Creation to Christ

Lesson Progress

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Lessons		House of Peace Names:							
1	Creation								
2	Sin								
3	Sacrifice								
4	Jesus is Lord								
5	Jesus' Death								
6	Jesus is Alive								
7	Relationship with God								

How to use this booklet

Introduction:

The purpose of this book is to guide disciples of Jesus in how to share the Gospel and teach others more about who Jesus is.

In Matthew 28:19-20, Jesus commands all His followers to go into the world and make disciples of all nations. This command is given to every person who is a disciple of Jesus.

It is out of our love for God and for the lost that we obey God's command to go into the world and make His name known among every person and place.

Every lesson has 3 important parts:

1. Look Back (Review): Every lesson will begin by reviewing what we learned and talking about how we obeyed since the previous lesson.

2. Look up (New Teaching): The focus of every lesson will be on learning something new from God's Word.

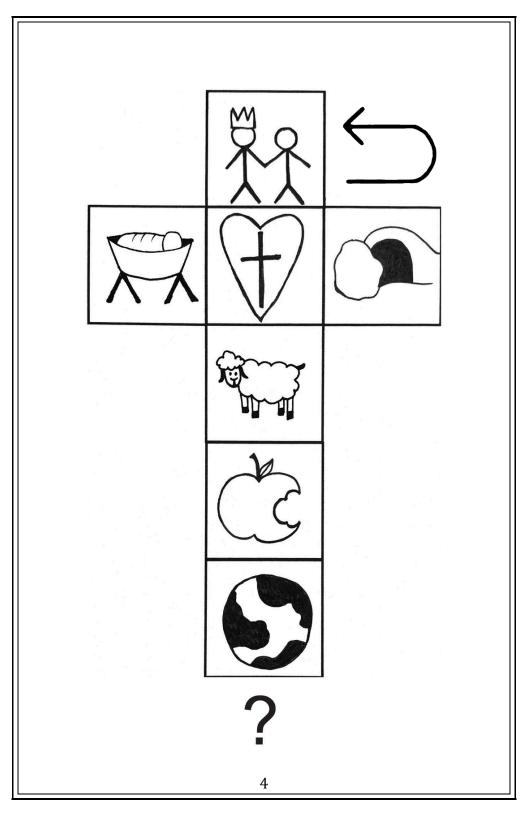
3. Look Ahead (Obedience): Every lesson will end with a plan for how we will obey what we have learned from God's Word. We obey out of love for God.

Plan:

- 1. Find a house of peace and share the Gospel and your testimony with them.
- 2. If they are interested in learning more about Jesus after you share the Gospel with them, begin teaching them the first lesson in this book.
- 3. After completing the *Creation to Christ* stories, begin teaching them the discipleship lessons, starting with "Repentance and Faith".

Abide in Christ:

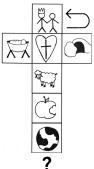
If we are not spending time in prayer and in God's Word each day, everything that we do will fail. Commit to start each day in God's Word and take His Word with you throughout the day as you pray and reflect on what you have learned.



Page Number and Lessons

- 02 Lesson Progress
- 03 How to use this Booklet
- 06 Jesus' Story (Gospel)
- 08 Lesson 1: Creation
- 10 Lesson 2: Sin
- 12 Lesson 3: Sacrifice
- 14 Lesson 4: Jesus is Lord
- 16 Lesson 5: Jesus' Death
- 18 Lesson 6: Jesus is Alive
- 20 Lesson 7: Relationship with God
- 22 What's Next?
- 23 Notes

Tell Jesus' Story (The Gospel)



In the beginning, God created everything. When He created man and woman, He created them in His image. Everything He made was good. God and man had a perfect relationship.

One day God put man in a garden. Their relationship was perfect. God told man that he could eat any fruit in the garden. But God gave him one command saying, "Do not eat the fruit of one of the trees in the garden." The man and the woman ate of the fruit that God told them not to eat. Because of this, sin has come into the world. Sin is when we do not obey God's commands. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23) God is holy. This means that God is perfect. God cannot be with sinners because He hates sin. Since all people are sinners, we are all separated from God.

In order for man to be in a good relationship with God, payment for man's sin must be given. "For the wages of sin is death..." (Romans 6:23) People tried to offer sacrifices to pay for their sin, but these sacrifices were not enough. The payment for our sin is death and eternity separated from God. This is bad news for all people. But there is good news. *Do you want to hear the good news?* The good news is that God loves all people, and He has a plan.

