

TEACHER NOTECARDS LEVEL 3, QUARTER D— TRIUMPHANT OVER ALL

Use these Teacher Notecards as a reference when teaching *Explore Scripture*. Choose the outline form or narrative form based on your teaching style and preference.*

Print on paper or cardstock. Fold in half, then fold again along the gray line. This will create a two-sided, notecard-sized piece for you to hold in your hand.

*The narrative form has been edited to fit on these cards. Please see the full *Explore Scripture* sections of each lesson for more interactivity, application, and content.

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Level 3D—Triumphant Over All

Lesson 1: Faithfulness

Big Idea: **Jesus encourages His followers to invest their lives for God's kingdom**

Luke 18:31—19:27 [outline form]

Intro: *Jesus used every moment to teach people about God's kingdom.*

Ask: *Which moments in your day can you use to serve God?*

1. Jesus told the disciples that Scripture would be fulfilled.

- *Jesus would be handed to the Romans* Luke 18:32
- *They would abuse Him and kill Him* 18:32
- *Jesus would come back to life* 18:33
- *The disciple did not understand what Jesus told them.* 18:34

2. Jesus encountered a blind man on the road to Jericho.

- *The blind man called loudly to Jesus (picture 3D.1)* 18:38-39
- *Jesus asked the man what he wanted Him to do.* 18:40-41
- *The blind man asked to be healed.* 18:41
- *Jesus restored the man's sight, and the man praised God* 18:42-43

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3. Jesus met a tax collector named Zacchaeus.

- *Zacchaeus unabashedly climbed a tree to see Jesus (picture 3D.2)* 19:3-4
- *Jesus chose to stay with Zacchaeus, a "sinner" in the eyes of the crowd* . . 19:5-7
- *Zacchaeus repented and promised to help others* 19:8
- *Jesus stated His mission to save the lost* 19:9-10

4. Jesus related a story about investing wisely.

- *A lord gave ten servants one mina each to invest.* 19:13
- *The first two servants gained minas and were rewarded* 19:16-19
- *A third servant did nothing and received nothing.* 19:20-23
- *Those who do well with what they are given will be rewarded.* 19:26

Conclusion: *God has given many gifts. When we use God's gifts wisely for His kingdom, He has promised to give us even more.*

2

Level 3D—Triumphant Over All

Lesson 1: Faithfulness

Big Idea: **Jesus encourages His followers to invest their lives for God's kingdom**

Luke 18:31—19:27 [narrative form]

Intro: *Jesus used every moment to teach people about God's kingdom.*

Ask: *Which moments in your day can you use to serve God?*

Read Luke 18:31-34 as children follow along in their Bibles. *Who was Jesus talking to?* (His disciples.) *What did Jesus predict about Himself?* (He would be mocked, flogged, spit upon, killed, and would rise on the third day.) *Did the disciples understand what Jesus had told them?* (No, it had been hidden from them.) *Did the disciples "invest" or "consume" what Jesus said?* (They consumed it because they didn't understand it yet.)

Read verses 35-43. *What did the blind man do when he heard that Jesus was walking by?* (He called out for mercy (picture 3D.1).) *What did Jesus ask the man?* ("What do you want Me to do for you?") *What did the man tell Jesus he wanted?* (To see.) *How did the blind man "invest" the gift God gave him?* (He invested his voice in praise to God.)

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Read Luke 19:1-10. *Why did Zacchaeus climb the tree?* (He wanted to see Jesus.) *What did Jesus tell Zacchaeus?* (Come down. I'm going to your house (picture 3D.2).) *What did the people call Zacchaeus?* (A sinner.) *What did Zacchaeus say that he was going to do?* (Give half his possessions to the poor and repay anyone whom he may have cheated.) *Why did Jesus say that He had come?* (To seek and to save the lost.) When Jesus said salvation had come to Zacchaeus' house, He meant that once Zacchaeus was lost, but now Zacchaeus was saved. *How did Zacchaeus promise to "invest" his possessions?* (He helped the poor.)

Read verses 11-27. *What did the master give to each servant?* (One mina.) *What had the first servant done with his master's money?* (Earned ten more minas.) *What had the second servant done?* (Earned five more.) *What had the last done with his?* (Kept it in a piece of cloth.) *What did the king say to the first two?* ("Well Done.") *What was the king's response to the third servant?* (He took the money and gave it to someone else.) *How will God reward those who invest their gifts wisely in His kingdom?* (He will give them more.) *How can you invest your time, talents, and money for God's kingdom?*

God has given many gifts. When we use God's gifts wisely for His kingdom, He has promised to give us even more.

2

Level 3D—Triumphant Over All Lesson 2: The King Arrives

Big Idea: **Jesus displays His authority to judge.**

Matthew 21 [outline form]

Intro: *Jesus showed that He was in charge of all things.*

Ask: *How can we submit to Jesus' authority?*

1. Jesus arrived at Jerusalem for the final time.
 - *He rode on donkeys to fulfill Scripture.* Matthew 21:1-7
 - *The people gathered and shouted praises (picture 3D.3)* 21:8-9
 - *The entire city knew Jesus had come* 21:10-11
2. Jesus entered the Temple and overturned the merchants' tables (picture 3D.4).
 - *He healed the blind and lame that came to Him* 21:14
 - *Jesus endorsed the praise of children.* 21:15-16
3. One morning, Jesus became hungry on the way into Jerusalem.
 - *He withered a fig tree that bore leaves but no fruit* 21:19
 - *He told His disciples they could claim similar power through faith* . . . 21:20-22

