

(Compiled using the Grade 10 Christianity text book published by the
Educational Publications Department)

Christianity

Grade 10 Lessons

Due to the lack of Christianity teachers in most of the schools, this book has been compiled for the purposes of self-study of the children.



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Grade 10 – Lesson 1

Prophecies and the birth of Christ.

❖ Responsibilities of a prophet

- A prophet is someone who is called to reveal God’s messages and plans to his people. The prophet’s main responsibility is to communicate God’s message exactly as revealed.
- Through this, God hopes to bring back to Himself His people who are living in sin. The prophet is responsible in finding out the reasons for the sins of the people, and to show them how they can turn away from their sinful ways and live righteous lives.
- The prophet always represents God, and always fulfills the laws of God.
- A prophet should be able to face many difficulties that come with the responsibility of being a prophet. He must have utmost faith in the God whom he serves.

❖ The importance of the prophecies about Christ’s birth

- The birth of Christ is not a coincidence. We can say this because 600 years before the birth of Christ, the prophecies made by the prophets Isaiah and Micah about the birth of Christ came to pass. These were the prophecies.
 - “The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son” Isaiah 7:14 / Matthew 1:23
 - “And will call him “Emmanuel” Isaiah 7:14 / Matthew 1:23
 - “A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse.” Isaiah 11:1 / Luke 1:32
 - “The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.” Isaiah 9:2 / Matthew 4:16 / Luke 1:79
 - “He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness.” Isaiah 9:6-7 / Luke 1:31-33
 - “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah.” Micah 5:2 / Matthew 1:17
 - “Whose origins are of old, from ancient times?” Micah 5:2 / Matthew 1:17

❖ Prophecies about Christ.

- Jesus is our spiritual king, and not a political king.
- Jesus is the wonderful counselor.
- He is the Mighty God.
- The prince of peace who will unite the people to their God.
- Delivers those who face injustice.
- He will bring the people out of darkness into the light.
- The above statements are some of the prophecies regarding Jesus.

Grade 10 – Lesson 2

A Great Servanthood.

- During the time of Jesus, Palestine (Israel) was under the Roman Empire. The Romans lead a very brutal empire and they took immense steps to quell and stop any fractions or revolts that would take place. It was the innocent civilians and bystanders who bore much of the brunt due to these outbreaks.
- The people longed for and looked forward to a time when there would be peace and freedom. They believed that the “Messiah” (deliverer) would come to rescue them.
- The Messiah (Hebrew) / Christ (Greek) or “anointed one” they were expecting was fulfilled with the birth of Christ.
- The prophecies about the birth of Christ confirm this.
- This is the prophecy the Prophet Malachi spoke about John the Baptist.
 - He will prepare the way for the Lord.
 - He will come to his temple.
 - The messenger of the covenant (whom) the people desire will come.
 - “I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the Lord Almighty.” Malachi 3:1
- This is the prophecy the Prophets Isaiah spoke about John the Baptist.
 - A voice of one calling in the wilderness.
 - He will make straight in the desert a highway.
 - Every mountain and hill will be made low.
 - The rugged paths will be made level.
 - “A voice of one calling in the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain.” Isaiah 40: 3-4
- These are the prophecies the Prophets Isaiah spoke about Jesus.
 - He will establish justice.
 - “He will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth.” Isaiah 42:4a
 - He will bare our pain and suffering.
 - He will be punished for our wrong.
 - “Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.” Isaiah 53:4-5
 - The spirit of the Lord will be upon him.
 - He will bind the brokenhearted and proclaim freedom to the captives and prisoners.
 - “The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners,” Isaiah 61:1

Grade 10 – Lesson 3

People who obeyed the Plan of God.

- We come across a few obedient bible characters who played important roles in God’s plan to send Jesus into this world for the sake of mankind.

- ❖ The Angel Gabriel
 - The angel Gabriel carried the Word of God to his people, and revealed God’s plan for all humankind. He speaks to Zechariah and informs him of the birth of John. Likewise he brought Mary the good news of the birth of Jesus, he provided Joseph with advice and direction, he told the wise-men not to go back to King Herod, he told Joseph to flee with his family to Egypt, and when they should return. This is how the angel Gabriel played a role in God’s plan.

- ❖ Zechariah
 - Even though he had prayed and asked God to give him a son, he was unable to believe what the angel told him. But he did obey the angel and did what he was asked to do. After the birth of John, Zechariah was filled with the Spirit and sang a song of praise, while knowing the role his son would have to play in God’s plan.

- ❖ Elizabeth
 - As Elizabeth was blessed with a child in her old age, she raised John in accordance to the will of God. Elizabeth showed how important the will of God was in her life, when she disregarded the social norm of the time and named her son John, even though no relative had this name before. She treated Mary the mother of the Jesus with respect.

- ❖ Mary
 - Even though Mary was afraid when the angel 1st met her, she put her trust in God and accepted the responsibility given to her. She knew she would face many challenges and issues from society, but she faced them, knowing that she was doing the will of God. We see this in her reply “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Luke 1:38

- ❖ Joseph
 - Even though he was disheartened by the fact that the woman he was going to marry was pregnant, Joseph did not hesitate to take care of Mary in obedience to what the angel told him. He was a committed father to Jesus.

