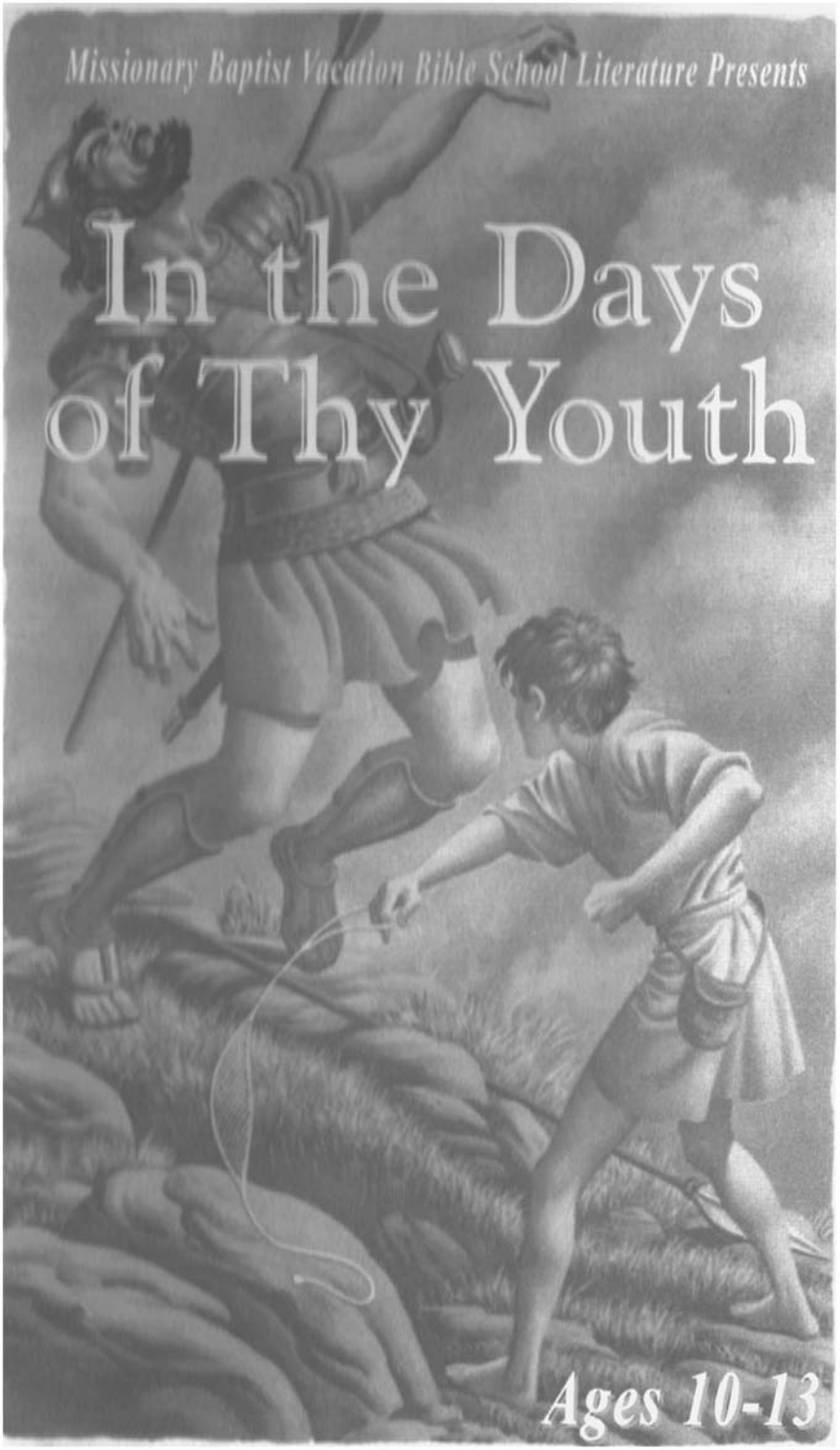
Missionary Baptist Vacation Bible School Literature Presents
In the Days of Thy Youth
Ages 10-13

The Missionary Baptist
Vacation Bible School Literature Committee presents

"In the Days of Thy Youth"

Vacation Bible School Lessons for Ages 10-13

Written by Sister Marilyn Spicer, Sister Rhonda Spurgeon, Sister Ralna Saxton, Sister Janet Hill, and Brother Ray Boenig

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LESSON 1

REMEMBER NOW THY CREATOR

LESSON TEXT
ECC. 11:7-10, 12:1

WRITTEN BY
MARILYN SPICER

ECCLESSIATES 11:

7. Truly the light is sweet, and a pleasant thing it is for the eyes to behold the sun:
8. But if a man live many years, and rejoice in them all; yet let him remember the days of darkness; for they shall be many. All that cometh is vanity.
9. Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment.
10. Therefore remove sorrow from thy heart, and put away evil from thy flesh: for childhood and youth are vanity.

