

LIFE OF JESUS

++ IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER ++

MIKE MAZZALONGO

TEACHER'S GUIDE

bibletalk.tv



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Life of Jesus in Chronological Order

Mike Mazzalongo

This series follows the events of Jesus' life in chronological order. There are 154 individual events and each is given in order with appropriate Scriptural references in each gospel as well as background information for every event.



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**Teacher Guide created by
David Laton, D.Min.
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Overall Teaching Strategy

It is recommended that teachers use a combination of informal lecture and guided discussion to present these lessons. There are discussion questions associated with each lesson that teachers may use and/or supplement with their own questions.

It is recommended that teachers have students view the associated video or read the text for the lesson. This helps students come to the class ready to discuss the lesson and to formulate questions of their own. Teachers should begin the class with a review of key points from the video/text before starting the discussion.

Begin each lesson with appropriate introductory statements that help students focus on the lesson. Teachers should also provide a brief summary of the previous lesson and an overview of key points of the new lesson. This helps students see the ongoing narrative of scripture.

Conclude the lesson by summarizing or having students summarize the information from their notes. It is also helpful to ask questions from the lesson to determine that students grasp the concepts. Asking questions in this manner serves as an assessment to ensure objectives are met.

Challenge students with a call to action by applying this information to their lives in order to help them grow spiritually and help others to do so as well. This can be accomplished by asking students how this information relates to their spiritual development at this time and moving forward.

For more information on teaching adults, please visit:

<https://bibletalk.tv/101/teaching>

A student workbook is also available for this series:

<https://bibletalk.tv/workbooks/life-of-jesus>

Lesson #1 – Introduction

The focus of this lesson is on introducing the study and establishing a foundation for the rest of the course. Of special note in this lesson are the 7 major divisions in the life of Jesus. Teachers should use this to reinforce that the life of Jesus was a single narrative rather than a random collection of historical events. This shows method and intent. It is also important to distinguish between the reality of the biblical record and popular stories and myths.

Student Learning Outcomes

- **Know:** Understand how the Gospel of Luke relates to the other gospels of the New Testament.
- **Feel:** Value the insights into the life and teachings of Jesus as provided by the Gospel of Luke.
- **Do:** Apply the teachings of Jesus found in the Gospel of Luke to help the student grow spiritually.

Support

- Text – Life of Christ in Chronological Order, Mike Mazzalongo (2014)
- Video – Life of Christ in Chronological Order – (Lesson 1 - Introduction)
- Student Workbook

Body of the Lesson

- 1.1 Jesus' ministry
- 1.2 Lessons

Discussion Questions

Below are suggested questions to use during the guided discussion portion of the lesson. There are also suggested responses to questions to help students grasp the various concepts. These are provided to assist the discussion and are not considered as “right or wrong” responses.

1. Why is it important to study the life of Jesus as well as His teachings? Discuss why it is important to distinguish between the popular stories and the reality of the scriptures.

There will be a variety of responses but look for the following. By studying the life of Jesus we gain insights into the culture, history and worldview of those hearing His message and carrying that message to the world. It further validates prophetic teachings and statements of His claim to be the Messiah. It demonstrates the humanity of Jesus as He experienced life as we live it underscoring His position as our High Priest (Hebrews 4:14-16).

If we believe the popular erroneous stories and myths associated with the life of Jesus, especially His birth and early years, it takes away the reality of His true personhood. It further undermines the ability of some to develop or sustain their faith. If Satan can cast doubt on the truthfulness of Jesus then he prevents our faith or weakens it. This is one of the tactics he used successfully against Adam and Eve. Truth trumps fiction, especially in the person of Jesus and His role as our savior.

2. Imagine you are in the time period of the life of Jesus and you hear of a man claiming to be the Messiah. What questions would you have that would help you determine the truth of His claims? How do these differ today as we hear about Jesus as our Savior?

There would be a lot of questions since many have claimed to be the Messiah. Here are some questions that would have to be answered. Where was He born? Who were His people? Did the events of His birth agree with the prophecies you've learned?

Today, as we learn about Jesus, we should have the same questions. Beyond the obvious questions about the truthfulness of His claims and life, we would also want to examine His claims concerning what He could do to meet my spiritual needs.

Jesus showed by His life and teachings that He was the Messiah (Luke 4:21). He also meets our spiritual needs today as we grow more in the knowledge and application of His teachings in our lives.

3. Why did the gospel writers include details such as names, dates and events in their records?

This allows us to check on the authenticity of these events proving that Jesus was a true historical figure and not simply a myth or story.

4. Why would the gospel writers not include details of the early life of Jesus' boyhood and what is the value of this to us?

There are many reasons but perhaps the main one being that God wants us to focus on His life and teachings during His ministry as He taught us how to live as citizens of God's Kingdom. The real value of the life of Jesus is found in His teachings and our response to these.

5. Without reviewing the text, state as many of the 7 major divisions in the life of Jesus as you can.

The intent of this question is to implant in our minds the overall structure of the life of Jesus. It would be a good idea to repeat this question in each study to further reinforce it in the student's mind. This overall structure helps show the life of Jesus working as a narrative rather than a collection of random events.

6. How can you use this lesson to grow spiritually and help others come into a relationship with Jesus?

In our efforts to teach the gospel we must be careful not to convert someone to the Church of Christ but rather to teach them to become disciples of Jesus. Our role is to teach. The Holy Spirit will add them to the church. This doesn't lessen the importance of the church but puts the focus of our teaching on Jesus our Savior. When we do this, we grow spiritually. Spiritual maturity is seen in how we are more and more like Jesus.

Lesson #2 – Boyhood

The focus of this lesson is on the early years of Jesus' life including the genealogies and boyhood events as recorded in scripture. Of special note in this lesson is how and why the different genealogies are recorded and the impact of the birth and early years of Jesus' life.

Student Learning Outcomes

- **Know:** Comprehend the events within the major divisions of the life of Jesus.
- **Feel:** Desire to learn more of the life and teachings of Jesus.
- **Do:** Act upon your knowledge of Jesus by obeying His teachings.

Support

- Text – Life of Christ in Chronological Order, Mike Mazzalongo (2014)
- Video – Life of Christ in Chronological Order – (Lesson 2 – Boyhood)
- Student Workbook
- Life of Jesus Event Chart

Body of the Lesson

- 1.1 Summary of events
- 1.2 Lessons

Discussion Questions

Below are suggested questions to use during the guided discussion portion of the lesson. There are also suggested responses to questions to help students grasp the various concepts. These are provided to assist the discussion and are not considered as “right or wrong” responses.

1. Read Matthew 1:1-17 and Luke 3:23-38 and answer the following questions:

Why did the gospel writers find it important to include the genealogy of Jesus in their narrative?

These genealogies establish the family line of Jesus and how His person is seen through prophecies. They both show He was a Jew with a legitimate claim to be the Messiah.

What are the major differences in the two genealogies of Jesus?

Matthew describes Jesus' genealogy from Abraham to David to Joseph. Luke describes His descendants from Adam. Matthew's is a royal lineage and Luke shows his natural descendants identifying His tribe.

What was the impact of the destruction of the Jewish genealogical records in the devastation of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 AD?

All written records of Jewish genealogies were destroyed. The destruction of Jerusalem marked the end of the Jewish nation. This destruction not only included the political capital but marked the end of the religious leaders' power, identity as a nation and any legitimate claim of individuals to be the Messiah. Without the written records there was only someone's unverifiable claim. As noted, the only written genealogy remaining are those from Matthew and Luke. These point to Jesus.

2. Summarize each of the events listed below. Explain any difference between the biblical account of the event and what is taught in society, culture or legend.

The intent of this question is to establish what we learn from scripture regarding the events of Jesus' boyhood. Special note should be given to legends that are not found in scripture and how we must teach the simple truth from scripture.