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4. In the Temple, the religious leaders questioned Jesus' authority.
 - *He answered them with a question about John the Baptist* 21:23-25
 - *They were afraid to answer one way or another* 21:25-27
 - *Jesus refused to answer their question* 21:27
5. Jesus told the Jewish leaders a story about two sons.
 - *The first son disobeyed his father but later obeyed* 21:28-29
 - *The second said he would obey but never actually did.* 21:30
 - *All sinners who repent are like the first son.* 21:31-32
6. Jesus told another parable about a vineyard owner who leased his vineyard.
 - *The tenants killed servants sent to collect the harvest.* 21:34-36
 - *They even killed the owner's son, because they wanted the vineyard for themselves* 21:37-39
 - *Jesus said that God's kingdom would go to those who obey Him* 21:41-44

Conclusion: *Jesus' parables were meant to show the religious leaders how wrong and sinful they had become. We must be careful to avoid the same pride and stubbornness.*

2

Level 3D—Triumphant Over All Lesson 2: Faithfulness

Big Idea: **Jesus displays His authority to judge.**

Matthew 21 [narrative form]

Intro: *Jesus showed that He was in charge of all things.*

Ask: *How can we submit to Jesus' authority?*

Jesus had been teaching and healing all over Israel, and now He arrived in Jerusalem. The religious leaders were ready to challenge Jesus' authority. How would Jesus respond?

Read Matthew 21:1-11. (picture 3D.3) *What caused the crowd to be so excited about Jesus' arrival? "Hosanna" means "Save!" The term "Son of David" is another name for Messiah. Do you think everyone who was caught up in the excitement was ready to accept Jesus as King? Why or Why not? Describe three things that proved people believed Jesus was the Messiah. If you had been one of Jesus' enemies, how would you have reacted to this joyous parade?*

Read verses 12-17. (picture 3D.4) *What did Jesus call the Temple? Who gave Jesus authority to overturn the tables and heal the lame man? Why did the Pharisees become angry with Jesus? What did the children do that was different than the Pharisees?*

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Read verses 18-22. By causing the tree to wither, Jesus was showing that His Father had sent Him to ensure that there would be lasting fruit. *What does it mean to bear fruit for God's kingdom?* Encourage responses. *What did Jesus tell His disciples about asking for anything in faith?*

Read verses 23-27. *Why do you think the religious leaders asked Jesus about His authority?* Encourage responses. *How did Jesus answer the Pharisees?*

Read verses 28-32. *What lesson do you think this parable teaches? Which son was obedient to the father? How does the tax collector represent the first son? How were the religious leaders like the second son? Why is it better to be like the first son?*

Read Matthew 21:33-46. *Who does the landowner represent? Who do the farmers represent? Who do the servants represent? Who does the son that was killed represent? What does this parable teach about the landowner's return? How did the Pharisees respond to Jesus and to this parable?* Jesus wanted people to clearly understand that He was God's Son, and that He had the ultimate authority.

Jesus' parables were meant to show the religious leaders how wrong and sinful they had become. *How do you think they felt about Jesus' accusations? Why is it still hard for people today to accept Jesus as the Savior and Messiah of the world?*

2

Level 3D—Triumphant Over All Lesson 3: The King Answers

Big Idea: **Jesus amazes everyone with His insights into the Scriptures.**

Luke 20:20—21:4 [outline form]

Intro: *Jesus knew how to answer everyone who asked questions of Him.*

Ask: *How can we be ready to answer people who ask questions about Christ?*

1. The Jewish leaders sent spies who attempted to trap Jesus.
 - *They asked Jesus if it was lawful to pay taxes (picture 3D.5) . . . Luke 20:21-22*
 - *Jesus said one can obey the government and still obey God 20:23-25*
2. The Sadducees tried to trap Jesus by asking about the resurrection.
 - *The Sadducees quoted the law of Moses 20:28*
 - *They asked about how marriage would work in heaven 20:29-33*
 - *Jesus explained that heaven would have no marriages 20:34-36*
 - *He went on to show they were wrong to disbelieve in resurrection . . . 20:37-38*
3. Jesus asked a question about Himself.
 - *He asked how the Christ could be David's son 20:41*
 - *The psalms show that He is David's lord also 20:42-44*

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4. Jesus warned the disciples about the Pharisees.
 - *He explained that they loved show and self-honor 20:46*
 - *They would be punished severely for their sins 20:47*
5. Jesus saw people making offerings to the Temple.
 - *He saw a poor woman put in two small coins (picture 3D.6) 21:2*
 - *Jesus said that her gift was more valuable to God than much wealth 21:3*
 - *The widow gave all she had to live on 21:4*

Conclusion: *God gives us answers when we study the Bible, when we pray, and when we talk about our questions with each other. Jesus always has the right answers. We should never be afraid to ask God the questions in our hearts and minds.*

2

Level 3D—Triumphant Over All Lesson 3: The King Answers

Big Idea: **Jesus amazes everyone with His insights into the Scriptures.**

Luke 20:20—21:4 [narrative form]

Intro: *Jesus knew how to answer everyone who asked questions of Him.*

Ask: *How can we be ready to answer people who ask questions about Christ?*

God welcomes our questions, and He wants us to be totally honest with Him. God's love for us is so great that we can ask Him anything. When your questions come from your heart, they are not wrong to ask.

Read Luke 20:20-26. The religious leaders could not trick Jesus with their questions about taxes because Jesus is the Creator of all wisdom. *What happened when the spies tried to trick Jesus?* (He silenced them with His answers.) Jesus taught them to give to God that which belonged to Him (picture 3D.5).

