah and Nineveh. Jonah 1:1-4, 15, 17; 3:1-5.
8. Why we are witnesses. 2 Cor. 4:5-7.

IV. A Witness to All the World

9. The gospel commission. Matt. 28: 18-20; Mark 16:15-18.
10. Extent of gospel preaching. Matt. 24:14.
11. Results of rejecting the gospel. Acts 18:1-6.

V. A Burden for the Erring

12. Moses' burden for the erring ones. Ex. 32:30-32.
13. Compel them to come in. Luke 14:23.

THE LESSON

Introduction

"*If Christ left the ninety and nine, that* He might seek and save the one lost sheep, can we be justified in doing less? Is not a neglect to work even as Christ worked, to sacrifice as He sacrificed, a betrayal of sacred trusts, an insult to God?

"Sound an alarm throughout the length and breadth of the earth. Tell the people that the day of the Lord is near and hasteth greatly. Let none be left unwarned. We might have been in the place of the poor souls that are in error. We might have been placed among barbarians. According to the truth we have received above others, we are debtors to impart the same to them."—*Testimonies,* vol. 6, p. 22.

Salvation of Lost Sinners

1. How did Christ illustrate the value of one lost soul? Luke 15:3-7.

NOTE.—"In the parable the shepherd goes out to search for one sheep—the very least that can be numbered. So if there had been but one lost soul, Christ would have died for that one."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 187.

"One soul is of more value to heaven than a whole world of property, houses, lands, money. For the conversion of one soul we should tax our resources to the utmost. One soul won to Christ will flash heaven's light all around him, penetrating the moral darkness and saving other souls." —*Testimonies,* vol. 6, pp. 21, 22.

2. How did Jesus express His feelings over Jerusalem, the city which rejected Him? Luke 19:41-44; Matt. 23:37, 38.

NOTE.—"The loss of even one soul is a calamity infinitely outweighing the gains and treasures of a world; but as Christ looked upon Jerusalem, the doom of a whole city, a whole nation, was before Him —that city, that nation, which had once been the chosen of God, His peculiar treasure."—*The Great Controversy,* page 21.

3. What is the outcome of our faith? 1 Peter 1:9. Compare 1 Peter 2:25.

4. How did Jesus show that earthly gain is not as valuable as it seems? Mark 8:36, 37.

The Glory of God

5. How will the redeemed saints glorify the name of God? Rev. 15: 2-4; Matt. 6:13, last part.

NOTE.—In the song of Moses and the Lamb, the redeemed saints ascribe honor and glory to God for their redemption. They praise the Lord, not themselves, for their great salvation. Jesus said that even the sickness and death of Lazarus was "for the glory of God." John 11:4. In all soul-winning effort it must be kept in mind that in the end the results of our long encounter with sin and opposition will be an endless life and, most important, glory and honor to God.

Salvation of Our Own Souls

6. What did God say He would require at the hand of Ezekiel? Ezek. 3:17-20. Compare Acts 20:25-27.

NOTE.—Guilt rests upon the unfaithful witness—a woe and the blood of souls. A note in Ellen G. White's first book explained, "A sense of duty to my brethren and sisters and a desire that the blood of souls might not be found on my garments have governed me in writing this little work."—*Early Writings,* page 76. All of God's servants through the ages have sensed that a woe from God would be upon them if they did not take the gospel to their fellowmen. See 1 Cor. 9:16.

7. What happened to Jonah when he refused to deliver God's word to Nineveh? Jonah 1:1-4, 15, 17; 3:1-5.

NOTE.—The best help for ourselves is to help others to find Christ.

"Let the desponding ones, those disposed to think the way to life is very trying and difficult, go to work and seek to help others. In such efforts, mingled with prayer for divine light, their own hearts will throb with the quickening influence of the grace of God; their own affections will glow with more divine fervor, and their whole Christian life will be more of a reality, more earnest, more prayerful."—*Testimonies,* vol. 4, p. 320.

8. Whose power is manifest in the preaching of the gospel? 2 Cor. 4:5-7.

NOTE.—" 'We have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the exceeding greatness of the power may be of God, and not from ourselves.' 2 Cor. 4:7, R.V. This is why the preaching of the gospel was committed to erring men rather than to the angels. It is manifest that the power which works through the weakness of humanity is the power of God; and thus we are encouraged to believe that the power which can help others as weak as ourselves can help us. And those who are themselves 'compassed with infirmity' should be able to 'have compassion on the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way.' Heb. 5:2. Having been in peril themselves, they are acquainted with the dangers and difficulties of the way, and for this reason are called to reach out for others in like peril."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 297.

A Witness to All the World

9. What commission did Christ give to His church? Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-18.

NOTE.—"Among those to whom the Saviour had given the commission, 'Go ye therefore, and teach all nations,' were many from the humbler walks of life—men and women who had learned to love their Lord, and who had determined to follow His example of unselfish service. To these lowly ones, as well as to the disciples who had been with the Saviour during His earthly ministry, had been given a precious trust. They were to carry to the world the glad tidings of salvation through Christ."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* pages 105, 106.

10. To what extent was the gospel to be preached? Matt. 24:14.

NOTE.—"As a witness" the gospel was to be proclaimed in all the world. That is, as a testimony of divine truth revealing God's plan for saving men. Paul said that "the grace of God that bringeth salvation to all men, hath appeared." Titus 2:11, margin. But not all who hear the gospel accept it. "This is the condemnation," said Jesus, "that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil." John 3:19.

If the gospel is to be preached "as a witness" in all the world before Christ returns, His second coming will not find the world wholly unprepared. This "witness" is God's act of mercy to this last generation of men. The witness of Noah to the antediluvians, of Lot to Sodom, and of the early Christians in the first century were similar.

11. What solemn words did Paul speak to those who rejected the gospel? Acts 18:1-6. Compare Ezek. 33: 4, 5.

NOTE.—Satan has always charged that there is injustice with God, but this is a false charge. God is "just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus." Rom. 3:26. He is also just when He condemns to oblivion those "that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ." 2 Thess. 1:8. The preaching of the gospel in all the world, giving to all men the opportunity to be saved, clears God of Satan's charges. This final justification of God's dealings with men and angels is one goal that will be attained through the gospel witness of His church.

A Burden for the Erring

12. How did Moses express his deep concern for the souls of his erring people? Ex. 32:30-32. Compare Rom. 9:1-4.

NOTE.—"So great was Moses' love for his erring brethren that, if he could not prevent their destruction, he did not want to see it (see Num. 11:15). He was willing not to be 'written among the living' (see Isa. 4:3). He was willing to surrender his own life, if that would serve to atone for their sin. He was willing to bear their guilt, here and in the hereafter, in order to secure their forgiveness. . . . Moses performed many noble acts, but this was the noblest of them all. . . . Moses is a type of the Good Shepherd, who laid down His life for the sheep (John 10:11, 15), who was 'cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression' of His people (Isa. 53:8; Dan. 9:26; John 15:13)."—*S.D.A. Bible Commentary,* on Ex. 32:32.

13. What command was given to the servant in the parable of the great supper? Luke 14:23.

NOTE.—"Jesus here . . . emphasizes the urgency of the invitation and the compelling force of divine grace. Loving-kindness was to be the compelling force."—*S.D.A. Bible Commentary,* on Luke 14:23.

Lesson 4, for January 26, 1963

The Revelation of God's Love

MEMORY VERSE: "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another." 1 John 4:10, 11.

STUDY HELPS: "Steps to Christ," chapter, "God's Love for Man;" "The Acts of the Apostles," pages 539-545; "The Adventist Home," pages 195-199; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

LESSON AIM: To show that (1) the gospel is the revelation of God's love to men, and (2) the most powerful argument in favor of its acceptance is the life of a loving and lovable Christian.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

	Check Here
Sabbath afternoon: General survey.	☐
Sunday: Questions 1-4.	☐
Monday: Questions 5-7; begin reading Study Helps.	☐
Tuesday: Questions 8-12.	☐
Wednesday: Questions 13, 14; read further from Study Helps.	☐
Thursday: Finish reading Study Helps.	☐
Friday: Review entire lesson.	☐

Lesson Outline

Introduction

I. Appeal of God's Love

1. Drawn by loving-kindness. Jer. 31:3.
2. Revealed through Christ. John 1:18; 3:16; 1 John 4:8-10.
3. The essential knowledge. John 15:9; 16:27; 17:3.
4. Love begets love. 1 John 4:19; Rom. 5:5-8.

II. How Christ Revealed God's Love

5. By serving humanity. Acts 10:38; Matt. 9:35, 36.
6. In teachings and manner. Matt. 7:29; John 7:37-46.
7. With converting power. John 4:15, 19, 28-30.

III. Qualities for Christian Witnessing

8. Love, the essential credential. 1 John 4:7; John 13:35.
9. Love expressed in deeds. 1 John 3:16-18.
10. Winsomeness, forbearance, preparedness. James 5:19, 20; Eph. 4:1, 2; 1 Peter 3:15, 16.
11. Skillful, tactful teaching. 2 Tim. 2:24-26.
12. Dependence on the Holy Spirit for results. John 16:7, 8.

IV. Fruitage and Reward

13. The early church harvest. Acts 2:41, 47, last part; 4:4.
14. The soul winner's reward. Ps. 126:6; Matt. 25:31-40.

THE LESSON

Introduction

"If we love God because He first loved us, we shall love all for whom Christ died. We cannot come in touch with divinity without coming in touch with humanity; for in Him who sits upon the throne of the universe, divinity and humanity are combined. Connected with Christ, we are connected with our fellowmen by the golden links of the chain of love. Then the pity and compassion of Christ will be manifest in our life. We shall not wait to have the needy and unfortunate brought to us. We shall not need to be entreated to feel for the woes of others. It will be as natural for us to minister to the needy and suffering as it was for Christ to go about doing good."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* pages 384, 385.

Appeal of God's Love

1. What eternal principle of God's character attracts us to Him? Jer. 31:3.

NOTE.—"The gospel is the revelation of God's love to men, and means everything that is essential to the happiness and well-being of humanity."—*Fundamentals of Christian Education,* page 186.

2. Through whom was the wonderful love of God revealed in its fullness to the world? John 1:18; 3:16; 1 John 4:8-10.

NOTE.—"Christ came to the earth and stood before the children of men with the hoarded love of eternity, and this is the treasure that, through our connection with Him, we are to receive, to reveal, and to impart."—*The Ministry of Healing,* page 37.

3. What essential knowledge did Christ bring to men? John 15:9; 16: 27; 17:3.

NOTE.—"The highest possible good is obtained through a knowledge of God. 'This is life eternal, that they might know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom Thou hast sent.' John 17:3. This knowledge is the secret spring from which flows all power."—*Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students,* page 406.

Gods love offering of His Son on Calvary and Jesus' voluntary sacrifice of Himself provided the whole universe with such a glimpse of the character of God as it had never seen! To know God is to love Him. If we do not love Him, it is simply because we do not know Him.

4. What is the incentive for loving and serving God? 1 John 4:19; Rom. 5:5-8.

How Christ Revealed God's Love

5. How did Christ serve humanity? Acts 10:38; Matt. 9:35, 36.

NOTE.—"Christ stood at the head of humanity in the garb of humanity. So full of sympathy and love was His attitude that the poorest was not afraid to come to Him. He was kind to all, easily approached by the most lowly. He went from house to house, healing the sick, feeding the hungry, comforting the mourners, soothing the afflicted, speaking peace to the distressed." —*Welfare Ministry,* page 170.

6. With what assurance did Jesus teach the people, and with what results? Matt. 7:29; John 7:37-46.

NOTE.—It was impossible to listen to the Great Teacher without being convicted by the doctrine of love, truth, and grace that He taught. The incarnate Christ was the perfect expression of divine love and authority. All of this was revealed in His manner as a teacher as much as in the lessons that He imparted and in His acts as a healer and benefactor of the poor. "His eyes were lighted up with unutterable love, and the heavenly expression upon His countenance gave meaning to every word uttered."—*Testimonies,* vol. 5, p. 253.

"His illustrations were so appropriate, His words so sympathetic and cheerful, that His hearers were charmed. . . . Gracious, tenderhearted, pitiful, He went about lifting up the bowed down and comforting the sorrowful. Wherever He went, He carried blessing."—*The Ministry of Healing,* page 24.

7. How did the woman of Samaria respond to Jesus' message? John 4: 15, 19, 28-30.

NOTE.—The water of salvation that Christ offered (John 4:10-14), the Samaritan woman eagerly accepted. Drinking deeply of the draught, she immediately set out to share the refreshing with others. This is the sure result in every person's life who has found satisfaction in Jesus.

"When the love of Christ is enshrined in the heart, like sweet fragrance it cannot be hidden. Its holy influence will be felt by all with whom we come in contact. The spirit of Christ in the heart is like a spring in the desert, flowing to refresh all, and making those who are ready to perish, eager to drink of the water of life."—*Steps to Christ,* page 77.