- The announcement of John's birth
- Mary visits Elizabeth
- John the Baptist's birth
- The angel appears to Joseph
- The birth of Jesus
- Angels announce His birth
- Circumcision of Jesus
- Visit of the Magi
- Flight into Egypt
- Herod's murder of innocents
- Return to Nazareth
- Twelve-year-old Jesus in Jerusalem

3. How can you use this lesson to grow spiritually and help others come into a relationship with Jesus?

This question addresses the lessons learned. It includes but is not limited to information from the text.

The information from the boyhood of Jesus demonstrates true belief in the face of adversity. Furthermore, they did not have the complete picture of what would happen and acted upon a deep faith that God was controlling events.

Today many face similar situations as they begin their journey to spiritual maturity. A young believer may only have belief in Jesus and their need to act in obedience based on faith. This budding faith is generally weak and needs to be nurtured and supported by those with stronger faith. We all must remember that we don't know the full story and are growing in our faith as well. We must encourage new believers to continue to act on their faith even though it might be weak. As we act, our faith will grow stronger as we come to know more of Jesus and follow His teachings. The Holy Spirit will reveal more of God's will to us as we grow.

Lesson #3 – Beginning of Ministry

The focus of this lesson is on the early ministry of Jesus. Of special note in this lesson is the relationship of John the Baptist's baptism and the baptism of Jesus and key events through the first miracle.

Student Learning Outcomes

- **Know:** Comprehend the events within the major divisions of the life of Jesus.
- **Feel:** Desire to learn more of the life and teachings of Jesus.
- **Do:** Act upon your knowledge of Jesus by obeying His teachings.

Support

- Text – Life of Christ in Chronological Order, Mike Mazzalongo (2014)
- Video – Life of Christ in Chronological Order – (Lesson 3 – Beginning of Ministry)
- Student Workbook
- Life of Jesus Event Chart

Body of the Lesson

1.0 – Events through John's witness

- 1.1 Preaching of John the Baptist
- 1.2 The baptism of Jesus
- 1.3 Temptation of Jesus
- 1.4 John's witness concerning Jesus

2.0 – Additional events and lessons

- 2.1 Jesus' first disciples
- 2.2 More disciples in Galilee
- 2.3 First miracle at Cana
- 2.4 Lessons

Discussion Questions

Below are suggested questions to use during the guided discussion portion of the lesson. There are also suggested responses to questions to help students grasp the various concepts. These are provided to assist the discussion and are not considered as “right or wrong” responses.

1. What was the primary role of John the Baptist in relation to Jesus and how did he do this?

John’s role was to introduce and prepare the way for the Messiah. John was a very prominent figure teaching about the Messiah and of the need for people to repent of their sins and to be purified by the action of baptism. He did this by his forceful teaching and later identifying Jesus as the Messiah.

2. What was the importance of the baptism of Jesus?

It clearly marked the beginning of Jesus’ public ministry. It showed the humility of Jesus as He obeyed God’s command (Matthew 3:15). He identifies Himself with sinners through His baptism, although He was without sin. This identification was the first step in taking on the sins of man. As Paul states in Romans 6, baptism signifies death so Jesus was showing a clear start by His baptism. It fulfilled prophecy (Isaiah 11:1-2; 42:1). These prophecies from Isaiah occurred and were witnessed and recorded in the gospel. An additional note, the baptism of Jesus also is a record of the appearance of all members of the Trinity, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

3. Read Matthew 4:11; Mark 1:12-13, and Luke 4:1-13 concerning the temptation of Jesus and answer the following questions:

Summarize the temptation of Jesus.

Jesus was led into the desert for this event. Satan tempts Jesus after an extensive period of fasting when Jesus would be physically and emotionally worn down. Satan tempts Jesus with three events.

What was the significance of these temptations?

If Jesus used His powers as Satan tempted, then He would have failed in His faithfulness. This would be a repetition of the sin of Adam and Eve. Satan would have won. The temptations represented doubting the power of God, taking a shortcut to what Jesus set out to accomplish, and lacking faith and trust in God the Father.

How did Jesus resist Satan?

Jesus relied on His faith in God the Father and used scripture to show the way of God.

What can we learn from this?

We too must rely on our faith in God, especially in our weakest moments. We must become knowledgeable and use that knowledge of scripture as a defense against Satan's schemes (Ephesians 6:13-18).

4. What do we learn from the preaching of John the Baptist concerning Jesus?

John preached about the imminent coming of the Messiah. He showed that his role was only as the messenger and the people were to be ready through repentance and the purification of baptism. After John baptizes Jesus, the Holy Spirit appears as a dove signifying to John who Jesus was.

This was a fulfilment of prophecy (John 1:32-34).

5. Read through the gospels and summarize the calling of the first disciples. Discuss the characteristics of these disciples and their impact on us.

Jesus calls men to be His disciples (later apostles) who did not come from the elite, religious or ruling class. He selected ordinary men which ordinary lives.

This underscores a lot of Jesus' teachings regarding humility. It further shows the power of God. It was not these men's position, intellect or personal power that furthered the spread of the gospel, but their submission to God. Even the Apostle Paul, although a member of the influential Pharisees, was brought to humility and obedience before God would use him.

This is a valuable lesson for us. We do not teach ourselves or use our own influence but allow God to use us as His instruments. The abilities we have are turned over and directed towards God as we glorify Him. We grow in our abilities and adapt new ones so we can serve God in other ways. Paul stated this many times as he moved himself into the background and projected Jesus to the foreground. Peter learned this throughout his life as well. Peter began his ministry focusing more on himself but through humility would become the leader Jesus desired him to be. These men and others serve as examples for us.

6. Discuss why the record clearly states that turning the water to wine was the first miracle performed by Jesus. Include in the discussion the potential dangers in unsubstantiated stories and myths about the life of Jesus.

As with any historical figure, legends and myths abound. We don't have the details of the early life of Jesus before or after His presence in Jerusalem when He was 12. As a result, there are many unverifiable stories about Him. Without documentation, however, these are just stories. By stating this as His first miracle, the writer of the gospel is exposing these other fictional accounts as simply stories. There is danger here in that once these are exposed as such, some may question the actual record we have thus preventing some from believing or weakening the faith of actual believers. Our role is to present the simple truth of the scriptures without adding or changing the written record.

7. How can you use this lesson to grow spiritually and help others come into a relationship with Jesus?

We must teach Jesus as Lord. John points us to Jesus as the Messiah. God the Father and God the Holy Spirit validate this identify. Jesus shows His Lordship in His early ministry by fulfilling prophecy. The starting point in our spiritual journey is submission to our calling to become disciples. We then teach others about Jesus and how they can become disciples so their journey can begin. We don't teach the church, we teach Jesus. Upon obedient response to the calling of Jesus (repentance and baptism – Acts 2:38) the Holy Spirit adds us to the church (Acts 2:47). We then continue in our discipleship by learning and following the teachings of Jesus.

God does not demand perfection, but He does require faithfulness. This faithfulness begins with our obedience to the gospel (Mark 16:15-16) and continues as we learn and grow. If we recognize our relationship with Jesus, then we will also recognize our role to teach others.

Jesus began His ministry at home and He approached those who knew Him. This is not always easy, and when we do this we also are often rejected. However, we are shown by example and told by command to do this (Acts 1:8). Jesus instructs His apostles to begin in their home and eventually go into all the world. Later, following the death of Stephen (Acts 8) and the beginning of persecution (Acts 9), the converts to Jesus would take this same approach as they were scattered throughout the known world, and today the entire world. We are now part of this effort if we have become disciples of Jesus. We start with ourselves, witness to those we know and move on to witness our faith to an ever-growing number of people. As we grow spiritually, we also grow in knowledge and ability. We turn these over to God and His power through the Holy Spirit equips us to do even more in our service to the Lord. In all things, we give Him the glory.