Read verses 27-40. Even though they despised Jesus, the scribes were impressed and amazed at Jesus' words. *What does the phrase "the God of the living" mean?*

Read Luke 20:41-44. Jesus asked a question to help people realize that the Christ is God. *What question about the Messiah did Jesus ask the teachers of the law?* David called

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Jesus "Lord" long before Jesus came as a baby. God had promised David that the Messiah would come from his descendants. David knew God would send His Son.

Read Luke 20:45-47. God is not impressed with things that impress people. *How did Jesus describe the teachers of the religious law?* Jesus was not impressed with their appearance. God wants us to be careful in the way we think and act toward people.

Read Luke 21:1-4. (picture 3D.6) Jesus values those who give from their hearts, not out of obligation. This means that we give because we want to, because we love God. *Why was the widow's gift of two pennies more valuable than the rich people's offerings?* Encourage responses. The widow gave her best because she loved God.

God loves for us to bring real questions to Him. He answers our questions many different ways. God gives us answers when we study the Bible, when we pray, and when we talk about our questions with each other. Jesus always has the right answers. We should never be afraid to ask God the questions in our hearts and minds.

2

Level 3D—Triumphant Over All

Lesson 4: Signs

Big Idea: **Jesus warns His followers to prepare for dreadful hardships after His death.**

John 12:20-50; Luke 21:5-36 [outline form]

Intro: *Jesus wanted us to know about trials that would come.*

Ask: *Why should we not fear any coming hardships?*

1. Jesus publicly announced that He knew that He would die.

- *Jesus used the illustration of a seed to predict His resurrection John 12:24*
- *God spoke from heaven about His glory (picture 3D.7) 12:29*
- *Jesus said that He would draw all people to Himself. 12:32*
- *The people did not understand His words 12:34*

2. Many Jews refused to believe that Jesus was the Messiah.

- *Their unbelief fulfilled Isaiah's prophecies. 12:37-41*
- *Jews who did believe were afraid of the Pharisees 12:42-43*
- *Jesus urged people to believe in Him 12:44-48*
- *Jesus explained that His words come from God. 12:49-50*

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3. Jesus foretold of various signs of what would occur in the future.

- *The Temple would be destroyed Luke 21:5-36*
- *False Christs would come 21:8*
- *Wars and other hardships would occur 21:9-11*
- *His disciples would face persecution 21:12-19*
- *Jerusalem would be sieged (picture 3D.8) 21:20-24*
- *Jesus said His words would remain forever 21:33*

Conclusion: *Jesus followed His warning signs with words of encouragement. He told us not to worry but to be watchful and prayerful so we will be able to stand.*

2

Level 3D—Triumphant Over All

Lesson 4: Signs

Big Idea: **Jesus warns His followers to prepare for dreadful hardships after His death.**

John 12:20-50; Luke 21:5-36 [narrative form]

Intro: *Jesus wanted us to know about trials that would come.*

Ask: *Why should we not fear any coming hardships?*

As Jesus' time on earth was nearing the end, He made even more predictions. He wanted to warn His disciples to prepare for dreadful hardships after His death.

Read John 12:23-26 aloud. Point out that a seed doesn't actually grow, but the outer shell of the seed must "die" so that the life inside it can sprout and grow. *How is this like Jesus' life on earth?* Encourage responses. *What would Jesus' death and resurrection bring to the world?*

Read verses 27-36. (picture 3D.7) Remind the children that Jesus predicted His death several times, but the people did not understand what He meant. *How did the people react to hearing God's voice? How do you think you might have reacted?* Encourage responses.

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Read John 12:37-50. *Which verses in this passage sound familiar to you? What is familiar about them? Why do you think Jesus talked about believing in Him and being the Light of the world so often? What kinds of signs might Jesus have used to illustrate these points to the people? What will happen to those who hear Jesus' words and keep them?*

Read Luke 21:5-36.

- Verses 5-6: *What signs did Jesus tell His disciples to watch for?*
- Verses 7-11: Discuss the signs that the disciples and all believers should watch for that will show Jesus is about to return to earth.
- Verses 12-19: *What signs were given here? What encouragement did Jesus give to His followers?*
- Verses 20-24: (picture 3D.8) *What signs are given here?*
- Verses 25-36: Many signs are mentioned in this section. *What did Jesus say would happen when all these signs were fulfilled? What did Jesus say about His words?*

Jesus followed His warning signs with words of encouragement. He told us not to worry but to be watchful and prayerful so we will be able to stand. When we see and hear these signs, we can be ready and watchful knowing that Christ will return, and His kingdom will arrive very soon.

2

Level 3D—Triumphant Over All Lesson 5: Judgment Day

Big Idea: **Jesus welcomes and rewards those who faithfully serve Him.**

Matthew 25 [outline form]

Intro: *Jesus wants everyone to prepare for His return.*

Ask: *How ready are you for Jesus to come back?*

1. Jesus told a parable about the time of His return. He compared Himself to a bridegroom—and ten maidens represented believers (picture 3D.9).

- *Five maidens failed to bring extra oil for their lamps Matthew 25:1-3*
- *When the bridegroom finally came, those maidens had no oil 25:8-9*
- *The maidens who had oil enjoyed the wedding banquet 25:10*
- *The five foolish maidens were turned away 25:12*

2. Jesus related another story about His return.

- *A man left on a journey, giving his servants different money amounts . . . 25:15*
- *Two servants invested wisely and were rewarded 25:19-23*
- *The third servant did nothing and was punished 25:24-30*

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3. Jesus said that when He comes again, He will separate people like a shepherd separates sheep and goats (picture 3D.10).