His plan is through His son. He sent His son to this earth. He was hungry and thirsty just as we are hungry and thirsty. He grew in knowledge and in wisdom. He was fully man. He was also fully God. He lived a perfect life without sin. He caused the blind to see and the lame to walk. He brought the dead to life. He did many miracles. He has authority over all things. This man is Jesus - God's perfect son.

God sent His son Jesus to the earth to pay the penalty for our sin. Jesus chose to go to the cross, and he died for our sin. It was a very painful death. "**But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**" (Romans 5:8) Jesus sacrificed His life so that all people could be in a good relationship with God. He was the perfect sacrifice. 6 When Jesus died, they placed his body in a grave. After three days, Jesus rose from the dead proving that He is God. He appeared to His disciples and ascended into heaven.

Jesus is the King of heaven and earth. Trusting in Jesus' death on the cross, all people can be restored into a right relationship with God. If you repent of your sin and place your faith in Jesus Christ alone, you will be brought into a perfect relationship with God and will spend eternity with God in heaven. If you choose **not** to repent of your sin and believe only in Jesus, you will be judged by God for your sins, and your relationship with God will remain broken. You will spend eternity separated from God in hell. Jesus said, **"I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6)**

Jesus is the only way! To come to Him, we must confess that He is Lord - repenting of our self-rule - and believe in our heart that God raised Jesus from the dead. **(Romans 10:9)** What must you do to be saved by God? (*Let them answer*) Repent from your sin and believe only in Jesus. Repent means to turn away from sin because we choose to follow a new way – Christ Jesus' perfect way. This doesn't mean that we will live a perfect life without sin, but we ask God daily to help us turn from sin and pursue Him.

(Ask them) "What is keeping you from following Jesus?"

2 Responses:

1. If they say that they want to follow Jesus, then tell them:

- "If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." (Romans 10:9)
- God is everywhere. He hears all things and understands all languages. In your own words, from your mouth, confess to God that Jesus is the Lord of your life. That means that Jesus has authority over every part of your life. Trust Him to save you from your sin.
- If you have decided to follow Jesus, you will want to tell someone! Make a plan to tell someone today about your decision. <u>[Immediately teach them to tell Jesus' story to others.</u> Then make an appointment with them (tomorrow or sometime next week) and begin teaching them more about Jesus from "Creation to Christ".]

2. If they are not ready to follow Jesus, ask them if they would like to continue learning about Jesus.

- If they say **yes**, make an appointment to teach them the seven stories from "Creation to Christ".
- If they say **no**, pray for them and go to the next place to tell the Gospel.

Lesson 1: Creation

Look Back (Review)

Praise and Pray:

- Ask them: "How are you doing?"
- Pray for your meeting together.

Review:

• Have one person in the group tell Jesus' story.

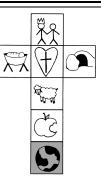
Look Up (New Teaching)

The truth about God is written in the Bible. Today, we will go back to the very beginning of God's story. We will learn how God made the world.

Read from God's Word: (Have each Scripture read by two people.)

- Genesis 1:1-31: Story of Creation
- Genesis 2:1-3
 - $_{\odot}$ Have someone tell this story in his or her own words.
 - The group should correct the person telling the story when they add something that wasn't in the story or forget something important.
 - Get into groups of two. Each person should tell this story to the other person.

- 1. What did you learn from this story?
- 2. What part of the story surprised you?



- 1. God has always existed, even before the heavens & the earth were made. No one created God.
- 2. God created all things by speaking.
- 3. Man and woman were made in God's image for His glory.
- 4. In the beginning, God and man had a perfect relationship. Man had not yet sinned against God.
- 5. God rested on the seventh day. This shows us that we should also take one day per week to rest and focus on God.
- 6. Everything that God created was good.

Look Ahead (Obedience)

Make a Plan:

• Tell everyone to share this story with their family and friends before our next meeting. (Have each person give specific names.)

Immediate Obedience:

• In the beginning, everything God created was good. God and man's relationship was perfect. Next time you see the sun come up, **remember** that God is the Creator of all things.

Pray: Ask God to help us always remember that He alone is our Creator. Pray that He would help each person share this story with others this week.

Lesson 2: Sin

Look Back (Review)

Praise and Pray:

- Ask them: "How are you doing?"
- Pray for your meeting together.

Accountability and Review: (Let them give the answers.)

- To whom did you tell the story from the last lesson?
- What was the topic of the last lesson? [Creation]
- Whom was the story about? [God, man and woman]
- What happened? [God created all things, including the first people.]
- Have one person in the group tell Jesus' story.

