

Parent's Guide

Journey Parents

Dear Parents,

Our goal in Awana® is to work alongside parents to train children and youth to grow into adults who know, love and serve the Lord. We recognize that parents are the primary spiritual nurturers of their children and we want to do all we can to help. Our desire is to provide you with the tools that enable you to be involved with the curriculum your child is studying.

Your children are now in high school. They are on the brink of adulthood, yet you occasionally still see glimpses of the little kid they once were. At other times, you gasp in amazement as they respond with astounding maturity.

We want our teens to face the world strong in their faith, no matter what's ahead on their life's journey. We want them to understand that life can be difficult, but also to rest in the life-supporting perspective that God is sovereign.

The Journey™ curriculum focuses on teaching teens to make life choices with that Christ-centered perspective. They can trust in Him. To help you, the parent, familiarize yourself with what your teen is learning at Journey, we provide these Parent's Guides which offer a summary of the lessons and discussion questions to get a conversation going with your teen.

We hope you find these guides helpful. We are thankful for the privilege of working alongside you in discipling your teens to know, love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ.

We can think of no task more worthwhile.

If you have any questions, please talk to your teen's leader.

Praying for you,

The Awana Youth Ministries™ Team

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Parent's Guide

*First Person:
An Eyewitness Look at the Life of Christ*

Lesson 1: **Getting the Story Straight**

Memory Verses: **John 1:1-3, 14**

IN A NUTSHELL
Jesus is God the Son and has always existed.

SUMMARY

Jesus is God's Son and testimony to His preexistence occurs in both the Old and New Testaments. In the Old Testament, Jesus was seen in theophanies as in Genesis 18. In the New Testament, Jesus gives testimony to His own preexistence in John 8:58.

Because Jesus has no beginning, these three things can encourage us:

- He has seen the actions of people from the beginning of history.
- He totally understands us – our motives, thoughts and actions.
- His humanness and His deity validate His sacrifice, and prove that He is a true advocate for us before a holy God.

Books today are still written about Jesus Christ. Although these books may give insight into His life, it's not to be compared to the canonical books recording Jesus' life.

THE NEXT STEP

The Trinity is a hard concept to understand. Even the best scholars cannot articulate all the implications of it. Our humanity limits our minds to understanding only so much – because we are one person and one being, it's hard to understand three Persons being one being. While the word "Trinity" is not written anywhere in Scripture, it's implied dozens of times, and the reality shapes our faith. This is a great time to talk to your kids about the Trinity. Some people have tried to explain it with examples such as water. Water, steam and ice are all water in different forms, but all are water. These kinds of examples are helpful, but by no means complete, illustrations of a complex God.

To engage in a conversation with your teenager on the Trinity, try asking them how they understand it before trying to explain it to them. That way you'll know where they are coming from before finding your approach for further teaching.

This book may prove helpful in starting those conversations: *FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT: Relationships, Roles, and Relevance** by Bruce Ware and published by Crossway Books.

* (Note: Referral to this book does not imply that Awana is in agreement with the entirety of this individual's doctrinal statement or ministry philosophy, nor does this constitute our endorsement of all content found on this book.)



REVIEW IT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(Or where they can be found in your teenager's Journey manual, anyway; you didn't expect us to do all the work for you, did you?)

1. What do we mean when we refer to Jesus' preexistence?
(The answer can be found under **Fast Fact**.)
2. True or False. Jesus Christ is a created being.
(The answer can be found under **Fast Fact**.)
3. What does *the Word* mean in John 1:1-3?
(The answer can be found under **The Most Important Eye Witness**.)
4. Who are mentioned as being witnesses to Jesus' preexistence?
(The answer can be found under **The Eyewitness**.)
5. During eternity past, where did Jesus coexist with God the Father?
(The answer can be found under **Fast Fact**.)
6. What is a theophany?
(The answer can be found under **Other Testimonies from the O.T.**)
7. Why is it important that we have eyewitness accounts of Jesus' life given to us by the Gospels (the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John)?
(The answer can be found under **The Eyewitnesses**.)
8. What are some of Jesus' claims about Himself from John 8?
(Look in John 8 and also under **Jesus' Own Claims**.)
9. Jesus declared His timelessness and deity by claiming what name for Himself?
(The answer can be found under **Jesus' Own Claims**.)
10. Why is it important that we pay attention to what Jesus said about Himself?
(The answer can be found specifically in the **Take-away**, but look for original answers throughout the lesson.)

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Lesson 2: **A Prenuptial Agreement**

Memory Verses: **Philippians 2:5-7**

IN A NUTSHELL

Jesus is fully
God and fully
man and is
totally sinless.

SUMMARY

When Mary received word from the angel Gabriel that she was pregnant with the Messiah, she received it with humility. However, soon Mary would start to show and Joseph, her fiancé, would have quite a few questions. Did you betray me by being with another man? Whose baby is this? When Joseph found out, he decided to call off the wedding quietly, so as not to cause much attention or embarrassment to either of them.

