

## Discussion Questions on S.S. Lesson

Discussion questions on the Sunday school lesson, Christ the Living God, for Sunday, January 16.

1. What in nature is evidence of a living God?
2. What in history gives evidence of a living God?
3. What difference does it make whether God is living or dead?
4. In what ways did Jesus show God to be a living God?
5. What is to be expected when life on earth is ended if a living God has been neglected?

### Our Preacher Says:

Daniel Webster, an outstanding thinker, once said that the greatest thought his mind ever conceived was that of his personal responsibility to God. Judging by the way the majority think, plan and work, little thought is given to God and what we owe him. How dishonest we are with God who has created all things so well that the highest progress is made only by being in harmony with God. Each one has an important place to fill in God's plan and it is his responsibility to find that place and fill it well.

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# COME TO CHURCH



## Creamed Comments On S.S. Lesson

Creamed comments on the Sunday school lesson, Christ the Son of the Living God, Matthew 16:13-17; John 14:8-14, for Sunday, January 16.

To know God one must know Christ as he lived on earth, whose record is well established. Our character depends upon knowing God through Jesus Christ. Some conclusions found in this lesson are that God is alive because he hears since Jesus heard all who came to him. God is alive with a seeing eye because Jesus saw not only men but their good and bad deeds. God is living, having omnipotent power, because Jesus showed such power in his miracles. God is living because he has a heart of love just as Jesus loved even his enemies and gave himself to save all men. In the face of these facts, it is a sober thing to live for the day when we shall meet the living God with the record we have made and with the character we possess.

V.13. "When Jesus came into the courts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I, the Son of Man am?" Jesus taught that no man cometh to the Father but through him. So the first question is to get the answer as to who he was. He did not here make the claim of deity for he called himself the Son of man. Evidently he was hoping that he was seen as something more than flesh and bones.

V.14. "And some say that thou art John the Baptist; some Elias; and others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets." The disciples were giving the opinion of others. There is some significance in public opinion but it is most important that one express his own convictions for on this, one may the better judge that life. This fact is expressed in the following verse: "But whom say ye that I am?"

V.15. "And Simon Peter answered and said, 'Thou art Christ the Son of the living God.' Peter was the natural spokesman; after thinking a little, the disciples got the point. The God of all other re-

ligions is not a living God. The works of a Christian God are superior because ours lives. We will do well to think of the works of God today as revealed by Christ and as seen in all history to this day.

V.17. "And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona; for flesh and blood hath not revealed unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven." Peter received Christ's blessing for this was the language of a converted man. The redemption of converting the world to God had now begun. There is a mystery in being born again for it is a spiritual work of God, hence Jesus said that God had revealed this knowledge, implying a Christian experience.

V.18. "Philip saith unto him, Lord show us the Father, and it sufficeth us." Here is illustrated Jesus' teaching that God must be sought if he would be found. It is the part of Christians to live as to cause others to seek God.

V.19. "Jesus said unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? He that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?" A large class do not think seriously about this.

V.20. "Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? The words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself; but my Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works." The living God is known by his works. In attributes and essence Jesus and God are one. This thought is emphasized in the following verse.

V.21. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go to the Father." Disciples, as instruments of God, will see many more converted to God than Jesus saw. Note the result of Peter's preaching on the day of Pentecost. This most important work ought to have gone on then and now.

Vs. 13, 14. The promise of God's help in the most important work of God is here indicated. —Based on copyrighted outlines produced by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A., and used by permission.

### Lesson Prayer:

Lesson prayer: Grant that we take seriously the work of God as seen in Jesus Christ, knowing how awful it will be to fall into the hands of a living God who has been ignored and never given a chance to live within as the supreme ruler of our lives.

**FIRST CHRISTIAN**  
Traverse W. Chandler, minister  
Morning worship hour at 9:30 a.m. will begin with the prelude. Communion meditations and the observance of the Lords Supper. The last of "The Coming of the King". The choir will sing the anthem.

Junior church at 9:30 a.m. in the lower sanctuary. Mrs. Edward Anderson will present a Flannelgraph story "Preparing and Building a Tabernacle".  
Bible school at 10:30 a.m. Everett Faulkner, supt.

The men's Christian fellowship meeting is scheduled for Monday evening.

The Willing Workers class will be meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Jessup Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.

Choir rehearsal, Wednesday at 7 p.m.