Qualities for Christian Witnessing

8. What important credential distinguishes every messenger of Christ? 1 John 4:7; John 13:35.

NOTE.—"Supreme love for God and unselfish love for one another—this is the best gift that our heavenly Father can bestow. This love is not an impulse, but a divine

principle, a permanent power. The unconsecrated heart cannot originate or produce it. Only in the heart where Jesus reigns is it found. 'We love Him, because He first loved us.' In the heart renewed by divine grace, love is the ruling principle of action. It modifies the character, governs the impulses, controls the passions, and ennobles the affections. This love, cherished in the soul, sweetens the life, and sheds a refining influence on all around."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 551.

"Men cannot love God supremely and their neighbor as themselves, and be as cold as icebergs. Not only do they rob God of the love due Him, but they rob their neighbor as well."—*Testimonies,* vol. 4, p. 548.

9. How is the love of God expressed in human relations? 1 John 3:16-18.

NOTE.—" 'Let us not love in word,' the apostle writes, 'but in deed and in truth.' The completeness of Christian character is attained when the impulse to help and bless others springs constantly from within. It is the atmosphere of this love surrounding the soul of the believer that makes him a savor of life unto life and enables God to bless his work."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 551.

10. With what spirit are we to live and serve the Lord Jesus Christ? James 5:19, 20; Eph. 4:1, 2; 1 Peter 3:15, 16.

NOTE.—"A kind, courteous Christian is the most powerful argument that can be produced in favor of Christianity."—*Gospel Workers,* page 122.

"Whatsoever is done out of pure love, be it ever so little or contemptible in the sight of men, is wholly fruitful; for God regards more with how much love one worketh than the amount he doeth."—*Testimonies,* vol. 2, p. 135.

11. What cautions are given to Christians? 2 Tim. 2:24-26. Compare Phil. 2:14, 15.

NOTE.—"No one was ever reclaimed by reproach; but many have thus been repelled, and have been led to steel their hearts against conviction. A tender spirit, a gentle, winning deportment, may save the erring and hide a multitude of sins."—*The Ministry of Healing,* page 166.

12. What promise gives assurance to the soul winner? John 16:7, 8. Compare Rom. 5:5.

NOTE.—"God will give you the Holy Spirit to convict and convert the soul."—*Testimonies,* vol. 6, p. 81.

"The Holy Spirit will come to all who are begging for the bread of life to give to their neighbors."—*Ibid.,* p. 90.

Fruitage and Reward

13. What fruitage was seen by the first disciples? Acts 2:41, 47, last part; 4:4.

NOTE.—"The church beheld converts flocking to her from all directions. Backsliders were reconverted. Sinners united with believers in seeking the pearl of great price. Some who had been the bitterest opponents of the gospel became its champions. . . . Every Christian saw in his brother a revelation of divine love and benevolence. One interest prevailed; one subject of emulation swallowed up all others. The ambition of the believers was to reveal the likeness of Christ's character and to labor for the enlargement of His kingdom."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 48.

14. What assurance do we have that the one who bears a faithful witness will be rewarded? Ps. 126:6; Matt. 25:31-40.

NOTE.—The ultimate reward of all who minister God's love faithfully to their fellowmen is made plain in the Scriptures.

"The truth is soon to triumph gloriously, and all who now choose to be laborers together with God will triumph with it."—*Testimonies,* vol. 9, p. 135.

Christ-Centered Witnessing

MEMORY VERSE: "For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified." 1 Cor. 2:2.

STUDY HELPS: "Testimonies," vol. 6, pp. 53, 54; "Education," pages 262-271; "The Acts of the Apostles," pages 35-46; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

LESSON AIM: To show that our success in presenting the last message of mercy to the world will be in proportion to our revelation of Christ, the sin-pardoning Saviour.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

	Check Here
Sabbath afternoon: General survey.	☐
Sunday: Questions 1-4.	☐
Monday: Questions 5-7; begin reading Study Helps.	☐
Tuesday: Questions 8-10.	☐
Wednesday: Questions 12-14; read further from Study Helps.	☐
Thursday: Finish reading Study Helps.	☐
Friday: Review entire lesson.	☐

Lesson Outline

Introduction

I. Christ in the Gospel

1. Theme of Philip's witness. Acts 8:35.
2. Healed demoniac's testimony. Mark 5:19, 20.
3. First angel's message. Rev. 14:6.
4. Hope only in Christ. Acts 4:12; Matt. 1:21.

II. The Christ-Filled Life

5. Christ in us. Gal. 2:20; 4:19; 2 Cor. 13:5, 6.
6. A shield against temptation. Rom. 8:10-14.
7. Most readable epistle. 2 Cor. 3:3.

III. Christ in Home and Health

8. Influence of parents' example. 1 Peter 3:1-4; Eph. 6:1-4.
9. Christ the Healer. Ex. 15:26, last part; Ps. 103:1-3; 147:3.
10. Youth trained for service. Isa. 54:13; 61:9; 52:7.

IV. Worldwide Witnessing

11. The great commission. Matt. 28:19, 20.
12. Witnesses for gospel's closing hours. Rev. 14:6-14.

V. Christ Our Hope for Eternity

13. The center of worship. Rev. 15:2-4.
14. "The Lamb that was slain." Rev. 5:12-14.

THE LESSON

Introduction

"Christ and Him crucified, is the message God would have His servants sound through the length and breadth of the world."—Ellen G. White, *Review and Herald*, Sept. 29, 1896.

"Never should a sermon be preached, or Bible instruction in any line be given, without pointing the hearers to 'the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.' John 1:29. Every true doctrine makes Christ the center, every precept receives force from His words. Keep before the people the cross of Calvary."—*Testimonies*, vol. 6, p. 54.

Christ in the Gospel

1. Who was the theme of Philip's witness to the Ethiopian? Acts 8:35.

NOTE.—Christ is the very center of the gospel, for the gospel is the good news that the Son of God came into the world to save sinners and that therefore we need not perish.

"To preach Jesus is the work, not only of every preacher of the gospel, but of every Christian, whether the preaching is done by word or by the witness of the daily life. Whatever the announced subject of a sermon, its burden should be Jesus Christ." —*S.D.A. Bible Commentary,* on Acts 8:35.

2. To whom was the healed demoniac to bear witness? Mark 5: 19, 20.

NOTE.—"Tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee." Love for the merciful, sin-pardoning Saviour, Jesus Christ, unseals the lips and opens the fountains of grateful praise to God.

3. What does the first of the three angels of Revelation 14 proclaim? Rev. 14:6.

NOTE.—The gospel is glad tidings for all mankind, the good news concerning Christ crucified, risen, and coming soon. It is "the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth." Rom. 1:16. This gospel is "everlasting." In every age it has been good news. It is still good news in these last days, to be attested to by those who have experienced its transforming power.

"Everywhere men are unsatisfied. They long for something to supply the need of the soul. Only One can meet that want. The need of the world, 'The Desire of all nations,' is Christ. The divine grace which He alone can impart, is as living water, purifying, refreshing, and invigorating the soul."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 187.

4. Why is it essential that we dwell upon the excellency of Christ? Acts 4:12; Matt. 1:21.

The Christ-Filled Life

5. Who is to dwell as a living presence in the heart of every Christian? Gal. 2:20; 4:19; 2 Cor. 13:5, 6.

NOTE.—We are to "examine" and "prove" our thoughts and actions to see whether or not we are in the faith. This means having Christ in us. Here is the test of Christianity. "Reprobates" is from a Greek word, *adokimoi,* which means, "those who have failed the test."

"The badge of Christianity is not an outward sign, not the wearing of a cross or a crown, but it is that which reveals the union of man with God. By the power of His grace manifested in the transformation of character the world is to be convinced that God has sent His Son as its Redeemer. No other influence that can surround the human soul has such power as the influence of an unselfish life. The strongest argument in favor of the gospel is a loving and lovable Christian."—*The Ministry of Healing,* page 470.

6. How does the indwelling presence of Christ in the heart affect the life? Rom. 8:10-14.

NOTE.—"As a shield from temptation and an inspiration to purity and truth, no other influence can equal the sense of God's presence. 'All things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.' He is 'of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity.' Hebrews 4:13; Habakkuk 1:13. This thought was Joseph's shield amidst the corruptions of Egypt. To the allurements of temptation his answer was steadfast: 'How . . . can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?' Genesis 39:9."—*Education,* page 255.

7. What did Paul declare concerning the Corinthians? 2 Cor. 3:3.

NOTE.—The most readable epistle that God can offer to the world is a transformed Christian life.

"The Christian in his business life is to represent to the world the manner in which our Lord would conduct business enterprises. In every transaction he is to make it manifest that God is his teacher. 'Holiness unto the Lord' is to be written upon daybooks and ledgers, on deeds, receipts, and bills of exchange. Those who profess to be followers of Christ, and who deal in an unrighteous manner, are bearing false witness against the character of a holy, just, and merciful God."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 556.

Christ in Home and Health

8. What influence can one Christian have in the home? 1 Peter 3:1-4; Eph. 6:1-4.

NOTE.—"*Without the word.* Literally, 'without a word,' 'without talk.' . . . Sometimes a believing wife may be tempted to argue, and to attempt to overwhelm her husband by logical evidence. Generally speaking this is not the best way to win an unbelieving husband. . . . A quiet self-restraint, a gentle, holy life of self-denial, presents an unanswerable argument, and is usually much more effective than constant talk and argument."—*S.D.A. Bible Commentary,* on 1 Peter 3:1.

An exasperated mother asked her pastor, "How can I convert my daughter? I have scolded her, I have threatened her, I have whipped her, and she still does not dress as a Christian should." The pastor inquired, "Is she otherwise a kind and obedient child?" The mother said, "Yes, she is a Christian in every other way." "Then my advice to you is to return and ask her to forgive you for the way you have acted." The astonished mother said, "Do you mean I should apologize? But why should *I* apologize? She is the one who has done wrong." The pastor explained, "She is not as wrong as you are. She has only neglected one item, but you have missed the very heart of the dress-reform message—the meek and quiet spirit of Christ."

9. Who is said to be the Source of all health and healing? Ex. 15:26, last part; Ps. 103:1-3; 147:3.

NOTE.—"Our Saviour's words, 'Come unto Me, . . . and I will give you rest,' . . . are a prescription for the healing of physical, mental, and spiritual ills. Though men have brought suffering upon themselves by their own wrongdoing, He regards them with pity. In Him they may find help. He will do great things for those who trust in Him."—*The Ministry of Healing,* page 115.

10. What hope does Isaiah hold out to Christian parents as they seek to train their children for service in the cause of God? Isa. 54:13; 61:9; 52:7.

Worldwide Witnessing

11. What worldwide commission did Christ give to all His followers? Matt. 28:19, 20.

NOTE.—"The people of the world are worshiping false gods. They are to be turned from their false worship, not by hearing denunciation of their idols, but by beholding something better. God's goodness is to be made known. 'Ye are My witnesses, saith the Lord, that I am God.'" —*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 299.

12. What great message is to circle the globe in these last days of time? Rev. 14:6-14.

NOTE.—"The time of test is just upon us, for the loud cry of the third angel has already begun in the revelation of the righteousness of Christ, the sin-pardoning Redeemer. This is the beginning of the light of the angel whose glory shall fill the whole earth."—Ellen G. White, *Review and Herald,* Nov. 22, 1892.

"Several have written to me, inquiring if the message of justification by faith is the third angel's message, and I have answered, 'It is the third angel's message in verity.'" —*Ibid.,* April 1, 1890.

Christ Our Hope for Eternity

13. In eternity who will be the center of praise, worship, and adoration? Rev. 15:2-4.

NOTE.—"Stand on the threshold of eternity and hear the gracious welcome given to those who in this life have cooperated with Christ, regarding it as a privilege and an honor to suffer for His sake. . . .

"There the redeemed ones greet those who directed them to the uplifted Saviour. They unite in praising Him who died that human beings might have the life that measures with the life of God."—*The Ministry of Healing,* page 506.

14. Why do the angelic hosts and the redeemed ascribe praise to the Lamb? Rev. 5:12-14.

NOTE.—Only the Lamb who was willing to be slain for the redemption of man is worthy of such honor as is showered upon Him in this doxology of praise.

"With joy unutterable, rulers and principalities and powers acknowledge the supremacy of the Prince of life. The angel host prostrate themselves before Him, while the glad shout fills all the courts of heaven. . . .

"Songs of triumph mingle with the music from angel harps, till heaven seems to overflow with joy and praise. Love has conquered. The lost is found. Heaven rings with voices in lofty strains proclaiming, 'Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb forever and ever.' Rev. 5:13."—*The Desire of Ages,* pages 834, 835.

