

The Testimony  
of  
Faithful Witnesses

# JUNIOR SCHOLAR SUNDAY SCHOOL QUARTERLY

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—————Ages 9-11 (Grades 4-6)—————

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## THE ORDER OF SERVICE

- I. Bell tap or organ voluntary as a signal for silence
- II. Singing
- III. The Apostles' Creed
- IV. Prayer, closing with the Lord's Prayer in concert
- V. Singing
- VI. Calling roll of officers and teachers
- VII. Responsive reading of the lesson text by school
- VIII. The Decalogue

## THE LESSON

- I. Organ interlude while the classes are being arranged
- II. Class study of the lesson
- III. Warning bell—5 minutes
- IV. Closing bell—silence

## THE CLOSING

- I. Singing
- II. Review and application of the lesson
- III. Secretary's report
- IV. The Church School Creed
- V. Singing
- VI. Benediction

**Rev. Dr. Roderick Belin**, Publisher  
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### THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day He arose from the dead, He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Church Universal, the communion of the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

### THE CHURCH SCHOOL CREED

I believe my A.M.E. Church School must grow and grow; and that I must make it a top priority to make it so. Every member a Christian, every Christian a worker, every worker trained so that a worker need not be ashamed. This we ask in Jesus' name.

— A.M.E. Discipline

# DEBORAH EMPOWERED TO DELIVER

**LESSON SCRIPTURE:**

Judges 4:1-24

**FOCUS SCRIPTURE:**

Judges 4:4-10,14



*(Deborah) said, "I will surely go with you; nevertheless, the road on which you are going will not lead to your glory, for the Lord will sell Sisera into the hand of a woman." Judges 4:9*

## WORD POWER

- **DEBORAH** (de-bor'-ah) - The only female judge found in the Old Testament who led a successful battle at the request of a male military officer.
- **BARAK** (bah-rock') - The military officer who asked Deborah to lead the army into battle with him.



# SCRIPTURES

## JUDGES 4:4-10, 14

### Judges 4:4-10

- 4 At that time Deborah, a prophet, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel.
- 5 She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites came up to her for judgment.
- 6 She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Position yourself at Mount Tabor, taking ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun.
- 7 I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops, and I will give him into your hand.'"
- 8 Barak said to her, "If you will go with me, I will go, but if you will not go with me, I will not go."

- 9 And she said, "I will surely go with you; nevertheless, the road on which you are going will not lead to your glory, for the Lord will sell Sisera into the hand of a woman." Then Deborah got up and went with Barak to Kedesh.
  - 10 Barak summoned Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh, and ten thousand warriors went up behind him, and Deborah went up with him.
- 14**
- 14 Then Deborah said to Barak, "Up! For this is the day on which the Lord has given Sisera into your hand. Has not the Lord gone out before you?" So Barak went down from Mount Tabor with ten thousand warriors following him.

## GETTING READY!!!

Xavier was a popular basketball player at his high school. This week, the school was introducing its first female soccer team. Xavier didn't really think these girls could play well enough to compete in sports. But his younger sister was going to be on the team, and he did not want to discourage her. In the locker room, his teammates were joking about the team saying that they would probably go through the whole year without ever getting a win. "This is probably just because the school wants to look good," said one player. "Yeah," said another, "they're just

trying to make the parents happy." The others all laughed and agreed. Xavier listened but didn't say anything. After he got dressed, he just left the locker room without commenting one way or another to his teammates. The next day, Xavier's sister was in the cafeteria when she heard the team making some of the same comments, pointing at her and her teammates, laughing. She stopped at their table and said, "Women play sports all over the world and do it well. If they can, we can. I think you should give us some respect."



## INTO GOD'S WORD!!!

Deborah was a very special person. In the Old Testament, judges, officers, and other powerful people were almost always male. Most women were not involved in any kind of responsible positions as they are today. Deborah, however, was a respected judge who people came to for advice. One day, she asked Barak, a military leader, to prepare for battle. However, he was afraid to do so without her going along. He stated that he would not go unless Deborah agreed to go. She told him yes, but she warned him that the victory would not be his. Xavier was not willing to speak up for his sister's team; his sister was brave enough to tell the team just what she thought when she heard them joking about female athletes. She did what her brother should have done. Below, rewrite the end of the story and describe what Xavier could have said:

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## USING GOD'S WORD!!!

