

Bible History Catechism

New Testament History in Brief

Juniors
Book 2 of 2



by Rev. G. Vanden Berg
edited by J.J. Lim

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in Brief

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Adopted for use in Pilgrim Covenant Church, Singapore, July 2002
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Preface

This book has been prepared in accordance with the decisions of the Synod of the Protestant Reformed Churches in 1955-60. Its purpose is to provide a basis for catechetical instruction for children of nine and ten years old.

The twenty- five lessons of this book are based on the New Testament and aim to emphasise the facts and chronology of Scripture. With a review following each five lessons, the book will serve a thirty week catechism season.

This book is a companion book to the Old Testament History in Brief, prepared by Prof. H. C. Hoeksema, and it should be followed by the Old and New Testament Books for Seniors.

A workbook has also been prepared to accompany this book.

The author gratefully acknowledges the help of the Catechism Book Committee and the Catechism Reviewing Committee in the preparation of this book for use in the churches.

May our covenant God use this book for the spiritual instruction and edification of the seed of His covenant.

— G. Vanden Berg

The use of the Catechism for the instruction of the young in the church is an ancient and time-tested method. The present series of booklets are designed to give a firm grounding on Bible facts and history, which will eventually serve as a foundation for the doctrinal catechisms such as the *Westminster Shorter Catechism* which is adopted for use in Pilgrim Covenant Church. We have edited out some errors from the original version, as well as streamlined some of the answers so as to better fit the way the questions are asked.

If you (as parents) have been faithfully using this series of catechism from the beginning you will find that by now your child will be able to read the catechism by himself, and will also be able to memorise the answers with much less effort as compared to when he first started on the series. This surely is due not only to maturing mental capability, but also to training. You will as such find training your child to recite the catechism a much more pleasant experience than before.

But care must be taken that the exercise of catechising do not become a mere once a week, learn-and-regurgitate routine. Rather, it should be done prayerfully, with the belief and hope that the form of doctrine and biblical facts enlorged in the hearts of our children will one day (or even now) blossom and bear fruit for the glory of Christ. Let the mother, therefore, encourage the young scholar in the process of memorisation by not being cross and impatient when he gets it wrong for the umpteen time. And let the father ensure that the child understands what is memorised, and how they are relevant to his own soul by leading him to Christ through explication of the facts memorised.

May the Lord bless our feeble efforts to instruct our children in the way of the Lord.

—J.J. Lim, June 2004

Lesson 1

THE BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

Luke 1

1. Who did God send to prepare the way for Christ?
John the Baptist.
2. Who were the parents of John the Baptist?
The God-fearing Zacharias and Elisabeth.
3. What does the Bible tell us about the birth of John?
He was not born until his parents were very old.
4. Why did God wait until Zacharias and Elisabeth were old?
To show that John's birth was a wonder of grace.
5. How was the birth of John the Baptist announced?
The angel Gabriel told Zacharias in the temple.
6. What was Zacharias doing in the temple?
He was offering incense in the temple.
7. What sign did Zacharias receive because of his unbelief?
He was not able to speak of the wonderful things which the angel had told him.
8. Why did not Zacharias believe the message of the angel?
Because both he and his wife were very old.
9. Did God enable Zacharias to speak again?
Yes, when Zacharias has confirmed the name of John, God unloosed his tongue and he prophesied.
10. What does it mean that John the Baptist was a Nazarite?
That from his birth he was separated unto God.

Memory Verses: "And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways; To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins" (Luke 1:76, 77).

