Promise and Deliverance Student Workbook

Volume 13 Level 2

Harvey De Groot

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Preface

When S.G. De Graaf wrote his four-volume series, *Promise and Deliverance*, he showed educators how to teach Bible stories from a redemptive-historical perspective. Rather than turning Bible stories into moralistic tales, De Graaf taught us how all the Bible shows God revealing himself as the God of the covenant, who is working out His redemptive plan for humanity and all of creation.

The 80 workbooks written by Harvey De Groot are meant to supplement De Graaf's work. They are divided by volume and level number: 20 volumes with four levels per volume. Workbook lessons are written at four levels so that families with students in various grades can study the same Bible stories during the week in preparation for their classes on Sunday. Prior to class, the Sunday School teacher should study the lesson in De Graaf's book. The teacher and students can go through the workbook during class.

The levels are divided according to the following grades:

• Level One: Grades K-1

• Level Two: Grades 2-3

• Level Three: Grades 4-6

• Level Four: Grades 7-8

Each volume contains 12 or 13 lessons, and each lesson has the following sections:

• **Reference:** The volume and lesson number in De Graaf's series.

• **Scripture:** The passage from Scripture on which the lesson is based.

• **Memory Verse:** A memory verse related to the lesson.

- Lesson Truth: A short statement to help the class focus on the main point of the lesson.
- **Lesson:** The lesson itself, which the teacher can read in class. For older grades, the teacher may opt to assign it as homework.
- Questions: Items to be discussed in class. For older grades, the teacher can assign these questions as homework but should also use them as a basis for class discussion. These are not the only questions that could or should be asked. Teachers should encourage students to come with their own questions as well.

This edition was written by Harvey De Groot and edited by his son Norlan De Groot.

Christ as King

Reference: De Graaf, Promise and Deliverance, Volume 3, Lesson 27

Scripture: Mark 1:1-13

Memory Verse: "For John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with

the Holy Spirit not many days from now." (Acts 1:5)

Lesson Truth: Christ Jesus was anointed as King when John baptized Him in the

Jordan River.

Lesson

The Gospel of Mark presents Jesus as the King. He was anointed as King at the Jordan River. When John baptized Jesus, the Holy Spirit declared Him King. John the Baptist announced the coming of the King. He was anointed when the Holy Spirit descended upon Him. Christ Jesus, the King, won the victory over sin and death and Satan for His people.

Mark wrote his gospel to gentile, Roman, Christians. The Romans understood what a King was because they had an emperor. The people showed honor to the emperor. John introduced Christ as a supreme ruler. He was the messenger that announced Christ's coming. John was the messenger that Isaiah talked about in the Old Testament. He was, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness; prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight" (Mark 1:3; Isaiah 40:3).

God sent John to the Jordan River to preach and to baptize. He urged the people to repent from their sins. Then he baptized them in the Jordan. John lived alone in the desert. He was dressed in camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist. John ate locusts and honey that he could find in the desert. The news of John's preaching soon reached Jerusalem and the towns of Judea. The people were curious, so they went out to see John. But when they heard him preach, they were sorry for their sins. So John baptized many of them in the Jordan River. He baptized them with a baptism of repentance.

Even though many people came to see John, he did not forget why God sent him. He knew that God sent him to make the way ready for the King. He was the messenger who had to prepare the way! John told the people about the coming King. He said that someone, whose sandal straps he was not worthy to untie, would come after him. Then this messenger of the King gave the people an amazing promise. He told them that he baptized with water, but the King would baptize them with the Holy Spirit. This meant that Christ Jesus, the King, would change their hearts. King

Jesus would also conquer sin and death and Satan for His people. This King would earn God's favor for His people.

While John was preaching and baptizing, something wonderful happened. Jesus came to see John at the Jordan River. He asked John to baptize Him. At first John didn't want to baptize Jesus. He thought that he wasn't worthy to do that. But Jesus told him that it was right for John to baptize Him. In this way all righteousness would be fulfilled.

An amazing thing happened when Jesus was baptized. As He came out of the water the heavens opened. Then the Holy Spirit descended on Him in the form of a dove. In addition, there was a voice from heaven. The voice said: "You are My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Mark 1:11). In this way God the Father anointed His Son with the Holy Spirit. Jesus was not anointed with oil like the kings of the earth. Instead, He was anointed with the Holy Spirit. He was anointed to be the King. As the King, Christ Jesus would win the victory over sin and death and Satan for His people.

How did Christ the King win the victory over Satan? The Holy Spirit brought Jesus into the wilderness to have Satan tempt Him. He was in the wilderness for forty days. For forty days He lived with the beasts and Satan tempted Him. All these days Satan troubled His soul, but He did not yield to temptation. Christ, the King, did what he was called to do. He was faithful to His anointing. Jesus withstood all of Satan's attacks and broke his power. What does that mean for God's people? It means that even though we must struggle against sin, the victory is certain. Jesus is the King who defeated Satan and sin and death!

Fi	ll in the blanks.		
1.	"Behold I will send My face who will prepare Your way before You." (Mark 1:2)	before	Your
2.	"The voice of One crying in the prepare the way of the Lord; make His paths straight." (Mark 1:3)		
3.	"And he preached, saying, there comes One after me who is than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loos	e." (Mar	
4.	"I indeed baptize you with water, but He will baptize you with the" (Mark 1:8)		

5.	"And immediately, coming up from the water, He saw the
	parting and the Spirit descending on Him like a dove." (Mark 1:10)
6.	"Then a voice came from heaven, 'You are My beloved
	in whom I am well pleased." (Mark 1:11)

The Holy One of God

Reference: De Graaf, Promise and Deliverance, Volume 3, Lesson 28

Scripture: Mark 1:14-39

Memory Verse: "But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son,

born of a woman, born under the law." (Galatians 4:4)

Lesson Truth: Christ Jesus claimed life for His people. He was recognized as the

Holy One of God.

Lesson

Our lesson today is about the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. After John was put in prison, Jesus began preaching in Galilee. As He began preaching, He called disciples to follow Him. He was recognized as the Holy One of God. Still, Jesus felt the need to commune with the Father in prayer.