God then sent the same angel to Joseph to let him know that the baby growing in Mary was actually the Son of God. So Joseph took Mary and married her and kept her pure until after the baby was born.

In Mary's last term of pregnancy, the Roman Emperor Caesar Augustus called for a census. Because of Joseph's ancestral line, he had to make the trip to Bethlehem with (pregnant) Mary. By the time they got into town all the inns were full. One innkeeper offered his stable to them, so, with nowhere else to go, they rested there that night. During the night Mary had the baby, and just as the angel commanded them, Joseph named him Jesus.

This Jesus was the Savior that had been prophesied to come for centuries. For this Jesus, this Savior, this Messiah to come to earth to be born in a feeding trough and first revealed to shepherds was the last thing expected. It was quite a strange way for a king to come.

THE NEXT STEP

It's easy to latch on to the deity of Jesus. But when times get tough, one of the most encouraging things to remember is that while Jesus was one hundred percent God, He was also one hundred percent human. His tears in the garden were real tears. His temptations in the wilderness were real temptations. As a matter of fact, Jesus understands temptation better than we ever will. Not only did He experience it, He is also God and totally sees what we deal with. When your teenager wonders how they will ever get through something, point them to Jesus.



REVIEW IT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(Or where they can be found in your teenager's Journey manual, anyway; you didn't expect us to do all the work for you, did you?)

1. According to scholars, how old was Mary when the angel Gabriel appeared to her?
(The answer can be found under **Mary's Dilemma**.)
2. True or False. Joseph could have had Mary killed for becoming pregnant while they were not married.
(The answer can be found under **Joseph's Dilemma**.)
3. Why did Mary and Joseph make a trip to Bethlehem?
(The answer can be found under **Honey, Can't I Just Stay Home?**)
4. According to the lesson, which Old Testament prophecy foreshadowed the birth of Jesus?
(The answer can be found under **Witnesses of the Birth**.)
5. What was one job of the angels?
(The answer can be found under **Angels**.)
6. What does the name Jesus mean? What does the name Christ mean?
(The answer can be found under **His Humanity and Deity**.)
7. What does the word "incarnation" mean? Is it in the Bible?
(The answer can be found under **Fully Man**.)
8. True or False. Jesus never sinned.
(The answer can be found under **Fully God**.)
9. In this lesson, who witnessed to the truth of Jesus being the Messiah?
(The answer can be found under **Buckle It In**.)
10. Why do you think God the Father planned for His Son to be born in a manger?
(The answer can be found under **Witnesses of the Birth**, but also from the entire lesson.)

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Lesson 3: **You've Got Nails!**

Memory Verses: **Luke 2:34-35**

IN A NUTSHELL

Jesus is the King of the Jews and the Messiah.

SUMMARY

Jesus' birth had been prophesied for centuries before He was born. Even at His birth and infancy, people recognized Him as the Messiah. Simeon, Anna and the shepherds were among those who knew that Jesus was this promised King.

Even the Magi came with gifts that weren't age appropriate. Who really gives gold, frankincense (used for sacrifices) and myrrh (used for perfume) to an infant? Someone who knows they are giving a gift to the Messiah-King, that's who.

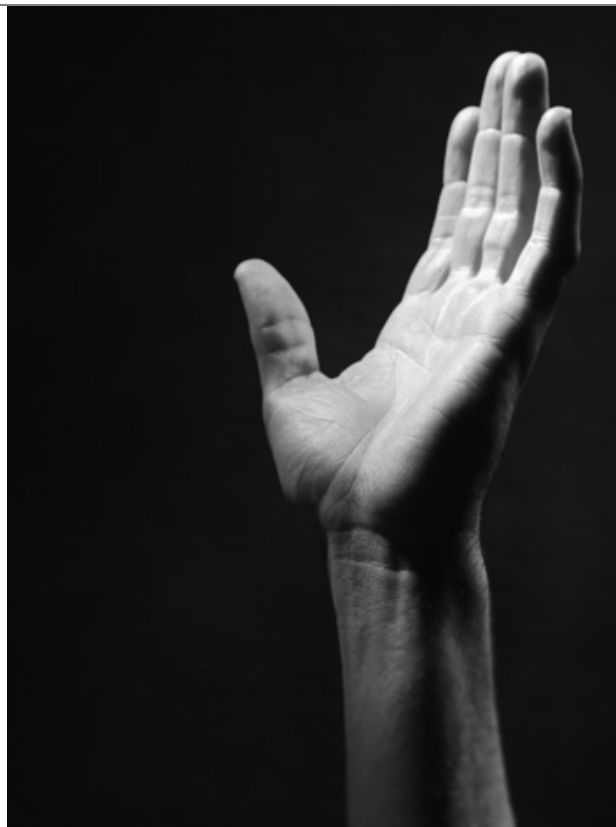
Scripture gives us a few snapshots of Jesus as a child but nothing from ages 12-30. We do know from Luke 2:52 that Jesus grew intellectually and physically. He also had approval from both God and man. Before we know it, Jesus is heading into ministry. (Your teen will get into that more in future lessons.)