Lesson 2

THE LORD JESUS' BIRTH AND HIS EARLY CHILDHOOD

Luke 2, Matthew 2

1. Who announced the birth of the Lord Jesus to Mary?
The angel Gabriel, who had also told of the birth of John the Baptist.
2. Who was Mary?
A virgin of the royal house of David.
3. Where was the Lord Jesus born?
In Bethlehem, the city of David.
4. Who were the first to hear of the birth of the Lord?
Shepherds who were watching their sheep in the fields of Bethlehem.
5. What sign did the angels give to these shepherds?
“Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger” (Luke 2:12).
6. Where did Joseph and Mary take the Lord Jesus when He was forty days old?
To the temple to be presented to the Lord.
7. Who did Joseph and Mary meet at the temple?
The aged Simeon who prophesied and rejoiced in Christ's birth.
8. Who came from the far east to see and worship the Lord Jesus?
Wise men who had seen His star and who asked king Herod where they could find the Christ.
9. What did Herod do when the wise men did not return to him after they had found the Lord?
He killed all the children under 2 years old in Bethlehem.
11. At the age of twelve where was the Lord Jesus found?
In the temple at Jerusalem talking with the Scribes, asking and answering hard questions.

Memory Verses: Luke 2:7-14.

“And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn....”
(refer to your Bible).

Lesson 3

THE MINISTRY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

Luke 3:1–20; Matthew 3:1–12

1. Where did John the Baptist labour?
In the wilderness near the Jordan River.
2. What did John eat and how was he dressed?
He ate locusts and honey and wore a coat of camel's hair.
3. What was John's work or calling?
He preached and baptised.
4. What did John preach?
He called the people to repentance, telling them that the Kingdom of Heaven was at hand.
5. Did many believe John's preaching?
Yes, many believed and were baptised.
6. Who came to John to ask him who he was?
A delegation of Pharisees and Sadducees from Jerusalem.
7. How did John point out the Christ on the following day?
He said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29).
8. What did John urge his disciples to do?
To leave him and to follow the Lord Jesus.
9. What did the Lord Jesus later say about John the Baptist?
That John was the greatest of all the Old Testament prophets.
10. What did wicked Herod do when John reproved him for his sins?
He put John the Baptist in prison.

Memory Verse:

"John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptise you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose; he shall baptise you with the Holy Ghost and with fire" (Luke 3:16).

Lesson 4

THE LORD JESUS' BAPTISM AND TEMPTATIONS

Matthew 3:13–4:11

1. How old was the Lord Jesus when He began His public ministry?
He was about thirty years old.
2. How did the Lord begin His ministry?
He went to the Jordan River to be baptised by John.
3. What happened when the Lord Jesus was baptised?
The heavens were opened and the Holy Spirit came upon Him in the likeness of a dove.
4. What did a voice from heaven say?
“This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased” (Matthew 3:17).
5. What took place right after the baptism of the Lord Jesus?
The Spirit led Him into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.
6. Who is the devil?
He is the chief of the fallen angels, who is called Satan.
7. How long was the Lord Jesus in the wilderness?
He was there forty days and forty nights without food or drink.
8. How many times did the devil tempt the Lord there?
Three times and in three different ways.
9. Did the Lord Jesus listen to the devil?
No; He said, “Get thee behind me, Satan” (Luke 4:8).
10. Who came to the Lord when the temptations were finished?
Angels came to minister unto Him.

Memory Verse: “For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin” (Hebrews 4:15).

Lesson 5

THE BEGINNING OF THE LORD JESUS' MINISTRY

John 1:35–3:36

1. How long did the public ministry of the Lord Jesus last?
About three and a half years.
2. What is one of the first things that the Lord did?
He chose some of His disciples.
3. Who are some of these first disciples?
Andrew, John, Peter, Philip, and Nathanael.
4. What took place at a wedding in Cana?
The Lord Jesus performed His first miracle, in which He changed water into wine.
5. Where did the Lord Jesus go after this wedding?
He went to Capernaum for a few days and then to Jerusalem.
6. What did the Lord do in Jerusalem?
He drove from the temple those who were buying and selling sacrificial animals.
7. What did the Lord tell those who asked Him for a sign of His authority to do this?
“Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up” (John 2:19).
8. Who came to visit the Lord Jesus at night?
Nicodemus, a Pharisee and ruler of the Jews.
9. What did the Lord tell Nicodemus?
“Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God” (Jn 3:3).
10. Did John the Baptist complain when the people began to leave him to follow the Lord Jesus?
No, for he said, “He must increase, but I must decrease” (John 3:30).