12:1 Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;

GOD CREATED YOU PERSONALLY

I know you realize that God made man or mankind, but have you ever stopped to consider that God created you personally. He created you in the womb. He knew your name before it was given. God gave you your talents and your flaws. He knew before hand what you would do and be today and knew then what you would be and do until the moment he takes your last breath from you, for not only did He give you life but He will be the one that takes that life from you.

Isaiah 44:2 Thus saith the LORD that made thee, and formed thee from the womb....
Isaiah 49:1 ....The LORD hath called me from the womb; from the bowels of my mother hath he made mention of my name.

Jeremiah 1:5 Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee,.....

You may or may not like the way you were created but God had a plan and a purpose for what you are. It is your job to develope a great relationship with Him to determine how you are to fulfill this plan and purpose. Even when we are born with imperfections or with disabilities God has a plan.

John 9: 1-3 And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his

birth. And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.

God's power is not obvious through big and powerful things. God's power is realized through the small and weak. If a very large and strong man moves a huge rock, then we think the strong man himself moved the rock. But if a small child moves a huge rock, then we know that God had to be in it. If you appear to be perfect and you accomplish great things, then you and others will give yourself the praise. But if you have weaknesses or disabilities and you greatly succeed, then you have to give the praise to God. And when you remember your creator and give Him all the praise and honor, then He swells up with joy and fills your baskets with blessings. (Some blessings he will share with you on earth. Others are reserved for you until after you are saved, lived your life and have returned to heaven to be with your creator.)

1 Corinthians 1:27 But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; Acts 4:13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus

2 Corinthians 4:7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

2 Corinthians 10:4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

QUESTIONS

1. When Jesus said the young blind man was created so "that the works of God should be made manifest in him" what did he mean and how could the young man fulfill this plan?
2. What does it mean to give God honor and praise?

Giving God all honor and praise for even the bad things in life is a key to a great relationship with God.

WHY DID GOD CREATE YOU?

God did not create you just to see how great a human you would be. He created you to see how great a child of God you could be. Life was not given to you for you

to concentrate on a great education and being a great successful businessperson UNLESS you use this ability to serve God in a greater way. In reality God created us to worship Him and for no other purpose. Ecclesiastes 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

This doesn't mean we have to be 'Jesus freaks' --.standing on the street corners begging people to believe in Jesus. You can never directly speak of Him and still be a witness for Him by the words that come out of your mouth and by your actions on a daily basis. Just by obeying His commandments you are a witness and give Him joy. Some will be given more responsibility than others will but none will be asked to do anything he or she can't do without God's help. God will give you the courage and the time to witness for Jesus verbally when He knows you are ready.

QUESTIONS

1. What does it mean when God says 'we must fear him'?
2. When should we fear God?
3. When should we not fear God?

Knowing when to and when not to fear God is a key to a great relationship with God.

WILL YOU FORGET YOUR CREATOR AS YOU GET OLDER?

The cliché "Distance makes the heart grow fonder" is a popular one however it does not always apply to every relationship. Have you and a friend ever been separated for a while? Many times just being away from a friend during the summer between school years makes a difference in your relationship. When you return to school something is just not the same as it once was. Maybe you or both of you have changed during the summer but regardless it just seems impossible to be close friends again.

If you get away from God in your teenage and young adult years by being absorbed in your life, doing the things that make you happy without any concern for God, then you will put a distance between you and God. God will not force you to remember Him in most cases. He will let you drift out into the middle of the ocean of life if you show Him that you are determined to do so. Yes, God never changes and He is just a prayer away. When that ship starts to sink

and you then remember Him in your hour of need, the relationship is strained and you will have lost so many years of accumulating blessings and making God feel good about creating you.

A lifelong friendship with someone is based on continual contact and the same applies to God. If you want a lifelong relationship with God you have to keep in touch with him and show him you are interested in his involvement in your life. There is no better time to start this relationship than now. If you are lost, you should start seeking God for the saving of your soul. This is the first step in having a relationship with God. Otherwise you are separated from him and there is no relationship. If you are not saved but do not feel lost, start your relationship off with God by asking him to help you and save you when that time comes.

