

# LESSON 1: WHAT IS THE CHURCH?

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To teach that the church is the family of God.
- To explain the need for disciplining in God’s family.
- To motivate children to love/help members of God’s family.

## SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

Ephesians 1:22-23, 2:19; 1 John 3:1-2, 4:20-21; 1 Timothy 3:14-15; James 2:14-17; 1 Corinthians 12:11; 2 Thessalonians 3:12

## MEMORY VERSE

**Ephesians 2:19:** Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household.

## INTRODUCTION

The Bible uses the word ‘ekklesia’ to describe the church. Ekklesia literally means the “called out ones.” So the church, according to the Bible, is a body of believers who have been called out from the world by God to live as His people under the authority of Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 1:22-23) Over the following weeks we will find out more about why God wanted us to have a church and what should be our role in it.

### Son vs Servant

	Son	Servant
		
Who loves the family more?		
Who will receive the family property in future?		
Who will help the family in times of trouble?		
Who will stop working if the work gets too hard?		
Who works only to earn a salary?		
Who works out of love for the family?		

## Church—The Sons of God

What is a church? How would you describe it?

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**How does 1 John 3:1-2 describe the church?**

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**How does Ephesians 2:19 describe the church?**

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**In 1 Timothy 3:14-15 Paul gave the church instructions regarding what?**

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**What are some of the rules in your family**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**What disciplinary measures does your family use to maintain order?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**According to 1 John 4:20-21 what should be our attitude towards other believers? Why?**

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**According to James 2:14-17 what should be our attitude towards other believers? Why?**

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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**Do church leaders have the right to order us and discipline us? They don't have "legal authority" like school staff and government officials do. So why must we take orders from them?**

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**1 Corinthians 12:11:** But it is the Spirit who does all this and decides which gifts to give to each of us.

**Do church leaders have the right to order us on what to wear, what to buy, what to eat, etc.? To what extent do we have to submit to them?**

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**If a church member has no job, should we all pool in money and start supporting his family?**

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**2 Thessalonians 3:12:** So, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, we ask and beg these people to settle down and start working for a living.

## APPLICATION

Let's summarize what we have learnt today:

- All believers belong to one single family—God's family. As part of His family, we need to have the attitude of sons. We must obey God out of love rather than with the sole motive of extracting blessings from Him.
- As part of God's family, we have to submit to the disciplining of church leaders. However, they cannot dictate to us beyond certain reasonable boundaries.
- Similarly, as part of God's family we must love and help other believers. However, we mustn't let them take unfair advantage of us.

### Ask Yourself:

- Do I have the attitude of a Servant or a Son when obeying God? \_\_\_\_\_
- Have I disobeyed/rebelled against Church leaders anytime? \_\_\_\_\_  
*(If so, repent of your sin. Make a commitment to humbly submit to the Children's Church leaders/teachers.)*
- Whom can I love/help in Children's Church?

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*(Name at least one person and write down how you will be a blessing to them.)*

## FOLLOW UP

*(To be filled up before the next class.)*

### How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during this week:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

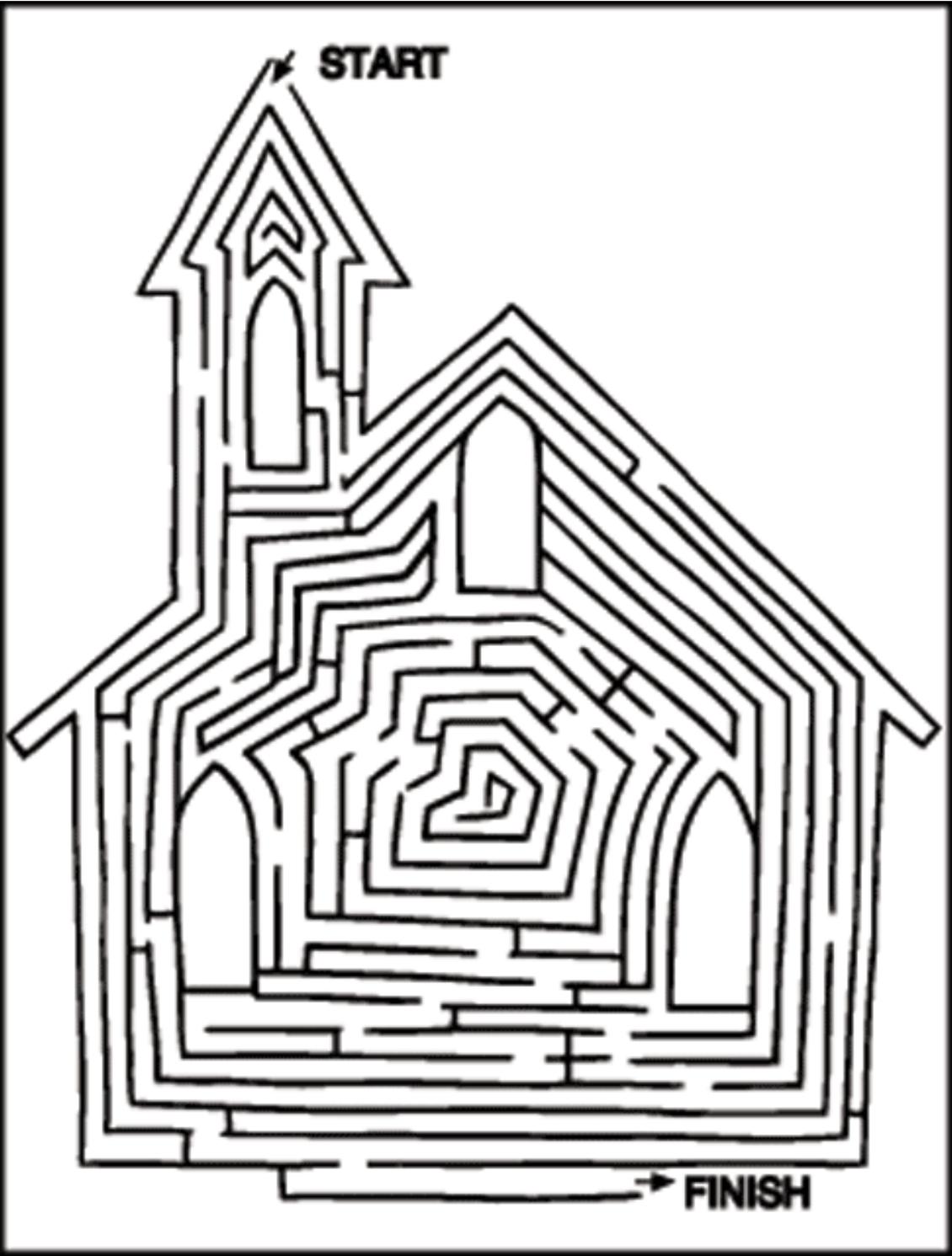
\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**TAKE HOME ACTIVITY**