Memory Verse: “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him” (John 3:36).

Lesson 6

IN SAMARIA AND GALILEE

John 4, Luke 4:16–5:11

1. Why did the Lord Jesus pass through Samaria on the way to Galilee?
To talk with a Samaritan woman at Jacob's well.
2. What did the Lord tell the Samaritan woman?
He told her that He was the promised Messiah.
3. Did the Lord also preach to other Samaritans?
Yes, many came to hear Him and believed that He was the Christ.
4. Was the Lord received in Galilee?
Yes, because many Galileans had seen His miracles in Jerusalem.
5. What miracle did the Lord Jesus perform in Cana of Galilee?
He healed a nobleman's son, who was sick at Capernaum.
6. What did the Lord teach in the synagogue of Nazareth?
He taught from the Scriptures that He was indeed the Christ.
7. Did His own people believe the Lord Jesus?
No, they rejected Him and even tried to kill Him.
8. Where did the Lord go from Nazareth?
To Capernaum where He preached and performed many miracles.
9. What did the Lord do at the Sea of Galilee?
He performed the wonderful miracle of catching many fishes.
10. What did the Lord do at the time of this miracle?
He called His disciples to leave their work and to follow Him.

Memory Verses: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor: he hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering the sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord” (Luke 4:18, 19).

Lesson 7

THE GALILEAN MINISTRY

John 5, Matthew 5–10

1. Why did the Lord Jesus leave Galilee for a little while?
To keep a feast of the Jews in Jerusalem.
2. What did the Lord do at the pool of Bethesda in Jerusalem?
He healed a lame man on the Sabbath day.
3. How did this miracle affect the Jews?
They became angry and accused the Lord of breaking the Sabbath.
4. Was it true that the Lord Jesus had broken the Sabbath?
No, because He was doing good on the Sabbath.
5. What great sermon did the Lord preach when He returned to Galilee?
The sermon on the mount (Matthew 5–7).
6. What was the main subject of this sermon?
The kingdom of heaven, and the marks and blessedness of its citizens.
7. Who did the Lord Jesus heal in Capernaum a short time later?
The servant of a centurion who demonstrated great faith.
8. What great miracle did the Lord perform at Nain two days after this?
He raised from the dead the son of a widow (Luke 7:11–35).
9. Who came to the Lord Jesus about this time?
Two of the disciples of John the Baptist who asked Him whether He was the Christ.
10. How was John the Baptist put to death?
He was beheaded by Herod Antipas (Matthew 14:3–12).

Memory Verses: “Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God” (Matthew 5:3–9).

Lesson 8

SECOND TOUR OF GALILEE

Matthew 11–13, Luke 7, 8

1. What form of teaching did the Lord Jesus use at this time?
He taught in parables.
2. What are parables?
They are earthly illustrations to teach us heavenly truths.
3. Mention two of the first parables the Lord spoke.
The parables of the Sower and Soils, and of the Wheat and Tares.
4. Why did the Lord speak judgments on the cities of Capernaum, Chorazin and Bethsaida?
Because He had performed many mighty works in these cities, and they did not believe.
5. Who came to the Lord Jesus while He was eating at the house of Simon the Pharisee?
A sinful woman, who anointed the Lord's feet with her tears.
6. Why did the sinful woman anoint the Lord's feet?
To show her love and gratitude to Him, because her sins had been forgiven.
7. What happened when the Lord Jesus and His disciples were crossing the Sea of Galilee?
A great storm arose while the Lord was asleep in the boat.
8. How did the Lord show His power and authority?
He stilled the storm and then rebuked His disciples for their unbelief.
9. What miracle did the Lord Jesus perform on the other side of the sea?
Two men possessed of devils were healed, and the devils were allowed to enter a herd of swine (Matthew 8:28–32).
10. Who did the Lord raise from the dead in Capernaum?
The daughter of Jairus.

Memory Verses: “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light” (Matthew 11:28–30).