There are other things to 'seek God' for besides the saving of your soul. God is there to help you in your daily life. Learn to talk to God through prayer. Stop saying your poem-like prayers and start talking to God in your own words. If you are having problems with school, a teacher, a friend or even your parents, then daily ask God to help you and them. He will help you if you have a learning disability. He can help you with a friend who has hurt you. He can help you with your parents, boyfriend/girlfriend problems etc. The key to prayer is telling God the problem and maybe what you would like to see happen but ultimately leaving the best solution up to Him and then accepting this solution. Sometimes what we would like to see happen is not the best thing in the big plan of things. Also when you pray learn to listen for an answer from God or proof that He heard you and is indeed in charge of things. What good is it for you to talk to God if you never stop to listen for the answer or acknowledge his presence? He communicates with us with that 'still small voice' or with a feeling of peace that is unexplainable when He answers back. Some have said that they have actually felt the arms of God wrap around them after being in intense prayer with him. (This writer being one of them.)

I Kings 19: 11 And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD. And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; but the LORD was not in the earthquake:

12 And after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice.

QUESTIONS

1. Have you been saved?
2. Has God felt good about creating every human who has ever lived?
3. When is a good time to start your wonderful relationship with God?
4. What things can you, as a young person, pray for besides salvation?
5. What will happen if you separate yourself from God as you grow older and get busier with life?
6. Are habits easy to change?
7. How can you start a habit of staying close to God?

LESSON 2

RECEIVING INSTRUCTION

LESSON TEXT
II TIMOTHY 3:14-15

WRITTEN BY
RHONDA SPURGEON

II TIMOTHY 3:

14. But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them:
15. And what from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation faith which is in Christ Jesus.

REFERENCE TEXTS:

Read: I Tim.4: 10-16 Regardless of your age, be an example and a teacher to others. Remember, Jesus was only 12 when he began teaching the scholars in the synagogue. II Tim. 1: 5 & 8 As Timothy was taught and shown faith through the lives of his grandmother Lois, and his mother Eunice, follow after the godly examples in your life. Don't ever be ashamed of the gospel of the testimony of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. II Tim. 2:1-5 Be a strong soldier for the Lord.

INTRODUCTION

Not all people have the opportunity to "continue in" and "learn from a child" about the Holy Scriptures. That is why it is so important for those of us who have been taught the TRUTH to carry it on to others, to spread the Good News, to protect it, and to cherish it. If we are to be an example of the saved and not of sinners, then we must study God's word, receive (or learn) it, and obey it. When we do this, we are gaining something far better than silver and gold, (Prov.3:14), and more precious than rubies, (vs.15). Prov.3:19 By wisdom the Lord founded the earth, (or created it), and (vs.18) happy is everyone that retaineth (or keeps) her (wisdom) in his/her heart!

WHAT IS INSTRUCTION?

Webster defines it as something taught; orders or directions. Are we following God's directions? The object of our lesson is to recognize God's spirit or wisdom when it speaks and to follow it! That means we need to realize that our parents, preachers, and Sunday School teachers are trying to give us instruction when they teach us about

obeying God and His Commandments. In order for us to "receive" instruction, we must listen carefully, let it sink into our hearts, and apply it to every day life.

HOW DO WE RECIEVE INSTRUCTION?

At home, my children "hear" instruction all the time, but they do not always "receive" it! Let's remember that "every good and perfect gift cometh from God"; and even instructions in righteousness are a gift from God that we should not reject, but accept as necessary to succeed in this life. Receiving instruction begins with honoring and obeying parents at home (the 5th commandment in Exodus 20, vs.12). And of course, we are to be subject to those in authority over us also.

Read Proverbs 1: 7-9 "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction. (Don't be foolish) My son(child), hear the instruction of thy father and forsake not the law of thy mother. For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck." Store instructions in the "memory" of your mind; and wear the commandments like a chain around your neck.

HOW DO WE APPLY INSTRUCTION?

After we receive, then we act on those instructions by using them in every situation and stage we go through-whether it be making good grades in school, making friends with the right people, choosing a college, choosing a mate, or a job, dealing with a loss, or just learning to be a successful person in everything we do. It basically means: PUT GOD FIRST! Matthew 6:33 "Seek ye first The kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things (blessings) shall be added unto you."

HOW DO WE FOLLOW GOD'S DIRECTIONS?