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## Sunday School

**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
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6 a.m., First Mass.  
7:30 a.m., Low Mass.  
9 a.m., Children's Mass.  
10:15 a.m., Low Mass.  
Weekday Mass, 7 a.m.  
Holy Communion Sundays.  
First Sunday, the Rosary Society.  
Second Sunday, Holy Name Society.  
Third Sunday, the Catholic Ladies of Columbia.  
Fourth Sunday, Children of Mary.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN**  
Mercer Avenue at Five Points  
Ray J. Walther, pastor  
9:15 a.m., Sunday school. Lesson for all ages and a lesson for all of life. The Life of Christ is the study for the year, come and join your group in a study of Christ's life.

10:30 a.m., morning worship service. Sermon "Except They Be Sent". Piano and organ duet, Mrs. Haubold and Mrs. James Kocher, Jr.

You are invited to worship God with us for this is none other than the House of God.  
Today—4:30 p.m., junior fellowship. "Inside India" will be presented by Dr. & Mrs. Windsor Cravens, sponsor.

5:45 p.m., Westminster fellowship. The group will meet at the church to go in a body to the annual youth meeting at the Baptist church at 9 p.m.

7:30 p.m., closing meeting of Spiritual Emphasis week at the high school.  
Calendar of Church Events.  
Monday, 8 p.m., annual congregational meeting.  
Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., public worship service. Wabash River Presbytery at Huntington. Dr. E. Carson Blake, stated clerk of the Presbyterian church, U.S.A., will speak. Dr. Blake was elected National Council of Churches of Christ president for the next triennium, on December 2. One of Dr. Blake's first activities as president was a scheduled trip to Korea and the Far East in which he was to visit troops and chaplains and hospitals. It is a privilege to hear such a noted speaker and to be present at the convening of the new Presbytery.

Wednesday, 7 p.m., choir practice. 8 p.m., circle meetings: Naomi Circle—Will meet at the home of Mrs. Richard Green. Mrs. Kenneth Runyon will give the first of four discussions on "India and Pakistan". Ruth Circle—Will meet in the home of Mrs. George Bair. Mrs. Ed Cook will start the discussion on "Conversations on India and Pakistan".

Thursday, 8:30 p.m., Martha Circle—Will meet with Mrs. Ruth Runyon and Mrs. Adams will lead the discussion. Mary Circle—Will meet at Mrs. Wm. Stiversen's with Mrs. Dale Moses will lead the discussion. Bible study on Hebrews will begin in all Circles.

**FIRST METHODIST**  
W. Monroe at Fifth Street  
Virgil Wesley Sexton, minister  
9:30 a.m., church school assembly with Leonard Solidy, general superintendent, in charge. Membership class will meet in the pastor's study. Classes for all ages and a supervised nursery for pre-school children.

10:30 a.m., divine worship. This service will begin with the prelude "A Little Nearer" by Landon with Mrs. Edgar Gerber at the organ. The theme of the pastor's sermon will be, "When you have no choice." A solo, "He Smiled On Me" by O'Hara, will be sung by Mr. Leland Neuen.

1:30 p.m., zone visitors meeting in the church parlor. This meeting is for the zone visitors who have accepted the responsibility of calling on shut-ins.

5:15 p.m., meeting of the youth fellowship members participating in the panel discussion on next Sunday evening.

6 p.m., Union Youth meeting at the First Baptist church.  
7:30 p.m., final union service of Spiritual Emphasis week will be held in the Decatur high school auditorium. Dr. Lewis W. Gishler will deliver the sermon and Mr. Wilbur Nussbaum will direct the music.

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music.  
Wednesday, 7 p.m., choir rehearsal. 7:15 p.m., meeting of the commission on education. 8 p.m., official board meeting in the church parlor.

**ZION LUTHERAN**  
West Monroe and Eleventh Street  
Edgar P. Schmidt, pastor  
The Church With Carillon Bells  
The First Sunday after Epiphany will be observed at both the 8 and 10:30 services Sunday morning, as the pastor speaks on the Gospel for the Day, the story of the Twelve-Year-Old Jesus in the Temple, Luke 2, 41-52.  
The choir will appear at 10:30, singing, "Immortal, Invisible God" by Tietman.

A special meeting of the Voters' Assembly will be held after the 10:30 a.m. worship service in the church to discuss the council's recommendation regarding the pastor's call to Kendallville.

Christian Education  
Sunday school classes for all ages and the junior and adult Bible classes meet at 9:15 a.m.

Saturday Bible school for all the grades is held each Saturday morning, 9:15 to 11:30 o'clock. The lecture course on Christian fundamentals for adults will be given by the pastor on Monday evening at 7 o'clock in the Parish hall.