**Household of God**



## LESSON 2: WHY DID GOD MAKE THE CHURCH?

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To explain the main purpose of the church.
- To motivate children to attend church with the right attitude.
- To provide practical tips on worship and prayer at church.

### SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

Acts 1:24, 2:42-47, 4:31, 6:4, 12:5; Psalms 133; Romans 15:30; Ephesians 6:18; 1 Timothy 2:1-2

### MEMORY VERSE

**Psalms 100:2:** Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

### INTRODUCTION

There are a lot of different reasons why people go to church. Some go to church because they are in need of help. Some go because they feel lost and need guidance in their lives. Most people go only on special occasions such as Christmas and Easter. However, God established the local church as a place where people could gather to worship, fellowship with other believers and grow in the word of God. Today, we will look at one of the main reasons why God created the church and why we should actively participate in it.

### Worshippers vs Seat Warmers

Example:

Statement 1: “Babitha usually falls asleep during the prayer-time.”

Identify whether Babitha is a Worshipper or Seat-warmer and tick the relevant box.

- If the given statement is similar to your attitude in Childrens’ Church, (i.e., if you too usually fall asleep in Children’s Church), tick the ‘Me Too’ box.

	Seat Warmer	Worshipper	Me Too
Babitha usually falls asleep during the prayer-time.	✓		✓
Sandeep gives offerings out of his own pocket-money each Sunday.			
Adarsh doesn’t like to actively participate in the church because his friends will make fun of him.			
Sneha memorizes the memory verse every Sunday.			
Jacob sincerely tries to practice whatever is taught in church.			
Geena listens attentively in Sunday Class, but never practices anything that is taught.			

	<b>Seat Warmer</b>	<b>Worshipper</b>	<b>Me Too</b>
Jaya likes to daydream during the Children's Church class.			
Daniel prays in his heart, in agreement, while the pastor/teacher is praying on stage.			
Jeevan attends church only because his parents force him to.			
Hema shares her testimonies in Childrens' Church to encourage others.			
James genuinely worships God during the Singing-time.			
Noah makes up excuses each Sunday why he couldn't learn the memory verse.			
Paul listens during the Childrens' Church class only if the topic is interesting.			
Santosh dreams about cricket during Worship time.			

## **Worshipping in Church**

There are so many different reasons why people attend church. However Acts 2:42 lays out the main reasons why God wants us to attend church.

**Read Acts 2:42, 46-47 and list down the reasons why we should attend church.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

**What did the psalmist command the people of God to do in Psalms 100:2-4?**

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**Some practical things we can do, to make our Worship-time more meaningful:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

**Why must we attend church to worship God? Can't we just do it at home with an iPod?**

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**Psalms 133: 1, 3:** How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity...  
For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life forevermore.