If you want to know the way for a young person to lead a clean, healthy, and happy life, read Psalms 119:9 "Wherewithal (how) shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word", (The Bible, God's Holy Word). Read, study, and obey it every day!! II Timothy 2:15 says "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." If someone asks you why you believe what you

do, please be prepared to explain, to give proof in the Bible, and to witness to them of God's love. Most likely, you will be asked if people see in you a difference from other religious beliefs-and they rightly should. I Peter 3:15 "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear." One thing I have told my children is that they can choose to ignore my instructions; but as Christians, they cannot ignore God's instructions because His eyes are always open and watching everything they do. And He does chastise those He loves!

CONCLUSION

We know that we must hear the word and let it penetrate our hearts, so we can receive the gift of salvation. In turn, we must hear God's instruction, be saved by His grace, and share that gift with the rest of the world. Are you continuing in the things which you have learned and sharing that knowledge with others? If a friend asks you to explain your salvation experience, are you ready to do so?

FOR CLASSROOM DISCUSSION:

Sharing of testimonies would be wonderful. Giving God thanks and praise is never out of line!

LESSON 3

TEMPTATION

LESSON TEXT
JAMES 1:12-16

WRITTEN BY
RALNA SAXTON

James 1:

12. Blessed is the man that endureth temptations: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.
13. Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man.
14. But every man is tempted , when he is drawn away of his own lust and enticed.
15. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin; and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.
16. Do not err, my beloved brethen.

INTRODUCTION

What is temptation? Temptation is the desire or want of something that is forbidden. Since the beginning of time, man has faced temptation in one way or another. Adam was faced with great temptation in the Garden of Eden. He made a choice and gave in to temptation. His choice led to the fall of man. (Gensis 3: 4-7)

WHO IS TEMPTED AND WHY?

Man has always been tempted by Satan. James 1:14 in our lesson text says "But every man throughout is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust and enticed." There are accounts in the Bible of men and women being tempted. Some of those people gave in to temptations and had to face the consequences of their actions. Others in the Bible faced temptation and chose to turn to God for guidance. Daniel 3:1-30 tells us of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. These three men were told to bow and worship the golden image the king had ordered to be made, or else be thrown to death in the fiery furnace. These men chose to turn to God and were saved from certain death by Him. Because they chose to turn to God, they brought glory and honor to Him. This is one of the reasons we are allowed to be tempted by Satan. If we turn to God in times of temptation, we will be blessed and God will be glorified!!

JESUS'S TEMPTATION

Even Jesus was tempted while he walked on the earth. Matthew 4:1-11 tells us of three different times that Jesus was tempted. The first temptation was hunger. The devil told Jesus, "If thou be the son of God, command these stones be made bread." But Jesus said "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

The second temptation was when Satan took Jesus up to the top of the temple and told Jesus to "Cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning

thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up" Jesus said again "Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God ."

The last temptation was when Satan took Jesus up to a mountain top and promised Him all the kingdoms of the world and all the glory of them if Jesus would fall down and worship him. Jesus said "Get thee hence Satan: for it is written. Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve." All three times Jesus was tempted, He turned away from Satan and to God. All three times God was glorified and all three times Jesus was blessed.

HOW ARE WE TEMPTED?

We have seen several ways that different people have been tempted throughout Bible times. We are all tempted on a day to day basis. Sometime we are tempted by even the smallest things. Maybe a candy bar in the store that we really can't afford has caught our eye. We might really want a candy bar. A little voice in our head says, "It's just a candy bar. No one will notice if I take it." But another little voice says, "You can't afford it right now. Buy it another time when you have the money. Stealing is wrong."

Which voice do you listen to? Which voice should you listen to?

A friend wants us to try some type of drug with him. A little voice in our head might say, "It's just this one time. It won't hurt to try it." The other little voice in our mind says, "This is wrong. Drugs are bad for us. And they're illegal." Again, which voice do you listen to? Which voice should you listen to?

I Corinthians 6:19-20 says, "What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." This means that our body is a living temple to god and we should do nothing to harm it.

CONCLUSION

I Corinthians 10:13 tells us that we will not be tempted above what we can handle with God. "But God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able;" God is always with us. No matter what the situation, God is always there to lean on for help in time of temptation. We should all remember the words "What would Jesus do?" when we are tempted. The four little words can help us every day as we are faced with choices of right and wrong.

