

Deaf Pah - Getting To Know Jesus

Getting To Know Jesus is an online *DeafPah!* course that helps prepare church members to serve in their congregation's ministry. The instructor for this course is Rev. Dary Gehlbach.

You may download the video lessons and this study guide for from deafjesus.org.

The videos were originally prepared as VHS videotapes for the Deaf Institute of Theology.

The textbook that originally was the basis for this course is no longer in print. However, we have included in this student guide reference materials cited in the videos lessons.

While you watch the videos, take notes. At the end of each video lesson, reinforce what you have learned by answering the questions in this student guide.

If you are studying this course with a mentor, share your answers with your mentor.

Now please watch the introduction video.

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INTRODUCTION

(John 12:20-21)

20 Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. 21 They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. “Sir,” they said, “we would like to see Jesus.”

Some Greeks went up to Philip. They asked, “Sir, we want to see Jesus.”

The teacher’s goal is to help people see Jesus, to help people know the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ better. You will study the important Christian teachings called “doctrine”. Christian teaching is not old, boring, dead. Christian teaching is alive. Why? Christian teaching is joined to Jesus Christ, our living Savior. Christian teaching helps believers live as God’s people.

You will learn, and then you will teach other people. You will receive credit after you teach other people these lessons. This class is divided into small sections. Each section ends with an assignment. Do the assignment before watching the next section.

As you prepare to learn and to teach, remember to pray. Pray that God will open your heart. Why? To receive His Word. His Word changes lives. His Word is powerful. Expect God’s Word to do great and wonderful things.

Write a prayer asking the Holy Spirit to bless your study, then use the prayer each time you begin the study or teach.

ASSIGNMENT:

- Read John 12:20-21.
- Write a prayer asking the Holy Spirit to bless your study, and then use the prayer each time you begin to study or teach.

CHAPTER 1 Getting to Know Jesus

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 1-1 :

LESSON 1-1. Opening Illustrations

Two men were sitting. One man was reading...what? the Bible. The Bible reading...reading... the other man looked at him and interrupted him, asked “Why do you do that, I am not interested in religion.” The first man said, “Sorry, I think you missed something very important.” The other man said, “Important what? Why do you follow a man who died 2,000 years ago?” The first man said, “What? Is Jesus Christ dead? Impossible, a moment ago I talked with Him.”

Is Christ alive for you? The man reading the Bible seemed to have a strong spiritual life. Jesus Christ was so alive. That man could pray anytime. No matter how much we know Jesus. He wants us to know Him better.

Satan tries to destroy our relationship with Jesus. He tempts us to live the same as if we don't know Jesus. We don't care.

Example: Peter was a disciple of Jesus. One time Peter boldly announced faith and support for Jesus. Then later Peter denied Jesus. How many times? Three times.

The most faithful Christian can fall away and stop believing Jesus. “If you think you are standing strong, be careful. Why? So you do not fall.” Word from Paul, we want to know Jesus better. Why? He can continue living in us in our heart.

It is not enough to know Jesus' story (Jesus was born...lived...died...etc.) The most important thing is that we know Jesus. We want a living relationship with Him. We want Jesus involved in our daily lives.

Paul writes: “I want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection.”

ASSIGNMENT:

Read Acts 4:12, 2

12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

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Read Timothy 1:12

12 That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet this is no cause for shame, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day.

Read Philippians 3:10.

10 I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,

- Explain to your mentor 1) why and 2) how Jesus is alive for you.

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Video: Getting to Know Jesus 1 – 2

LESSON 1-2. God's Kind of God

Some people love to talk about Jesus. Talking about is not the same as trusting. We can believe Christ lived. We can pray to Him. Maybe we are a teacher. Maybe we are a pastor. It doesn't matter. The wonderful life Jesus offers us. Maybe we don't have (get) it. Through Baptism we live with God's grace.

Peter writes, "Baptism now saves you through Jesus Christ's resurrection." But our old sinful nature still tries to separate us from Jesus. Our old sinful nature doesn't want us to know Jesus better.

Also learning about Jesus is not the same as a deep, intimate relationship with Him and in Him. Sometimes we think of God the way we want my own idea and not the way He shows Himself in the Bible. We misunderstand. Why? We resist Him. When we stop resisting Him, then we see Him truly. He is our loving, forgiving Lord Jesus Christ, the same as the Bible shows us.

ASSIGNMENT:

Read John 15:16

16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.

Read Ephesians 2:8-9

8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast.

Read Philippians 2:13

13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

- Write down one experience explaining how you learned to know Christ better. Be ready to share that experience with your mentor.

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 1 – 3

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LESSON 1-3. God Reaches Out to Us (Part I):

When we see God revealing Himself in (thru) Jesus Christ, we learn something important: God is always seeking us. When we understand God is seeking us, then we see “God loves us.”

Indeed the Holy Spirit Himself opens our heart. We do nothing. Luther wrote, “The Holy Spirit called me with the Gospel.” God changing our hearts, we call “conversion.” After we discuss conversion, we must also discuss grace. Grace means God loves us through Jesus Christ, but we don’t earn His love. His love is a free gift. We don’t choose God, but He gives us faith. We don’t seek a relationship with God. He freely offers us a relationship. God holds onto me, I do what? Nothing.

ASSIGNMENT:

Review Ephesians 2:8-9

8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast.

Define (explain) the words “grace” and “conversion.”

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 1–4

LESSON 1-4. God Reaches Out to Us (Part II)

Often people say “Salvation happens through faith alone.” If we separate grace and faith, then maybe people will think faith is something we do to earn forgiveness. Christian faith is not a way or technique for earning salvation. No. Therefore, we ourselves are less important, and God is more important. God reveals Himself in Jesus Christ.

The Holy Spirit calls us to focus on Jesus more and more. John writes, “God is Love.” God made you and me. Why? To love us. His best love is His free gift.

1. God gave us life. We mess up. Yes. We need forgiveness
2. He gave Himself through His Son Jesus Christ. Jesus is God. And He died on the cross to forgive our sins and rose again from the dead.

God continues to give Himself. How? Through His word, Baptism and the Lord’s Supper.

ASSIGNMENT:

Describe (explain) the ways God shows His love for us.

Read Romans 6:23

[23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in\[a\] Christ Jesus our Lord.](#)

Read Colossians 1:19-20

[19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.](#)

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 1–5

LESSON 1-5. The "Representative" Human Being

(Jesus represent all our sins before God.)

Some people think, “God saved me now I must do something to pay God.” A nice idea but wrong. We cannot pay back God. When we experience God’s love, our fear goes away. We are filled with thanks.

Paul writes, “Sinners earn death, but God freely gives eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

An important word to know is “reconciliation.” Our sin disconnected us from God. Through Jesus’ death on the cross, God reconciles us to Himself.

Reconciliation means we are no longer enemies. God and I have peace. Everything we need for our salvation is finished. Christ paid the price for our sins. Our salvation is fully God’s work through Jesus Christ.

Some people think, “If I change my life, then God will forgive me.” That sentence is a heavy burden. We can’t earn forgiveness and peace.

Thank God that our salvation is not our responsibility.

John 3:16 says, “God so loved the world that He gave His only Son so that anyone who believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life.”

ASSIGNMENT:

Define (explain) the word “reconcile.”

Read Hebrews 10:12, 14,

12 But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, 13 and since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool. 14 For by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.

Read Romans 8:31-39

More Than Conquerors

31 What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? 33 Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. 34 Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? 36 As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”[a]

37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,[b] neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Read Galatians 4:4-5.

4 But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.[a]

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 1–6

LESSON 1-6. For Further Study

Our God is Wonderful. When we see Jesus on the cross, he accepts the punishment for our sins. We no longer see an angry judge. Instead, we see our loving, forgiving Lord. We feel confident. Why? God is watching us. He is not searching for us with a reason to punish us. No. God watches (observes) us. Why? He loves us and cares for us. You can't make God stop loving you. You read some Bible verses in Romans chapter 8 . Paul writes, "Nothing can separate us from God's love through Jesus Christ."

We are helpless. It doesn't matter. Still God's love gives us hope. Maybe we have doubts, worries, a weak faith...Jesus invites us to know Him better. Maybe we have problems with another church member...still Jesus invites us to know Him better. Maybe temptation is strong, we suffer and grieve...but Jesus invites us to know Him better.

Jesus is God and man. He experienced life and temptation the same as us. No matter what happens, Jesus knows our frustrations and worries. As Christ lives in us, He teaches us the correct way to understand life and death. Only Christ can give us the peace of God we need to face life.

ASSIGNMENT:

Suppose someone says, "I did a terrible sin. God can't love me." How can you give them comfort?

Read John 5:39-40.

[39 You study\[a\] the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, 40 yet you refuse to come to me to have life.](#)

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 1-7

LESSON 1-7. Christ and the Holy Bible

Our class began with Christ. Our class will end with Christ's relationship to our life here and our life with Christ in the future.