- *The “sheep,” who loved God by loving others, will enter paradise . . . 25:34-40*
- *The “goats,” who lived only for themselves, will receive punishment . . 25:41-46*

Conclusion: *When Jesus does return to earth, He will judge everyone. Serving others in need is one way to show honor and service to God.*

2

Level 3D—Triumphant Over All Lesson 5: Judgment Day

Big Idea: **Jesus welcomes and rewards those who faithfully serve Him.**

Matthew 25 [narrative form]

Intro: *Jesus wants everyone to prepare for His return.*

Ask: *How ready are you for Jesus to come back?*

Read Matthew 25:1-13. (picture 3D.9) *In what way were the five maidens foolish? They thought someone else could provide their oil, but no one could, and they ran out. In what way did the other five maidens show wisdom?* Explain that the bridegroom represents Jesus, and the maidens represent believers. It is our responsibility to know Jesus. We can't buy a relationship with God at the last minute. Once Jesus returns, it will be too late for anyone to accept Him as Lord and Savior!

Read verses 14-30. The master gave his servants different amounts of money according to their ability to invest while he was away. *How many talents did the first servant make by investing?* Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things. Come and share in your master's happiness!

How many talents did the second servant make? Well done good and faithful

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servant! You have been faithful with a few things. Come and share in your master's happiness!

What did the third servant do with his money? Why? Why did the master call this man lazy and wicked? The master gave his servants different amounts of money according to what? He rewarded them according to what?

Read Matthew 25:31-40. (picture 3D.10) *Who do the sheep represent? How does the king reward the sheep? How does God recognize His sheep? What does Jesus mean in verse 40?* Read Matthew 25:41-46. *Who do the goats represent? How does the king punish the goats? How does God recognize the goats?*

Think about it—do your actions reflect your love of Jesus and separate you from the goats? Do you love Jesus as your Lord and Savior? Do you treat others as if each person is Jesus?

Always be ready for Jesus to return. God expects His followers to serve Him to the best of their abilities with what He has given them. When Jesus does return to earth, He will judge everyone. Serving others in need is one way to show honor and service to God.

2

Level 3D—Triumphant Over All Lesson 6: The Last Supper

Big Idea: **Jesus courageously faces the events that lead to His upcoming death.**

Matthew 26:1-35; John 13:1-20 [outline form]

Intro: *Jesus had much to show and tell His disciples during their last time together.*

Ask: *How do you imagine Christ felt at this time?*

1. Jesus warned His disciples that the time of His death was near.
 - *Jesus told them the specific time* Matthew 26:2
 - *At the same time, the Jewish leaders plotted to arrest Jesus.* 26:3-5
2. Jesus stayed in Bethany awaiting the Passover.
 - *A woman poured expensive perfume on Jesus* 26:7
 - *The disciples complained about the “waste” of resources.* 26:8-9
 - *Jesus explained that honoring Him was best.* 26:10-13
3. Jesus began His final evening in an unusual way (picture 3D.11).
 - *To show them He loved them, Jesus washed the disciples’ feet* John 13:1-5
 - *Peter protested Jesus’ severe humility.* 13:6-8
 - *Jesus explained that they must follow His example* 13:12-17

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4. Jesus predicted that one of His friends would betray Him.
 - *The disciples could not believe it was one of them* Matthew 26:22
 - *Jesus told Judas that He knew what Judas would do* 26:25
5. Jesus introduced a new way to remember and honor Him (picture 3D.12).
 - *The bread Jesus shared represented His body* 26:26
 - *The wine represented His blood, shed for the forgiveness of sins* 26:27-28
6. Jesus told the disciples that they would all desert Him.
 - *This would fulfill Scripture* 26:31
 - *Peter stated that he would never leave Jesus* 26:33
 - *Jesus predicted that Peter would deny Him three times.* 26:34

Conclusion: *Jesus loves us more than we can begin to understand. God’s plan to make eternal life available has been fulfilled through Jesus Christ.*

2

Level 3D—Triumphant Over All Lesson 6: The Last Supper

Big Idea: **Jesus courageously faces the events that lead to His upcoming death.**

Matthew 26:1-35; John 13:1-20 [narrative form]

Intro: *Jesus had much to show and tell His disciples during their last time together.*

Ask: *How do you imagine Christ felt at this time?*

God’s plan never changes. Jesus fulfilled many events predicted in Old Testament times. The enemy (Satan) opposes God’s plan at every turn. Let’s see how this plays out in Scripture.

Read Matthew 26:1-5. Jesus knew God’s plan and was prepared to suffer and give His life to forgive our sins. *When did Jesus say He would be crucified?* The religious leaders were plotting a way to secretly kill Jesus. *What was their real reason for wanting Him dead? What kept them from taking Jesus at this time?*

Read verses 6-13. Mary, who poured expensive perfume on Jesus’ head, had listened to Him. She recognized Jesus as the Messiah and seemed to understand. *What did Jesus say the perfume was for? How did some disciples respond? What was*

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Jesus trying to tell the disciples?

Read John 13:1-11. (picture 3D.11) Jesus wanted His friends to know how much He loved them and was willing to serve them. *How did He show His love to the disciples?* Read John 13:12-17. *What was Jesus teaching His disciples?*

Read Matthew 26:17-25. *When Jesus announced “one of you will betray me,” how did the disciples respond?* Judas was surprised to learn that Jesus knew about his betrayal. *What had Judas failed to learn about Jesus?*

Read verses 26-30. (picture 3D.12) Jesus started a very important tradition we call the Lord’s Supper, or Communion. *What does the bread represent? What does the wine represent? Why did Jesus do this?*

Read verses 31-35. *Why do you think Jesus told Peter of his denial in such specific detail?* Peter would realize that Jesus knew him better than he knew himself. It is important to trust in Christ alone, not in yourself.

