

TEACHING MANUAL FOR ELSS

“DISCOVERING GOD BIBLE STUDIES”

1. Judges Rebellion and Mercy

Repentance results in forgiveness
Each generation responsible
Judges 2... $Y = A \sin(x) \exp(-x)$

Why do you think God did not want so many people in the battle? Because people would think the victory was due to their own efforts and not the help of God.

2. Samuel: The Last Judge

Memory verse: Psalm 23 – first reading

Music: Psalm 23 (children CD)

Bible Study (I Samuel 1-9)

a. *The birth of Samuel*

1 *What was Hannah's problem?*

No children. A disgrace.
God did not let her have children
(world view: God is responsible for everything)

2 *What did she promise to God?*

If child, she would not cut his hair. He would serve God.

3 *Who was Eli?*

The Priest

4 *What did the priest think?*

She was drunk.

5 *Why do you think he thought she was drunk?*

She was so sad in crying and earnestly praying.

6 *What did Hannah name her child?*

7 *Why did she give him this name?*

8 *What do we learn about God?*

God takes pity on those who pray to him.

b. *The Young Samuel*

1 *Why was God angry with Eli's sons?*

Sons stole from offering.
Slept with worshipers
Think about it in context with church today or Muslim culture of girls sleeping with Aman (Marry and say 3x “I divorce you”)

2 *How was Samuel's actions?*

3 *Did Samuel immediately recognize God's voice?*

4 *Who did he think was calling him?*

5 *How many times did God call?*

6 *What was God's message?*

7 *Why did God decide to destroy Eli's family?*

Despite being warned they did not change.

8 *How did the people know Samuel was a prophet?*

actions

what he said came true

9 *Did people listen to Samuel?*

10 *What do we learn about God?*

He will not tolerate his name being disgraced.

11 *How can we recognize a prophet?*

-- Split here if 2 weeks for one lesson --

c. God's judgment

1 *What is the scene?*

2 *What did they bring to the battlefield?*

3 *Why did they do it?*

4 *What was the effect? Who was afraid?*

5 *Who won the battle?*

Philistines --> God cannot be manipulated

6 *Who died?*

Eli, and his sons.

7 *What happened to the ark?*

Captured.

8 *The enemies were punished by God for taking the ark. What did they do to see if it really was a punishment from God?*

9 *What happened?*

d. Serving God

1 *The people cried to God. What did Samuel say they must do if God is to help?*

Put away idols, false gods.

Worship only God.

2 *What was the people's response?*

3 *What was God's response?*

4 *If we want God to help us what must we do?*

e. Samuel is old

1 *Were Samuel's sons good like their father?*

2 *Who was unhappy?*

3 *What did the people want?*

4 *Was Samuel happy?*

5 *What did God say?*

6 *What can we learn about family?*

Good father does not mean good son.

Applications

Good father does not mean good son.

God will not tolerate his name to be defiled.

3. Saul: The First King,

Memory verse: Psalm 23 – 2nd reading

– Work on first 2 verses, any vocabulary

Music:

– Review Psalm 23 (children CD)

– New verse for Joshua Won the Battle of Jericho

Bible Study

a. Choosing of the King

- 1 *Physically, what sort of person was Saul?*
- 2 *Why did Saul go to meet Samuel?*
- 3 *What did Samuel tell him?*
- 4 *Did he tell anyone what Samuel said?*
- 5 *When the people wanted to make Saul king, could they find him?*
- 6 *Where was he?*
- 7 *After Saul was made king, what did the people do?*
- 8 *Was everyone happy that Saul was king?*
- 9 *What was Saul's reaction to those who laughed at him?*
- 10 *What does this tell us about Saul's character?*

b. The test of the young king

- 1 *What is the problem?*
- 2 *What did the people of Jabesh do?*
- 3 *What was the people of Israel's reaction?*
- 4 *What was Saul's reaction?*
- 5 *Did God help Saul?*
- 6 *What was the result of the battle?*
- 7 *What did people want to do with those who had laughed at Saul?*
- 8 *What was Saul's response?*
- 9 *What does this tell us about Saul's character?*

-- If two weeks, split the lesson here --

c. A poor decision

- 1 *What prompted this decision to sacrifice?*
Saul realised he needed God's help.
- 2 *What was the result of this decision?*
- 3 *Did Saul have victory in the near future?*

d. Disobedience

- 1 *What did God want Saul to do?*
– Once before God gave this type of order “Jericho”

Implications

- 1 *Failure to follow God may not have immediate negative consequences. Saul was victorious in the short term (delayed effect)*
- 2 *A good start does not make a good finish. Beware of pride.*
- 3 *God will not tolerate his leaders to maintain a rebellious heart.*
- 4 *One comes to God on God's terms not ours. It is the priest who sacrifices.*
- 5 *The sins of the father effects the child's life.*

4. David: A man After God's Own Heart

We have learned one of the poems written by David, we will study another today. The Bible says the young David was “A man after God's own heart.” We should also learn from him. What does God require? What does God want from us?

