

September 2021
Ordinary Time



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Welcome

Greetings My Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Welcome to the first in a series of publications specifically produced for Sunday School teachers in our Diocese.

These resources are being provided to assist all our Sunday School teachers and volunteers in preparing Sunday School lessons, and for personal spiritual growth.

This newsletter is comprised of material from our Sunday School Curriculum Year B and supplemented with additional resources such as word search puzzles and links to online resources.

We extend our thanks to Miss Nadiya Goodridge who assisted in the Department of Education and Youth during the summer of 2021 and produced the word search puzzles.

We know that you and your students will have fun with these resources, and we pray that all will be blessed by the experience of sharing them.

Blessings,
The Sunday School Team



Memory Verses:

Mark 8: 34-35

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it."

Collect & Readings

The Collect

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 116:1-8
James 3:1-12
Mark 8:27-38



**Isaiah is fearless
because God is
with him; we are
called to do the
same as Christians**

QUESTIONS:

Why are we today not as bold/brave as this person in the passage?

1. Give reasons why we are not as bold.
2. Look in the New Testament to see what advice Jesus gave for those who were not as bold.



**The psalmist is
praising the Lord
for the protection
he received and
for God having
saved him from
some known
trouble**

The First Lesson (Isaiah 50:4-9a)

The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens-- wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.
The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward.
I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.
The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.
It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

BIBLE STUDY: ISAIAH 50:4-9

Isaiah speaks boldly as he knows the Lord is with him. He speaks of facing humiliation and fear without any concern because he is strongly obedient to God and God will carry him through all the trials.

ACTIVITY:

Working in groups, have the children imagine that they are in charge of a youth group and they are given the task to design a programme that teaches the children to be fearless for Christ

Psalm 116:1-8

- 1 I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, * because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.
- 2 The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took hold of me; * I came to grief and sorrow.
- 3 Then I called upon the Name of the LORD: * "O LORD, I pray you, save my life."
- 4 Gracious is the LORD and righteous; * our God is full of compassion.
- 5 The LORD watches over the innocent; * I was brought very low, and he helped me.
- 6 Turn again to your rest, O my soul, * for the LORD has treated you well.
- 7 For you have rescued my life from death, * my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling.
- 8 I will walk in the presence of the LORD * in the land of the living.

The Second Lesson (James 3:1-12)



Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue-- a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

James speaks about the impact of words. Words can give life and hope to the discouraged, or they can hurt. We must choose our words with care.

BIBLE STUDY: JAMES 3: 1-12

James speaks about the power of the tongue. He urges his listeners to control what they say. If we are to be holy and whole, we cannot speak both blessings and curses from our mouths. The words from our mouths indicate what is in our hearts. Those who are holy on the inside produce only holy words. Nature is not double sided, a spring does not give both fresh and brackish water, nor does a fig tree yield olives, therefore we too must not be double sided—instead we must demonstrate singleness of heart and mind, by the words that flow from our lips.

ACTIVITY:

You will need to access the internet for this activity.

GO TO: (Press and hold the ctrl button and click the link at the same time)

[TobyMac - Speak Life - YouTube](#)

Please view the music video and discuss with your children how words of encouragement can give life, and how critical words can hurt.

QUESTIONS:

- How do you feel when you hear encouraging words?
- How do you feel when you are criticized?
- Can criticism be good for us sometimes?
- Did the Disciples always do the right thing?
- Did they learn from their mistakes?
- Can we also learn and grow after we are criticized?

St. Mark 8:27-38



Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

St. Mark 8:27-38 Cont.



BIBLE STUDY: MARK 8: 27-38

Teacher read the passage slowly, while the children follow in their Bibles.

Jesus and the disciples were travelling. Jesus asked them who others said that he was—and who they thought he was. Peter quickly spoke up and confessed that Jesus is the Messiah. But after he heard Jesus speak about his coming suffering he attempted to dissuade Jesus, and was sharply rebuked.

Peter did not realize that his words were disappointing to Jesus, who needed to be supported, not dissuaded from his mission.

Like Peter, we will not always get this discipleship business right, but we learn from our mistakes. Jesus makes clear that discipleship is not about what we want, but what we must do: Deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow him. We too must be obedient to God's mission, and not allow anyone to dissuade us from the path.

QUESTIONS:

1. Would you deny the fact that you are a Christian?
2. How would you feel if Christ Jesus was to deny you?
3. How would you feel if someone acts as if they don't know you?
4. What words of cheer can you give to someone who feels as if no one likes them?

Activity: Word Search

Mark 8:27-38

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

- CAESAREA
- BAPTIST
- ELIJAH
- PROPHET
- SAY
- CHRIST
- PETER
- WARNED
- JESUS
- ANSWERED
- REBUKE
- DENY
- CROSS
- FOLLOW
- GOSPEL
- LIFE
- GAIN
- WORLD
- FORFEIT
- SOUL
- GENERATION
- GLORY
- ANGEL

We hope you found this newsletter informative and useful. Please feel free to share it with others.

We extend our thanks to all the persons who assisted in the preparation of this newsletter.

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