Grade 10 – Lesson 4

Good News.

- The angel Gabriel was tasked with delivering good news. He was the one who brought the news of the births of John and Jesus, this shows that both these births were a part of God's plan.
- After the birth of Jesus, the special star that appeared in the sky, showed the way to the wise-men as they traveled in search of the new born baby. The gift of Gold, Frankincense and Myrr, show us the significance of the birth of Christ.
- The birth of John was an answer to the prayers of Zechariah and Elizabeth. The birth of John was a miracle, as they were both quite old. The song of praise Zechariah sang, gives us some insight.
 - Zechariah says that what was prophesied by the prophets of old have come to pass (Luke 1:70)
 - By these births, the people of God shall be redeemed (Luke 1:68)
 - John will be the one who prepares the way for Jesus (Luke 1:76)
 - John will call the people to repent of their evil ways. (Luke 1:77)
 - The people who believe in Him, shall be saved (Luke 1:77)
 - The people in the darkness have seen a great light (Luke 1:79)
- The angel told the shepherds the good news of the birth of Christ. The sign the angel gave them was "You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Luke 2:12
- According to prophecy, Mary and Joseph were both from the family line of David. Likewise the birth of Jesus' taking place in the town of Bethlehem is also according to God's plan.
- Taking the good news to all people, including the poor started right from the birth of Christ.
- Even though shepherds were people who were looked down upon by society at that time, they were the 1st to visit baby Jesus and offer praises to him.
- What kind of Jewish society was Jesus born into?

Grade 10 – Lesson 5

Jesus and Jewish Customs.

- During the time of Jesus, we come across many Jewish festivals; these festivals were a part of the Jewish law, which are traditions that have been passed down the generations.
- These festivals and celebrations were celebrated in great faith and with respect and dedication by the Jewish people. This helped the Jews establish an identity for themselves.
- Mary and Joseph also followed these traditions with their son Jesus.

❖ Circumcision

- This custom was one that was given to Abraham by God. This custom was an indication that the Jews were a people set apart by God. This was a physical symbol of the Jewish identity.
- This custom took place 8 days after the birth of a baby boy. The name angel Gabriel gave Mary, was given to Jesus during this time. The meaning of the name is “God saves”

❖ Dedication of the firstborn

- This tradition comes from the days of Moses during the exodus. It is a sign of the deliverance God provided to the Israelites after 400 years of slavery in Egypt. The night before the exodus, God struck down all the firstborn children of the Egyptians, but the firstborn of the Israelites were kept safe. The custom was therefore started that 40 days after the birth of a firstborn child, they are to take the child to the temple and dedicate that child to God. Parents were supposed to offer either a pair of doves or 2 young pigeons, if the parents were wealthy they were to offer a lamb.
- We as Christians have many traditions that take place in our churches.
 - ✓ Baptism
 - ✓ Dedication
 - ✓ Confirmation
- Likewise, as Sri Lankans, we have many traditions and customs that we practice according to our culture.
 - ✓ Sinhala and Tamil New Year celebrations
 - ✓ Reading the 1st words
 - ✓ Naming ceremony
 - ✓ Moving into a new house and boiling milk
 - ✓ The Attending of age of a girl child
 - ✓ Traditions in regards to sickness etc.
- We must keep in mind that, as we follow these traditions and customs, to always see that we do it according to our Christian beliefs and give God 1st place at all times.
- When Jesus was taken to be dedicated at the temple, 2 very important people came to meet him;
 - ✓ Simeon
 - ✓ Anna

❖ Simeon

- The meaning of the name Simeon is “The Lord hears.”
- He was a devout and righteous man, and the Spirit of the Lord was upon him.
- It was revealed to Simeon by God that he would not die until he has seen the Messiah. Once he saw the child, Simeon made these prophetic statements; (Luke 2:29 – 35)
 - ✓ Jesus is the Messiah - "For my eye have seen your salvation."
 - ✓ He will save the Jews and the gentiles - "A light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel."
 - ✓ Those who do not except him will fall - "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel."
 - ✓ Because of the crucifixion, Mary would face a great sorrow - "And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

❖ The Prophetess Anna

- Anna spent her days at the temple in prayer and in fasting. And she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Israel and the whole world. She was the daughter of Penuel.
- Messiah means “The anointed one.”
- Hebrew – Messiah – Anointed one
- Greek – Christ – Anointed One

❖ The Passover Feast

- Every Israelite should visit the temple at least 3 times a year.
- The festival of the Passover is a celebration and remembrance of the salvation the Lord provided to the people of Israel when he took them out slavery from Egypt and placed them in the land of Canaan.
- The Bible mentions how Jesus along with Mary and Joseph visited the temple when Jesus was 12 years old.
- The reply Jesus gives Mary when they found him at the temple, after searching for him for 3 days was “Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?” (Luke 2: 49)
- This statement teaches us that;
 - ✓ Jesus knew that God is his Father.
 - ✓ Jesus knew from a young age, what his ministry was.
- “And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.” (Luke 2:52)

Grade 10 – Lesson 6

The One who prepares the way.