Memory verse: Psalm 23 – 2nd reading

– Work on first 2 verses, any vocabulary

Music:

- Review Psalm 23 (children CD)
- Psalm 100
- Psalm 51 (mp3)

Bible Study

a. Anointing of David

1 How did Samuel feel about Saul?

He mourned for him. Mourning is usually done when someone dies. But Saul is physically alive and well. Suggests --> once God has left us we are as good as dead. We are the living dead.

2 Which son did God choose as king?

3 Did David's father think David would become an important person?

No. Keeping sheep was not a "good" job. In fact it was the lowest job.

4 What is the difference between YHWH and man?

b. Goliath

c. Waiting time.

d. Bathsheba

1 What do you think people thought of David when he married this lady?

I think people would have admired David. They see his friend killed in battle leaving a pregnant wife. David is willing to take care of her. He is even willing to marry her and look after the child as if it was his own son.

2 Psalm 51 was composed in repentance. Why did David make public repentance and not just private?

Applications

- God does not see things the way we see things (have seen with Saul: outward successful)
- God is concerned our heart attitudes.

5. Solomon: Wisdom From God

Memory verse: Psalm 23 – 2nd reading

- Work on first 2 verses, any vocabulary

Music:

- Review Psalm 23 (children CD)
- Psalm 100
- Psalm 51 (mp3)

Bible Study

Dust in the wind.

6. Elijah: Who will you serve?

1 What was the result for the people of forsaking God's ways?

2 Did God's judgment of drought cause Ahab and the people to repent?

3 What challenge does Elijah give? Why do the people not answer?

4

Applications

- If YHWH is God follow him completely. Don't play games. If he is not, God don't. Jesus said: "You cannot serve God and money." If you don't want to seek God wholeheartedly then don't follow him at all.

7. Isaiah & Jeremiah

Two major prophets -- One talks of the Messiah, one of sorrow....

a. Isaiah:

Context: 740-680BC. During this time the Northern Kingdom of Israel falls and its people are deported. His ministry was in the southern Kingdom of Judah.

1 *What is the meaning of the comment about ox knowing its owner and Israel not knowing its owner?*

- ox know the character of their master
- Israel does not know God's character
- They do not know what he wants or desires.

2 *What is God's attitude towards the sacrifices of the people?*

- He hates them he will not listen to them.

3 *Why does God not accept their prayer or their meetings?*

- Moral actions are what God desires

4 *What does God require?*

5 *Is there hope for evil doers?*

6 *What are the consequences of action?*

b. *Isaiah 11*

c. *Isaiah 53*

1 *Have you watched the movie: "The Passion of Christ"?*

- Spent much time in the beating of Jesus: By his stripes we are healed

8. Other Prophecies

Bible

a. *Daniel*

- God honors those who honor Him.

b. *Jonah*

- People in Taiwan were upset when the rapist and murderer of the actress repented and became a Christian (the wife of the South African ambassador talked to him.) They think it is very unfair that he will be in heaven. What do you think?

9. Despair and Hope: God sends Prophets

10. Review

11. ELSS-Lesson

ELSS-sec

a. *ELSS-sub*

1 *ELSS-?*

ELSS-ans

12. Teaching notes

Birth of Jesus.

Act the scenes..

Why do you think Mary went straight to Elizabeth's house?

Was this easy for Mary to do?

Why choose shepherds? Why wise men from east? Not local dignitaries?

Good example for us: Jesus growth

Baptism

Part 1

1. When did John start to preach?
2. Why did John start to preach? (When we speak we should be sure it is God speaking through us and not our own words --> for me. when I teach, I must be careful not to preach my ideas but God's ideas. But it is very easy to add our own ideas: i.e. polygamy, head covering...)
3. What was John's message?
4. What are the basic assumptions of John?
 - a. We all have sin. and therefore are guilty before God.
 - b. They is a punishment for sin. We will be judged.
5. What was the condition to receive forgiveness? Who offers the forgiveness?
 - a. turn away from sins, be baptised.
 - b. God himself.