Lesson #4 – 1st to 2nd Passover

The focus of this lesson is on events during the period between the 1st and 2nd Passovers. Of special note in this lesson are events that shaped the public ministry of Jesus as He began to become more known. Additionally, it looks at how Jesus challenged the conventional thinking of the time concerning the identity and role of the Messiah.

Student Learning Outcomes

- **Know:** Comprehend the events within the major divisions of the life of Jesus.
- **Feel:** Desire to learn more of the life and teachings of Jesus.
- **Do:** Act upon your knowledge of Jesus by obeying His teachings.

Support

- Text – Life of Christ in Chronological Order, Mike Mazzalongo (2014)
- Video – Life of Christ in Chronological Order – (Lesson 4 – 1st to 2nd Passover)
- Student Workbook
- Life of Jesus Event Chart

Body of the Lesson

1.0 – Ministry before John’s death

- 1.1 Jesus cleanses the temple
- 1.2 A visit from Nicodemus
- 1.3 Jesus returns to northern Judea
- 1.4 John’s second witness
- 1.5 John’s imprisonment
- 1.6 John’s inquiry of Jesus
- 1.7 John’s death

2.0 – Ministry after John’s death

- 2.1 The Samaritan woman
- 2.2 Public ministry in Galilee
- 2.3 Another miracle at Cana
- 2.4 Lessons

Discussion Questions

Below are suggested questions to use during the guided discussion portion of the lesson. There are also suggested responses to questions to help students grasp the various concepts. These are provided to assist the discussion and are not considered as “right or wrong” responses.

1. Why did Jesus take the action to cleanse the Temple? What can we learn from this event today?

Jesus saw the temple as truly the house of His Father. It was intended presence of God on earth where His people could come to worship. Although it would one day be destroyed, it still had a prominent purpose in the spiritual and communal life of the Jews. The money changers and other merchants were turning it into a place of commerce and taking advantage of those coming to worship. Their actions interfered with the practice of worship as well as the spiritual nature of worship. The actions of these people were symbolic of how Israel had lost sight of its true role and were adopting the practices of the world around them. Their identity as God’s people was at risk.

Today, we must ensure we do not become influenced by the world. We need to keep our lives holy and pure since God now dwells in us (Ephesians 2:22). Any impurity in our lives conflicts with the Spirit dwelling within us.

2. Who was Nicodemus and what was significant about his visit with Jesus? What can we learn from this today?

Nicodemus was a religious leader of the Jews, a teacher and scholar. Jesus taught him that everyone needed the new birth. Later, we see that Nicodemus understood who Jesus was and helped defend Him. Nicodemus later proved his faithfulness by providing the necessary elements to properly bury Jesus.

We learn that God has a great love for us. We also see an example of how our spiritual growth follows God's timing and not our own. We must be patient and faithful as we grow spiritually.

3. How did John's message and the message of Jesus complement each other?

John and Jesus both taught for a period in northern Judea. Both taught to repent and be baptized for the Kingdom of Heaven was at hand. John prepared the way for Jesus while Jesus prepared our way of salvation by taking a more prominent role in ministry leading to His death, burial and resurrection.

4. What was significant about John's response to his disciples' concerns that Jesus was baptizing more people than John? What can we learn from John's response?

This clearly shows that John knew who Jesus was and that Jesus would be taking the prominent role while John's role diminished. John could claim success in his task of preparing the way for Jesus.

John's response helps us learn that as Christians it is not about us, it is about our Lord. Our role is to bring others to Him for salvation. It is God's grace through our obedient faith in Jesus that saves us. Paul would remind us of this in 2 Corinthians 4:7 as he stated that God has given us this ministry so God's power is seen, not ours.

5. What can we learn from John's imprisonment?

John preached the truth fearlessly knowing he would come up against those who deliberately practiced sin and rejected God. We too must maintain our faithfulness to God no matter the consequences.

6. What would lead John to have doubts about the identify of Jesus as the Messiah and what can we learn from this?

John held a similar view of the Messiah and the period of God's Kingdom. Although not clearly expressed it is very likely that he also expected a physical Kingdom on earth rather than the spiritual one Jesus taught. John was human. It would be natural to feel concerns given the treatment he received and knowledge of his possible death. The heart of his question may have been, is it worth it.

All of us need reassurance. We face and will face all types of persecution from simple ridicule to perhaps our lives and the lives of our loved ones being threatened. Jesus reminded John to look to scripture for the answer. We can do the same today.

7. Summarize the interaction Jesus had with the Samaritan woman from John 4:4-42 and answer the following questions.

Why did the Jews avoid the Samaritans?

They regarded the Samaritans as half-breed Jews. Any contact would render the Jew “ceremonially unclean.” This started during the period of captivity in Assyria (2 Kings 17:24; Ezra 4:2-11). Many of the Jews were taken from Israel (Northern Kingdom) and deported to pagan nations where they intermarried. Many of these eventually drifted back and settled in Samaria. The Samaritans practiced a mixed form of religion composed of some of the Jewish customs and some from the idolatrous religions they had adopted when deported to other lands. The ill feelings were held by both Jews and Samaritans.

How did Jesus view the Samaritan people?

He saw them as people needing redemption like everyone else. Jesus used the Samaritans several times as object lessons but always put them in a favorable light.

What was significant about Jesus’ response to the woman about her husband?

It set the stage for Jesus’ later response that He was the promised Messiah. It began when He demonstrated that He knew of her situation even though He had not interacted with her before. This got her attention. When she went to the towns’ people to invite them to hear Jesus, this was what she used to suggest that He was a prophet sent by God.

What can we learn from this woman and her interaction with Jesus?

We should have a similar reaction when we realize who He is and our need for Him. We should be willing to tell what He has done for us and can do for them. This is not always easy but it is what we are supposed to do as disciples of Jesus.

8. What are the similarities between John's questions of Jesus, Nicodemus' misunderstanding and the Samaritan woman's questions? How do these apply to us?

All point to the recognition of need for a need of a savior. They saw Jesus from different perspectives and eventually came to the same conclusion that Jesus was the Savior. Nicodemus saw Jesus as a teacher (John 3:2). John saw Jesus as the Messiah (John 3:25-36). The woman eventually saw Jesus as the Christ (John 4:28-29). To all three Jesus went beyond their initial limited view and showed them He was the Son of God come to bring about man's salvation.

As we begin our relationship with Jesus, we take different views of who He is. As we grow in knowledge, we come to see Him as more than our savior. He becomes a complete part of who we are. We take on His identity. That is what it means to be a "Christian", a person who takes on the character of Christ.

**9. What was significant about the miracle at Cana from John 4:46-54?
What lesson can take from it?**

Answers will vary but look for the relationship of faith to the healing.
The man and his entire family became disciples of Jesus.

It might be only one of a family that initially becomes a disciple. But that one person seeing the impact of Jesus in his or her life has the potential to bring salvation to the entire family. We must never doubt the power of the witness of one person.

10. How can you use this lesson to grow spiritually and help others come into a relationship with Jesus?

We learn about Jesus' identity and mission by studying the events of His life. We must embrace our relationship with Him as we become more like Him. Jesus was a powerful figure who was also compassionate and loving. He was especially harsh to those who should have known who He was but refused to obey. We must not be among that number. As we learn the will of Jesus we should respond like many of the Samaritans who embraced Him as their savior.

No matter the price, we must be faithful. John taught and showed us this by his faithfulness even to death. We do die symbolically as we are baptized, and then rise from those waters as a new creation. We now belong to Christ in every way.

Lesson #5 – 2nd to 3rd Passover

The focus of this lesson is on the expanding ministry of Jesus. Of special note: Although the gospel writers don't give us dates, they do give us events and a specific span of time. In this lesson we see a year in the ministry of Jesus summarized by a series of events as He travels in the region. Teachers should summarize these events and focus on the scope and depth of His teachings and events. Note that the growing popularity of Jesus is spreading because of His healings and teachings. Also note the selection and ongoing training of the Apostles.