❖ John the Baptist

- The mother of John the Baptist was Elizabeth and his father was Zechariah.
- Even though Elizabeth and Zechariah were old in age, God gave them a miraculous promise; God said that they would have a child.
- But since Elizabeth was old in age, Zechariah doubted this promise.
- It was the angel Gabriel that brought this message to Zechariah.
- Because Zechariah doubted, he was made dumb until the birth of the child.
- 8 days after the birth of the child, he was taken to be circumcised, it was here that he would be named, but the parents faced some difficulty at the time.
- In those days, it was the father of the child who would name the child, but as Zechariah was dumb, Elizabeth gave baby the name and said that the child was to be named John.
- Because of this, the elders at that time had a small disagreement with Elizabeth.
- Zechariah asked for a writing tablet and wrote on it “His name is John” Luke 1:63. This amazed everyone who had gathered there. At that moment Zechariah was able to speak, and he praised God.
- The meaning of John is “Gift from God.”
- The birth of John took place according to the prophecy given by Isaiah 500 years before the birth of Jesus.
- He was born to bear witness to Jesus.
- The life John lived, wearing clothes of Camel hair, eating locust and wild honey and living in the wilderness was all according to the prophecy given by Isaiah 500 years before the birth of Jesus.
- Many people from Judah and Jerusalem came to the Jordan to repent of their sins and be baptized.
- John preached in the wilderness.
- The clothes John wore, were similar to those that the prophet Elijah wore.
- The difficult and simple life that John lived was according to the Nazarite law.
- John baptized the people in the Jordan River.
- John was known by many names; the forerunner, a voice of one calling in the wilderness and John the Baptist
- John was very brave in telling the people that they should repent of their sins.
- “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? (Luke 3:7) with this statement John was referring to what would happen to the wicked and evil people who do not turn from their evil ways before the judgement of God.
- John always spoke in truth, challenging the people of that time to repent of their sinful ways.
- John was a humble man, when the people started to think that John may be the Messiah, John said ““I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.” (Luke 3:16)

- John also told the people ““Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.” (Luke 3:11)
- During the ministry of John, tragedy strikes as he was beheaded.
- The reason for John’s death is him been imprisoned by Herod because of his Brother Philip’s wife, Herodias.
- Herod imprisoned John because John kept on telling Herod that it was not lawful for him to keep his brother’s wife with him.
- Herod’s intensions were to kill John, but because the people saw him as a prophet, Herod was afraid to kill John.
- One day on Herod’s birthday, Herodias’ daughter Salome performed a dance for his guests that pleased Herod very much.
- Herod was so please that he asked her what she wanted, and he promised he would give her anything she asked for.
- Been prompted by her mother Salome asked for the head of John the Baptist on a platter. This distressed Herod very much.
- Even though he was distressed, because he promised Salome, and because he had guests with him, he sent for the head of John the Baptist. And so John was beheaded in prison.
- His head was bought on a platter and given to Salome, who handed it over to her mother.
- John’s disciples came and took away his body and buried it.
- Even though his life ended in this manner, John accomplished his ministry, just as the prophet Isiah had said. He lived a humble and brave life, and there is much that we can learn from the life of John.

Grade 10 – Lesson 7

The Sermon in Nazareth.

- After being baptized by John, Jesus was led into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit. Here Jesus fasted for 40 days and 40 nights. During this time Jesus was tempted by Satan 3 times. After defeating Satan and after overcoming the temptations, Jesus made his way to Nazareth, where he started his ministry.
- Jesus' ministry was built on the foundation of the Kingdom of Heaven. It was with this in mind that He preached to the people.
- Galilee was a town with a large population of many Jews and gentiles.
- From his young days, Jesus worshiped at the synagogue in Nazareth. The leaders of the synagogue were the Pharisees. It was through the synagogue that the Pharisees taught their religion and upheld Jewish law and customs.
- Jesus gained popularity in Galilee as a Rabbi or Teacher.
- As his 1st sermon Jesus spoke about his works by quoting the words of the prophet Isaiah found in Isaiah chapter 61: 1 – 2. After reading this, Jesus stated that this scripture has been fulfilled this day.
- This is what was said by Jesus; (Luke 4: 18 – 21)
 - “To proclaim the good news to the poor”
 - “To proclaim freedom for prisoners”
 - “Recovery of sight to the blind”
 - “To set the oppressed free”
 - “To proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour”

- Jesus shows us with 2 examples that the Kingdom of Heaven is not only for the Jewish people, but for the gentiles as well.
 - The story of the widow of Zarephath.
 - The healing of Naaman the leper.

- When Jesus said these things, the crowd was angry and tried to throw him off a cliff. While Jesus was inside the synagogue, he made these statements;
 - “Truly I tell you,” he continued, “no prophet is accepted in his hometown. (Luke 4:24)
 - “Physician, heal yourself!” (Luke 4:23)

- The Israelites anointed with oil those who were chosen to serve God. There were 3 such groups of people;
 - Priests
 - Prophets
 - Kings

Grade 10 – Lesson 8

Responding to God’s Calling.