THE NEXT STEP

In the last lesson, it was noted that Jesus' humanity is necessary for His sacrifice on our behalf. His kingship is equally important.

Remind your teenager that because Jesus is God and our Savior, we are to worship Him. A discussion on worship would be great here. Here are a few questions to start discussions:

- What is the difference between private and corporate worship?
- Can you as a family make an environment of worship at your house? We're not talking about walking around in robes all pious (but if you do, send us pictures – we'd love to see it!). Rather, since everything we do can be in worship to God, how can homework be done in a worshipful manner? How can chores be done worshipfully? How can eating be done worshipfully? (Use 1 Corinthians 10:31 as a text to work from.)
- Why do we worship Jesus?



REVIEW IT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(Or where they can be found in your teenager's Journey manual, anyway; you didn't expect us to do all the work for you, did you?)

1. Which gospel writer wrote about the wise men visiting the young Jesus?
(The answer can be found under **Fast Fact**.)
2. Which New Testament writer did not write about Jesus' childhood?
(The answer can be found under **Who Really Witnessed the First Part of Jesus' Life?**)
3. Question three gives them an opportunity to discuss with a leader what Jesus being their Savior means to them.
(Why not go through this same exercise with your teenager and have them discuss with you what their salvation means.)
4. What role did Anna play in Jesus' dedication at the temple?
(The answer can be found under **Jesus' Personal Prophets**.)
5. To whom did the Holy Spirit reveal that he wouldn't die until he saw Jesus?
(The answer can be found under **Jesus' Personal Prophets**.)
6. How many wise men came to visit Jesus?
(The answer can be found under **The Wise Men's Visit**.)
7. How old was Jesus when Mary and Joseph took Him to Jerusalem to participate in the Passover?
(The answer can be found under **Temple Visit**.)
8. What do scholars call the 18 years (from ages 12-30) of Jesus' life not covered in Scripture?
(The answer can be found under **Adolescence and Young Adult Years**.)
9. According to scholars, how many brothers did Jesus have? What were their names?
(The answer can be found under **Adolescence and Young Adult Years**.)
10. What has been your most difficult life experience? Has it helped you draw closer to the Lord?

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Lesson 4: **A Special Kind of Coronation Ceremony**

Memory Verse: **1 Corinthians 10:3 and Hebrews 4:15**

IN A NUTSHELL

The baptism and temptations of Jesus prepared Him for public ministry.

SUMMARY

At conception, John the Baptist was appointed by God to prepare the way for Jesus. John lived in the wilderness baptizing and telling people to repent, for the kingdom of God was near.

After John baptized Jesus, the Holy Spirit landed in the form of a dove on Jesus. God the Father spoke from heaven giving His full approval. Once Jesus left that place, God the Father Spirit led Him to the wilderness to pray and fast for 40 days and to be tempted by Satan. Jesus came out of that showing His holiness and deity.

Even though Jesus is God, He still saw it worthwhile to prepare for this important step into ministry. Jesus also didn't pursue His calling until the Holy Spirit led Him to do so. Seeing Jesus prepare for something shows us the value of preparation and waiting for God's direction in our own lives.

THE NEXT STEP

In order to flesh out the lesson, identify a specific upcoming choice or occasion in your teenager's life that needs prayer. Prepare for it by prayer and listening to God by reading His Word.



REVIEW IT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(Or where they can be found in your teenager's Journey manual, anyway; you didn't expect us to do all the work for you, did you?)

1. How did Jesus describe John the Baptist from the book of Malachi?
(The answer can be found under **The Primary Witness**.)
2. How did Isaiah describe John the Baptist?
(The answer can be found in **Isaiah 40**.)
3. What made John the Baptist different from other men?
(The answer can be found under **The Primary Witness**.)
4. Did John know that Jesus was the Christ before he baptized Jesus?
(The answer can be found under **The Primary Witness**.)
5. Where did Jesus go in order to be baptized by John?
(The answer can be found under **The Primary Witness**.)
6. In what form did the Holy Spirit appear to Jesus and John?
(The answer can be found under **The Primary Witness**.)
7. Who lead Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted by the Devil?
(The answer can be found under **The Temptations Prove Jesus' Holiness**.)
8. What does temptation mean in the context of Jesus' temptation by Satan?
(The answer can be found under **The Temptations Prove Jesus' Holiness**.)
9. For what possible reasons do scholars believe Jesus was fasting?
(The answer can be found under **The Temptations Prove Jesus' Holiness**.)
10. Why do you think Satan tempted Jesus?
(The answer can be found under **The Temptations Prove Jesus' Holiness**.)

