

Guide to "Getting to Know Jesus"

CHAPTER ONE

00-01 Introduction (John 12:20-21)

ASSIGNMENT:

- Write a prayer asking the Holy Spirit to bless your study, then use the prayer each time you begin to study or teach.

01-01 Opening Illustrations

ASSIGNMENT:

- Read Acts 4:12, 2 Timothy 1:12, Philippians 3:10.
- Explain to your mentor 1) why and 2) how Jesus is alive for you.

01-02 God's Kind of God

ASSIGNMENT:

- Write down one experience explaining how you learned to know Christ better. Be ready to share that experience with your mentor.
- Read John 15:16, Ephesians 2:8-9, Philippians 2:13

01-03 God Reaches Out to Us (Part I)

ASSIGNMENT:

- Review Ephesians 2:8-9.
- Define (explain) the words "grace" and "conversion."

01-04 God Reaches Out to Us (Part II)

ASSIGNMENT:

- Describe (explain) the ways God shows His love for us.
- Read Romans 6:23, Colossians 1:19-20

01-05 The "Representative" Human Being

ASSIGNMENT:

- Define (explain) the word "reconcile."
- Read Hebrews 10:12,14, Romans 8:31-39, Galatians 4:4-5.

01-06 For Further Study

ASSIGNMENT:

- Suppose someone says, "I did a terrible sin. God can't love me." How can you give them comfort?
- Read John 5:39-40.

01-07 Christ and the Holy Bible

ASSIGNMENT:

- "Salvation is God's free gift. We receive that gift through faith in Jesus Christ." How has this teaching helped you know Jesus better?
- Read 1 Corinthians 2:14, 2 Corinthians 4:5, James 3:1, Daniel 12:3

01-08 On Reading this Book & A Word for Teachers

ASSIGNMENT:

- Review the questions in number 5 above, and discuss them with your mentor. Think about the word "sin." What does it mean?

CHAPTER TWO

02-01 Opening & Only One Sin (Part I)

ASSIGNMENT:

- Read Luther's explanation of the First Commandment.
- How do Luther's words help you understand sin?

02-02 Opening/Only One Sin (Part II)

ASSIGNMENT:

- Describe (explain) the word "repent".
- Write down some examples of how people misunderstand the Bible message.
- Read James 2:10, the Ten Commandments, and Luther's explanations to the Ten Commandments.

02-03 "I've Never Broken a Commandment!"

ASSIGNMENT:

- List several ways that people excuse their sinful behavior.
- Read Rom 5:12, Ephesians 2:1-3, Psalm 51:4, Luke 15:18-19.

02-04 Original Sin and Actual Sin (Part I)

ASSIGNMENT:

- Read Genesis 8:21, Romans 5:12 & 7:18 & 8:7, Ephesians 2:1-3
- Write down what these verses tell you about original sin.
- Discuss with your mentor the difference between original and actual sin.

02-05 Original Sin and Actual Sin (Part II)

ASSIGNMENT:

- Consider how you can share God's Law so that your student will want to hear the Good News.
- Read Luke 15:11-24, Isaiah 43:25, Psalm 103:11-12.

02-06 The Great Gap & God's Kind of Forgiveness

ASSIGNMENT:

- There is really only one sin. What is it?
- What should knowing our sin lead us to do?
- How is God's forgiveness different than our forgiveness?
- Read 1 Peter 1:1-2, 1 John 5:7

CHAPTER THREE

03-01 Opening

ASSIGNMENT:

- Memorize Deut 6:4, Ephesians 1:3, John 1:1-2, Acts 5:3-4.
- Practice the sign for “Triune” (and “Trinity”) and the triangle sign.
- Read the First Article of the Apostles Creed.
- Read Romans 1:19-20, Isaiah 64:8

03-02 God the Father

ASSIGNMENT:

- Review and memorize the First Article part of the Apostles Creed.
- Read Luther's explanation of the First Article in the Small Catechism.
- Read Hebrews 11:3, Genesis 1 and 2

03-03 God the Creator

ASSIGNMENT:

- Write down how evolution is the same-as a faith.
- Write down several ways that God continues to care for you.
- Read Luther's morning and evening prayer in the Catechism.

03-04 *The Angels*

ASSIGNMENT:

- Write down why God made the angels.
- Luther teaches us to ask God to send us what?
- Read Genesis 3:1-5, 1 Peter 5:8-9

03-05 *Satan, Prince of Devils*

ASSIGNMENT:

- Read Luther's hymn "A Mighty Fortress is Our God." Learn how to sign the hymn.
- Someone says, "I am afraid of the devil." How do you comfort him?
- Read the Apostles Creed, the Second Article. Also read Luther's explanation.

03-06 *God the Son*

ASSIGNMENT:

- Read Matt 10:32-33, John 14:6, Romans 10:9, 1 John 4:2-3.
- The way of salvation is what? The way of salvation is who?
- Suppose your student says, "Why should I believe in Jesus Christ?" Your answer is what?
- Read the Apostles Creed, Article Three. Also read Luther's explanation.

03-07 *God the Holy Spirit*

ASSIGNMENT:

- Your student says "I went to another church, and I made a decision to follow Jesus." Your answer is what?
- Explain why we cannot convert ourselves and believe in Jesus.
- Read Galatians, chapters 5 and 6.
- Read Ten Commandments and Luther's explanation.

03-08 The Holy Spirit and the Ten Commandments

ASSIGNMENT:

- Some wrong ways to understand God's Law are what?
- Write the positive ways Luther explains each Commandment.
- The Christian life is what?
- Read Matthew 28:19-20.