**Acts 2:42** says that the early church met together to pray. What did they pray about?

**Romans 15:30:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Acts 1:24:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Ephesians 6:18:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Acts 4:31:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Acts 12:5:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**1 Timothy 2:1-2:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Acts 6:4:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Based on what we have learnt, what should we pray for in our local church? Explain exactly what you will pray for.**

**1. Pray for L \_\_\_\_\_:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**2. Pray for Guidance:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**3. Pray for B \_\_\_\_\_:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**4. Pray for Power:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Pray for D \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. Pray for G \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. Church Leaders should pray: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATION**

**Changes I want to personally make, so that my worship is more meaningful:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Some things that I commit to pray for our Local Church:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**FOLLOW UP**

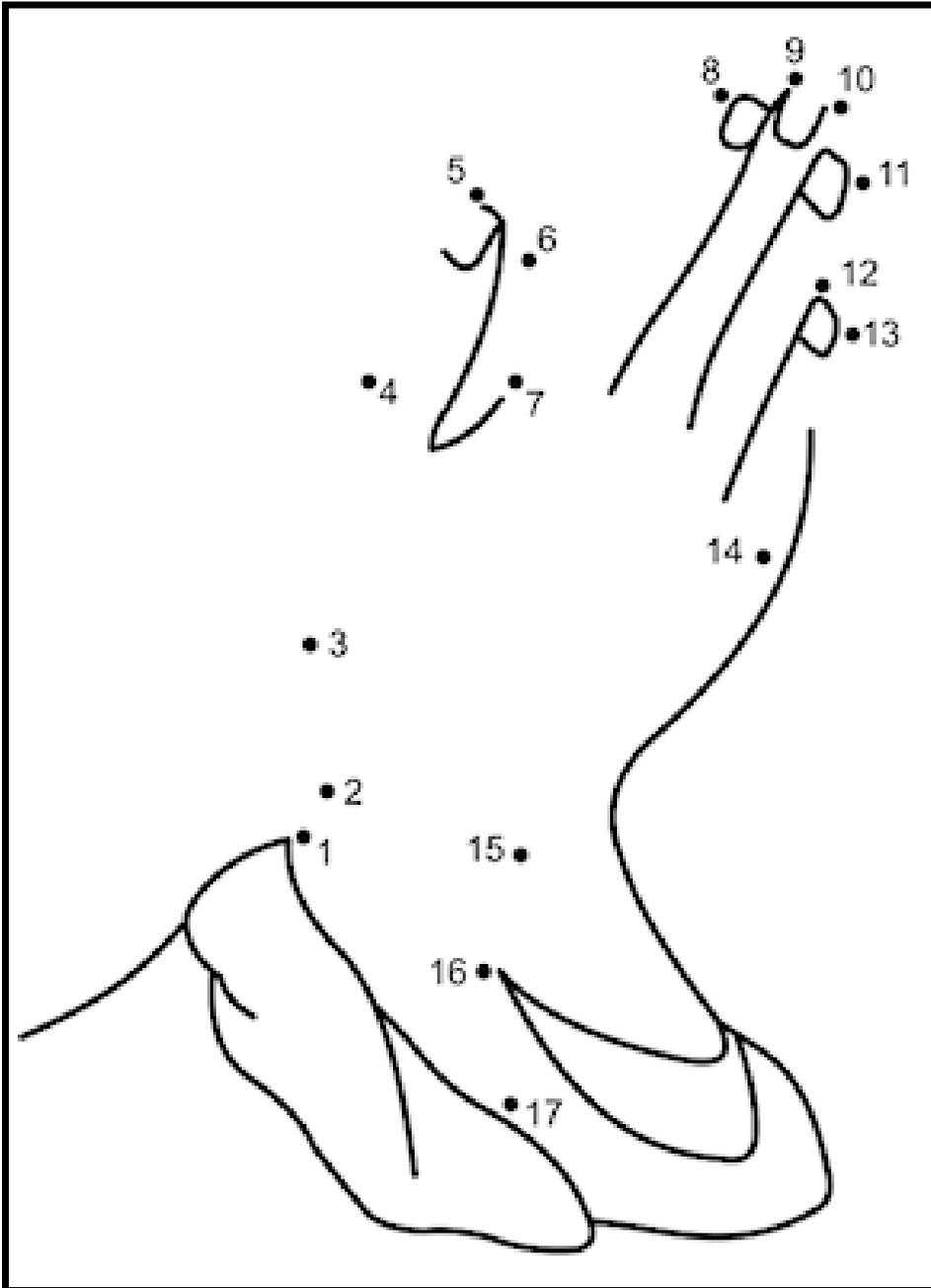
*(To be filled up before the next class.)*

**How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during this week:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**TAKE HOME ACTIVITY**

**God wants the Church to Pray**  
*(Taken from Kids Sunday School)*



## LESSON 3: EQUIPPING THE SAINTS

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To teach that we must serve both in the church and outside.
- To emphasize the importance of faithfulness in little things.
- To motivate children to be full of the Spirit in service and submission.

### SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

Ephesians 4:11-12, Acts 6:1-10

### Memory Verse:

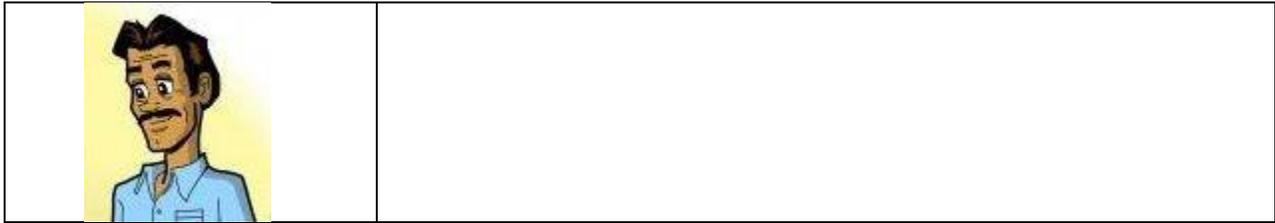
**Ephesians 4:11-12:** So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.