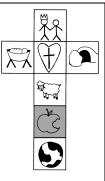
Look Up (New Teaching)

Today, we will learn about man's first time to sin against God. After the man and the woman sinned, God and man's relationship was changed forever. Their relationship was broken.

Read from God's Word: (Have the Scripture read by two people.)

- Genesis 3:1-24: Story of Man's Disobedience
 - $_{\odot}$ Have someone tell this Scripture in his or her own words as a story.
 - The group should correct the person telling the story when they add something that wasn't in the story or forget something important.
 - Get into groups of two. Each person should tell this story to the other person.

- 1. What did you learn from this story?
- 2. What part of the story surprised you?



- 1. God knows everything! Just like Adam and Eve could not hide their sin from Him, neither can we.
- 2. God hates sin. God cannot be with sin, and God will always punish sin. When Adam and Eve sinned, they were immediately separated from God.
- Adam and Eve were separated from God because of their sin. All people sin and because of that sin all people are separated from God.
- 4. The serpent in the story is Satan. Satan is evil and wants to prevent man from knowing and serving God.
- 5. There will be a rescuer who is coming that will end the curse of sin and crush the head of Satan.

Look Ahead (Obedience)

Make a Plan:

• Tell everyone to share this story with their family and friends before our next meeting. (Have each person give specific names.)

Immediate Obedience:

• Disobedience to God is called sin, and it must be punished by God. Because of sin, we are separated from God, but **remember:** through Jesus' sacrifice alone, we can be forgiven for our sins.

Pray: Ask God to help us all to understand that all people are separated from God because of sin. Pray that the Lord would draw everyone here to Himself and that they would see their need for Jesus, the one true God.

Lesson 3: Sacrifice

Look Back (Review)

Praise and Pray:

- Ask them: "How are you doing?"
- Pray for your meeting together.

Accountability and Review: (Let them give the answers.)

- To whom did you tell the story from the last lesson?
- What was the topic of the last lesson? [Man's Disobedience, the First Sin]
- Whom was the story about? [God, the serpent (Satan), Adam and Eve]
- What happened? [The serpent deceived Eve into sinning against God. Adam and Eve disobeyed God's command. They had to leave the garden forever, and their relationship with God was broken.]
- Have one person in the group tell Jesus' story.

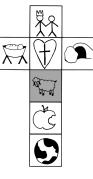
Look Up (New Teaching)

Today, we will learn a story about a man named Abraham and his son Isaac. This story teaches us that God will provide the perfect sacrifice so that God and man's relationship can be restored. That sacrifice is Jesus.

Read from God's Word: (Have each Scripture read by two people.)

- <u>Genesis 22:1-18</u>
- John 1:29
 - $_{\odot}$ Have someone tell this Scripture in his or her own words as a story.
 - The group should correct the person telling the story when they add something that wasn't in the story or forget something important.
 - \circ Get into groups of two. Each person should tell this story to the other person.

- 1. What did you learn from this story?
- 2. What part of the story surprised you?



- 1. God's plans are greater than our plans.
- 2. God always keeps His promises and provides for His people.
- God called Abraham to sacrifice his only son. This is a picture of how God gave His only Son for the sins of all the people of the world.
- 4. Abraham trusted that God would provide the sacrifice.
- 5. God provided the ram to be sacrificed instead of Isaac.
- 6. The ram in the story represents how God sent His only Son (Jesus) to be a sacrifice for the sins of all the people of the world.
- 7. The Lord Himself provided the sacrifice for Abraham's offering to God.

Look Ahead (Obedience)

Make a Plan:

• Tell everyone to share this story with their family and friends before our next meeting. (Have each person give specific names.)

Immediate Obedience:

• Abraham had great faith in God. The sacrifice that God provided points to a future sacrifice of God's perfect Son Jesus. **Remember** that God sent Jesus into the world as the perfect sacrifice to die in our place.

Pray: Ask God to help us all understand that Jesus is the one true God and that He is the only one who can save us from our sins. Thank God for providing the perfect sacrifice for our sins which is, Jesus. Praise Him for always keeping His promises.

Lesson 4: Jesus is Lord

Look Back (Review)

Praise and Pray:

- Ask them: "How are you doing?"
- Pray for your meeting together.

Accountability and Review: (Let them give the answers.)

- To whom did you tell the story from the last lesson?
- What was the topic of the last lesson? [Sacrifice]
- Whom was the story about? [Abraham, Isaac and Jesus]
- What happened? [God provided a sacrifice to take the place of Isaac. Jesus sacrificed His life for all people to be in a perfect relationship with God.]
- Have one person in the group tell **Jesus' story**.