Jesus loves us more than we can begin to understand. God’s plan to make eternal life available has been fulfilled through Jesus Christ. How can you know that you are living in a way that fits into God’s plan?

2

Level 3D—Triumphant Over All

Lesson 7: Be Fruitful!

Big Idea: **Jesus promises to help His disciples, even after He leaves.**

John 14:1—15:17 [outline form]

Intro: *As Jesus neared His death, He promised help for His followers.*

Ask: *How does Jesus still help us, even today?*

1. Jesus comforted His disciples with encouraging words.
 - *Trust in God and in Jesus.* John 14:1
 - *Jesus would return from heaven to bring His faithful there* 14:2-4
2. Thomas and Philip questioned Jesus (picture 3D.13).
 - *Jesus told Thomas that He is the only way to God.* 14:5-7
 - *Jesus told Philip that He and the Father are one.* 14:8-11
 - *Whoever asks for anything in Jesus' name, it will be given.* 14:12-14
3. Jesus promised to send help in the form of the Holy Spirit.
 - *The Holy Spirit lives in believers.* 14:15-17
 - *Jesus also lives in believers.* 14:18-21
 - *The Holy Spirit would help them understand Jesus' words.* 14:25-26
 - *Jesus gave His peace and told the disciples not to fear* (picture 3D.14) . . 14:27-31

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4. Jesus explained that the work we do for Him is like fruit produced on a branch.
 - *Jesus is the vine, we are the branches* 15:1,5
 - *Christians must abide in Jesus to produce good work for God* 15:4-8
 - *Obeying Christ's commands brings His joy and love* 15:9-11
5. Jesus emphasized one command for His disciples—love each other as He had loved them.
 - *Jesus' sacrifice would be the ultimate show of love* 15:12
 - *He extended equal friendship to His disciples.* 15:14-15
 - *Jesus chose His own to bear much fruit* 15:16
 - *He repeated His command to love.* 15:17

Conclusion: *We can tell others that Jesus is the only way to heaven. Our joy will be full and complete when we allow the Holy Spirit to work through us.*

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Level 3D—Triumphant Over All

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Intro: *As Jesus neared His death, He promised help for His followers.*

Ask: *How does Jesus still help us, even today?*

When we love and obey God, He will guide us in the right way. If we disobey, we are asking for trouble! Only people who follow Jesus will find their way into heaven.

Read John 14:1-4. *If we trust God, who else should we trust?* (Jesus.) *What does Jesus tell about the place He is going?* Heaven is a real place, and Jesus promises to prepare homes in heaven for those who believe in Him. *What does Jesus promise to do?*

Read John 14:5-6. *What did Thomas want to know? What did Jesus' answer mean?* Read verses 7-14. *How does Jesus answer Philip? What does Jesus promise that believers will do?* As Jesus came to save the lost, He would send believers to share His Gospel message in all parts of the world. He promised that through faith and prayer, we have access to the Father, who will do whatever we ask according to

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His will.

Read John 14:15-31. (picture 3D.13) Jesus promised to return for us sometime in the future. *When that time comes, how will He recognize those who love Him?* Not only did Jesus promise to love those who love Him, He promised to send His Holy Spirit to abide in them. *What does abide mean? Why did Jesus send the Holy Spirit?* We trust the Holy Spirit to guide and empower us to obey God's teaching.

Read John 15:1-11. Jesus explained that the work we do for Him is like fruit produced on a branch. *Who is the vine? Who are the branches? What does Jesus explain to the disciples in verse 15? How can a Christian bear fruit? How do we stay connected to Jesus?*

Read verses 12-17. (picture 3D.14) *What is Jesus' commandment? What is the greatest love? Why did Jesus now call the disciples His friends? How can we bear fruit "that lasts"?*

We can bear good fruit by adding branches to Jesus, the Vine. We can tell others that Jesus is the only way to heaven. Our joy will be full and complete when we allow the Holy Spirit to work through us.

2

Level 3D—Triumphant Over All Lesson 8: Be Courageous!

Big Idea: **Jesus assures His disciples that the Holy Spirit will guide and strengthen them.**

John 15:18—16:33 [outline form]

Intro: *Jesus warned of hardship that would follow His death.*

Ask: *Why do some people in the world hate God and Jesus?*

1. Jesus braced the disciples for the world's hatred.
 - *It would hate them because it hates Him.* John 15:18-19
 - *The people of the world have no excuse for their sin* 15:22-24
 - *The disciples would now face persecution* 16:1-4
2. Even though Jesus was leaving, the disciples would not be alone (picture 3D.15).
 - *The Holy Spirit would come to convict others.* 16:8-11
 - *The Holy Spirit would guide the disciples to all truth* 16:13
 - *The disciples would gain knowledge of Jesus after He was gone* 16:14

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3. The disciples were having difficulty understanding Jesus' words.
 - *The world would rejoice, but the disciples would grieve Jesus' death* 16:20
 - *Jesus' resurrection would bring the disciples great joy* 16:22
 - *Jesus' resurrection would bring the disciples great power* 16:23-24
4. Jesus spoke plainly about His mission (picture 3D.16).
 - *Jesus came from God the Father* 16:27
 - *He would soon return to be with God* 16:28
 - *The disciples would still soon abandon Jesus* 16:32
 - *Jesus will have the ultimate victory* 16:33

Conclusion: *Jesus has won the victory over the world and Satan. If someone hates you for following Jesus, let it remind you that He is God and He is in control of all things.*

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Intro: *Jesus warned of hardship that would follow His death.*

Ask: *Why do some people in the world hate God and Jesus?*

Jesus said people hate Him without cause, and if you are one of His believers, they may hate you. But Jesus tells us something very special that will give us peace and joy, even when people hate us.