> **"The study of the Bible demands our most diligent effort and persevering thought. As the miner digs for the golden treasure in the earth, so earnestly, persistently, must we seek for the treasure of God's word."—*Education,* page 189.**

Lesson 6, for February 9, 1963

Meekness and Humility in Witnessing

MEMORY VERSE: "Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." Matt. 18:3.

STUDY HELPS: "Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing," pages 6-18 (1943 ed., pp. 17-33); "Testimonies," vol. 4, pp. 84-94, 527; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

LESSON AIM: To show that meekness and humility are prerequisites to the reception of divine power for witnessing and that the proud and self-sufficient can never receive Christ or represent Him successfully.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

	Check Here
Sabbath afternoon: General survey.	☐
Sunday: Questions 1-3.	☐
Monday: Questions 4-6.	☐
Tuesday: Questions 7-10.	☐
Wednesday: Questions 11-13; begin reading Study Helps.	☐
Thursday: Finish reading Study Helps.	☐
Friday: Review entire lesson.	☐

Lesson Outline

Introduction

I. The Condescension of Jesus

1. His exalted position. Phil. 2:5, 6; Col. 2:9; John 13:13.
2. His humble position. Phil. 2:7, 8; John 1:1-3, 14.
3. His unselfish ministry. Matt. 20:20-28; Luke 17:7-10.

II. Jesus' Way With Humanity

4. At Jacob's well. John 4:5-15.
5. Commendation of Nathanael. John 1:47-49.
6. Teaching humility to disciples. John 13:3-5, 12-17.

III. Meekness and Humility

7. Moses' meekness under attack. Num. 12:1-3.
8. Isaiah humbled by God's glory. Isa. 6:1-9.
9. Saul's conversion and humility. Acts 9:1-6.
10. Lessons for church leaders. Rom. 12:10; 1 Peter 5:1-6.

IV. Witnessing With Meekness

11. Meekness for last-day witnessing. Zeph. 2:1-3.
12. God's promises to the meek. Ps. 25:9; James 1:5-8.
13. Inheritance of the meek. Matt. 5:5.

THE LESSON

Introduction

"The Majesty of heaven clothed Himself with the humility of a child. This is the character of Christ. Are we walking in His footsteps?"—*Testimonies,* vol. 5, p. 422.

"Said Jesus to His disciples: 'Learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart.' I would plead with those who have accepted the position of teachers, to first become humble learners, and ever to remain as pupils in the school of Christ to receive from the Master lessons of meekness and lowliness of heart. Humility of spirit, combined with earnest activity, will result in the salvation of souls so dearly purchased by the blood of Christ."—*Ibid.,* vol. 4, p. 527.

The Condescension of Jesus

1. What exalted position did Christ occupy? Phil. 2:5, 6; Col. 2:9; John 13:13.

NOTE.—"Christ was God essentially, and in the highest sense. He was with God from all eternity, God over all, blessed forevermore. The Lord Jesus Christ, the divine Son of God, existed from eternity, a distinct person, yet one with the Father. He was the surpassing glory of heaven. He was the commander of the heavenly intelligences, and the adoring homage of the angels was received by Him as His right. He was equal with God, infinite and omnipotent."—*The Faith I Live By,* page 46.

2. In order to save us, to what level did Christ descend? Phil. 2:7, 8; John 1:1-3, 14.

NOTE.—"He for our sakes laid aside his royal robe, stepped down from the throne in heaven, and condescended to clothe His divinity with humility, and became like one of us except in sin, that His life and character should be a pattern for all to copy, that they might have the precious gift of eternal life."—Ellen G. White, *The Youth's Instructor,* Oct. 20, 1886.

3. What vital lesson did Jesus teach His followers? Matt. 20:20-28; Luke 17:7-10.

NOTE.—"In His life and lessons, Christ has given a perfect exemplification of the unselfish ministry which has its origin in God. God does not live for Himself. By creating the world, and by upholding all

things, He is constantly ministering for others. 'He maketh His sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.' Matt. 5:45. This ideal of ministry God has committed to His Son. Jesus was given to stand at the head of humanity, that by His example He might teach what it means to minister. His whole life was under a law of service." —*The Desire of Ages,* page 649.

Jesus' Way With Humanity

4. How did Christ approach the sinful woman at Jacob's well, and with what response? John 4:5-15.

NOTE.—"Jesus saith unto her, Give Me to drink." He humbly requested a favor. His disarming manner aroused questions of inquiry in her mind. This was exactly what Jesus wanted. His answers provided for her the formula for salvation. Jesus' method of contacting a stranger by humbly asking a favor is one of the best methods of making friends and favorably influencing people.

5. How did Jesus commend the actions of an honesthearted inquirer, and with what results? John 1:47-49.

NOTE.—Honest approval of sincere, inquiring attitudes will win hearts; therefore avoid being suspicious of others' motives. "Treat every man as honest. Speak no word, do no deed, that will confirm any in unbelief."—*Gospel Workers,* page 374. Critical attitudes bespeak pride and haughtiness, which the Lcrd, as well as man, hates. Prov. 16:5.

6. What menial service did Jesus perform in order to impress upon the disciples the lesscn of true humility? John 13:3-5, 12-17.

NOTE.—"I am meek and lowly in heart," said Jesus, but His greatness was not passive in nature; it is continually active. Not in being served but in serving is greatness found. This requires the humility of a little child; unless we are converted and become as little children we cannot enter into the life of His kingdom. Matt. 18:3.

"No one was so exalted as Christ, and yet He stooped to the humblest duty. That His people might not be misled by the selfishness which dwells in the natural heart, and which strengthens by self-serving, Christ Himself set the example of humility." —*The Desire of Ages,* page 649.

"To those who receive the spirit of this service, it can never become a mere ceremonial. Its constant lesson will be, 'By love serve one another.' Gal. 5:13. In washing the feet of His disciples, Christ gave evidence that He would do any service, however humble, that would make them heirs with Him of the eternal wealth of heaven's treasure. His disciples, in performing the same rite, pledge themselves in like manner to serve their brethren."—*Ibid.,* p. 651.

Meekness and Humility

7. What was an outstanding characteristic of Moses? Num. 12:1-3.

8. What was the response of Isaiah to the vision of the Lord? Isa. 6:1-9.

9. How did a vision of the Lord Jesus Christ affect Saul when he was on a mission to persecute the church? Acts 9:1-6.

10. What spirit do the Scriptures enjoin in all relations of church leaders and people? Rom. 12:10; 1 Peter 5:1-6.

NOTE.—"Let not any human being consider that he is above his fellow workers because greater responsibilities are involved in his branch of the work. If he is . . . seeking for the power that comes alone from God, that he may represent, not himself, not his imperfections in selfish and

fraudulent practices, but the truth in righteousness, he will not possess a vestige of pride or self-importance; but will be weighted with the spirit of wisdom from God."—*Testimonies to Ministers,* page 357.

> "Through faith in Christ, every deficiency of character may be supplied, every defilement cleansed, every fault corrected, every excellence developed."—*Education,* page 257.

Witnessing With Meekness

11. How may we obtain the meekness and humility so essential in God's service? Zeph. 2:1-3.

12. What source of wisdom and judgment is available only to the meek and humble? Ps. 25:9; James 1:5-8.

NOTE.—"Unless we humble our hearts before God, we shall not know His will."—*Testimonies to Ministers,* page 500. The humble Christian will seek the counsel of God, and God will guide him. Ps. 73:24; 32:8. He will also counsel with his brethren (Prov. 24:6) and take rebuke if necessary (Ps. 141:5). He will rely upon God as his leader and source of strength. Thus he will connect his poor ignorance with the wisdom of sanctified earthly minds and the infinite mind of God. Meekness prepares the way for the reception of that wisdom and grace without which no man can exert an influence for his Master. The proud and haughty are not in a position to be used by God. James 4:6.

"The Lord can work most effectually through those who are most sensible of their own insufficiency, and who will rely upon Him as their leader and source of strength. He will make them strong by uniting their weakness to His might, and wise by connecting their ignorance with His wisdom."—*Patriarchs and Prophets,* page 553.

13. Who will be privileged to dwell in the earth made new? Matt. 5:5.

NOTE.—"Through self-exaltation our first parents lost the kingdom entrusted to them; through meekness it may be regained. . . .

"The 'meek' are to 'inherit the earth.' It is certain that the 'meek' do not now inherit the earth, but rather the proud. Nevertheless, in due time the kingdoms of this world will be given to the saints, to those who have learned the grace of humility (cf. Dan. 7:27). Eventually, says Christ, those who humble themselves—those who learn meekness—will be exalted (see on Matt. 23:12)."—*S.D.A. Bible Commentary,* on Matt. 5:5.

SOUND LESSONS FOR THE BLIND

Free taped senior Sabbath school lessons are now available for the blind. For further information write to: Christian Record, Tape Department, Box 3666, Lincoln, Nebraska. Inform your blind relatives or friends immediately. This is a real opportunity for them to enjoy the weekly Sabbath school lessons.

The Place of Prayer in Witnessing

MEMORY VERSE: "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints." Eph. 6:18.

STUDY HELPS: "Steps to Christ," chapter, "The Privilege of Prayer;" "Testimonies," vol. 7, pp. 9-28; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

LESSON AIM: To show that in the place of prayer the greatest battles for souls are fought and won, and that prayer—public and private—is the stronghold of all God's witnesses.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

	Check Here
Sabbath afternoon: General survey.	☐
Sunday: Questions 1-4.	☐
Monday: Questions 5-7; begin reading Study Helps.	☐
Tuesday: Questions 8, 9; read further from Study Helps.	☐
Wednesday: Questions 10-12.	☐
Thursday: Finish reading Study Helps.	☐
Friday: Review entire lesson.	☐

Lesson Outline

Introduction

I. Good Soldiers of Jesus Christ

1. To expect opposition. Matt. 10:16, 17, 22, 34-36; 5:10-12.
2. Fight against a strong foe. Eph. 6:12.
3. Weapons for battle. Eph. 6:10, 11, 13-18.
4. Endure hardness. 2 Tim. 2:3, 4.

II. A Refuge in Prayer

5. The name of the Lord. Prov. 18:10.
6. Jesus' example. Matt. 14:23; 26:36; Mark 1:35.

III. What Prayer Does for Witnesses

7. For Moses. Ex. 34:28-30.
8. The angels cooperate. Heb. 1:14.
9. Angel protection. Ps. 34:7.

IV. Pray Much—Receive Much

10. Prayer changes the life. Gen. 32: 24-28.
11. Man's extremity—God's opportunity. Ps. 50:15; 76:10.
12. God's sure promises. Matt. 7:7-11; 24:35; Heb. 6:10-20.

THE LESSON

Introduction

"Personal effort for others should be preceded by much secret prayer; for it requires great wisdom to understand the science of saving souls. Before communicating with men, commune with Christ. At the throne of heavenly grace obtain a preparation for ministering to the people."—*Christ's Object Lessons*, page 149.

Good Soldiers of Jesus Christ

1. How did Jesus prepare His disciples for the opposition they would encounter in their public ministry? Matt. 10:16, 17, 22, 34-36; 5:10-12.

NOTE.—In an unpitying confederacy, evil men and evil angels arrayed themselves against the Prince of Peace. His every word and act revealed divine compassion, and His unlikeness to the world provoked the bitterest hostility.

"So it will be with all who will live godly in Christ Jesus. Persecution and reproach await all who are imbued with the Spirit of Christ. The character of the persecution changes with the times, but the principle—the spirit that underlies it—is the same that has slain the chosen of the Lord ever since the days of Abel."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 576.

2. What forces are arrayed against the followers of Christ? Eph. 6:12.

3. What protection and weapons are provided? Eph. 6:10, 11, 13-18.

4. What counsel did Paul give to young Timothy? 2 Tim. 2:3, 4.

NOTE.—Weymouth translates verse 3: "As a good soldier of Christ Jesus accept your share of suffering."—*The New Testament in Modern Speech,* by Richard Francis Weymouth, 5th ed. Copyright by Harper & Brothers. Used by Permission.

The suffering of Christ's followers develops endurance, patience, faith, and love. This suffering is the result of the trial of their faith (1 Peter 4:12-16), which includes reproach for living the Christ life (2 Tim. 3:11, 12) and the persecution that is the result of Satanic opposition to the truth of God.

"Through trial and persecution the glory —the character—of God is revealed in His chosen ones. The believers in Christ, hated and persecuted by the world, are educated and disciplined in the school of Christ. On earth they walk in narrow paths; they are purified in the furnace of affliction. They follow Christ through sore conflicts; they endure self denial and experience bitter disappointments; but thus they learn the guilt and woe of sin, and they look upon it with abhorrence. Being partakers of Christ's sufferings, they can look beyond the gloom to the glory, saying, 'I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.' "—*The Acts of the Apostles,* pages 576, 577.

A Refuge in Prayer

5. To what stronghold may God's righteous ones flee? Prov. 18:10.

NOTE.—"Thank God, we are not left alone. He who 'so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life' (John 3:16), will not desert us in the battle with the adversary of God and man. 'Behold,' He says, 'I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.' Luke 10:19.