Jesus began His ministry after John was put in prison. His message was much like John's. He also urged the people to repent. Jesus announced that the Kingdom of God was at hand. The Lord not only asked the people to repent, but also to believe the gospel. It soon became evident that Jesus came with much more authority than John. This was seen as He walked by the Sea of Galilee. There He saw Simon and his brother Andrew. When He saw them, He called them to follow Him. Do you know what happened? These fishermen left their nets and followed Jesus. The Lord Jesus also called James and John the sons of Zebedee. He had the authority to ask these disciples to leave everything to follow Him.

The Lord Jesus and His disciples now went to Capernaum. At Capernaum, He went into the synagogue to preach. The people at the synagogue were amazed at his authority. He did not teach as the scribes taught. Instead, Jesus taught the truth with conviction. Then a strange thing happened. A man with an unclean spirit was in the synagogue. The unclean spirit recognized Jesus. He began to cry out, saying, "Let us alone! What have we to do with You, Jesus of Nazareth?" (Mark 1:24). This evil spirit asked Jesus if He came to destroy him. Then something amazing happened! This unclean spirit said that he knew Jesus. He told Jesus that he was the Holy One of God. Satan spoke through the unclean spirit. It was Satan who asked Jesus to let him alone. But Satan has no power against the Son of God.

Christ Jesus then showed His authority over Satan. He rebuked the unclean spirit and told him to be quiet. Then Jesus commanded the evil spirit to come out of the man. The unclean spirit had to obey the authority of Jesus. He cried out as he shook

the man and then came out. The people were amazed. They asked, "What is this? What new doctrine is this? For with authority He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him" (Mark 1:27). After this people talked about Jesus all over Galilee. Yet they did not understand that Jesus also had to free them from sin and Satan. God put this story in the Bible so that we will believe that Jesus can set us free!

After Jesus and His disciples left the synagogue, they went to Simon's house. At Simon's house Jesus found a problem. Simon's mother-in-law was sick with a fever. Jesus wanted to bring a blessing to Simon's house. So He went in and took Simon's mother-in-law by the hand. He lifted her up and at that moment the fever left her. Then she knew that He was her Redeemer. She knew that Jesus could set people free to serve Him. Simon's mother-in-law then served Jesus and His disciples.

That day, after the sun went down, the Sabbath was over. Many people from the city hurried to the door of Simon's house. They brought all the sick people and even those who were possessed by demons. Jesus looked at the people with compassion. He healed the sick and cast out many of the demons. But Jesus would not allow the demons to speak. They had to keep silent because they knew Jesus. Jesus wanted the people to know who He was, but not from the words of demons. He wanted them, and He wants us, to know Him through His Word, the Bible.

As Jesus cast out demons, he was fighting a battle against Satan. In this battle He delivered the life of His people from the curse of sin. Jesus took this curse upon Himself. Think of the suffering Jesus endured to free His people from sin and Satan. How was Jesus able to endure this suffering? He could endure it because He stayed in communion with the Father. Even though He worked into the evening, He arose early in the morning to pray. Jesus went to a place all by Himself to talk to the Father in prayer. Not only did Jesus heal the sick and cast out demons, but He also won the victory over Satan. He won the victory over sin and Satan for all those who believe in Him!

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

- 1. "The time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God is at hand. _____ and believe the gospel." (Mark 1:15)
- 2. "Then Jesus said to them, 'Follow Me and I will make you become of men." (Mark 1:17)

3.	"Now there was a man in theirspirit, and he cried out." (Mark 1:23)	with an unclean
4.	"I know who You arethe (Mark 1:24b)	One of God!"
5.	"But Jesus out of him!" (Mark 1:25)	_ him, saying, 'Be quiet, and come
6.	"Now in the, daylight, He went out and departed to a soli (Mark 1:35)	9

Power to Forgive Sin

Reference: De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Volume 3, Lesson 29

Scripture: Mark 2:1-12

Memory Verse: "I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own

sake; and I will not remember your sins." (Isaiah 43:25)

Lesson Truth: Christ Jesus made it known that He has the power to forgive sins.

Lesson

The Lord Jesus preached many places in Galilee. The people thought that He was a great teacher and miracle worker. But they still did not believe that He was the Redeemer. Mark tells us in chapter two, how Jesus made it known that He was the Redeemer. He did this by telling a paralyzed man that his sins were forgiven. Then, to show that He had the power to forgive sins, He healed the paralyzed man.

Crowds of people began to follow Jesus through Galilee. They followed Him because of His miracles. Jesus spent much of His time in the countryside to escape the crowds. Yet Mark tells us that after some days He decided to go back to Capernaum. When the people heard that He was in Capernaum they crowded into the house where He was staying. There were so many people that no one could get through the throng. Into this crowd, four men came carrying a paralyzed man. But the people would not let them through to see Jesus. What were they to do? They were determined to get their lame friend to Jesus. So they went up on the roof. They took off some tiles and lowered the man to Jesus. These men had faith in Jesus and were willing to help their paralyzed friend.

Jesus must have rejoiced to see such love. These men had the faith to believe that Jesus could heal their friend. The Lord knew that the Father had given them that faith. Jesus also knew that the paralyzed man was afraid. He was afraid because he knew that he was sinful. Would Jesus heal a sinful man? This was the time that Jesus chose to tell the people that He was more than a miracle worker. He said to the lame man: "Son, your sins are forgiven you" (Mark 2:5). Jesus called him son to show that he was adopted as a disciple. The lame man received way more than he had hoped for. He was now right with God. The paralyzed man began to understand the Kingdom of God's grace.

But Jesus' words to the lame man upset the scribes who were there. They thought that Jesus was making light of God's Holy name. The scribes asked themselves, "Who can forgive sins but God alone?" (Mark 2:7). They did not know that God

had sent the Lord to redeem people from sin. The scribes did not have faith. They did not believe that Jesus was the Redeemer. Jesus knew what the scribes were thinking. So He asked them why they thought such evil things. Jesus questioned, "Which is easier, to say to the lame man, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise take up your bed and walk?" (Mark 2:9). Jesus knew that the scribes did not believe what they could not see. He warned them that unbelievers asked for a sign. Still, Jesus saw the scribes with a loving heart. He wanted them to believe.