Everything you will learn and teach is from the Bible.

We begin with the important Christian teaching:

“Salvation is God's free gift. We receive that gift through faith in Jesus Christ.”

Everything you learn and teach explains this one important Bible teaching.

Important: Don't try to prove that the Bible is God's perfect Word. Only faith can teach people the Bible is true. The Bible is God's Word. You will teach Christian doctrine. However, the most important thing is Jesus Christ Himself.

Your student should always see Jesus Christ. Loving Christ means worshiping Him. It is important that you and your student regularly attend worship. Knowing Christ better involves worship, both privately and together with other Christians.

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ASSIGNMENT:

"Salvation is God's free gift. We receive that gift through faith in Jesus Christ."
How has this teaching helped you know Jesus better?

Read 1 Corinthians 2:14

14 The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.

Read 2 Corinthians 4:5

5 For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.

Read James 3:1

3 Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly.

Read Daniel 12:3

3 Those who are wise[a] will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 1–8

LESSON 1-8. On Reading this Book & A Word for Teachers

When we teach Christian Doctrine, we don't try to prove anything. Our hope is that the student (and you!) will "believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing in Him, you can have life through His name." (John 20:31)

Keep focused on Jesus and study the Bible with an open mind. The Holy Bible reveals the things belonging to the Spirit of God. Understanding the Bible requires faith. It is not your job to convince your student. The Holy Spirit is the true teacher.

As you study, I want you to think about some questions:

1. I am a human being means what?
2. Me and all people came from where?
3. Life means what?
4. I am here, why? What will I do? My future is where?

A teacher has a great responsibility. We don't preach ourselves, we preach Jesus Christ as (true) Lord. James says that God will judge teachers more strictly. Yet Daniel reveals the great blessings for those who lead people to forgiveness.

I want to share a story with you. A group of people from Japan came to visit Montana. The leader and the students were lost. The leader said, "See the Japanese flag. I will carry it. Then you follow." The people followed well. When the trip was finished, the teacher asked, "What did you learn here our trip here?" All the students answered, "We remember the Japanese flag."

Jesus Christ is our flag. Pay attention to Him. He will lead us rightly.

ASSIGNMENT:

Review the questions in number 5 above, and discuss them with your mentor. Think about the word "sin." What does it mean?

CHAPTER ONE REVIEW:

1. Why is it important to know Jesus better?
2. What does it mean to know Jesus?
3. What do we name the part of us that doesn't want to know Jesus better?
4. When we stop resisting God, then what happens?
5. What does CONVERSION mean?
6. What is GRACE?
7. How does God show His love for us?
8. How does God's love come to us?
9. What can we do to pay God for saving us?
10. What does RECONCILIATION mean?
11. Can we do anything to make God stop loving us?
12. What does knowing Jesus teach us?
13. Memorize the following Bible verses:

1 Timothy 2:4	Philippians 3:10
2 Timothy 1:12	John 15:16
Ephesians 2:8-9	Romans 8:38-39
John 3:16	Romans 6:23

CHAPTER 2 Getting to Know Our Sin

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 2-1

LESSON 2-1. Opening & Only One Sin (Part I) :

A person was teaching a group. Finally, the teacher asked, “You want forgiveness, what must you do?” All the children were silent. The teacher asked again, “You want forgiveness, what must you do?” Again all the children were silent. Finally, the teacher was upset. “You must answer. You want forgiveness, what must you do?” One boy stuck up his hand (raised his hand). “Ok, go ahead.” “I must sin?”

The story shows how we can misunderstand sin and grace, God’s judgment and God’s mercy. First, God’s grace (mercy) is not a reason for us to continue sinning. Also our repentance is not the reason God forgives us. God has done everything necessary to forgive our sin.

Love is what? Not that we love God, but that God loved us. While we were sinners, Christ died for us.

The theme for session two is “Learning to know our Sin.” Why? We can confess our sin and beg Christ to show mercy to us. Truly there is only one sin –self—centeredness. We want our own way, not God’s way. We can’t know Christ while our attention is on self. Sin is more than action or thoughts. Sin is separation from God because we are self-centered. But remember, there is good news.

When we admit our sin and truly confess “Lord, show mercy to me a sinner,” We experience God’s grace.

ASSIGNMENT:

Read Luther's explanation of the First Commandment (Small Catechism).
How do Luther's words help you understand sin?

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 2–2

LESSON 2-2. Opening/Only One Sin (Part II):

Luther wrote, “Salvation begins with recognizing what –sin.” Some believe the most important message is “Be good.” “keep the Ten Commandments.” “Love others the same as you want them to love you.” The message is not “God is love,” is not “Love your neighbor,” but “Repent for forgiveness of sins.”

“Repent” means what? Our sins separate us from God. Repent means “Stop being self-centered. Pay attention to Jesus.” Notice the sign “repent” means turn from paying attention to self, turn paying attention to God. Repent means to turn to God. Repentance and forgiveness are closely related. Jesus taught repentance leads to the forgiveness of sin.

But repentance is not something we do to earn salvation. It is not a good work. Repentance is a gift. The law convinces people they are sinners. When they repent, then they receive another gift – forgiveness. We both repent and receive forgiveness through the Holy Spirit’s work.

The Holy Spirit works through the Gospel to convert our hearts. I want to emphasize: Christ truly forgives our sins. As you teach your student, I encourage you to remind him that Christ forgives his sins. That message is the Good News all people need to hear (pay attention).

ASSIGNMENT:

Describe (explain) the word “repent”.

Write down some examples of how people misunderstand the Bible message.

Read James 2:10, the Ten Commandments, and Luther's explanations to the Ten Commandments.

10 For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 2–3

LESSON 2-3. "I've Never Broken a Commandment!"

Pastor wrote a story: One time a woman came and sat down to visit. The woman was worried. Her faith was weak and she was not involved in church. The pastor asked her, "Do you always pray God asking for forgiveness?" The woman answered, "No, I never sin." The pastor examined the woman. "Do you lie?" She answered, "No." "Do you steal?" "No." "Do you covet?" "No." Finally, the pastor asked, "Is there anything, anything you put above God?" The woman thought a moment and answered, "Yes, my goal is to be a diplomat. Anything that stops me from achieving my goal, I will throw out." The woman was still self-centered. Her goal was more important than God.

Sadly, many people don't pray for faith or forgiveness. They prefer to stay separated from God. They don't understand sin as a personal responsibility. They offer excuses:

- "Everyone is doing it." Excuse
- "I am not the only one." Excuse
- "People are born that way." Excuse
- "Nobody's perfect." Excuse
- "We are only human being." Excuse

These phrases maybe help them feel that their sin is not so bad. We can add another phrase:

- "If it feels good, it must be alright."
- Some people say, "People are not born sinful." – They believe that people are born good.

The world and the devil influence people to become sinners. People are self-centered. We are satisfied with our condition. We don't want to face our situation honestly. Only, the Holy Spirit can teach us to see and understand the truth.

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ASSIGNMENT:

List several ways that people excuse their sinful behavior.

Read

Rom 5:12,

12 Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned—

Ephesians 2:1-3

2 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. 3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh[a] and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

Psalm 51:4

Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are right in your verdict
and justified when you judge.

Luke 15:18-19.

18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.'

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 2–4

LESSON 2-4. Original Sin and Actual Sin (Part I)

Sin came into the world through Adam and Eve. The Bible teaches from then on all people are born with a sinful nature. We call that sinful nature “original” sin. We don’t prove original sin. We believe it. Why? The Bible teaches it. Luther wrote, “We daily sin much and deserve only punishment for our sin.” We repeat Adam and Eve’s sin again and again. We call that daily sin “actual” sin.

We are responsible for the judgment against us for our sins. We can’t blame the world. We can’t excuse ourselves with the words. “The devil made me do it.” Are some sins worse than other sins? No. Sin is not a specific action. The word sin describes our separation from God.

You remember the story of the Pharisee and Tax Collector. Remember the Tax Collector’s words. He was born in sin, but did not list his sins. Instead he confessed, “Lord, have mercy on me, I am a sinner.”

We are not born neutral, then become sinners through mistakes. We are born sinners, separated from God. Our separation damns us. We are each responsible for our own sin.

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ASSIGNMENT:

Read Genesis 8:21,

21 The Lord smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: “Never again will I curse the ground because of humans, even though[a] every inclination of the human heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done.

Romans 5:12 & 7:18 & 8:7,

12 Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned—

...

18 For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature.[a] For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out.

...

7 The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law, nor can it do so.

Ephesians 2:1-3

2 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. 3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh[a] and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

Write down what these verses tell you about original sin.

Discuss with your mentor the difference between original and actual sin.