Lesson 9

THIRD GALILEAN TOUR

John 6, Mark 6–8

1. Why did the Lord Jesus send out His twelve disciples?
To preach the Gospel and to heal the sick.
2. Where did the Lord go when He heard about the death of John the Baptist?
Into a desert place on the other side of the Sea of Galilee.
3. What miracle did the Lord Jesus perform near Capernaum?
He fed more than five thousand people with five loaves and two fishes.
4. What was the result of the feeding of the five thousand?
The people wanted to make the Lord their king.
5. Was the Lord Jesus willing to become their king?
No, because His kingdom is heavenly and not of this earth.
6. Did the people still follow the Lord when He would not be their king?
No, they went away and followed Him no more.
7. What did Peter say when the Lord asked the disciples if they too were going away?
Peter said, "Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life" (John 6:68).
8. What miracle did the Lord Jesus perform in the country of Tyre and Sidon?
He healed the daughter of a Syro-Phoenician woman who had great faith.
9. How did the Syro-Phoenician woman show her faith?
She acknowledged that she is like a dog under the table, not worthy of what was reserved for His children.
10. What miracle did the Lord perform in Decapolis?
He healed a man who was deaf and had an impediment in his speech.

Memory Verse: "Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence" (John 18:36).

Lesson 10

THE TRANSFIGURATION

Matthew 17, Luke 9, John 10

1. What did the Lord Jesus begin to tell His disciples as He prepared to wrap up His ministry?
That He would suffer and die in Jerusalem and be raised again on the third day.
2. What did Peter say about the Lord when they were in Caesarea Philippi?
“Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God” (Matthew 16:16).
3. Where did the Lord Jesus go after Peter’s great confession?
To a mountain with three of His disciples to pray.
4. What happened while the Lord was praying on the mountain?
He was transfigured in the presence of His disciples.
5. Who spoke with the Lord while He was transfigured on the mount?
Moses and Elijah, who talked with the Lord about His suffering and death.
6. What did the disciples quarrel about?
They argued about which of them would be the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.
7. To which feast of the Jews did the Lord Jesus attend this time?
To the Feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem.
8. Why did the Pharisees become angry with the Lord Jesus at the Feast of the Tabernacles?
Because He healed a blind man on the Sabbath day (John 9).
9. What did the Lord teach concerning Himself?
That He is the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep.
10. What did He tell the unbelieving Jews?
“But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep” (John 10:26).

Memory Verses: “For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount” (2 Peter 1:17, 18).

Lesson 11

THE RAISING OF LAZARUS

John 11, Luke 11–19

1. Where did the Lord Jesus go after the Feast of Dedication?
To Perea, east of the Jordan, where many believed on Him (John 10:42).
2. What message came to the Lord while He was in Perea?
He was told that His friend Lazarus was very sick.
3. Did the Lord go to Bethany to heal Lazarus?
No, He waited until Lazarus had died.
4. Why did the Lord Jesus wait until Lazarus had died?
To show His power by raising Lazarus from the dead.
5. What was the result of this great miracle?
Many believed, but the wicked rulers made plans to kill the Lord.
6. Where did the Lord Jesus go when the rulers planned to kill Him?
To the city of Ephraim, where He spent the last weeks of His ministry.
7. What did the Lord tell the rich young ruler who came to Him seeking eternal life?
“Go, and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor” (Matthew 19:21).
8. What miracle did the Lord Jesus perform near Jericho?
He healed blind Bartimaeus.
9. Who climbed a tree in order to see the Lord?
Zacchaeus, the publican, to whose house the Lord brought salvation.
10. What did Mary, the sister of Martha and Lazarus, do in Bethany?
She anointed the Lord Jesus with very costly ointment, to prepare Him for His burial.

Memory Verses: “Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die” (John 11:25, 26).