The Lord Jesus then told the scribes that He would show them a sign. He would tell the lame man to arise, take up his bed, and go to his house. Jesus said that He would do this for the following reason: "That you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins" (Mark 2:10). Then the lame man picked up his bed and walked through the crowd to go home. Jesus healed the lame man. The scribes did not know what to say. Still, they did not believe that Jesus was sent from God. They didn't believe that Jesus had the power to forgive sins. The scribes thought that they didn't need forgiveness!

The crowds of people were different. They were amazed to see the lame man healed. The people glorified God. They said, "We never saw anything like this!" (Mark 2:12). No doubt there were many people who believed that the Lord Jesus was sent to redeem life. Through faith, some people knew that Christ Jesus could forgive their sins. But there were others who kept their hearts far from the Lord. They did not believe that Jesus was their Redeemer. That is the important question for us today. Do we believe that The Lord Jesus Christ has the power to forgive our sins?

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1.	"Then they came to Him, bringing a was carried by four men?" (Mark 2:3)	who
2.	"So when they had broken through, they let down the on which the paralytic was lying." (Mark 2:4b)	
3.	"When Jesus saw their paralytic, 'Son, your sins are forgiven you." (Mark 2:5)	, He said to the
4.	"Why does this Man speak Who can forgive sins but God alone?" (Mark 2:7)	like this?

5.	"But that you may know that the Son of Man has _ on earth to forgive sins." (Mark 2:10a)		_
6.	"I say to you, arise, take up youryour house." (Mark 2:11)	and go t	Ю

Lord of the Sabbath

Reference: De Graaf, Promise and Deliverance, Volume 3, Lesson 30

Scripture: Mark 2:23–3:6

Memory Verse: "Then he said to them, Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or

to do evil, to save life or to kill? But they kept silent." (Mark 3:4)

Lesson Truth: Christ Jesus as the Son of man is Lord of the Sabbath.

Lesson

The teaching of Lord Jesus was often in conflict with the Scribes and Pharisees. In this lesson, the Pharisees disagreed with Jesus about the Sabbath. They watched what Jesus did on the Sabbath so they might accuse Him. Because the Pharisees were unbelievers, they wanted to find fault with Jesus.

Jesus and His disciples were walking through the grain fields. It was the Sabbath Day, and the Pharisees were watching Him. They did not believe that Jesus was the Son of God. So, they tried to catch Him doing something wrong. The Pharisees thought this would prove that Jesus was not God. As the disciples walked through the fields, they picked some grain and ate it. Immediately the Pharisees asked Jesus: "Look why do they do what is not lawful on the Sabbath?" (Mark 2:24). Jesus knew that their hearts were wicked. Still, He wanted to teach them the truth about God's Law.

Jesus asked the Pharisees if they read what king David did when he was hungry. David ate the showbread from God's house when he was hungry. He also gave this bread to his men. David knew that the Law said that the showbread was only for the priests. Still, he ate the showbread. Jesus reminded the Pharisees about David because he wanted them to understand the spirit of the Law. God gave His Law to set life free. The fourth commandment taught God's people to remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. The Sabbath Law was not supposed to be rules and regulations. The people were instructed not to work so that they would be free to worship and to rest.

Jesus then said to the Pharisees, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath" (Mark 2:27). He added, "Therefore the Son of man is also Lord of the Sabbath" (Mark 2:28). Jesus told the Pharisees that the Law of God was meant to lead to life and service. It was not meant to be a heavy burden of rules. Just think, God told His people that they should not work on the Sabbath day. If they did not have to work, they would be free to worship God. The Law was supposed to be a

blessing. Still for anyone who rejects the Lord Jesus the Law becomes a curse. That was why Jesus came to earth. He came to take away the curse of the law. Because Jesus took away the curse of the Law, His people are free to serve the Lord.

This was not the end of the disagreement with the Pharisees. Jesus went to the synagogue to worship. There He saw a man who had a withered hand. The Lord Jesus knew that the Pharisees were watching Him. He knew that they wanted to see if He would heal this man on the Sabbath day. If Jesus healed this man, the Pharisees would accuse Him of breaking the law. Because Jesus knew what the Pharisees were thinking He asked the man to step forward. Then He looked at the Pharisees and asked them, "Is it lawful on the Sabbath day to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?" (Mark 3:4). The Pharisees never said a word. They knew that any answer would condemn them. Jesus then looked at them with anger. He was angry because of their hard hearts. How could the Pharisees oppose the grace of God?

Jesus then asked the man with the withered hand to stretch out his hand. How could the man stretch out his hand when it was withered? But he did as Jesus asked. As he did so his hand was healed. It became whole just like his other hand. This miracle should have helped the Pharisees see that Jesus was the Redeemer. But their hard hearts prevented them from believing. Instead, they became more determined to kill Jesus. They were so determined to kill Him that they plotted with the Herodians. Such is the response of all people to the Lord Jesus. Some are given the grace to believe Him and follow Him. Others reject Him and want to destroy Him. May God give us the grace to believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is our Redeemer!

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1.	"Now it happened that He went through the grain fie and as they went His discip	
	pluck the heads of grain." (Mark 2:23)	
2.	"And the said to Him, 'Look do what is not lawful on the Sabbath?"" (Mark 3:24)	why do they
3.	"And He said to them, "The man, and not man for the Sabbath." (Mark 2:27)	is made for
4.	"And He entered the man was there who had a withered hand." (Mark 3:1)	again, and a

5.	"So they watched Him closely, whether He would	
	him on the Sabbath, so they might accuse Him." (Mark 3:2)	
6.	"Then He said to them, 'Is it	_ on the Sabbath
	to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?' But they kept s	ilent." (Mark 3:4)

Not Known

Reference: De Graaf, Promise and Deliverance, Volume 3, Lesson 31

Scripture: Mark 3:7-35

Memory Verse: "And the unclean spirits, whenever they saw Him, fell down before

Him and cried out, saying. 'You are the Son of God.'" (Mark 3:11)

Lesson Truth: Christ Jesus was not known even though He was driven by the Holy

Spirit in His work.

Lesson

Just think, neither His friends nor His enemies knew who the Lord Jesus really was. The Holy Spirit guided Jesus to work very hard healing the people and casting out demons. Because of this His friends thought He was out of His mind. Jesus' enemies showed their hard hearts. They said that He cast out demons in the name of the prince of demons. Jesus warned that such an attitude is a sin against the Holy Spirit. A sin against the Holy Spirit cannot be forgiven.

Crowds of people followed Jesus. They wanted Him to heal the sick and cast out demons. Because of the crowds, Jesus and His disciples went to the sea, but still they followed Him. He told the disciples to have a boat ready, so that He could escape if the crowds crushed Him. No wonder the people pressed around Jesus because He healed their suffering. It was amazing that the people did not know who Jesus was, but the unclean spirits did. The unclean spirits fell at Jesus' feet and cried out, "You are the Son of God" (Mark 3:11). Jesus warned these unclean spirits not to tell others who He was. It wasn't that Jesus did not want others to know who He was. He wanted them to know, but not from unclean spirits. Jesus wanted them to learn who He was from His Word.

The crowds continued to press around Jesus. At last, He went up to a mountain and called the people he wanted to follow Him. On the mountain Jesus asked twelve men to be His disciples. He wanted these twelve men to be with Him. He would send the twelve out to tell His message of grace. Even more, Jesus would give the disciples the power to heal sick people and cast out demons. One of the twelve disciples was Judas Iscariot, who later betrayed Jesus. He also preached and healed people, but he was not a true believer. Later he rejected the grace of the Lord Jesus and betrayed Him.

Still the crowds of people gathered around Jesus. They pressed Him so hard that He did not take time to eat. Jesus' friends did not understand who He was. He did not

want to be a king who would deliver Israel from Rome. Nor did Jesus want an important position of honor like the Scribes and Pharisees. His friends didn't know why Jesus would work so hard just to heal others and tell them about His grace. That is why they said, "He is out of His mind" (Mark 3:21). When He did not take time to eat. The truth is that His friends did not understand that Jesus was doing the work of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus' enemies surely did not understand who He was. They saw His miracles and heard His teaching. But the scribes would not believe that Jesus was the Redeemer. But if He was not the Redeemer then how was He able to do these miracles? Do you know what the Scribes said? They said, "He has Beelzebub' and 'By the ruler of demons He casts out demons" (Mark 3:22). This was a very wicked thing to say. But Jesus still had compassion on the scribes. He asked them how Satan could cast out Satan? Jesus wanted them to understand that a kingdom that would fight against itself could not stand.

Jesus then warned the scribes about a sin that could not be forgiven. He told them every sin that men commit could be forgiven except if they would sin against the Holy Spirit. The scribes had committed a sin against the Holy Spirit. They said that Jesus cast out demon by the prince of demons. Jesus said that people who committed such a sin would be condemned forever!

Because the crowds continued to press Jesus, His friends tried to rescue Him. They told Jesus that His mother and brothers were outside looking for Him. Then Jesus asked a strange question. He asked, "Who is My mother or My brothers?" (Mark 3:33). He asked this question because He wanted His friends to learn an important truth. Jesus told them what that truth was, when He said, "For whoever does the will of God is My brother, and My sister and My mother" (Mark 3:35).

Neither His friends nor His enemies knew who Jesus really was. Yet God has made Him known to us through His Word. Do you know Jesus as your Redeemer and Lord?

Fi	fill in the blanks.		
1.	. "For He healed many, so that as many a pressed about Him to touch Him." (Mark		
2.	. "And the, before Him and cried out saying, 'You are	, whenever they saw His the Son of God."' (Mark	•

3.	"Then He appointed	that they might be with
	Him and that He might send them out to preach, and	to heal sicknesses and to
	cast out demons." (Mark 3:14-15)	
4.	"But when His ownheard ab lay hold of Him, for they said, 'He is out of His mind."	•
5.	"Assuredly, I say to you, all sins will be the sons of men, and whatever blasphemies they may u	tter." (Mark 3:28)
6.	"But he who blasphemes against thenever has forgiveness, but is subject to eternal condema	 nation." (Mark 3: 29)

The Revelation of the Mystery

Reference: De Graaf, Promise and Deliverance, Volume 3, Lesson 32

Scripture: Mark 4:21-34

Memory Verse: "And with many such parables He spoke the word to them as they

were able to hear it." (Mark 4:33)

Lesson Truth: Christ Jesus made known the mystery of the Kingdom of heaven. .

Lesson

A mystery is something that is hidden or unknown. The Kingdom of heaven is a mystery to the world. Christ Jesus came to make known the mystery of the Kingdom of heaven. He made it known through everyday stories that had a spiritual meaning. These stories are called parables. We will study three parables about what the Kingdom of heaven is like.

Jesus said that the Kingdom of heaven was like a lamp. He told the disciples that people do not light a lamp to hide it under a basket or under a bed. Instead, they light a lamp and set it on a stand to light the whole room. Jesus is like the lamp. He came to be the Light of the World. Jesus came to tell us the secrets of the Kingdom of heaven. The Father sent Him because He had to tell the secrets of the Kingdom of heaven. That is why Jesus said, "If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear."

The Lord Jesus then told the disciples to be careful what they listened to and how they listened. If they listened in faith, they would be given more faith. That is the way the Kingdom of heaven works. Those who believe the secrets of the Kingdom in faith receive more. But for the unbeliever, this is not true. Even the little knowledge the unbeliever has will be taken away.

Jesus then helped them understand another mystery or secret of the Kingdom of heaven. He told them that God's Kingdom is like a farmer scattering seed. After he scatters the seed, he works in the day and rests at night. As he works and rests, the seed grows all by itself. The farmer can't do anything to make it grow. Still, the seeds sprout and become heads that produce a harvest. That is the way it works in the Kingdom of heaven. The gospel is preached which sows a seed of faith. This seed of faith sprouts and grows by God's grace. The miracle of God's grace then brings a harvest of righteousness. Of course, the people of the world do not understand this kind of miracle. It will always be hidden from them. Only through faith can God's people understand this miracle.