- The Sea of Galilee is known by many names, some of them are, Lake Tiberius and The Lake Gennesaret. This place was significant in Jesus’ ministry.
- The Bible mentions how Jesus chose and trained 12 disciples, whom he sent to minister to others.
- When Jesus called Peter, he was washing his nets after not having much luck in catching fish the night before, Jesus asks Peter to let down his nets into the deep for a catch. Peter tells Jesus what happened the previous night, but obeys because Jesus asked him to do so, and with this Peter and the other fisherman hauled in a great catch of fish. After this Jesus calls Peter and says “Don’t be afraid; from now on you will fish for people.”
- Peter was blessed because of his obedience.
- The word disciple in Hebrew means “trained” or “taught”, and in the Greek it is called “Apostolos” meaning messenger.
- This is how Jesus chose his 12 disciples;
 - Jesus spent the night in prayer.
 - He chose them, knowing how difficult the journey would be.
 - Jesus chose men from different parts of Israel, who had different jobs.
 - They were taught how to work in unity.
 - No favoritism was shown.
- Jesus chose 12 disciples and at another time chose 70 men to go preach the good news. These were the advice given;

| | |
|--|--|
| The 12 disciples (Luke 9:1-6) | Jesus send the 70 (Luke 10:1-12) |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What you should not take with you – staff, bag, bread, money, extra shirt | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They were sent out two by two |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay with those who welcome you, till it is time to leave. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He sent them ahead of his arrival |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If people do not welcome you, leave their town and shake the dust off your feet. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What they should not take with them – purse, bag sandals |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay with those who welcome you, till it is time to leave. |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If people do not welcome you, leave their town and shake the dust off your feet. |
| The Task assigned | The Task assigned |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To drive out demons | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pray and ask the Lord for more workers |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To cure disease | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bless the house you enter with peace |

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • To proclaim the Kingdom of God | • Heal the sick |
| | • Proclaim the Kingdom of God |

➤ The 12 disciples.

- Peter
 - Andrew
 - John
 - James
 - Philip
 - Matthew
 - Bartholomew
 - Thomas
 - James
 - Simon
 - Judas
 - Judas Iscariot
- Some manuscripts mentions that Jesus sent out 72 men.

Grade 10 – Lesson 9

A New Vision for Society.

- God is the author of the Christian family. Jesus spent many years of His life living in such an environment.
- Once Jesus steps into his ministry, He redefines family as not only been related by blood, but also “whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.” (Matthew 12:50)
- This statement signified that whoever does the will of God is a part of the family of God.
- Jewish society was a Patriarchal society. At the age of 12 a Jewish boy was considered an adult. Boys were able to study the law, worship at the temple and attend religious festivals.
- Women were a marginalized group in Jewish society, but Jesus changed that when He gave them the opportunity to learn and serve with Him.
 - The Sinful woman (Luke 7:36-50)
 - Mary and Martha (Luke 10:38-42)
 - The cripple woman (Luke 13:10–17)
 - The woman who had a bleeding sickness (Luke 8: 43-48)

- Tax collectors were also a group in Jewish society that was looked down upon. Because of Jesus, people like Zacchaeus and Matthew (Levi) were given a whole new identity and worth.

- Jesus proclaimed that children hold an important place in the kingdom of God. (Matthew 18:2-5)

- The prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace;
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
And where there is sadness, joy.

Grade 10 – Lesson 10

The Core of the Law is Love

- When Jesus began his ministry, this was the geo-political background of Palestine.
 - The people were suffering due to political and financial injustices.
 - They had been living under Roman rule for around 60 years, and had to pay heavy taxes to the Roman Empire.
 - Jews were employed in the collection of the taxes, even though they were Jews, they showed no compassion to the people they were collecting taxes from and because of this the Jewish people looked down on the tax collectors and thought of them as sinners.
 - The Roman soldiers used the poor people in society for their work as servants in very harsh ways.
 - There were many political and religious arguments that took place, and the innocent people were the ones who had to face trouble and the consequences.
 - The people living in the North of Israel were considered sinners because they had intermarried and were called Samaritans.
 - Even though the Jews faced many troubles, they were given religious freedom, and they were able to practice the Jewish law.
 - The Pharisees and the Sadducees were the Jewish leaders at that time.
 - The Pharisees were the ones who served in the Synagogues. They taught the law and explained the word of the law to the people and took part in all religious duties in the Synagogues.
 - Even though they were in charge of the Jewish law, they did not understand the heart of the law, and only looked to the outward effects of the law and showed themselves as holy people to the society.
 - They were known for praying in public places and even had sections of the law written and attached to their garments.
 - They claimed that those who were not Jews were unclean, and did not associate with them.
 - They used to always encourage the people to rebel against the Romans.
 - They viewed learning and writing the Jewish law as something that only belonged to them.
 - Even though they were against the Sadducees, the two groups worked together to try and kill Jesus.
 - When Jesus and the Pharisees spoke, he always tried to correct their misguided ideas.

| BIBLE PASSAGE | STATEMENT OF THE PHARISEES | JESUS' RESPONSE |
|--|--|--|
| Healing of the paralyzed man (Mark 2: 1 – 12) | “Why does this fellow talk like that? He’s blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?” | But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.” |
| The calling of Levi (Luke 5: 27 – 32) | Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners? | It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. |
| Question about fasting (Luke 5: 33 – 39) | John’s disciples often fast and pray, and so do the disciples of the Pharisees, but yours go on eating and drinking. | Can you make the friends of the bridegroom fast while he is with them? But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them; in those days they will fast. |
| Breaking the law of the Sabbath (Luke 6: 1 – 5) | Why are you doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath? | Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry? He entered the house of God, and taking the consecrated bread, he ate what is lawful only for priests to eat. And he also gave some to his companions.” Then Jesus said to them, “The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.” |

Grade 10 – Lesson 11

Serving in the midst of challenges.

