



Jesus Our Creator and Friend

The greatest heritage the Creator God has given to parents is children. Having children is a privilege most Native families long to experience. Many feel joy if their home is blessed with youngsters.

Key Thought. The Bible tells about the most special child of all time. Never has an infant changed the lives of more human beings than did the baby Jesus when He was born.

BIBLE ANSWERS

1. **Jesus was no ordinary baby; He is described by what name that distinguishes Him from every other name? Matthew 1:18, 23.** “Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: . . . ‘Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,’ which means, ‘_____.’” (All quotations from the Bible in these lessons are taken from the New King James Version (NKJV) unless otherwise noted.)

While on earth, Jesus faced the same problems, trials, and temptations that we go through.

NOTE: The name given to Jesus, “Immanuel,” means “God with us.” Jesus could have stayed in heaven, a perfect place. But even though He was our Creator, He chose to come to earth to live with us. While on earth, He faced the same problems, trials, and temptations that we go through.

2. **Luke 19:10.** “For the Son of Man has come to _____ and to _____ that which was lost.”

NOTE: Jesus came to earth because of our problem with sin which prevents us from having eternal life. Everyone who ever lived on earth is a sinner (Romans 3:23). Not one of us is perfect. The result of sinning is death (Romans 6:23). God has great love and sympathy for you and me and has put together a plan to save us from sin’s penalty. This loving plan was for Jesus to

come to earth, take on human form and nature, live a sinless life, and die for our sins as our substitute. Because Jesus is the Creator, His life is worth all of ours. He could justifiably die for all of us.

Sin is a terrible thing. Its penalty required Jesus to give His life in order to save us. What is sin? Sin is when we choose to deliberately go against what we know is true and right (James 4:17).

A young boy was shopping. Quietly, he slipped some candy into his pocket. He thought that no one noticed. However, the storekeeper saw him and called his father.

The father came quickly. He asked his son, “Why did you steal the candy?” The boy answered, “The Devil made me do it.” The father wisely replied, “The Devil tempted you, but you had to deliberately choose to take the candy.” All of us at some time have chosen to do what we know isn’t right. All of us have sinned, sin brings unhappiness and destruction in the end. God wants us to know only happiness and fulfillment now and throughout eternity.



Jesus didn't have to die since He never sinned (Heb. 4:15). But He chose to die in our place so we can live eternally. The Bible uses the word “our” several times to describe what

Jesus' death on the cross paid for mankind's sin. Because Jesus is the Creator, He could die for us all.

Jesus did for us. Read Isaiah 53:5, and instead of using the word “our,” use the word “my.” “But He was wounded for *my* transgressions, He was bruised for *my* iniquities; The chastisement for *my* peace was upon Him, and by His stripes *I* am healed.” Jesus did all of this for you. You can personally claim this promise.

3. What does God give to those who believe in Jesus?

John 3:16. “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have _____.”



od will give us the power to become
happy and victorious people.

NOTE: John 3:16 is the best known and most loved text in the Bible. It gives the assurance that God wants you to live forever. You don't have to die eternally because of your sins. You can have a life that never ends! You need only to sincerely accept the fact that Jesus died for you and forgives you when you ask Him to.

4. For what other reason did Jesus come to this earth? John 13:15. “For I have given you an _____, that you should do as I have done to you.”

NOTE: Jesus also came down to earth and became human like us, to provide us a way to escape the wages of sin. By being one of us, He also gave us an example of how to live a victorious, fulfilled life.

How did Jesus, as our example, “walk” or live? He prayed *daily* to the heavenly Father for strength to live a good life. As a result He spent His life doing good for others by teaching, preaching, and healing. He willingly obeyed His Father’s commandments (John 15:10). When we understand all Jesus has done for us, we will want to follow Jesus’ example, not in order to be saved, but because He has saved us.



Jesus died so we can live forever.

5. How was Jesus able to live a perfect life as an example for us? John 14:10, last part. “The Father who dwells [lives] in Me does the_____.”

NOTE: Jesus understood the love of His Father in heaven and wanted to always be close to Him. This connection came as a result of praying constantly to His heavenly Father to give Him strength, courage, and understanding for the tasks He faced each day. And He kept His will (or desires) in submission to His Father. Jesus said, “I always do those things that please Him” (John 8:29). This is Jesus’ great example to us. It is also our privilege today to stay close to God. He will give us the power to be a happy, obedient people.

6. What marvelous gifts does God give to help us

overcome sin? 2 Peter 1:3–4. “His _____
_____ has given to us all things that pertain to
life and godliness . . . by which have been given to us
_____, _____, _____,
_____, that through these you may be partakers
of the divine nature.” (See also Jude 24–25.)



sin only brings unhappiness and destruction in the end.

NOTE: When we look at our weaknesses, it seems impossible for us to overcome problems like alcoholism, drug abuse, a violent temper, or evil thoughts. It is impossible in our own strength. But God is God of the impossible. He promises to keep us from falling into sinful practices if we constantly stay close to Him in prayer, choosing to let Him help us (Jude 24).

In the book *Steps to Christ* there is an excellent comment about what happens when we choose Jesus as our Lord and Savior and allow Him to help us: “The power of choice God has given to men; it is theirs to exercise. You cannot change your heart, you cannot of yourself give to God its affections; but you can choose to serve Him. You can give Him your will; He will then work in you to will and to do according to His good pleasure. Thus your whole nature will be brought under the control of the Spirit of Christ; your affections will be centered upon Him, your thoughts will be in harmony with Him” (page 47). These things will happen if we choose to allow God to work in us.

7. What can we do to receive the promise of eternal life and power to live the way Jesus did? Matthew 7:7–11 (see also 1 John 5:14). Circle the correct answer(s): (1) Ask. (2) Seek. (3) Knock. (4) All three.



In our own strength, overcoming our weaknesses is impossible, but turning them over to God releases His power in our lives.

NOTE: What wonderful promises Jesus makes to each of us! All we have to do to receive them is to come to Him in confidence and submission to His will and ask Him to help us. This promise, given to us by Jesus Himself, is a promise that is **guaranteed** to be fulfilled. When we invite Jesus into our hearts, He will give us strength to want to obey and keep His commandments. Jesus promised: “If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love” (John 15:10).

Closing Thought. Jesus left heaven and came to our world as a human to die for us on the cross as our Savior. The Bible is clear that if we believe in Him and accept Him as our Savior, we have forgiveness, eternal life, and hope for the future (see 1 John 1:9; 5:11, 12). The Bible is also clear that the more we get to know Jesus, the more we will want to follow Him and do everything He asks



We cannot change our hearts, but the Creator can, if we allow Him to. God will give us the strength and guidance to face the problems that come to us each day.

us to do (see John 14:15). Jesus will give us strength and guidance to face the problems that come to us each day. The Bible tells us that Jesus will not only begin a good work in us, but He will also stay with us and finish it. He will not leave us. He will be our companion always (Philippians 1:6).

The question is: Have you chosen to accept Christ's gift and His promise of eternal life and daily help with your problems? Jesus longs for you to choose Him. Your life will never be the same again if you do.

Next Lesson: Who is the Comforter that God promised to send us?



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