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 2–5

LESSON 2-5. Original Sin and Actual Sin (Part II)

We are responsible for our own sin. Sometimes admitting sin leads people to self-pity or despair. It is not enough to recognize sin. Recognizing sin doesn't save us. When we learn about our sin, we must understand that we can't help ourselves. Only when we look to God for help. Then we have hope.

Remember the story named "The Prodigal Son." One son wanted all of his money. The father gave it to him. The son ran away and wasted it. Finally he had wasted all the money. Then he had to work taking care of the pigs. He felt sorry for himself until he remembered that his father was still alive. His father had a farm. He decided, ok I will go home. When the son understood his father's love, then he had hope.

The Law (the Ten Commandments) show us our sin. But God didn't give us the Law to damn us. When pastors preach the Law to people, we want them to do what?

1. Recognize God's dissatisfaction.
2. Sense your sympathy with them.
3. In their minds, ask that we announce Good News to them.
4. Learn what they can do to improve their life.

Of these four choices, answer three is the right answer.

We want to preach the Law. Why? So that people want us to preach Good News Jesus Christ died to forgive their sins. We are God's wayward children. But He is always calling us to come home.

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ASSIGNMENT:

Consider how you can share God's Law so that your student will want to hear the Good News.

Read Luke 15:11-24,
The Parable of the Lost Son. The Prodigal Son.

Isaiah 43:25,
“I, even I, am he who blots out
your transgressions, for my own sake,
and remembers your sins no more.

Psalm 103:11-12.
11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his love for those who fear him;
12 as far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 2–6

LESSON 2-6. The Great Gap & God's Kind of Forgiveness

There is a large separation between God and people. All other religions have tried to build a bridge across the separation. All have failed. Only God Himself can build a bridge across the separation. His bridge is the death of His Son Jesus Christ.

“Reconciliation” means God forgives us, even though we often reject Him. Not only we confess our sins, we also learn to know God’s great and wonderful forgiveness.

A nun went up to the bishop and said that she had seen Jesus. The bishop wanted to make sure that it was really Jesus. The bishop said, “Ok, the next time you see Him, ask Him what is my most private sin.” So the nun went off and later came again and said that she had seen Jesus again. The bishop said, “Did you ask Him?” The nun looked at him and answered, “Yes, I did But Jesus said that He had forgotten your sin.”

God forgives and forgets. God doesn’t count our sins against us. Now He invites us to forget our sin. Christ died for your sin, and now your past sins don’t need bother you. Now God calls you to forgive other people the same as Christ has forgiven you.

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ASSIGNMENT:

There is really only one sin. What is it?

What should knowing our sin lead us to do?

How is God's forgiveness different than our forgiveness?

Read 1 Peter 1:1-2,

1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

To God's elect, exiles scattered throughout the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, 2 who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood:

Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

1 John 5:7-8

7 For there are three that testify: 8 the[a] Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement.

CHAPTER TWO REVIEW

1. Read the explanation of the First Commandment. How does Luther describe our relationship with God should be?
2. What is sin (sinfulness)?
3. How do people become sinners?
4. What does our sin nature make us do?
5. How do we learn that we are sinners?
6. What is the consequence for sin?
7. What should knowing our sin lead us to do?
8. What does REPENTANCE mean?
9. What does the Holy Spirit use to change our hearts?
10. How do we show that God has forgiven us?
11. Memorize the following Bible verses.
James 2:10 Romans 5:12
Psalm 54:1 Luke 15:18-19
Genesis 8:21 Romans 3:23
Isaiah 43:25 Galatians 3:24
12. Memorize the Ten Commandments.

CHAPTER 3 Getting to Know the Holy Trinity

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 3-1

LESSON 3-1. Opening

I am alive! God is God. He has made us; we did not make ourselves.

Your goal is to help the student to know Jesus better. We have seen it's important to know our sins and God's forgiveness through Jesus Christ. Now we want to know God better. Many people have different opinions about God. We want to learn God the way that He has revealed Himself: the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is called the Holy Trinity.

The Bible teaches there is one God. The Bible also teaches that the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God. Not three gods but one God. We use the word "Triune" to describe God.

An old creed says: The Father is God, The Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God. Not three gods, but together one God.

We want to help people understand the Triune God. A good way is with a picture of a triangle. It does not matter if the triangle points down or points up. It doesn't matter. We sign in church, Father to the upper left, Son to the upper right and Holy Spirit in the middle. The triangle points down. God is a Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in one Triune God.

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ASSIGNMENT:

Memorize

Deuteronomy 6:4,

4 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.[a]

Ephesians 1:3,

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

John 1:1-2,

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning.

Acts 5:3-4.

Then Peter said, “Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land? 4 Didn’t it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn’t the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied just to human beings but to God.”

Practice the sign for “Triune” (and “Trinity”) and the triangle sign.

Read the First Article of the Apostles Creed.

Read Romans 1:19-20,

since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. 20 For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

Isaiah 64:8

Yet you, Lord, are our Father.

We are the clay, you are the potter;
we are all the work of your hand.

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 3–2

LESSON 3-2. God the Father

The First Article of the Creed:

*I believe in God the Father Almighty,
He made heaven and earth.*

The word “creed” means belief. We bow before Him, who made us and all things. The Holy Bible does not prove God exists. We cannot prove God exists, but we can know God exists. All people have a natural knowledge of God. This means in our hearts all people know God exists.

We look around and know someone made the world.

Example: computer. We look at a computer. We know someone made the computer. We can't see the maker. But we know someone made it. In the same way the world we look around and we know someone made the world.

“The heavens declare God’s glory; the skies proclaim He made skies.”

The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.”

Natural knowledge cannot save us. When we read the Bible we learn that God has revealed Himself in a special way. Jesus Christ is God in human flesh. He is Immanuel, God with us.

ASSIGNMENT:

- Review and memorize the First Article part of the Apostles Creed.
- Read Luther's explanation of the First Article in the Small Catechism.
- Read Hebrews 11:3,

By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

- Read Genesis 1 and 2

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 3–3

LESSON 3-3. God the Creator

The Bible begins with the words “In the beginning God created heaven and earth.”

God existed before all things; God made all things. God made everything from nothing.

Some people falsely believe the world happened through evolution. The word “evolution” means change. Atheistic evolution is a theory, a true faith. Science cannot prove evolution. We can only make theories (or guesses). When scientists deny a Creator God, they are giving their opinion. A Christian cannot prove the Christian faith. We believe it, yes. You can’t argue against faith.

God continues to care for and rule His world. When God made people, he made us in “His Image.” What does that mean? Joyful knowledge of God and intimate communion (close relationship) with God. Perfect. Peace.

ASSIGNMENT:

- Write down how evolution is the same-as a faith.
- Write down several ways that God continues to care for you.
- Read Luther's morning and evening prayer in the Catechism.

❖ In the Morning:

Thank you, Father, for good sleep and good health. Please help me live for You today. Guard me from all sin, keep me safe from trouble, and fill my mind with praise to You. Amen.

❖ At night:

Thank You, Father, for helping me today. Please forgive all my sins today, and help me sleep in peace tonight. Help other people I know who have trouble. Amen.

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 3–4

LESSON 3-4. The Angels

God made angels. There are good angels and evil angels. During the six days God made the world, God also made angels. He made many, many angels. Angels are very powerful. Some angels rebelled against God.

The Bible names the evil angels “devils”. The evil angels hate God, and want us to sin also. God made the angels to serve God, and do His commands. The good angels surround us, help us, and defend us against evil.

Luther teaches us to ask God every day to send His holy angels. Why? So that the evil angels cannot hurt us.

When we talk about angels we must be careful, why? Angels are popular. Many people have different ideas about angels. Some of those ideas are not from the Bible. Everything we teach about angels should come from the Bible.

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ASSIGNMENT:

- Write down why God made the angels.
- Luther teaches us to ask God to send us what?

- Read

Genesis 3:1-5,

3 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’”

2 The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, 3 but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’”

4 “You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. 5 “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

1 Peter 5:8-9

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 3–5

LESSON 3-5. Satan, Prince of Devils

The Bible teaches us there is a powerful, evil angel named “Satan”. Satan rules all the other evil angels. Satan is real. He wants to lead all people into hell. Satan tempted Eve and brought sin and death into the world. Satan and his evil angels still tempt us. Satan walks around like a lion seeking people he can destroy.

Jesus calls Satan the chief liar and a murderer. Some people think Satan is not real. Some people think Satan is too powerful almost same as God. Some even say he is Jesus’ brother. No.

We must remember the Bible teaches Satan is powerful and dangerous. However, Jesus defeated Satan. Jesus died on the cross and took away Satan’s power. If we believe in Jesus Christ, Satan cannot truly defeat us. The Bible promises that if we resist Satan, he will flee from us.

Luther wrote “A Mighty Fortress (protector) is Our God.”

In the hymn Luther says, “One little word can defeat Satan.”