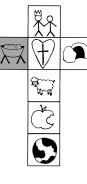
Look Up (New Teaching)

Today, we will learn a story about how Jesus has the power to forgive sins and heal the sick. He has authority over all things. Jesus is Lord of all the world!

Read from God's Word: (Have the Scripture read by two people.)

- <u>Mark 2:1-12</u>
 - $_{\odot}$ Have someone tell this Scripture in his or her own words as a story.
 - The group should correct the person telling the story when they add something that wasn't in the story or forget something important.
 - Get into groups of two. Each person should tell this story to the other person.

- 1. What did you learn from this story?
- 2. What part of the story surprised you?



- 1. The men who carried the paralytic had great faith in Jesus.
- 2. Jesus is fully God.
- 3. Jesus is the only one who has the authority to forgive sins.
- 4. We should have faith in Jesus to forgive us of our sins.
- 5. Jesus knows all things. He even knows what we are thinking.
- 6. Jesus has the power to heal people.
- 7. Jesus knows that spiritual healing (being saved) is more important than our physical healing.
- 8. Jesus takes care of His children.

Look Ahead (Obedience)

Make a Plan:

• Tell everyone to share this story with their family and friends before our next meeting. (Have each person give specific names.)

Immediate Obedience:

• The man's friends in this story brought him to the house to be healed by Jesus. Jesus saw that the man's greatest need was spiritual healing and forgave him of his sin. Jesus is the only one who can restore our relationship with God. **Plan to invite** someone to come with you to this place for the next lesson so that they can learn about Jesus also.

Pray: Thank Jesus for having authority over all things. Ask Him to give us faith like the paralytic and his friends. Ask God to heal the people in this group spiritually because they need spiritual healing more than anything.

Lesson 5: Jesus' Death

Look Back (Review)

Praise and Pray:

- Ask them: "How are you doing?"
- Pray for your meeting together.

Accountability and Review: (Let them give the answers.)

- To whom did you tell the story from the last lesson?
- What was the topic of the last lesson? [Jesus forgiving man of sin.]
- Whom was the story about? [Jesus, a paralytic, and his four friends.]
- What happened? [Four friends brought a paralytic to Jesus for healing and Jesus forgave him of his sin because of their faith and healed him.]
- Have one person in the group tell Jesus' story.

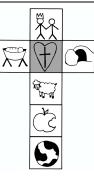
Look Up (New Teaching)

Jesus chose to sacrifice His life even though He knew He would endure much pain and suffering. He did this because He desires for all people to follow Him.

Read from God's Word: (Have the Scripture read by two people.)

- <u>Mark 15:16-47</u>
 - $_{\odot}$ Have someone tell this Scripture in his or her own words as a story.
 - The group should correct the person telling the story when they add something that wasn't in the story or forget something important.
 - Get into groups of two. Each person should tell this story to the other person.

- 1. What did you learn from this story?
- 2. What part of the story surprised you?



- 1. Jesus did nothing to deserve death.
- 2. Jesus died to pay for our sins, so that we could be in a right relationship with God.
- Jesus could have saved Himself, but He chose to follow His Father's will so that we could have an opportunity to be with Him.
- 4. The Old Testament prophecies were fulfilled.
- 5. Jesus' dead body was placed inside a tomb.
- 6. Jesus has the power to save.

Look Ahead (Obedience)

Make a Plan:

• Tell everyone to share this story with their family and friends before our next meeting. (Have each person give specific names.)

Immediate Obedience:

• Man's relationship with God was broken because of sin. Jesus chose to sacrifice His life and die in our place so that our relationship with God could be made perfect again. **Remember** that there is nothing we can do to earn salvation. Jesus alone paid the penalty for your sin. If you choose to follow Him, your relationship with God will be perfect again.

Pray: Thank Jesus for the sacrifice He made and punishment He received on our behalf. Ask Him to help us forgive as He has forgiven us.

Lesson 6: Jesus is Alive

Look Back (Review)

Praise and Pray:

- Ask them: "How are you doing?"
- Pray for your meeting together.

Accountability and Review: (Let them give the answers.)

- To whom did you tell the story from the last lesson?
- What was the topic of the last lesson? [Jesus' death on the cross]
- Why did Jesus die? [To take the punishment for all of our sins]
- Have one person in the group tell **Jesus' story.**

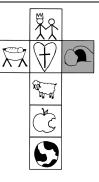
Look Up (New Teaching)

Last lesson, we learned that Jesus experienced a very painful death on a cross for the payment of our sins. But praise the Lord that Jesus' story does not end with His death! Let's read God's Word to learn what happened next.

