

- Song 123 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

**TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD**

- “A Little Leaven Ferments the Whole Batch of Dough”: (10 min.)



5:1, 2, 5-11, 13

How can it be said that disfellowshipping is a loving provision when it causes so much pain?

Disfellowshipping shows love for . . .

- Jehovah by honoring his holy name.—1Pe 1:15, 16
- the congregation by protecting it from corrupting influences.—1Co 5:6
- the wrongdoer by helping him come to his senses.—Heb 12:11

How can you give support to Christian family members of a disfellowshipped one?

- (1 Corinthians 5:1, 2) Actually sexual immorality is reported among you, and such immorality as is not even found among the nations—of a man living with his father’s wife. 2 And are you proud of it? Should you not rather mourn, so that the man who committed this deed should be taken away from your midst?

- (1 Corinthians 5:5-11) you must hand such a man over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord. 6 Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven ferments the whole batch of dough? 7 Clear away the old leaven so that you may be a new batch, inasmuch as you are free from ferment. For, indeed, Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed. 8 So, then, let us keep the festival, not with old leaven, nor with leaven of badness and wickedness, but with unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. 9 In my letter I wrote you to stop keeping company with sexually immoral people, 10 not meaning entirely with the sexually immoral people of this world or the greedy people or extortioners or idolaters. Otherwise, you would actually have to get out of the world. 11 But now I am writing you to stop keeping company with anyone called a brother who is sexually immoral or a greedy person or an idolater or a reviler or a drunkard or an extortioner, not even eating with such a man.
- (1 Corinthians 5:13) while God judges those outside? “Remove the wicked person from among yourselves.”
- (1 Peter 1:15, 16) but like the Holy One who called you, become holy yourselves in all your conduct, 16 for it is written: “You must be holy, because I am holy.”
- (1 Corinthians 5:6) Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven ferments the whole batch of dough?
- (Hebrews 12:11) True, no discipline seems for the present to be joyous, but it is painful; yet afterward, it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

How can you give support to Christian family members of a disfellowshipped one?

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1Co 5:1, 2—The congregation in Corinth was tolerating an unrepentant wrongdoer

(1 Corinthians 5:1, 2) 5 Actually sexual immorality is reported among you, and such immorality as is not even found among the nations—of a man living with his father’s wife. 2 And are you proud of it? Should you not rather mourn, so that the man who committed this deed should be taken away from your midst?

Reference Material.

\*\*\* w97 8/15 p. 28 Why Report What Is Bad? \*\*\*

The apostle Paul’s letters to the Christian congregation at Corinth show how the reporting of wrongdoing worked toward the cleansing of God’s people there. In his first letter, Paul wrote: “Actually fornication is reported among you, and such fornication as is not even among the nations, that a wife a certain man has of his father.”—1 Corinthians 5:1.

The Bible does not tell us from whom the apostle received this report. It may be that Paul learned about the situation from Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus, who had traveled from Corinth to Ephesus where Paul was staying. Paul had also received a letter of inquiry from the Christian congregation in Corinth. Whatever the source, once the situation had been reported to Paul by reliable witnesses, he was then able to give direction on the matter. “Remove the wicked man from among yourselves,” he wrote. The man was expelled from the congregation.—1 Corinthians 5:13; 16:17, 18.

\*\*\* w78 3/15 p. 27 Incestuous Marriages—How Should Christians View Them? \*\*\*

In this connection, what of the case described at 1 Corinthians 5:1? Here the apostle describes an immoral relationship between a man and his father’s wife, evidently the man’s stepmother. The account does not say that any marriage was involved and, in fact, the apostle calls it “fornication” (porneia). The account does not say that the man’s father was still alive, although the words at 2 Corinthians 7:12, if applying to this same case, would indicate that he was. It therefore seems that it was not a case of marriage but of the man’s living immorally with his stepmother. But, even though the question of marriage may not be involved, Paul’s reference to this as a case of fornication such as “is not even among the nations” clearly shows that the family relationship existing made the fornication especially scandalous.—1 Cor. 5:1.

