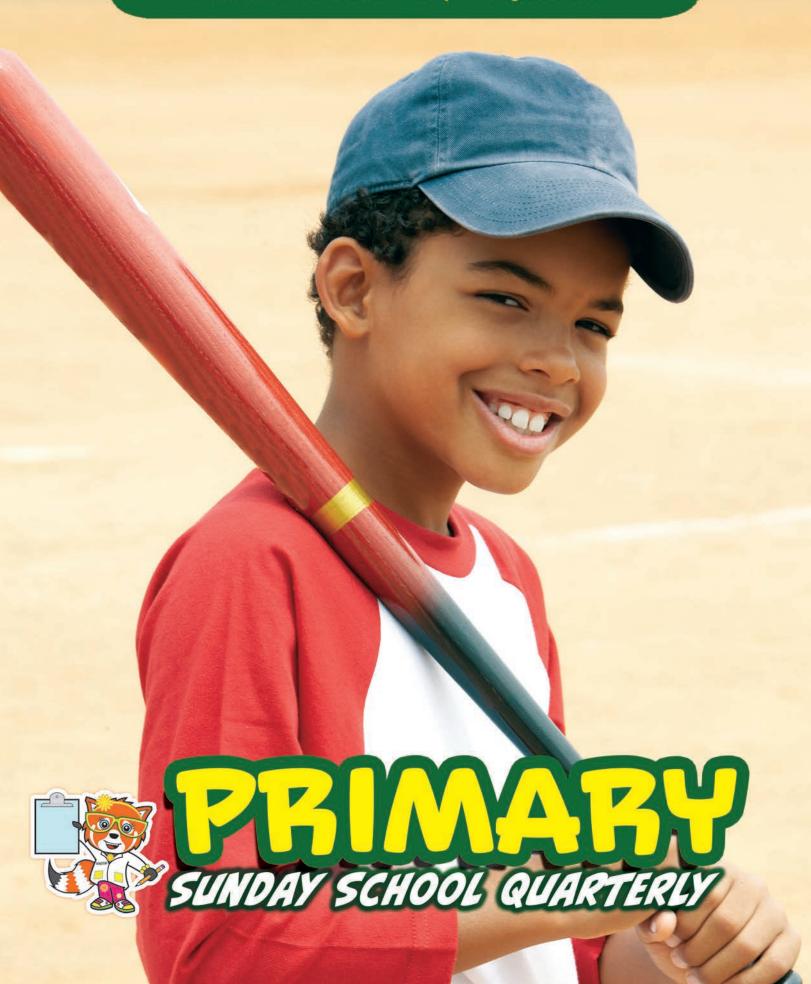
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PRIMARY Sunday School Quarterly (USPS

444-280), Vol. 60, No. 3, June, July, August 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 PRIMARY Sunday School Quarterly, 900 13th Avenue South, Nashville 37212.

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Primary Sunday School Quarterly, Volume 60, No. 3, June, July, August 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,

I feel really blessed to have the opportunity to work with your child this quarter. We will explore God's Word together through these thirteen lessons. My prayer is that your child will learn a lot and that the learning will result in his or her having a closer relationship with God.

Unit I, "God's Messengers Describe God's Power," is a five-week study of the reign of God as depicted in the books of Isaiah, Ezekiel, Zephaniah, and Zechariah. Taken as a whole, what do these prophetic texts teach us about the kind of rule that God exerts over the earth's inhabitants? The first two lessons advance the theme of God's powerful and peaceful reign. Lesson 3 introduces the concept of God's Servant-King, the promised Messiah. Lessons 4 and 5 explore the concept of God's appointed King.

Unit II, "Jesus Describes God's Rule," presents four lessons on Jesus' kingdom teachings as found in the gospel of Matthew—with the first one recounting how Jesus' powerful acts of deliverance are evidence of God's kingdom in our midst. The next three lessons explore Jesus' parables of the kingdom in Matthew 13: the urgency of understanding its message; the enemy who undermines kingdom work; the unseen growth of the kingdom; the precious joy of finding the kingdom; and the universal judgment at the end of the age.