"Live in contact with the living Christ, and He will hold you firmly by a hand that will never let go. Know and believe the love that God has to us, and you are secure; that love is a fortress impregnable to all the delusions and assaults of Satan. 'The name of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.' " —*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing,* page 119.

6. Where did Jesus often go for spiritual succor? Matt. 14:23; 26:36; Mark 1:35.

NOTE.—"Jesus Himself, while He dwelt among men, was often in prayer. Our Saviour identified Himself with our needs and weakness, in that He became a suppliant, a petitioner, seeking from His Father fresh supplies of strength, that He might come forth braced for duty and trial. He is our example in all things."—*Steps to Christ,* page 93.

What Prayer Does for Witnesses

7. What experience came to Moses as he communed with God? Ex. 34: 28-30.

NOTE.—The shining face was but a reflection of the inward glory of character. "Prayer is not to work any change in God; it is to bring us into harmony with God." —*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 143. It is the glory-filled, transformed life that God uses in successful witnessing.

8. What are the angels said to be? Heb. 1:14.

NOTE.—"Today, as verily as in the days of the apostles, heavenly messengers are passing through the length and breadth of the land, seeking to comfort the sorrowing, to protect the impenitent, to win the hearts of men to Christ. We cannot see them personally; nevertheless they are with us, guiding, directing, protecting."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* pages 152, 153.

"The miracles of Christ for the afflicted and suffering were wrought by the power of God through the ministration of the angels. And it is through Christ, by the ministration of His heavenly messengers, that every blessing comes from God to us." —*The Desire of Ages,* page 143.

"It is the work of the angels to come close to the tried, the suffering, the tempted. They labor untiringly in behalf of those for whom Christ died. When sinners are led to give themselves to the Saviour, angels bear the tidings heavenward, and there is great rejoicing among the heavenly host. . . . A report is borne to heaven of every successful effort on our part to dispel the darkness and to spread abroad the knowledge of Christ. As the deed is recounted before the Father, joy thrills through all the heavenly host."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* pages 153, 154.

9. How do the angels protect God's faithful witnesses? Ps. 34:7. Compare Dan. 6:16-22; Acts 12:5-11.

NOTE.—"Our past life was presented before me, and I was shown that Satan had sought in various ways to destroy our usefulness; that *many* times he had laid his plans to remove us from the work of God; he had come in different ways, and through different agencies, to accomplish his purposes; but through the ministration of holy angels he had been defeated. I saw that in our journeying from place to place, he had *frequently* placed his evil angels in our path to cause accident which would destroy our lives; but holy angels were sent upon the ground to deliver. Several accidents have placed my husband and myself in great peril, and our preservation has been wonderful."—*Testimonies,* vol. 1, pp. 346, 347. Italics supplied.

Pray Much—Receive Much

10. What change took place in Jacob as he wrestled with God in prayer? Gen. 32:24-28.

NOTE.—"When in faith we take hold of His strength, He will change, wonderfully change, the most hopeless, discouraging outlook. He will do this for the glory of His name."—*Prophets and Kings,* page 260.

"One petition offered up to God in faith has more power than a wealth of human intellect."—*Testimonies,* vol. 2, p. 279.

11. What help is available to those in great trouble? Ps. 50:15; 76:10.

NOTE.—"God has always wrought for His people in their greatest extremity, when there seemed the least hope that ruin could be averted. The designs of wicked men, the enemies of the church, are subject to His power and overruling providence. He can move upon the hearts of statesmen; the wrath of the turbulent and disaffected, the haters of God, His truth, and His people can be turned aside, even as the rivers of water are turned, if He orders it thus."—*Testimonies,* vol. 5, pp. 452, 453.

12. How sure of fulfillment are God's promises? Matt. 7:7-11; 24:35; Heb. 6:10-20.

NOTE.—"There is no danger that the Lord will neglect the prayers of His people. The danger is that in temptation and trial they will become discouraged, and fail

to persevere in prayer."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 175.

"Then press your petition to the Father in the name of Jesus. God will honor that name.

"The rainbow round about the throne is an assurance that God is true, that in Him is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. . . . When we come to Him confessing our unworthiness and sin, He has pledged Himself to give heed to our cry. The honor of His throne is staked for the fulfillment of His word unto us."—*Ibid.,* p. 148.

> "Let the teachers enter, heart and soul, into the subject matter of the lesson. Let them lay plans to make a practical application of the lesson, and awaken an interest in the minds and hearts." —*Counsels on Sabbath School Work,* pages 113, 114.

Lesson 8, for February 23, 1963

Golden-Rule Religion

MEMORY VERSE: "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets." Matt. 7:12.

STUDY HELPS: "Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing," pages 134-137 (1943 ed., pp. 192-197); "Testimonies," vol. 3, pp. 511-513; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

LESSON AIM: To show that the success of our Christian witness will be in direct proportion to our ability to treat others as we would like to be treated ourselves.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

	Check Here
Sabbath afternoon: General survey.	☐
Sunday: Questions 1-5.	☐
Monday: Questions 6-9.	☐
Tuesday: Questions 10-13.	☐
Wednesday: Begin reading Study Helps.	☐
Thursday: Finish reading Study Helps.	☐
Friday: Review entire lesson.	☐

Lesson Outline

Introduction

I. Humanity Needs Understanding

1. Cain's evasive question. Gen. 4:9.
2. The golden rule. Matt. 7:12.
3. Job and his self-righteous friends. Job 16:2-5.
4. God's just and merciful ways with David. 2 Sam. 24:10-14.
5. Jesus' parable of the great debtor. Matt. 18:23-35.

II. Love and Understanding

6. The good Samaritan. Luke 10:25-37.
7. God's shepherding love and care. Isa. 63:7-9; Jer. 3:15; 23:4.
8. His mercy and justice. Heb. 4:15, 16.
9. Invitation to the thirsty and weary. Isa. 55:1-3; Matt. 11:28-30.

III. Other Ways of Witnessing

10. Considering others. Phil. 2:4; 1 Cor. 10:24.
11. Dealing with troublemakers. 2 Cor. 2:5-8.
12. Bearing others' burdens. Gal. 6:1, 2; Rom. 15:1-3.
13. Unselfishness rewarded. 1 Kings 3:9-12; 4:29.

THE LESSON

Introduction

"The standard of the golden rule is the true standard of Christianity; anything short of it is a deception. A religion that leads men to place a low estimate upon human beings, whom Christ has esteemed of such value as to give Himself for them; a religion that would lead us to be careless of human needs, sufferings, or rights, is a spurious religion. . . .

"Search heaven and earth, and there is no truth revealed more powerful than that which is made manifest in works of mercy to those who need our sympathy and aid. This is the truth as it is in Jesus. When those who profess the name of Christ shall practice the principles of the golden rule, the same power will attend the gospel as in apostolic times."—*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing,* pages 136, 137.

Humanity Needs Understanding

1. What evasive question did Cain ask of the Lord? Gen. 4:9.

NOTE.—"There has been too much of a spirit to ask, 'Am I my brother's keeper?' Said the angel: 'Yea, *thou art* thy brother's keeper. Thou shouldest have a watchful care for thy brother, be interested for his welfare, and cherish a kind, loving spirit toward him. Press together, press together.' God designed that man should be open-hearted and honest, without affectation, meek, humble, with simplicity. This is the principle of heaven; God ordered it so. But poor, frail man has sought out something different—to follow his own way, and carefully attend to his own self-interest."—*Testimonies,* vol. 1, pp. 113, 114.

2. What divine rule has been given to regulate human relationships? Matt. 7:12.

NOTE.—Goodspeed renders this verse, "You must always treat other people as you would like to have them treat you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."—*The New Testament, an American Translation,* by Edgar J. Goodspeed, copyright 1923 by the University of Chicago Press. Used by permission.

3. How would Job have treated his self-righteous friends if they had been in his place? Job 16:2-5.

NOTE.—"Job's professed friends were miserable comforters, making his case more bitter and unbearable, and Job was not guilty as they supposed."—*Testimonies to Ministers,* page 350.

" 'If I were in your place,' Job declares, in effect, 'I would not act as you have acted. I would comfort and encourage you.' "—*S.D.A. Bible Commentary,* on Job 16:5.

"The inhumanity of man toward man is our greatest sin. Many think that they are representing the justice of God while they wholly fail of representing His tenderness and His great love. Often the ones whom they meet with sternness and severity are under the stress of temptation. Satan is wrestling with these souls, and harsh, unsympathetic words discourage them and cause them to fall a prey to the tempter's power."—*The Ministry of Healing,* page 163.

4. After David had sinned in numbering Israel, what choices did God offer him? What did he choose, and why? 2 Sam. 24:10-14.

NOTE.—"I am in great distress," is the R.S.V. translation of verse 14. "Let us fall into the hand of the Lord, for His mercy

is great; but let me not fall into the hand of man." Man is too often cruel and unreasoning in administering justice. It is this element in human nature that points up the urgent need for golden-rule religion. God is both just and merciful. David would trust himself and his people to God, but he was afraid of man.

5. What lesson does the parable of the great debtor teach us? Matt. 18: 23:35.

NOTE.—"The great lesson of the parable lies in the contrast between God's compassion and man's hardheartedness; in the fact that God's forgiving mercy is to be the measure of our own. 'Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellow servant, even as I had pity on thee?'" —*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 251.

Love and Understanding

6. In reply to the question, "Who is my neighbor?" what incident did Jesus relate? Luke 10:25-37.

NOTE.—The good Samaritan knew more about real religion than the priest and Levite. His act of mercy was but the natural outworking of the principle of the golden rule. He knew he wouldn't want to be in the place of the injured man, so he quickly changed the scene of suffering to one of comfort and relief. He was a good neighbor to a stranger.

7. What did the Lord do for Israel? What promise of sympathetic guidance did He make? Isa. 63:7-9; Jer. 3:15; 23:4.

NOTE.—Christ practiced the golden rule when He came from heaven to earth and assumed human nature. By becoming one with us and bearing our infirmities, He shared our problems and entered into our feelings.

8. Why is Jesus able to feel the infirmities of humanity? Heb. 4:15, 16. Compare Isa. 11:1-3, 4, first part.

NOTE.—"He who seeks to transform humanity must himself understand humanity. Only through sympathy, faith, and love can men be reached and uplifted. Here Christ stands revealed as the Master Teacher; of all that ever dwelt on the earth, He alone has perfect understanding of the human soul. . . .

"Christ alone had experience in all the sorrows and temptations that befall human beings. Never another of woman born was so fiercely beset by temptation; never another bore so heavy a burden of the world's sin and pain. Never was there another whose sympathies were so broad or so tender. A sharer in all the experiences of humanity, He could feel not only for, but with, every burdened and tempted and struggling one."—*Education,* page 78.

9. What invitations are extened to all? Isa. 55:1-3; Matt. 11:28-30.

NOTE.—"Go to Him, saying: 'Lord, my burdens are too heavy for me to carry. Wilt Thou bear them for me?' And He will answer: 'I will take them. "With everlasting kindness will I have mercy upon thee." I will take your sins, and will give you peace. Banish no longer your self-respect; for I have bought you with the price of My own blood. You are Mine. Your weakened will I will strengthen. Your remorse for sin I will remove.'"—*Testimonies to Ministers,* pages 519, 520.

Have we experienced the loving-kindness of the Lord in His dealing with us? Shall we not reveal the same spirit of patience and charity to others for whom He died?

Other Ways of Witnessing

10. How will the Christian relate himself to the one whom he seeks to save? Phil. 2:4; 1 Cor. 10:24. Compare Luke 6:31.

NOTE.—"In your association with others, put yourself in their place. Enter into their feelings, their difficulties, their disappointments, their joys, and their sorrows. Identify yourself with them, and then do to them as, were you to exchange places with them, you would wish them to deal with you."—*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing,* page 134.

"We become too easily discouraged over the souls who do not at once respond to our efforts. Never should we cease to labor for a soul while there is one gleam of hope. Precious souls cost our self-sacrificing Redeemer too dear a price to be lightly given up to the tempter's power.

"We need to put ourselves in the place of the tempted ones. Consider the power of heredity, the influence of evil associations and surroundings, the power of wrong habits. Can we wonder that under such influences many become degraded? Can we wonder that they should be slow to respond to efforts for their uplifting?"—*The Ministry of Healing,* page 168.

11. What should be our attitude toward those who cause grief and trouble? 2 Cor. 2:5-8.

NOTE.—"The soul that is conscious of sincere and honest intentions finds he has less to fear from God than from men who have hearts of steel. The soul wrenched with human agony turns away from the misjudgment and condemnation of men who cannot read the heart, yet have taken it upon them to judge their fellowmen. He turns to One who is without a shadow of misapprehension, One who knows all the impulses of the heart, who is acquainted with all the circumstances of temptation. God knows every deed of the past life, and yet in consideration of all this, the troubled soul is ready to trust his case with God, knowing that He is a God of mercy and compassion."—*Testimonies to Ministers,* page 354.