1Co 5:5-8, 13—Paul told the congregation to remove the “leaven” from their midst and hand the wrongdoer over to Satan (it-2 230, 869-870)

(1 Corinthians 5:5-8) 5 you must hand such a man over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord. 6 Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven ferments the whole batch of dough? 7 Clear away the old leaven so that you may be a new batch, inasmuch as you are free from ferment. For, indeed, Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed. 8 So, then, let us keep the festival, not with old leaven, nor with leaven of badness and wickedness, but with unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

(1 Corinthians 5:13) 13 while God judges those outside? “Remove the wicked person from among yourselves.”

\*\*\* it-2 p. 230 Leaven \*\*\*

The apostle Paul employed the same symbolism when he commanded the Christian congregation in Corinth to expel an immoral man from the congregation, stating: “Do you not know that a little leaven ferments the whole lump? Clear away the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, according as you are free from ferment. For, indeed, Christ our passover has been sacrificed.” He then clearly showed what he meant by “leaven”: “Consequently let us keep the festival, not with old leaven, neither with leaven of badness and wickedness, but with unfermented cakes of sincerity and truth.” (1Co 5:6-8) Paul here was drawing on the pictorial meaning of the Jewish Festival of Unfermented Cakes, which immediately followed the Passover celebration. Just as a bit of sourdough soon causes the whole lump, or batch, of bread to be leavened, so the congregation as a body would become unclean in Jehovah’s eyes if they did not clear out this corrupting influence of the immoral man. They must act to get the “leaven” out of their midst, just as the Israelites could have no leaven in their houses during the festival.

\*\*\* it-2 pp. 869-870 Satan \*\*\*

What is meant by ‘handing a person over to Satan for destruction of the flesh’? In instructing the congregation at Corinth as to the action to take toward a member of the congregation who had wickedly been committing incest with the wife of his father, the apostle Paul wrote: “Hand such a man over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh.” (1Co 5:5) This was a command to expel the man from the congregation, cutting off all fellowship with him. (1Co 5:13) Turning him over to Satan would put him out of the congregation and into the world over which Satan is the god and ruler. Like “a little leaven” in “the whole lump” of dough, this man was “the flesh,” or fleshly element inside the congregation; and by removing this incestuous man, the spiritually minded congregation would destroy “the flesh” from the midst of it. (1Co 5:6, 7) Similarly, Paul

handed Hymenaeus and Alexander over to Satan, because they had thrust aside faith and a good conscience and had experienced shipwreck concerning their faith.—1Ti 1:20.

- (1 Corinthians 5:5) you must hand such a man over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord.
- (1 Corinthians 5:13) while God judges those outside? “Remove the wicked person from among yourselves.”
- (1 Corinthians 5:6, 7) Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven ferments the whole batch of dough? 7 Clear away the old leaven so that you may be a new batch, inasmuch as you are free from ferment. For, indeed, Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed.
- (1 Timothy 1:20) Hy·me·nae'us and Alexander are among these, and I have handed them over to Satan so that they may be taught by discipline not to blaspheme.

**1Co 5:9-11—The congregation should not keep company with unrepentant wrongdoers (lvs 241, endnote “Disfellowshipping”)**

**(1 Corinthians 5:9-11) 9 In my letter I wrote you to stop keeping company with sexually immoral people, 10 not meaning entirely with the sexually immoral people of this world or the greedy people or extortioners or idolaters. Otherwise, you would actually have to get out of the world. 11 But now I am writing you to stop keeping company with anyone called a brother who is sexually immoral or a greedy person or an idolater or a reviler or a drunkard or an extortioner, not even eating with such a man.**

\*\*\* lvs p. 241 Endnotes \*\*\*

## 8 DISFELLOWSHIPPING

When someone who has seriously sinned does not repent and refuses to follow Jehovah's standards, he can no longer be a member of the congregation. He needs to be disfellowshipped. When someone is disfellowshipped, we have no more dealings with that person and we stop talking to him. (1 Corinthians 5:11; 2 John 9-11) The disfellowshipping arrangement protects Jehovah's name and the congregation. (1 Corinthians 5:6) Disfellowshipping is also discipline that can help someone to repent so that he can return to Jehovah.—Luke 15:17.