Xavier should have been more of a loving brother to his sister by defending her team in the locker room when he heard his teammates teasing and making unkind remarks about them. Had Barak had more courage, he could have gotten the advice he needed from Deborah and then gone on to fight the battle himself. When you rewrote the end of the story, did you include words such as *respect* or *equal*? Having respect for others and understanding that we are all equal in God's sight is an example of what we should think about when talking about people who are different from us. Xavier's sister stood up for herself and female athletes and made it clear that they deserved the same respect as males. This week, look at a game played by women, whether it is soccer or another sport, and think about the things that you saw in the game that you liked. Did they win or lose? Even if they lost, what were things that happened that you admired? Be ready to talk about it next week!

### REMIX!!!

Speaking up for yourself and defending what you know is right, but it is not always easy. God is there, even when you may not expect it, to help you through hard situations. It probably took courage for Xavier's sister to speak up for herself with the older athletes. Deborah was the only woman judge in her time, so she had a lot to live up to, and she most certainly depended on God to help her along the way. Xavier's sister, just as Deborah did, spoke up and showed the kind of boldness in Christ Jesus we all should have as believers. She did more than her older brother did by letting the male athletes know that they were wrong for disrespecting the female soccer players.



## PRAISE GOD!!!

Take a few minutes to look at pictures and stories of and about Venus and Serena Williams. Talk about who they were and what they accomplished!

## CLOSING PRAYER

(Each month you will have this closing prayer that will help you strengthen your relationship with the Lord and become a better person. Can you memorize it?)

Lord, with your strength and power, I will be an awesome witness for you. Give me the courage to stand up for you through good times and bad. Amen!

# HANNAH ASKS FOR GOD'S FAVOR

**LESSON SCRIPTURE:**

1 Samuel 1:1-28; 2:1-11, 18-19; 3:1-18

**FOCUS SCRIPTURE:**

1 Samuel 1:9-13, 15-17, 19-20, 26-27



*"For this child I prayed, and the Lord has granted me the petition that I made to him." 1 Samuel 1:27*

## WORD POWER

- **COVENANT** (cov'-â-nunt) - A commitment or promise kept between two or more people.



# SCRIPTURES

1 Samuel 1:9-13, 15-17, 19-20, 26-27

## 1 Samuel 1:9-13

- 9 After they had eaten and drunk at Shiloh, Hannah rose and presented herself before the Lord. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside the doorpost of the temple of the Lord.
- 10 She was deeply distressed and prayed to the Lord and wept bitterly.
- 11 She made this vow: "O Lord of hosts, if only you will look on the misery of your servant and remember me and not forget your servant but will give to your servant a male child, then I will set him before you as a nazirite until the day of his death. He shall drink neither wine nor intoxicants, and no razor shall touch his head."
- 12 As she continued praying before the Lord, Eli observed her mouth.
- 13 Hannah was praying silently; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard; therefore Eli thought she was drunk.

## 15-17

- 15 But Hannah answered, "No, my lord, I am a woman deeply troubled; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul

before the Lord.

- 16 Do not regard your servant as a worthless woman, for I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation all this time."
- 17 Then Eli answered, "Go in peace; the God of Israel grant the petition you have made to him."

## 19-20

- 19 They rose early in the morning and worshiped before the Lord; then they went back to their house at Ramah. Elkanah knew his wife Hannah, and the Lord remembered her.
- 20 In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, "I have asked him of the Lord."

## 26-27

- 26 And she said, "Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence praying to the Lord.
- 27 For this child I prayed, and the Lord has granted me the petition that I made to him.

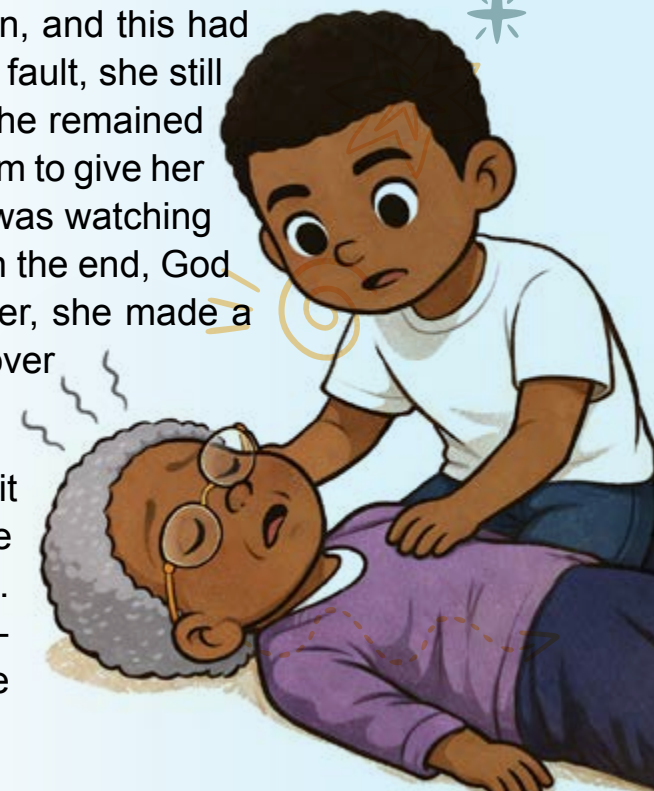
# GETTING READY!!!