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Lesson 5: **The Good Guys Versus the Bad Guys**

Memory Verse: **John 3:30 and John 8:31-32**

IN A NUTSHELL

Jesus' ministry was powerful and attracted many people to Him.

SUMMARY

Once Jesus stepped into ministry, He had a large following. Crowds, disciples and apostles all followed Him. Who wouldn't want to follow this man who was feeding 5,000, healing sick people and gaining a widespread reputation? After the day was over, however, the crowds departed and Jesus was left with a minimal group of solid followers known as the disciples. He sent the majority of them out as messengers and kept 12 for His close personal care and attention.

The Pharisees, however, were angry with Jesus, mainly because of their jealousy and legalism. Jesus taught in the temple from an early age, and He gained the favor of the people. The Pharisees also didn't like the company Jesus kept (i.e. tax collectors, fishermen, etc.) and thought He was a hypocrite.

THE NEXT STEP

In Lesson 5 under "The True Disciple of Christ," your teenager is asked to evaluate his or her own walk with God. Probe his or her mind a little bit on this one. Here are a few questions to get the conversation going:

- Why do you think you fall in the category of Pharisee, crowd, disciple, apostle, etc.?
- How can we work together on either keeping you in the apostle category or moving forward to that end?
- Why is it good to desire to be in the apostle category?

Encourage your son or daughter to keep pursuing Jesus as one of His modern-day apostles.



REVIEW IT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(Or where they can be found in your teenager's Journey manual, anyway; you didn't expect us to do all the work for you, did you?)

1. Why did "the Twelve" leave everything to follow Jesus?
(The answer can be found under **The Apostles**.)
2. True or False. At one time, Jesus' disciples numbered approximately 70.
(The answer can be found under **The Disciples**.)
3. List Jesus' 12 apostles.
(The answer can be found under **The Apostles**.)
4. What does it mean to be an apostle?
(The answer can be found under **The True Disciple of Christ**.)
5. True or False. Jesus did not associate with immoral people.
(The answer can be found under **The Pharisees**.)
6. Why were people attracted to Jesus?
(The answer can be found under **The Crowds**.)
7. Who were Jesus' most powerful enemies?
(The answer can be found under **The Pharisees**.)
8. Why did the temple priests and scribes feel threatened by Him?
(The answer can be found under **The Pharisees and Temple Priests for Dummies**.)
9. For what main reason did Jesus call the temple leaders to repentance?
(The answer can be found under **The Pharisees**.)
10. What is the difference between a disciple and an apostle?
(The answer can be found under **On the Street**.)

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Lesson 6: **The First Sermons Were Outside**

Memory Verse: **Luke 11:1b-4**

IN A NUTSHELL

Through His teaching, Jesus pointed His listeners toward a better understanding of God the Father.

SUMMARY

Jesus' worldview and the way He interacted with people were unlike what everyone expected. He also used different means for different audiences. Jesus used the situation to apply Scripture. He used conversations with those struggling with sin. He used questions to make listeners examine their motives. He used lectures for large crowds. He used symbolism for audiences that would understand metaphors. He gave parables without giving the meaning to the Pharisees, and parables to teach spiritual truths to the disciples. He always took into account His audience. It caused everyone around to ask, "Who is this man?"

THE NEXT STEP

This week there are two options for taking the lesson a step further:

1. Some of the parables are hard to understand. This might be a good opportunity to find a reliable commentary on the Gospels and go through the parable meanings with your teenager. If you want to focus your commentary choice on one Gospel writer rather than of all of them, the bulk of parables are in the book of Luke, so it's a good start.
2. Jesus used many methods to communicate to different people so He could engage His various audiences. Since He knew all things and the heart of man, He could adjust His method to the learning style of that particular person. What learning style does your son or daughter have? How can you more acutely and accurately teach in word and deed to him or her? Assessing learning style is also a good way to improve homework and test scores. Various free learning style tests are available online, or you can ask for one from your child's school.



REVIEW IT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(Or where they can be found in your teenager's Journey manual, anyway; you didn't expect us to do all the work for you, did you?)

1. Which audiences were Matthew and Luke writing for?
(The answer can be found in the **first few paragraphs of the lesson.**)
2. Why is this intended audience important to discover when one is reading Jesus' teachings?
(The answer can be found under **The Importance of Audience.**)
3. Whom did Jesus teach about?
(The answer can be found under **What Jesus Taught.**)
4. List an example of Jesus' use of questions as a teaching method.
(The answer can be found under **Jesus' Teaching Techniques.**)
5. Which two disciples asked Jesus if they could rule by His side?
(The answer can be found under **Jesus' Teaching Techniques.**)
6. In which context did Jesus find the lecture method to be His most effective style of teaching?
(The answer can be found under **Jesus' Teaching Techniques.**)
7. What is a parable?
(The answer can be found under **Jesus' Teaching Techniques.**)
8. What kinds of teaching techniques are indicated by the story in **Buckle It In?**
(The answer can be found under **Buckle It In.**)
9. Explain how Jesus was equal with His Father and yet could say, "My Father is greater than I."
(The answer can be found under **What Jesus Taught.**)
10. Which of Jesus' parables has the most meaning for you?
(Choose from the list in **Fast Fact** and look up the reference. Explain why it is important to you.)