CHAPTER FOUR

04-01 Opening Section

ASSIGNMENT:

- We feel God is gone. Did God stray away or did we stray away?
- God offers forgiveness four ways. Name them.
- Your friend doesn't want to go to church. What do you say?
- Read Romans 6:3-4 and Luther's explanation of Holy Baptism.

04-02 The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

ASSIGNMENT:

- Read Mark 16:16, 1 Peter 3:21, Acts 2:28, Galatians 3:26-27. What do these verses say about Baptism?
- A friend says, "I don't believe babies should be baptized." What do you answer?
- Baptism does what?

04-03 Baptism and Confirmation

ASSIGNMENT:

- "Confirmation completes Baptism." Explain why this sentence is wrong.
- What benefit does confirmation give us?
- Read Luther's explanation of the Lord's Supper.

04-04 The Holy Eucharist (Part I)

ASSIGNMENT:

- Read again Luther's explanation for the Lord's Supper. Discuss it with your mentor.
- A visitor asks to receive the Lord's Supper, what do you say?
- "Eucharist" means what? Why is the Lord's Supper named "Eucharist?"

04-05 The Holy Eucharist (Part II)

ASSIGNMENT:

- How do you earn the right to receive the Lord's Supper?
- Someone says, "I don't want to receive the Lord's Supper often." What is your answer?
- Read 2 Corinthians 2:10, 1 John 1:8-9, John 20:22-23

04-06 Private Confession and Holy Absolution

ASSIGNMENT:

- Private confession and absolution give benefits. Explain.
- When a person confesses sin, what does the pastor do?
- When a pastor announces forgiveness, who really is announcing it?
- Read John 20:31, 2 Timothy 3:15

CHAPTER FIVE

05-01 Opening / Holy Bible

ASSIGNMENT:

- God gave the Bible. Why?
- Read John 20:31
- Your student says, "The Bible is full with rules for correct living." Explain the Bible's central teaching.
- Read 2 Peter 1:21, 2 Corinthians 10:5, Colossians 2:8

05-02 "Mistakes" in the Holy Bible?

ASSIGNMENT:

- Read Psalm 119:73, Matthew 13:19, Romans 3:4
- We have human reason and the Bible, which is more important?
- The word "inspired" means what?
- The Bible is different from other books. How?
- Read 2 Peter 3:15-16, Hebrews 1:1-2

05-03 Interpreting the Holy Bible

ASSIGNMENT:

- Write the six rules for helping people understand the Bible. Share the rules with another person.
- Read Hebrews 4:12, Romans 1:16.

05-04 Devotional Use of the Bible

ASSIGNMENT:

- Write a plan for reading the Bible daily.
- Write a brief prayer asking God to bless your study.
- Read Ephesians 5:25, Romans 9:3-8.

CHAPTER SIX

06-01 *Introduction & Christ's Worldwide Church*

ASSIGNMENT:

- Your students ask, “Why should I attend church?” What do you answer?
- We say that OT believers belong to the Church. How?
- Read Romans 9:3-8. Your relationship to Abraham is what?

06-02 *The Lutheran Church*

ASSIGNMENT:

- Someone says, “The Lutheran Church is the same as the Catholic Church.” You answer how?
- The Book of Concord is what?
- Read 1 Corinthians 12, Ephesians 4:11-12

06-03 *The Local Congregation & Role of the Pastor*

ASSIGNMENT:

- The body is a good picture to describe the Church. Explain.
- Satan makes conflict in congregations. How?
- Think about ways that you can encourage pastors and congregations to work together doing ministry.

06-04 *What is a Lutheran?*

ASSIGNMENT:

- Think about the question: You are a Lutheran. Why? Share your answers with your mentor.
- Read Galatians 2:20.
- Read the Lord’s Prayer and Luther’s explanation.

CHAPTER SEVEN

07-01 *Introduction & Lord Teach Us to Pray*

ASSIGNMENT:

- An active prayer life can give us what?
- Is it possible to pray too much?
- “If you are too busy to pray, then you are more busy than God wants.” This sentence is true. How?
- Read 1 John 5:20-21, Read James 1:6-7, Matthew 4:10.

07-02 *Holy Scriptures and Prayer*

ASSIGNMENT:

- Describe Prayer. We should be confident. Why?
- Practice the Lord’s Prayer and teach another person.
- Read 1 John 1:3, Luke 24:45-49, Acts 22:14-15
- Read again, Apostles Creed, Article 3 and Luther’s Explanation

07-03 *Introduction (Evangelism)*

ASSIGNMENT:

- The word evangelism means what?
- Your student says, “I am not a missionary.” What do you say?
- Read Matthew 9:35-38, Matthew 10:19-20

07-04 *Christ's Way of Communication*

ASSIGNMENT:

- When our Lord communicated with people, He did five things. Write down and study His approach.
- Read Matthew 10:19-20. This verse prepares you for sharing Jesus how?
- Read 1 Thessalonians 4:17-18.

CHAPTER EIGHT

08-01 *Introduction*

ASSIGNMENT:

- Someone says, “Only believers will rise again.” What do you answer?

- Someone says, “God does NOT permit hell.” What do you answer?
- Read Revelation 14:13, 1 Peter 3:21-22

08-02 Resurrection of the Body

ASSIGNMENT:

- Read the special services (Rites) for Baptism and Funeral. Baptism prepares us for death how?
- A friend says, “Death is natural.” What do you say?
- Read 1 Corinthians 15:51-52, Psalm 16:11, Romans 8:18

08-03 Life Everlasting

ASSIGNMENT:

- Explain hope to your student.
- Read the *Divine Service in Lutheran Worship*, especially the communion section.