### INTRODUCTION

Ephesians 4:11-12 says that it is the duty of pastors and teachers to equip ‘all’ the believers to do ministry. It is NOT the pastor’s duty to do ministry. This is a responsibility given to the congregation. The sole task of the pastors and teachers is to equip the rest of the believers to do ministry effectively. This week we will discuss why and how children must equip themselves to do the work of God.

### DOING GOD’S MINISTRY

	<p>Thomas is the Pastor of a little church.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He sets a godly example for his congregation.</li> <li>• He visits members who are unwell and prays for them.</li> <li>• He counsels those straying from God.</li> <li>• He preaches God’s Word correctly and builds up the congregation.</li> <li>• Through his faithful ministry, the church has grown spiritually.</li> </ul>
	<p>Karuna is a member of the church.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• She works as a volunteer on the Ushering Team.</li> <li>• She works limited hours at the office and doesn’t earn much.</li> <li>• She spends more time looking after her family.</li> <li>• She takes time to pray and intercede for church members.</li> </ul>
	<p>Raghu is the caretaker of the church.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He started working for the church after becoming a believer.</li> <li>• He sincerely cleans the church premises and maintains it.</li> <li>• He is trying to share the Gospel with his Hindu family.</li> </ul>



**Which of the three is doing God’s ministry work?**

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**Which of them would, most likely, be honored with a ‘Christian Service Award’?**

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**Among the three, who will receive the greatest reward in heaven?**

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**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

**Why didn’t the apostles want to serve as ‘waiters’? Do you think preaching and performing miracles is a more important task than serving food?**

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**Which do you think is a more important task? Leading worship or doing pack-up in Children’s Church? Explain why.**

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**How much salary do you think the Early Church paid Stephen to do the food-distribution work?**

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**What do you think would be some of the hardships involved in Stephen's food-distribution ministry?**

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**Why do you think God used Stephen to perform mighty miracles? Did God like him better than the others?**

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**According to Ephesians 4:11-12 who is supposed to do the ministry work? The pastor or the people?**

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**Food distribution is an administrative task. What kind of people were appointed in the early church, to do this task?**

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**Why do you think a person "full of the Spirit and wisdom" was needed to do food-distribution work? Do you think it was really necessary to choose such highly spiritual people? Explain why or why not.**

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**What kind of children do you think are needed to do pack-up work in Children’s Church? What should be their qualifications?**

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### **APPLICATION**

According to Ephesians 4:11-12, it is not the pastor’s job to do the work of ministry. It’s the rest of the church members—us—who should do ministry by sharing the Gospel, serving the poor, etc. The pastor’s job is simply to equip us, so that we do the ministry work properly.

There are a countless number of small ways in which a person can start doing ministry work. Even as she does these things sincerely, God will entrust her with bigger responsibilities. Here are some ways we can serve the Lord:

- Assist in the Lord’s Supper.
- Call up a new visitor and get to know them better.
- Help with the Offerings Collection.
- Give offerings out of your pocket money.
- Give one of your favorite possessions to a beggar-child at a traffic light.
- Give money to someone in need in your neighborhood.
- Give to the poor.
- Invite friends to Children’s Church.
- Lead Closing Prayer.
- Leading Opening prayer.
- Serve on the Worship team.
- Make Birthday cards that can be used in Children’s Church.
- Make Welcome Cards for new visitors.
- Make the announcements for the week.
- Help children in the church who are weak in a subject, if you are talented in that subject.
- Pray for a friend in need at school.
- Pray for the sick.
- Pray for the Offerings.
- Prophecy in Children’s’ Church -with permission from the leaders.
- Do the Scripture-reading in Sunday Class.
- Serve Communion.

- Set up and Pack up in Children’s’ Church.
- Share gospel with non-Christian friends.
- Share testimonies with non-Christian friends.
- Share testimonies in Children’s’ Church.
- Teach a Sunday School lesson.
- Help your Sunday Class teacher in taking the attendance.
- Visit a sick friend in the neighborhood and pray with them.

**I commit to do Ministry in the following ways:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Note:** In this lesson we have tried to convey the idea that faithfulness in ‘little’ things leads to ‘bigger’ things. However we are NOT saying that the ‘little’ things are of “inferior-status,” and God will promote us to a “superior-status” if we are faithful. For example, helping with pack-up is NOT ‘inferior’ to performing miracles—as both tasks are being done to honor the Lord. Performing miracles is ‘bigger’ only in the sense that it requires a greater level of faith and submission, and is therefore a more ‘difficult’ role to take on.

**TAKE HOME ACTIVITY**

**Stephen Served to the End**

*(Taken from Garden of Praise.com)*

The answers to all these questions can be found in Acts Chapter 6.