Read John 15:18-25. *What is the "world" Jesus referred to? What did Jesus warn His disciples to prepare for? Who rules over the world? Who rules over Christians?* Read John 16:1-4. *What else did Jesus warn His disciples about? Why was He telling them now?*

Read verses 5-11. (picture 3D.15) *When will Jesus send the Spirit? What are some things Jesus said about the Holy Spirit?* Jesus had to do what He came to do so God could forgive our sins. Otherwise there would be no Good News—no one would

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be able to go to heaven.

Read verses 12-15. *What else would the Holy Spirit do for Jesus' followers?* (Reveal truth; tell of the future; reveal more about Jesus.) *Who will the Holy Spirit glorify?*

Read John 16:16-24. The disciples were still pondering Jesus' words. *What did He mean by what He said in verse 16? How would the worldly respond to His death? How would believers respond? What did Jesus say the disciples' grief would turn into?* (Joy.) *How could this be?* (They'd see Jesus again.)

Read verses 25-33. (picture 3D.16) Jesus explained that He had come from God and was returning to God. *What did the disciples finally believe? How could knowing these things bring peace? How can times of trouble bring joy?*

Jesus has won the victory over the world and Satan. If someone hates you for following Jesus, let it remind you that He is God and He is in control of all things. Remember the Holy Spirit is with you. Pray often in Jesus' name for His peace and joy.

2

Level 3D—Triumphant Over All

Lesson 9: Be One!

Big Idea: **Jesus prays that His followers will be “one” with God and each other.**

John 17 [outline form]

Intro: *Jesus prayed for Himself, His disciples, and all future believers.*

Ask: *Why was prayer important to Jesus?*

1. Jesus prayed for Himself.

- *Jesus’ glory is the Father’s glory John 17:1*
- *He gives eternal life to all who know and believe in Him 17:2-3*
- *Jesus had completed His mission, and was ready to return to God 17:4-5*

2. Jesus prayed for His disciples (picture 3D.17).

- *The disciples now fully believed that Jesus came from God. 17:6-8*
- *Jesus prayed for their protection and unity 17:9-11*
- *He asked that God would set the disciples apart and purify them. . . . 17:16-17*

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3. Jesus prayed for all believers—present and future (picture 3D.18).

- *He prayed for our unity 17:20-21*
- *This would show the world God’s love in sending Christ 17:22-23*
- *Jesus wants all of us to be with Him and to know His glory 17:24*
- *Jesus makes God known to us 17:25-26*

Conclusion: *Jesus’ prayer should be our prayer, too! Pray for God to be glorified, for believers to be sanctified, and for all of us to be one.*

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John 17 [narrative form]

Intro: *Jesus prayed for Himself, His disciples, and all future believers.*

Ask: *Why was prayer important to Jesus?*

Today we’ll discover why it is so important for believers to act together as one. In this passage of Scripture, John recorded Jesus’ entire prayer to His Father. It is actually one long prayer, but it has three parts.

Read John 17:1-5. *Who was Jesus praying for in these verses? What goals did Jesus and God the Father share?* (They wanted to glorify each other, for people to know them, and to offer eternal life. They wanted to finish the work God sent Jesus to do.) *What does it mean to “glorify” someone? How did Jesus glorify His Father? How would the Father glorify His Son?*

Read verses 6-19. (picture 3D.17) *Who did Jesus pray for in these verses? What did Jesus say the disciples knew?* (God the Father gave Jesus power and authority; Jesus

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came from the Father.) *What were some things Jesus prayed for His disciples? What does it mean to be “sanctified”?* (To be set apart and holy; to be used only for God’s special purpose.) *Why did Jesus want the disciples to be sanctified?* (So that they would have a full measure of joy and would glorify God with their lives.)

Read John 17:20-26. (picture 3D.18) *Who did Jesus now pray for?* (Future believers, even those not yet born.) *How could Jesus have known about people in the future?* (Jesus is God.) *How does it feel to know that Jesus prayed for you while He was on earth, thousands of years before you were born?* Let children share their feelings. *What did Jesus mean when He prayed for us to be “one”? Why does Jesus want His followers to be one?* (So the world will believe Jesus was sent by God the Father, and people will know that God loves them.) *How can you be one with God and others?*

Each part of Jesus’ prayer includes one important idea—1) that God would glorify Himself; 2) that God would sanctify His disciples; 3) and that all believers would be united with God and each other. These are all important ideas to include in our prayers, too. Pray for God to be glorified, for believers to be sanctified, and for all of us to be one.

2

Level 3D—Triumphant Over All

Lesson 10: Betrayed!