ASSIGNMENT:

- Read Luther’s hymn “**A Mighty Fortress is Our God.**”
Learn how to sign the hymn.
- Someone says, “I am afraid of the devil.” How do you comfort him?
- Read the Apostles Creed, the Second Article. Also read Luther’s explanation.

CHAPTER THREE REVIEW (PART 1)

1. What does it mean when we call God TRIUNE?
2. What is the natural knowledge of God?
3. Where does God reveal His great love for us and His work to save us?
4. Read the first article (part) of the Apostles Creed. What does it mean?
5. How did God make all things? Did God use evolution?
6. Where do the good and evil angels come from?
7. Who is the most powerful evil angel and what does he do?
8. How did Jesus defeat Satan?
9. How do we protect ourselves against Satan?
10. Memorize the following Bible verses.

John 1:1-2 Romans 1:19-20

Isaiah 64:8 Hebrews 11:3

Genesis 1:1-2 Genesis 3:1-5

1 Peter 5:8-9 James 4:7

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 3–6

LESSON 3-6. God the Son

Before we described a little bit of Jesus' work. We explained Jesus is our Savior. He died to forgive our sins and to give us life. Now we focus on Jesus again.

Jesus is God the Son.

When it was the correct time, God the Son became man. Why? To become our Savior. Jesus is both God and man together. The Holy Spirit touched Mary. Mary became pregnant and gave birth to Jesus. Jesus grew up, suffered, died, rose again, and ascended into heaven.

Jesus is still both God and Man. Jesus promises He will come again. He will judge all people, both living and dead.

Some people believe that all people will be saved no matter their belief. Some people say that all religions lead to the same God. We must be very clear. The Bible teaches that Jesus is the only way for salvation. "There is no other name that can save us."

Christ is the only way. We want people to know Jesus. We will all stand before God. Why? To receive judgement. Our message for all people is "Look at Jesus Christ, He is the Lamb of God. He alone takes away the sin of the world."

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ASSIGNMENT:

- Read

Matthew 10:32-33 New International Version (NIV)

32 “Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. 33 But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven.

John 14:6 New International Version (NIV)

6 Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Romans 10:9 New International Version (NIV)

9 If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

1 John 4:2-3 New International Version (NIV)

2 This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, 3 but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.

- The way of salvation is what? The way of salvation is who?
- Suppose your student says, “Why should I believe in Jesus Christ?” Your answer is what?
- Read the Apostles Creed, Article Three. Also read Luther’s explanation.

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 3–7

LESSON 3-7. God the Holy Spirit

Before Jesus ascended to heaven, He promised to send who? The Holy Spirit. Pentecost happened. Wow!

The Holy Spirit came. Ever since, the Holy Spirit calls us with the Gospel, enlightens us with His gifts, make us holy, and keeps us trusting Jesus.

With His power the Holy Spirit gathers together God's people into the church. In the Church the Holy Spirit gives us and all believers forgiveness.

Notice, the Holy Spirit calls us. We do not choose God. We can't make a decision to follow Jesus. Our faith, our ability to believe in Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit gives us.

Notice, we can resist God, but we cannot go to Him. Our sinful natures stops us. We cannot convert ourselves. The Holy Spirit alone changes our heart.

A question: Can people cooperate with the Holy Spirit? Work together? No! The Holy Spirit alone gives us faith. Also the good works we do, the Holy Spirit does good works through us.

Our whole life in Christ, our faith and our good works happen why? Yes. The Holy Spirit does everything.

ASSIGNMENT:

- Your student says "I went to another church, and I made a decision to follow Jesus." Your answer is what?
- Explain why we cannot convert ourselves and believe in Jesus.
- Read Galatians, chapters 5 and 6.
- Read Ten Commandments and Luther's explanation.

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 3–8

LESSON 3-8. The Holy Spirit and the Ten Commandments

The Ten Commandments are God's Law. We are sinners and need to hear God's Law again and again. Yes, we believe in Jesus Christ and receive forgiveness but we are still sinners. Some people believe the Ten Commandments are rules for correct living. But the Bible teaches us God's Law is something more. The Law does something more.

God's Law shows our sins. When we examine our lives with the Ten Commandments, we see our sinful nature clearly. The Law teaches us we are sinners and we cannot earn salvation.

Also God's Law is not the motivation for our Christian lives. The Law is not the power for our new life in Christ. The Gospel alone is the power for our Christian lives. The only way we can live according to the Law is through faith in Jesus Christ.

The Christian life is faith showing itself through love. Remember, the Holy Spirit alone is the one who gives us faith, hope, love, peace, joy, patience, kindness, and every good blessing to help us live as believers.

When we examine the Ten Commandments and Luther's explanations, we see Luther emphasizing the positive way to understand the Ten Commandments.

The 1st Commandment is God inviting us to faith.

The 2nd Commandment is God inviting us to pray.

The 3rd Commandment is God inviting us to worship.

The other Commandments urge us to care for our neighbor and do good for one another. Remember our ability to keep and honor these commandments is always the Holy Spirit working in our hearts.

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ASSIGNMENT:

- Some wrong ways to understand God's Law are what?
- Write the positive ways Luther explains each Commandment.
- The Christian life is what?
- Read Matthew 28:19-20.

19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

CHAPTER THREE REVIEW (PART 2)

1. What does it mean that Jesus is God's Son and also Mary's Son?
2. What did Jesus do for you?
3. What does Jesus promise to do?
4. Read John 14:6. What does this Bible verse tell us about salvation?
5. How do you receive faith in Jesus Christ?
6. Why must the Holy Spirit alone change our hearts?
7. What does the Holy Spirit do for our daily lives?
 - (1)
 - (2)
8. In the first three Commandments God invites us to do what?
9. In the last seven Commandments God urges us to do what?
10. Memorize the following Bible verses:

John 14:6	Matthew 10:32-33
Romans 10:9 1	John 4:2-3
Acts 5:3-4	Galatians 5:22-23
Philippians 2:9-11	
11. Memorize the Apostles Creed.

CHAPTER 4 Getting to Know the Means of Grace

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 4-1

LESSON 4-1. Opening

God made us. Why? To have a relationship with Him. Jesus Christ died for us. He earned our salvation. Truly good news with much joy. Even Christians can feel lonely, sad, despair. Sometimes we think God is gone, far away. The most faithful Christians can think that God is not listening to me, God has stopped talking. God never changes. Yesterday, today and forever Jesus stays the same. He never changes. His loving kindness continues. Jesus promises to remain with us, even to the end of the world.

The problem is not God straying from us, but we stray from God. When we are depressed, we expect God to change our feelings right away. We want h im to come and make everything better. When our lives stay the same, then we blame God. We say God is gone.

God is near, God is here. God wants us to find Him again and again, every day. God makes Himself available. How? Four ways:

- 1) First, His Word (Bible reading, sermon).
- 2) Second, Holy Baptism.
- 3) Third, Lord's Supper.
- 4) Fourth, Confession and Absolution.

These four are named "Means of Grace." Through these four God offers forgiveness. These four are important, why?

Example: car out of gas. The pastor was driving. The motor became rough and stopped. Turned the key, nothing. The car stopped. A man pulled along side and asked "What's wrong?" "My car stopped, can't drive." "I will help you." He got out of his car and looked around. He lifted the hood and looked at the engine. He didn't find anything. He went around and asked the pastor, "Did you fill with gas?" "Ouch, I forgot."

These four are the same. Here we receive God's grace, forgiveness and strength from these four.

Deaf Pah - Getting To Know Jesus

ASSIGNMENT:

- Sometimes we feel God is gone. Did God stray away or did we stray away?
- God offers forgiveness four ways. Name them.
- Your friend doesn't want to go to church. What do you say?

Read

Romans 6:3-4 New International Version (NIV)

3 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 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.

and Luther's explanation of Holy Baptism.

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 4-2

LESSON 4-2. The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Some people think Baptism is a only symbol. A symbol does nothing, but Baptism does something.

The Bible says that Baptism saves us. Baptism washes away our sins. Baptism makes us God's children. His children receive eternal life.

The word Baptize is from the Greek "Baptizo." What does it mean? To wash clean, to put water on something. How? It doesn't matter.

Sign the word "Baptize," how? Three ways: 1) immerse, 2) pour, 3) sprinkle. I prefer 'pour'. Which correct? It doesn't matter.

Should we Baptize babies? Yes, why? Jesus says, "Go to all the world. Make disciples from every nation, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit."

The word "all nations" includes all people, and all people includes babies. Also the church long ago baptized children and babies belonging to Christian parents. When we baptize a baby the parents, god-parents and all the congregation accept the responsibility to teach the child the Christian faith.

True or false? Baptism means I'm saved, which? If the person believes the promise God gives in Baptism, then he receives all the blessing connected with Baptism. But if the person does not believe God's promise, then Baptism does not help.

People who reject the Christian life do what? They deny the Lord who bought them, and they bring themselves destruction.

Deaf Pah - Getting To Know Jesus

ASSIGNMENT:

- Read

Mark 16:16 New International Version (NIV)

16 Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

1 Peter 3:21 New International Version (NIV)

21 and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God.[a] It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

Acts 2:28 New International Version (NIV)

28 You have made known to me the paths of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence.’[a]

Galatians 3:26-27 New International Version (NIV)

26 So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, 27 for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

What do these verses say about Baptism?

- A friend says, “I don’t believe babies should be baptized.” What do you answer?
- Baptism does what?

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 4–3

LESSON 4-3. Baptism and Confirmation

The Lutheran tradition includes Confirmation. Some people believe that Confirmation is renewing the promise made during our Baptism.

The word “renew” is not accurate. When God acts, His act is complete. We cannot renew something God has done. Some people think Confirmation finishes Baptism, or Confirmation is the same as graduation day. Both ideas are false. Both ideas put down Baptism.

God doesn't begin something in Baptism, then we finish His work in confirmation, No.

When we are baptized, God gave us grace and eternal life.

Confirmation doesn't make us church members. When we were Baptized we joined the Church. Confirmation helps evaluate Christian growth after Baptism. Confirmation is the individual together with the congregation remembering his Baptism with joy. Confirmation is a time to thank God again for the wonderful gift of Baptism.

ASSIGNMENT:

- “Confirmation completes Baptism.” Explain why this sentence is wrong.
- What benefit does confirmation give us?
- Read Luther's explanation of the Lord's Supper.

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 4–4

LESSON 4-4. The Holy Eucharist (Part I)

“The night before Jesus Christ died, He took bread, broke it, thanked God and gave it to His disciples saying, “Take, eat, this is my body given for you. Eat this to remember Me.”

After supper, He took the cup, blessed it and gave it to His disciples saying, “Take, drink, all of you, this cup is the new promise in My blood, shed for you to forgive your sins. Drink this often to remember Me.”

Every time we celebrate the Lord’s Supper, we see and experience God’s work saving us. We see everything He has done for us through Jesus Christ. Every time we celebrate the Lord’s Supper, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes again.

The Lord’s Supper is also named Holy Communion. Holy Communion reminds us that we have fellowship with our Lord Jesus and fellowship with other believers.

Also Lord’s Supper is named “Eucharist,” thanksgiving. Every time we celebrate the Lord’s Supper, we thank God. Why? We truly receive Jesus’ body and blood. Jesus is truly here with us.

Also we want to celebrate the Lord’s Supper often and with joy. Why? Every time we eat and drink the Lord’s Supper, we receive forgiveness for all our sins. We want everyone to understand the Lord Supper is important. We want everyone to receive the Lord’s Supper with the correct understanding and attitude.

Other congregations do not always agree with Lutheran teaching. Therefore, visitors should speak with the pastor before receiving the Lord’s Supper. Lutherans should only ask to receive the Lord’s Supper from congregations that agree with our Lutheran teaching.

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ASSIGNMENT:

- Read again Luther's explanation for the Lord's Supper. Discuss it with your mentor.
- A visitor asks to receive the Lord's Supper, what do you say?
- "Eucharist" means what? Why is the Lord's Supper named "Eucharist?"

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 4–5

LESSON 4-5. The Holy Eucharist (Part II)

It is important we receive the Lord's Supper with the correct understanding and attitude. Some people believe they must become good enough for receiving the Lord's Supper. They feel they must earn right for Lord's Supper.

The Lord's Supper gives us God's grace. We cannot earn His grace and forgiveness. We are never good enough to receive our Lord's body and blood.

It is important we have the correct attitude. The correct attitude is what? We examine ourselves and see what?

- 1) We are a sinner fully needing Christ.
- 2) We trust Jesus to forgive our sins.

When we examine ourselves, we understand we are worth nothing. Through the Lord's Supper, our worthlessness Jesus takes away. He gives us His forgiveness.

We are poor, terrible sinners. We receive forgiveness. How? Trusting Jesus' death payed for our sins.

People receive the Lord's Supper the wrong way. How? When they are not sorry for sins. Truly they don't trust Jesus Christ to forgive them.

Faithful Christians prepare fully. We receive the Lord's Supper with an honest confession of sin. We are confident. Why? We know God loves us, and He will forgive our sins. We never need to be afraid of Him. Some people worry. Why? They think often attending the Lord's Supper will become less meaningful. Yet many people experience great joy coming often to receive our Lord's body and blood.

The Lord's Supper is God announcing "I love you." Christ didn't set up the Lord's Supper only for people to watch. He says, "Do this." We joyfully obey His command and invitation. Everyone coming often and wanting His blessing he will receive good things.

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ASSIGNMENT:

- How do you earn the right to receive the Lord's Supper?
- Someone says, "I don't want to receive the Lord's Supper often." What is your answer?

- Read

2 Corinthians 2:10 New International Version (NIV)

10 Anyone you forgive, I also forgive. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake,

1 John 1:8-9 New International Version (NIV)

8 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

John 20:22-23 New International Version (NIV)

22 And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 4–6

LESSON 4-6. Private Confession and Holy Absolution

Jesus gave the Church special authority to forgive and also refuse forgive sins. His special authority we name “Keys.” A key locks and unlocks. The church refusing to forgive sins is the same as a key locking heaven. The church forgiving sin is the same as a key unlocking heaven.

Private confession and holy absolution belong to the keys. A Christian congregation calls a pastor to listen to confession and announce holy absolution. Private confession and absolution happens how? A person goes to the pastor. The pastor listens, then tells the person his sins now forgiven. The person doesn’t need to name specific sins. In fact, the Bible says we cannot count or know all our sins. Impossible.

The pastor doesn’t try to force a confession. He doesn’t try to make a person feel guilty. The pastor is supposed to listen, and then announce sins are forgiven. Important. Lutheran pastors make a promise never to reveal sins confessed. If you confess your sins, the pastor will keep quiet.

Private confession is not the same as self-examination before receiving the Lord’s Supper. Private confession and absolution give wonderful blessings.

- 1) It announces the Gospel and gives forgiveness.
- 2) It satisfies the sinner’s individual needs.
- 3) It gives great spiritual benefits.
- 4) It gives psychological comfort and benefits.

The sinner receives wonderful benefits when he sees his pastor announce: “Your sins are now forgiven. Go with peace.” His forgiveness and peace is from Christ Himself.

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ASSIGNMENT:

- Private confession and absolution give benefits. Explain.
- When a person confesses sin, what does the pastor do?
- When a pastor announces forgiveness, who really is announcing it?

- Read

John 20:31 New International Version (NIV)

31 But these are written that you may believe[a] that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

2 Timothy 3:15 New International Version (NIV)

15 and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

CHAPTER FOUR REVIEW

1. Why did God create us?
2. What does the Bible say about God's love for us?
3. What are the four ways God makes Himself available to us?
 - (1)
 - (2)
 - (3)
 - (4)
4. Why do we call these four things the "ways of grace"?
5. What does Baptism do?
6. Why should we Baptize children?
7. How do you receive the blessings of Baptism?
8. What is CONFIRMATION?
9. When did Jesus establish the Lord's Supper?
10. In the Lord's Supper what does Jesus give us with the bread and wine?
11. Why should we joyfully and often receive the Lord's Supper?
12. What is the right attitude to receive the Lord's Supper?
13. What is Confession and Absolution?
14. What is the wonderful blessing of Confession and Absolution?
15. Memorize the following Bible verses.

Mark 16:16	Matthew 28:18-20	Peter 3:21
Romans 6:3-4	Acts 2:28	1 John 1:8-9
John 20:22-23	1 Corinthians 11:28	

CHAPTER 5 Getting to Know the Holy Bible

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 5-1

LESSON 5-1. Opening / Holy Bible

The Bible describes God's Word: "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path."

I want to share a story. Long ago my family visited a cave. Before we entered we listened to the rules. The leader announced, "Always stay close to me. Why? You will go astray and maybe fall in a hole and break a leg or maybe your neck." The message is "stay close to the guide." Our world is dark. Yes, the sun rises and shines, but we live in spiritual darkness.

Satan, the world and our sinful flesh work against our life in Christ. We struggle and struggle, not against flesh and blood. We struggle against the power controlling spiritual darkness.

If we try find our own way without God's Word, we are fools. We need to remain near to our guide, God's Word.

The Bible comes from God. Men spoke for God while the Holy Spirit encouraged them. The Bible has two parts: Old Testament and New Testament.

A testament is a covenant or a will.

The New Testament includes "Epistles" (letters) and "Gospels." The word gospel means "Good News."

The Bible reveals God's plan to save us. The Bible alone shows our sin and our Savior. The Bible's central teaching is not how to live correct way. No. The most important Bible teaching is:

- 1) God calling all people to repentance.
- 2) The Good News that God forgives our sin through Jesus Christ.

Deaf Pah - Getting To Know Jesus

ASSIGNMENT:

- God gave the Bible. Why?

- Read

John 20:31 New International Version (NIV)

31 But these are written that you may believe[a] that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

- Your student says, “The Bible is full with rules for correct living.” Explain the Bible’s central teaching.

- Read

2 Peter 1:21 New International Version (NIV)

21 For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

2 Corinthians 10:5 New International Version (NIV)

5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

Colossians 2:8 New International Version (NIV)

8 See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces[a] of this world rather than on Christ.

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 5–2

LESSON 5-2. “Mistakes” in the Holy Bible?

Two men were sitting on a training eating fish. One was a pastor, the other one was an unbeliever. The pastor was reading his Bible. The unbeliever looked and asked, “Do you preach from the Bible?” The pastor answered, “Yes, always.” The unbeliever asked, “When you don’t understand everything there, what do you do?” The pastor answered, “It is like eating this fish. If I find a bone, I lay it aside and continue to enjoy dinner. If a person wants to choke on a bone, that is his business.”

Some people say the Bible has “mistakes.” Yes & No.

Yes, the Bible reveals people making mistakes. Their mistakes are worse. Their mistakes are sins against our holy God.

But concerning God, the Bible has no mistakes. None. The Bible accurately and clearly reveals God and everything He has done for us and for our salvation.

We believe God inspired the Bible. The word “inspired” means exciting and God-breathed. The Holy Spirit touched certain men, then they wrote and spoke God’s Word.

Our human reason cannot prove God inspired the Bible. We can only believe it. Why? The Bible teaches inspiration.

God first inspired the writers. Then other people copied, copied, copied, and so on. Small changes popped up. However, all the small changes are nothing. All the important Bible teachings stay the same – no mistakes.

God kept all the important Bible teachings correct. We understand and accept the Bible truths. How? Through faith.

I accept the Bible is consistent, infallible (perfect), and God’s Word. How? Again through faith.

The Bible is different from other books. But God inspired the Bible. When we read the Bible, we learn about human weakness and sin. The Bible shows we need God’s grace and salvation.

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We know Abraham, David, and Peter are men with strong faith, yet the writers honestly revealed their sins and weaknesses.

God inspired each writer, yet each writer shows his own personality and style. The writers are not robots. They were able to share their feelings, attitudes, and perspective.

ASSIGNMENT:

- Read

Psalm 119:73 New International Version (NIV)

73 Your hands made me and formed me;
give me understanding to learn your commands.

Matthew 13:19 New International Version (NIV)

19 When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path.

Romans 3:4 New International Version (NIV)

4 Not at all! Let God be true, and every human being a liar. As it is written:
“So that you may be proved right when you speak
and prevail when you judge.”[a]

- We have human reason and the Bible, which is more important?
- The word “inspired” means what?
- The Bible is different from other books. How?

- Read

2 Peter 3:15-16 New International Version (NIV)

15 Bear in mind that our Lord’s patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him. 16 He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction.

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Hebrews 1:1-2 New International Version (NIV)

God's Final Word: His Son

1 In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe.

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 5–3

LESSON 5-3. Interpreting the Holy Bible

I want to share with you a story. Long ago I was discussing with a friend, explaining an important teaching. My friend was fed up and said, “That is your story, not mine.”

My experience illustrates some important questions: We interpret the Bible, how? We know God’s Word is important, and we want to understand His Word correctly.

I want to give you some rules to help you understand the Bible:

1. Christ is the center of the Bible. The Old Testament & the New Testament are joined to Christ. If we take away Christ from the Bible, then what is left? Nothing.
2. The chief Bible teaching is salvation by grace through faith.
3. We read the Bible with an honest mind, and faith in Jesus Christ. We pray: Lord, teach me.
4. We read the Bible with a repentant heart, asking God’s forgiveness.
5. While we read the Bible, we thank God. Why? He gives us many blessings.
6. We ask the Lord: “What do You want me to do?” Some people think it’s not necessary to study Old Testament. True, the New Testament reveals Jesus Christ and His saving work, but the Old Testament also witnesses to Christ. Encourage your students to read both the Old Testament and New Testament.

Many people think the Bible and science are in conflict. Not true. Science works with provable, testable data. Scientists accept theories the same as faith. True, honest science and true, Christian faith agree. All truth is God’s truth.

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ASSIGNMENT:

- Write the six rules for helping people understand the Bible. Share the rules with another person.

- Read

Hebrews 4:12 New International Version (NIV)

12 For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Romans 1:16 New International Version (NIV)

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 5–4

LESSON 5-4. Devotional Use of the Bible

How many times do you open the Bible, read it, think about it, and pray? Every month? Every week? Every day? Which?

I want to share a story with you:

A little girl looked around and noticed a Bible on a table. She thought and then asked her mother, “Who does this book belong to?” The mother answered, “That book belongs to God.” The little girl said, “Really, maybe we better give it back to God.” The mother asked, “Why?” The little girl answered, “We are not reading it here.”

The Bible is God’s Word filled with His active, life-giving power. If we want a strong, mature, living faith, then we need to develop the correct attitude.

God’s Word is a living power. The Bible is not only a place we find and read our doctrine. In the Bible we meet God Himself. He comes through the Bible. Why? To support our tired spirits and to give us the abundant life. He wants abundant life for us.

God’s Word is His own power. His Word is living and active. His Word is the power to change hearts and lives.

What do we pray for? That the Bible will excite you. When you are excited, then your students will become excited like you.

Don’t read the Bible only to prepare for class and teaching. No. Regularly sit-down, and read for your joy and pleasure.

Luther suggests an interesting way to read the Bible. Luther compared reading the Bible with picking fruit from an apple tree. He went to an apple tree regularly and shook the whole tree and some fruit fell. He gathered up the fruit. Then he shook each big branch and fruit fell and he gathered it. Then he shook each small branch and the fruit fell and he gathered it. Finally he picked the remaining fruit.

Notice God’s Word is the same. Learn the big stories first. Then smaller study each book. Finally study each verse. You will have success.

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Still you will have questions. Your doubts don't have to control you. Peter says: "All your anxieties cast upon the Lord. Why? He cares for you." As you read the Bible, let your faith in Jesus Christ guide you. May the Lord bless your personal Bible study.

ASSIGNMENT:

- Write a plan for reading the Bible daily.
- Write a brief prayer asking God to bless your study.

- Read

Ephesians 5:25 New International Version (NIV)

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her

Romans 9:3-8 New International Version (NIV)

3 For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my people, those of my own race, 4 the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption to sonship; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises. 5 Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of the Messiah, who is God over all, forever praised!^[a] Amen.

God's Sovereign Choice

6 It is not as though God's word had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel. 7 Nor because they are his descendants are they all Abraham's children. On the contrary, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned."^[b] 8 In other words, it is not the children by physical descent who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise who are regarded as Abraham's offspring.

CHAPTER FIVE REVIEW

1. Why do we call the Bible God's Word?
2. What does the Bible reveal to us?
3. What is the most important Bible teaching?
 - (1)
 - (2)
4. Does the Bible have mistakes about God?
5. What does the word INSPIRE mean?
6. How do we prove the Bible is God's Word and has no mistakes?
7. Are the Bible and science against each other?
8. Why should you regularly read the Bible?
9. What are six rules to help you understand the Bible?
 - (1)
 - (2)
 - (3)
 - (4)
 - (5)
 - (6)
10. Memorize the following Bible verses.

John 20:31	2 Timothy 3:15
2 Peter 1:21	Colossians 2:8
Romans 3:4	Psalm 119:73
Hebrews 4:12	2 Corinthians 10:5
Romans 1:16	Hebrews 1:1-2

CHAPTER 6 Getting to Know the Church

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 6-1

LESSON 6-1. Introduction & Christ's Worldwide Church

The Church is what?

The Church is God's people. The Church includes all people trusting the Savior God sent.

The Church began when? The Church began long ago in Eden. Why? In Eden God first promised to send a Savior.

Again and again God announced and explained His promise in different ways, and through different people. Everyone believing God's promise belongs to His Church.

The Old Testament believers didn't know the Savior like us, but they believed the same promise, and God called them righteous people.

Jesus didn't begin a new Church. He came. Why? God's long ago promise of Jesus fulfilled.

The Greek word for Church means "belongs to the Lord." Everyone trusting God for the forgiveness of sin belongs to Him, even though some lived before Jesus was born. All believers joined to Christ are spiritual descendants belonging to Abraham.

All people belonging to Christ's Holy Church want to stay faithful members. They want to avoid false teachers. They want to help the Church grow through sharing Jesus, prayer, and wisely using God's gifts.

Some people say, "I can remain a Christian without going to church."

I want to share a story involving Luther. Luther visited a man who did not go to church. He stayed at home all the time. Luther was worried. Luther went to the man's house, entered and noticed a fire in the fireplace. They sat down. Then Luther walked over to the fire, took some tongs, and took one coal and placed it outside alone and then sat down. The two men waited and watched quietly. Then

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the separated coal went out. The man said, “Now I understand. I will go to church regularly from now on.” Notice what happened. The coal continued burning while it was in the hot fire. But when the one coal was separated, it went out. Also people remain active going to church. They are warm with faith and excitement. But if a person separates from going to church, his faith becomes cool, maybe his faith dies.

In the church, we join hands together, caring for each other. The Bible teaches us to encourage one another to remain trusting the Lord and serving Him.

ASSIGNMENT:

- Your students ask, “Why should I attend church?” What do you answer?
- We say that OT believers belong to the Church. How?
- Read Romans 9:3-8.

Romans 9:3-8 New International Version (NIV)

3 For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my people, those of my own race, 4 the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption to sonship; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises. 5 Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of the Messiah, who is God over all, forever praised!^[a] Amen.

God’s Sovereign Choice

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- Your relationship to Abraham is what?

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 6–2

LESSON 6-2. The Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church is unique. Some people think the Lutheran Church is the same as the Roman Catholic Church. Some people believe the Lutheran Church is same as the Baptist, Methodist, Episcopal, or other non-Catholic Churches.

However, their opinions are incorrect. We share some teachings with other Christian churches, but still the Lutheran Church is unique. There is not enough time to study all of the differences. You will have an opportunity in another class to compare the Lutheran Church with other Christian churches.

The Lutheran church began, how? Luther didn't want to start a new Church. He wanted to lead the Church again to Jesus Christ, your Lord. Luther wanted to stay in the Roman Catholic Church. He wanted reconciliation, but the Pope refused. Finally the Pope excommunicated Luther out of the Roman Catholic Church.

Also Luther didn't want a church with his name. The Lutheran Church confesses three important truths:

- 1) Grace alone,
- 2) Faith alone,
- 3) Scripture alone.

The Book of Concord explains how we understand the Bible. You should buy the Book of Concord. Why? You will use that book in other classes. Also the book will help you understand the important teachings in the Lutheran Church.

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ASSIGNMENT:

- Someone says, “The Lutheran Church is the same as the Catholic Church.” You answer how?
- The Book of Concord is what?
- Read 1 Corinthians 12,

Ephesians 4:11-12 New International Version (NIV)

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

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 6–3

LESSON 6-3. The Local Congregation & Role of the Pastor

When we discuss the Church, we also talk about the local congregation. Belonging to a congregation is not the same as joining an organization.

When we belong to a congregation, we belong to Christ's living body, the Holy Christian Church.

The congregation is not a club. We don't belong to a congregation for social activities and meetings. Our faith leads us to love Him and His Church. Our love motivates us to participate in education and mission programs.

Every Christian is an important member in the local congregation. The word "body" is an interesting description for the Church. The body has many different parts, each unique. The Church has many members, each different and unique.

The Lord gives His Church a variety of gifts and skills. Why?

1. To help His Church proclaim God's love,
2. To help us love and care for each other.

Some gifts may seem more important, but all gifts are from our Lord.

A congregation is pastor and lay people together. Often pastor and lay people work together with joy and cooperation.

Sadly, sometimes pastors and lay people have conflict. Every congregation member must work hard to maintain peace. Satan loves conflict. He wants to destroy congregational fellowship and ministry. He wants us to stop sharing Jesus with other people and one another.

We should seek every opportunity to make our relationship and fellowship stronger. We do this through God's powerful Word and Spirit.

God established the pastoral office. The Lutheran Church teaches: If a man wants to serve a congregation, he must have a Divine Call. The pastor explains God's Word. He teaches and guides God's people, but in front of God, the people must accept the responsibility for their own faith.

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With God's grace and power, pastor and people together fulfill the mission and ministry God gives them.

ASSIGNMENT:

- The body is a good picture to describe the Church. Explain.
- Satan makes conflict in congregations. How?
- Think about ways that you can encourage pastors and congregations to work together doing ministry.

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 6–4

LESSON 6-4. What is a Lutheran?

You are a Lutheran. Why? Lutherans will give many different answers. I want to share with you some things. Why? To help you prepare an answer when people ask you, “You are a Lutheran. Why?”

1. A Lutheran believes the Bible is God’s inspired Word. A Lutheran believes the Lutheran Confessions correctly explain the important Bible teachings.
2. A Lutheran believes the Bible and Lutheran Confessions judge all other books and writings. The Bible and Lutheran Confessions are written for us now.
3. A Lutheran always examines his own faith. He is always studying the Bible, learning new and wonderful things about God and salvation. He learns the way to live following Jesus Christ.
4. A Lutheran believes that the world and our opinion don’t judge God’s Word. Instead, God’s Word helps him understand the world. He believes that God’s Word clearly shows that the world is filled with sin and needs a Savior. He trusts in Jesus Christ.
5. A Lutheran accepts the Lutheran Confessions 100%. Why? Because the Lutheran Confessions agree with the Bible 100%.
6. A Lutheran supports the Lutheran Confessions with both words and actions.
7. A Lutheran looks for and joins a Lutheran church that accepts the Bible and Lutheran Confessions 100%.

ASSIGNMENT:

- Think about the question: You are a Lutheran. Why? Share your answers with your mentor.
- Read Galatians 2:20.
20 I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.
- Read the Lord’s Prayer and Luther’s explanation.

CHAPTER SIX REVIEW

1. What is the Church?
2. When did the Church begin?
3. How were believers in the Old Testament saved?
4. What does the word Church mean?
5. How does a person belong to the Church?
6. How can we help the Church grow?
7. How did the Lutheran Church begin?
8. The Lutheran Church teaches three important truths. What are they?
 - (a)
 - (b)
 - (c)
9. The important teachings of the Lutheran Church are included in what book?
10. The Bible describes the Church as the body of Christ. How is the Church like a body?
11. How should church members work together?
12. What does Satan try to do in congregations?
13. What is the work of a pastor in the congregation?
14. Who established the office of pastor?
15. How does a man become a pastor?
16. Memorize the following Bible verses.
Ephesians 4:11-12 Ephesians 5:30

CHAPTER 7 Getting to Know Prayer

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 7-1

LESSON 7-1. Introduction & Lord Teach Us to Pray

Two pastors were on a big ship. Quickly a fire started. One pastor said, “Let us go to the far end and pray.” The other pastor said, “No, I will stay here, help and pray too.”

Christ invites us both to pray and to do. Often we are doing so much, we forget to pray.

Prayer is called the Christian’s living breath. Prayer involves our total relationship with our Heavenly Father through Jesus Christ.

Prayer does not change things, God changes things. God changes the praying person. Some people are always searching for God. They search and search, but never find. They don’t know that God is seeking them. God is always there.

If a person doesn’t know Him, God wants a relationship with him. If the person already knows Him, then God works to change his will to agree with God.

God teaches us that prayer is not for manipulating Him, not for getting our way. The Holy Spirit can make our prayer life active. An active prayer life can give us a deeper relationship with our Heavenly Father.

Our prayers should be simple. Jesus scolded the religious leaders. Why? Empty words filled their prayers.

Luther said, “A short prayer is a better prayer.”

Our prayers respond to God. We listen to God through His Word, then His Word guides our prayers.

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ASSIGNMENT:

- An active prayer life can give us what?
- Is it possible to pray too much?
- “If you are too busy to pray, then you are more busy than God wants.” This sentence is true. How?

- Read

1 John 5:20-21,

20 We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true by being in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.

21 Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.

Read James 1:6-7,

James 1:6-7 New International Version (NIV)

6 But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. 7 That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord.

Matthew 4:10 New International Version (NIV)

10 Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’[a]”

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 7-2

LESSON 7-2. Holy Scriptures and Prayer

The disciples asked Jesus, “Lord, teach us to pray.” Jesus sends the Holy Spirit. Why? To help us pray.

When we pray for spiritual blessing, we pray without conditions. When we pray for material things, we pray first that God’s wants and our wants agree and second that He helps us for our good.

1. We pray to the true Triune God – Father, Son, Holy Spirit. Only! There is no other God.
2. We pray confidently. We believe Jesus Christ will answer our prayers.
3. We pray God, “Your will be done, not our will.”
4. We pray for what? Me and all people, God will help. Also we pray that our enemies, God help, the same as Jesus taught. We don’t pray for deaf people.
5. Happy, sad, thankful, depressed it makes no difference. We pray to our God.
6. We pray with patience. When Christians pray, God pays attention, but He answers in His own way and His time. God is never slow, but we must learn patient waiting.

Sometimes we feel we can’t pray. The Holy Spirit prays with and for us. When we cannot pray, the Holy Spirit offers prayers for us.

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ASSIGNMENT:

- Describe Prayer. We should be confident. Why?
- Practice the Lord's Prayer and teach another person.