Unit III, "God's Authority Will Never End," presents four lessons from the New Testament epistles about the implications of life under God's authority. The first one explores the fruit of life according to the law of love. The next lesson contrasts a life of religious rule following with the righteousness, peace, and joy to be found in God's economy. The third one reminds us that the power of God is at work in us. The unit concludes with praise for Christ, the exalted ruler.

You can have a discussion with your child about giving his or her life to God with help from the ABCs of Salvation, listed below.

- A. Say, "Admit you have sinned (see Psalm 32:5), or done wrong." Go through just a few of the Ten Commandments—stealing or lying and so forth. Tell how our sins separate us from God (see Isaiah 59:2 and Romans 3:23).
- B. Say, "Believe Jesus is God's Son. He took the punishment for our sins by dying on the cross (see Romans 5:8). We must believe that Jesus is God's Son and that God raised Him from the dead."
- C. Say, "Call on God to forgive you (see Acts 2:21). When we are sorry for our sins and want to stop doing wrong, we can ask God to forgive us (see Acts 16:31)."

I look forward to helping your child understand what it means to have faith in Jesus Christ. Thank you for the opportunity to help shape your child's spiritual life.

Your Child's Teacher



"Know My Name"

The people of Judah did not obey God. They worshipped other gods. Because of their sins, they suffered and were captured by Babylon.

Isaiah was God's prophet messenger. He shared some good news from God with the people.

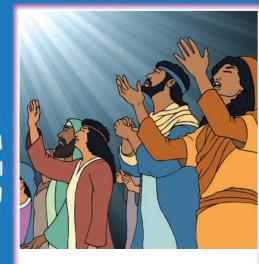
God promised to restore Jerusalem as a holy city. Isaiah asked Jerusalem to remember God's promises. Other nations did not respect God, but God's people would know God's name and that it is God who speaks.

Isaiah foretold about the beautiful feet (or begutiful work) of those who share the Good News. They will talk about God's peace, good

reports, and freedom from sin. Because God has shown His strength, His people can sing and be happy.

God's people will say, "God is in control." Other nations will see God save His people when God's people return to Jerusalem. When the people leave

> Babylon, they should not touch anything unclean. They will not rush because God will go before them. God will also be behind His people. God will protect His people.



Lesson Scripture: Isaiah 52:7-12

Key Verse

The LORD will go before you, the God of Israel will be your rear guard. (Isaiah 52:12b)





Should He Help?

When Mr. Evans was passing out notes to his students, he said to Jackson, "We have a new student next week, and I hope you can help when he starts. Here's a note for your parents explaining everything you need to do."

When Jackson went to lunch, he said to his friend, "Ethan, Mr. Evans wants me to help show the new student around the school. I don't want to help."

Ethan said, "I helped when you started last year. Now we're friends. You can do it. It's good to help someone."

Jackson said, "I don't want to babysit anyone for a whole week."

During the weekend, Jackson waited to give his parents the note from his teacher. On Sunday, the pastor preached about helping others and showing God's love. Jackson thought about the message on his way home.

When Jackson was home, he told his parents, "I have a note from Mr. Jackson for you."

Jackson's dad asked, "Why didn't you give it to us Friday?"

Jackson said, "On Friday, I didn't want to help. I'm sorry. After hearing today's message, I know I need to help the new student and show God's love to him."



Exploring the Story in Ruby's



Hello! Ruby here! I'm a scientist who loves learning. Guess what I learned today? God's children can share the Good News. What is the Good News? The Good News is that we have a new life with God because Jesus Christ lives. We can be happy because God is in control and God

saves us. Can you share the Good News?

Here's your assignment. Ask your parents to help you share the Good News by giving someone the candy with the "God Saves Us" label. Tell me about it next week.

Choose the Right Answer

Look at each sentence below. Select the correct answer to complete the statement.



Unscrambler

Unscramble the scrambled-up words from today's lesson. (The first letter of each word is in bold.) Next, write each letter that has a number under it in the sentence squares below. Then read the message together as a class.







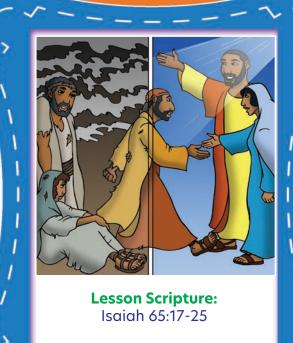
The sins of the people led to God's judgment and punishment. But there was hope! God would not remember the people's sins. God would save His people. God's people would bring Him joy.