Read from God's Word: (Have each Scripture read by two people.)

- <u>Matthew 27:57-66</u>
- <u>Matthew 28:1-20</u>
 - $_{\odot}$ Have someone tell this Scripture in his or her own words as a story.
 - The group should correct the person telling the story when they add something that wasn't in the story or forget something important.
 - Get into groups of two. Each person should tell this story to the other person.

- 1. What did you learn from this story?
- 2. What part of the story surprised you?



- 1. The tomb where Jesus was laid was empty.
- 2. After three days, Jesus rose from the dead just as He said He would.
- 3. Since the resurrection of Jesus, some people have attempted to keep others from believing in Him.
- 4. Jesus was seen by all His disciples after He rose from the dead and proved who He was.
- 5. Even those who saw Jesus had doubts, but He promised that He would be with them always.
- 6. Jesus commands all His followers to make disciples.
- 7. Jesus promises that His people will have a new life in Him because His Holy Spirit will be with us always.

Look Ahead (Obedience)

Make a Plan:

• Tell everyone to share this story with their family and friends before our next meeting. (Have each person give specific names.)

Immediate Obedience:

• Jesus proved that He is God! He did not remain in the grave. He rose again and is alive today! Jesus is the resurrected Savior and our eternal God. He desires that you would trust in Him alone as the one true God. **Trust in Jesus today!**

Pray: Thank Jesus for His victory over death and sin. Ask Him to give us all a full understanding about what Jesus did for us through His death and resurrection.

Lesson 7: Relationship with God

Look Back (Review)

Praise and Pray:

- <u>Ask them</u>: "How are you doing?"
- Pray for your meeting together.

Accountability and Review: (Let them give the answers.)

- To whom did you tell the story from the last lesson?
- What was the topic of the last lesson? [Jesus' resurrection from the dead]
- Whom was the story about? [Jesus and His disciples]
- What happened? [Jesus defeated death and made a way for all people to have a good relationship with God.]
- Have one person in the group tell Jesus' story.

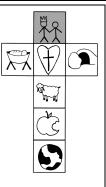
Look Up (New Teaching)

Last lesson, we learned that Jesus defeated death. He proved that He is God! Because of Jesus' perfect life, death, and resurrection all people have an opportunity to be in a perfect relationship with God again. Today, we will learn a story that will help us understand God the Father's love for all people and how He desires that all people would be in relationship with Him.

Read from God's Word: (Have the Scripture read by two people.)

- Luke 15:11-32: The Story of the Lost Son
 - $_{\odot}$ Have someone tell this Scripture in his or her own words as a story.
 - The group should correct the person telling the story when they add something that wasn't in the story or forget something important.
 - \circ Get into groups of two. Each person should tell this story to the other person.

- 1. What did you learn from this story?
- 2. What part of the story surprised you?



- 1. The father in the story represents God. God is ready to forgive and desires for the sinner's broken relationship with Him to be restored.
- 2. God desires to be in a right relationship with all people. We must repent from our sin and put our faith in Jesus alone.
- 3. The young son teaches us about repentance.
- 4. The young son asked for his inheritance, which was something you would usually get when the father dies.
- 5. The young son wasted all his inheritance on reckless living. He had all he needed but chose to follow his desires and ended up with nothing.
- 6. When the son returned, the father was filled with joy. When a sinner repents, God is filled with joy.
- 7. The older son represents a self-righteous person looking down on sinners.
- 8. When a sinner returns to Jesus, he is made into a child of God. Apart from God, man is spiritually dead and can only be made alive through Jesus Christ.

Look Ahead (Obedience)

Make a Plan:

- Begin a new relationship with God today by repenting of your sins and trusting only in Jesus as Lord for forgiveness of your sins.
- If you have decided to follow Jesus, you will want to tell someone!

Immediate Obedience:

• The most important thing in life is to have a relationship with God. Make a plan to tell someone today about your decision.

Pray: Ask God the Father to help everyone in the group repent of their sins and place their faith in Jesus alone. Thank God that Jesus made a way for us to be in a right relationship with Him!

What's Next?

After going through these seven lessons, everyone has heard seven stories that have helped them to understand the full meaning of the Gospel.

Now, the people in the group must make a decision. If they are ready to repent of their sin and place their faith in Jesus alone, then start teaching them from the Discipleship Lessons.

If they are no longer interested or will not give the time, pray for them and begin looking for someone else with whom you can share the Gospel and begin teaching these lessons.

Notes: