

Sunday School Lesson Discussion Questions

Discussion Questions on the Sunday School Lesson, Sources of Our Knowledge of Jesus, for Sunday, January 9.

1. How is truth made convincing?
2. What constitutes a reliable witness?
3. What evidence is there that the writers of the New Testament told the truth about Christ?
4. What makes the New Testament the greatest book ever written?
5. Why is the Bible not read more?

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Jesus came not to make life palatable but to make us able for its reality. — Werner.

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We know not what the future holds, but we know who holds the future. — W. J. Ray.

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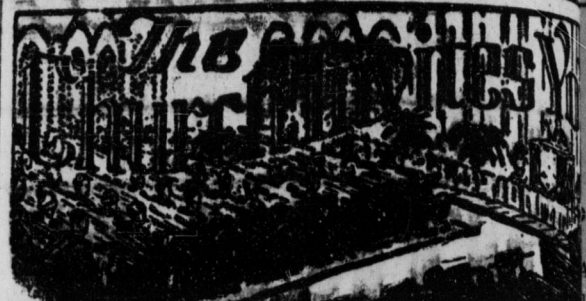
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Creamed Comments On S.S. Lesson

Creamed Comments on the Sunday School Lesson, Sources of Our Knowledge of Jesus, Luke 1:1-4; John 20:30, 31; 21:25; 1 Corinthians 15:3-5; 1 John 1:1-4; for Sunday, January 9.

One needs assurance that the facts about Jesus are authentic in order that his Christian faith is well founded and he can act with a feeling of confidence that his life is acceptable to God.

V.1. "Forasmuch as many have taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us." Before Luke wrote, there were written narratives concerning Christ. Having been closely associated with Peter, Luke could write with authority concerning essentials about Christ.

V.2. "Even as they delivered them unto us, which from the beginning were eyewitnesses, and ministers of the word." Evidently there were writers who were eyewitnesses that furnished helpful material to Luke for the writing of his gospel.

Vs. 3, 4. "It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto thee in order, most excellent Theophilus, that thou mightest know the certainty of these things, wherein thou hast been instructed. At first the gospel was simply told to others without a written manuscript. But to keep the gospel pure, it seemed good that Luke commit to writing what he had been preaching. He writes to a friend that there may be no doubt in his mind as to Christ.

V. 30. "And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book." Jesus' miracles were signs of the true Messiah and it is helpful to know that Jesus performed many miracles not recorded in the gospels. It seemed good that enough of these signs were written that would stabilize any believer. V.31. "And these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name." Belief that Jesus is the Son of God must pre-

cede the faith which brings spiritual life through his name.

V. 25. "And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written." This is a hyperbole but we are impressed with the vast number of deeds and saying that are unrecorded. Here is an unlimited source of knowledge about Christ.

V.3. "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures." Paul presumes that his hearers have heard about Jesus. His concern is that, having heard about him, they believe great vital truths about him.

V.4. "That he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures." Paul based much of his preaching on the resurrection of Christ. Well he might do this, for no other founder of any religion was buried and rose again.

V.5. "That he was seen of Cephas, and of the twelve." Paul refers his reader to eyewitnesses, such as Peter and the other disciples. Good witnesses are those who know by having seen facts. Hearsay does not convince any one of its truth.

V.1. "That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life." Jesus is the Word of life, and John knew him from the first of his ministry. His association with him was most intimate so that what he was about to write was authentic.

V.3. "That which we have seen and heard, we declare unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ." John has a purpose for writing his gospel; he knows the meaning of having fellowship with God and Christ, and yearns that others may enjoy the same experience.

V.4. "And these things we write unto you, that your joy may be full." The only life that has real joy — joy that is full — is that of a truly consecrated follower of the Lord. People as a whole need to be convinced of the truths about Christ till they are convicted of sin and converted to Christ.

Clericus Says:

Clericus says: "No books coming down from antiquity carry with them so much authority as do the books of the Bible, and especially those of the New Testament. They constitute the authority for Christian belief. They tell us all we know about Jesus, and while what they tell us is not great in extent, they tell us enough to disclose to us God's full will concerning us, his desire to save our souls, and the moral standards by which he would have us live."

Book Review

The Travels and Adventures of St. Paul, by Howard P. Young, W. A. Wilde Co., enables one to become acquainted with a life that was one of the memorable dramas of history. While it is true biography, it reads like a story. So colorful is the narrative that Paul and his associates and his experiences are sure to become an enduring influence in the reader's thoughts.