Big Idea: **Jesus accepts the illegal arrest, trial, and mockery that lead to His death sentence.**

Matthew 26:36—27:26 [outline form]

Intro: *Jesus willingly allowed the hateful things people did to Him.*

Ask: *How does what Jesus suffered change your attitude about Him?*

1. Jesus took Peter, John, and James to a solitary place to pray.
 - *Three times Jesus prayed, asking God to spare Him.* Matthew 26:39-44
 - *The disciples could not stay awake with Him.* 26:40
 - *Jesus submitted to His Father's will.* 26:42
2. A crowd came to arrest Jesus (picture 3D.19).
 - *Judas betrayed Jesus with a kiss.* 26:48-50
 - *Jesus stopped violence from erupting.* 26:51-54
3. The people took Jesus to the Sanhedrin.
 - *The religious leaders finally found a reason to charge Jesus.* 26:59-61
 - *Jesus declared that He is God's Son.* 26:64
 - *The people treated Him with contempt.* 26:67-68

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4. Peter waited in the courtyard while Jesus was “interviewed.”
 - *He denied Jesus to three different people (picture 3D.20).* 26:69-74
 - *When the rooster crowed, Peter remembered Jesus' words.* 26:75
 - *Peter was filled with remorse.* 26:75
5. The Sanhedrin agreed that Jesus should be put to death.
 - *When Judas heard, he hanged himself.* 27:3-5
 - *His blood money was used to fulfill Scripture.* 27:6-10
6. Jesus stood before the Roman governor, Pilate.
 - *Jesus did not speak in His own defense.* 27:12-14
 - *Pilate tried to have Jesus released by the crowd.* 27:15-18
 - *The crowd chose the criminal Barabbas and shouted to crucify Jesus.* 26:21-23
 - *Pilate handed Jesus over to be beaten and executed.* 26:24-26

Conclusion: *Jesus took the place not only of Barabbas, but of every sinner. A person who understands that he or she deserves to be punished for his or her sins will be so thankful for what Jesus did.*

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Ask: *How does what Jesus suffered change your attitude about Him?*

Read Matthew 26:36-46. *What kind of support did Jesus receive from His friends? What did He want them to do? What did Jesus' prayers reveal about His emotions and attitude? How many times did Jesus return to pray? Why did Jesus choose to suffer and die on the cross?*

Read verses 47-56. (picture 3D.19) *Who betrayed Jesus and how? What happened when the soldiers seized Jesus to arrest Him? What was Jesus' response?*

Read verses 57-68. *In what ways did the Sanhedrin falsely accuse Jesus? In what ways did they mistreat Jesus? Was Jesus guilty of any sin or crime? Did Jesus say that He was the Christ, the Son of God?*

Read Matthew 26:69-75. (picture 3D.20) *How did Peter feel before, during, and*

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after he denied knowing Jesus? Encourage responses. Read Matthew 27:1-10. *What did Judas do after he discovered that Jesus was condemned to die?*

What was similar between Peter and Judas? What were the differences between Peter and Judas? Point out that Peter eventually was forgiven and became a great servant for the Lord. Judas, however, never asked for forgiveness as far as Scripture tells.

Read Matthew 27:11-26. *Did Jesus acknowledge that He was the King of the Jews? How did Jesus defend Himself? What were Pilate's thoughts about being Jesus' judge? Why do you think Pilate offered to release Barabbas instead? Who was responsible for Jesus' death?* Conclude by pointing out that Jesus willingly laid down His life as part of God's plan because of His great love for us. No one took His life from Him (John 10:18).

How do you feel knowing that Jesus took the place not only of Barabbas, but of every sinner, including you and me? Allow children to silently consider the answer to this question. A person who understands that he or she deserves to be punished for his or her sins will be so thankful for what Jesus did. That person would want to lovingly follow and obey Jesus for the rest of his or her life, don't you think?

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Level 3D—Triumphant Over All Lesson 11: Crucified, Yet Alive!

Big Idea: **Jesus dies and comes back to life to pay for the sins of all people.**

Matthew 27:27—28:20 [outline form]

Intro: *Jesus' death and resurrection was the final proof that He is God's Son.*

Ask: *What does Jesus' death and resurrection mean to you?*

1. Jesus suffered more mockery and finally, crucifixion.

- *Soldiers severely mistreated Jesus* Matthew 27:27-31
- *A man named Simon carried Jesus' cross for Him* 27:32
- *They nailed Jesus to a cross between two thieves* (picture 3D.21). 27:33-38
- *The crowd and chief priests hurled insults at Him* 27:39-44

2. Jesus died on the cross, taking all our sins upon His person.

- *He cried out to God at being forsaken* 27:46
- *When Jesus died, the Temple veil tore in half* 27:50-51
- *Some soldiers recognized Christ as God's Son* 27:54

3. Jesus' family and friends cared for His body.

- *Joseph of Aramithea placed Jesus in his own tomb* 27:57-60
- *Guards were placed at the tomb to ensure no one stole the body* 27:62-66

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4. Jesus rose to new life!

- *Mary Magdalene and another Mary went to Jesus' tomb* (picture 3D.22) 28:1
- *An angel told them Jesus was risen* 28:2-7
- *Jesus Himself appeared to them, and they worshiped Him* 28:8-10
- *Guards were bribed to say Jesus' body was stolen* 28:11-15

5. Jesus met His disciples in Galilee.

- *Some worshiped Him, and some doubted* 28:16-17
- *Jesus commanded His friends to make disciples of all people* 28:18-20
- *Jesus promised He'd always be with His followers* 28:20

Conclusion: *God's entire plan for people centers on Jesus' death and resurrection. This is the Good News of the forgiveness of sins for all people who believe in Him. Our world needs to know Him. But first, we need to know Him.*

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Intro: *Jesus' death and resurrection was the final proof that He is God's Son.*

Ask: *What does Jesus' death and resurrection mean to you?*

Today we'll read a detailed account of Jesus' death and burial. Then we'll read about something more exciting than anything else that's ever happened!