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Lesson 7: **The Miracle Worker**

Memory Verse: **John 5:36 and John 20:30-31**

IN A NUTSHELL

Jesus' miracles showed that He was God.

SUMMARY

Jesus performed multiple miracles during His earthly ministry to catch the attention of the people and back up His claims about Himself. Jesus also performed miracles out of His compassion.

Sometimes when people asked Jesus who He was, He would perform a miracle and that would answer their question. Jesus showed His control over both spiritual and physical worlds by driving out demons, healing the sick, making the wind and waves obey Him and raising the dead. Jesus is and was and will always be God.

Jesus' miracles showed His identity as the Son of God in three main ways.

- The miracles showed He was sent by God.
- The miracles showed that He was God.
- The miracles fulfilled Scripture that indicated that the Messiah would work miracles.

THE NEXT STEP

It's easy to wish we could all perform miracles to show the power of God at work in the world. We need to remember that God gives us gifts to display His power *today*. They may not include reversing a tornado's path or bringing your dog Scruffy back from the dead to ease your child's pain, but they are just as much real examples of God power, love and compassion.

In the **On the Street** portion of Lesson 7, we see ways that Christ can use us today to display His power. Take the time to go through the activities listed with your son or daughter. Decide which one might be a good way for your teenager to experience God working to display His compassion.

Encourage your teenager to be himself when choosing a service opportunity. There needs to be a fine line between not being something you aren't and striving for who you know you need to be. For example, Anthony

may be good at public speaking and working a crowd and, to boot, he is well liked. Your teenager may see Anthony hit it off quite well with the leaders and even get jealous of his popularity and ability. "What can I do to be more like Anthony?", your teenager might question. So your son or daughter, in an effort to prove worth and equality, might want to dabble with public speaking. But if he or she is terrible at it – sweaty palms, incoherent sentences and loss of cognitive ability – it won't work. So what do you do? This is where that fine line comes in.

Everyone has different gifts. Who knows, your child may be the Anthony of the group. But gifts of service are no less important. Take a look at 1 Corinthians 12:12-31 with your teenager as he or she makes a decision on what to do from the list provided in the lesson. Everyone in the Body of Christ is given a gift to use in service to the church. Just like the parts of our physical bodies are needed to function in life, so the life of the church functions because of each person's part or gift.

REVIEW IT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(Or where they can be found in your teenager's Journey manual, anyway; you didn't expect us to do all the work for you, did you?)

1. Where did Jesus first announce His intention of performing miracles?
(The answer can be found in **John 5:21, 36.**)
2. What was the purpose of miracles?
(The answer can be found under **Purpose of Miracles.**)
3. What were the four categories of Jesus' miracles?
(The answer can be found under **Purpose of Miracles.**)
4. How did Jesus answer John the Baptist's question of whether Jesus was the Messiah?
(The answer can be found under **Purpose of Miracles.**)
5. What was the amazing proclamation that Martha made to Jesus?
(The answer can be found under **Martha's Amazing Announcement.**)
6. When did Jesus decide to raise Lazarus from the dead?
(The answer can be found under **Raising Lazarus from the Dead.**)
7. Why did Jesus cry at Lazarus' tomb with Mary and the others?
(The answer can be found under **Jesus' Compassion.**)
8. Why would Jesus tell people not to tell others about the miracles?
(The answer can be found under **Other Reactions to Jesus' Miracles.**)
9. Why did the temple leaders charge Him with blasphemy?
(The answer can be found in **John 5.**)
10. Besides for the charge of blasphemy, what were they also concerned about?
(The answer can be found in **John 5.**)

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Lesson 8: **Preparation Is Everything**

Memory Verse: **John 15:16**

IN A NUTSHELL

Jesus is both
the Messiah
and a servant.

SUMMARY

Jesus prepares for His death by being anointed, fulfilling final prophecies about Himself and revealing the near future to His apostles.

Jesus and some disciples were enjoying a meal when Mary opened a jar of expensive perfume and proceeded to anoint Jesus with it. Some disciples were appalled at her actions, but Jesus quickly justified her act and made her efforts something to be told in every Gospel!

In order to be completely ready for death, Jesus had to fulfill final prophecies about His life. One such prophecy included Palm Sunday when Jesus came into Jerusalem riding on a donkey never ridden before (Zechariah 9:9). There were other prophecies that Jesus fulfilled, such as His betrayal for 30 pieces of silver, His wounding and being sent before accusers. Jesus was faithful to fulfill every last prophecy about Him.