Then the Lord Jesus asked the people a question. He asked them to what things could the Kingdom of heaven be compared. What parable could be used to picture the Kingdom of heaven? He then answered His own question. He told them that He would compare it to a mustard seed. A mustard seed is a very tiny seed. Yet this tiny seed can grow into a large plant. It becomes a plant so large that birds can rest in its branches or nest in its shade. Through a miracle of God's grace, the tiny mustard seed is given the power to grow into a large plant.

The same is true of the gospel. The gospel plants a tiny seed of faith. God's grace gives this tiny seed the power to grow into strong faith. The power of the gospel can redeem nations and bring them back to God. Only believers can understand the power of the gospel of grace. To unbelievers, it is always a mystery that the gospel has the power to conquer the world.

The secrets of the Kingdom of heaven were made known through parables. Jesus taught the people in parables so that believers would understand the secrets of God's Kingdom. At the same time, unbelievers could not understand these secrets. Jesus' parables were a kind of judgment against the unbelievers. Because they could not understand the parables, the Kingdom of heaven was closed to them. We should pray that God would allow us to hear the gospel of His grace. Pray that through the power of His grace the seed of faith would grow. And pray that this faith would grow into a harvest of righteousness. Isn't it wonderful that Jesus made the secrets of God's Kingdom known to us!

Questions

Fill in the blanks.
"Also He said to them, 'Is a ________ brought to be put under a basket or under a bed? Is it not to be set on a stand? (Mark 4:21)
"For there is nothing _______ which will not be revealed, nor has anything been kept secret but that it should come to light." (Mark 4:22)
"And He said, 'The Kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter ______ on the ground." (Mark 4:26)
"For the earth yields ______ by itself; first the blade, then the head, and after that the full grain in the head." (Mark 4:28)

5.	"Then He said, "To what shall we liken the of God? Or with what parable shall we picture	re it?"" (Mark 4:30)
6.	"It is like a the ground, is smaller than all the seeds of the up and become greater than all herbs, and she birds of the air may nest under its shade." (Material of the seeds of the air may nest under its shade."	oots out large branches, so that the

Safety

Reference: De Graaf, Promise and Deliverance, Volume 3, Lesson 33

Scripture: Mark 4:35-41

Memory Verse: "But He said to them, 'Why are you so fearful? How is it that you

have no faith?" (Mark 4:40)

Lesson Truth: God's people are safe in this world in Christ Jesus.

Lesson

Are you ever afraid? The lesson today helps us understand why we never need to be afraid. We don't have to be afraid because Christ Jesus has power over all things. In today's story, Jesus showed that He had power over the wind and the sea. Jesus' disciples had to learn this important truth.

Jesus had been teaching the people all day. Now when evening came, He was very tired. Jesus asked His disciples to cross over to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. There He would be able to rest away from the crowds of people. The disciples sent the people away and then got into their boats. Jesus was with them and went to rest in the back of the boat. After the disciples had set out across the sea, a great windstorm came up. The wind was so violent that it beat the waves into the boat. The waves brought so much water into the boat that it began to sink. As the storm blew the disciples struggled to keep the boat from sinking. Meanwhile, Jesus remained fast asleep on a pillow.

At first, the disciples let Jesus sleep and tried hard to save the boat. But then they began to be afraid. When they were afraid, they forgot that Jesus was the Son of God. In their fear, they decided to wake Jesus. After Jesus awoke, they asked Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?" (Mark 4:38). How was it possible for the disciples to question if Jesus cared? They knew that He came into the world to be the Redeemer. The Redeemer would surely care about what happened to His disciples. It was only because of their weak faith that they asked Jesus if He cared.

Then an amazing thing happened. Jesus got up and He looked at the wind and the waves. He rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" (Mark 4:39). And right then the wind became calm. The waves no longer beat against the boat. Jesus talked to the wind like He would talk to an enemy. He saw the wind and the waves as an evil power that entered the world through sin. That is why Jesus rebuked the wind. He had come into the world to pay the price of sin. Because He paid the price

for sin, Jesus won the victory over sin and death. He now has the power over all things in heaven and earth.

Imagine how relieved the disciples must have been when the storm was over. They probably wondered what Jesus would say to them. The Lord Jesus now looked at the disciples. He had to scold them because they had so little faith. Jesus asked them, "Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?" (Mark 4:40). Jesus knew that they were afraid because they paid attention to the wrong things. The disciples forgot that Jesus came into the world as the Redeemer.

That is also the lesson for us today. We must never forget the need of this world to be delivered from sin. Our problems and fears are small compared to this need. Won't the Redeemer who delivers us from sin and death protect us in a storm? That is why God's people know they are safe in this world.

Jesus' questions filled the disciples with wonder and respect. They asked one another. "Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him!" (Mark 4:41). Now they knew that Jesus was Lord. They knew that He had power over all things in heaven and earth. Slowly, the disciples learned that the grace of the Lord Jesus is all-powerful. His grace can save His people from sin and death and Satan! His grace can also protect us in this life. That is why we do not need to be afraid!

Fi	l in the blanks.	
1.	"On the same day, when to them, 'Let us cross over to the other side."" (Mark 4:35)	_ had come, He said
2.	"And a great	arose, and waves beat
	"But He was in the stern,pillow." (Mark 4:38a)	on a
4.	"And they awoke Him and said to Him,do You not care that we are perishing?" (Mark 4:38b)	
5.	"Then He arose and the sea, 'Peace, be still!' And the wind ceased and there was 4:39)	

6.	"And they exceedingly, and said to one another,
	'Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him!" (Mark 4:41)

Binding the Strong One

Reference: De Graaf, Promise and Deliverance, Volume 3, Lesson 34

Scripture: Mark 5:1-20

Memory Verse: "Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will declare what He

has done for my soul." (Psalm 66:16)

Lesson Truth: Christ Jesus has the power to bind the strong one and plunder his

house.

Lesson

Today our Bible story is about a demon-possessed man. Jesus met this man in the land of the Gadarenes. This story points out the power that Christ Jesus has over Satan. Jesus was able to free this man from the many demons that possessed him. Jesus is able to bind the strong one. Still, Satan is allowed some influence on the earth. Because Jesus died for the remission of sins, someday He will take the earth from Satan's hands.