Laboratory measurements do not determine reliably when the active phase of rheumatic arthritis in children has passed.

Our Preacher Says

We lose out very often because we have not laid claim to special privileges, such as getting a college education, a good start in a business career when a door is opened. We miss right social life because we have failed to claim associates of character in youth. Often homes are shattered because in early life the claim for a high-minded life-companion was unheeded. Heaven will be lost by simply neglecting the offer of salvation.

Lesson Prayer

Lesson prayer: We are grateful for the true light of truth regarding Christ about which there can not be a shadow of doubt. Forgive us for failure to take seriously Christ as presented by his word. Grant that there may be an awakening to the point of believing these precious truths and incorporate them in our lives.

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Sunday Service

St. Mary's Church
Very Rev. Msgr. Seimetz, pastor
6:00 a.m. Low Mass.
7:30 a.m. Low Mass.
9:00 a.m. Children's Mass.
10:15 a.m. High Mass.
Prayer hour Sunday afternoon at 2:30.

Holy Communion Sundays
First Sunday, St. Agnes Sodality.
Second Sunday, Holy Name Society.
Third Sunday, St. Mary's Society.
Fourth Sunday, Children of Mary.

First Presbyterian Church Five Points

A. C. E. Gillander, pastor
Church School, 9:30 a.m., Lewis Smith and Dick Heller, co-superintendents. The famous new "Faith and Life" Curriculum is in use through high school age classes in our school. All Sunday School teachers and officers are asked to register, even belatedly, for the Leadership Training School put on by the Decatur Association in our church Tuesday nights — If the teacher of the course will permit.

Divine Worship, 10:30 a.m. Special music and congregational singing. New officers of the church will be ordained and installed. Pastor will preach on, "Gold to Mine in '49." We have this treasure."

"Open House" at the Manse, 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. All members and friends of the church are invited.

Westminster Youth Fellowship, 5:30 p.m. All high school and junior high people welcome.

New Life School of visitation evangelism, 7:00 p.m., Sunday.

Tuesday and Thursday, Leadership Training School at our church, 7:00 to 9:05 p.m.

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m., World Friendship Guild, meeting with Mrs. George Burk.

Church of God Cleveland Street (Two Blocks Northwest of Hospital)

Bernice A. McCurdy
Dwight R. McCurdy, ministers
9:30 a.m. Morning worship, sermon "God's Unashamed."

10:30 a.m. Church school, Mrs. Floyd Mitchell, Mr. Emery Hawkins, general superintendents.

6:30 p.m. Youth Fellowship, Mrs. Guy Agler, counselor, Miss La Von Strickler, president.

7:30 p.m. Sunday evening services, Everyone Welcome, Sermon, "My Kingdom is Within You."

"Men's Choir will Sing."

6:30 p.m. Wednesday, girls choir practice.

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, mid-week Prayer Meeting in charge of Women's Missionary Society.

8:30 p.m. Wednesday, sanctuary choir practice and youth choir practice.

The Church of the "Christian Brotherhood Hour." Tune in 3:30 p.m. Sunday WFTW Ft. Wayne, 1990 on your dial.

The chief characteristics of God's church are:
Purity — Unity — and Power.
One Fold John 10:16.
One Body Rom. 12:4, 5.
One Way Jer. 32:38-39.
One Heart Acts 4:32.
One Accord Acts 2:1.
One Faith Eph. 4:5.
One Mind 1 Cor. 1:10.
One Doctrine 2 Tim. 3:16-17.
One Baptism Eph. 4:5.
One Name Eph. 3:14-15.
One Spirit 1 Cor. 6:17.
One Door of Entrance John 10:7.

One Head Eph. 5:23.
The Bible says, "A Christian experience makes you a member of the Church of God." Acts 2:47. "A Christian welcome to all." "Christians Go To Church."

Trinity
Evangelical United Brethren
John E. Chambers, minister.
9:15 a.m. Sunday school; Chalmers Barkley, superintendent. Lesson study: "Sources of Our Knowledge of Jesus."

10:30 a.m. Divine Worship. The Senior Choir, under the direction of Mr. Leland Neuen, will sing the anthem, "Ring the Bells of Heaven" by Root. Mr. Harold Mumma will be the organist. The message by the minister will be "The Tree of Christ's Church."

6:30 p.m. The Christian Endeavor societies.

7:30 p.m. The Evening Service of

gospel music and message, "Prayer That Reaches God."