- (1 Corinthians 5:11) But now I am writing you to stop keeping company with anyone called a brother who is sexually immoral or a greedy person or an idolater or a reviler or a drunkard or an extortioner, not even eating with such a man.
- (2 John 9-11) Everyone who pushes ahead and does not remain in the teaching of the Christ does not have God. The one who does remain in this teaching is the one who has both the Father and the Son. 10 If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your homes or say a greeting to him. 11 For the one who says a greeting to him is a sharer in his wicked works.
- (1 Corinthians 5:6) Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven ferments the whole batch of dough?
- (Luke 15:17) "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have more than enough bread, while I am dying here from hunger!'"

## Digging for Spiritual Gems:

**1Co 4:9—How are God's human servants "a theatrical spectacle" to angels? (w09 5/15 24 ¶16)**

**(1 Corinthians 4:9) 9 For it seems to me that God has put us the apostles last on exhibition as men condemned to death, because we have become a theatrical spectacle to the world, and to angels and to men.**

\*\*\* w09 5/15 p. 24 par. 16 The Angels—"Spirits for Public Service" \*\*\*

16 Christians under trial are 'a theatrical spectacle to angels.' (1 Cor. 4:9) With great satisfaction, the angels observe our acts of faithfulness and even rejoice over the repentance of a sinner. (Luke 15:10) The godly conduct of Christian women is noted by the angels. The Bible shows that "the woman ought to have a sign of authority upon her head because of the angels." (1 Cor. 11:3, 10) Yes, angels are pleased to see Christian women and all other earthly servants of God comply with theocratic order and headship. Such obedience is a fitting reminder for these heavenly sons of God.

- (1 Corinthians 4:9) For it seems to me that God has put us the apostles last on exhibition as men condemned to death, because we have become a theatrical spectacle to the world, and to angels and to men.
- (Luke 15:10) In the same way, I tell you, joy arises among the angels of God over one sinner who repents."
- (1 Corinthians 11:3) But I want you to know that the head of every man is the Christ; in turn, the head of a woman is the man; in turn, the head of the Christ is God.
- (1 Corinthians 11:10) That is why the woman ought to have a sign of authority on her head, because of the angels.

**1Co 6:3—What was Paul evidently referring to when he wrote: “We will judge angels”? (it-2 211)**

**(1 Corinthians 6:3) 3 Do you not know that we will judge angels? Then why not matters of this life?**

\*\*\* it-2 p. 211 Law \*\*\*

Law to Angels. Angels, higher than man, are subject to the law and commandments of God. (Heb 1:7, 14; Ps 104:4) Jehovah even commanded and restricted his adversary Satan. (Job 1:12; 2:6) Michael the archangel recognized and respected Jehovah’s position as Supreme Judge when he said, in dispute with the Devil: “May Jehovah rebuke you.” (Jude 9; compare Zec 3:2.) The glorified Jesus Christ has all the angels placed under his authority by Jehovah God. (Heb 1:6; 1Pe 3:22; Mt 13:41; 25:31; Php 2:9-11) Thus, by Jesus’ command, an angelic messenger was sent to John. (Re 1:1) Yet, at 1 Corinthians 6:3 the apostle Paul speaks of the spiritual brothers of Christ as designated to judge angels, evidently because they are to share in some way in executing judgment upon wicked spirits.

- (Hebrews 1:7) Also, he says about the angels: “He makes his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire.”
- (Hebrews 1:14) Are they not all spirits for holy service, sent out to minister for those who are going to inherit salvation?
- (Psalm 104:4) He makes his angels spirits, His ministers a consuming fire.
- (Job 1:12) Then Jehovah said to Satan: “Look! Everything that he has is in your hand. Only do not lay your hand on the man himself!” So Satan went out from the presence of Jehovah.