Jesus and His disciples crossed the Sea of Galilee. When He stepped on shore, He saw the power of the strong one. A man who lived in the tombs saw Jesus and ran to worship Him. This man had an unclean spirit. Because of this evil spirit, he was a wild man that no one could bind. People tried to tie him with chains and shackles, but he broke them into pieces. All night and all day he cried out and cut himself with stones. This poor man was possessed by demons.

This wild man recognized Jesus. He cried out "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God?" (Mark 5:7). Isn't it amazing that the demons know who Jesus is? Satan, in this man, begged Jesus not to torment him. He knew that Jesus could rebuke him and send him away. After he begged not to be tormented, Jesus asked him his name. Satan answered that his name was legion. It was legion because the name legion means many. It was true that there were many demons in this man. Satan knew that he was entirely in Christ's power. He knew that Christ Jesus could bind him and torment him. One day, Jesus will take the whole earth away from Satan's hands. But for a short time, Satan was allowed some influence. He begged Jesus to send him into some pigs feeding nearby. Jesus gave him permission to enter the pigs. Do you know what happened? The pigs ran down a steep bank into the sea and drowned. There were about two thousand pigs that drowned. This loss was a judgment on the Gadarene people. Jesus wanted them to understand that they were under Satan's curse. Then they would also be able to understand that Jesus

could deliver them from that curse. In this way Jesus showed His grace to the people of Gadara. The loss of their pigs should have helped them see that grace

But the Gadarenes did not see the Lord's grace. The ones who fed the pigs hurried into the city to tell what had happened. Many people went out to see what happened to the pigs. Do you know what they saw? They saw the wild man sitting quietly by Jesus. He was clothed and he was in his right mind. This should have made the people happy, but it didn't. Instead, they were afraid. Now they thought that Jesus was sent to them as a judgment. They did not know that Jesus could free them from their sins.

Then a sad thing happened. The Gadarene people asked Jesus to leave their region. Just think, they asked the Lord, who could free them from sin, to leave their country. Because of their unbelief Jesus did become a judgment to them. He got into the boat and prepared to leave.

As Jesus was about to leave the man who had been possessed asked if he could go along. He knew that Jesus had delivered him from the demons. He wanted to be with Jesus. But the Lord Jesus again showed His grace. He told the man who had been possessed that he should go home to his friends. He told him to tell his friends the great things the Jesus had done for him. This man would be the messenger of grace to the Gadarenes. He was to tell his family and friends about the mercy of God in Christ Jesus. Yes, the Lord has the power to bind the strong one. Because He died for the sins of His people, we know that Satan will be bound. Then Satan will no longer have any power or influence on the earth. Later, the message of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit was brought to the Gadarenes. Believers can be free from Satan's power. Are you a believer? Are you a child of God?

Questions

Fill in the blanks.

1. "And when He had come out of the ______ immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit." (Mark 5:2) 2. "He had often been bound with _____ chains. And the chains had been pulled apart by him and the shackles broken in pieces; neither could anyone tame him." (Mark 5:4) 3. "When he saw __ _____ from afar, he ran and worshiped Him." (Mark 5:6)

4.	"And he cried out with a loud voice and said, 'What have I to do with You Son of the Most High God?" (Mark 5:7a)
5.	"Then He asked him, 'What is your name?' And he answered saying, 'My name is for we are many."' (Mark 5:9)
6.	"Go home to your friends, and tell them the great things thehas done for you, and how He has had compassion on you." (Mark 5:19b)

The Restorer of Life

Reference: De Graaf, Promise and Deliverance, Volume 3, Lesson 35

Scripture: Mark 5:21-43

Memory Verse: "When she heard about Jesus, she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment. For she said, 'If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be

made well." (Mark 5:27-28)

Lesson Truth: Christ Jesus is the One who is able to bring back life.

Lesson

Who is Jesus the Christ? The synagogue ruler, Jairus, thought He was a man with magical power. The woman with the blood disease was sure that He could heal her. But they both failed to understand that He was the Redeemer. Jesus taught them that He could restore life. He taught them that He could not only heal their bodies, but He could give them eternal life.

After Jesus left the country of the Gadarenes He returned to Galilee. As soon as He landed on shore at Galilee a great crowd of people followed Him. In the crowd of people was a synagogue ruler. His name was Jairus. When Jairus saw Jesus, he fell at His feet. He asked Jesus to come to his house and touch his daughter. Jairus' daughter was very sick and about to die. He thought that if Jesus touched her His magical power would heal her. Jesus went with Jairus. He was going to help him understand that He was the Redeemer. He would show Jairus that He was the One who restores life.

As Jesus was walking with Jairus the crowd followed Him. A woman who had a blood disease was in the crowd. This woman also thought that Jesus had some magical power. She thought that if she could touch Jesus' clothes she would be healed. This woman pushed her way through the crowd. At last she was close enough to touch Jesus' robe. So she reached out and touched Him. Then a strange thing happened. Jesus stopped and asked, "Who touched My clothes?" (Matt. 5:30). This was strange because the people were pressing around Him. But Jesus wanted to teach the woman and Jairus who He was. Jesus knew that power had gone out from Him. He knew that the woman was healed. Still He asked, "Who touched Me?"

When Jesus looked around, He saw the woman. She came and fell down before Him. She was trembling with fear. Then she told Jesus the whole story. She told Him that she had been ill for twelve years. The poor woman had spent all her money going to doctors. Yet now she was made well. Jesus told the woman that her faith had made

her well. Then He told her to go in peace. Can you imagine the joy in this woman's heart? Jesus gave her peace as well as healing. He showed the woman and Jairus that He was the Redeemer. He showed the people that He was the One who restores life.

Then a sad thing happened. A servant came from Jairus' house and told him that his daughter had died. He said that it was no use to bother the Teacher. Jesus heard the servant's words to Jairus. Then He looked at Jairus and said, "Do not be afraid; only believe" (Mark 5:36). Jesus wanted Jairus to believe that He could restore life. He wanted him to believe that He was the Redeemer. As the Redeemer, Jesus could not only make the young girl well, but He could also give eternal life.