- During his ministry Jesus faced many challenges made by the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the Sadducees, and he was able overcome them well.
 - The Sadducees were a group of people who before the New Testament time, when King Alexander the Great conquered Palestine, tried to introduce Greek thinking to the Jews. The Jews who accepted these ideas and followed them were known as the Sadducees.
 - They were descendants from Zadok, the 1st high priest of Israel, and they used the name “Sadducee” for themselves.
 - The high priests were appointed among the Sadducees. Since they needed the consent of the Roman Empire to appoint the high priest, they worked in favour with the Romans.
 - The Sadducees functioned from the Temple of God, in Jerusalem.
 - The Sadducees did not believe in Angels, Spirits and the resurrection.
 - They only believed in the written law
- ❖ The challenges that were put forward to Jesus
- When Jesus was teaching at the temple, the chief priest and the teachers of the law questioned Jesus saying “Tell us by what authority you are doing these things,”?
 - When they questioned Jesus asking, “Is it right for us to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” Jesus answered them by saying “Then give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.”
 - When they questioned Jesus about the resurrection and marriage, Jesus responded by saying “in the resurrection from the dead will neither marry nor be given in marriage,”

Grade 10 – Lesson 12

Peace amidst challenges.

- ❖ Jesus enters Jerusalem.
 - When Jesus entered Jerusalem, he knew that this would be the last time he would enter the city, and he knew his hour was drawing near.
 - Jesus fulfilled all the prophecies about him.
 - As found in Zechariah 9:9, Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a colt of a donkey. (Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.)
 - The people started praising Jesus as he entered the city, for they believed he would redeem them.
 - The leaders of the Jews were not happy because of what was happening.
 - Jesus did not enter Jerusalem as a victorious king on the back of a horse, but He entered Jerusalem humbly on the back on a donkey.

- ❖ Cleansing the temple
 - Since Jesus visited the temple often, he knew what was taking place in the temple.
 - The temple leaders (Sadducees) used the temple for personal gain, robbed the people in the name of religion and engaged in illegal activities.
 - When Jesus entered the temple he drove out those selling and trading in the temple, and cleared the temple.
 - Jesus said “My house will be a house of prayer[Ⓜ]; but you have made it ‘a den of robbers.” (Luke 19:46)

- ❖ The plot to kill Jesus
 - Jesus had taught the disciples about the kingdom of God, but they still lacked understanding.
 - Even the disciples believed that Jesus would rule as an earthly king, by overcoming the Roman Empire.
 - When this did not happen, even the disciples were discouraged.
 - Judas decided to betray Jesus for money.
 - The same people who shouted “Hosanna” were the same people who shouted “Crucify Him.” They wanted Barabbas to be released instead of Jesus.
 - All that took place happened according to the prophecies of old.
 - The Kingdom of heaven is not about earthly possessions.

Grade 10 – Lesson 13
Strengthened by the prayer in Gethsemane.

- Jesus also felt human emotions. He felt hunger, thirst, grief joy and the fear and pain that death would bring. In times like this, he turned to God his father for strength.
- Jesus knew his hour was close at hand and that he would soon die. He went to the garden of Gethsemane on the Mount of Olives to pray for this very reason. At the moment of prayer and anguish, Jesus sweat were like drops of blood.
- Jesus prayed that “yet not my will, but yours be done.” (Luke 22:42) If this death was the father’s will, he would accept it.
- The Jews believed that those who suffered were been punished by God, because they had sinned. But Jesus suffered for the sins of others. Because of the suffering Jesus faced, all humankind was given a chance to enter the kingdom of heaven.
- When Jesus came to where the disciples were he found them asleep and said to them “Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation.” (Luke 22:46) By this statement Jesus shows that we need to strengthen ourselves in prayed when we face challenges.
- One of disciples Judas, betrayed Jesus with a kiss. Usually in Jewish customs, a kiss was a sign of respect, but here it was used as a sign of betrayal.
- Jesus had compassion for Judas. When Peters cut of the ear of the high priests servant, Jesus rebuked him and healed the man.
- Jesus faced and spoke to the men that came to arrest him with courage and strength that he gained by prayer.

Grade 10 – Lesson 14

Judgement and Crucifixion

- Peter was one of Jesus' 1st disciples, and he loved Jesus very much. He understood Jesus well. Peter's statement "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God" is a clear indicator of this fact.

- Jesus placed the future of his ministry in the hand of the disciple. But Jesus knew that Satan would try to confuse the disciples, so Jesus told them "And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers."

- Peter was ready to die for Jesus. But Jesus knew that Peter would fall in to temptation and so Jesus told Peter that he prayed for him. (Luke 22:31)

- Simon of Cyrene was told to carry the cross of Jesus.