1. One of Stephen’s jobs was to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. be an apostle
  - b. minister to the widows in Jerusalem
  - c. carry the Bible for Peter
2. Stephen was the first \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Christian martyr
  - b. apostle chosen by Jesus
  - c. person baptised by John
3. Some evil men accused Stephen of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. cheating the widows in Jerusalem
  - b. speaking against Moses and against God
  - c. trying to take the place of Judas
4. They took Stephen before the group of Jewish rulers called the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Great Rulers
  - b. Court of Herod
  - c. Sanhedrin

5. When Stephen stood up to speak his face became \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. covered with a veil
- b. dark and menacing
- c. like the face of an angel

6. Stephen accused the men of \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. killing the prophets and Jesus
- b. not knowing the word of God
- c. falsely arresting him

7. He told the men he saw \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. angels going up and down a ladder
- b. Jesus going up into heaven
- c. Jesus standing by the right hand of God

8. The men put Stephen to death by \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. drowning him
- b. stoning him
- c. hanging him with a rope

9. As he died Stephen prayed as Jesus had done saying, “\_\_\_\_\_.”

- a. Lord do not hold this sin against them
- b. Lord, punish them for their sin
- c. It is finished

10. We should tell the truth \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. only when it does not offend others
- b. at all times
- c. when it will not get us in trouble

### **FOLLOW UP**

*(To be filled up before the next class.)*

### **How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during this week:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

## LESSON 4: WOMEN IN MINISTRY

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To clarify the Scriptures that appears to forbid women from doing ministry.
- To explain that Paul never forbade women from teaching or preaching.
- To teach the need for submission to the leadership of the church.

### SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

1 Timothy 2:12-14; 1 Corinthians 11:5, 14:34-38; Acts 18:26, 21:9; Philippians 4:2-3; Romans 16:1-5

### MEMORY VERSE

**Hebrews 13:17:** Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.

### INTRODUCTION

In the first two weeks we received an introduction to the Church. We learnt that people make up the church rather than the building. And we looked at why God wants us to attend a church service every week.

Then last week, we began to look at God's perspective on ministry-work. We learnt that God expects all of us to serve Him, whether or not we are in full-time ministry. This week we will learn how important it is for girls and women to do ministry work too.

### Should Women be in Ministry?

Some Christians strongly believe that women should not be involved in the ministerial roles of apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers. As a result many women hesitate to take on these ministry roles even if God is calling them to do so. Today, we will study what the Bible says on this subject so that we can have a correct perspective.

There are three passages which specifically deal with this issue:

- As we have already seen, in 1 Timothy 2:12-14, Paul instructed Timothy under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, saying women should be silent in church.
- Similarly in 1 Corinthians 14:34-38 Paul instructed the Corinthian women to remain silent in church.
- Then in 1 Corinthians 11:5 Paul instructed women to pray and prophesy with their heads covered.

- **What roles did these women play in the Early Church?**

- Philip's daughters (Acts 21:9): \_\_\_\_\_

- Clement and Euodia (Philippians 4:2-3): \_\_\_\_\_

- Phoebe (Romans 16:1): \_\_\_\_\_

- Priscilla (Romans 16:3-5): \_\_\_\_\_

- Junia (Romans 16:7): \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Note:** If Paul was against the ministry and leadership of these women in the early church, he wouldn't have spoken favorably about them in his letters.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

**If Paul was in favor of women church leaders, why did he say what he did? What did he mean when he instructed women to remain silent and not exercise authority over men in church? We will try to discover answers to these questions through our discussion.**

**Paul wrote Chapter 14 of 1 Corinthians to convey one main instruction. What was it? (Look at the last verse of the chapter).**

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**In 1 Corinthians 14, in what way do you think tongue-talkers were disrupting the church service? (Look at verses 5, 9, 27-28)**

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**In 1 Corinthians 14, in what way do you think prophets were disrupting the church service? (Look at verses 29-33)**

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**In 1 Corinthians 14, in what way do you think women were disrupting the church service? (Look at verses 29, 34-35)**

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**In 1 Timothy 2:12 Paul ordered women not to teach. Yet he praised Priscilla who taught Apostle Apollos from the Scriptures. (Romans 16:3-4; Acts 18:26) Was Paul contradicting himself?**

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**Paul said women shouldn't exercise authority over a man. Then why did Paul praise Apostle Junia who must have exercised authority over men as an apostle? Was Paul contradicting himself?**

**APPLICATION**

It is important for us to do the ministry work that God gives us. If the Lord appoints a woman as 'deacon' in the church, she must sincerely fulfill her leadership role. In the same way, if God calls upon a lady to pastor a church, she must obey Him by looking after that church.

Because God Himself has appointed these women, we should treat them with respect and submit to them, the same way we submit to the male leaders.

**Some Women Leaders in my Church:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

**God expects us to submit to the women leaders because He appointed them.**

# TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

## Priscilla ministered along with Aquila

Priscilla and Aquila's story is all muddled up, read chapter 18 (1-4, 18-21, 26-26) and put them in order



Priscilla has sent Aquila to find the 10 missing tent pegs, but he only found 1 - can you help him find the other 9?



### FOLLOW UP

*(To be filled up before the next class.)*

#### How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during this week:

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## LESSON 5: GOD'S MESSAGE TO THE CHURCHES

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To warn children against backsliding.
- To show that serving Christ with a cold heart is not enough.

### SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

Revelation 2:1-7 and Revelation 3:1-6

### MEMORY VERSE

**Revelation 3:3:** Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you.

### INTRODUCTION

Jesus gave John a message for seven churches in Asia Minor (Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea). These seven messages were given to strengthen the churches in John's day and throughout church history. Each of these messages includes information suitable to each church, and from these messages we can draw lessons applicable to our own lives today.

### Churches of Ephesus and Sardis

Revelation 2:1-7 and Revelation 3:1-6 contain God's warning to the churches of Ephesus and Sardis respectively. Both these churches had 'backslidden' from the Lord in one way or the other. Read through these passages and identify exactly what was wrong with these churches.

	Church of Ephesus	Church of Sardis
<b>What did Jesus praise them for?</b>		
<b>What did Jesus criticize them for?</b>		

<p><b>How did Jesus correct them?</b></p>		
<p><b>What did Jesus promise if they accepted correction?</b></p>		

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

**What is ‘backsliding’? Who do you think is a backslidden Christian?**

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**Do you think the Sardinians were backslidden Christians? Explain why or why not.**

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**Do you think the Ephesians were backslidden Christians? Explain why or why not.**

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**What lessons do you think we can learn regarding ‘backsliding’ from these two churches?**

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**APPLICATION**

**Do I faithfully obey and serve Christ even when no one is watching? Or am I a ‘pretend-Christian’?**

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**Areas in which I have backslidden:**

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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**Repent and Return to the Lord!**

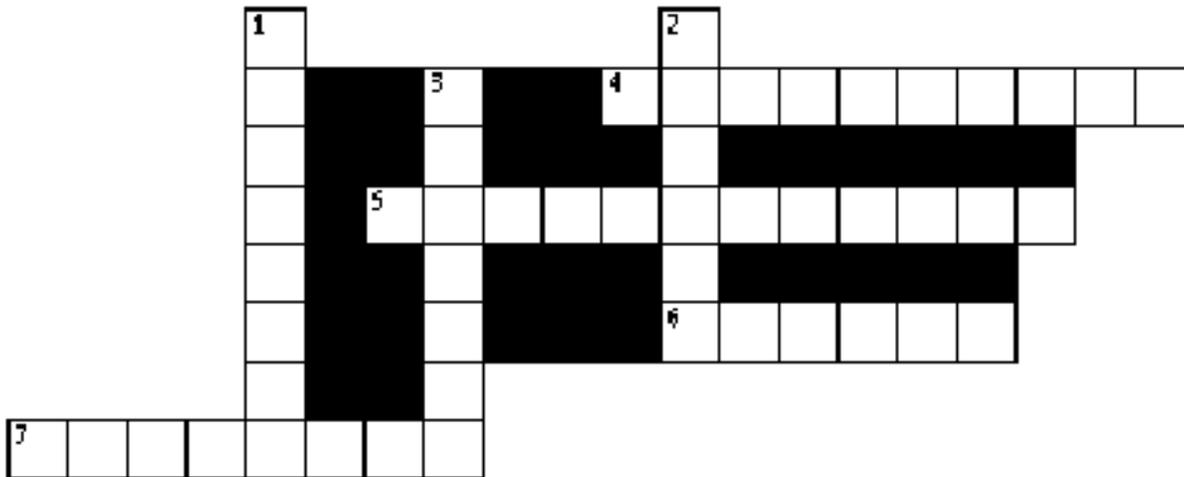
**What I must do to increase in my love for God:**

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**TAKE HOME ACTIVITY**

**Seven Churches of Revelation**



3 DOWN: “To the angel of the church of \_\_\_\_\_ write ...”  
 “I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil ...”  
 (Revelation 2:2)  
 “Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love.” (Revelation 2:4)

6 ACROSS: “To the angel of the church in \_\_\_\_\_ write ...”  
 “I know your works, tribulation, and poverty (but you are rich) ...” (Revelation 2:9)  
 “... Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.” (Revelation 2:10)

7 ACROSS: “To the angel of the church in \_\_\_\_\_ write...”  
 “I know your works, and where you dwell ...” (Revelation 2:13)  
 “But I have a few things against you, because you have there, those who hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel ...” (Revelation 2:14)

1 DOWN: “To the angel of the church in \_\_\_\_\_ write...”  
 “I know your works, love, service, faith, and your patience; and as for your works, the last are more than the first.” (Revelation 2:19)  
 “Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and beguile My servants ...” (Revelation 2:20)

2 DOWN: “To the angel of the church in \_\_\_\_\_ write...”  
 “... I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead.” (Revelation 3:1)  
 “Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and \_\_\_\_\_.”  
 (Revelation 3:3)

5 ACROSS: “To the angel of the church in \_\_\_\_\_ write...”

“I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name.” (Revelation 3:8)

‘Behold, I come quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown.’ (Revelation 3:11)

4 ACROSS: “To the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write...”

I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. (Revelation 3:15)

“As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent.” (Revelation 3:1)

### **FOLLOW UP**

*(To be filled up before the next class.)*

#### **How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during this week:**

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2. \_\_\_\_\_

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3. \_\_\_\_\_

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## LESSON 6: WATER BAPTISM

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To clarify why Jesus got baptised though He was sinless.
- To explain the true meaning of water baptism.

### SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

1 Peter 2:24; Luke 3:3; Matthew 3:5-8, 14-15; Hebrews 4:15; 2 Corinthians 5:17, 21; Romans 6:3-11, 12:2; John 3:6-8

### MEMORY VERSE

**Romans 6:4:** We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

### INTRODUCTION

Water Baptism and the Lord's Supper are the two 'Sacraments' ordained by Jesus for the Church. Both must be permanently observed by the Church. The power of Christ's finished work on the Cross becomes real and effective in the believer's life when he or she meaningfully practices these two sacraments. In this lesson we will learn how to receive the power of God into our lives as we participate in Water Baptism.

### Why Do We Get Baptised?

Why do you think people get baptised? Does this practice have some special meaning?

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### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

According to Luke 3:3 what kind of baptism did John the Baptist teach?

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According to Matthew 3:5-6 why did people go to John for baptism?

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According to Matthew 3:7-8 why did John refuse to baptise the Pharisees?

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**Why do you think Jesus got baptised? Did He want to repent of His sins? Explain.**

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**Hebrews 4:15:** Jesus understands every weakness of ours, because he was tempted in every way that we are. But he did not sin!

**Read Matthew 3:15. If Jesus got baptised to “fulfill all righteousness” then does it mean He wasn’t righteous enough before baptism? Explain.**

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**What does Romans 6:3-4 say about baptism?**

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### **Our New Status in Christ**

2000 years ago, when Jesus died on the cross, we too died in a spiritual sense. The practical benefits of this became available to us when we accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior.

- Romans 6:11 teaches that those who accept Jesus as Savior become dead to sin. The same way a dead person is not interested in sinful things, because he is too dead to feel anything, we too become dead to sin.

Similarly, 2000 years ago, when Jesus arose from the dead, we too arose from the dead in a spiritual sense.

- John 3:6-8 and 2 Corinthians 5:17 teach that those who accept Jesus as Savior are “reborn” into a new person. This new person doesn’t have any of the sinful desires which the old person had. The old person died on the cross, and now the new person who has been created, has only godly desires.

If a person gets baptised with this clear understanding of what the baptism ceremony symbolizes, it can transform their life forever!

- The next time this person is tempted to watch something wrong on TV, he can remind himself of what he ‘enacted’ on the day of his baptism. When the pastor submerged him under the water, this person “acted out” the fact that he died along with Christ on the cross. The sinful person who enjoyed watching sinful things on TV, died along with Christ!
- The person who is now sitting in front of the TV is not the person who died inside the waters. He rose up out of the water as a “new creation” with only holy desires.  
(**Please Note:** His ‘unrenewed’ mind is still longing after old sinful things only because he has not taken the effort to teach it and renew it. So he must daily teach his mind that that he is no longer under the control of old sinful desires, and doesn’t need to yield to them anymore.)
- Similarly if this person is diagnosed with cancer, he doesn’t have to accept the disease and suffer under it. He must remind himself of what he ‘enacted’ on the day of his baptism. When he rose up out of the water, he rose up with the victory of Jesus over sin and ‘death’. As ‘death’ includes disease and sickness, he now possesses victory over sickness too. So with this confidence, he can now claim his healing and be delivered from the cancer.

**APPLICATION**

**What do these verses teach about my baptism?**

**Romans 6:3-4, 11:**

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**2 Corinthians 5:17, 21:**

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**John 3:6-8:**

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**Do I truly believe that I am dead to sin? Yes / No**

(Read Romans 6:3-4, 11)

**If I am dead to sin, why does my mind still ask me to do sinful things? (Read Romans 12:2)**

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**This week I commit to do the following things to renew my mind:**

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**FOLLOW UP**

*(To be filled up before the next class.)*

**How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during this week:**

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2. \_\_\_\_\_

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3. \_\_\_\_\_

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**TAKE HOME ACTIVITY**

B E V O D S Z T R Q D J  
 R N Q N T W N E J U E O  
 I I O J O N L E U J V R  
 D S K L S A P Y V H O D  
 E E Z I T P A B A A L A  
 G F R I E N D I K H E N  
 R R V M I S S I O N B H  
 O E E J B S T I R I P S  
 O V O A E M X C I N Z U  
 M H Z M T S A B V G Q L  
 N O B N E E U L E I L P  
 X O X M R G R S R S C C



*Find the following words in the letters above and circle them.*

BAPTIZE	BELOVED	BRIDEGROOM
DOVE	FRIEND	GREATER
HEAVENS	JESUS	JOHN
JORDAN	LAMB	MESSIAH
MISSION	RELATIVE	RIVER
SIGN	SON	SPIRIT

**Jesus was baptised**  
*(Taken from CBWC material)*

## LESSON 7: THE LORD'S SUPPER

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To teach how to partake of the Lord's Supper in a worthy manner.
- To explain the deeper significance of the Communion Service.

### SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

1 Corinthians 10:17-22, 11:17-34

### MEMORY VERSE

**1 Corinthians 11:26:** For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

### INTRODUCTION

Water Baptism and the Lord's Supper are the two 'Sacraments' ordained by Jesus for the Church. Both must be permanently observed by the Church. The power of Christ's finished work on the Cross becomes real and effective in the believer's life when he or she meaningfully practices these two sacraments. In this lesson we will learn how to receive the power of God into our lives as we participate in the Lord's Supper.

