

Letters From Heaven



Lesson 1

Trust and Obey

Theme: Obedience — Following Christ

Memory Verse

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith.”

Romans 1:16-17

Daily Bible Readings

Thursday Romans 1:16-18; 3:21-24
Friday Romans 4:3-5; 5:1, 5-8; 6:1-5
Saturday Romans 8:1-4, 31-32, 38-39
Monday Romans 10:8-17; 12:1-2
Tuesday Romans 13:1-5

After this lesson you should be able to ...

- Define “justify.”
- List three consequences of sin.
- Define “gospel.”
- Identify the consequence of obeying the gospel.

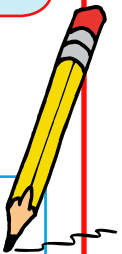
Look at the word “righteousness.” Did you really look at it? “Righteousness” is a long word, but you can easily see its root word. What is it? It’s the word “right.” By this time in your life, you have a good idea about what’s right and what’s wrong. When the apostle Paul wrote a letter to the church in Rome, he wrote a lot about “righteousness.” He wanted people to understand what it means to be right with God.

Romans 1:16-18; 3:21-24

Circle the letters of all correct answers:
The gospel is a) good news, b) God’s power to save, c) bad news, d) the Old Testament.

The gospel brings salvation to people who a) read, b) believe, c) shout.

True or False? Only really bad people are sinners and need forgiveness.





Sin is Bad News

Sin is going our own way instead of God's way. Paul shows in Romans that people choose to sin, and that this choice has consequences. Through the Bible, God tells people about Himself and how to live in the right way. But people choose to live the way they want to. This is sin, and sin is bad news.

The bad news is that sin separates us from God. God calls this separation "death." Sin is everyone's problem, and it takes people away from God.

Romans 4:3-5; 5:1, 5-8; 6:1-5

Use a dictionary to get the right answer. "Justify" means a) to be wrong, b) to be right, c) to be happy.

God showed His love toward sinners by a) making us pay for every sin, b) giving His Son to die for our sins, c) giving us everything we ask for.

People who are baptized into Christ are baptized into His a) birth, b) death, c) image.

God's Good News

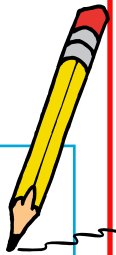
The word "gospel" means "good news." The New Testament is the gospel; it is God's good news for the world. The good news is that sinners can be forgiven and saved. God showed how much He loves us when He gave Jesus to die for us. Paul explains in Romans that God gave Jesus to die, not for good and wonderful people, but for sinners. Sinners can be right with God through Jesus Christ!

Sin takes people away from God, but through Jesus sins are forgiven. When we sin, we bring death to ourselves – we separate ourselves from God. But Jesus died on the cross so our sins can be forgiven. Paul explains that when sinners are baptized into Jesus Christ, they are baptized into His death. Being joined with Christ in this way brings forgiveness of sins and a new life. God's good news is that through Jesus sinners are forgiven and saved. Every person can be right with God!

Trust and Obey

Paul was ready to preach the gospel to everyone. He was not ashamed of it. The gospel tells people how to be right with God. To be right with God, people must believe in Jesus. Jesus died for our sins, and we must believe in Him and follow Him.

The words of a well-known song say that we must "trust and obey." One day when you are older, you will trust and



Romans 8:1-4, 31-32, 38-39

"Condemnation" means a) being wrong, b) being right, c) being happy.

True or False? If really bad things happen, it may be because God doesn't love us.



Romans 10:8-17; 12:1-2

To be saved, we must believe in our hearts that a) God created the world, b) we are sinners, c) God raised Jesus from the dead.

“ _____ comes by _____, and hearing by the _____ of Christ.”

We are to offer to God as a sacrifice a) a goal, b) our money, c) our bodies.

obey God by being baptized into Christ to be forgiven of sins and to be right with God.

But being baptized into Christ is a beginning step in being right with God. Paul shows in Romans that Christians must honor God and live for Him every day. We will grow stronger in faith and change ourselves to do God’s will more and more. We will learn to love other people without being selfish and to return good for

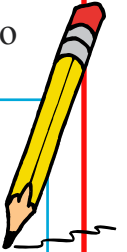
evil. We will learn to live for God instead of for ourselves. We will learn and decide to “trust and obey” God in every way.

Romans 13:1-5

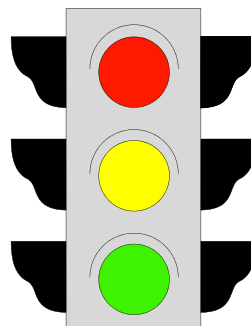
Cross out the incorrect answers.

God gives governments the responsibility to a) punish people who break the law, b) preach the gospel, c) protect good citizens, d) scare people who obey.

True or False? When I grow up, I won’t have to obey any more.



I try to be right with God.

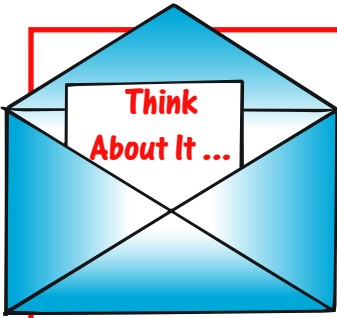


Put an X in the light that best describes you.

Red — not often

Yellow — sometimes

Green — all the time

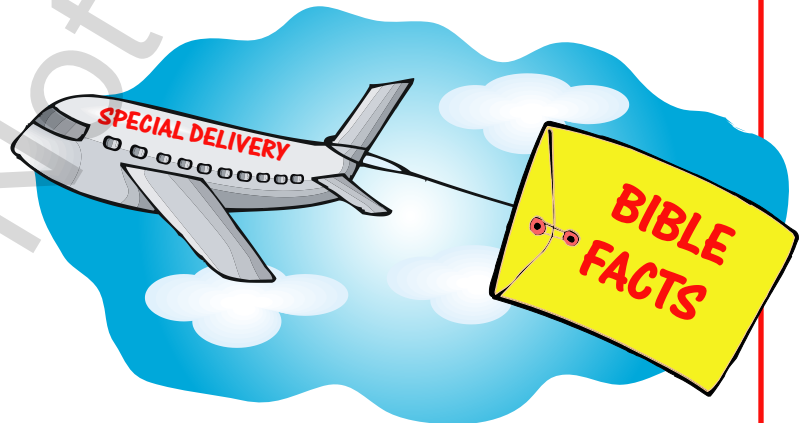


Here are some of the words to the song *Trust and Obey*:

“When we walk with the Lord in the light of His word, What a glory He sheds on our way! While we do His good will, He abides with us still, And will all who will trust and obey. Then in fellowship sweet We will sit at His feet, Or we’ll walk by His side in the way; What He says we will do; Where He sends we will go; Never fear only trust and obey.”

Go back and read the words of the song again. Underline the words that describe trusting and obeying. Be ready to talk in class about what it means to trust and obey.

Write the first letter of each book of the entire Bible. For Genesis, write “G,” for Exodus, write “E,” and so on.



How many books are in the Old Testament?

On a map inside the back cover, mark the following locations with an X: Egypt, Red Sea, and Mount Sinai.