Tuesday and Thursday 7:00 p.m. The Union Leadership Training School will continue meeting at the Presbyterian church.

Tuesday 7:30 p.m.—The Women's Society of World Service meeting at the Church with Mrs. Roy Mumma, Mrs. Hubert Gilpen, and Mrs. Curtis Hill as hostesses. Mrs. Viola Scheiderer will be the leader.

Wednesday 7:00 p.m.—The mid-week service at the church.

8:00 p.m.—The Choir rehearsal.

First Christian Church
E. E. Isenhower, minister
Lloyd Rhodes, supt.
Worship and Study

9:30 Sunday morning beginning time. Song service led by Marion Drum. Duet by Mrs. Darwacter and Mrs. Tanvas. Sermon subject "Looking Back." Thirty minutes study period.

Junior Church
For the children same time Sunday morning. Mrs. Isenhower's subject: "The Open Door." Mrs. Ingler's class are very happy—new chairs.

Mid-Week Prayer Service
7:30 Wed. evening in basement of the church. Mr. James Anderson leader. The power of prayer is the growth of the church.

Church of the Nazarene
North Seventh & Marshall Sts.
Ralph A. Carter, pastor
Unified services, 9:30 a.m.-11:15 a.m. Sunday school superintendent, Leo Merriman. Message by pastor, "Freshness Of The Gospel."

Juniors, 6:15 p.m. Mrs. George Anspaugh, supervisor.

Youth Service, 6:15 p.m. Evelyn Hicks, president.

Evangelistic Service 7:00 p.m. Message, "Exposure Of Sin."

Monday 7:00 p.m. Young People's Missionary Society will meet at home of Mrs. Leo Roe.

Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Union Leadership School.

Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Beginning Wednesday and continuing through Sunday, Jan. 16, there will be a Holiness Convention. Rev. Clifton DeBord of Ashland, Ky., will be preaching in each service.

Bethany Church
Evangelical United Brethren
F. H. Willard, Minister
Sunday school 9:15 a.m. Lawrence Anspaugh, supt.

Morning worship—sermon: "The Teaching Task of the Church." Installation of officers and teachers of the Sunday School.

Midweek service, Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Bethany Men's Club Monday evening at 6:30 p.m. Dr. Lehman of Berne, will speak and a film will be shown on cancer.

Youth choir rehearsal, 6:15 Wednesday.

Women's society of world service, Thursday at 2:00 p.m. Program in charge of the officers.

The Dorcas class will meet on Tuesday evening at the home of Mrs. Minnie Black.

Zion Lutheran
West Monroe & 11th St.
Edgar Schmidt, pastor
(Where Beauty of Sanctuary and Service Invite to Worship).

Services of worship are conducted at 8 and 10:30 o'clock every Sunday morning. The gospel appointed for next Sunday, the First Sunday after Epiphany, is the story of the Child Jesus in the Temple at the age of Twelve, recorded Luke 2, 41-52. In harmony with this theme, the pastor will preach Sunday on the theme: "Our Children For Jesus!" based on Mark 10, 13-16.

The Zion Mixed Choir, under the direction of Mr. David Embler, will appear in the 10:30 service, singing "Praise Ye the Father," by Charles Gounod.

A meeting effecting the organization of a Valparaiso University Women's Guild in the Decatur Zone will be held in the church basement rooms Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Mrs. K. Heidbrink, Executive Secretary of the Guild, will address the meeting, which will be presided over by Mrs. Louis A. Jacobs.

The weekly lecture on Christian Doctrine will be given Monday evening at 7:30. The doctrine of the Person of Jesus Christ will be discussed.

The Ladies Missionary Society will meet Wednesday afternoon at two o'clock. Pastor Schmidt will lead the Mission Topic. The new officers will be installed at this meeting.

Trade in a Good Town — Decatur

Missionary Church Tenth and Dayton H. J. Welty, minister

9:00-11:00 Unified services. Merwin Rupp, supt. We are privileged to have Rev. and Mrs. S. J. Grabill, Association Sunday School Supt., with us for the day. Mrs. Grabill will give a flannelgraph lesson to the children and Rev. Grabill will speak on "Seven Points of Emphasis in the Sunday School" in the service.

7:00—Children's Gospel hour. Mrs. Grabill will again give a special lesson to the children.

7:30 Evening service. Rev. Grabill will be showing some pictures on the work of the Sunday School and his final message on the Sunday school work.

Tues. 7 p.m. Ladies' Fellowship will meet at the home of Mrs. Lawrence Von Gunten.