God will create a new heaven and a new earth. There will be a new Jerusalem.

God's people will be there. God's people will be glad and rejoice. The sound of crying and sadness will not be heard anymore. God's people will live a long time.

God's people will not do work for others to enjoy. Instead, they will build houses and live in them. They will plant fruit and eat it. God will bless His people.

God will hear His people before they call Him. God will care for His people and their children. Animals will eat together in peace, but the serpent will eat dust because he caused Adam and Eve to disobey God. There will be no more hurt or destruction.



Key Verse

[God said,] "Be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create." (Isaiah 65:18a)





Trusting God

Samantha and Elissa heard their parents talking when they came home from school.

Samantha said, "Elissa, let's go to our room. I will help you with your homework; then we can go play."

Elissa said, "I wish I could stay at school. My classmates and teacher don't fuss. We learn and have fun."

Samantha said, "I know you like your second-grade class, but we need to trust God to help Mom and Dad. They are trying to talk and be friends to be better parents."

Elissa asked, "When did they stop being friends? I'm not too fond of all the fussing, and sometimes it's too quiet when we

have dinner. No one talks."

Samantha said, "Let's pray."

After Elissa and Samantha held hands and prayed, they hugged.

"Samantha, I need to ask God for one more thing," Elissa said as she grabbed Samantha's hands again and began to pray: "God, I don't want to stay at school. I know You can help my parents be nice to each other. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen."



Hello! Ruby here. As a scientist, I'm concerned about global warming and the earth. Things are sad now, but God gives His people hope for the future! God will create a new heaven and earth where there will be peace and joy. Even the wolf and lamb will be peaceful. God's people will be happy and glad. Can you use your imagination to draw a picture of the new heaven and earth?

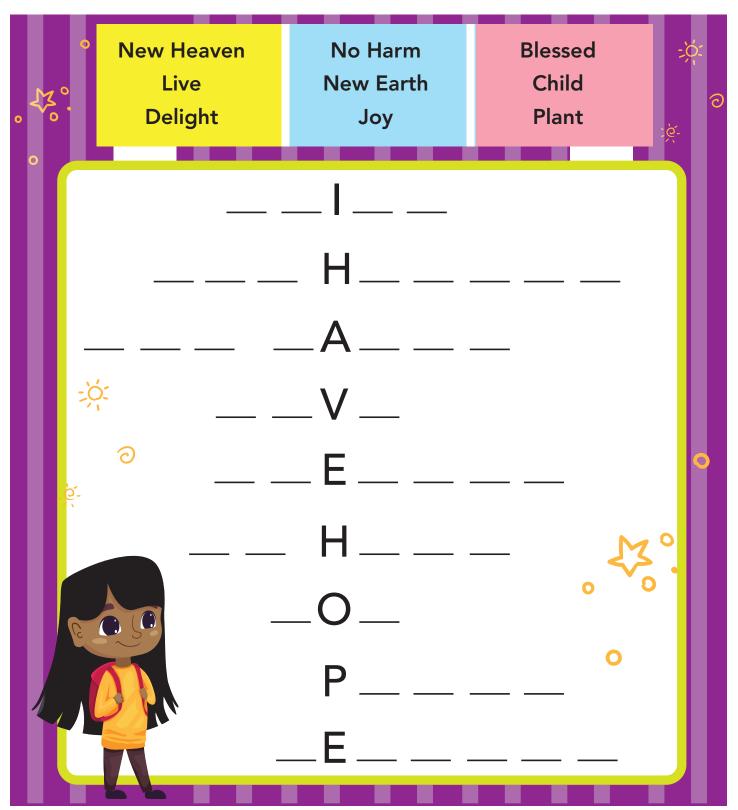
Here's your assignment: Ask your parents to help you list the happy things that God has promised will be in the new heaven and earth. Let's talk next week.



in Ruby's

A "What Do We Have?" Acrostic

Complete the acrostic puzzle using the words in the box from today's lesson. Take time to complete the puzzle to learn what we have as God's children. Your teacher will be available to help any students who have questions.