- (Job 2:6) Then Jehovah said to Satan: “Look! He is in your hand! Only do not take his life!”
- (Jude 9) But when Mi’cha-el the archangel had a difference with the Devil and was disputing about Moses’ body, he did not dare to bring a judgment against him in abusive terms, but said: “May Jehovah rebuke you.”
- (Zechariah 3:2) Then the angel of Jehovah said to Satan: “May Jehovah rebuke you, O Satan, yes, may Jehovah, who has chosen Jerusalem, rebuke you! Is not this one a burning log snatched out of the fire?”
- (Hebrews 1:6) But when he again brings his Firstborn into the inhabited earth, he says: “And let all of God’s angels do obeisance to him.”
- (1 Peter 3:22) He is at God’s right hand, for he went to heaven, and angels and authorities and powers were made subject to him.
- (Matthew 13:41) The Son of man will send his angels, and they will collect out from his Kingdom all things that cause stumbling and people who practice lawlessness,
- (Matthew 25:31) “When the Son of man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit down on his glorious throne.
- (Philippians 2:9-11) For this very reason, God exalted him to a superior position and kindly gave him the name that is above every other name, 10 so that in the name of Jesus every knee should bend—of those in heaven and those on earth and those under the ground— 11 and every tongue should openly acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father.

- (Revelation 1:1) A revelation by Jesus Christ, which God gave him, to show his slaves the things that must shortly take place. And he sent his angel and presented it in signs through him to his slave John,
- (1 Corinthians 6:3) Do you not know that we will judge angels? Then why not matters of this life?

**What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?**

**What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?**

**Bible Reading: ) 1Co 6:1-14**

(4 min. or less) •

(1 Corinthians 6:1-14) 6 Does any one of you who has a dispute with another dare to go to court before unrighteous men, and not before the holy ones? 2 Or do you not know that the holy ones will judge the world? And if the world is to be judged by you, are you not competent to try very trivial matters? 3 Do you not know that we will judge angels? Then why not matters of this life? 4 If, then, you do have matters of this life to be tried, is it the men looked down on in the congregation whom you assign as judges? 5 I am speaking to move you to shame. Is there not one wise man among you who is able to judge between his brothers? 6 Instead, brother goes to court against brother, and before unbelievers at that!

7 Really, it is already a defeat for you when you have lawsuits with one another. Why not rather let yourselves be wronged? Why do you not rather let yourselves be defrauded? 8 Instead, you wrong and defraud, and your brothers at that!

9 Or do you not know that unrighteous people will not inherit God's Kingdom? Do not be misled. Those who are sexually immoral, idolaters, adulterers, men who submit to homosexual acts, men who practice homosexuality, 10 thieves, greedy people, drunkards, revilers, and extortioners will not inherit God's Kingdom. 11 And yet that is what some of you were. But you have been washed clean; you have been sanctified; you have been declared righteous in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and with the spirit of our God.

12 All things are lawful for me, but not all things are advantageous. All things are lawful for me, but I will not let myself be controlled by anything. 13 Food is for the stomach and the stomach is for food, but God will bring both of them to nothing. The body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body. 14 But God raised up the Lord and will also raise us up out of death through his power.

**APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY**

○○● SECOND RETURN VISIT

Question: What will life be like when God fulfills his purpose?

Scripture: Ps 37:10, 11

Link: What must we do to benefit from God's promises?

● **Second Return Visit Video: (5 min.) Play and discuss the video.**

● **Second Return Visit: (3 min. or less) Use the sample conversation. (th study 11)**

○○● SECOND RETURN VISIT

Question: What will life be like when God fulfills his purpose?

Scripture: Ps 37:10, 11

Link: What must we do to benefit from God's promises?

(Psalm 37:10, 11) 10 Just a little while longer, and the wicked will be no more; You will look at where they were, And they will not be there. 11 But the meek will possess the earth, And they will find exquisite delight in the abundance of peace.

● **Bible Study: (5 min. or less) lvs 44 (th study 3)**

\*\*\* lvs chap. 3 p. 44 Choose Friends Who Love God \*\*\*

**4 OUR STRONGEST LOYALTY IS OUR LOYALTY TO JEHOVAH**

“True, no discipline seems for the present to be joyous, . . . yet afterward, it yields . . . righteousness.”—Hebrews 12:11

What should we do if a friend chooses to reject Jehovah?

