



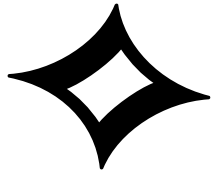
New Testament 2

Teacher's Guide

Congregation at Jerusalem

This set contains . . .

- ◆ Student Lesson Copy Masters
- ◆ Teacher's Guide
- ◆ CD with Student Lesson Copy Masters and Teacher's Guide in PDF and RTF files



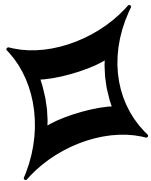
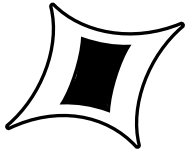
Unit 10: You Will Be My Witnesses

Theme: God wants all Christians to spread the gospel.

Lesson 1 : Jesus Prepares His Disciples to Witness

Lesson 2: An Example of Witnessing

Lesson 3: Every Christian Is a Witness



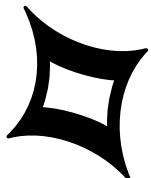
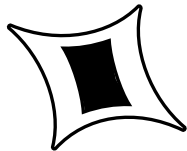
Unit 11: The Fellowship of a Christian Congregation

Theme: Christians express their fellowship in the faith in many ways.

Lesson 1 : The Jerusalem Example

Lesson 2: Teaching One Another

Lesson 3: Serving One Another



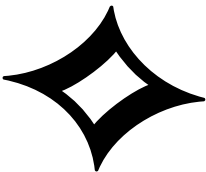
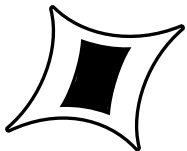
Unit 12: Christians Suffer Persecution

Theme: God promises to be with Christians as they suffer persecution.

Lesson 1 : God's Protecting Hand

Lesson 2: Faithful Confessors

Lesson 3: Proof We Belong to Christ



Unit 13: The Gospel Spreads

Theme: God uses called workers and laypeople to spread the gospel.

Lesson 1 : From Jerusalem to Judea and Samaria

Lesson 2: Paul, God's Chosen Instrument to the Gentiles

Lesson 3: The Gospel Spreads in Different Ways

Suggested for Grade 11

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Introductory Pages for New Testament Books

UNIT FORMAT

Each unit contains 12 to 16 copy masters for use with the students. These student copy masters may be reproduced. The teacher's guide contains copy master text, answers, and other instructions. Each student should have a three-ring binder to store and organize all the student lesson pages.

Overview

This page contains the information the teacher needs to understand the unit.

- **Unit title**
- **Bible references**
- **Unit theme**
- **Spiritual goals:** We pray that the Holy Spirit would help the students learn these spiritual truths and adopt these spiritual attitudes and habits.
- **Suggested memory treasures:** Assign these as you see fit. Be sure to discuss their relationship to the truths in the unit. The students will have learned almost all the suggested memory treasures in their Christ-Light lessons at Lutheran elementary school or Sunday school. One asterisk designates those memory treasures that are part of the Sunday school core. Two asterisks designate what is additional core for Lutheran elementary schools.
- **Suggested commentary readings:** Read these to review Scripture or to add depth to your instruction.
- **Introduction ideas:** Use these to interest the students and to help them see their need for what they will learn in the unit.

Copy Masters

- The **Bible lesson** guides the students in their study of specific portions of the Bible. It begins with an Aim question and ends with a Truth that answers that question. Key Points are emphasized along the way. You may hand out the Bible lesson copy master and have the students fill it in as you teach the lesson, or you may have the students work in small groups to complete a portion of it before you discuss it. Please note that the student pages will lose their effectiveness if assigned as homework before class. *The first Bible lesson is the primary one in the unit. It should always be used. Using the remaining two or three is strongly suggested.*
- Each **Consider This** page contains questions related to the Bible lesson directly preceding it. Each option is designated to the specific Key Point to which it is most closely connected. The discussion options require a variety of learning skills, such as analysis, synthesis, evaluation, and application. *At least some of these questions should always be used because they help the students apply the lesson to their lives.* Plan in advance which questions you will use and where the questions fit best. Then vary your use of these questions:
 - ~ Discuss some questions as a class.
 - ~ Have students write answers first before discussing the questions as a class.
 - ~ Have students discuss the questions in pairs or small groups before discussing them as a class.
 - ~ Assign some questions as homework.
- The remaining pages contain **activities** to help the students learn the Bible lessons and apply them. The pages include additional Bible studies of many kinds, real-life situations, skits and roleplays, simple doctrinal studies, hymn and memory treasure studies, illustrations, writing activities, simple art activities, and so on. They may be done in class or outside of class, independently or in small groups. *Select those activities best suited to your class, and limit the number of activities to fit the time allotted. Plan in advance at what point in the lesson you can most appropriately and effectively use the selected activities.*

Sample Lesson Plan

The following lesson plan is for Lesson 1 of Unit 10: You Will Be My Witnesses.