Student Learning Outcomes

- **Know:** Comprehend the events within the major divisions of the life of Jesus.
- **Feel:** Desire to learn more about the life and teachings of Jesus.
- **Do:** Act upon your knowledge of Jesus by obeying His teachings.

Support

- Text – Life of Christ in Chronological Order, Mike Mazzalongo (2014)
- Video – Life of Christ in Chronological Order – (Lesson 5 – 2nd to 3rd Passover)
- Student Workbook
- Life of Jesus Event Chart

Body of the Lesson

- 1.1 Summary of events
- 1.2 Lessons

Discussion Questions

Below are suggested questions to use during the guided discussion portion of the lesson. There are also suggested responses to questions to help students grasp the various concepts. These are provided to assist the discussion and are not considered as “right or wrong” responses.

1. Why was it practical for Jesus to approach His ministry in stages? How does this staged pattern relate to us?

The intent of this question is to show that God has always had a plan and revealed that plan only when He was ready. See also Galatians 4:4-7. We might have the impression that the events of Jesus' travels were done randomly or in reaction to rejection or threats against Him. We must realize that Jesus was always in control and working according to His timeline. A good example is found in John 4:4 as He interacted with the Samaritan woman. The text reads that he "had" to go through Samaria. One might surmise that the application of the word, "had" could be that He had an appointment with a woman there who would be the key to offering salvation to a population desperately in need.

In our journey to spiritual maturity we also go through stages of development. God takes us as we are, desperately in need of salvation, brings us into contact with someone to teach us, and then guides us through the Holy Spirit to greater faith and spiritual growth. Many times, we become impatient to serve or for something to happen to suit our timeline. This is not necessarily wrong, but we must realize that God is in control. He is the Master and we serve by His timeline. The crowds Jesus spoke to and His own Apostles were ready to be relieved from the oppression under Roman rule and to have the Messiah, whom they recognized as Jesus, restore the earthly Kingdom of Israel in their lifetime. God, from the beginning of time, however, worked according to His will to bring about the true Kingdom at the appropriate time and manner.

We must prepare ourselves and be ready to respond to the opportunities He presents for our spiritual development (2 Timothy 4:2).

2. How do we, who are members of God's Kingdom today, develop the characteristics of the Apostles who were the first to follow Jesus?

The intent of this question is to further illustrate that we work as servants of the Master. We respond to His will and serve according to his timeline for us.

The apostles came from a wide variety of backgrounds possessing the raw materials that Jesus would use to further the Kingdom of God. Left alone, they had no specific interest or indication that they would become the instruments of God's will. As their knowledge of Jesus and their understanding of their role, they became what God wanted them to become.

In like fashion, each of us come from a variety of backgrounds and possess the raw materials that the Master can use. Our education, experience and abilities can be used to serve God according to His needs. Part of the refining process we go through is how we learn to interact and support one another, adapt our abilities to meet each other's needs and to use these together as a body to complete our mission for the Lord.

Paul teaches this in Romans 12. He begins by saying that we present ourselves to God as a living sacrifice. We are thus transformed to learn and obey God's will. We grow in the grace that God offers us. We develop the characteristics of true Christian servants. We then reach out to others with the gospel no matter the circumstances or our abilities.

Paul teaches us in 1 Corinthians 12 that we possess gifts from God for use in His service. We sometimes want to be gifted with different gifts and powers but this may not be in God's plan. The simple and routine become magnified by God's power (2 Corinthians 4:7).

Paul teaches us in Ephesians 4 that God has given us not only different gifts, but different roles as well. We're to use these to equip the saints to fulfill our role in God's Kingdom.

3. How can you use this lesson to grow spiritually and help others come into a relationship with Jesus?

The pattern of Jesus' life should strengthen our faith and encourage us to grow spiritually. As we work with others to bring them to salvation, we should recognize that they too must go through stages of growth and maturity. Growth and maturity occur over a period, not instantaneously, and this is different for each of us. Turning our lives over to God in faith is also a lesson in humility.

Lesson #6 – 2nd to 3rd Passover (continued)

The focus of this lesson is on the expanding ministry of Jesus. Of special note in this lesson is how Jesus began to more boldly make and prove His claim as the Messiah, the appointment of the 12 Apostles and the increase in His followers.

Student Learning Outcomes

- **Know:** Comprehend the events within the major divisions of the life of Jesus.
- **Feel:** Desire to learn more of the life and teachings of Jesus.
- **Do:** Act upon your knowledge of Jesus by obeying His teachings.

Support

- Text – Life of Christ in Chronological Order, Mike Mazzalongo (2014)
- Video – Life of Christ in Chronological Order – (Lesson 6 – 2nd to 3rd Passover Continued)
- Student Workbook
- Life of Jesus Event Chart

Body of the Lesson

- 1.1 Sermon on the Mount
- 1.2 Healing of the Centurion's servant
- 1.3 Raising the widow's son
- 1.4 Jesus rebukes the unbelieving cities
- 1.5 Woman anoints Jesus' feet
- 1.6 More circuit preaching in Galilee
- 1.7 Jesus heals the demoniac
- 1.8 The crowd seeks a sign
- 1.9 Jesus' family comes for Him
- 1.10 Seven parables from a boat
- 1.11 Jesus calms the storm
- 1.12 Jesus cures two demoniacs
- 1.13 Jesus raises Jairus' daughter and cures the woman with hemorrhage
- 1.14 Jesus heals the blind and another demoniac
- 1.15 Jesus rejected in Nazareth
- 1.16 Final preaching tour through Galilee

- 1.17 Jesus sends out the twelve
- 1.18 Herod takes note of Jesus
- 1.19 The twelve return
- 1.20 Jesus sends the twelve across the lake
- 1.21 The crowds seek for a sign

Discussion Questions

Below are suggested questions to use during the guided discussion portion of the lesson. There are also suggested responses to questions to help students grasp the various concepts. These are provided to assist the discussion and are not considered as “right or wrong” responses.

1. Read the Beatitudes found in Matthew 5:1-12. State each Beatitude in your own words and explain how it may apply to you.

Answers will vary but look for such Christian characteristics as humility, sorrowfulness for sins and evil, desire for God’s word, mercy and compassion, pure living, peacefulness and suffering persecution patiently.

2. Compare the Beatitudes from Matthew 5:1-12 with the Fruit of the Spirit from Galatians 5:22-26.

Although the words differ between these two passages, they none-the-less support one another as we develop and live as disciples of Jesus. Paul’s listing to Galatians which were a mix of Jews and gentiles, mirrors the overall teachings addressed to the Jews at the Sermon on the Mount. This supports the universality of the teachings of Jesus. Furthermore, Jesus pointed toward the Kingdom of God while Paul is speaking about how to live and develop in the present spiritual kingdom established by Jesus.

3. What was the purpose of the Sermon on the Mount?

The sermon serves many purposes both for humanity as a whole and individuals as they live in the present spiritual Kingdom. As with any sermon one might hear today, it should point one to what God wishes for us in our relationship with Him and attitude and actions as citizens in His Kingdom. Jesus mentions on several occasions in the sermon, "You have heard it said, but I say...". This was His effort to bring the listeners back to the basics of God's word and intentions. The sermon further establishes the authority and theology of Jesus. Note at the conclusion of the sermon in Matthew 7:28-29 that the crowds were astonished at His teachings and recognized Jesus' authority beyond what the scribes were teaching. Scribes taught in a second-hand manner whereas Jesus taught with firsthand authority... in other words, from the source.

4. Summarize the following actions by Jesus.

In your summary state the concept(s) being taught by Jesus through His actions. Teachers: Consider assigning individual actions listed below to members of the class to summarize. Look for elements showing the superiority of Jesus in His teachings, His compassion and power over evil. Also look for how these develop and strengthen our faith. It is important that you as a teacher are also familiar with these events.