> **"The Lord desires that those who are engaged in the Sabbath school work should be missionaries, able to go forth to the towns and villages that surround the church, and give the light of life to those who sit in darkness."—*Testimonies on Sabbath School Work,* page 74.**

12. How can we fulfill the law of Christ? Gal. 6:1, 2; Rom. 15:1-3.

13. What did God give to Solomon in answer to his request? 1 Kings 3: 9-12; 4:29.

Lesson 9, for March 2, 1963

The Witness of God's Word

MEMORY VERSE: "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever." 1 Peter 1:23.

STUDY HELPS: "Education," pages 185-192; "Christ's Object Lessons," chapter "The Sower Went Forth to Sow;" "The Great Controversy," chapters 37, 15; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

LESSON AIM: To show that the word of God is the vital agent in the conversion of men and women to God, and that the duty of every witness is to become so well acquainted with the Bible that he will know how to use it skillfully in winning souls.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

	Check Here
Sabbath afternoon: General survey.	☐
Sunday: Questions 1-5.	☐
Monday: Questions 6, 7; begin reading Study Helps.	☐
Tuesday: Questions 8-10.	☐
Wednesday: Questions 11-13; read further from Study Helps.	☐
Thursday: Finish reading Study Helps.	☐
Friday: Review entire lesson.	☐

Lesson Outline

Introduction

I. Power of God's Word

1. Like a hammer and a sword. Jer. 23:29; Heb. 4:12.
2. Word of God produces new birth. 1 Peter 1:23.
3. Likened to seed. Luke 8:11.
4. Must be mixed with faith. Heb. 4:1, 2.
5. Holy Spirit essential. John 3:3-8.

II. Receiving God's Power

6. Ask. Matt. 7:7-11; Mark 11:24.
7. Faith and confidence. John 11:41, last part; 1 John 5:14, 15.

III. Practical Applications

8. The jailer's conversion. Acts 16:25-34.
9. Healing at Bethesda. John 5:1-9.
10. Those closest to Jesus. Luke 8:19-21; 11:27, 28.

IV. Preparing the Heart for the Word

11. Soil conditions vary. Matt. 13:3-8, 23.
12. Heart to be cultivated for God. Prov. 23:26, first part; 4:20-24.
13. Promise of a spiritual harvest. Isa. 55:10, 11.

THE LESSON

Introduction

"All should become Bible students. Christ commanded His followers, 'Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of Me.' Peter exhorts us, 'But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts; and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.'

"Those who are truly converted must become more and more intelligent in their understanding of the Scriptures, that they may be able to speak words of light and salvation to those who are in darkness and perishing in their sins.

"We are to give the last warning of God to men, and what should be our earnestness in studying the Bible, and our zeal in spreading the light! Let every soul who has received the divine illumination seek to impart it. Let the workers go from house to house, opening the Bible to the people, circulating the publications, telling others of the light that has blessed their own souls."—*Christian Service,* page 143.

Power of God's Word

1. To what do the Scriptures liken God's word? Jer. 23:29; Heb. 4:12.

NOTE.—The power in God's word is not wasted. It affects every life directly or indirectly. For the Christian it "is *profitable* for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works." 2 Tim. 3:16, 17.

2. By what agency is the new birth effected? 1 Peter 1:23.

NOTE.—"Apart from the 'word of God' man can expect no moral transformation, no spiritual regeneration."—*S.D.A. Bible Commentary,* on 1 Peter 1:23.

"The Scriptures are the great agency in the transformation of character."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 100.

3. To what did Jesus liken God's word? Luke 8:11.

NOTE.—"The word of God is the seed. Every seed has in itself a germinating principle. In it the life of the plant is enfolded. So there is life in God's word. . . . In every command and in every promise of the word of God is the power, the very life of God, by which the command may be fulfilled and the promise realized. He who by faith receives the word is receiving the very life and character of God."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 38.

"One sentence of Scripture is of more value than ten thousand of man's ideas or arguments."—*Testimonies,* vol. 7, p. 71.

4. Why did not the word of God benefit many in ancient Israel? Heb. 4:1, 2.

NOTE.—"Without faith it is impossible to receive the word. 'He that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.' Heb. 11:6. . . .

"He [the true believer] trembles at the word; for to him it is a living reality. He opens his understanding and his heart to receive it."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 59.

5. What agency operates in the rebirth of a soul? John 3:3-8.

NOTE.—"While we are to preach the word, we cannot impart the power that will quicken the soul, and cause righteousness and praise to spring forth. In the preaching of the word there must be the working of an agency beyond any human power. Only through the divine Spirit will the word be living and powerful to renew the soul unto eternal life."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 64.

Receiving God's Power

6. How may we obtain the blessing of God? Matt. 7:7-11; Mark 11:24.

NOTE.—"Every promise in the word of God furnishes us with subject matter for prayer, presenting the pledged word of Jehovah as our assurance."—*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing,* page 133.

"God stands back of every promise He has made. With your Bible in your hands say, I have done as Thou hast said. I present Thy promise, 'Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.' "—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 147.

"We are to *believe* that we receive."—*Education,* page 258. Italics supplied.

"Say, 'I will believe, I do believe that God is my helper,' and you will find that you are triumphant in God."—*Testimonies,* vol. 5, p. 514.

7. How did Jesus show that He believed that God answered His petitions? What should be our confidence? John 11:41, last part; 1 John 5:14, 15.

NOTE.—"For any gift He has promised, we may ask; then we are to believe that we receive, and return thanks to God that we have received."—*Education,* page 258.

"Our part is to receive God's word and to hold it fast, yielding ourselves fully to its control, and its purpose in us will be accomplished."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 61.

We are to claim for ourselves God's promise and we are to teach others how to believe and hold fast to God's word.

Practical Applications

8. What experience came to the Philippian jailer? Acts 16:25-34.

NOTE.—The jailer asked for guidance, believed God's word, and was baptized. Great was his rejoicing as, through faith, he claimed God's promise and obtained the blessing promised by God.

9. How did healing come to the cripple at the pool of Bethesda? John 5: 1-9.

NOTE.—Healing came when the cripple (1) heard the word; (2) believed the word; (3) acted upon the word. Salvation is in the word, but it is not effectual until the word is received in the heart as the "word of God." 1 Thess. 2:13. The baptism of the Ethiopian eunuch (Acts 8:26-38) and the rebaptism of the Ephesian disciples of John the Baptist (Acts 19:1-7) are examples of conversions wrought through belief of the word.

10. Who are said to be closest and nearest to Christ? Luke 8:19-21; 11:27, 28.

Preparing the Heart for the Word

11. How did Jesus imply that preparing the soil of the heart is vital to receiving the word? Matt. 13:3-8, 23.

NOTE.—"That with which the parable of the sower chiefly deals is the effect produced on the growth of the seed by the soil into which it is cast."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 43.

"The garden of the heart must be cultivated. . . . The sowers of the seed have a work to do in preparing the hearts to receive the gospel."—*Ibid.,* pp. 56, 57.

Criticizing, belittling, condemning, denouncing, judging, assuming a "holier-than-thou" attitude—all tend to close the heart of the individual we hope to win to Christ. To read the Bible to closed hearts is wasting seed. Every witness must prepare the soil of the heart. This can be done by (1) social kindness, (2) attention to the needs of the sick, (3) courteous neighborliness, (4) welfare and temperance influences, (5) loaning or giving away noncontroversial literature.

> **"There is nothing more calculated to strengthen the intellect than the study of the Scriptures."—*Steps to Christ,* page 90.**

12. What invitation does God extend to the sinner? Prov. 23:26, first part; 4:20-24.

NOTE.—"Our first work is with the heart."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 97. "The battle which we have to fight—the greatest battle that was ever fought by man—is the surrender of self to the will of God, the yielding of the heart to the sovereignty of love."—*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing,* page 141.

"Remember that the Lord Jesus is the Master Worker. . . . He puts into your minds words that will reach hearts."—*Testimonies,* vol. 9, p. 41.

13. What wonderful promise of success does God give? Isa. 55:10, 11.

NOTE.—"We entreat the heralds of the gospel of Christ never to become discouraged in the work, never to consider the most hardened sinner beyond the reach of the grace of God. Such may accept the truth in the love of it and become the salt of the earth. He who turns the hearts of men as the rivers of water are turned can bring the most selfish, sin-hardened soul to surrender to Christ. Is aught too hard for God to do? 'My word,' He says, 'shall not return unto Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.' "—*Testimonies,* vol. 4, p. 537.

IT IS TIME TO BE MAKING DEFINITE PLANS FOR A LIBERAL OFFERING ON THIRTEENTH SABBATH—MARCH 30

Influence of a Godly Life

MEMORY VERSE: "Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Matt. 5:15, 16.

STUDY HELPS: "Education," pages 262-271; "The Ministry of Healing," pages 483-502; "Christ's Object Lessons," pages 339-342 (1923 ed. pages 343-345); "Testimonies," vol. 4, p. 143; "Prophets and Kings," page 94; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

LESSON AIM: To show that right example and a godly life will speak with more telling power than all the right doctrine in the world.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

	Check Here
Sabbath afternoon: General survey.	☐
Sunday: Questions 1-3.	☐
Monday: Questions 4-6; begin reading Study Helps.	☐
Tuesday: Questions 7-10.	☐
Wednesday: Questions 11-13.	☐
Thursday: Finish reading Study Helps.	☐
Friday: Review entire lesson.	☐

Lesson Outline

Introduction

I. Our Great Need

1. The knowledge of God. John 17:3.
2. "The savor of His knowledge." 2 Cor. 2:14-16.
3. Infilling of His Spirit. Eph. 3:16-19.

II. Experience of Godly Enoch

4. Enoch walked with God. Gen. 5:22, first part.
5. A preacher of righteousness. Jude 14, 15.
6. He pleased God. Heb. 11:5; Gen. 5:24.

III. Experience of John the Baptist

7. One of the greatest prophets. Matt. 11:11, first part.
8. A preacher of repentance. Matt. 3:1-3; Luke 3:1-6.
9. John's self-abnegation. John 3:25-30.
10. Testifies to Jesus' glory. John 3:31-36.

IV. The Elijah Message

11. The angel's prophecy. Luke 1:13-17.
12. Fulfilled in John. Mal. 4:5, 6; Matt. 11:7-11, 14, 15.
13. A pure church. Rev. 14:12.

THE LESSON

Introduction

"It is the purpose of God to glorify Himself in His people before the world. He expects those who bear the name of Christ to represent Him in thought, word, and deed. Their thoughts are to be pure and their words noble and uplifting, drawing those around them nearer the Saviour. The religion of Christ is to be interwoven with

all that they do and say. Their every business transaction is to be fragrant with the presence of God."—*Testimonies,* vol. 9, p. 21.

Our Great Need

1. What knowledge is essential for eternal life? John 17:3.

2. What did Paul declare Christians to be? 2 Cor. 2:14-16. Compare 2 Cor. 4:5-7.

NOTE.—"The knowledge of God and of Jesus Christ, expressed in character, is an exaltation above everything that is esteemed in earth or in heaven. It is the very highest education. It is the key that opens the portals of the heavenly city. This knowledge it is God's purpose that all who put on Christ by baptism shall possess. And it is the duty of God's servants to set before these souls the privilege of their high calling in Christ Jesus."—*Testimonies,* vol. 6, p. 97.

3. How did Paul express the high standard of Christian perfection? Eph. 3:16-19.

NOTE.—" 'Exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think,' will be given unto us, 'the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,' that we 'may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge,' that we may be 'filled with all the fullness of God.' Ephesians 3:20; 1:17; 3:18, 19.

"This is the knowledge which God is inviting us to receive, and beside which all else is vanity and nothingness."—*Testimonies,* vol. 8, p. 335.

Experience of Godly Enoch

4. What was Enoch's experience with God? Gen. 5:22, first part.

NOTE.—"Enoch's walk with God was not in a trance or a vision, but in all the duties of his daily life. He did not become a hermit, shutting himself entirely from the world; for he had, in the world, a work to do for God. In the family and in his intercourse with men, as a husband and father, a friend, a citizen, he was the steadfast, unwavering servant of God."—*Testimonies,* vol. 8, pp. 329, 330.

"The experience of Enoch and of John the Baptist represents what ours should be. Far more than we do, we need to study the lives of these men—he who was translated to heaven without seeing death, and he who, before Christ's first advent, was called to prepare the way of the Lord, to make His paths straight."—*Ibid.,* p. 329.

5. What did Enoch do with the light God gave him? Jude 14, 15.

NOTE.—"As the scenes of the future were opened to his view, Enoch became a preacher of righteousness, bearing God's message to all who would hear the words of warning. In the land where Cain had sought to flee from the divine presence, the prophet of God made known the wonderful scenes that had passed before his vision. 'Behold,' he declared, 'the Lord cometh with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds.' Jude 14, 15.