Lesson 12
THE PASSION WEEK

Luke 19–22

1. What is the last week of the Lord Jesus' life called?
The Passion Week, which means the Week of Suffering.
2. What did the Lord do on the first day of this week?
He rode into Jerusalem on the colt of an ass.
3. What did the people who followed the Lord Jesus shout?
“Hosanna to the Son of David” (Matthew 21:9).
4. What did the Lord Jesus do in the temple on Monday?
He drove out those that made His Father's house a den of robbers.
5. What did the Lord do on the way from Bethany on Monday morning?
He cursed the barren fig tree.
6. What did the Lord Jesus do on Tuesday?
He taught the people for the last time.
7. What did the Lord foretell on Tuesday evening?
He spoke of the destruction of Jerusalem and of His second coming.
8. How did the Lord spend Wednesday of the Passion Week?
He was alone with His disciples, whom He told about His coming death.
9. What did Judas Iscariot do on Wednesday?
He agreed to betray the Lord Jesus for thirty pieces of silver.
10. Why did Judas betray the Lord Jesus?
Because Judas was wicked, and Satan had entered his heart.

Memory Verse: “For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings”
(Hebrews 2:10).

Lesson 13

THE LORD JESUS' ARREST AND TRIAL

Matthew 26, 27, John 18

1. What did the Lord Jesus do on Thursday of the Passion Week?
He ate the last Passover with His disciples in an upper room.
2. What did the Lord do to His disciples in the upper room?
He washed their feet as a servant might do.
3. What did the Lord do after He had eaten the Passover with His disciples?
He instituted the Lord's Supper.
4. Where did the Lord Jesus go with His disciples after the upper room?
To the garden of Gethsemane, where He prayed while His disciples slept.
5. Who came to the garden of Gethsemane to arrest the Lord Jesus?
Judas Iscariot, with a large company from the rulers of the people.
6. Could the mob arrest the Lord?
Not until the Lord willingly surrendered Himself.
7. What did the disciples do when the Lord Jesus was arrested?
They all forsook Him and fled.
8. Where did the Lord's enemies take Him first?
To the rulers of the Jews to try Him.
9. What did Peter do during the trial of the Lord Jesus?
He denied his Lord three times.
10. Who finally sentenced the Lord to die?
Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor.

Memory Verse: “And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: never theless not as I will, but as thou wilt”
(Matthew 26:39).

Lesson 14

THE LORD JESUS' CRUCIFIXION

Luke 23, John 19

1. How did Pilate show that he was a wicked judge?
Although he knew the Lord Jesus was innocent, he condemned Him to death.
2. What did Judas Iscariot do after he had betrayed the Lord?
He returned the money to the chief priests and went out and hanged himself (Matthew 27:3–10).
3. Where was the Lord Jesus crucified?
On the hill of Golgatha, just outside of Jerusalem.
4. Why did the Lord have to die on the cross?
In order to save His people from their sins.
5. With whom was the Lord Jesus crucified?
With two malefactors, or thieves.
6. What did one of the malefactors say to the Lord?
“Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom” (Luke 23:42).
7. What did the Lord say to the penitent malefactor?
“To day shalt thou be with me in paradise” (Luke 23:43).
8. What did the Lord Jesus say before He died?
“Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit” (Luke 23:46).
9. What took place the moment the Lord died on the cross?
The veil of the temple was rent, the earth quaked, and the graves of many were opened (Matthew 27:51–53).
10. By whom was the Lord Jesus' body buried?
By Joseph of Arimathaea and Nicodemus.

Memory Verse: “But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world” (Galatians 6:14).

Lesson 15

THE RESURRECTION

Matthew 28, John 20, Luke 24

1. What happened on the first day of the week?
The Lord Jesus arose from the dead, even as He had said.
2. What did the women who followed the Lord Jesus find when they came to the grave?
That the stone, which was sealing the tomb, was rolled away, and the grave was empty.
3. Who told the women about the resurrection?
The angel who was sitting on the stone which he had rolled away from the tomb.
4. How did the rulers of the Jews deny the resurrection?
They said that the disciples had come by night and had stolen the body of the Lord Jesus Christ.
5. To whom did the Lord Jesus first appear after the resurrection?
To Mary Magdalene at the tomb.
6. To whom did He appear a short time after this?
To a group of women who were returning from the grave.
7. To whom did the Lord appear later that same day?
To Peter and the two disciples travelling to Emmaus.
8. What did Thomas say when he heard about the Lord Jesus' resurrection?
He said that he would not believe until he saw the Lord Himself.
9. For how long a time did the Lord appear to His disciples after His resurrection?
For forty days.
10. Why did the Lord Jesus appear to His disciples during these forty days?
To teach His disciples many things about the kingdom of heaven.