Part 2

6. What was the response to John's preaching? Were people interested?
7. What actions are required of one who has turned from their sins?
 - > Turning from sins is not just STOPPING doing evil but STARTING doing good.
 - > Sin is not just doing evil, it includes not doing good.
 - > Positive not just negative
8. What did people wonder?
9. Was John the Messiah? What did he tell the people?

Part 3

10.

....

Teaching Notes for Book 4

First Miracle

Part 1

1. What were the three aspects of John's teaching?
2. What did John the Baptist say about Jesus?
3. What do you think it means to be the "Lamb of God."
5. I think this miracle is a little different from other miracles performed by Jesus. In all the other miracles recorded by Jesus he is doing things like healing sick people, throwing out demons, feeding the hungry. As we read the story, Can you tell me why I think it is strange?

Part 2

Lets first act out the story.

Consider the people in the story. What is their 'take' on the miracle? All of them were there but the effect was different for different people.

1. wedding guests
2. chairman
3. Jesus' mother. What do you think Mary was thinking when she asked Jesus to do this?
4. servants. What do you think the servants felt when they were taking the water to their boss?
5. disciples. What do you think the disciples were thinking as they watched what Jesus was doing?
6. The Scripture says, the disciples believed in him. What do you think they believed?
7. Does Jesus want to turn the water into wine? (NO!)
8. Why do you think Jesus turned the water into wine?

-- Obedience to his mother.

-> This shows us that God puts great emphasis on obedience to our parents. Even though what Mary wanted Jesus to do was not in his plan (he was the Son of God), he still obeyed when his mother asked him to do something. This is important for us when we consider many issues. For example: (1) After a person becomes a Christian, he should be Baptized. What if your parents strongly object? Do you go ahead and be Baptized anyway? (2) What if you believe God wants you to do something but your parents disagree, what do you do? (3) What if your parents want you to do something morally wrong and against what the Bible says?

9. What are your comments?

Power and Authority: To Heal Sickness and forgive Sin (Based on Waterloo CCF)

Introduction

1. introduction of method of approach: talk through summary sheet ("F2.1")
 - Summary Sheet
 - Who is Jesus (C. S. Lewis)
2. Ref Mark 2:1-12 cf Luke 5:17-26, Luke 7:36-50
3. three people read by paragraphs, vocabulary
4. New Vocabulary

Vs 1-4 Setting and the Problem

4. vs 1 - 4 Describe the setting. What is the man's problem? What do they want Jesus to do? (heal him physically!)

vs 5 Jesus' initial response

5. verse 5 What does Jesus do? Why does Jesus say this--rather than doing what the men want? i.e. if you go to the doctor you want to be healed, not to hear--"your sins are forgiven"

- to show Jesus had power beyond physical healing
- to show sin is a deeper and more serious problem (i.e. emotional vs. physical sickness)
- maybe sin --> sickness in this man (this is a popular belief)
- to show reason person should have come to Jesus was for forgiveness of sins
- to spark confrontation and make religious leader think.

vs 6-11 "your sins are forgiven"

6. verse 6 - 7 What is the significance of Jesus saying "your sins are forgiven"? [claim to be God--blasphemy, if not, claim is recognised as such by the religious leaders--and rejected] How do people understand the significance?
7. verse 8 Does Jesus know what the people are thinking?
 - Jesus realises what these men are thinking.
8. verse 9-11 What does Jesus say/do? [healed the man]

Responses (vs 12)

1. How does the man respond?
2. How do the people respond?
 - amazement
 - praise to God
3. How do you think the religious people responded?

--- Conclude by acting out with people trying to feel like the people in story.

Power and Authority: To Control the Natural World (Based on Waterloo CCF)

Review

--> The 3 things that show Jesus is not an ordinary man that we should concern

--> Jesus asked us to look at his works to judge whether his words were true. John 10:37 Jesus says "Don't believe me unless I do what my Father does. But what if I do it? Even if you don't believe me, believe the miracles. Then you will know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father."