"The power of God that wrought with His servant was felt by those who heard. Some gave heed to the warning and renounced their sins, but the multitudes mocked at the solemn message. The servants of God are to bear a similar message to the world in the last days, and it will also be received with unbelief and mockery."—*Testimonies,* vol. 8, p. 330.

6. What testimony is borne of Enoch? Heb. 11:5; Gen. 5:24.

Experience of John the Baptist

7. What did Jesus say of John the Baptist? Matt. 11:11, first part. Compare John 1:6-8.

8. What message did John preach? Matt. 3:1-3; Luke 3:1-6. Compare Isa. 40:3-8.

NOTE.—"It was God's message that he was to declare. It was in God's power and His righteousness that he was to stand. He was ready to go forth as Heaven's messenger, unawed by the human, because he had looked upon the Divine. He could stand fearless in the presence of earthly monarchs because with trembling he had bowed before the King of kings."—*Testimonies,* vol. 8, pp. 331, 332.

"With no elaborate arguments or finespun theories did John declare his message. Startling and stern, yet full of hope, his voice was heard from the wilderness: 'Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Matthew 3:2. With a new, strange power it moved the people. The whole nation was stirred. Multitudes flocked to the wilderness. . . .

"In this age, just prior to the second coming of Christ in the clouds of heaven, such a work as that of John is to be done. God calls for men who will prepare a people to stand in the great day of the Lord. The message preceding the public ministry of Christ was: 'Repent, publicans and sinners; repent, Pharisees and Sadducees; "repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."' As a people who believe in Christ's soon appearing, we have a message to bear —'Prepare to meet thy God.' Amos 4:12. Our message must be as direct as was the message of John. He rebuked kings for their iniquity. Notwithstanding that his life was imperiled, he did not hesitate to declare God's word. And our work in this age must be done as faithfully."—*Ibid.,* pp. 332, 333.

9. How did John show selflessness in his witness for Christ? John 3: 25-30.

NOTE.—"Looking in faith to the Redeemer, John had risen to the height of self-abnegation. He sought not to attract men to himself, but to lift their thoughts higher and still higher, until they should rest upon the Lamb of God. He himself had been only a voice, a cry in the wilderness. Now with joy he accepted silence and obscurity, that the eyes of all might be turned to the Light of life.

"Those who are true to their calling as messengers for God will not seek honor for themselves. Love for self will be swallowed up in love for Christ. They will recognize that it is their work to proclaim, as did John the Baptist: 'Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.' John 1:29. They will lift up Jesus, and with Him humanity will be lifted up." —*Testimonies,* vol. 8, pp. 333, 334.

10. How did John bear witness to the Saviour's mission? John 3:31-36.

NOTE.—"The soul of the prophet, emptied of self, was filled with the light of the Divine. In words that were almost a counterpart of the words of Christ Himself, he bore witness to the Saviour's glory. 'He that cometh from above,' he said, 'is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: He that cometh from heaven is above all. . . . For He whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto Him.' John 3:31-34.

"In this glory of Christ all His followers are to share. The Saviour could say: 'I seek not Mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent Me.' John 5:30. 'And,' declared John, 'the Father giveth not the Spirit by measure unto Him.' So with the followers of Christ. We can receive of heaven's light only as we are willing to be emptied of self. We can discern the character of God, and accept Christ by faith, only as we consent to the bringing into captivity of every thought to the obedience of Christ. To all who do this, the Holy Spirit is given without measure. In Christ 'dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in Him.' Colossians 2:9, 10."—*Testimonies,* vol. 8, p. 334.

The Elijah Message

11. What did the angel of the Lord prophesy of John's life and service? Luke 1:13-17.

NOTE.—"John the Baptist went forth in the spirit and power of Elijah to prepare the way of the Lord and to turn the people to the wisdom of the just."—*Testimonies,* vol. 3, pp. 61, 62.

12. What prophecy was fulfilled in part in John's work? Mal. 4:5, 6; Matt. 11:7-11, 14, 15.

NOTE.—"John . . . was a representative of those living in these last days to whom God has entrusted sacred truths to present before the people to prepare the way for the second appearing of Christ."—*Testimonies,* vol. 3, pp. 61, 62.

13. What is said of the church which prepares the way for Jesus' coming? Rev. 14:12. Compare Eph. 5:27; 1 Cor. 1:4-8.

NOTE.—"Those who are to prepare the way for the second coming of Christ are represented by faithful Elijah, as John came in the spirit of Elijah to prepare the way for Christ's first advent. The great subject of reform is to be agitated, and the public mind is to be stirred. Temperance in all things is to be connected with the message, to turn the people of God from their idolatry, their gluttony, and their extravagance in dress and other things."—*Testimonies,* vol. 3, p. 62.

"As a part of religious service, singing is as much an act of worship as is prayer. Indeed, many a song is prayer."—*Education,* page 168.

Lesson 11, for March 16, 1963

Hindrances to Witnessing

MEMORY VERSE: "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." Heb. 12:1, 2.

STUDY HELPS: "The Great Controversy," chapter 32; "The Acts of the Apostles," pages 593-602; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

LESSON AIM: To (1) expose Satan's snares and hindrances to successful service, (2) show that we are not unmindful of his devices, and (3) give assurance that we may surmount them victoriously.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

	Check Here
Sabbath afternoon: General survey.	☐
Sunday: Questions 1, 2; begin reading Study Helps.	☐
Monday: Questions 3-5.	☐
Tuesday: Questions 6, 7; read further from Study Helps.	☐
Wednesday: Questions 8-11.	☐
Thursday: Questions 12, 13; read further from Study Helps.	☐
Friday: Finish reading Study Helps, and review entire lesson.	☐

Lesson Outline

Introduction

I. The Love of the World

1. Weights to be laid aside. Heb. 12:1, 2.
2. Threats to spiritual life. 2 Tim. 3:1-5; 1 John 2:15-17.

II. Material Entanglements

3. Hezekiah's blunder. 2 Kings 20:12-18.
4. Gehazi's sin. 2 Kings 5:20-24.
5. Elisha's reproof. 2 Kings 5:25-27.

III. Self-Seeking

6. Strife for supremacy. Luke 22:24-27.
7. Love should constrain us. 2 Cor. 5:14, first part.

IV. Social Hindrances

8. Evils of class distinction. James 2:1-5.
9. True religion defined. James 1:27.
10. Jesus removed certain barriers. John 4:19-26; Mark 7:24-30; Luke 7:1-10.
11. The gospel overrides social barriers. Matt. 28:18-20.

V. Other Hindrances

12. Warnings of Scriptures. 2 Tim. 4:2-4; Col. 2:6-10; Heb. 10:35-39; 12:13-15.
13. Be steadfast, immovable. 1 Cor. 15:58; 3:8, last part.

THE LESSON

Introduction

"The strongest bulwark of vice in our world is not the iniquitous life of the abandoned sinner or the degraded outcast; it is that life which otherwise appears virtuous, honorable, and noble, but in which one sin is fostered, one vice indulged. To the soul that is struggling in secret against some giant temptation, trembling upon the very verge of the precipice, such an example is one of the most powerful enticements to sin. He who, endowed with high conceptions of life and truth and honor, does yet willfully transgress one precept of God's holy law, has perverted His noble gifts into a lure to sin. Genius, talent, sympathy, even generous and kindly deeds, may become decoys of Satan to entice other souls over the precipice of ruin for this life and the life to come."—*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing,* pages 94, 95.

Lest the thought of the deceitfulness of sin discourage any struggling Christian, let us carefully consider the wonderful provisions set forth in the memory verse, Hebrew 12:1, 2. The following points are for personal meditation:

(1) A host of successful witnesses are listed in Hebrews 11.

(2) Salvation from sin and victory for overcoming is provided for all.

(3) "Looking unto Jesus" points the way in every test. Self must be crucified. We endure "as seeing Him," and ask, "What would Jesus do? How would He meet my problem?"

(4) The hope of the heavenly reward at the end of the race provides courage and cheer during our testings.

The Love of the World

1. What must the Christian lay aside? Heb. 12:1, 2.

NOTE.—"In the epistle to the Hebrews is pointed out the singlehearted purpose that should characterize the Christian's race for eternal life. . . . Envy, malice, evil thinking, evil speaking, covetousness—these are weights that the Christian must lay aside if he would run successfully the race for immortality. Every habit or practice that leads into sin and brings dishonor upon Christ must be put away, whatever the sacrifice. The blessing of heaven cannot attend any man in violating the eternal principles of right. One sin cherished is sufficient to work degradation of character and to mislead others."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 312.

2. What elements of worldliness and sin threaten the spiritual life of the church? 2 Tim. 3:1-5; 1 John 2: 15-17.

NOTE.—Worldliness and the love of pleasure are just a few of the enemies of spirituality, but, like holes in a bucket of water, the love of the world opens up the way for *all* of our spirituality to leak out. And when the church loves the world and its pleasures it loses its burden to save the lost in the world.

Paul's fellow laborer, Demas, forsook him because he loved this present evil world. 2 Tim. 4:10. The love of many Christians today becomes cold because iniquity abounds. Matt. 24:12. The friendship of the world is enmity with God and spiritual adultery. Let every servant of God who has lost his first love repent and do the first works. Rev. 2:4, 5.

Material Entanglements

3. Through what blunder did King Hezekiah miss the opportunity of witnessing for God? With what results? 2 Kings 20:12-18.

NOTE.—"What have they seen? They saw what Hezekiah chose to show them. How great was his opportunity to witness for God! God had healed him from a deadly disease. The striking miracle of the shadow on the sundial had awakened widespread interest. Hezekiah might have borne witness to the wonderful mercy and power of God, and have sent Merodach-baladan's envoys back to their homeland with a knowledge of what God could and does do for His children on earth. But he utterly failed. The same question that came to Hezekiah comes to us today. The Lord asks us what it is that people see in our homes and our lives."—*S.D.A. Bible Commentary,* on 2 Kings 20:15.

4. How did Elisha's servant, Gehazi, misrepresent the Lord of Israel? 2 Kings 5:20-24.

5. How did Elisha deal with his servant's covetousness? 2 Kings 5: 25-27.

NOTE.—"Elisha's words of rebuke were not only for his servant Gehazi but for those in God's church today who manifest the same spirit as did Gehazi. In our day God has again been very near, and wonderful miracles of grace have been wrought in many lands. Sinners everywhere are being reclaimed and songs of thanksgiving and victory are ascending to God. But once more in the hearts of some the spirit of avarice and greed has been allowed to prevail. They are engaged in the service of self. Silver is being hoarded and hidden that should be employed toward the salvation of men. Once more God is looking down from heaven, and the question is asked, 'Is it a time to receive money, and to receive garments.?' "—*S.D.A. Bible Commentary,* on 2 Kings 5:26.

Self-Seeking

6. What spirit among the disciples threatened to destroy their spiritual vision, and what admonition did Jesus give them? Luke 22:24-27.

7. What did Paul say was the motive power in all his witnessing? 2 Cor. 5:14, first part. Compare John 13:34, 35.

NOTE.—" 'The love of Christ,' said Paul, 'constraineth us.' 2 Corinthians 5:14. This was the actuating principle of his conduct; it was his motive power. If ever his ardor in the path of duty flagged for a moment, one glance at the cross caused him to gird up anew the loins of his mind and press forward in the way of self-denial. In his labors for his brethren he relied much upon the manifestation of infinite love in the sacrifice of Christ, with its subduing, constraining power.

"How earnest, how touching, his appeal: 'Ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that ye through His poverty might be rich.' 2 Corinthians 8:9. You know the height from which He stooped, the depth of humiliation to which He descended. His feet entered upon the path of sacrifice and turned not aside until He had given His life. There was no rest for Him between the throne in heaven and the cross. His love for men led Him to welcome every indignity and suffer every abuse."—*The Ministry of Healing,* pages 500, 501.

Social Hindrances

8. What counsel is given regarding class distinction? James 2:1-5.

9. How is true religion defined? James 1:27.

10. How did Jesus during His earthly ministry break down unreasonable social and racial barriers? John 4:19-26; Mark 7:24-30; Luke 7: 1-10.

11. How did the commission of Christ to His disciples indicate that there is no place for distinction of nationality, race, or creed in the gospel? Matt. 28:18-20.

NOTE.—Christianity was the first religion to assume a truly international character. The gospel commission should effectively eliminate national boundaries, and men of all nations should find themselves members of one great brotherhood in which 'there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female,' for all are 'one in Christ Jesus' (Gal. 3:28). Christianity should destroy all barriers of race, nationality, society, economics, and social custom.

"Christianity depends for success on its disentanglement from all national peculiarities, forms of government, social institutions, and everything of a purely local character."—*S.D.A. Bible Commentary,* on Matt. 28:19.