Memory Verses: "But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive" (1 Corinthians 15:20–22).

Lesson 16

THE ASCENSION AND PENTECOST

Acts 1, 2

1. What took place forty days after the Lord Jesus' resurrection?
The Lord Jesus was taken up into heaven before the eyes of His disciples.
2. What promise was given the disciples when the Lord went up?
That the Lord Jesus would return as they had seen Him go up.
3. What did the disciples do after the Lord Jesus ascended into heaven?
They went to Jerusalem to wait for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.
4. When was the Holy Spirit given to the disciples?
At Pentecost, ten days after the ascension.
5. Upon how many was the Holy Spirit poured out?
Upon one hundred and twenty disciples who were gathered together in one place.
6. What did the disciples do when they had received the Holy Spirit?
They spoke of the wonderful works of God in many languages.
7. What did the wicked Jews say of the disciples when they heard them speak in tongues?
That the disciples were drunk.
8. What did Peter preach on Pentecost?
That the Holy Spirit was poured out by the risen Lord, as spoken by the prophets.
9. What did Peter say when the congregation ask what they must do?
"Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call" (Acts 2:38, 39).
10. How many believed Peter's preaching?
About three thousand believed and were baptised in the name of Christ.

Memory Verses: "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith" (Galatians 3:13, 14).

Lesson 17

THE EARLY NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

Acts 3, 4

1. What can be said about the church immediately after Pentecost?
It continued in the Apostles' doctrine and grew rapidly.
2. How is this rapid growth of the church to be explained?
The Lord added daily to the church such as should be saved.
3. What wonderful miracle took place at the gate of the temple?
The healing of a man who had been lame from his birth.
4. How was the lame man at the temple gate healed?
Peter said to him, "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk" (Acts 3:6).
5. How were the people affected by the miracle of the healing of the lame man?
They were filled with amazement and listened eagerly to Peter's preaching.
6. How did Peter explain the miracle of the healing of the lame man?
That this miracle was performed by the power of the risen Lord Jesus.
7. What effect did Peter's preaching have on the rulers?
They became angry and put the Apostles in prison.
8. What did Peter and John tell these rulers the next day?
That they could not stop preaching in the name of the Lord Jesus.
9. What did the Apostles do when they were set free?
They reported to the church the things that had happened.
10. How did God answer the prayer of the church?
The place was shaken, and they were filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 4:31).

Memory Verses: "And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all" (Acts 4:32, 33).

Lesson 18
TROUBLES IN
THE EARLY NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH
Acts 5–7

1. How did sin become manifest in the New Testament Church?
Ananias and Sapphira lied to the Apostles and to God.
2. How were Ananias and Sapphira punished?
They fell dead at the feet of the Apostles.
3. How did the Lord show His power through the Apostles?
Many were healed of their illnesses, including those on whom Peter's shadow fell.
4. How did the rulers react to the miracles of the Apostles?
They became very angry and again put the Apostles in prison.
5. How did the Apostles escape from prison?
An angel of the Lord came and led them out.
6. What did the Apostles say when commanded not to preach in Christ's name?
They told the rulers, "We ought to obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29).
7. What other trouble arose in the church?
Some of the poor Grecian widows were not cared for.
8. What office did the Lord provide for the care of the poor?
The office of deacon, to which seven men were appointed.
9. What later happened to Stephen, one of the deacons?
The wicked Jews accused him of blasphemy and stoned him to death.
10. Who watched while Stephen was being stoned?
Saul of Tarsus, who later became the Apostle Paul.

Memory Verse: "The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them" (Psalm 34:7).