### Lord's Supper in Corinth (1 Corinthians 11:17-34)



## Participating in the Lord's Supper

Paul was extremely upset with the Corinthian believers because they were participating in the Lord's Supper in an unworthy manner. In those days the church used to celebrate the Communion Service in exactly the same way Jesus had His Passover Supper.

The same way Jesus and the disciples had an entire meal together, the believers too used to have an entire meal together. It was like a potluck dinner, with different believers bringing whatever they could. The poorer believers used to come empty handed as they had nothing to bring. The rich believers probably didn't like this; so they preferred to form their own little groups and eat together, excluding the poorer believers. As a result, many of the poorer believers used to return home with empty stomachs, while the richer believers used to go home overloaded with food and wine.

### Paul administered correction regarding three things:

**First**, Paul emphasized the need for love and unity. He said, "By sharing in the same loaf of bread, we become one body, even though there are many of us." (1 Corinthians 10:17)

How this applies to us today:

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**Second**, he condemned the casualness with which the believers were partaking of the Lord's Supper. They seemed to be treating it more as a "party event" at which to get drunk rather than meditate on what Jesus had done for them and do it "in remembrance of Him."

- Therefore Paul said, When you meet together, you don't really celebrate the Lord's Supper ... You even start eating before everyone gets to the meeting, and some of you go hungry, while others get drunk. Don't you have homes where you can eat and drink?" (1 Corinthians 11:20-22)

How this applies to us today:

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**Third**, Paul warned those who were divided in their loyalties. Some of them were eating at the pagan feasts where idols were honored. But then they also came to the Lord's Supper and ate here. Paul asked them to stop compromising before God's judgment came down upon their heads! He said, "You cannot drink from the cup of demons and still drink from the Lord's cup. You cannot eat at the table of demons and still eat at the Lord's table. We would make the Lord jealous if we did that. And we are not stronger than the Lord." (1 Corinthians 10:21-22)

How this applies to us today:

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**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

**If I have unforgiveness in my heart, or if I have hurt someone, is it okay to participate in the Lord's Supper?**

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**1 Corinthians 11:27:** But if you eat the bread and drink the wine in a way that isn't worthy of the Lord, you sin against his body and blood.

**1 Corinthians 11:28** says, "That's why you must examine the way you eat and drink." What exactly are we supposed to examine?

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**1 Corinthians 11:29-30** says, "For those who eat and drink without discerning the body of Christ eat and drink judgment on themselves. That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep." Were these believers dying because they had participated unworthily in the Lord's Supper?

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**How do we take Communion meaningfully? What must we do?**

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**APPLICATION**

This week onwards, prepare yourself to partake of the Lord's Supper meaningfully and in a worthy manner.

**People that I need to forgive and reconcile with:**

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

**What 'idols' are causing me to neglect or sin against the Lord?**

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Get rid of these idols and give the Lord first place in your life once more.**

**I shall claim healing from the following sicknesses:**

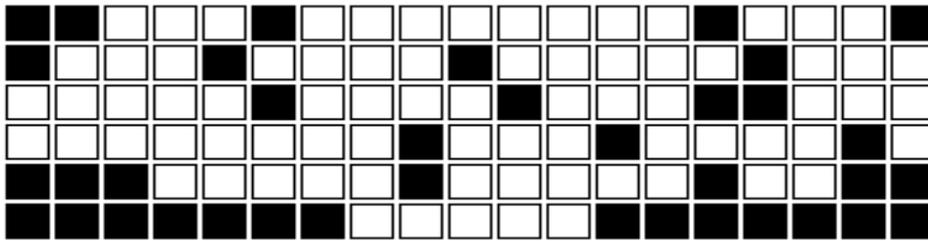
- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Exercise the spiritual authority that is yours in Christ, under the new covenant.**

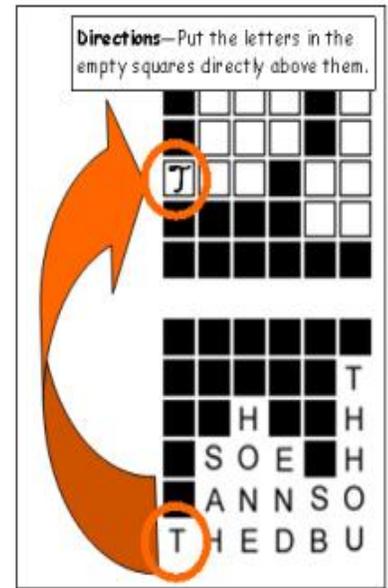
# TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

## Proclaiming the Lord's Death and Resurrection

(Created at [gospelhall.org](http://gospelhall.org))



H V  
O W I N E R E R O  
F T R H H E S B C E A A U  
E A N K T T M S T H E U P D Y Y N D  
D R I C L A I H I U N T I L R D O U  
P R O D E A T C O M E S L O H E S



Write down the Memory Verse:

1 Corinthians 11:26: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**DON'T FORGET TO MEMORISE THE MEMORY VERSE!**

### FOLLOW UP

(To be filled up before the next class.)

How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during this week:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
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