1. Introduce the first lesson with the first Introduction option (*What kind of job did you have last summer?*).
2. Hand out **Copy Master 1** (*Jesus Prepares His Disciples to Witness*). Read and discuss the first section, concluding with Key Point 1.
3. To apply this Key Point, hand out **Copy Master 2** (*Jesus Prepares His Disciples to Witness*), the **Consider This** page, and discuss applications 1 and 2.
4. Return to the lesson on **Copy Master 1**. Read and discuss the second section, concluding with Key Point 2.
5. To apply Key Point 2, use applications 4, 6, and 7 on **Copy Master 2**.
6. Return to the lesson on **Copy Master 1**. Put the students into small groups to read and discuss the third section, concluding with Key Point 3, before discussing the section together as a class. Then answer the Aim question with the Truth of the lesson.
7. To apply Key Point 3, use applications 8 and 9 on **Copy Master 2**.
8. To further apply the lesson, use **Copy Master 3** (*Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria*). Complete part A together as a class. Then give the students time to complete parts B and C on their own. Discuss them before the students leave class. Encourage the students to follow through on the ideas they developed in part C.
9. Assign **Copy Master 4** (*Writing Wrongs*) as homework. Later, post some of the letters on a bulletin board.

Characteristics of Eleventh-Grade Students

Spiritual Development

- They think more deeply about spiritual truths they have already learned.
- They can understand the interrelatedness of Bible events.
- They want to know how to apply spiritual truths to their lives.
- They may need additional guidance if they do not come from homes that model Christian living.

Emotional and Volitional Development

- They are quite independent in their attitudes and habits.
- They are still greatly influenced by the actions and opinions of their peers.
- They are often governed by role models they have consciously or unconsciously chosen to follow.
- They are greatly influenced by television, movies, music, and magazines.

Sexual Development

- Their sexuality is an important aspect of their lives.

Relationships with Parents

- They are in the process of leaving their parents in order to develop independent lives.
- They share fewer of their experiences with their parents.
- They are still influenced by their parents, especially if their parents respect their growing independence.

Learning Style

- They can study one topic in depth over a number of class periods.
- They still enjoy a variety of learning experiences:
 - ~ working independently and in peer groups
 - ~ learning by listening and by doing
 - ~ learning by reading and by writing
 - ~ learning by answering questions and by asking questions
 - ~ analyzing, synthesizing, evaluating, and creating
- They question things they have previously accepted without question.

Some Teaching Strategies

- **Meet the students where they are and then stretch them:** Recognize that your students have different levels of Bible knowledge and spiritual development, even when they might have received similar spiritual training in elementary school and the early high school years. Do not make assumptions about their previous learning. Start with the simple. Review the basics. Then move on to more complex concepts, deeper understandings, and applications of Bible truths relevant to their teenage years.
- **Create an open, responsive environment:** Recognize that as your students develop independent thinking skills, they may question things they previously accepted without question. Maintain a classroom in which it's good to ask

questions, even spiritual questions. You are a spiritual leader. If they have questions, you want to give them truthful and appropriate answers. Encourage them to search the Scriptures, not look to worldly “experts” for answers.

- **Allow them to work together on some exercises:** Occasional cooperative-learning activities yield many positive results. Your students may enjoy their work more when they do it with their peers. They may become accustomed to discussing spiritual issues with their peers—a skill we hope they take with them outside the classroom. And when they have already tried out their ideas on a small group of their peers, they may feel more confident discussing an issue in front of the whole class. To keep “chatty” students focused on the task at hand, give the students definite and fairly short time limits.

YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES

Acts 1,2; 1 Peter 2,3

Unit Theme

God wants all Christians to spread the gospel.

Goals

We pray that the student

knows this spiritual truth:

- God wants us to share the good news of Jesus with everyone.

develops these spiritual attitudes and habits:

- I have a deep concern for unbelievers and a sense of urgency about witnessing to them.
- I learn to express law and gospel to others.
- I witness because I'm grateful for what God has done for me.

To Memorize

* Matthew 28:19

Mark 16:15

1 Peter 3:15,16

** The Second Petition of the Lord's Prayer

Hymn 560:1,2,5

Suggested Commentary Readings

- Pages 1067-1136 in Franzmann, *Bible History Commentary, New Testament, Volume 2*
- Pages 1-12,22-36 in Balge, *Acts, The People's Bible series*

Introduction Ideas

- **Suggested use with Copy Master 1:** What kind of job did you have last summer? How did you feel on the first day of work? What did you need to know in order to feel comfortable? A wise employer prepares new employees for their work by telling them what's expected of them and training them for their specific tasks. In a sense our Lord has called us into employment. He has assigned us a task. But he also prepares and trains us. Let's see how.
- **Suggested use with Copy Master 5:** When you were first learning how to do a cartwheel or a layup, you needed more than someone describing in words what you were to do: "Put your left hand down, and then . . ." You needed to *see examples* of how these things are done. It's the same with witnessing. It helps to see someone else do it well. That's what this lesson allows us to do.
- **Suggested use with Copy Master 10:** Who did you look up to when you were in elementary school? What did you think about high school students when you were in grade school? Now that you're in high school, do you have an influence on elementary students? Whether they realize it or not, elementary-aged students do look up to high school students as role models. Similarly, whether we Christians realize it or not, people listen to us and observe us. If they know we are Christians, they make a connection. We need to realize that every Christian is a witness.