Lesson 19

THE PERSECUTION OF THE CHURCH

Acts 8–10

1. What followed upon the death of Stephen?
A great persecution against the church at Jerusalem.
2. What was the effect of this persecution upon the church?
The church was scattered throughout Judea and Samaria.
3. Who was sent to Samaria to preach the Gospel?
Philip, who was hither to a deacon.
4. What happened when Philip was sent to Gaza by the Spirit?
An Ethiopian eunuch was instructed and baptised by him.
5. Why did Saul go to Damascus?
To persecute the believers there.
6. What happened while Saul was on the way to Damascus?
The risen and exalted Lord appeared to him.
7. Why did the Lord Jesus appear to Saul on the way to Damascus?
To call him to be an Apostle and missionary to the Gentiles.
8. What vision did the Lord give Peter at Joppa?
The vision of unclean animals.
9. What was the meaning of this vision of Peter?
That the gospel is for the Gentiles as well as for the Jews.
10. Why was this shown to Peter?
Because he had to go to Cornelius, a Gentile, in Caesarea, to preach the Word.

Memory Verse: “Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf” (1 Peter 4:16).

Lesson 20

THE CHURCH AT ANTIOCH

Acts 11–12

1. Why is the church at Antioch important?
Because it became the centre of missionary activity.
2. Who was sent to Antioch from the church at Jerusalem?
Barnabas, who laboured there with much fruit.
3. How did Herod begin to persecute the church at this time?
He killed the Apostle James and put Peter in prison.
4. Was Peter also put to death at that time?
No, the Lord delivered him from prison.
5. How did God punish wicked Herod?
God sent an angel to kill him, and he was eaten of worms.
6. Why did the Lord punish Herod?
Because Herod let the people say that he was a god.
7. How did the church at Antioch help the believers in Judea?
They sent money to them during the time of famine.
8. What do we read about the church during this period?
It grew and multiplied through the Word of God.
9. Whom did Barnabas and Paul take with them from Jerusalem?
John Mark.
10. Who sent Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey?
The Holy Spirit through the church at Antioch.

Memory Verse: “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light” (1 Peter 2:9).

Lesson 21

THE FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY

Acts 13–15

1. What can be said about all of Paul's missionary work?
Paul always preached first to the Jews and then went to the Gentiles.
2. Who opposed Paul on the island of Cyprus?
Barjesus, a sorcerer, who was punished with blindness for a season.
3. How did Barjesus oppose Paul?
He tried to turn the deputy of the island from the faith.
4. Who left Paul and Barnabas when they came to Pamphylia?
John Mark, who went back to Jerusalem.
5. Was the work of these missionaries easy?
No, for they were often persecuted by wicked Jews.
6. Who believed the preaching of Paul and Barnabas?
"As many as were ordained to eternal life believed" (Acts 13:48).
7. What did the people do at Lystra when Paul healed a lame man?
The people tried to worship the Apostles as gods.
8. What did Paul and Barnabas do on their return to Antioch?
They visited all the churches, which they had established, to confirm the souls of the disciples and to exhort them to continue in the faith.
9. What trouble arose in the churches between the Jewish and Gentile Christians?
There was arguments about the place of the law and circumcision in the church.
10. What did the church decide about this matter in a meeting held in Jerusalem?
That the Gentile believers did not need to be circumcised.

Memory Verse: "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).

Lesson 22

THE SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY

Acts 16

1. Why did not Paul and Barnabas go together on the second missionary journey?
Because they could not agree about taking John Mark along with them.
2. Did Paul then go alone on this journey?
No, Paul took Silas with him while Barnabas took John Mark.
3. Whom else did Paul take with him from Lystra?
Timothy, who became a faithful helper.
4. What did Paul see in a vision at Troas?
A man saying, "Come over into Macedonia, and help us" (Acts 16:9).
5. What did this vision of Paul mean?
That the Holy Spirit was calling him to preach the gospel in Europe.
6. Who was the first convert in Philippi?
Lydia, whose heart the Lord opened.
7. How were Paul and Silas persecuted at Philippi?
They were beaten and put into prison when they cast out an evil spirit from a young girl.
8. What happened the night Paul and Silas were in prison?
While Paul and Silas sang praises to God, there was an earthquake and the doors of the prison were opened miraculously.
9. What did the jailor ask of Paul and Silas?
"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" (Acts 16:30)
10. What answer did Paul give the Philippian jailor?
"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" (Acts 16:30).