> **"The more we search the Bible, the deeper is our conviction that it is the word of the living God, and human reason bows before the majesty of divine revelation."—*Education,* page 170.**

Other Hindrances

12. What warnings of Scripture are pertinent for God's witnesses? 2 Tim. 4:2-4; Col. 2:6-10; Heb. 10:35-39; 12:13-15.

NOTE.—"I beseech those who are laboring for God not to accept the spurious for the genuine. Let not human reason be placed where divine, sanctifying truth should be. Christ is waiting to kindle faith and love in the hearts of His people. Let not erroneous theories receive countenance from the people who ought to be standing firm on the platform of eternal truth. God calls upon us to hold firmly to the fundamental principles that are based upon unquestionable authority."—*Testimonies,* vol. 8, p. 298.

"I am instructed to say to our people: Let us follow Christ. . . . We may safely discard those ideas that are not found in His teaching."—Ibid., p. 296.

13. How does Paul encourage steady and abounding witnessing? 1 Cor. 15:58; 3:8, last part.

The Informed Witness

MEMORY VERSE: "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear." 1 Peter 3:15.

STUDY HELPS: "Gospel Workers," pages 73, 78, 92; "Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students," pages 469, 470, 538, 539; "Patriarchs and Prophets," pages 246-256; "The Acts of the Apostles," pages 123-130; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

LESSON AIM: To show that zeal and knowledge are both essential in the work of God and that the informed witness is most effective in winning people to Christ.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

	Check Here		Check Here
Sabbath afternoon: General survey.	☐	Tuesday: Questions 7-10.	☐
Sunday: Questions 1-3; begin reading Study Helps.	☐	Wednesday: Questions 11-13.	☐
Monday: Questions 4-6; read further from Study Helps.	☐	Thursday: Finish reading Study Helps.	☐
		Friday: Review entire lesson.	☐

Lesson Outline

Introduction

I. Zeal With Knowledge

1. Labors of Epaphras. Col. 4:12, 13.
2. Zeal without knowledge. Rom. 10:2.
3. Jesus' consuming zeal. Ps. 69:9.

II. Appeal to the Will

4. To those interested. 1 Peter 3:15.
5. Choose you this day. Joshua 24:15.
6. Solid foundations. Matt. 7:24, 25.

III. Divine Method of Labor

7. Common people heard Jesus gladly. Mark 12:37, last part.
8. Jesus used parables. Mark 4:33, 34.
9. For the gospel's sake. 1 Cor. 9:19-23.
10. Meeting prejudice. Acts 2:29-39.

IV. Progress Slowly

11. Unfold truth gradually. John 16:12; 1 Cor. 3:2.
12. Lead gently. Gen. 33:13, 14.
13. Choose right words. Col. 4:6; Titus 2:8.

THE LESSON

Introduction

"Who have been preparing themselves to go and work in His vineyard? God is not pleased with novices. He wants us to make the very best and highest use that is possible of the talents that He has given us." —*Christian Service,* page 62.

"We should not let slip even one opportunity of qualifying ourselves intellectually to work for God."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 334.

"Our heavenly Father alone sees what He can make of men. There are before us possibilities which our feeble faith does not discern. Our minds should be so trained that if necessary we can present the truths of His word before the highest earthly authorities in such a way as to glorify His name."—*Ibid.,* pages 333, 334.

Zeal With Knowledge

1. What testimony did Paul give concerning Epaphras, "a servant of Christ"? Col. 4:12, 13.

NOTE.—Epaphras labored for the Colossians with great zeal and fervent prayer. Paul spoke of his work with approval. Ellen G. White also wrote of the necessity for zeal and energy in God's work: "It is not silver-tongued orators that are needed to give this message. The truth in all its pointed severity must be spoken. *Men of action are needed—men who will labor with earnest, ceaseless energy* for the purifying of the church and the warning of the world."—*Testimonies,* vol. 5, p. 187. Italics supplied.

But the need for careful thought and intelligent planning is also emphasized. "We must not enter into the Lord's work haphazard and expect success. The Lord needs men of mind, men of thought. Jesus calls for co-workers, not blunderers. God wants right-thinking and intelligent men to do the great work necessary to the salvation of souls."—*Ibid.,* vol. 4, p. 67.

2. What did the apostle say of the zeal of the Jews? Rom. 10:2.

NOTE.—Any zeal for God that misrepresents the character of God or the truth is zeal that is not according to knowledge. The legalistic approach is wrong, and is harmful to the cause of God. So is the casual, perfunctory manner, or the excited appeals of the zealot who is uninformed and ignorant even though enthusiastic. Those should "run" who have read and understood the message. Hab. 2:2. Paul tells us how to witness in Col. 3:23, 24. See also Jude 3.

3. How did the psalmist foretell the Saviour's manner of labor? Ps. 69:9. Compare John 2:12-17.

NOTE.—The R.S.V. translates Ps. 69:9: "Zeal for Thy house has consumed Me." Jesus' work consumed His life and strength. To finish His work of redemption was His one interest. So should it be with His witnesses.

Appeal to the Will

4. What should we be ready to give to those who ask? 1 Peter 3:15.

NOTE.—"Let the workers become acquainted with the people and read to them the precious words of Christ. Lift up Jesus crucified among them, and soon those who have listened to the messages of warning from the ministers at the tent, and have been convicted, will be drawn out to ask for further information. This is the time to present the reasons of our faith with meekness and fear; not a slavish fear, but a cautious fear lest we speak unadvisedly." —*Testimonies,* vol. 6, p. 75.

Our first work is to offer Christ to sinners as the way to life. Next, to present His truth in all its beauty.

5. How did Joshua appeal to the people when presenting God's requirements? Joshua 24:15. Compare John 7:17; Rev. 3:20; 22:17.

NOTE.—"The will is the governing power in the nature of man, the power of decision, or choice. Every human being possessed of reason has power to choose the right. In every experience of life, God's word to us is, 'Choose you this day whom ye will serve.' "—*Education,* page 289.

"God does not control our minds without our consent; but every man is free to choose what power he will have to rule over him."—*The Ministry of Healing,* page 93.

6. Who alone builds his house of faith upon solid foundations? Matt. 7:24, 25.

NOTE.—We are to appeal to the will of man, the deciding faculty of his mind. By the power of persuasion, the power of

reason, the power of the love of God, we work for decisions. We must present the truth with efficiency and knowledge, working with God steadily, moving souls to decision.

Divine Method of Labor

7. What class of people heard Jesus gladly? Mark 12:37, last part.

NOTE.—"Jesus was the greatest educator the world ever knew. In comparison with His knowledge the highest human knowledge is foolishness. But His instructions were so simple that all understood Him, both learned and unlearned. He made no effort to show His deep knowledge, for this they could not have understood."—*Testimonies,* vol. 5, p. 588.

8. What method did Jesus use effectively in His teaching? Mark 4: 33, 34.

NOTE.—"Christ's illustrations were taken from the things of daily life, and although they were simple, they had in them a wonderful depth of meaning. The birds of the air, the lilies of the field, the growing seed, the shepherd and the sheep—with these things Christ illustrated immortal truth; and ever afterward, when His hearers chanced to see these objects, they recalled His words. Thus the truth became a living reality; the scenes of nature and the daily affairs of life were ever repeating to them the Saviour's teaching."—*Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students,* page 261.

9. What principle of action governed Paul's ministry? 1 Cor. 9:19-23.

NOTE.—"Speak to them, as you have opportunity, upon points of doctrine on which you can agree. Dwell on the necessity of practical godliness. Give them evidence that you are a Christian, desiring peace, and that you love their souls. Let them see that you are conscientious. Thus you will gain their confidence; and there will be time enough for doctrines. Let the heart be won, the soil prepared, and then sow the seed, presenting in love the truth as it is in Jesus."—*Gospel Workers,* page 120.

10. How did Peter address those who were prejudiced because of religious backgrounds? Acts 2:29-39.

NOTE.—"Peter did not refer to the teachings of Christ to prove his position, because he knew that the prejudice of his hearers was so great that his words on this subject would be of no effect. Instead, he spoke to them of David, who was regarded by the Jews as one of the patriarchs of their nation."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 41.

Progress Slowly

11. What method should be followed in unfolding truth to those who are unacquainted with it? John 16: 12; 1 Cor. 3:2.

NOTE.—"He [Christ] disturbed as little as possible their accustomed train of thought by abrupt actions or prescribed rules."—*Testimonies to Ministers,* page 190.

Every truth must be related to the supreme truth of the atonement and faith in the Redeemer. Tests like the Sabbath, tithe, and dietary changes must be taught but not prematurely. "The Lord desires our ministers, physicians, and church members to be careful not to urge those who are ignorant of our faith to make sudden changes in diet, thus bringing men to a premature test."—*Gospel Workers,* page 233.

12. What lesson may be learned from Jacob's experience in leading his large company? Gen. 33:13, 14.

NOTE.—The careful, gentle leading of human souls—not forcing or overdriving them—is also illustrated as follows: "In order to have the wax take a clear, strong

"He who opens the Scriptures, and feeds upon the heavenly manna, becomes a partaker of the divine nature."—Ellen G. White, *Review and Herald,* June 28, 1892.

impression of the seal, you do not dash the seal upon it in a hasty, violent way; you carefully place the seal on the plastic wax and quietly, steadily press it down until it has hardened in the mold. In like manner deal with human souls. The continuity of Christian influence is the secret of its power, and this depends on the steadfastness of your manifestation of the character of Christ."—*The Ministry of Healing,* page 494.

13. What is said concerning the Christian's choice of words? Col. 4:6; Titus 2:8.

NOTE.—"Christ always used simple language, yet His words tested the knowledge of deep, unprejudiced thinkers. His manner of teaching should be followed by teachers of today. Spiritual truths should always be presented in simple language, that they may be comprehended and find lodgment in the heart."—*Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students,* page 261.

"Words easy to be understood" suggest that we should (1) avoid unfamiliar terminology in presenting God's last message to the world; (2) avoid jesting and joking but use hopeful, cheerful speech; (3) avoid gossip and criticism.

Our speech betrays to the stranger the place of our habitation and whether or not we are citizens of heaven.

Lesson 13, for March 30, 1963

Promise of the Spirit

MEMORY VERSE: "And, behold, I send the promise of My Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." Luke 24:49.

STUDY HELPS: "Christian Service," pages 250-256; "The Acts of the Apostles," pages 35-56; "S.D.A. Bible Commentary."

LESSON AIM: To show that the promise of the Holy Spirit is (1) valid today as much as in apostolic times, (2) essential to the work of the church, and (3) certain of fulfillment.

DAILY STUDY ASSIGNMENT AND RECORD

Check Here

Sabbath afternoon: General survey. ☐
Sunday: Questions 1, 2; begin reading Study Helps. ☐
Monday: Questions 3-6. ☐
Tuesday: Questions 7, 8; read further from Study Helps. ☐
Wednesday: Questions 9-13. ☐
Thursday: Finish reading Study Helps. ☐
Friday: Review entire lesson. ☐

Lesson Outline

Introduction

I. Promises to Soul Winners

1. Great and precious promises. 2 Peter 1:4.
2. For sowers and reapers alike. John 4:34-38.

II. Divine Aid Promised Witnesses

3. Spirit's power assured. Luke 24:49; Acts 1:8.
4. Scope of Spirit's work. John 14: 16-18, 26; 15:26; 16:7-14.
5. Bestowal of the Spirit. Acts 2:1-4, 41-43.
6. Spirit promised to all who repent. Acts 2:37-40.

III. Guidance for God's Workers

7. In apostolic times. Acts 8:26-40; 16:6-10.
8. The latter rain. Zech. 10:1.

IV. Time's Last Hour

9. Marked by perils. 2 Tim. 3:1-5.
10. The gift of the Spirit promised for. Luke 11:13.
11. The work of the church in. Isa. 60:1-4, 10, 11; 45:22.
12. God's eye upon His people. 2 Chron. 16:9, first part.
13. Christ with us till the end. Matt. 28:18-20.

THE LESSON

Introduction

"It is true that in the time of the end, when God's work in the earth is closing, the earnest efforts put forth by consecrated believers under the guidance of the Holy Spirit are to be accompanied by special tokens of divine favor. . . .

"Near the close of earth's harvest, a special bestowal of spiritual grace is promised to prepare the church for the coming of the Son of man. This outpouring of the Spirit is likened to the falling of the latter rain; and it is for this added power that Christians are to send their petitions to the Lord of the harvest 'in the time of the latter rain.' "—*The Acts of the Apostles,* pages 54, 55.

Promises to Soul Winners

1. How are God's promises described? 2 Peter 1:4.

NOTE.—"We are to trust in His promises. When we come to Him in faith, every petition enters the heart of God. When we have asked for His blessing, we should believe that we receive it, and thank Him that we *have* received it. Then we are to go about our duties, assured that the blessing will be realized when we need it most. When we have learned to do this, we shall know that our prayers are answered. God will do for us 'exceeding abundantly,' 'according to the riches of His glory,' and 'the working of His mighty power.' Eph. 3:20, 16; 1:19."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 200.