- The women of Jerusalem cried and followed Jesus, but Jesus looked to them and said "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children"

Grade 10 – Lesson 15

Response to the Passion of Christ.

- Even though Jesus was wrongfully accused and sentenced to a cruel death on the cross, Jesus courageously faced all that took place.
- Peter plays an important role, when it came to the Passion of Christ.
 - Peter understood Jesus well, and he too was looking forward to the savior who would bring redemption for the Jewish people. Peter acknowledged that Jesus would do this, when Peter said that Jesus was “God’s Messiah.”
 - Peter told Jesus that he was prepared to face death for the sake of Jesus. Jesus knew that Peter would be discouraged in the future and told him “And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.” Peter’s denial of Jesus 3 times indicates the discouragement Peter would face.
- Losing faith in Jesus Christ is one of the biggest temptations we as humans can face.
 - Knowing that people would face this temptation Jesus told Peter “pray so that you will not fall into temptation.”
- Simon of Cyrene who had come to Jerusalem for the Passover festival was given the responsibility of carrying Jesus’ cross for him. We will face many times when we will be called to help in the ministry of the Lord at various times and in different circumstances, we will be blessed if we are obedient and accept them.
- Many women followed behind Jesus crying in sorrow. Jesus asked them not to cry for him, but to cry for the children of the future.
- Jesus was crucified with 2 others prisoners. One man insulted Jesus, whereas the other man asked Jesus to remember him in paradise. Jesus answers the 2nd man at that point.
- The soldiers who were at the cross insulted Jesus and said “If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.”
- Jesus’ response was “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”
- Finally Jesus said “ “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.” And breathed his last.
- Joseph of Arimathea took over the body of Jesus, wrapped it in cloth and placed it in a tomb that had not been used.

Grade 10 – Lesson 16

A New Hope.

- These are the accusations brought against Jesus and the reason for his crucifixion.
 - Blasphemy
 - Plotting against the Roman Empire
 - Proclaiming that he was the king of the Jews.

- The crucifixion of Jesus took place so that the prophecies would all be fulfilled.
- But Jesus defeated death and rose again on the 3rd day. He had mentioned all this to his disciples before.
- On the 1st day of the week, the women including Mary Magdalene made their way to the tomb taking spices along with them.
- They met 2 angels at the tomb who said “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!”
- The women returned and told Peter and the rest of the disciples what they had witnessed.
- Cleopas and another disciple met Jesus on their way to the village of Emmaus. When they met the disciples they told them “It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.”
- Jesus then appeared to the disciples. He asked them to touch and see that he was real for they had doubts in their mind. After this encounter they all believed.
- Thomas later proclaimed to Jesus “My Lord and my God!” (John 20:28)

Grade 10 – Lesson 17
Let us be open to the Holy Spirit.

- The act of baptism is a Christian tradition, but it should not be simply an external, physical sign of your faith.
 - When you are baptized, you receive the Holy Spirit.
 - During the time of John the Baptist, the sign of baptism was a sign of purification. But John made the act of baptism more symbolic by preaching to the people to turn from their evil ways and to produce fruit in keeping with repentance.
 - John baptised the people in the Jordan River
 - John said “I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.” (Luke 3:16)
 - Filled with the Holy Spirit, we are strengthened to bear witness for Jesus.
- ❖ The Reason Jesus was baptized.
- To bear witness to the ministry of John the Baptist.
 - To show Jesus’ humility.
 - Setting an example that those who follow Jesus should be baptized.
 - To show that Heaven approved the ministry of Jesus.
- ❖ A life filled with the Holy Spirit should display;
- Living according to the Word of God.
 - Been obedient to the Holy Spirit.
 - Building godly qualities in your life.

Grade 10 – Lesson 18

Overcoming Temptations.

As a Christian living in modern society, we face many temptations every day. We have the best example in overcoming temptations with the help of God in the Bible.

Let us have a look at how Jesus overcame the temptations he faced.

Jesus was fasting and was in the wilderness for 40 days. Satan comes to tempt Jesus at this time.

1st Temptation

Satan: "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread."

Jesus: ""It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone.'"

2nd Temptation

Satan: "I will give you all their authority and splendour; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. If you worship me, it will all be yours."

Jesus: "Worship the Lord your God and serve him only."

3rd Temptation

Satan: If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down from here. For it is written: "He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone."

Jesus: "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."

We see that Jesus overcame these temptations with the help of the Word of God, and this gives us hope as well.

We will face many temptations in life. We as Christians should seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We should learn and understand the Word of God well, and use it to guide us in life. As children of God, when we face temptations, we should submit to the will of God.

Grade 10 – Lesson 19
A New Life through Correct Vision.

- Luke 9:28-36
- Jesus' objective on earth was to establish the kingdom of heaven.
- "God's Messiah" was the great statement made by Peter about Jesus.
- The Jewish people wanted to know who this Jesus was. Jesus only revealed who he was to a very few people, his disciples were among those who knew.
- This truth was solidified during the transfiguration of Jesus.
- The outward signs of the transfiguration was that the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning.
- The significance of the Elijah and Moses' appearance was that Jesus was fulfilling the Law and the Prophets.
- The 3 of them stood discussing about Jesus sacrifice on the cross.
- The cloud represented the presence of God.
- At that moment these words were spoken from heaven "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him."
- The 3 disciples present were Peter, James and John. They wanted to build Jesus, Elijah and Moses 3 shelters.
- After this incident, they realised who Jesus truly was.
- The disciples realised that Jesus was the Messiah.