1 Corinthians 5:11-13; 2 John 9-11

If a friend chooses to keep doing bad things and rejects help, he shows that he no longer wants to be part of the congregation.

1 Peter 1:15, 16

The disfellowshipping arrangement shows love for Jehovah, his name, and his standards.

- (Hebrews 12:11) True, no discipline seems for the present to be joyous, but it is painful; yet afterward, it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.
- (1 Corinthians 5:11-13) But now I am writing you to stop keeping company with anyone called a brother who is sexually immoral or a greedy person or an idolater or a reviler or a drunkard or an extortioner, not even eating with such a man. 12 For what do I have to do with judging those outside? Do you not judge those inside, 13 while God judges those outside? “Remove the wicked person from among yourselves.”
- (2 John 9-11) Everyone who pushes ahead and does not remain in the teaching of the Christ does not have God. The one who does remain in this

teaching is the one who has both the Father and the Son. 10 If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your homes or say a greeting to him. 11 For the one who says a greeting to him is a sharer in his wicked works.

- (1 Peter 1:15, 16) but like the Holy One who called you, become holy yourselves in all your conduct, 16 for it is written: “You must be holy, because I am holy.”

**LIVING AS CHRISTIANS**

Song 78

• **“Use Videos to Teach Your Bible Students”:** (15 min.) Discussion. Play and discuss the video that shows a publisher using the video from lesson 4 of the Good News brochure to teach a Bible student.



Visual aids capture the attention of the viewer and help him to understand and remember what he learned. Our Grand Instructor, Jehovah, used visual aids to teach important lessons. (Ge 15:5; Jer 18:1-6) So did the Great Teacher, Jesus. (Mt 18:2-6; 22:19-21) One form of visual aid that has proved to be very beneficial in recent years is video. Are you making good use of videos when teaching your Bible students?

Ten videos have been prepared to help us teach the lessons in the brochure Good News From God! Generally, each video title corresponds to one of the questions in bold font found in the brochure. The digital version

includes links that remind us when to show each of the videos. In addition, other videos supplement material in the various study publications in our Teaching Toolbox.

Are you discussing a Bible topic that may be difficult for your student to understand? Or is your student dealing with a particular trial? Search through the videos on [jw.org](http://jw.org) and JW Broadcasting to find one that would benefit him. Perhaps you and your student could watch one of them together and then discuss it.

Each month, new videos are released. As you watch them, think about how you could use them when teaching others.

[Box on page 7]VIDEOS THAT SUPPLEMENT MATERIAL FOUND IN THE GOOD NEWS BROCHURE

Lesson 2  
Does God Have a Name?



Lesson 3

Who Is the Author of the Bible?  
How Can We Be Sure the Bible Is True?



Lesson 4

Why Did Jesus Die?



Lesson 5

Why Did God Create the Earth?



Lesson 6

What Is the Condition of the Dead?



Lesson 7

What Is God's Kingdom?



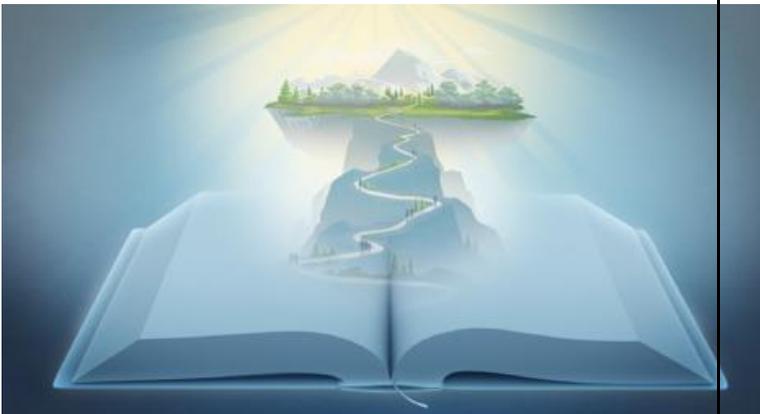
Lesson 8

Why Does God Allow Suffering?



