



CALL IN the NEW TESTAMENT

THE COMBINED TEACHER'S GUIDE

WINTER QUARTER 2020/21

DECEMBER • JANUARY • FEBRUARY

Christian Education Department
Rev. Garland F. Pierce, Executive Director
Bishop David R. Daniels, Chair

AMEC Publishing House (Sunday School Union)
1722 Scovel St. • Nashville, TN 37208

BASIC SUPPLIES

Bible dictionary	writing paper
Bible pictures and maps	DVD recorder/player
CD players	milk crates
chart paper	paper – letter, drawing, pen-
Christian music – books, sheets, recordings	cils, pens, markers
Christian videos and DVDs	poster boards
crayons	robes, scarves
digital camera	old clothing
digital camcorder	scissors, glue, paste
drawing paper	video player

The Teacher's Guide
Liberating Faith Studies
Winter Quarter
December - February 2020/21
Prepared by Rev. Dr. Linda E. Mouzon
Called Through Heritage

Lesson 1

December 6, 2020

Lesson Scripture: Matthew 1:1-17; Hebrews 1

Focus Scripture: Hebrews 1:1-5, Matthew 1:1-6, 16-17

Key Verse: In these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds.
Hebrews 1:2

Key Terms

- **Genealogy** – A record of ancestry of one person, a family tree of a particular group.
- **Eschatology** – A branch of study about the end times or last things, a study of the end of life, or how the world ends including death, judgment, human destiny, the future.

Lesson Goals

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Understand the role of prophets throughout history.
2. Know that Jesus had human ancestors.
3. Appreciate God's love and inclusion of ordinary people, and recognize that God calls people from different cultures, countries, and backgrounds.

Teaching Strategies

1. Ask class to talk with a family member about their family tree.

Questions should include belief in God and religious background, occupations, successes, and disappointments.

2. Based on what's currently in the news, ask students to share what they think will happen in the future.
3. Let students share how they think their history would have been recorded, were it included in the Bible.
4. In closing, have students meditate on the scripture "In these last days he has spoken to us by a Son," then sit in a few moments of silence to see how that applies to their lives.

Special Concerns

Today is the 2nd Sunday of Advent.

Resources:

Bible–

- Genealogy: Exodus 16:33; Numbers 4:5-6; 17:10; Deuteronomy 10:3-5.
- Major Prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, and Daniel.
- The Twelve Minor Prophets: Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi.
- Evidence Jesus is the son of God – Isaiah 9:6, John 14:1:6, Philippians 2:5-11.

Internet–

- Build your family tree online: <https://www.familyecho.com>.
- Chronology of prophets and their ministry: <https://www.bible-history.com/old-testament/prophets-chronology.html>.

Called Before Birth

Lesson 2

December 13, 2020

Lesson Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25

Focus Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25

Key Verses: “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” Matthew 1:20b-21

Key Terms

- **Consider** (Greek word *enthumeomai*, pronounced en-thü-me'-o-mi) – to ponder, to deliberate, to turn repeatedly in the mind.
- **Angel** – Hebrew word for angel, *mal'ach*, a messenger of God who delivers a word or gives direction to people, or performs a task.
- **Jesus** – Hebrew name *Yehoshua* (Joshua) meaning to deliver, to rescue.

Lesson Goals

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Understand that God speaks to us in our dreams, and know why God sends angels and how they can appear in different ways (dreams, physical visitation).
2. Recognize that people in the Bible experienced doubts, fears, and concerns.
3. Summarize Jewish marital laws and the penalty for a woman if she could not prove her virginity. Describe how God calls people before they are born (revelation to parents).

Teaching Strategies

1. Ask students to research the names: Joseph, Mary, and Jesus. Who had the same name in the Old Testament, and how was their life the same or similar to Joseph, Mary, and Jesus? (Joseph Gen.; Mary=Miriam; Jesus=Joshua)
2. Compare and contrast Mary and Joseph's angelic announcements concerning Jesus' birth (Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38). Consider the circumstances and means of the announcements, as well as the reactions to them.
3. Make a list of other biblical persons who had dreams, and what happened after the dream.
4. Make a chart showing how ancient and modern engagement, marriage, and divorce practices are the same or different.

Special Concerns

Today is the 3rd Sunday of Advent.

Resources:

Bible–

- A virgin shall give birth (Isaiah 7:14-16).
- Joseph's ancestors who had dreams (Jacob – Gen. 28:10-22; Solomon – 1 Kings 12:5-12).
- **Internet–**
- Prenatal health need: <https://data.unicef.org/topic/maternal-health/antenatal-care/>.
- How to pronounce Jesus' Hebrew name: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o0gns_Y0Ljs.

The Teacher's Guide

Senior Lessons

Winter 2020/21 Quarter

December – February 2020

Prepared by Rev. Tashara S. Void

Called Through Heritage

Lesson 1

December 6, 2020

Lesson Scripture: Matthew 1:1-17; Hebrews 1

Focus Scripture: Hebrews 1:1-5, Matthew 1:1-6, 16-17

Key Verses: Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son. Hebrews 1:1-2a

Words to Know

- **Heir** – One who inherits.
- **Genealogy** – An account of the history of a family, showing parents and their children and so on.
- **Imprint** – Impression that reflects inner character; a distinguishing effect or influence.
- **Messiah** – The anointed one.
- **Begotten** – Produced offspring.