Finally, before His death, Jesus revealed what He knew about the future to His disciples. Jesus gave hope to His disciples by talking about the promised Holy Spirit who would function as a counselor and lead them into all truth. So while Jesus couldn't physically be present with them, He was leaving them with Someone who would be with anyone who trusted Christ.

THE NEXT STEP

Jesus never wasted time when it came to opportunities to build the kingdom. His short life was more packed with ministry than any life lived to 100 years.

Jesus not only prepared for His ministry, but He also prepared for His death. Usually when people talk about death preparation, they are thinking about their wills, burial spots and how to leave earth as pain-free as possible. But Jesus had other things on His mind in anticipation of His death.

Death is inevitable for everyone (except those who will be around for the rapture). Don't be morbid, but prepare yourself for your own death and begin discussions with your teenagers about their own death. Questions to consider: Are you ready for death? Are your teens ready? What makes a person ready?



REVIEW IT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(Or where they can be found in your teenager's Journey manual, anyway; you didn't expect us to do all the work for you, did you?)

1. How did Mary honor Jesus?
(The answer can be found under **Jesus' Anointing**.)
2. How did Jesus honor Mary in return?
(The answer can be found under **Jesus' Anointing**.)
3. Choose one of the prophecies from **On the Street** and explain its significance in Jesus' life.
(Answers vary depending on which prophecy was chosen.)
4. What prophecy did Jesus fulfill when He rode into Jerusalem on a donkey that had never been ridden?
(The answer can be found under **The Triumphal Entry**.)
5. The word Hosanna means what?
(The answer can be found under **Map It Out**.)
6. Why did Jesus weep when He saw Jerusalem?
(The answer can be found under **The Triumphal Entry**.)
7. What happened at the transfiguration?
(The answer can be found under **In First Person: Witnesses of the Transfiguration**.)
8. How did Jesus model servanthood for His disciples at Passover?
(The answer can be found under **The Passover**.)
9. What was Passover?
(The answer can be found under **Map It Out**.)
10. When Jesus was in the garden of Gethsemane, which three disciples went with Him to keep watch and pray?
(The answer can be found under **The Garden of Gethsemane**.)

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Lesson 9: **The Message of the Cross Is for Everyone.**

Memory Verse: **John 10:17-18**

IN A NUTSHELL

Jesus took our
sin's penalty
upon Himself on
the cross.

SUMMARY

When chief priests, officers and guards captured Jesus and put Him on trial, they had to come up with false witnesses in order to try to convict Him – but even the false witnesses couldn't get their stories straight. They also questioned Jesus at night, which was against their own laws. Jesus appeared before the former and present high priests, the Sanhedrin, Herod and finally Pilate before the crowd asked for His crucifixion.

Most of Jesus' disciples left Him during this critical point. But the way He answered questions (and responded to beatings) without retaliation, and even the way He died, showed people like the centurion that He surely was the Son of God.

THE NEXT STEP

The court system in Jesus' day ran much differently than our court system. Dr. John MacArthur wrote two articles on the arrest, trials and unjust treatment of Jesus. The vocabulary, content and length are probably too much for a teenager to understand, but they will give you insight into how to tell your son or daughter what should have happened, should they have questions.

MacArthur's articles are found at: www.biblebb.com/files/mac/sg2389.htm and here www.biblebb.com/files/mac/sg2390.htm * If this does not work in your browser, try visiting www.biblebb.com * and click on the Matthew link. If you scroll down the page the articles are titled: The Illegal, Unjust Trials of Jesus – Part 1 (Matthew 26:57, 59-61) and The Illegal, Unjust Trials of Jesus – Part 2 (Matthew 26:62-68).

* References to websites and resources not created by Awana are for your information and are not necessarily an endorsement of content.



REVIEW IT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(Or where they can be found in your teenager's Journey manual, anyway; you didn't expect us to do all the work for you, did you?)

1. Before whom did Jesus appear during His six trials?
(The answer can be found under **The Jewish Trials and The Roman Trials.**)
2. Why did the Jewish leaders want to see Jesus put to death?
(The answer can be found under **The Jewish Trials.**)
3. Give at least one way in which the Sanhedrin broke the law during Jesus' trials.
(The answer can be found under **The Jewish Trials.**)
4. True or False. The Jewish leaders and the Roman governor hated each other and worked against each other.
(The answer can be found under **The Roman Trials.**)
5. What were the Jews' three charges against Jesus?
(The answer can be found under **The Roman Trials.**)
6. Many people were crucified by the Romans. Could anyone have been crucified in Jesus' place and have provided atonement for our sins? Why or why not?
(The answer won't be found verbatim in the lesson, but rather pulling from all the previous studies and Bible knowledge.)
7. Who was responsible for Jesus' death?
(The answer can be found under **Before Pilate Again.**)
8. Why did Pilate condemn Jesus?
(The answer can be found under **Before Pilate Again.**)
9. In what two ways did Jesus suffer on the cross?
(The answer can be found under **The Cross.**)
10. What task did Jesus complete on the cross?
(The answer can be found under **The Cross.**)

Parent's Guide

First Person:

An Eyewitness Look at the Life of Christ

Lesson 10: **The Empty Tomb + Many Appearances = Jesus Is Alive!**

Memory Verse: **Luke 24:6-7**

IN A NUTSHELL

Jesus' resurrection means that He can offer us salvation based on our faith in Him.