Lesson 10

Does God Accept All Forms of Worship?



Lesson 12

Does God Listen to All Prayers?



- (Genesis 15:5) He now brought him outside and said: “Look up, please, to the heavens and count the stars, if you

are able to do so.” Then he said to him: “So your offspring will become.”

- (Jeremiah 18:1-6) This is the word that came to Jeremiah from Jehovah: 2 “Rise up and go down to the house of the potter, and there I will cause you to hear my words.” 3 So I went down to the house of the potter, and he was working on the potter’s wheels. 4 But the vessel that the potter was making with the clay was spoiled in his hand. So the potter reworked it into another vessel, just as he saw fit. 5 Then the word of Jehovah came to me, saying: 6 ““Can I not do to you just as this potter did, O house of Israel?” declares Jehovah. ‘Look! As the clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel.
- (Matthew 18:2-6) So calling a young child to him, he stood him in their midst 3 and said: “Truly I say to you, unless you turn around and become as young children, you will by no means enter into the Kingdom of the heavens. 4 Therefore, whoever will humble himself like this young child is the one who is the greatest in the Kingdom of the heavens; 5 and whoever receives one such young child on the basis of my name receives me also. 6 But whoever stumbles one of these little ones who have faith in me, it would be better for him to have hung around his neck a millstone that is turned by a donkey and to be sunk in the open sea.
- (Matthew 22:19-21) Show me the tax coin.” They brought him a de-nar’i-us. 20 He said to them: “Whose image and inscription is this?” 21 They said: “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them: “Pay back, therefore, Caesar’s things to Caesar, but God’s things to God.”

**Congregation Bible Study: (30 min.)**

**Congregation Bible Study: (30 min.)**

1st Jy chap. 60

CHAPTER 60

The Transfiguration—A View of Christ in Glory

(Matthew 16:28-17:13) Truly I say to you that there are some of those standing here who will not taste death at all until first they see the Son of man coming in his Kingdom.”

17 Six days later Jesus took Peter and James and his brother John along and led them up into a lofty mountain by themselves. 2 And he was transfigured before them; his face shone as the sun, and his outer garments became brilliant as the light. 3 And look! there appeared to them Moses and E·li'jah conversing with him. 4 Then Peter said to Jesus: “Lord, it is fine for us to be here. If you wish, I will erect three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for E·li'jah.” 5 While he was still speaking, look! a bright cloud overshadowed them, and look! a voice out of the cloud said: “This is my Son, the beloved, whom I have approved. Listen to him.” 6 At hearing this, the disciples fell facedown and became very much afraid. 7 Then Jesus came near, and touching them, he said: “Get up. Have no fear.” 8 When they looked up, they saw no one but Jesus himself. 9 As they were descending from the mountain, Jesus commanded them: “Tell the vision to no one until the Son of man is raised up from the dead.” 10 However, the disciples put the question to him: “Why, then, do the scribes say that E·li'jah must come first?” 11 In reply he said: “E·li'jah is indeed coming and will restore all things. 12 However, I say to you that E·li'jah has already come, and they did not recognize him but did whatever they wanted with him. In this way also, the Son of man is going to suffer at their hands.” 13 Then the disciples perceived that he spoke to them about John the Baptist.

(Mark 9:1-13) Furthermore, he said to them: “Truly I say to you that there are some of those standing here who will not taste death at all until first they see the Kingdom of God already having come in power.” 2 Six days later Jesus took Peter and James and John along and led them up into a lofty mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; 3 his outer garments began to glisten, becoming far whiter than any clothes cleaner on earth could whiten them. 4 Also, E·li'jah with Moses appeared to them, and they were conversing with Jesus. 5 Then Peter said to Jesus: “Rabbi, it is fine for us to be here. So let us erect three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for E·li'jah.” 6 In fact, he did not know how to react, for they were quite fearful. 7 And a cloud formed, overshadowing them, and a voice came out of the cloud: “This is my Son, the beloved. Listen to him.” 8 Then suddenly they looked around and saw that no one was with them any longer except Jesus. 9 As they were coming down from the mountain, he strictly ordered them not to relate to anybody what they had seen until after the Son of man had risen from the dead. 10 They took the word to heart, but discussed among themselves what this rising from the dead meant. 11 And they began to question him, saying: “Why do the scribes say that E·li'jah must come first?” 12 He said to them: “E·li'jah does come first and restore all things; but how is it that it is written about the Son of man that he must undergo many sufferings and be treated with contempt? 13 But I say to you that E·li'jah, in fact, has come, and they did to him whatever they wanted, just as it is written about him.”