Grade 10 – Lesson 20
The Growth of the Kingdom of God.

- Our objective in life is to inherit the Kingdom of God.
- Jesus taught us how we can inherit the kingdom of God, and his ministry spoke mostly of the qualities of the kingdom of God. This is what is mentioned in the Gospel’s
 - God’s kingdom will never end – “his kingdom will never end.” Luke 1:33
 - Jesus came to proclaim the good news – “I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent.” Luke 4:43
 - Jesus and the disciples preached the good news of the kingdom of God and healed the sick – “and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. Luke 9:2 and “He welcomed them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who needed healing” Luke 9:11

| The Kingdom of God | Earthly Kingdom |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| ➤ Power and authority are in the hands of God | ➤ Power is in the hands of man |
| ➤ Inheritance to those who do God’s will | ➤ Citizenship to a country |
| ➤ No boundaries to the extent of the kingdom of God | ➤ A certain amount of land |
| ➤ The law is based on love | ➤ Laws are bound by the constitution |

- The kingdom of God is a place where Jesus will rule the people who do the will of God. The kingdom of heaven is among the believers.
- Parables told by Jesus regarding the Kingdom of God and its meanings;
 - The Parable of the Mustard Seed ———> From a very small beginning the Kingdom of God will grow to be great.
 - The Parable of the Yeast ———> The works of the kingdom of God will take place in ways we cannot see.
 - The Parable of the Sower ———> No matter what obstacles may stand in the way, the Kingdom of God will grow.
 -
- What must we do to see the growth of the kingdom of God.
 - We should live according to the will of God
 - We should live under the authority of God
 - We should be rooted in the Word of God
 - We should search for the will of God through prayer and faith.

Grade 10 – Lesson 21

Signs of the Kingdom of God and Miracles.

- The miracle and wonders done by Jesus were to show them as signs of the kingdom of God.
- The reason Jesus did miracles and wonders;
 - For the expansion of the kingdom of God.
 - For the love he had for the people.
- The miracles and wonders performed by Jesus were not to glorify himself.
 - Jesus warned the people not to follow him for the signs and miracles he performed.
 - He commanded the evil spirits not reveal his name
 - He asked those who experienced his miracles not tell others about it.
- The Greek word for miracle is “Dunamis” and it means “Power of God”
- The Gospel of John uses the word “Semeion” which means “Sign”
- The miracles of Jesus can be divided into 4 categories.
 - Healings - 20
 - Power over evil spirits - 04
 - Power over nature - 05
 - Raising people from the dead – 3

Grade 10 – Lesson 22

The Principles of the Kingdom of God.

- Jesus often revealed the principles of the kingdom of God to his disciples.
- Jesus used many ways to teach the disciples these things;
 - Parables
 - Preaching
 - Miracles
 - Life Example

- Jesus tells the parable of the Great Banquet when he was having a meal at a Pharisees house. Jesus tells this parable in response to someone saying “Blessed is the one who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God.”

- Here there are 2 facts that Luke does not mention.
 - The banquet was filled with guests.
 - Those not wearing the proper attire will be dealt with.

- It was a custom in those days for the king to present clothing to those invited to a banquet. Rejecting the clothes is an insult to the king who sent them and the feast / banquet. (Matthew 22:1-14)

- Things that are revealed from this parable.
 - The kingdom of God is open to all.
 - God is the one who invites us into the kingdom of God.
 - Those who reject God due to worldly possessions will lose out on the blessing of God.
 - Those who are called to the kingdom of heaven should cloth themselves with righteousness and salvation.


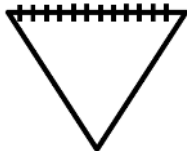
- Which parables are used to show that seeking the lost is a principle of the kingdom of heaven?
 - The lost sheep
 - The lost coin
 - The lost son

- Kingdom principles you should follow as Christians.
 - Always responding to and experiencing the love of God.
 - Sharing the love you experience with those around you.

Grade 10 – Lesson 23

Citizens of the Kingdom of God.

- Our objective is to be citizens of the kingdom of God. It is then up to us to learn how we can serve to this end.
- Therefore we should live our lives according to Jesus' teaching on leadership.
- Leadership in the kingdom of heaven and leadership on earth are completely different.

| Worldly Leadership | Leadership in the Kingdom of heaven |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The leader gives commands | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everyone works in unity and peace |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rules | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rules with love |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those under the leader serve him | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The leader works with those who serve |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The leader is served | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those who serve are served |
| <p>Leader</p>  <p>Those who serve</p> | <p>Those who serve</p>  <p>Leader</p> |

- Advice Jesus gave regarding leadership. (Luke 22:24-30)
 - The greatest should be the least
 - The leader should be the servant
 - You should not use your position over others
- Examples of Jesus leading with servant leadership
 - Exalting a small child (Luke 8:49-56)
 - Washing the disciples feet (John 13:4-5)
 - Going to those who need to be served
 - Sacrificing his life for the sake of all others
- Characteristics of those who are citizens of the kingdom of God.
 - Serving others. Using your time, money and energy to help others. (Parable of the good Samaritan – Luke 10:25-37)
 - Using your God given wisdom. Working towards the establishment of the kingdom of God and not for personal gain. (Parable of the shrewd manager – Luke 16:1-9)
 - Using your talents and gifts for the benefit of others. (Parable of the 10 minas – Luke 19:11-27)
- So citizens of the kingdom of God should;
 - Be trustworthy with the little you are given
 - Respond to the calling in your life
 - Use your talents and gifts for the benefit of others
 - Be committed to Jesus with your whole heart
 - Do not judge God
 - Act in a way that brings honor to the kingdom of God

Grade 10 – Lesson 24

Challenges in the Kingdom of God.