Mark's grandmother had raised him since birth after his mother died in a car accident. He never knew who his father was. Today, he was suspended from school for acting out in class and sent home early. When he arrived, he called out for his grandmother, but she didn't answer. "Grandma! I'm home." He got ready for the scolding that he knew was coming, but he didn't hear anything from her bedroom. He went to her door and looked in; she was on the floor. His heart began beating hard, and he ran to the phone to call 911. "God, please help us!" he said. He knew he had not been doing what he should lately, and his grandmother had been very upset. He ran back to her room with tears in his eyes and sat with her until the ambulance came. He whispered a prayer asking God to forgive him for all he had done and to save his grandmother. "I'm sorry, Lord; please forgive me. Help my grandma." In Mark's prayer, he asked God to heal his grandmother. He also asked for forgiveness. He also made a promise to God or a covenant with God that he would behave better in school.

# INTO GOD'S WORD!!!

Hannah was a godly woman, and her husband loved her very much. She had not been able to have children, and this had caused her so much sorrow. Although it wasn't her fault, she still worried about it. Her husband loved her still, but she remained very sad. She decided to pray to the Lord, asking him to give her a son. She was praying so hard that a priest who was watching her thought she was drunk. But she was not, and in the end, God heard her prayer and gave her a son. In her prayer, she made a covenant with God and promised to give her son over to him.

Mark was earnestly sorry for his behavior, but it took his grandmother's illness to make him realize his mistakes. It was then that he prayed to God. Later, they found out that his grandmother had forgotten to take her medication and had fainted. He



stayed with the neighbor for a few days, and then went back home to be with his loved one. What lesson should Mark have learned from this experience?

### USING GOD'S WORD!!!

**D**o you remember a time when you acted up at school or did not behave well and upset your family? What did you do, and did you apologize? The same thing goes for when you are praying to the Lord and asking for something that you need.

It may be forgiveness, or it might be something that you are trying to do. Perhaps you're having trouble in a class, or you need help finding something you have lost. There is nothing too hard or too unimportant to ask of the Lord. Hannah wanted a son, but she had not been able to have a child. God healed her so that she could, and she was grateful. She offered to commit her child to the Lord, and she kept her promise. In Mark's prayer, he asked God to heal his grandmother, and he promised to do better in his behavior. This promise was the same as a covenant that he was making with the Lord. Hannah's covenant was to

give her son back to God. Mark's covenant was to be a better grandson. He also asked God to forgive him for not behaving well in school. God already knew what Mark needed, but it was still important for Mark to ask.

### REMIX!!!

**I**n the word search on the next page, find the words that relate to prayer and making a promise to God. Always remember that God is ready to hear whatever is in your heart. Whether you have done something wrong or just need help, you can go to God with your concern. Just as he helped Hannah and Mark, God is ready and willing to help you! On the other hand, the Lord expects you to keep your word. So, when you say you're going to change, make every effort to do so, and be sincere.

## PRAISE GOD!!!

### Prayer and Promises

H	O	N	E	S	T	O	L	N	R	I	H	T	A
S	R	V	P	G	O	R	O	H	E	S	H	W	N
T	N	L	Y	A	R	P	V	Y	S	N	R	U	R
R	R	K	R	R	E	R	I	G	H	F	R	R	R
U	I	S	R	E	I	G	N	S	A	F	P	R	E
S	T	P	Y	V	A	E	G	U	R	T	H	W	S
T	F	L	S	R	P	E	E	K	E	I	R	R	O
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R	T	S	W	O	R	E	R	L	R	A	I	U	T
T	H	I	S	K	K	O	A	R	R	R	L	Y	T
H	F	I	T	S	O	W	T	H	E	W	K	R	A
Y	U	T	T	H	T	R	R	Y	L	W	V	Y	R
U	L	Y	E	E	E	H	L	N	Y	R	I	A	N

- WHISPER
- LOVING
- HONEST
- SHARE
- TRUSTWORTHY
- PRAY
- RELY
- TRUE
- FAITHFUL
- KEEP

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/9330303/>

## CLOSING PRAYER

(Each month you will have this closing prayer that will help you strengthen your relationship with the Lord and become a better person. Can you memorize it?)