Wednesday 7:30 Prayer meeting and Bible study.

Friday 7 p.m. teacher training class.

If you have no home Church we invite you to make the Missionary Church your Church.

Zion Evangelical and Reformed
William C. Felter, Pastor
Church School at 9:00 a.m. Wesley Lehman, Supt.

Worship Service at 10:00 a.m. Installation and ordination of newly elected elders and deacons. Sermon: "How Shall We Pray?" Beginning a series of sermons on the Lord's Prayer.

Youth Fellowship at 6:30 p.m. Neil Thomas, leader.

The Churchmen's Brotherhood will have a hamburger supper on Monday at 6:00 p.m. Following the supper a discussion meeting will be held. Special instrumental music.

Union Leadership Training School on Tuesday and Thursday nights in the First Presbyterian Church, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Senior choir rehearsal on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Women's Guild meeting on Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. "Letter From China" a colored sound film will be shown.

Catechetical classes on Saturday morning: seniors at 9, juniors at 10 a.m. Come and worship with us.

First Methodist Church Gerald H. Jones, Minister

January 9, 1946.

The Church at Study
The various classes will convene immediately at 9:30. The General Superintendent, Mr. Lowell Smith, will have charge of the general assembly. Further enrollments will be received for the Leadership Training School.

The Church at Worship
At 10:20 Mrs. Edgar Gerber will bring the prelude "Andante Religioso." Tony Custer and Peter Daltzell will serve as acolytes. The Scripture for the service is that of the Epistle for the day, Romans 12:1-21. The sermon theme will be "A Living Sacrifice." During the service the Ladies' Choir, directed by Mrs. Walter Krick, will sing the anthem "Kingdom of Love."

The Youth Fellowship
The Youth will meet at 6:00. The lesson will be given by Sally Ahr. Byford Smith will have the devotions.

Church Workers Conference
There will be a Church Workers Conference at 6:00 beginning with a Pot Luck Supper.

Tuesday
Leadership Training School in the Presbyterian Church.

Wednesday
At 7:00, the service for prayer begins. The Youth Choir will rehearse at 7:00; the Ladies' Choir at 7:45.

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A non-church-goer once asked Mr. Moody why it was necessary to go to church. Mr. Moody was sitting before a fireplace where there was a good fire. Without saying a word, with a pair of tongs, he picked out a live coal and laid it by itself. In a short time it became cold and black. Silently he waited for a response. "I understand," the in-

quirer confided; "no one else is gathered in my name, I in the midst." Why not? Invitation and COME TO CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY? Rev. D. C.

It is always so easy to be a moral, and so very difficult to be one. — Roy L. Smith.

One example is worth a hundred arguments. — Gladstone.

Faith is not reason's response.

First Baptist Church
Bible school 9:30 a.m. Ralph Kenworthy, superintendent. Classes for all and everybody welcome.

Morning worship 10:30 a.m. The Rev. R. H. Hammond, of Northern Baptist Theological Seminary will deliver the morning message.

Every member of the church should be present and any one who wants to worship is invited.

The pulpit committee will meet following the morning services.

Home Education

Memory a Strong Influence
"Every family, since it is a unit, should have a collective spiritual experience as well as a personal experience," says the new Ohio Bishop. "We're to call the roll of nominal Christian homes, we would be appalled at the scarcity of religious exercises, the giving of thanks at the table, and the experience of family prayer. In a group of twenty-one children taking the course of preparatory membership of the church, not one had ever heard his father or his mother pray."

James Ellinwood tells a vivid memory of his youth: "One evening my father retired early. It was a cold night; the house was heated with and old-fashioned base-burner that stood in the living room. A few minutes later he appeared again in his nightshirt and knelt beside the sofa near the stove to pray. Then with utter naturalness he turned and said goodnight and retired. In all the years that followed I never forgot that I had seen my father pray."

According to the Committee on Friendly Relations among Foreign Students, we have 21,589 foreign students in this country this year, 6,239 more than in 1947 and thousands more than at any other time in the country's history. Over 3,000 of these students are women.

Put your faith into action. You will become a greater faith. A man's life consists of the abundance of things he has sown. — St. Luke.

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Wisdom is better than war. — Solomon.

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Do You Know

1. What type of answer turns away wrath?
2. Out of what woman went seven devils?
3. What is next to the last book of the Bible?
4. What is the most familiar passage in the New Testament?
5. What is the best known Bible story?