LESSON 4

REMAINING IN THE FAITH

LESSON TEXT
Daniel 1:8-16

WRITTEN BY
RAY BOENIG

Daniel 1:

8. But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.
9. Now God had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs.
10. And the prince of the eunuchs said unto Daniel, I fear my lord the king, who hath appointed your meat and your drink: for why should he see your faces worse liking than the children which are of your sort? then shall ye make me endanger my head to the king.
11. Then said Daniel to Melzar, whom the prince of the eunuchs had set over Daniel,
Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah.
12. Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink.
13. Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the king's meat: and as thou seest, deal with thy servants.
14. So he consented to them in this matter, and proved them ten days.
15. And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat.
16. Thus Melzar took away the portion of their meat, and the wine that they should drink; and gave them pulse.

INTRODUCTION

Our lesson today deals with remaining faithful. Webster's Dictionary defines faithful as loyal, accurate, true to the original. The example we will be using is Daniel. Before we study our lesson text, let's examine the history of Daniel.

Daniel lived in the land known as Israel. As a young boy, Daniel was taken captive along with all Israel by the Babylonian Army. The land was invaded and taken captive because they did not remain faithful toward God. Idolatry (the worship of other gods) was allowed to enter into the land, and was practiced. Daniel was taken from his homeland into a foreign land where he became a common worker.

One day King Nebuchadnezzar decided to have the best looking and smartest young men in all the land serve in the king's palace. Because Daniel and some of his friends were both handsome and smart, they, along with other young men of

different cultures, were chosen to serve. They were taken into the palace where they went to school, learning such subjects as mathematics, agriculture, astronomy, and foreign language. As part of being in school, the king appointed a daily provision of the king's meat and wine to each person. In order to make these young men more like Babylonians, Melzar, the prince of the eunuchs(officials of the king) decided to change the names of all the Hebrew men. Daniel's name was changed to Belteshazzar.

Now let's look at our lesson text. Daniel and his friends decide not to eat of the king's meat and drink of the king's wine because it would go against what God's commandment of alcoholic drinks being forbidden. These commandments were handed down from generation to generation.

Daniel and his friends go to speak to Melzar, who likes Daniel very much. He also has great respect for him. Daniel asks Melzar to switch his portion of the king's meat and wine to pulse (the edible seeds of plants like peas, beans, etc.) and water. Melzar explains to Daniel that he is very worried because if Daniel and his friends appear before the king looking worse and not fairer and fatter, then the king may kill him. Daniel tells Melzar to give him ten days and then compare them to the others. Melzar agrees with Daniel's request and after ten days he compares Daniel and his friends to the others. He notices that Daniel and his friends appear fairer and fatter than the rest of the young men who ate of the king's meat and wine. Melzar then decided to change the food of all the men to pulse and water.

Why do you think Daniel and his friends appeared fairer and fatter after ten days of eating pulse and water? Remember our lesson topic. REMAINING FAITHFUL. Even though he is commanded to eat food that he knows is wrong, his faith in God is not weakened. He trusts that God will take care of him no matter what. For his faithfulness, God blesses him.

OTHER EXAMPLES OF FAITHFULNESS:

How about Noah and the ark? When many of the people around him made fun of what he was doing, Noah remained faithful and built an ark that would later save him and his family, along with the animals. He even preached to those that made fun of him in hopes that they would be saved from their sins.

How about Joseph when he was taken to Egypt? He went from being a slave, to being thrown into prison, to becoming second in command of Egypt.

How about David fighting Goliath? He fought against a man who was much stronger and bigger - and he won.

And how about Jesus on the

cross? There is no better example of remaining faithful than our Lord, Jesus Christ. He did everything His Father asked Him to do. He died for you and me so that we may have eternal life. He is the one that we should try to live our life like. There is no other like him. To remain faithful and to witness when given the chance is a small price to serve God for all He does for us.

CONCLUSION

By not eating of the king's meat and drinking of the king's wine, Daniel remained true and faithful to God. In return, God brought favour and great rewards to Daniel, even though he was held captive in a foreign land.

We can all learn from Daniel's faithfulness. As we live our daily lives, we must follow God in all things that we do. We must not allow the devil to interfere with what God has planned for us to do. When we follow God, he will reward us for our faithfulness.

LESSON 5

TAKING UP THE CAUSE

LESSON TEXT
1 SAMUEL 17:25-29

WRITTEN BY
JANET HILL

1 Samuel 17:

25. And the men of Israel said, Have ye seen this man that is come up? Surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be that the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel.