Fill in the Blanks

Use your Bible to fill in the blanks from the Scripture passage.

***	<u> </u>		
	1.	"My ones will long the work of their" (verse 22c)	
	2.	"For they will be a people by the, they and their descendants with them." (verse 23b)	
1	3.	"I will over Jerusalem and take in my people." (verse 19a)	
*	4.	" they call I answer; while they are still speaking I hear." (verse 24)	
***	5.	"See, I will new and a new" (verse 17a)	
*	6.	"They will neither nor on all my holy mountain," says the (verse 25b)	



One for All

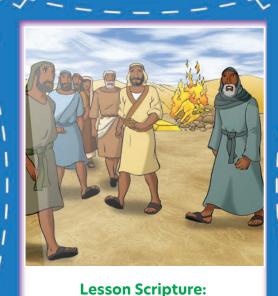
The Israelites were divided into the Northern Kingdom (Israel) and the Southern Kingdom (Judah). The people of the Northern Kingdom had been taken to Babylon. Ezekiel, God's prophet, had been taken to Babylon, too. God would unite the two nations,

Israel and Judah. They would be one nation. There would be one king over them. They would not follow false gods or idols. God would save them and cleanse them. They would be God's people, and God would be their God.

That God's servant David would be their king refers to the Messiah and King who would come from the line of David to save God's

people. They would follow God's laws. Forever they would live in the land that God gave their ancestors. God would make a lasting covenant of peace with them. Their numbers would increase. God would be with them. All nations would know that God made Israel holy. God's Temple would be restored, and

God would be with His people.



Ezekiel 37:21-28

Key Verse

[God said,] "'My servant David will be king over them, and they will all have one shepherd." (Ezekiel 37:24a)





God Knows What Is Best

Jacob and Kyle's dad said, "We're moving next month. God has blessed me with a promotion at work. I know your school term is not over, so you will stay with Nana and Grandpa for one month until school is out. By then, I will have our new home ready."

Jacob said, "I don't want to leave my friends and Mrs. Simmons. She's my favorite teacher."

Kyle said, "You're in the second grade. You'll make new friends. But next school year, I will be in middle school and I won't know anyone. Dad, do we have to move?"

Their dad said, "Yes. We do have to move. You'll make new

friends."

Jacob said, "I know God will show you a neighborhood where we'll make good friends."

Kyle hugged his dad and said, "I know you prayed to God, and God knows what is best for us."

After the school term was over, Grandpa and Nana brought Jacob and Kyle to their new home.

When they drove in front of the home, Grandpa said, "Boys, remember that God will always do what is best for you. Trust Him."



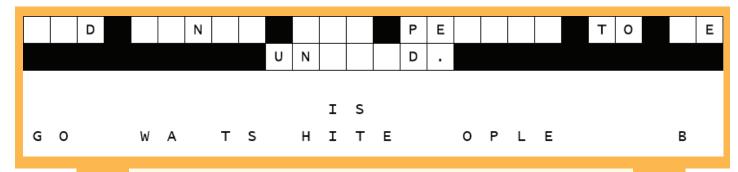
Hello! Ruby here. Friends, God's people were divided into the Northern and Southern Kingdoms. God promised to bring the two kingdoms together. Do you think God did what was best when He united the kingdoms?

A pair is a set of two things that are good together-for example, labs and microscopes. Let's complete a pairing experiment. Your teacher will give vou instructions.

Here's your assignment: Ask your parents to help you list things that show that God is doing what is best for you and your family. Tell me about it next week.

A Reason to Be Happy

Complete the puzzle from today's lesson. Use the letters below each block to solve the puzzle. Solve the small words first, then solve the larger words to complete the sentence.





Fill in the Blanks

Use your Bible to fill in the blanks from the Scripture passage.

1.	"'I will them from all around and bring them into their land." (verse 21b)
2.	"'They will be my, and I will be their'" (verse 23b)
3.	"'I will make them nation in the, on the of Israel." (verse 22a)
4.	"'Then the nations will know that I the make Israel, when my sanctuary is among them" (verse 28)
5.	"'I will make a covenant of with them; it will be an everlasting" (verse 26a)
6.	"'They will in the land I gave to my servant, the land where your lived.'" (verse 25a)