Lesson Goals

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Explore the biblical heritage of Jesus.

2. Value the ultimate origins of Jesus as the reflection of God's glory and the exact image of God.
3. Create or design a family tree of the genealogy of their families.

Teaching Strategies

1. Write all the names on note cards, using Matthew's genealogy found in Matthew 1. Put them in order according to the text using pins on a tack strip or tape.
2. As a class, research the people in Jesus' family tree and do a little research to fill out the story, adding qualities or titles to the names on the note cards.
3. Provide paper, pencils, and markers for class members to sketch as much of their family tree as they know. For those who prefer not to or who don't know much about their biological family tree, create a biblical style family tree that seeks to tell the meaning of one's origins without primary concern for historical accuracy. Ask: who are your ancestors? (those who made a way for you to be who you are)

Resources: Paper, pencils, notecards, tack strip or tape

Called Before Birth

Lesson 2

December 13, 2020

Lesson Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25

Focus Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25

Key Verses: "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will

bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:20b-21

Words to Know

- **Righteous** – Approved by God.
- **Dismiss** – Release from engagement.
- **Disgrace** – Expose, bring shame.

Lesson Goals

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Understand God's purpose for the birth of Jesus.
2. Rejoice that Joseph was obedient to the angel when he received the call before birth.
3. Appreciate the gift God gave Joseph and us.

Teaching Strategies

1. Plan a celebration for Jesus' birthday that considers the kind of birthday party Jesus would want based on what we know about Jesus' values and hopes from scripture. Arrange to host the party you plan and invite guests based on what you know about who Jesus would invite. Discuss how this party is different from and similar to how Christmas (Jesus' birthday) is typically celebrated.
2. Working in small groups, brainstorm things that would be considered good news and circumstances that might temper the goodness of the news. Discuss how the good news that Mary was having a baby was complicated by the timing/situation. Imagine other ways Joseph might have responded and celebrated his faithful response to the angel's directive.

3. Have youth create a book of poems or writings that expresses God's call to God's people.

Resources: Pencils, paper

The Teacher's Guide
Intermediate Lessons
Winter Quarter: 2020-2021
Prepared by Dr. Karma Bowen-Johnson

Called Through Heritage

Lesson 1

December 6, 2020

Lesson Scripture: Matthew 1:1-17; Hebrews 1

Focus Scripture: Hebrews 1:1-5, Matthew 1:1-6, 16-17

Key Verse: Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son. Hebrews 1:1-2a

Vocabulary

- **Ancestors** – Family from whom we descended, e.g. your parents, grandparents, great grandparents, and so on.
- **Heir** – A person entitled to possessions of a family member after their death.
- **Imprint** – An impression or mark left on something or someone else.
- **Sustain** – To strengthen or support someone or something mentally or physically.
- **Purification** – Made spiritually or physically clean.
- **Inherit** – To receive property, blessings, or other assets after someone.
- **Surrogate** – A substitute.

Lesson Goals

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Explore the biblical heritage of Jesus.
2. Value the origins of Jesus as the reflection of God's glory, and the exact image of God.
3. Create or design a family tree of the genealogy of Jesus and of their families.

Teaching Strategies

Select activities which can be completed during the allotted time:

1. Play YouTube music from Alicia Keys: "We Are Here":

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HrKmDgk8Edg&list=PLEq265ILw8sXSm7FFXfsKH-qf3f100OLb&index=16>)

Have students use paper and pencil to write prayers to God before class begins.

2. **Activity #1: Who Are You and Where Do You Come From?** Make a list of as many family members as you can, then complete as much as possible on the **Family Tree** worksheet. Present your family to your groupmates.
3. **Activity #2: Quick Questions!** In the lineage of Jesus, there are five women mentioned. Four of the women are mentioned by name and one is referenced. What is her name? (Hint: she is Solomon's mother.) In what chapter and verse is this woman first mentioned?
Answer: Bathsheba from 2 Sam. 11:3.
4. **Activity #3: Discovery.** Play YouTube music: "We Are Here" by Alicia Keys (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HrKmDgk8Edg&list=PLEq265ILw8sXSm7FFXfsKH-qf3f100OLb&index=16>)
5. **Activity #4: You Are My Hope for Tomorrow.** Set up a worship center in the classroom with an Advent wreath, candles, a tablecloth, and other symbols of the season of Advent. Light two purple candles

today. Create a symbol reflecting the significance of PEACE and add it to the worship center. Today is the Second Sunday of Advent.
Lead **Closing Devotion/Prayer**.

Resources: Mobile device with access to YouTube: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HrKmDgk8Edg&list=PLEq265ILw8sXSm7FFXfsKH-qf3f100OLb&index=16>) "We Are Here" by Alicia Keys

Paper, pencils, copies of **Family Tree** worksheets, **Jesus Ancestry** puzzle, Advent wreath, one pink and three purple candles with candleholders, a lighter, a tablecloth, and other symbols of the season of Advent

Called Before Birth

Lesson 2

December 13, 2020

Lesson Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25

Focus Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25

Key Verses: "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:20b-21

Vocabulary

- **Messiah** – Jesus, the chosen, anointed deliverer of the Jews.
- **Righteous** – Acting morally and spiritually right.
- **Emmanuel** – Hebrew name meaning, "God with us."