SUMMARY

After Jesus died, the disciples were distraught. But three days later Jesus was resurrected and showed His disciples the power of God.

He appeared to Mary Magdalene, Mary (the mother of James) and other women before appearing to the disciples. Once the women told the men, Peter and John ran to the tomb to check it out for themselves.

Jesus then appeared to Cleopas and another unnamed man on the Emmaus road where He revealed His resurrection to these followers. Jesus appeared to the 10 and finally to Thomas before His ascension into heaven. Overall, He appeared to more than 500 people.

THE NEXT STEP

Doubts are inevitable. Jesus' own disciples doubted the women who told them that Jesus was alive. When Peter heard it second hand, he wanted to see Jesus for himself. Thomas and others responded the same way. No one has ever lived a doubt free life – that's why faith is so necessary. Faith, although it testifies to the unseen, provides assurance.

Share your past or present doubts with your teenagers. Seeing your vulnerability will inspire them to be honest with you. Talk to your teen about where you go in Scripture when you doubt. Talk about God's faithfulness in your own life.

Ask your son or daughter how they process their own doubt. If she is in public school, does she face it in science class? If he is in Christian school, does he struggle with hypocrisy? If she is home-schooled, does she doubt that faith is her own and not merely piggy-backing off yours?

An honest discussion will allow your teenager to feel more comfortable when or if he experiences even harder doubts in the future.



REVIEW IT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(Or where they can be found in your teenager's Journey manual, anyway; you didn't expect us to do all the work for you, did you?)

1. When the women disciples reached the empty tomb, whom did they find inside?
(The answer can be found under **The Women at the Empty Tomb.**)
2. Who was the first person to whom Jesus appeared?
(The answer can be found under **Appearance to Mary Magdalene.**)
3. Which two apostles ran to the tomb to see if it was empty?
(The answer can be found under **The Women at the Empty Tomb.**)
4. How did the apostles respond to the women's claim that Jesus was risen?
(The answer can be found under **The Women at the Empty Tomb.**)
5. Who were the two disciples to whom Jesus appeared on the Emmaus road?
(The answer can be found under **Appearance to Two Disciples.**)
6. Give two reasons why Jesus appeared to His disciples after His resurrection.
(The answer can be found under **Appearance to Two Disciples.**)
7. How did Thomas respond to the apostle's claim that Jesus had appeared to them?
(The answer can be found under **All Doubting Thomases.**)
8. What responsibility did Jesus give to Peter?
(The answer can be found under **All Doubting Thomases.**)
9. How many people saw Jesus after He was resurrected?
(The answer can be found under **The Early Creed.**)
10. Why do you think Jesus waited until after the Sabbath before coming back to life?
(The answer can be found under **All Doubting Thomases.**)

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First Person:

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Lesson 11: **Beam Me Up, God!**

Memory Verses: **John 14:6-7**

IN A NUTSHELL

In heaven, Jesus continues to intercede for each believer before God the Father.

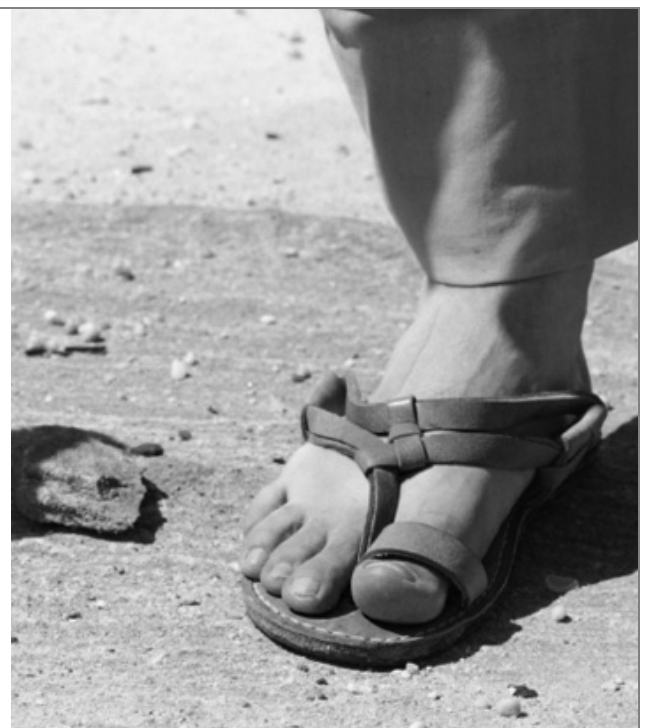
SUMMARY

After Jesus' resurrection, He appeared to over 500 people. In the last few moments before His ascension, with a smaller crowd of disciples, Jesus told them He had to go back to the Father. While they were distressed to see Him go and had many questions, Jesus left them with a promise, "I will be back for you." What encouraging words! However, despite all they had seen (His death and resurrection), as Jesus left, they were all caught staring into the sky. Two angels had to get the disciple's attention off the sky ... *"Men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11).*

