

Fall Quarter: September • October • November 2023



BEGINNERS' STORIES

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Beginners' Stories (USPS 048-480), Vol. 60, No. 4, September, October, November 2023, is published quarterly for \$15.56 per year by AMEC Sunday School Union, 900 13th Avenue South, Nashville 37212. Periodicals Postage Paid at Nashville, Tennessee. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to BEGINNERS' STORIES, 900 13th Avenue South, Nashville 37212.

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Beginners' Stories, Volume 60, No. 4, September, October, November 2023 – Lessons based on the International Sunday School Lessons, The International Bible Lessons for Christian Teaching. Copyright © 2021 by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA.

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Entered as Periodicals Postage Paid Matter, March 20, 1942, at the Post Office at Nashville, Tennessee, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

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Letter to the Parents

Dear Parents,

Thank you for sharing your child with me as we learn about God's Word together. Your child is going to enjoy learning the lessons for this quarter.

Unit I, "Love from the Inside Out," draws on the gospels of Luke and John. In lesson 1, Jesus contrasts the empty acts of piety with enacting justice and God's love. Lesson 2 asks the question of what sort of activities truly honor the Sabbath. Lesson 3 (from the book of John) examines Jesus' teaching that the Sabbath ought to be a day of healing. Lesson 4 raises the question of who is qualified to pass judgment on those who stumble in their attempts to keep the commandments.

Unit II, "Rules Are Not Enough," draws from the books of Romans and Galatians. Lesson 5 shows that just having the Law is not enough; keeping it is what is important. Lesson 6 reveals the struggle to keep the Law due to the weakness of the flesh. In lessons 7 and 8, Paul encourages the Galatians to rely on faith in Christ above the works of the Law. Lesson 9 explores how those in Christ are no longer under the guardianship of the Law but are children of God.

Unit III, "Jesus Sets Us Free," highlights the ways in which Jewish and Gentile Christians wrestled with Mosaic Law in light of Christ's teaching. Lesson 10 (from the book of Acts) shows how salvation for Jews and Gentiles comes by faith in Christ. Lesson 11 (from the book of 1 Corinthians) examines the ways in which the Law finds its fulfillment in the commandment to love. Lesson 12 (from the book of Colossians) contrasts the hollowness of human traditions with the fullness of God found in Christ. The unit concludes with Paul's warning to the Corinthians that Christian liberty is not a license for sin.

Your Child's Teacher



Love Is the Best Rule

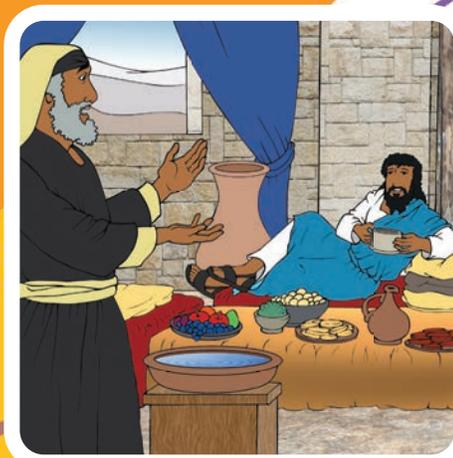
Lesson Scripture: Luke 11:37-41



Key Verse

[Jesus said to the Pharisee,] "As for what is inside you—be generous to the poor, and everything will be clean for you."
(Luke 11:41)





Love Is the Best Rule

(Luke 11:37-41)

A *Pharisee*, a religious leader, invited Jesus to eat with him. When Jesus went to his house, Jesus did not wash up before He sat down to eat. The Pharisee was surprised because he followed Jewish rules and washed his hands before eating.

Jesus told the Pharisee that it was not good if the outside of a cup was clean, but the inside of the cup was dirty. Jesus looked at people's thoughts and actions (or hearts). When we do what is right and show kindness to others, we show that we have a good and clean heart. The best rule is showing love and helping others.

For the Parents

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In today's lesson, your child heard that Jesus was invited to eat at the home of a Pharisee. When Jesus did not wash up before He ate, the Pharisee was surprised. Jesus was not worried about the cleanliness of the outside; instead, Jesus was concerned about a clean heart. As you review this lesson, tell your child that people with clean hearts show kindness and love. Encourage your child to think of how he or she can show kindness to others.

Your Child's Teacher



Faith Block

I will show
others love!

Healing a Sick Man

Lesson Scripture: Luke 14:1-6



Key Verse

Taking hold of the man, [Jesus] healed him and sent him on his way. (Luke 14:4b)





Healing a Sick Man

(Luke 14:1-6)

On the *Sabbath* (day of rest), Jesus went to the home of a Pharisee to eat. He saw a sick man. It was against the law to heal on the Sabbath, so Jesus asked the Pharisees if it was lawful (or allowed) to heal on the Sabbath. The Pharisees did not answer Jesus. Jesus healed the man and sent him away.

Jesus then asked the Pharisees if they would help their child or animal who had fallen into a well on the Sabbath. The Pharisees did not say anything. When Jesus healed the man, He showed love and kindness to the man.

For the Parents

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In today's lesson, your child heard that Jesus healed a man who was sick on the Sabbath. Jesus showed love by healing the man instead of following the rules of the Sabbath. God wants us to show love and kindness to others. When we show kindness to others, God is happy. When you review this lesson, talk to your child about ways to show love and kindness to others.

Your Child's Teacher

An illustration of a young girl with brown hair, wearing a yellow raincoat and yellow boots, holding a pink and purple umbrella. She is walking on a path with water puddles. There are colorful autumn leaves around her.

Faith Block

Be kind
to others!

Teaching the Right Way

Lesson Scripture: John 7:14-18, 24



Key Verse

"Stop judging by mere appearances, but instead judge correctly." (John 7:24)





Teaching the Right Way

(John 7:14-18, 24)

When Jesus went to Galilee, the people were celebrating the Feast of Tabernacles. Jesus went to the Temple to teach, but the people were surprised when they heard Him. They asked how Jesus knew so much because He was not trained.

Jesus told the people that He taught the truth from God. Jesus told them that everything He spoke He had gotten from God. Jesus taught the people the right way. Jesus wanted the people to listen and carefully *judge* (decide what is right or wrong) correctly. They were to stop judging only by what they saw.

For the Parents

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In today's lesson, your child heard that Jesus taught in the Temple during the Feast of Tabernacles. Jesus told the truth from God. He taught the right way. This week, read God's Word to your child. Talk to your child about how he or she can share the truth with others through what he or she says and does. Pray together for people to want to know God's truth.

Your Child's Teacher

An illustration of a young girl with dark skin and curly hair, wearing a yellow raincoat and yellow boots. She is holding a large pink umbrella and running happily in the rain. Water droplets are visible around her feet. The background shows a stone path and some autumn leaves.

Faith Block

God sent Jesus!