Read Matthew 27:27-44. (picture 3D.21) *How did the soldiers mock Jesus? What were they mocking Him about? How did Jesus suffer physically? How did Jesus suffer emotionally? Encourage responses. What was Jesus really doing on that cross? (Paying for the sins of all people.)*

Read verses 27:45-56. *Why did Jesus cry out in verse 46? (Jesus experienced separation from God as He bore people's sins.) How did Jesus die? What happened after Jesus died? What do these things tell us about Jesus' sacrifice? Encourage responses. What happens when we accept Jesus' sacrifice on the cross? (God's judgment falls on Jesus, not on us; we are no longer separated from God; death's power over us is broken.)*

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Read Matthew 27:57—28:15. (picture 3D.22) *What did Joseph of Aramithea do? Why did the priests ask Pilate to seal the tomb and guard it? Who and what caused the earthquake? What did the angel tell the women? What did the women do when they saw Jesus? What details in the story convince you that Jesus rose from the dead? Encourage responses. What does Jesus' resurrection mean for those who believe? (There is a life after death and believers will live in heaven with Jesus.)*

Read Matthew 28:16-20. *What did the disciples do when they saw Jesus? Did all the disciples believe it was really Jesus at first? (No, some doubted.) What important fact does Jesus establish about Himself? (He has all authority in heaven and on earth.) What three things does Jesus command His disciples to do? (Make disciples of all nations, baptize them, and teach them.) We call this command the Great Commission. What promise does Jesus give? (That He will always be with His followers.) That promise is still true for those of us today who believe in Jesus and trust Him as Lord and Savior.*

God's entire plan for people centers on Jesus' death and resurrection. This is the Good News of the forgiveness of sins for all people who believe in Him. Our world needs to know Him. But first, we need to know Him.

2

Level 3D—Triumphant Over All

Lesson 12: It's True!

Big Idea: **Jesus confirms His resurrection and invites people everywhere to follow Him.**

John 20:19—21:25 [outline form]

Intro: *The risen Jesus had final commands for His followers.*

Ask: *How does knowing that Jesus is alive change everything?*

1. The disciples had gathered together, afraid for their lives.

- *Jesus appeared before them (picture 3D.23) John 20:19*
- *The disciples were filled with joy. 20:20*
- *Jesus sent them into the world and blessed them with the Spirit. . . . 20:21-23*

2. One disciple, Thomas, had missed seeing Jesus.

- *Thomas said he would believe it when he saw it 20:25*
- *Jesus appeared again and told Thomas to touch Him 20:26-27*
- *Thomas worshiped Jesus 20:28*
- *Jesus said that those who believe even when they don't see are blessed . . . 20:29*

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3. Some of the disciples went to fish on the sea of Galilee. They had caught nothing all night.

- *Returning in the morning, a man told them to try again. 21:4-6*
- *John realized it was Jesus, and Peter jumped from the boat. 21:8*
- *Jesus had prepared breakfast for His disciples 21:9-14*

4. Jesus had some unfinished business with Peter (picture 3D.24).

- *Three times He asked if Peter loved Him. 21:15-17*
- *Three times Peter responded that he loved Jesus. 21:15-17*
- *Jesus told Peter to care for the other believers 21:15-17*
- *Jesus told Peter to continue to follow Him 21:18-19*

Conclusion: *Jesus is alive! Be like His first disciples! Forget your fears, overcome your doubts, follow Jesus, and do as He commands.*

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Level 3D—Triumphant Over All

Lesson 12: It's True!

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John 20:19—21:25 [narrative form]

Intro: *The risen Jesus had final commands for His followers.*

Ask: *How does knowing that Jesus is alive change everything?*

Imagine you've just heard that Jesus is alive. You think it's a trap—the religious leaders want to arrest and kill Jesus' followers. So, you are hiding like frightened mice in an upstairs room. The doors are locked, and the curtains are shut tight. Suddenly, without any noise, Jesus is standing right in the middle of the room!

Read John 20:19-23. (picture 3D.23) *What proof did the disciples have that Jesus was alive? What important truths did Jesus tell His disciples?* (He blessed them with His peace; He would send them into the world; they had the power to forgive sins; they would receive the Holy Spirit.)

Read verses 24-31. *Do you think Thomas' response to the disciples' news was understandable? Why or why not?* Encourage responses. *What did Jesus ask Thomas*

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to do? How do we know Thomas finally believed? To whom did Jesus refer when He mentioned people who believe without seeing? (All believers who have put their faith in Jesus since that time, including us.) *What happens when we believe in Jesus?*

Read John 21:1-14. *What made the fishermen realize that this was Jesus?* (They remembered the first time Jesus told them where to catch fish (Luke 5:1-11).) *Who became too excited to stay in the boat? What had Jesus prepared for them on the shore?*

Read John 21:15-25. (picture 3D.24) *What question did Jesus ask Peter? Why did Jesus ask Peter the same question three times?* (Peter had denied that he knew Jesus three times. Jesus asked Peter whether or not he truly loved Him, one time for each denial.) *What did Jesus command Peter to do three times? What did Jesus mean by this expression?* (To love and care for the believers who needed someone to lead them.) *What can we learn from Peter's experience?*

After His resurrection, the disciples had many proofs that Jesus was alive and that He truly was who He said He was—God's only Son. John says the reason he wrote his account of Jesus in first place was so that anyone who read about it later would believe these truths (20:31). Jesus is alive! Be like His first disciples! Forget your fears, overcome your doubts, follow Jesus, and do as He commands.

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