26. And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?

27. And the people answered him after this manner, saying, So shall it be done to the man that killeth him.

28. And Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spake unto the men; and Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, Why camest thou down hither? And with whom hast thou left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know thy pride, and the naughtiness of thine heart; for thou art come down that thou mightest see the battle.

29. And David said, What have I now done? Is there not a cause?

INTRODUCTION

Today, we each have a reason for taking up the cause. If we each looked at the challenge David took and used it in our everyday living, we could face each day with a better outlook on life. David, even though he was small in size and young in age, knew he could face the giant because he had God on his side, and could face anything with God beside him. We each, as Christians, have the same One that walks beside us and expects us to defend the cause. If we aren't children of the Lord, then we have to face many battles alone and without the Lord's strength. As Christians, we know that God helps us fight our battles daily and was with David when he faced Goliath.

David knew that the Lord was with him daily when watching the sheep. He was always able to protect them knowing that his strength came from the Lord. If we, as Christians, were as close to the Lord in our daily walk as was David, we would face our daily battles with the same attitude David had in knowing the cause of the Lord would prevail.

Viewing impossible situations from God's point of view helps us put giant problems in perspective. We are able to see clearly, so we can fight more efficiently.

The Lord's help and guidance it is always available if we only ask for it. Usually, we want to

decide for ourselves what we can and cannot do and leave the Lord's help out.

TAKING UP THE CAUSE

We often forget to call upon the Lord and follow his wishes. Notice in 1 Samuel 17:25, that they thought David was too small to stand against Goliath. This is a good illustration to show how much power the Lord has especially when we come humble and earnest to the Lord and do what he wants. David was willing to face the giant, even though he was small in size and young, because the Lord provided him with strength. He knew he had been with him everyday when he was watching the flock and had protected both him and the sheep.

Today, as Christians, we often fail to read our Bible and pray daily the way we should. The closer we stay to God, the more we are able to do what he wishes. If we don't take up the cause, people won't learn about salvation.

The most important career we can have today is telling others about the Lord. We go to school for an education and to prepare for a career once we graduate. We must also include our church, mission work and evangelism in our lives as we prepare for the future.

Every Christian has the responsibility of making sure the gospel is spread and our Lord is defended. We must have courage and faith, and be as brave as David was in his challenge with Goliath.

Esther was also one that was willing to give her life for the cause. She was able to be good to her people while showing she had courage and faith in the Lord, even if she had to sacrifice her own life.

The Great Commission tells us to go out and spread the word. The Lord sent his people to be ambassadors to proclaim His gospel throughout the universe. The Great Commission was told to us assuming every Christian would automatically go tell the world about the plan of salvation. We must be willing to spread the gospel. The Great Commission left instructions for us to spread the gospel after his death.

THE ARMOUR OF GOD

Today Christians fight against "principalities and powers". To be able to stand against the attacks, we must depend on God's strength and use every piece of his Armor. Paul not only gave counsel to the church but also to individuals in the church. The whole body needs to be armed. Ephesians 6:10-17, tells us we battle against "the rulers of the darkness of the world", and fight in the strength of the church, whose power comes from the Holy Spirit. Today, we face a very powerful army,

whose goal is to defeat Christ's church. When we believe in Christ and join his church, these beings become our enemies and try to turn us away from Christ and back to sin. Although we are assured of victory, we must engage in the struggle until Christ comes because Satan is constantly battling against all who are on the Lord's side. We need supernatural power to defeat Satan, and God has supplied that need through his Holy Spirit within us and his armor surrounding us.

Jesus used carrying a cross to illustrate the ultimate submission required of his followers. He is not against pleasure, nor is he saying that we should seek pain needlessly. He is talking about the heroic effort needed to follow him moment by moment and to do his will when the work is difficult and the future appears bleak.

CONCLUSION

We should all have enough faith in God and believe with all our heart that as long as we trust God there will be no enemy that can conquer us. We sometimes forget what God can do and has done for us. The least we can do as Christians is to take up the cause, as it is only because of salvation that we have an assurance of heaven. Without our continuing to spread the word, others will not be saved and have eternal life.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

1 Samuel 17:32
1 Samuel 12:34-37
2 Kings 22:1 - 23:37
Esther 4 10-17
Mark 8:34-38

QUESTIONS:

1. Why should we take up the cause?

2. Does God help us in our everyday walk?
3. Why did David think that he could fight the giant and win?
4. As Christians, what must we do to be as close to the Lord as David was?
5. As a Christian, what responsibility do we have in making sure others hear about salvation?