JESUS PREPARES HIS DISCIPLES TO WITNESS

Acts 1:1-8; 2:1-11

AIM How did Jesus prepare his disciples to be his witnesses?

The author of Acts begins this book by talking about a previous book he had written: “In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven” (1:1,2). That former book, also written for “most excellent Theophilus” (Luke 1:3), is the gospel of Luke. The two books are christocentric, that is, they are about Jesus Christ. The gospel of Luke tells us about Jesus and his saving work, and Acts tells us what Jesus’ chosen workers did to spread the good news about Jesus after he ascended into heaven. The first chapter of Acts tells us how Jesus prepared his disciples for their work after he was visibly gone from them.

Ac 1:1-8a

- The risen Savior appeared to his disciples many times in the 40 days following his resurrection. He used that time to give them many convincing proofs that he was truly alive and to instruct them more fully about his kingdom. Why did Jesus direct his disciples to stay in Jerusalem for a time after he left them? *Jesus wanted them to stay in Jerusalem until they were “baptized with the Holy Spirit.” In other words, the Spirit would come upon them in a special, ceremonial way. Note that they had also heard Jesus speak about this gift before he died. (See Luke 24:49; John 14:16-18; 15:26,27.)*
- The disciples apparently thought that the coming of the Holy Spirit would signal the start of a new age in which God would establish his kingdom. But they misunderstood what type of kingdom this would be. What mistake did they make? *They thought Jesus would establish an earthly kingdom by overthrowing the Romans, reinstating Israel to her former glory.*
- In verse 8a what did Jesus say his disciples would receive when the special gift came to them? *He said they would receive power when the Spirit came on them—God’s own power to carry out the Savior’s mission. Like a good employer, Jesus wanted to prepare his disciples for their work.*

- Why was this gift necessary? Think about the disciples’ state of mind and behavior since Jesus’ crucifixion and resurrection. *The disciples were timid and afraid. They had locked themselves in a room and feared for their own lives. It had taken them a long time to firmly believe that Jesus had risen. And their question of verse 6 shows that they were still unclear on some points of Jesus’ mission on earth. They needed the Spirit’s power.*

KEY POINT II

What special gift did Jesus promise to send? *Jesus promised to send the gift of the Holy Spirit to his disciples.*

The disciples thought the plan of salvation was completed and Jesus was about to set up his messianic kingdom on earth. But Jesus clearly explained there was still work for them to do. Jesus’ words to the disciples at this time are especially important when we remember they are some of his final words on this earth.

Ac 1:8b

- What is a witness? *A witness is someone who tells what he or she has seen.*
- What is significant about the verb *will be* when Jesus said, “You will be my witnesses”? *Jesus didn’t say, “If you want to be . . .” or ask, “Will you think about being . . . ?” He stated a fact, giving them specific instructions for their life’s mission: You will be my witnesses.*
- Look at a map of the Holy Land. Where did Jesus say they would be his witnesses? *They would be his witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth. In other words, they were to start close to home and then gradually spread out in all directions until the gospel spread out over the whole world. Help the students see what Jesus was saying by drawing concentric circles on the board or by comparing this to the ripples made when a stone is dropped into water.*

KEY POINT 2

What specific instructions did Jesus give his disciples? *Jesus told his disciples their mission was to tell what they knew about him to people both nearby and far away.*

After Jesus had promised his special gift and given the disciples their special mission, he rose up into the air until a cloud hid him from their sight. About 120 people, including the disciples, gathered in Jerusalem as Jesus had commanded. They chose Matthias as a replacement for Judas Iscariot. They prayed; they worshiped; they waited. And then we learn of the extraordinary way Jesus fulfilled his promise to send the special gift he had promised.