At Jairus' house people were crying because the young girl had died. Jesus sent everyone except the girl's parents and three of His disciples out of the house. Then He took the child by the hand and said, "Little girl, I say to you, arise" (Mark 5:41). Do you know what happened? The little girl got up and walked about. Everyone was filled with amazement. Who was this that could take a dead child by the hand and tell her to arise?

That is the lesson Jesus wanted to teach Jairus and the woman with the blood disease. He wanted them to know that He was the Redeemer. He wanted not only them, but also all of us, to know that He is the One who restores life. He is the Redeemer that can give us eternal life!

Fil	l in the blanks.
1.	"And behold, one of the rulers of the synagogue came, by name. And when he saw Him, he fell at His feet." (Mark 5:22)
2.	"He begged Him earnestly, saying, 'My little lies at the point of death. Come and lay Your hands on her, that she may be healed, and she will live." (Mark 5:23)
3.	"When she heard about she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment." (Mark 5:27)
4.	"For she said, 'If only I may touch His I shall be made well." (Mark 5:28)

5.	"And He said to her, ', your fait	h has
	made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction." (Mark 5:34)
6.	"As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, He said to the	
	of the synagogue, 'Do not be afraid, only believe." (Mark 5:36)	

The Lord from Heaven

Reference: De Graaf, Promise and Deliverance, Volume 3, Lesson 36

Scripture: Mark 6:7-32

Memory Verse: Mark 3:14 "Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with

Him and that He might send them out to preach."

Lesson Truth: Christ Jesus made Himself known as the Lord from heaven.

Lesson

The people in Galilee heard the words of Jesus. They saw Him heal the sick and cast out demons. They questioned who Jesus of Nazareth really was. Their questions were not necessary because Jesus made it known that He was the Lord from heaven. It was sad that many people did not believe it.

Jesus had been teaching and healing the sick in Nazareth. This was the region where he grew up. The people should have understood that He was the promised Redeemer. But they did not believe that the Son of Mary and Joseph could be the Promised One. The people of Nazareth were so set that Jesus marveled at their unbelief. Still, He continued to teach in their villages.

Christ Jesus then made it known even more clearly that he was the Lord from heaven. He called His twelve disciples to Him and sent them out two by two. Jesus used His authority as Lord to give the disciples power over unclean spirits. He also told them that they were to preach with the Lord's authority. Jesus told them not to take any food or extra clothing along. They were not even supposed to bring any money. Because they were going in the name of the Lord, the people would care for them. If the disciples came to a town, they had to find a family they could stay with. Jesus said that any family who welcomed them welcomed the King Himself.

The Lord Jesus then told the disciples what to do if the people did not receive them. He told them to shake the dust off their feet as a testimony against such people. Jesus said that the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah would be better off on Judgment Day than those people. It would be a terrible thing for the people to reject the good news that the disciples brought. Jesus gave the disciples the authority to preach. He also gave them the power from the Holy Spirit to heal the sick and cast out demons. We must also listen to the warning that Jesus gave that it is a terrible thing to reject His grace.

The disciples went from town to town preaching in Jesus' name. Jesus also continued to teach and heal many and cast out demons. This made the people ask,

"Who is Jesus of Nazareth?" King Herod said that He was John the Baptist who came back to life. Other people said that He was Elijah or one of the prophets who came from the dead. Herod thought that He was John because he was filled with guilt. Herod had put John in prison because John told him it was wrong to take his brother's wife. Herod had also beheaded John because Herodias tricked him. She told her daughter to ask for John's head on a platter when she was offered a gift.

Sadly, Herod did not find comfort in the grace of the Lord Jesus. He did not believe that Jesus was the Lord from heaven. Later Herod met Jesus and asked Him many questions. But Jesus did not answer because Herod rejected God's grace. Herod was from the family of Esau and continued in Esau's sin. This sin was the rejection of God's covenant promise.

After some time, the disciples went back to Jesus. They told Him about the people that were healed of diseases. They also said that the demons were cast out in the name of Christ Jesus. They told the Lord that there had been so many people that they did not have time to eat. Then Jesus asked them to come to a place away from the people and rest. When Jesus was alone with His disciples, He showed them His grace. The disciples were beginning to understand that Jesus was the Lord from heaven. Do you believe that Jesus is the Lord from heaven?

Fi	ll in the blanks.	
1.	"And He called the to H them out two by two, and gave them power over uncle	
2.	"And whoever will notyou depart from there, shake off the dust under your fithem." (Mark 6:11a)	
3.	"Assuredly, I say to you it will be more tolerable for and Gomorrah in the Day of Judgment than for that ci	
4.	"So they went out andshould repent. (Mark 6:12)	_ to the people that they

5.	"Others said, 'It is	' And others said, 'It is the
	prophet, or like one of the prophets." (Mark 6:15)	
6.	"But when heard,	he said, 'This is John, whom
	I beheaded; he has been raised from the dead!" (Ma	ark 6:16)

Purity in the Kingdom of God

Reference: De Graaf, Promise and Deliverance, Volume 3, Lesson 37

Scripture: Mark 7:1-23

Memory Verse: "I said I will guard my ways, lest I sin with my tongue." (Psalm

39:1a)

Lesson Truth: Christ Jesus Looked for purity of heart and mind in His Kingdom.

Lesson

The scribes and Pharisees continued to be against Jesus. They thought that Jesus' disciples disobeyed the Law about being clean. The trouble was not with the Law of Moses. It was with the Pharisees' man-made rules. The man-made rules said that people had to wash before they ate. Jesus wanted people to have clean hearts. He wanted people to have hearts that were right with God.

More and more people began to follow Jesus. This made the scribes and Pharisees very jealous. They were afraid the people would no longer listen to them. Do you know what they decided to do? They decided to come out from Jerusalem and watch Jesus. They would watch closely to see if He disobeyed any of their man-made rules. Sure enough, they saw that Jesus' disciples did not wash their hands before they ate. One of their rules was that everyone had to wash their hands before they ate. The Pharisees went to ask Jesus why His disciples didn't follow the rules.