2. What assurance did Jesus give to sowers and reapers alike? John 4: 34-38. Compare Ps. 126:6; Isa. 55:11.

NOTE.—"The good seed may for a time lie unnoticed in a cold, selfish, worldly heart, giving no evidence that it has taken root; but afterward, as the Spirit of God breathes on the soul, the hidden seed springs up, and at last bears fruit to the glory of God. In our lifework we know not which shall prosper, this or that. This is not a question for us to settle. We are to do our work, and leave the results with God."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 65.

"When God opens the way for the accomplishment of a certain work and gives assurance of success, the chosen instrumentality must do all in his power to bring about the promised result. In proportion to the enthusiasm and perseverance with which the work is carried forward will be the success given."—*Prophets and Kings,* page 263.

Divine Aid Promised Witnesses

3. What power for witnessing did Jesus promise His disciples? Luke 24:49; Acts 1:8.

NOTE.—"The Saviour knew that no argument, however logical, would melt hard hearts or break through the crust of worldliness and selfishness. He knew that His disciples must receive the heavenly endowment; that the gospel would be effective only as it was proclaimed by hearts made warm and lips made eloquent by a living knowledge of Him who is the way, the truth, and the life. The work committed to the disciples would require great efficiency; for the tide of evil ran deep and strong against them. A vigilant, determined leader was in command of the forces of darkness, and the followers of Christ could battle for the right only through the help that God, by His Spirit, would give them."—*The Acts of the Apostles,* page 31.

4. What was to be the Holy Spirit's work? John 14:16-18, 26; 15:26; 16:7-14.

NOTE.—The disciples of Christ "are to contend with supernatural forces, but they are assured of supernatural help. All the intelligences of heaven are in this army. And more than angels are in the ranks. The Holy Spirit, the representative of the Captain of the Lord's host, comes down to direct the battle. Our infirmities may be many, our sins and mistakes grievous; but the grace of God is for all who seek it with contrition. The power of Omnipotence is enlisted in behalf of those who trust in God."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 352.

5. What marked the fulfillment of Christ's promise to His disciples? Acts 2:1-4, 41-43.

6. What promise did Peter make to the convicted multitude? Acts 2:37-40.

NOTE.—The bestowal of the Spirit is not the gift of tongues or feeling or rapture or ecstasy. The Spirit is given for sanctification of life and for witnessing. Five points are vital to an understanding of this divine infilling:

(*a*) Christ nearer than ever by Spirit. "Cumbered with humanity, Christ could not be in every place personally. . . . By the Spirit the Saviour would be accessible to all. In this sense He would be nearer to them than if He had not ascended on high." —*Christian Service,* page 255.

(*b*) The Spirit fills the individual. "No man can believe for another. No man can receive the Spirit for another. No man can impart to another the character which is the fruit of the Spirit's working."—*Christ's Object Lessons,* page 412.

(*c*) Enormous possibilities inherent in the gift. "There is no limit to the usefulness of the one who, putting self aside, makes room for the working of the Holy Spirit upon his heart, and lives a life wholly consecrated to God."—*Christian Service,* page 254.

(*d*) The prime condition for receiving. "Let Christians put away all dissension, and give themselves to God for the saving of the lost. Let them ask in faith for the promised blessing, and it will come."—*Ibid.,* p. 252.

"The Spirit awaits our demand and reception."—*Ibid.*

"When we have entire, wholehearted consecration to the service of Christ, God will recognize the fact by an outpouring of His Spirit without measure; but this will not be while the largest portion of the church are not laborers together with God." —*Ibid.,* p. 253.

(*e*) Faith in His promise. "At this very hour His Spirit and His grace are for all who need them and will take Him at His word."—*Ibid.,* p. 250.

Guidance for God's Workers

7. How did the Spirit of God direct the workers in apostolic times? Acts 8:26-40; 16:6-10.

NOTE.—"No truth is more clearly taught in the Bible than that God by His Holy Spirit especially directs His servants on

earth in the great movements for the carrying forward of the work of salvation."—*The Great Controversy,* page 343. But we must ask for the Gift, and watch and wait for His guidance. "Only to those who wait humbly upon God, who watch for His guidance and grace, is the Spirit given. The power of God awaits their demand and reception. This promised blessing, claimed by faith, brings all other blessings in its train."—*The Desire of Ages,* page 672.

8. For what are we to ask the Lord? Zech. 10:1. Compare Hosea 6:3; 10: 12; Ezek. 34:26.

NOTE.—"The outpouring of the Spirit in the days of the apostles was the 'former rain,' and glorious was the result. But the latter rain will be more abundant. What is the promise to those living in these last days?—'Turn you to the stronghold, ye prisoners of hope; even today do I declare that I will render double unto thee.' 'Ask ye of the Lord rain in the time of the latter rain; so the Lord shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to everyone grass in the field.' "—*Christian Service,* page 251.

Time's Last Hour

9. What conditions mark the times in which we live? 2 Tim. 3:1-5.

NOTE.—"Peculiar and rapid changes will soon take place, and God's people are to be endowed with the Holy Spirit, so that with heavenly wisdom they may meet the emergencies of this age, and as far as possible counteract the demoralizing movements of the world. If the church is not asleep, if the followers of Christ watch and pray, they may have light to comprehend and appreciate the movements of the enemy."—*Christian Service,* pages 254, 255.

10. What does God long to give to His people? Luke 11:13.

NOTE.—"God desires to refresh His people by the gift of the Holy Spirit, baptizing them anew in His love. There is no need for a dearth of the Holy Spirit in the church. After Christ's ascension, the Holy Spirit came upon the waiting, praying, believing disciples with a fullness and power that reached every heart. In the future the earth is to be lightened with the glory of God. A divine influence is to go forth to the world from those who are sanctified through the truth. The earth is to be encircled with an atmosphere of grace. The Holy Spirit is to work on human hearts, taking the things of God and showing them unto men."—*Christian Service,* page 250.

11. How did God call His church to the appointed work? Isa. 60:1-4, 10, 11; 45:22.

12. How is God constantly working? 2 Chron. 16:9, first part.

NOTE.—"Among all nations, kindreds, and tongues, He sees men and women who are praying for light and knowledge. Their souls are unsatisfied; long have they fed on ashes. . . . The enemy of all righteousness has turned them aside, and they grope as blind men. But they are honest in heart and desire to learn a better way. Although in the depths of heathenism, with no knowledge of the written law of God nor of His Son Jesus, they have revealed in manifold ways the working of a divine power on mind and character. . . .

"The Holy Spirit is implanting the grace of Christ in the heart of many a noble seeker after truth, quickening his sympathies contrary to his nature, contrary to his former education. The 'Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world' (1 John 1:9), is shining in his soul; and this Light, if heeded, will guide his feet to the kingdom of God."—*Prophets and Kings,* pages 376, 377.

13. What assurance did Jesus give His disciples when He gave the great commission? Matt. 28:18-20. Compare 1 John 3:24.

THIRTEENTH SABBATH OFFERING

March 30, 1963

Australasian Division

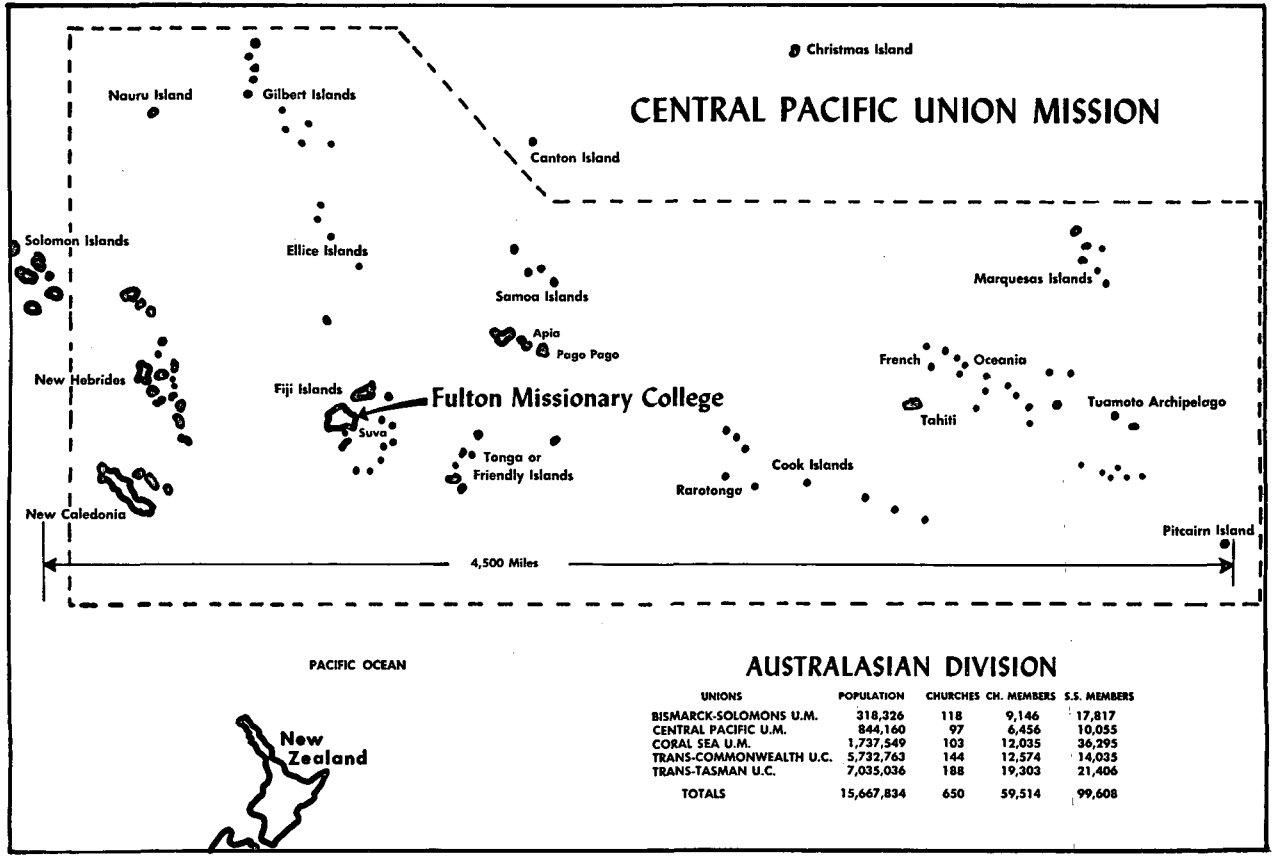
When Fulton Missionary College was established on the main island of the Fijian group in the Central Pacific Union it was a bold new step in multiracial coeducation in that part of the world. The now-rickety buildings were erected by free native labor from lumber taken from three old schools that were torn down and transported from three different islands. They have served well for twenty-one years. And the school has proved its worth by sending out scores of workers to the work of God.

The time has come for another bold step forward. Plans are under way for ten modern classrooms, a library, a chapel, and an administration office. In the spirit of our pioneer missionary, J. E. Fulton, in whose honor the school was named, let us "arise and build" by giving a liberal offering for this worthy project on March 30.

LESSONS FOR THE SECOND QUARTER, 1963

Sabbath school members who have failed to receive a senior *Lesson Quarterly* for the second quarter of 1963 will be helped by the following outline in studying the first lesson. The title of the lessons for the quarter is "The Sanctuary." The title of the first lesson is "The Plan of Salvation Revealed in Type." The memory verse is Genesis 3:15. The texts to be studied are:

Ques. 1. Gen. 1:26; Ps. 8:5, 6.
Ques. 2. Gen. 3:1-6.
Ques. 3. Rom. 5:12, 19.
Ques. 4. Gen. 3:15.
Ques. 5. Gal. 4:4, 5.
Ques. 6. Isa. 53:5-8.
Ques. 7. Acts 5:31.
Ques. 8. Gen. 4:3, 4.
Ques. 9. Gen. 4:5.
Ques. 10. Gen. 8:20, 21.
Ques. 11. Gen. 12:8; 13:4.
Ques. 12. Gen. 22:1-18.
Ques. 13. Gen. 46:1.
Ques. 14. Ex. 5:1-3.



AUSTRALASIAN DIVISION

UNIONS	POPULATION	CHURCHES	CH. MEMBERS	S.S. MEMBERS
BISMARCK-SOLOMONS U.M.	318,326	118	9,146	17,817
CENTRAL PACIFIC U.M.	844,160	97	6,456	10,055
CORAL SEA U.M.	1,737,549	103	12,035	36,295
TRANS-COMMONWEALTH U.C.	5,732,763	144	12,574	14,035
TRANS-TASMAN U.C.	7,035,036	188	19,303	21,406
TOTALS	15,667,834	650	59,514	99,608