Ac 2:1-11

- As the believers were all together on Pentecost, what did they suddenly hear and see? *They heard the blowing of a violent wind that filled the house in which they were sitting, and they saw tongues of fire that rested on their heads.*
- What actually happened to the disciples as these audible and visual signs took place? *The disciples “were filled with the Holy Spirit.” God was pouring out his Holy Spirit on them in a special way.*
- What did the Holy Spirit enable the 12 disciples to do? *He enabled them to speak in other tongues. The Greek word and context indicate these “tongues” were intelligible foreign languages.*
- A large number of Jews from many different countries had gathered in Jerusalem for the feast of Pentecost. When they came to see what the commotion was, what did they hear? *Each one of them heard the disciples speaking in his or her own language, so each could understand the message about Jesus Christ. The Jews were amazed, because these men were simple Galileans who couldn’t possibly know their native languages.*

- Why do you think God chose this particular time to send his Holy Spirit in an extraordinary way? *God wants his gospel message spread to all creation. Since people from all over the world had come to Jerusalem for this Jewish festival, it was apparently an ideal time for the news of Jesus to be shared. Those who heard the message that day in Jerusalem took that message home with them to share it with their families, friends, and neighbors.*
- How had the Spirit given the disciples power, just as Jesus had said? *The disciples’ timidity and fear were gone, and they were boldly declaring the wonders of God—in languages they’d never learned! Also, the Spirit enabled them to truly understand what Jesus had done for them and what his life, death, and resurrection really meant. The Spirit had given them the abilities and the words they needed to carry out Jesus’ instructions.*

KEY POINT 3

How did the special gift help the disciples carry out their instructions? *The Spirit gave the disciples the abilities and words they needed to be the Savior’s witnesses.*



How did Jesus prepare his disciples to be his witnesses? *Jesus gave his disciples a special mission and the gift of the Holy Spirit to carry out that mission.*

JESUS PREPARES HIS DISCIPLES TO WITNESS

Consider This

- KEY POINT 1**: Read Jesus' words in Mark 13:9-11. Evaluate: A Christian doesn't need to learn a specific way of sharing the gospel, because the Holy Spirit will give him or her the words to say at the proper time.
It's true that the Spirit will help us say what needs to be said at the proper time, and he's promised to work through God's words when we share them, but that's not an excuse to be unprepared. Being prepared will relieve some of our fears about witnessing. It's helpful to learn several ways to witness so that we don't just ramble on and on when we try to witness to a friend.
- KEY POINT 1**: Heather says, "I just use memorized passages when I witness." Is this a good method?
Using God's specific words is of course an effective way to witness, but we want to make sure we know what we're talking about and that we're still speaking from the heart so that our witness is sincere.
- KEY POINT 1**: Was Jesus' promise of the Holy Spirit intended only for his original twelve apostles or also for us? Explain.
Jesus' promise of the Holy Spirit was fulfilled in an extraordinary way when the Holy Spirit came to the twelve disciples (including Matthias, not Judas Iscariot) on the first Pentecost. But the promise of the Holy Spirit to be Counselor and Comforter applies to all Christians. The Holy Spirit still comes to us through the gospel to comfort our fears and to give us boldness to be witnesses for our Savior, and he works through the gospel message when we share it.
- KEY POINT 2**: Agree/disagree: Every Christian witnesses for Jesus every day.
Disagree: We may not have an opportunity to verbally spread the gospel every day. Agree: Our lives—everything we do and say—are constant witnesses, even when we're not consciously thinking about saying something about Jesus. As Christians, we bear the name of our Savior. And we seek the Lord's forgiveness when our sinful nature rears its ugly head and our poor witness betrays him.
- KEY POINT 2**: Evaluate: In witnessing, actions speak louder than words.
The words we share with others are very important. After all, God has promised to work through his Word whenever it is proclaimed, and that includes the words we share in one-on-one situations. But people also observe our actions and draw conclusions about Christianity. Think of Matthew 5:16, in which Jesus tells us to let our lights shine through our actions so that people may be led to give glory to God.
- KEY POINT 2**: Which of these phrases describes your own feelings more accurately? Being a witness for Jesus is (a) a frightening responsibility or (b) a tremendous privilege. Explain your choice.
Encourage the students to be honest. In a sense it is both, but as they grow in faith and the power of the Spirit through the gospel, they will recognize it more and more as a tremendous privilege.
- KEY POINT 2**: Many people struggle because they feel their lives have no meaning. They want a sense of purpose and significance. In what way does Jesus give all of us meaning, purpose, and significance?
Jesus gives our lives a tremendously significant purpose and meaning. We have a mission to do! The mission he gives us will affect people not only for a few weeks, months, or years but for eternity! Whether we serve Jesus as pastors, teachers, doctors, lawyers, secretaries, accountants, engineers, students, adults, children, whatever, we have meaning and significance in our lives. As the hymn writer says, "I hear the Savior calling!" (hymn 560).
- KEY POINT 2**: When did people start speaking many different languages?
People started speaking different languages after the incident at the tower of Babel.
Why did that happen?
The people had been building this tower to make a name for themselves, as a testimony to man's greatness. They were also refusing to spread out and fill the earth. When God confused their languages, the people were forced to give up the project and spread out to various parts of the world.