- The healing of the Centurion's servant (Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-10)
- The raising of the widow's son (Luke 7:11-17)
- Jesus rebukes the unbelieving cities (Matthew 11:20-30)
- The woman anointing the feet of Jesus (Luke 7:36-50)
- Circuit preaching in Galilee (Luke 8:1-3)
- Jesus heals individuals possessed by demons (Matthew 12:22-37; Mark 3:22-30; Luke 11:14-15; Matthew 8:28-34; Mark 5:1-20; Luke 8:26-40; Matthew 9:27-34)
- The crowd seeking a sign (Matthew 12:38-45; Luke 11:16; Luke 11:24-36)
- Jesus' family come for Him (Matthew 12:46-50; Mark 3:20-21; Mark 3:31-35; Luke 8:19-21)
- Seven parables from a boat (Matthew 13:1-53; Mark 4:1-34; Luke 8:4-18)
Note: This question is seeking how these parables show how the beginnings of the Kingdom start small and grow to encompass the entire world. Furthermore, it shows the value of the Kingdom and how it seeks to bring in all who will believe.
- Jesus calms the storm (Matthew 8:18-27; Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:22-25)
- Jesus raises Jairus' daughter and cures the woman with hemorrhage (Matthew 9:1; Matthew 9:18-26; Mark 5:21-43; Luke 8:40-56)
- Jesus heals the blind (Matthew 9:27-34)
- Jesus rejected at Nazareth (Matthew 13:54-58; Mark 6:1-6)
- Final preaching through Galilee (Matthew 9:35-38; Mark 6:6)
- Jesus sends out the twelve and their return (Matthew 10:1-11; Mark 6:7-13; Luke 9:1-6; Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 6:30-44; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-14; Matthew 14:22-23; Mark 6:45-56; John 6:15-21)
- Herod takes note of Jesus (Matthew 14:1-12; Mark 6:14-29; Luke 9:7-9)
- The crowd seeks a sign (John 6:22-71)

5. How can you use this lesson to grow spiritually and help others come into a relationship with Jesus?

The teachings of Jesus and the lessons we learn from His examples form the basis of our discipleship and the growth of our faith. These serve to strengthen us as we continue to live a Christian life. We should develop a deep understanding of these so we can clearly demonstrate and teach them to others as we seek to bring others into a relationship with the Lord. These teachings further show the depth of love Jesus had for us as He focused on what we would need to live as His disciples and resist Satan and his forces.



Lesson #7 – 3rd to 4th Passover

The focus of this lesson is on the continued ministry of Jesus in the northern part of the region and occasional visits to Jerusalem. It covers His ministry from the 3rd Passover to the beginning of the last Passover week. Of special note in this lesson is how Jesus began to focus on preparing his Apostles to fulfill their ministry after His departure. He goes from a broad appeal to the Jews to an ever-increasing focus on His disciples.

Student Learning Outcomes

Know: Comprehend the events within the major divisions of the life of Jesus.

Feel: Desire to learn more of the life and teachings of Jesus.

Do: Act upon your knowledge of Jesus by obeying His teachings.

Support

- Text – Life of Christ in Chronological Order, Mike Mazzalongo (2014)
- Video – Life of Christ in Chronological Order – (Lesson 7 – 3rd to 4th Passover)
- Student Workbook
- Life of Jesus Event Chart

Body of the Lesson

- 1.1 Healings in the Gennesaret area
- 1.2 Pharisees question hand washing
- 1.3 Jesus heads further north
- 1.4 Jesus ministers in Decapolis
- 1.5 Jesus confronted again by Pharisees
- 1.6 Discussions with the Apostles in the boat
- 1.7 Jesus heals a blind man
- 1.8 Peter’s confession
- 1.9 Jesus foretells His death and resurrection
- 1.10 The transfiguration
- 1.11 Casting out a demon that the apostles could not
- 1.12 Jesus foretells of His death and resurrection a second time
- 1.13 Money from a fish
- 1.14 Who is the greatest
- 1.15 Lessons

Discussion Questions

Below are suggested questions to use during the guided discussion portion of the lesson. There are also suggested responses to questions to help students grasp the various concepts. These are provided to assist the discussion and are not considered as “right or wrong” responses.

1. Summarize the following actions by Jesus.

In your summary state the concept(s) being taught by Jesus through His actions. Teachers: Consider assigning individual actions listed below to members of the class to summarize. Look for elements showing the superiority of Jesus in His teachings, His compassion and power over evil. Also look for how these develop and strengthen our faith. It is important that you as a teacher are also familiar with these events.

- Healings in the Gennesaret area (Matthew 14:34-36; Mark 6:55-56)
- Pharisees question hand washing (Matthew 15:1-20; Mark 7:1-23)
- Jesus heads further north (Matthew 15:21-28; Mark 7:24-30)
- Jesus ministers in Decapolis (Matthew 15:29-38; Mark 7:31 – 8:9)
- Jesus confronted again by Pharisees (Matthew 15:39-16:4; Mark 8:10-12)
- Discussions with the Apostles in the boat (Matthew 16:5-12; Mark 8:13-21)
- Jesus heals a blind man (Mark 8:22-26)
- Peter’s confession (Matthew 16:13-20; Mark 8:27-30; Luke 9:18-21)
- Jesus foretells of His death and resurrection (Matthew 16:21-28; Mark 8:31-9:1; Luke 9:22-27)
- The transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-13; Mark 9:2-13; Luke 9:28-36)
- Casting out a demon that the apostles could not (Matthew 17:14-21; Mark 9:14-29; Luke 9:37-43)
- Jesus foretells of His death and resurrection a second time (Matthew 17:22-23; Mark 9:30-32; Luke 9:44-45)
- Money from a fish (Matthew 17:24-27)
- Who is the greatest (Matthew 18:1-35; Mark 9:33-50; Luke 9:46-50)

2. How can you use this lesson to grow spiritually and help others come into a relationship with Jesus?

Although Jesus accepts us with a simple faith, He expects us to grow in it. We do so by learning and following His teachings and the further teachings from the Apostles as well as other teachers found in the scriptures. We might not understand everything we read in the Bible, but we should accept it by faith until we grow in knowledge. Too many times people expect to understand everything before they develop faith. They also demanded signs from Jesus before they had faith in Who He was or believed what He taught.

As we begin our relationship with Jesus through faith, we will grow in our understand as the Holy Spirit guides us. An example of this is experienced in those moments when we read a scripture and see a direct application to our lives that we might not have seen before. These could be occasions when the Holy Spirit determines we are ready to grow.

We must understand that we serve the Lord since He is the Master and we are the servants. We express this faith by remaining connected to Him as the head and we are His body. We live and serve in His church unified in our faith and allegiance to Him. This unity helps keep us faithful and growing as disciples of Jesus.



Lesson #8 – 3rd to 4th Passover (continued)

The focus of this lesson is on the continued ministry of Jesus in the northern part of the region and occasional visits to Jerusalem. It covers His ministry from the third Passover to the beginning of the last Passover week. Of special note in this lesson is how Jesus continues to focus on preparing his Apostles and disciples to fulfill their ministry after His departure.

Student Learning Outcomes

- **Know:** Comprehend the events within the major divisions of the life of Jesus.
- **Feel:** Desire to learn more of the life and teachings of Jesus.
- **Do:** Act upon your knowledge of Jesus by obeying His teachings.