So, what about now? What do we do now that our Savior is in heaven at the right hand of the Father? How will we ever communicate with God? One of the things that Jesus' death and resurrection accomplished for His believers is direct access to God. His sacrifice on the believer's behalf allows each child of God to pray through Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit to the Father. Now that's "all-access!"

THE NEXT STEP

Have your teenager put themselves in the shoes of the disciples. Ask your son or daughter how he or she would feel if he or she saw Jesus' crucified and then resurrected body, only to learn Jesus was leaving again for a more extended period of time. Does he or she identify with any of the disciples' responses to the news? Ask your teenager to describe how they imagine the ascension. Picturing the things that happened and putting oneself into the story can help make this lesson concrete.



REVIEW IT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(Or where they can be found in your teenager's Journey manual, anyway; you didn't expect us to do all the work for you, did you?)

1. Did Jesus ascend to heaven in body or in spirit?
(The answer can be found in the **beginning paragraphs of the lesson.**)
2. What was the amazing thing about the disciples' reaction after Jesus went back to heaven?
(The answer can be found under **The Joy of the Ascension.**)
3. Why was it important that Jesus left in the clouds?
(The answer can be found under **Why Do Clouds Matter?**)
4. Who told the disciples where Jesus had gone?
(The answer can be found under **The Witnesses of the Ascension.**)
5. Who did Jesus prophesy would come to the disciples after He left?
(The answer can be found under **The Necessity of the Ascension.**)
6. Does Jesus continue the same work that He began on earth?
(The answer can be found under **Home, Sweet Home.**)
7. What change did God make to the sacrificial system after Jesus' death on the cross?
(The answer can be found under **What is a High Priest?**)
8. What are three things that Jesus does for us as our High Priest in heaven?
(The answer can be found under **Ministries as High Priest.**)
9. What is Jesus' primary role between God and human beings?
(The answer can be found under **Ministries as High Priest.**)
10. How is Jesus the perfect high priest?
(The answer can be found under **Ministries as High Priest.**)

Parent's Guide

First Person:

An Eyewitness Look at the Life of Christ

Lesson 12: **Come Again? Absolutely!**

Memory Verse: **Titus 2:11-14**

IN A NUTSHELL

Jesus will be coming again to take all believers to heaven.

SUMMARY

Jesus resurrection was evidence to support His claims about His own deity. Because He conquered sin and death, we can trust that the rest of His promises will come to fruition. One of those promises is His imminent return.

Just before Jesus' death, He spoke about a place He would prepare for His children (John 14). He also promised the Holy Spirit, the Counselor, to be a comfort while He was away preparing a place for them.

THE NEXT STEP

Since Jesus' return is a reality, it gives us good motivation for sharing our faith. Make a plan with your teenager for your family to share their faith with a neighbor, colleague or schoolmate. Each person in the house can get involved. You might want to start with something as simple as inviting people over for a family meal. It's much easier to naturally bring up the conversation in a comfortable setting than in a forced environment. Try to share your lives, not just your words, with people who need Jesus. Sharing life over a meal was one of Jesus' methods, so it's got to be a good one!



REVIEW IT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(Or where they can be found in your teenager's Journey manual, anyway; you didn't expect us to do all the work for you, did you?)

1. What are the three things that are a part of our earthly experience that will not be in heaven?
(The answer can be found under **Mi Casa Es Su Casa**.)
2. What are three things that we'll experience in heaven that are not a part of our earthly experience?
(The answer can be found under **Mi Casa Es Su Casa**.)
3. Which groups of people will be involved in the rapture?
(The answer can be found under **What Believers Will See**.)
4. What will believers hear and see at the rapture?
(The answer can be found under **What Believers Will See**.)
5. What reasons does Paul give for the fact that Jesus has not returned yet?
(The answer can be found in **2 Peter 3:8-9**.)
6. What does imminent mean?
(The answer can be found under **What Believers Will See**.)
7. What does Jesus' imminent return mean for our lives on earth?
(The answer can be found under **What Believers Will See**.)
8. True or False. We will have our same earthly bodies in heaven.
(The answer can be found in the **first section of the lesson**.)
9. What is the topic of all of Jesus' teaching on His return?
(The answer can be found under **Why Is Jesus Waiting to Return?**)
10. What do you have to do to be ready for Jesus' return?
(The answer can be found under **The Take-away**.)