Lesson Goals

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Understand God's purpose for the birth of Jesus.

2. Rejoice that Joseph was obedient to the angel when the angel foretold Jesus' birth.
3. Plan and be ready for celebrating Jesus' second coming.

Teaching Strategies

1. Play YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=av1omSNOFwE>) "Emmanuel" by Norman Hutchins.
2. Have students use paper and pencil to write prayers to God as they wait for class to start.
3. **Activity #1: Would You Yield?** Discuss the turn of events in this story. How are they similar to the Bible story, and how are they different?
4. **Activity #2: Acting Out.** Divide the youth into groups of three. Have each group roleplay the story of Mary, Joseph, and the angel in a 21st century setting. Discussion: How would this story play out today? What are some of the emotions, feelings, or thoughts the characters may have had?
5. **Activity #3: It's All Good.** Working in the same groups as before, brainstorm things that would be considered good news, and circumstances that might temper the goodness of the news. Discuss how the good news of Mary having a baby was complicated by its timing and situation.
6. **Activity #4: God's Great Joy.** In the worship center set up the classroom with the Advent wreath, candles (light the pink and two purple candles), tablecloth, and other symbols of the season of Advent. Create a symbol reflecting the significance of joy and add it to the worship center.
7. Today is the Third Sunday of Advent. Lead **Closing Devotion/Prayer**.

Resources: Mobile device with YouTube Music:

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=av1omSNOFwE>) "Emmanuel" by Norman Hutchins

Paper, pencils, Advent wreath and candles (from last Sunday), a tablecloth, and other symbols of the season of Advent

The Teacher's Guide

Junior Lessons

Winter Quarter

December 2020–February 2021

Prepared by: Rev. Dr. Christal L. Bell

Called Through Our Ancestors

Lesson 1

December 6, 2020

Lesson Scripture: Matthew 1:1-17; Hebrews 1

Focus Scripture: Hebrews 1:1-5, Matthew 1:1-6, 16-17

Key Verses: Long ago God spoke to our ancestors, . . . but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son. Hebrews 1:1-2

Word Power!!!

- **Genealogy** – The study of family history and origin.
- **Messiah** – The expected King, deliverer of the Jews: Jesus.
- **Ancestor** – A descendant in the family line beyond a grandparent.

Lesson Goals

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Learn about their family tree.
2. Name some of the members of Jesus' lineage.
3. Create a picture that describes Jesus' family tree.

Special Concerns

- Be sensitive to students who may be uncomfortable discussing

their family lineage or heritage, for reasons such as adoption, abandonment, etc.

- Today is the 2nd Sunday of Advent. The theme for today is Peace. Light two purple candles (one each for last Sunday and today).

Answer Key

1. Name one member of Jesus' family tree that was listed in the scripture passage.
 - a. **Refer to printed passage for any of the names listed.**
2. What is one way you can display your faith to someone else during the Advent season?
 - a. **This answer should encourage ways they can tangibly create and give something to someone leading up to Christmas.**
3. Discuss a time when a family member helped you during a difficult time. How can you pay it forward?
 - a. **Give students time to share about those times. If students are not comfortable sharing, share with them a time someone in your life helped you.**

Resources: Paper, pencils, crayons, Advent wreath with candles (three purple, one pink), "We Are Family" by Sister Sledge (YouTube)

Called to Form a Family

Lesson 2

December 13, 2020

Lesson Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25

Focus Scripture: Matthew 1:18-24

Key Verses: “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. . . . She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” Matthew 1:20-21

Word Power!!!

- **Engaged** – Pledged to be married.
- **Disgrace** – An act that causes shame.
- **Resolved** – Determined, filled with purpose.
- **Fiancée** – A woman engaged to be married.

Lesson Goals

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Explore Joseph's story in depth.
2. Understand the decision that Joseph made and its significance.
3. Compare the other angelic account in the gospel of Luke 1:26-38 to this story.

Teaching Strategies

1. Lead students in reenacting scenes from today's scripture.
2. Invite students to share their thoughts after listening to the song, “We Are Family.”
3. Today is the 3rd Sunday of Advent. The theme for today is love. Light two purple candles and the pink candle.

Answer Key

1. What does *Emmanuel* mean? What does the name *Jesus* mean?
 - a. God with us.
 - b. Yahweh saves.

2. To whom do you talk when you are uncertain or have questions?

a. Encourage students to name an adult as well as God.

3. What happened when Joseph fell asleep?

a. An angel came to Joseph in a dream and told him to marry Mary and that she would conceive a child named Jesus.

Resources: Advent wreath with candles (three purple, one pink), paper, pencils, crayons (for drawing activities), "We Are Family" by Sister Sledge (YouTube), room/space for the students to reenact the scripture passage, phone (optional) for recording