Support

- Text – Life of Christ in Chronological Order, Mike Mazzalongo (2014)
- Video – Life of Christ in Chronological Order – (Lesson 8 – 3rd to 4th Passover Continued)
- Student Workbook
- Life of Jesus Event Chart

Body of the Lesson

- 1.1 Jesus at Jerusalem during the Feast of Tabernacles (John 7:1-53)
- 1.2 Jesus and the adulterous (John 8:1-11)
- 1.3 Jesus teaches again in the temple (John 8:12-59)
- 1.4 Jesus heals the blind beggar (John 9:1-41)
- 1.5 Jesus' discourse on the good shepherd (John 10:1-21)
- 1.6 Final departure from Galilee to Jerusalem (Luke (9:51-62)
- 1.7 Jesus sends the seventy (Luke 10:1-24)
- 1.8 The parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)
- 1.9 Jesus visits Mary and Martha in Bethany (Luke 10:38-11:13)
- 1.10 Jesus cures another demoniac (Luke 11:14-54)
- 1.11 Exhortation to His disciples (Luke 12:1-13:5)
- 1.12 Parable of the Barren Fig Tree (Luke 13:6-9)
- 1.13 Healing of a woman with a spirit of infirmity (Luke 13:10-17)
- 1.14 Lessons

Discussion Questions

Below are suggested questions to use during the guided discussion portion of the lesson. There are also suggested responses to questions to help students grasp the various concepts. These are provided to assist the discussion and are not considered as “right or wrong” responses.

1. Summarize the following actions by Jesus.

In your summary state the concept(s) being taught by Jesus through His actions. Teachers: Consider assigning individual actions listed below to members of the class to summarize. Look for elements showing the superiority of Jesus in His teachings, His compassion and power over evil. Also look for how these develop and strengthen our faith. It is important that you as a teacher are also familiar with these events.

- Jesus at Jerusalem during the Feast of Tabernacles (John 7:1-53)
- Jesus and the adulterous (John 8:1-11)
- Jesus teaches again in the temple (John 8:12-59)
- Jesus heals the blind beggar (John 9:1-41)
- Jesus’ discourse on the good shepherd (John 10:1-21)
- Final departure from Galilee to Jerusalem (Luke 9:51-62)
- Jesus sends the seventy (Luke 10:1-24)
- The parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)
- Jesus visits Mary and Martha in Bethany (Luke 10:38-11:13)
- Jesus cures another demoniac (Luke 11:14-54)
- Exhortation to His disciples (Luke 12:1-13:5)
- Parable of the Barren Fig Tree (Luke 13:6-9)
- Healing of a woman with a spirit of infirmity (Luke 13:10-17)

2. How can you use this lesson to grow spiritually and help others come into a relationship with Jesus?

A major part of Jesus' teachings concerned His identify as the Messiah, the establishment of His spiritual kingdom and the need for His followers to be prepared. Throughout Israel's history the Jews had been promised a Messiah but were looking for a physical king and kingdom instead. Jesus was not what was expected thus He was rejected by many. This lesson looks at the teachings found in scripture that prepare us for the eventual return of Jesus by remaining faithful while we wait.



Lesson #9 – 3rd to Last Passover

The focus of this lesson is on the continued ministry of Jesus in the region of Jerusalem as He continues to teach and prepare His apostles and disciples for his death and resurrection. Of special note in this lesson is how Jesus confronted the Jewish religious leaders.

Student Learning Outcomes

- **Know:** Comprehend the events within the major divisions of the life of Jesus.
- **Feel:** Desire to learn more of the life and teachings of Jesus.
- **Do:** Act upon your knowledge of Jesus by obeying His teachings.

Support

- Text – Life of Christ in Chronological Order, Mike Mazzalongo (2014)
- Video – Life of Christ in Chronological Order – (Lesson 9 – 3rd to Last Passover)
- Student Workbook
- Life of Jesus Event Chart

Body of the Lesson

- 1.1 Jesus at the Feast of Dedication (John 10:22-42)
- 1.2 Journey to Bethany to minister to Lazarus (Luke 13:22; John 11:1-16)
- 1.3 Another threat from Herod (Luke 13:31-35)
- 1.4 Cure of the man with dropsy (Luke 14:1-6)
- 1.5 Parable of the Great Supper (Luke 14:7-24)
- 1.6 The cost of discipleship (Luke 14:25-35)
- 1.7 Parables of lost people and things (Luke 15:1-32)
- 1.8 Parables of the unjust steward, and the rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:1-31)
- 1.9 More instructions to the disciples (Luke 17:1-10)
- 1.10 Jesus raises Lazarus (John 11:17-46)
- 1.11 Jesus retreats to the north (John 11:54)
- 1.12 Lessons

Discussion Questions

Below are suggested questions to use during the guided discussion portion of the lesson. There are also suggested responses to questions to help students grasp the various concepts. These are provided to assist the discussion and are not considered as “right or wrong” responses.

1. Summarize the following actions by Jesus.

In your summary state the concept(s) being taught by Jesus through His actions. Teachers: Consider assigning individual actions listed below to members of the class to summarize. Look for elements showing the superiority of Jesus in His teachings, His compassion and power over evil. Also look for how these develop and strengthen our faith. It is important that you as a teacher are also familiar with these events.

- Jesus at the Feast of Dedication (John 10:22-42)
- Journey to Bethany to minister to Lazarus (Luke 13:22; John 11:1-16)
- Another threat from Herod (Luke 13:31-35)
- Cure of the man with dropsy (Luke 14:1-6)
- Parable of the Great Supper (Luke 14:7-24)
- The cost of discipleship (Luke 14:25-35)
- Parables of lost people and things (Luke 15:1-32)
- Parables of the unjust steward, and the rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:1-31)
- More instructions to the disciples (Luke 17:1-10)
- Jesus raises Lazarus (John 11:17-46)
- Jesus retreats to the north (John 11:54)

2. Recall times you've lost focus or become discouraged in your faith journey. What caused you to lose focus and what helped you to regain it?

Answers will vary but look for how things of the world or other issues in life interfere with or distract us serving God. Also, look for responses that show how renewed efforts of prayer and study of God's word help bring us back into focus. For those looking for help to regain focus, point them to the teachings and example of Jesus as He encourages us to greater faith.

3. How can you use this lesson to grow spiritually and help others come into a relationship with Jesus?

Jesus possessed a singular focus on His role and mission of salvation for man, regardless of disappointments, misunderstandings and threats to His life. In the same way, we must remain focused on our role and mission as disciples of Jesus. He gave us the mission of making disciples (Matthew 28:18-20). Our role is to stay focused on our mission. In doing so we act upon our faith and present the opportunity of salvation to others.

Another key point is that we frequently want things done according to our timeline and plan. Jesus is faithful but according to His plan and timing. He promises to answer the prayers of His faithful followers and we must have faith that He will do so. Furthermore, we must have faith that His promise of salvation will be fulfilled.

Lesson #10 – 3rd Passover to Final Week

The focus of this lesson is on the final phase between the third Passover and the final week before Jesus' death. Of special note in this lesson is how Jesus prepares His disciples for His final days.

Student Learning Outcomes

- **Know:** Comprehend the events within the major divisions of the life of Jesus.
- **Feel:** Desire to learn more of the life and teachings of Jesus.
- **Do:** Act upon your knowledge of Jesus by obeying His teachings.

Support

- Text – Life of Christ in Chronological Order, Mike Mazzalongo (2014)
- Video – Life of Christ in Chronological Order – (Lesson 10 – 3rd Passover to Final Week)
- Student Workbook
- Life of Jesus Event Chart

Body of the Lesson

- 1.1 Jesus heals ten lepers (Luke 17:11-19)
- 1.2 Prophecy concerning the end (Luke 17:20-37)
- 1.3 Parables on perseverance and pride (Luke 18:1-14)
- 1.4 Pharisees' questions on divorce (Matthew 19:1-15; Mark 10:1-16; Luke 18:15-17)
- 1.5 The rich young ruler (Matthew 19:16-30; Mark 10:17-31; Luke 18:18-30)
- 1.6 Parable of the laborers in the vineyard (Matthew 20:1-16)
- 1.7 Jesus predicts His death/resurrection a third time (Matthew 20:17-19; Mark 10:32-34; Luke 18:31-34)
- 1.8 James and John's request (Matthew 20:20-28; Mark 10:35-45)
- 1.9 Jesus heals two blind men (Matthew 20:29-34; Mark 10:46-52; Luke 18:35-19:1)
- 1.10 Jesus goes to Zacchaeus' house (Luke 19:2-10)
- 1.11 The parable of the minas (Luke 19:11-28)
- 1.12 Mary anoints Jesus with perfume (Matthew 26:6-13; Mark 14:3-9; John 11:55-12:11)
- 1.13 Lessons

Discussion Questions

Below are suggested questions to use during the guided discussion portion of the lesson. There are also suggested responses to questions to help students grasp the various concepts. These are provided to assist the discussion and are not considered as “right or wrong” responses.