The Sunday and Saturday schools teaching staffs meet Thursday evening at 7 and 7:45 o'clock. All teachers are requested to be present.

Church Calendar  
The Board of Christian education meets Monday at 8 o'clock in the Parish Hall Library.

The Zion Missionary Society meets Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock. The program will consist of the giving of the annual report and the program for 1955.

Choir rehearsal Wednesday evening at 7.  
You are invited to view the TV program, "This is the Life" over WKJG-TV at 12:30 Sunday noon; and to listen to the Lutheran Hour over WKJG radio at 7 p.m. on Sunday. "The Family Worship Hour" may be heard every morning at 6:15 over WGL; and "The Chapel to the Air" (Concordia College student broadcast) comes over WGL on Saturday morning at 8 o'clock. The Lutheran church teaches and preaches Christ Jesus as the Savior of the world. Come and worship with us.

**TRINITY**  
Evangelical Union Brethren  
Madison at Ninth  
John E. Chambers, minister  
9:15 a.m., Sunday school; Chalmers Bollenbacher, general superintendent. Our classes begin with the Cradle Roll and continue through the adult department. We have a class for you!

10:30 a.m., morning worship. Message by the minister, "A Door-keeper in God's House." Harold Mumma is organist and Evangeline Embler, minister of music, will direct the choir in the anthem, "Bless the Lord, O My Soul" by Ivanoff. Why not make worship a vital experience for the family every week!

6 p.m., union youth service at the First Baptist church with Dr. Lewis Gishler speaker.  
7:30 p.m., union Spiritual Emphasis service at the high school auditorium. The Wells county chorus will sing and Dr. Gishler will bring his closing message.

Monday, 7:30 p.m., local conference session for business and receiving of reports.

Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., W.S.W.S. at the church. Mrs. Helen Hanni will be the leader Mrs. Betty Feasel, Mrs. Marie Wynn, and Mrs. Anna Myers are hostesses.

Wednesday, 7 p.m., mid-week services. 8 p.m., choir rehearsal.

Thursday, 2 p.m., ministers' meeting at Fort Wayne South Wayne church.  
Friday, 7:30 p.m., builders class meeting at the church. Mr. and Mrs. Herman Sautbire and Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Barkley are in charge of the program.

**BETHANY EVANGELICAL UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH**  
Benj. G. Thomas, minister  
9:00 A.M. Sunday School. Mr. Everett Hucker, Superintendent.  
10:00 A.M. Divine Worship. The Mission Band for children will meet in the basement, under the leadership of Mrs. Rufus Sommers. Sermon: "Joseph God's Steward".  
8:00 P.M. Union Service of all Youth Fellowships at the First

Baptist Church.  
7:30 P.M. Union Service at the High School Auditorium. This is the closing meeting of Religious Emphasis Week. We urge all to be present. It begins with a sacred concert by The Wells County Men's Chorus.

Monday 6:30 P.M. The Men's Club will have as their speaker Mrs. Ina Anderson Napier, who spent two years in Saudi Arabia. She will tell of her experiences there and some of the customs of the country. Make your reservation for the supper.

Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Mid Week Service. For twelve weeks laymen and women will lead us in the mission study: "Christ Calls to World Wide Witnessing".

This Wednesday Mrs. Donald Deaton has the topic: "Whose Concern is This?"  
Rev. Mr. Thomas will have the opening devotions.  
Every family should have representatives in this Mid Week Service.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Stuart H. Brightwell, Pastor  
Sunday, January 9 —  
9:15 a.m. Bible school. Harrison J. Hakes, Supt. We have classes for all ages.

10:30 a.m. Worship service. Sermon topic: "A Polished Shaft." Special music by the choir.  
You will find a Christian welcome in our church. Attend church every Sunday and pray every day.

6:00 p.m. Youth Rally of the young people of Decatur at the First Baptist church. Dr. Lewis W. Gishler, of Muncie will speak. There will be singing and special music. Plan to attend.

7:30 p.m. Closing service of Spiritual Emphasis Week. At high school auditorium.  
Wednesday, January 12 —  
7:00 p.m. Mid-week service of prayer and Bible study.

8:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal.  
Thursday, January 13 —  
7:30 p.m. Women's Missionary Society Meeting. Devotional leader, Miss Jessie Wines; lesson leader, Mrs. Warren Lehman. Hostesses: Mrs. Harve Shroll, Mrs. Homer Reace and Mrs. Wilbur Stanley.