Seeds : A sample of Jesus' public teaching

-> it is amazing the affect of the gospel in a person's life. (don't need to explain this to students. Let them go home and think about the stories)

Mustard Seed: A sample of Jesus' public teaching

-> believing in Jesus has a small act on our part. but it will completely change life and life direction.(don't need to explain this to students. Let them go home and think about the stories)

Control over nature (main lesson)

1 read by paragraphs: vocabulary

2 What is the setting?

- Jesus is asleep. (tired from a long day of teaching) How know very tired?
- The disciples are in charge of the boat: easy job, they are fishermen,right?
- Problem: a violent storm.
- (Note common on Lake of Galilee, bring map, many die as develop rapidly.).

3 What is the feeling of the disciples?

- panic. They know the lake and their abilities. This is not a small problem.

4 Why do you think there was a storm?

- natural, just happened
- Satan send storm to stop Jesus getting across the lake.
- Jesus knew but wanted to show disciples through action that he was the son of God.
- to be with Jesus is safety.

4. What does Jesus do when his disciples wake him up?
5. How do the disciples react?
 - amazement--who is this man?
 - (refer back to this when talking about post-resurrection disciples)
6. Act out the scene
7. Conclude:
 - Jesus has power over nature
 - to be with Jesus is safety.

Power and Authority: To control the Spiritual World

Ref: Mark 5:1-15 optional to verse 20 (across the lake)

1. Read paragraph by paragraph: vocabulary

The Setting (1-5)

2. (1-5) What is this man's condition? How does he live/act? Paint a picture with words.
3. (6-8) When the man sees Jesus what does he do?
 - runs to Jesus
 - falls on his knees
 - shouts
4. What words come out of the man's mouth?
 - recognition of who Jesus is
 - recognition of God's power
5. Why do these words come out of the man's mouth?
 - Jesus had commanded the spirit to come out of the man.
6. Why do you think the voice knows who Jesus is? (Jesus has never been here before)
 - No need to comment on answer, this question leads to next questions
7. Who do you think is speaking?
 - Seems to be the demon is using the man's voice, not the man.
 - The demons recognize Jesus' power and who he is. They "believe" in Jesus and are afraid.
8. Why do you think the man doesn't just hide from Jesus?
 - because of who Jesus is, the demons are forced to worship Jesus. Shows Jesus' power/authority as God
 - plead for mercy (demon) -- Jesus had told the demon to come out of the man
 - nowhere to go where Jesus would not find them
 - maybe restricted to the area of the tombs

The Conversation

9. (9-10) Who is Jesus talking to -- the man or the demon in the man?
10. What is the demon's name? Why does he have that name?
 - Legion is military term. squad (10)->centuriae(100)->manipuli(200)->cohorts(600)-> Legion (6000 men)
 - there were a lot of demons in the man!
11. Who is talking to Jesus? What is the request?
 - demon using the man's voice.
 - don't want to leave the area.
12. Why do you think they do not want to leave the area?
 - maybe a dark spiritual area.

The Miracle and results

13. (11-15) What is the request of the demons? Why?

- to enter some pigs
- they know they have to leave the man (obey Jesus)
- they know about pigs (Jews were not allowed to eat pork.)

14. What does Jesus do?
 - permits demons to enter pigs
15. Lets consider the effects of Jesus' actions.
16. What is the affect on the pigs?
 - demons enter pigs
 - pigs stampede (something pigs never do)
 - demons kill the pigs
17. What is the affect on the people watching the pigs?
 - ran away
 - told towns people what happened
18. What is the condition of the man after meeting Jesus?
 - healed and in his right mind
19. Why are the people afraid?
 - they knew the strength of the man and were afraid of him
 - Jesus showed he was more powerful than demons.

Key Point: Jesus has now shown power over demons -- Who is greater than demons? Only God. The only way Jesus could have this power is if he is God or if God had given him this power. Either way we need to be careful in listening to what he said.

The response (16-20).

20. What is the response of the townspeople?
 - Jesus go away.
21. Why do they have this response?
 - Loss of pigs --> loss of income
 - pigs more important than man
 - involved in sinful life and do not want to change.
22. What is the response of the man?
 - thanksgiving
 - desire to follow Jesus
23. What do you think is the response of the disciples?
24. What is the response of people who heard?
 - amazement
25. What is the response of Jesus?
 - he left

Application: If Jesus is not wanted he leaves.

Summary of 3 lessons.

In the last 3 weeks we have seen the power and authority of Jesus:

- to heal sickness
- to forgive sins (claimed by Jesus)
- to control nature
- over demons

How do we respond to Jesus?