1. Summarize the following actions by Jesus.

In your summary state the concept(s) being taught by Jesus through His actions. Teachers: Consider assigning individual actions listed below to members of the class to summarize. Look for elements showing the superiority of Jesus in His teachings, His compassion and power over evil. Also look for how these develop and strengthen our faith. It is important that you as a teacher are also familiar with these events.

- Jesus heals ten lepers (Luke 17:11-19)
- Prophecy concerning the end (Luke 17:20-37)
- Parables on perseverance and pride (Luke 18:1-14)
- Pharisees' questions on divorce (Matthew 19:1-15; Mark 10:1-16; Luke 18:15-17)
- The rich young ruler (Matthew 19:16-30; Mark 10:17-31; Luke 18:18-30)
- Parable of the laborers in the vineyard (Matthew 20:1-16)
- Jesus predicts His death/resurrection a third time (Matthew 20:17-19; Mark 10:32-34; Luke 18:31-34)
- James and John's request (Matthew 20:20-28; Mark 10:35-45)
- Jesus heals two blind men (Matthew 20:29-34; Mark 10:46-52; Luke 18:35-19:1)
- Jesus goes to Zacchaeus' house (Luke 19:2-10)
- The parable of the minas (Luke 19:11-28)
- Mary anoints Jesus with perfume (Matthew 26:6-13; Mark 14:3-9; John 11:55-12:11)

2. How can you use this lesson to grow spiritually and help others come into a relationship with Jesus?

As our Creator and Savior, our Lord knows our needs. We may wish for something or feel we somehow merit something, but God knows what we truly need. What we truly need is salvation from our sins. Jesus came to reconcile us to God by His death and resurrection. To accept this we must respond humbly and with faith. The examples provided in scripture of the Pharisees, scribes and others making demands or seeking favorable positions or power are the opposite of what God desires.

We should seek opportunities to spend time with God through prayer and the study of His word. When we discover God's will we should then act upon it as God directs. In doing so we receive the blessings God promises for His faithful followers.



Lesson #11 – Last Passover to Crucifixion Week

The focus of this lesson is on the final events and teachings of Jesus as He approached His crucifixion. Of special note in this lesson is Jesus' teachings about the destruction of the Jewish religion and the end of the world.

Student Learning Outcomes

- **Know:** Comprehend the events within the major divisions of the life of Jesus.
- **Feel:** Desire to learn more of the life and teachings of Jesus.
- **Do:** Act upon your knowledge of Jesus by obeying His teachings.

Support

- Text – Life of Christ in Chronological Order, Mike Mazzalongo (2014)
- Video – Life of Christ in Chronological Order – (Lesson 11 – Last Passover to Crucifixion Week)
- Student Workbook
- Life of Jesus Event Chart

Body of the Lesson

- 1.1 Jesus' triumphant entry
(Matthew 21:1-11; 17; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:29-44; John 12:12-19)
- 1.2 Jesus curses the fig tree/cleanses the temple
(Matthew 21:12-19; Mark 11:12-19; Luke 19:45-46)
- 1.3 Lesson on the withered fig tree (Matthew 21:21-22; Mark 11:20-26)
- 1.4 Jesus teaches in the Temple (Matthew 21:23-22:14; Mark 11:27-12:12)
- 1.5 Jesus responds to questions (Matthew 22:15-23:39; Mark 12:13-40; Luke 20:20-47)
- 1.6 The widow's offering (Mark 12:41-44; Luke 21:1-4)
- 1.7 Some Greeks desire to see Jesus (John 12:20-36)
- 1.8 Jesus prophesizes concerning the destruction of Jerusalem and the end of the world
(Matthew 24:1-42; Mark 13:1-37; Luke 21:5-36)
- 1.9 The last parables (Matthew 24:43-25:46)
- 1.10 Judas plots to betray Jesus
(Matthew 26:1-5; 14-16; Mark 14:1-2; 10-11; Luke 22:1-6; John 12:36-50)
- 1.11 Lessons

Discussion Questions

Below are suggested questions to use during the guided discussion portion of the lesson. There are also suggested responses to questions to help students grasp the various concepts. These are provided to assist the discussion and are not considered as “right or wrong” responses.

1. Summarize the following actions by Jesus.

In your summary state the concept(s) being taught by Jesus through His actions. Teachers: Consider assigning individual actions listed below to members of the class to summarize. Look for elements showing the superiority of Jesus in His teachings, His compassion and power over evil. Also look for how these develop and strengthen our faith. It is important that you as a teacher are also familiar with these events.

- Jesus’ triumphant entry
(Matthew 21:1-11; 17; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:29-44; John 12:12-19)
- Jesus curses the fig tree/cleanses the temple
(Matthew 21:12-19; Mark 11:12-19; Luke 19:45-46)
- Lesson on the withered fig tree (Matthew 21:21-22; Mark 11:20-26)
- Jesus teaches in the Temple (Matthew 21:23-22:14; Mark 11:27-12:12)
- Jesus responds to questions
(Matthew 22:15-23:39; Mark 12:13-40; Luke 20:20-47)
- The widow’s offering (Mark 12:41-44; Luke 21:1-4)
- Some Greeks desire to see Jesus (John 12:20-36)
- Jesus prophesizes concerning the destruction of Jerusalem and the end of the world (Matthew 24:1-42; Mark 13:1-37; Luke 21:5-36)
- The last parables (Matthew 24:43-25:46)
- Judas plots to betray Jesus
(Matthew 26:1-5; 14-16; Mark 14:1-2; 10-11; Luke 22:1-6; John 12:36-50)

2. Why would Jesus teach us about the end of the world but not tell us when it would occur?

It is human nature to generally put things off until the end. In not letting us know the exact time of the world's end we must always be ready. It also gives us an opportunity to develop and grow in faith as well as a lifetime of opportunity to serve and obey our Lord.

3. How can you use this lesson to grow spiritually and help others come into a relationship with Jesus?

We tend to take the view that if something has never happened, or has not happened for a long time, then it is not likely to happen. It is easy to dismiss something we don't want to think of. This was the case with the Jewish leaders in the time of Jesus. Jesus clearly taught that the end of their way of life was imminent and the establishing of the spiritual kingdom prophesied from the beginning was upon them but to no avail. It is important that we not be guilty of the same mistake. Jesus clearly teaches us to be prepared for judgment. We're not told when but only that it will happen. Therefore, we must always be faithful and serving.

Another mistake is that we judge based on our view or our standards. Scripture teaches us that Jesus' words will judge us (John 12:48). We must, therefore, learn His standards and live accordingly.

An additional thought taught by Paul supports this. In 1 Corinthians 13 he teaches us that the greatest spiritual gift is love. It is the greatest spiritual gift because it is the nature of God. It is Who God is. (1 John 4:7-12). Paul explains that the other two great gifts of faith and hope will cease since we will be in the presence of God. However, the character of God, love, continues through eternity. It is, therefore, the greatest of all spiritual gifts. Note that this is at the heart of the greatest commandment from Matthew 22:37-40.

Lesson #12 – Last Passover to Crucifixion Week (continued)

The focus of this lesson is on the final events and teachings of Jesus as He approached His crucifixion. Of special note in this lesson is His final moments with the apostles before His arrest, Judas' betrayal, and His torture, trial and death.

Student Learning Outcomes

- **Know:** Comprehend the events within the major divisions of the life of Jesus.
- **Feel:** Desire to learn more of the life and teachings of Jesus.
- **Do:** Act upon your knowledge of Jesus by obeying His teachings.