Memory Verses: "Blessed are they that are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad; for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you" (Matthew 5:10–12).

Lesson 23

THE SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY

Acts 17, 18

1. What did the unbelieving Jews do in Thessalonica?
The Jews stirred up evil men to persecute the Apostles.
2. Where did Paul go from Thessalonica?
To Berea, where the believers received the Word preached with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily to verify what they were taught.
3. Why did Paul leave Berea?
Evil Jews from Thessalonica came there and stirred up the people against him.
4. How did the Athenians receive Paul's preaching?
Many mocked when he began to speak about the resurrection.
5. Where did he go from Athens?
To Corinth, where he laboured for a year and a half.
6. Who were Aquila and Priscilla?
They were tent-makers in Corinth with whom Paul stayed.
7. Were the Apostle's labours fruitful in Corinth?
Yes, for the Lord had many of His elect in this city.
8. Who were among the believers in Corinth?
Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, and his family.
9. Where did Paul go from Corinth?
He returned to Jerusalem to keep the feast of Pentecost.
10. What can you say about this second missionary journey?
That the Gospel was spread into Europe.

Memory Verse: “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek” (Romans 1:16).

Lesson 24

THE THIRD MISSIONARY JOURNEY

Acts 19–22

1. Where did Paul spend much time on this third missionary journey?
In the city of Ephesus, where he laboured nearly three years.
2. Did Paul do more than preach at Ephesus?
Yes, he also performed many miracles.
3. What unhappy news did the Apostle receive when he was in Ephesus?
He heard about the problems in the church at Corinth (Acts 19:21, 22; 1 Corinthians 1:11).
4. Why did Paul leave the city of Ephesus?
Because Demetrius, a silversmith, caused a great uproar.
5. What miracle did Paul perform at Troas?
He raised a young man who fell asleep and fell from a third storey window, while he was preaching.
6. Who did Paul meet at Miletus?
The elders from the church at Ephesus.
7. What did Paul warn the elders of Ephesus about?
That after his departure shall grievous wolves enter in among them, not sparing the flock.
8. What did Agabus the prophet foretell about Paul?
That Paul would be bound by the Jews in Jerusalem.
9. Was Paul afraid to go to Jerusalem?
No, for he said, "I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus" (Acts 21:13).
10. What happened to Paul in Jerusalem when the multitude sought to kill him?
He was rescued from the wicked Jews by a Roman captain.

Memory Verse: "For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day" (2 Timothy 1:12b).

Lesson 25

PAUL'S IMPRISONMENT AND TRIP TO ROME

Acts 22–28

1. Did Paul remain a prisoner in Jerusalem?
No, he was sent to Caesarea, to escape the plot of the Jews to kill him.
2. What happened to Paul at Caesarea?
Paul was tried before Felix the governor.
3. Did Felix set Paul free?
No, he was later tried again before Festus and king Agrippa.
4. Why was Paul sent to Rome?
Because he had appealed to Caesar.
5. How did Paul suffer on the way to Rome?
Paul was shipwrecked on the island of Melita.
6. What did Paul do while he was a captive in Rome?
He preached the gospel in his own house.
7. What was the effect of Paul's preaching in Rome?
Some believed, including those of the household of Caesar.
8. Was Paul executed at this imprisonment?
No, he was released, and wrote 1 Timothy and Titus, during a fourth missionary journey.
9. How did Paul conclude his ministry?
He was imprisoned at Rome a second time, and executed shortly after he wrote 2 Timothy..
10. How does the Apostle sum up his labours as a servant of the Lord Jesus Christ?
He said, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith" (2 Timothy 4:7).

Memory Verses: "Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth. Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown" (Revelation 3:10, 11).