Jesus knew what was in their hearts. He knew that they thought they were following the Law of Moses. But the Law of Moses was about unclean things and animals. This Law was supposed to help the people know that the creation was unclean. It was unclean so they needed a Savior. Instead, the Pharisees had made it a rule that they could keep, to show they were pure. But they were not pure because their hearts were evil. Jesus then told them that Isaiah the prophet talked about them.

Jesus reminded them about what Isaiah said. He said that there would be people who honored God with the things they said. Yet the hearts of these same people would be far from God. Jesus knew that the Scribes and Pharisees thought that they were good because they kept some rules. Still, they were bad because they disobeyed God's Law. Then Jesus gave an example of how they disobeyed God's Law.

His example was their rule about giving their possessions to God. The Pharisees would give their things to God. Then they did not have any possessions to take care of their father and mother. Still, they could use these possessions that they had given to God. Jesus told them plainly that this rule was against the Law of God. It was

against the Law that said they had to honor their father and mother. This was the way they followed men's rules instead of God's Law. This made the scribes and Pharisees bad people. They were bad because they made the people follow their rules instead of having love in their hearts.

The Lord Jesus then talked to them about clean and unclean food. The Pharisees thought that the things they ate could make them unclean. Jesus reminded them that the thoughts of their heart made them unclean. He said they had to confess their sins. They had to admit that their hearts were impure. People who know that they need clean hearts can be made right with God. Again, Jesus told them plainly that it is not what a person eats that makes him unclean. It is what is in his heart that makes him unclean.

Even the disciples did not understand what Jesus taught. When Jesus was alone with His disciples, He taught them again. He told them that wickedness and evil thoughts come from a person's heart. People murder and steal because they have evil hearts. They don't do these things because of what they eat. We must pray that Jesus will give us pure hearts. Then we will be part of God's Kingdom.

The things that Jesus taught made the scribes and Pharisees angry. They were against Him more and more. Do you know how bad their anger against Jesus would become? It would become so bad that they would tell the people to cry out, "Crucify Him, Crucify Him!" (Mark 15:13-14)

Questions

5.	"He said to them, 'All too well you reject the	
	of God, that you may keep your tradition." (Mark 7: 9)	
6.	"And He said, 'What comes out of a	, that defiles
	a man." (Mark 7:20)	

A Light to the Gentiles

Reference: De Graaf, Promise and Deliverance, Volume 3, Lesson 38

Scripture: Mark 7:24-30

Memory Verse: "For a woman whose young daughter had an unclean spirit heard

about Him, and she came and fell at His feet." (Mark 7:25)

Lesson Truth: Christ Jesus became a light to the Gentiles. However, they needed

to accept God's covenant with Israel.

Lesson

The story of a Syro-Phoenician woman shows us how Jesus is a light to the Gentiles. This woman showed her faith in Christ Jesus. She believed that the Lord would show His grace to her and to her daughter. Still, it was necessary for her to accept the covenant that God made with Israel. Jesus was willing to help her when she accepted the Covenant of Grace.

Crowds of people in Galilee followed Jesus. It was sad that they only followed Him for His miracles. They did not really believe that He was sent to show God's grace. The people of Galilee did not believe that Jesus was the promised Redeemer. The scribes and Pharisees were against Jesus. They accused His disciples of not washing before they ate. They were also against Jesus because He said that things from the heart make a man unclean. Because of these things Jesus decided to leave Galilee. The people in Galilee would have to decide if they believed Jesus or the Pharisees.

Jesus went to the area of Tyre and Sidon. This was an area where Gentiles lived. The Lord wanted to get away from the people for a time. But the Gentiles in this area soon learned that he was in their region. A Syro-Phoenician woman from the area heard about Jesus. She had a young daughter who had an unclean spirit. This woman knew that Jesus could tell the unclean spirit to leave her daughter. She believed that Jesus could bring God's grace to her family. So, she came to Jesus and fell at His feet. She begged Him to come and cast the demon out of her daughter. But before Jesus would help her, she needed to confess that God had made a covenant with Israel.

The Lord Jesus helped her to make this confession in a strange way. He knew she was a Gentile and not one of God's chosen people. So, Jesus said to her: "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel" (Matt. 15:24). Jesus wanted her to know that God made His covenant with Israel and not with Gentiles. Still the woman did not give up. She worshiped at Jesus' feet and begged Him saying, "Lord Help me!" (Matt. 15:25). Jesus then answered the woman with more surprising

words. He said to her, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs" (Mark 7:27). The woman was not upset by these words. She believed what Jesus was saying. And she bowed in humble submission. She knew that God had made a covenant with Israel as His chosen people. But she also believed that God would show His grace to her. So, she answered Jesus by saying: "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs under the table eat from the children's crumbs" (Mark 7:28). Now Jesus knew that God had brought His grace into her heart.

Christ Jesus then answered her with His blessing. He said to her, "For this saying go your way; the demon has gone out of your daughter" (Mark 7:29). This Syro-Phoenician woman had shown that she had received God's grace. She believed that God made a covenant with His people. Now Jesus told her that her daughter no longer had a demon. The demon was sent out of her just as the woman desired. She believed Jesus' words and went home to find her daughter had been healed.

Now Jesus knew that the gospel of God's grace would be preached to all nations. The grace of God would cause faith to grow in people of every tribe and tongue. But God's chosen people, Israel would also have to decide. Would the grace of God work in their hearts so they would believe that Jesus was the Redeemer? It is sad that many of them would reject Him. Pray that God will send His grace into our hearts. It is only by His grace that we believe Christ Jesus is our Lord and Redeemer!

Fi	ll in the blanks.
1.	"From there He arose and went to the region ofand Sidon." (Mark 7:24a)
2.	"For a woman whose young had an unclean spirit heard about Him, and she came and fell at His feet." (Mark 7:25)
3.	The woman was a, a Syro-Phoenician by birth, and she kept asking Him to cast the demon out of her daughter." (Mark 7:26)
4.	"But Jesus said to her, 'Let the be filled first, for it is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs." (Mark 7:27)

5.	"And she answered and said to Him, 'Yes, Lord, yet even the little
	under the table eat from the children's crumbs." (Mark 7:28)
6.	"Then He said to her, 'For this saying go your way; the
	has gone out of your daughter." (Mark 7:29)