Lord, with your strength and power, I will be an awesome witness for you. Give me the courage to stand up for you through good times and bad. Amen!

# THE BOND BETWEEN DAVID AND JONATHAN

**LESSON SCRIPTURE:**

1 Samuel 18:1-4; 19:1-7; 20:1-42; 2 Samuel 1:17-27; 21:7

**FOCUS SCRIPTURE:**

1 Samuel 18:1-4; 20:16-17, 32-34, 42; 2 Samuel 21:7



*Jonathan made a covenant with David, because he loved him as his own soul. 1 Samuel 18:3*

## WORD POWER

- **DAVID** - A beloved king of Israel and a very close friend of Jonathan, son of King Saul.



# SCRIPTURES

1 SAMUEL 18:1-4; 20:16-17, 32-34, 42; 2 SAMUEL 1:26-27; 21:7

## 1 Samuel 18:1-4

- 1 When David had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was bound to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.
- 2 Saul took him that day and would not let him return to his father's house.
- 3 Then Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as his own soul.
- 4 Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that he was wearing and gave it to David and his armor and even his sword and his bow and his belt.

## 20:16-17

- 16 Thus Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying, "May the Lord seek out the enemies of David."
- 17 Jonathan made David swear again by his love for him, for he loved him as he loved his own life.

## 32-34

- 32 Then Jonathan answered his father Saul, "Why should he be put to death? What has he done?"

- 33 But Saul threw his spear at him to strike him, so Jonathan knew that it was the decision of his father to put David to death.
- 34 Jonathan sprang up from the table in fierce anger and ate no food on the second day of the month, for he was grieved for David and because his father had disgraced him.

## 42

- 42 Then Jonathan said to David, "Go in peace, since both of us have sworn in the name of the Lord, saying, 'The Lord shall be between me and you and between my descendants and your descendants forever.'" He got up and left, and Jonathan went into the city.

## 2 Samuel 21:7

- 7 But the king spared Mephibosheth, the son of Saul's son Jonathan, because of the oath of the Lord that was between them, between David and Jonathan son of Saul.

# GET READY!!!

Nina and Angela were best friends. They hung out together all the time, wore each other's clothes, and stayed at each other's houses. Angela's mother was a housekeeper and custodian. Nina's mom was a physician's assistant, and Nina and her mom lived in a very nice neighborhood. Angela's mother was becoming upset because her daughter was spending more time at Nina's house than at home. One day, she came to Nina's to get Angela and told Nina's mom that Angela was not coming back. "I need her at home," she said. "It's not fair that she stays here more than she stays at her own home!" She grabbed Angela and stomped away. The next day at school, Nina took Angela aside and told her not to worry. "It doesn't matter if you can't come over, I will always have your back." Angela felt ashamed of the way her mom had acted. She apologized for what happened and then thanked her friend. The girls hugged and went to have lunch together.



# INTO GOD'S WORD!!!

David was a very gifted and blessed young man of God. He was able to play instruments, win in battles, and make wise decisions. Jonathan was his best friend, but Jonathan's father, King Saul, was jealous of David. Jealousy can cause people to do mean things, even when they know it is wrong. Jonathan saw the harm jealousy was causing his father and David's relationship. He knew that he could not let the problem go so far that it would destroy his friendship with David. The two of them were like brothers, so he promised David he would always be his friend. In the end, David returned that loyalty with a favor when Jonathan's family needed it.

### USING GOD'S WORD!!!



Like David, Nina was blessed with resources and comforts that Angela didn't have. This was not anyone's fault, but Angela's mother (like King Saul) was jealous. Even adults make mistakes and do things that God would not desire. If you are close to someone else and the two of you have promised to be friends, do your best not to let outside situations come between you. You must always obey your parents, but you can still discuss your feelings and let them know when you believe they have made a mistake. Angela's mother really should have apologized, and hopefully she found a way to do that. This week, choose a friend or someone in your circle of friends and make a commitment that will last. It might be to call each other to say hello each week; it could be to go to a movie together, play video games, or something else that the two of you will enjoy. The main thing is, no matter how small, to make the promise and keep it. Be sure that you are sincere. When you come back to class, let the class or your teacher know how it went. If it doesn't work out this time, try again later.

### REMIX!!!

Have you ever felt envious of something someone else had or left out because someone you liked was friendly with someone else? These are feelings that can destroy a relationship. In our Bible story, Jonathan did not allow this to happen because he loved David as a brother and was willing to do the right thing. Even though he was the son of the man who disliked David, Jonathan remained friends with him. What are some ways that you can work on keeping promises and being loyal? What are some ways that God has kept a promise and been loyal to you?