Friday, January 14 —  
7:30 p.m. Sunday school teachers meeting at the church. Every teacher and assistant is urged to attend this meeting.

**ZION**  
Evangelical and Reformed  
Third and Jackson Streets  
William C. Feller, pastor  
Church school at 9 a.m. Richard Schafer, superintendent. Every member of your family is invited to join one of our classes.  
Divine worship at 10 a.m. Sermon by the pastor: "God's Helpers." Newly elected deacons and elders will be installed and those not previously holding their office will be ordained. The men's chorus will sing. Mission band will be held during the sermon portion of the service.

Union youth fellowship meeting in the First Baptist church at 6 p.m. Dr. Gishler will be the speaker.  
Closing service of Spiritual Emphasis week in the high school auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Dr. Gishler will bring his final message of the week. The Wells county chorus will give a short concert before the service.  
Official board meeting on Monday at 7 p.m.  
Churchmen's brotherhood meeting on Monday at 8 p.m.  
Youth choir rehearsal on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.  
Men's chorus rehearsal on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.  
Women's guild meeting at the

**CHURCH OF GOD**  
628 Cleveland Street  
W. H. Kirkpatrick, pastor  
The church of the Christian Brotherhood Hour, heard on Sunday mornings over Middletown, Ohio, 910 on your dial, at 8:30 a.m. and WKJG, 1350 on your dial at 9:30 a.m.

Morning worship at 9:30 a.m. The theme of the service will center around the Grace of God. Classes for all ages at 10:30 a.m. Mary Hazelwood, S. S. Supt. Youth rally for Decatur at the First Baptist Church at 6:30 p.m. Mass evangelistic service at the high school auditorium, starting at 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, prayer service with Bible study: 7:30 p.m. Choir practice at 8:30 p.m. Youth fellowship at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Friendways will meet at the church, 4 p.m. Pauline Helsel, guide.

Sunday, Jan. 16th. The youth of the church will have complete charge. The offering will be re-



Theodore Roosevelt said, "In this actual world, a community where men have abandoned, or scoffed at, or ignored their religious needs, is a community on the rapid down grade." "I advocate a man's joining the church for the sake of showing his faith by his works. Church work and

church attendance mean the cultivation of the habit of feeling some responsibility for others." Is your community on the down grade by your vote? Why not accept the invitation and come to church next Sunday?  
—The Rev. D. Carl Yoder.

church on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. Evangeline circle on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the home of Jean Kirchhofer.

Girls guild meeting has been postponed for one week.  
Phoebe Bible class meeting on Thursday at 7:30 p.m.  
Senior choir rehearsal on Friday at 7 p.m.  
Catechetical classes on Saturday morning: seniors at 9, juniors at 10 a.m.  
Come and worship with us.

**MISSIONARY**  
Tenth and Dayton Streets  
H. J. Welty, pastor  
9 a.m. Sunday school hour.  
Ralph Myers, general supt. Lester Strahm, junior supt. Mrs. Arden Schilling, primary supt. Classes for all age groups.

10 a.m. morning worship. Solo, Mrs. Charles Tumbleson. Message, continued series in the gospel of John 7.  
There will be no evening services at our church. We will be joining in the Union Spiritual Emphasis meeting.

Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Bible study and prayer period. The children will meet for their own period of prayer.

Thursday, 7 p.m., ladies fellowship in the basement of the church.

Our spring revival meetings will begin March 30 and continue through April 10.

If you are without a Church home, we would urge you to join in our worship.

There is a warm Christian welcome for you.

United Brethren in Christ  
Nuttman Avenue  
Paul D. Parker, minister  
Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Lawrence Michel is the general superintendent, Frank Lündin, is the assistant.

Morning worship service, 10:30 a.m. The Rev. L. D. Dellinger, our conference superintendent, will be with us to bring the morning message and to conduct the Holy Communion.

We are dispensing with our evening service in view of the Spiritual Emphasis service being held in our city.  
Prayer and Bible study, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.  
You are welcome.

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Friday, Friendways will meet at the church, 4 p.m. Pauline Helsel, guide.

Sunday, Jan. 16th. The youth of the church will have complete charge. The offering will be re-

ceived for our youth attending Anderson college.

### CLERICUS SAYS:

Clericus says: "The greatest privilege of man is to be a son of the living God, having come to the Father through faith in Jesus Christ who said, 'Because I live, ye shall live also.' There ought to be notes of joy mingled with the sorrow of death for those who knew God in the pardon of their sins and the cleansing by the Spirit when they have entered into the joy of the Lord at the time of their departure."

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