Support

- Text – Life of Christ in Chronological Order, Mike Mazzalongo (2014)
- Video – Life of Christ in Chronological Order –
(Lesson 12 – Last Passover to Crucifixion Week Continued)
- Student Workbook
- Life of Jesus Event Chart

Body of the Lesson

- 1.1 Disciples sent to prepare the Passover meal
(Matthew 26:17-19; Mark 14:12-16; Luke 22:7-13)
- 1.2 Jesus eats the Passover with the Apostles
(Matthew 26:20-25; 31-35; Mark 14:17-21;27-31; Luke 22:14; 21-38; John 13:1-38)
- 1.3 Jesus initiates the Lord's Supper
(Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:15-20)
- 1.4 Farewell address and prayer (John 14:1-17:26)
- 1.5 The agony and betrayal in the garden
(Matthew 26:30; 36-56; Mark 14:26; 32-52; Luke 22:39-53; John 18:1-12)
- 1.6 Jesus before the High Priest
(Matthew 26:57-68; Mark 14:53-72; Luke 22:54-71; John 18:13-27)
- 1.7 Jesus before Pilate and Herod
(Matthew 27:1-2; 11-30; Mark 15:1-19; Luke 23:1-25; John 18:28-19:16)
- 1.8 Judas' suicide (Matthew 27:3-10)
- 1.9 Jesus is crucified
(Matthew 27:31-44; Mark 15:20-32; Luke 23:26-38; John 19:16-22)
- 1.10 Jesus dies on the cross
(Matthew 27:45-61; Mark 15:33-47; Luke 23:39-56; John 19:23-42)
- 1.11 Pilate sets a seal on the tomb (Matthew 27:62-66)
- 1.12 Lessons

Discussion Questions

Below are suggested questions to use during the guided discussion portion of the lesson. There are also suggested responses to questions to help students grasp the various concepts. These are provided to assist the discussion and are not considered as "right or wrong" responses.

1. Summarize the following actions by Jesus.

In your summary state the concept(s) being taught by Jesus through His actions. Teachers: Consider assigning individual actions listed below to members of the class to summarize. Look for elements showing the superiority of Jesus in His teachings, His compassion and power over evil. Also look for how these develop and strengthen our faith. It is important that you as a teacher are also familiar with these events.

- Disciples sent to prepare the Passover meal
(Matthew 26:17-19; Mark 14:12-16; Luke 22:7-13)
- Jesus eats the Passover with the Apostles
(Matthew 26:20-25; 31-35; Mark 14:17-21;27-31; Luke 22:14; 21-38;
John 13:1-38)
- Jesus initiates the Lord's Supper
(Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:15-20)
- Farewell address and prayer (John 14:1-17:26)
- The agony and betrayal in the garden (Matthew 26:30; 36-56; Mark 14:26; 32-52;
Luke 22:39-53; John 18:1-12)
- Jesus before the High Priest
(Matthew 26:57-68; Mark 14:53-72; Luke 22:54-71; John 18:13-27)
- Jesus before Pilate and Herod (Matthew 27:1-2; 11-30; Mark 15:1-19; Luke 23:1-
25; John 18:28-19:16)
- Judas' suicide (Matthew 27:3-10)
- Jesus is crucified
(Matthew 27:31-44; Mark 15:20-32; Luke 23:26-38; John 19:16-22)
- Jesus dies on the cross
(Matthew 27:45-61; Mark 15:33-47; Luke 23:39-56; John 19:23-42)
- Pilate sets a seal on the tomb (Matthew 27:62-66)

2. Of all that Jesus endured during His betrayal, arrest, trial, and cross, what was the most severe and what does it signify?

Indeed, Jesus endured more than we can fully understand. The betrayal of Judas, one of His disciples, His loneliness in the garden, the physical torture, the disdain of the Jews and the actual crucifixion are all more than most could endure by themselves let alone as a compounding of events. Yet, it should be seen that the greatest suffering that Jesus felt was the separation He experienced from God the Father. It is His cry of, "Why have You forsaken me?" that rings out as His greatest test of endurance. For the first time in all of eternity Jesus was separated from the love and relationship of God. The use of "forsaken" means to abandon or desert. It is a deliberate action. Since Jesus took on our sins He no longer could be in the presence of God. Note, however, that even in that moment Jesus kept to His role as our Savior and fulfilled His mission. To God be the glory for His love and the love of our Savior, Jesus!

3. How can you use this lesson to grow spiritually and help others come into a relationship with Jesus?

The death and resurrection of Jesus is central to a Christian's faith. Without these events we would have no hope. However, because of these events we have hope. We must grow in our faith so that this hope remains unshakable in our lives. Hope sustains us when our faith wains.

When we teach others about Jesus, we should naturally demonstrate that Jesus died for us, but also teach our student why it is important for us to join in that death in a symbolic way through baptism (Romans 6:3-8). It is by sharing in His death that we also are resurrected into eternal life.



Lesson #13 – Resurrection / Appearances / Ascension

The focus of this lesson is on final 40 days of Jesus' ministry on earth. Of special note in this lesson is the significance of these final events. The death and burial were critical as a sacrifice, but the resurrection is the basis of our hope. Just as Jesus rose, we too are resurrected following our symbolic burial through baptism.

Student Learning Outcomes

- **Know:** Comprehend the events within the major divisions of the life of Jesus.
- **Feel:** Desire to learn more of the life and teachings of Jesus.
- **Do:** Act upon your knowledge of Jesus by obeying His teachings.

Support

- Text – Life of Christ in Chronological Order, Mike Mazzalongo (2014)
- Video – Life of Christ in Chronological Order – (Lesson 13 – Resurrection/Appearances/Ascension)
- Student Workbook
- Life of Jesus Event Chart

Body of the Lesson

- 1.1 The resurrection itself (Matthew 28:2-4)
- 1.2 The women find the empty tomb
(Matthew 28:1; Mark 16:1-4; Luke 24:1-3; John 20:1-2)
- 1.3 The angels speak to the women (Matthew 28:5-7; Mark 16:5-8; Luke 24:4-8)
- 1.4 Peter and John arrive at the tomb (Mark 16:11; Luke 24:12; John 20:3-10)
- 1.5 Appearance #1 – Mary Magdalene (Mark 16:9; John 20:11-18)
- 1.6 Appearance #2 – The other women (Matthew 28:8-10)
- 1.6 The priests bribe the guards (Matthew 28:11-15)
- 1.7 Appearance #3 – Peter (Luke 24:34)
- 1.8 Appearance #4 – Two disciples on the road to Emmaus
(Mark 16:12-13; Luke 24:13-35)
- 1.9 Appearance #5 – Jesus appears to the Apostles and disciples
(Luke 24:36-49; John 20:19-23)
- 1.10 Appearance #6 – Thomas (Mark 16:14; John 20:24-31)
- 1.11 Appearance #7 – The Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20; Mark 16:15-18)
- 1.12 Appearance #8 – At the Sea of Galilee (John 21:1-25)
- 1.13 Appearance #9 – Non-Gospel (1 Corinthians 15:6-8)
- 1.14 The ascension – (Mark 16:19-20; Luke 24:50-53)
- 1.15 Lessons

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2. How can you use this lesson to grow spiritually and help others come into a relationship with Jesus?

Although the immediate audience of Jesus through all of His life were the apostles and disciples, His message is for us as well. This is seen by the continued teaching of the Apostles as the church began and grew. It is also seen by the actions of the first century Christians as they spread the gospel throughout the world. It is also seen today as each of us take the teachings and mission of sharing the gospel to those we influence. This is behind Paul's message from 1 Corinthians 4:7, that we have the responsibility to share the gospel and give God the glory.

Of primary importance is that we become and remain faithful disciples by our own repentance, faithful response and baptism. We then show Jesus to others through our actions and words. When we do so, we share in the glory of eternity with our Father.

Indeed, to Him be the glory in all things!