It is a blessing to inherit the kingdom of God. But Jesus mentioned that you will face many challenges because of this. Through these challenges, we must understand the responsibilities of a citizen of the kingdom of God.

- If we are to overcome these challenges, we should;
 - Work with commitment
 - Always be ready
 - Establish ourselves on the teachings of Jesus
 - Learn from the instruction Jesus has given us
- Let us look at a few challenges we may face;
 1. The challenge of the calling.

A calling could be in 2 ways (Luke 9:57-62)

 - I. Volunteering to serve
 - II. Been called by God to serve

Example: The story of the 3 followers

- The man who volunteers to follow and serve Jesus, but his mind changed when Jesus showed him the realities of the life of a true disciple.
- A man was called by Jesus to follow him, but due to earthly responsibilities he asks for more time to obey the calling.
- Another man is called by Jesus, but he gives Jesus terms and conditions before he could obey the calling.

2. The challenge of responding.

It is important and our responsibility as citizens to accept the call to service. Here is some advice regarding this;

- Showing more importance to the call for service over your worldly responsibilities
- Respond to the calling of Jesus with love.
- Been willing to bear your cross.
- When accepting the calling, making sure you are aware of the challenges and responsibilities.
- Learning to let go of earthly possession to serve God.

3. The challenge of humility.

What is meant by humility?

- Accepting our sinful nature
- Being obedient as a child
- Dying to self
- Living a God centered life

4. The challenge of letting go of worldly possessions.

The needs of man has increased in this modern society. But Jesus has told us not to worry about these worldly needs.

Example: The parable of the rich fool

The rich man and Lazarus

Grade 10 – Lesson 25
Committed towards the Kingdom of God.

- An important event in the Kingdom of heaven is the 2nd coming of Jesus Christ.

- How do we get ready for the 2nd coming?
 - ✓ We should be prepared – “Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning” (Luke 12:35-40)
 - ✓ Act in faith and in wisdom
 - ✓ Practice repentance
 - ✓ Take the narrow pathway

- Do not follow those of the worldly kingdom.

- The world has many paths, but only a few travel on the narrow path. But we will find everlasting life at the end of the narrow road, and this should be our path. Those who choose this path are truly blessed.

Grade 10 – Lesson 26

Light from the Word of God.

- Jesus taught the people who followed him about the kingdom of God in the Aramaic language.
- Jesus chose places such as the sea shore, mountain sides and the plains to talk to the people who came to listen to him.
- Jesus teaches us an important lesson with his sermon on the mountain. Luke 6:20-26 / Matthew 5
- The Jews believed that been rich was a blessing and been poor was a punishment. But Jesus spoke about the poor in society in his teaching;

Blessed

- “Blessed are you who are poor”
- “Blessed are you who hunger now”
- “Blessed are you who weep now,”
- “Blessed are the merciful.”
- “Blessed are you when people hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man.”
- Blessed are the peacemakers.

Woes

- “But woe to you who are rich”
 - “Woe to you who are well fed now, for you will go hungry.”
 - “Woe to you who laugh now, for you will mourn and weep.”
- So how then should we live our Christian lives?
 - We should love our enemies
 - Build our lives on the foundation of the Word of God.

This is how we will inherit the kingdom of God.

Grade 10 – Lesson 27
Guidance for our everyday life.

- Jesus taught us many things that we can apply to our daily lives that will help us form a foundation in Him. These are all given in the Bible.
- The Word of God is a light to our lives. We should in turn pass this light to those around us. The Bible reveals how we as citizens of the kingdom of God should live and the concepts of the kingdom of heaven.
- Prayer is an important factor in our Christian journey. We see that even Jesus prayed many times during his ministry.
 - Before Jesus started his ministry, he spent 40 days in prayer in the wilderness.
 - He prayed before he chose his 12 disciples.
 - He prayed before He performed miracles (Feeding the 5000)
 - Before his crucifixion he prayed in the garden of Gethsemane. He also asked his disciples to pray that they many not fall in to temptation.
- One day when the disciples asked Jesus “Lord, teach us to pray” Jesus taught them the Lord’s Prayer.
- What qualities should we have as followers of Christ?
 - While we receive the light of the Word into our lives, we should shine this light for others as well.
 - There is no point in worrying about your personal needs.
 - Been ready to serve others.
 - Been the salt of the earth.
 - Living a Holy life.
 - Been thankful in all circumstances.
 - Tithing.
- Familiarize yourself with the Lord’s Prayer.