## TALK ABOUT IT

In a circle, talk about this with your class and share your experiences. If you can't think of one, then listen to others and perhaps you'll be inspired in the future!

## PRAISE GOD!!!

The Jesus in me loves the Jesus in you. The Jesus in me loves the Jesus in you! It's easy, it's so easy, easy to love! Sing this together!



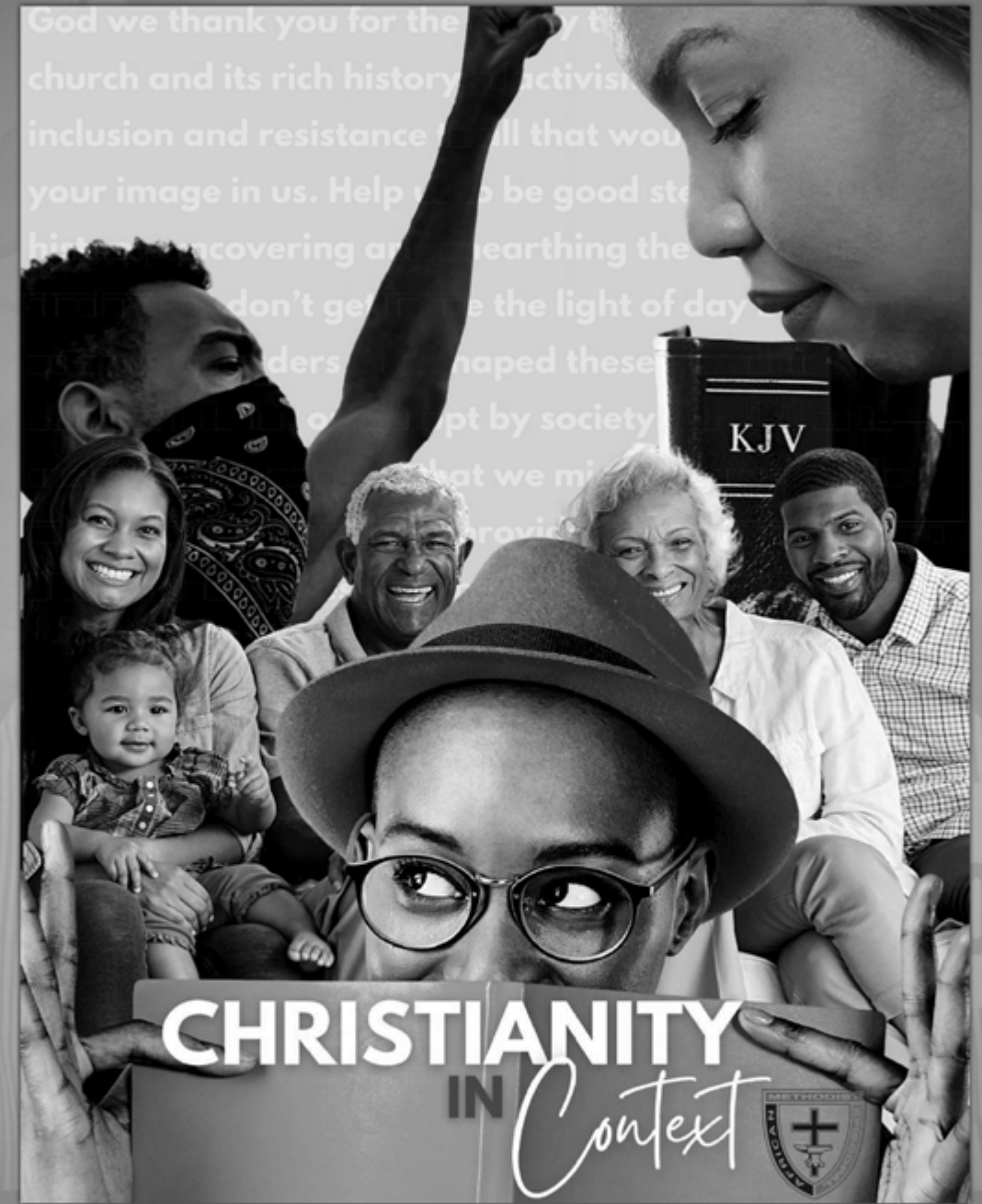
## CLOSING PRAYER

(Each month you will have this closing prayer that will help you strengthen your relationship with the Lord and become a better person. Can you memorize it?)

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