- Read

1 John 1:3 New International Version (NIV)

3 We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.

Luke 24:45-49 New International Version (NIV)

45 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. 46 He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things. 49 I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Acts 22:14-15 New International Version (NIV)

14 "Then he said: 'The God of our ancestors has chosen you to know his will and to see the Righteous One and to hear words from his mouth. 15 You will be his witness to all people of what you have seen and heard.'

- Read again, Apostles Creed, Article 3 and Luther's Explanation

CHAPTER SEVEN REVIEW (PART 1)

1. What two things does Christ invite us to do?

(1)

(2)

2. Why is it not necessary to search-for God?

3. How does our prayer life become active?

4. What is the blessing of an active prayer life?

5. How do we guide our prayer life?

6. What does it mean "Thy will be done"?

7. Is it necessary to pray with many words?

8. Which God do we pray to?

9. Why should we pray with confidence?

10. When we pray we must be patient. Why?

11. Memorize the following Bible verses.

1 John 5:20-21

James 1:6-7

Matthew 4:10

12. Memorize the Lord's Prayer.

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 7-3

LESSON 7-3. Introduction (Evangelism)

Jesus told His disciples, “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

One man was walking on a mountain in a terrible deep snow storm. The man wanted to lay down. He was tired and wanted to rest. But he knew if he laid down, he would die. The man continued walking and then fell over something. He saw a man laying there, still alive. What should I do? He picked him up and they walked together until they saw a cabin. They went in and he helped the man warm up. Later the man was thinking and understood, when I helped him, I helped myself.

Christians have a wonderful privilege. Our Lord gives us responsibility. What? We share the Good News with all people in the world. Our work is named “Evangelism.” Evangelism is from the Greek word “evangel” meaning Good News.

Jesus wants every Christian to share the Gospel. We don’t need special skills and gifts. Every Christian can share how much Jesus loves them.

Sometimes we think mission work only happens far away. But Christians can do mission work near home.

Example: A church near my home has a sign. Everyone going out sees the words: “You are now entering a mission field.”

The church is supposed to announce the Good News no matter the result. Mission work is not a program, not a process. Mission work happens every time a Christian contacts the world.

The best mission work happens, how? Naturally, through regular daily contact with friends and family. It is important we share our faith the correct way. Not in your face but compassionately.

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ASSIGNMENT:

- The word evangelism means what?
- Your student says, “I am not a missionary.” What do you say?

- Read

Matthew 9:35-38 New International Version (NIV)

The Workers Are Few

35 Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. 36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. 38 Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

Matthew 10:19-20 New International Version (NIV)

19 But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, 20 for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 7-4

LESSON 7-4. Christ's Way of Communication

Jesus met many people. He talked with them. His approach can teach us much. He is the best example for sharing with other people.

A man named Richard Lischer examined the way Jesus shared the truth with others. He explains five things our Lord did when He communicated with people.

1. Our Lord dialogued with people. He listened. He asked questions. He learned to understand the person's heart. He showed compassion.
2. Jesus cared for both body and soul. He forgave the sick and healed the sinners.
3. Jesus looked for the people in their own situations. He found Matthew, where? In his own office. Jesus ate and drank with sinners.
4. Jesus communicated with simple language. Jesus told stories and the people related.
5. Jesus called His listeners to do what? They responded. He confronted them, and the Holy Spirit helped them respond.

They need to decide: "Jesus is who? Jesus is what?" The decision is not our own power but the Holy Spirit working in us. Jesus met people. His goal? Repentance. Yet His work continues. He doesn't only change people's lives, Jesus also makes them disciples. He sends the Holy Spirit. Why? To live in us and teach us to follow our Lord.

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ASSIGNMENT:

- When our Lord communicated with people, He did five things. Write down and study His approach.
- Read Matthew 10:19-20. This verse prepares you for sharing Jesus how?
Matthew 10:19-20 New International Version (NIV)
19 But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, 20 for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.
- Read 1 Thessalonians 4:17-18.
1 Thessalonians 4:17-18 New International Version (NIV)
17 After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

CHAPTER SEVEN REVIEW (PART 2)

1. What does the word EVANGELISM mean?
2. Who can do evangelism?
3. Do Christians need special skills to share the Good News?
4. Does mission work happen only in far away places?
5. What is the best way to share the Good News?
6. What is the correct way to share our faith?
7. Describe how Jesus communicated with people.

(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)

(5)

8. Who convinces people to believe in Jesus?
9. What is Jesus' goal?
10. Memorize the following Bible verses.

Matthew 10:19-20 Matthew 28:19-20

1 John 1:3

Acts 4:20

Galatians 2:20

CHAPTER 8 Getting to Know the Last Things

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 8-1

LESSON 8-1. Introduction

You die, then what happens? Some people say nothing. Some people think their soul is born in a new body.

Some people think that good people go to heaven, and that bad people are destroyed.

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life, the person believing in Me will live, even though he dies. The person living and believing in me will never die."

Death. Are we afraid? No. Why? Death is the same as a door leading us before the Father. The grave cannot hurt us. Jesus gives us victory through His death and resurrection.

When last day happens the Holy Spirit will raise me and all dead people. The Lord Himself will command the dead believers to arise. Then all other people will arise. All people will be raised, both believers and unbelievers. Believers go where? Heaven. Unbelievers go where? Hell.

Hell is a terrible place. Suffer, suffer, suffer. God is love. Some people say, "God permits hell." No. when I sin, I want to live separate from God. When I continue to sin, I ask God to stay separate. God answers, "You go to hell." Hell is forever. No one can escape.

Heaven is a beautiful place. There is no sin or sadness. God prepared heaven for believers. Heaven is forever.

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ASSIGNMENT:

- Someone says, “Only believers will rise again.” What do you answer?
- Someone says, “God does NOT permit hell.” What do you answer?

- Read

Revelation 14:13 New International Version (NIV)

13 Then I heard a voice from heaven say, “Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.”

“Yes,” says the Spirit, “they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them.”

1 Peter 3:21-22 New International Version (NIV)

21 and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God.[a] It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22 who has gone into heaven and is at God’s right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 8-2

LESSON 8-2. Resurrection of the Body

Eternal life begins when? When we die? No. Believers have eternal life now. Through Baptism we enter eternal life.

Jesus promised, "Continue believing until death, then you will continue eternal life." When a Christian dies the soul goes to heaven. Later? No, now. The soul rests with Christ. The body becomes dust.

We must not say that death is God's will. God doesn't want anyone to die. God created people to live forever.

Sin brought death. God only permits death, and He knows the time we all will die. Death is not natural or beautiful. The Bible calls death our enemy. We die. Why? We all are sinners.

When a believer dies, we rejoice. Why? Because we know the Lord will raise him on the last day. Victory shall swallow up Death.

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ASSIGNMENT:

- Read the special services (Rites) for Baptism and Funeral. Baptism prepares us for death how?
- A friend says, “Death is natural.” What do you say?

- Read

1 Corinthians 15:51-52 New International Version (NIV)

51 Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—
52 in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

Psalms 16:11 New International Version (NIV)

11 You make known to me the path of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence,
with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

Romans 8:18 New International Version (NIV)

Present Suffering and Future Glory

18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

Video: Getting to Know Jesus 8–3

LESSON 8-3. Life Everlasting

Christians have a “reason to live” and a “reason to die.”

Paul writes, “Fr me to live is Christ, to die is gain. Death, life, it doesn’t matter. I belong to Christ.”

We believe in the “resurrection of the dead and life forever.” We believers have, what? Hope! Hope is not the same as maybe. Hope truly knows, believes, and trusts.

Christ assures our hope through His own resurrection from the dead.

We do not fear – Christian’s death is a joyful, confident time. Our Lord is waiting to receive us. His arms ready to hold us.

Some old churches have communion rails that look like a ½ circle. The ½ circle teaches something important. The communion rail continues where? Heaven. Here the believers worship at communion. There the believers worship in heaven. When we receive Lord’s Supper, we truly worship with “angels and arch-angels and all the company of heaven.”

The believers who have died are not dead – they are “with the Lord” – and we, united with them, continually praise His holy name.

ASSIGNMENT:

- Explain hope to your student.
- Read the Divine Service in Lutheran Worship, especially the communion section.

LESSON EIGHT REVIEW

1. What happens when people die?
2. What does Jesus promise believers?
3. Why should believers not be afraid of death?
4. What will happen on the Last Day?
5. When do believers receive eternal life?
6. Is death God's will?
7. Why is there death?
8. Is death our friend? Is death natural?
9. When a believer dies why do we rejoice?
10. What is the believer's great hope?
11. Memorize the following Bible verses.

1 Thessalonians 4:17-18 John 11:25-26

1 Corinthians 15:51-52 1 Peter 3:21-22

Romans 8:18

Revelation 14:13

Psalm 16:11

Deaf Pah - Getting To Know Jesus

This is a joint program:

Board for Mission Services
And
Concordia Seminary
St. Louis, MO

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