(Luke 9:27-36) But I tell you truly, there are some of those standing here who will not taste death at all until first they see the Kingdom of God.” 28 In fact, about eight days after saying these words, he took Peter, John, and James along and climbed up the mountain to pray. 29 And as he was praying, the appearance of his face changed and his clothing became glitteringly white. 30 And look! two men were conversing with him; they were Moses and E·li'jah. 31 These appeared with glory and

began talking about his departure, which he was about to fulfill at Jerusalem. 32 Now Peter and those with him were weighed down with sleep, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. 33 And as these were departing from him, Peter said to Jesus: "Instructor, it is fine for us to be here. So let us erect three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for E-li'jah." He did not realize what he was saying. 34 But as he was saying these things, a cloud formed and began to overshadow them. As they entered into the cloud, they became afraid. 35 Then a voice came out of the cloud, saying: "This is my Son, the one who has been chosen. Listen to him." 36 As the voice spoke, Jesus was found alone. But they kept quiet and did not report to anyone in those days any of the things they saw.

Paragraph 1 on Page 144

(Matthew 16:28) Truly I say to you that there are some of those standing here who will not taste death at all until first they see the Son of man coming in his Kingdom."

Paragraph 3 on Page 144

(Luke 9:30, 31) And look! two men were conversing with him; they were Moses and E-li'jah. 31 These appeared with glory and began talking about his departure, which he was about to fulfill at Jerusalem.

(Matthew 16:21) From that time forward, Jesus began explaining to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed, and on the third day be raised up.

Paragraph 4 on Page 144

(Mark 9:5) Then Peter said to Jesus: "Rabbi, it is fine for us to be here. So let us erect three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for E-li'jah."

Paragraph 5 on Page 144

(Matthew 17:5-7) While he was still speaking, look! a bright cloud overshadowed them, and look! a voice out of the cloud said: "This is my Son, the beloved, whom I have approved. Listen to him." 6 At hearing this, the disciples fell facedown and became very much afraid. 7 Then Jesus came near, and touching them, he said: "Get up. Have no fear."

(Matthew 17:9) As they were descending from the mountain, Jesus commanded them: "Tell the vision to no one until the Son of man is raised up from the dead."

Paragraph 6 on Page 144

(Matthew 17:10-12) However, the disciples put the question to him: "Why, then, do the scribes say that E-li'jah must come first?" 11 In reply he said: "E-li'jah is indeed coming and will restore all things. 12 However, I say to you that E-li'jah has already come, and they did not recognize him but did whatever they wanted with him. In this way also, the Son of man is going to suffer at their hands."

Paragraph 7 on Page 144

(Matthew 16:28) Truly I say to you that there are some of those standing here who will not taste death at all until first they see the Son of man coming in his Kingdom."

(2 Peter 1:16-19) No, it was not by following artfully contrived false stories that we made known to you the power and presence of our Lord Jesus Christ, but rather, we were eyewitnesses of his magnificence. 17 For he received from God the Father honor and glory when words such as these were conveyed to him by the magnificent glory: "This is my Son, my beloved, whom I myself have approved."

18 Yes, these words we heard coming from heaven while we were with him in the holy mountain. 19 So we have the prophetic word made more sure, and you are doing well in paying attention to it as to a lamp shining in a dark place (until day dawns and a daystar rises) in your hearts.

◇ Before their death, how do some see Jesus coming in his Kingdom?

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◇ In the vision, what do Moses and Elijah talk about with Jesus?

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◇ Why is the transfiguration vision strengthening to Christ's followers?

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· Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)

- Song 23 and Prayer