- I believe but go away -- we want to live in sin. : Cost is too high. (people)
- I don't understand completely but I want to follow (disciples/demoniac)
- I understand Jesus' claims but I don't believe (Pharisees)

Gaining or losing freedom (optional discussion)

Note the demoniac. Did he gain or lose freedom after meeting Jesus?

lost freedom: chains could not bind him -- too strong;

- no one could subdue him
- no longer naked

gained freedom: before demons controlled, now he is in control of his

- thinking processes
- no longer suffering by cutting himself

for us:

before Christ: we feel we have all freedom, no restrictions. If you come to Christ what freedoms do you gain, what freedoms do you lose?

**no restrictions, feel free to make our own decisions

**freedom to control our thinking by the grace of God--free as a Christian to choose to do right or wrong

---> freedom is internal to selves is most important.

[Everyone obeys law in society. As join a group in society take on more restrictions, more responsibilities. One gains priviledges but pay price. For example, if you have a car you must follow rules of the road but you gain freedom to go places. If follow rules gain safety.]

The Arrest and Crucifixion of Jesus Christ (lessons 7 and 8)

Objectives for this and the next unit:

- to show Jesus claimed to be the Son of God and was therefore put to death
- to show that Jesus was innocent of anything else worthy of death
- to show the significance of Jesus' death for us
- to show the required response from us

Review events leading up to arrest (use Chronology Sheet):

- last supper
- Judas
- Gethsemane

(Delete if 1 hour study) *Arrest* Luke 22 47-52 cf Mark 14:51-52 (eyewitness) Why did the leaders seek to arrest Jesus by night? (not daytime) Answer: [evil always appears at night] popularity with people. [no evidence to arrest Jesus]

Lead in question: Jesus silent in trial except for one thing he says and that convicted him. Do you know what this was?

Jewish Court: Matthew. 26:57-68

1. Read by paragraphs: vocabulary
2. note: illegal trial (at night!)
3. verse 57-63 Jesus remains silent. What are the leaders trying to do?
4. verse 64-68 in desperation they try to get Jesus to incriminate himself.
5. How does Jesus answer?
6. Why does Jesus answer this question? (it seems up to this point Jesus has not directly, publicly claimed to be the Son of God. Now he is asked directly and he must reply.) [Jesus knew from prophets he was going to be killed. put under oath. other points false witnesses so need to answer.]
7. What is the crime for which Jesus is being put to death?

First trial before Pilate: Luke 23:1

1. (1-4) What charges are brought against Jesus?
 - True? Taxes?: What does Jesus say -- Matt 22:17-->
 - True? King?: No where can I find Jesus saying he is King....
 - True? Christ: Answered Samaritan woman's question Yes: He was. Commended Peter when he said Jesus was the Christ. (not openly claim)
2. What is Pilate's decision?
3. (5-7) Jews object, so what does Pilate do?

Trial before Herod (vs 8-12)

1. What is the scene at Herod's palace?
2. Note the suffering of the accused--not yet convicted.
3. What does Herod decide to do?

2nd trial before Pilate (13-25)

1. Again Pilate tells the people Jesus has done nothing worth of death--What does Pilate want to do?
2. Crowd objects, Pilate appeals again. What is crowd's response?
3. What does Pilate finally do? (Matthew (27:24) adds Pilate washed his hands)

Crucifixion (Luke 23:26-38)

- 1 Describe the scene verse 26-38

2 What is Jesus's attitude?--What is he like? verse 34

- to women show concern

- requesting father to forgive them

- ? doesn't Jesus have authority to forgive sins, why ask?? [because he is involved? respect to father?

- => if father would be angry]

3. How are the people reacting to Jesus?

4. (38-43) two criminals -- 2 other people crucified

5. What are the two responses?

6. Why can one of these people be in heaven?

- not works!

- sin confessed/repented (sin recognized)

- recognition of Jesus's innocence

- belief in Jesus' word

- he asked

Death of Jesus (44-46 cf John 19:28-37, Mark 15:33-38)

1. [loud shout --> death was of own accord]

2. Jesus was dead -- water and blood (cf McDowell)

3. Why did Jesus have to die? Miracles give insight:

- eclipse: darkness as evil triumphs, Son of God dies, wrath of God the Father directed against God the Son

- veil of temple ripped into 2: separation of God and man due to sin eliminated

Application: dealing with problem of sin/wrath of God

1. to man

- Jesus death breaks down separation (veil of temple) between God and man

- required response (criminals)

2 to you

- What has Jesus done to end the alienation you feel from God due to your sin?

- How does God require you to respond?

- How will you respond?