



2011

# **Go And Make Disciples**

**The Cross and Beyond**

## **Lesson 9:**

**Jesus: Gentiles Seek Him-  
Jews Reject Him**

**Scripture**

Matthew 26:1-5  
 Matthew 26:14-16  
 Mark 14:10-11  
 Luke 22:1-6  
 John 12:20-50

**Memory Verse**

You will seek Me  
 and find Me when  
 you seek Me with all  
 your heart.  
 Jeremiah 29:13 (NIV)

**Lesson Goals**

Understand that to  
 hold on to one's life  
 is to lose it.

Understand that to  
 give one's life up is  
 to really gain life.

The following is a summary of the Bible story to help supplement your preparation. In your personal study time, use this summary as a guide, and make notes to help you remember your plans for the lesson. Please do **NOT** read to the children.

Over the last couple of weeks, we have learned about some of the things that will happen in the last days. Although we don't know when, we do know that Jesus will return one day. As we wait for Him, how should we live? We should live holy and godly lives.

We have also learned about the time when God will judge us. He will separate us the way a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. Who are the ones who will be rewarded? God will reward those who put their faith into practice, those who obey Him. Unless faith produces good deeds it is dead and useless.

When Jesus finished talking about all of these things, He reminded His disciples that this Passover week would end in His death, and the Passover was only two days away. "The chief priests and the teachers of the law were looking for some way to get rid of Jesus." (Luke 22:2a NIV) They met together in Caiaphas' palace. Caiaphas was the high priest of the Jewish temple. "The chief priests and the teachers of the law were scheming to arrest Jesus secretly and kill Him. 'But not during the festival,' they said, 'or the people may riot.'" (Mark 14:1b-2 NIV)

While they were scheming, a plan was being formed. You see, Satan entered Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve who followed Jesus. How could that happen? Well, what do you remember about Judas? When we learned about Mary anointing Jesus with perfume, we found out that Judas was a thief. He stole from the money that the disciples saved and used. We also know from the Bible that Jesus was not surprised by this. Jesus knew from the beginning that Judas would betray Him. (John 6:70-71) Judas walked with Jesus. He heard and saw the same things as the other disciples. Judas was different because his life didn't change. Judas knew the truth; he walked with Him (John 14:6) every day, but Judas didn't accept that truth into his life.

Then we are told that Judas went to the chief priests. He "discussed with them how he might betray Jesus. They were delighted and agreed to give him money." (Luke 22:5 NIV) They decided on thirty pieces of silver, which they counted out and gave him. "From then on Judas watched for an opportunity to hand [Jesus] over." (Matthew 26:16 NIV)

"Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival." (John 12:20 NIV) They approached Philip, one of Jesus' disciples, and they were looking for Jesus. Philip told Andrew, another of the disciples. Together the two of them told Jesus about the Greeks who were seeking Him, and as usual, Jesus' response was not at all what they expected.

"Jesus replied, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to receive glory.'"

### Application

We have seen two types of people in our lesson, those who sought Jesus and those who rejected Him. Which are you?

Are you seeking God with all your heart? He will be found by you if you are. Jesus is the only way to get to God. (John 14:6) Walking in the truth brings light to a life that was dark without the presence of God.

Have you rejected God? Are you afraid of losing your life as you know it now? Don't you see that you are really walking around in the dark? Are you willing to give up your life to the One who has a good plan for you and can offer you the future of eternal life? The decision is yours.

(John 12:23 NIV) When Jesus said this, He was talking about His death. Then, Jesus shared how He was feeling about dying. "My soul is deeply troubled. Should I pray, 'Father, save me from this hour'? But this is the very reason I came! Father, bring glory to your name.'" (John 12:27-28 NLT) Jesus was upset about the week ending in His death, but He reminded Himself that dying on the cross for my sin and your sin is exactly why He came to earth.

Jesus talked about a kernel of wheat falling to the ground and dying before it could produce seeds. And then He said that anyone who held on to this life just as it is would lose, or destroy, the life they are fighting so hard to hold onto, but the one who lets it go, or gives up their life for something bigger, is the one who truly saves their lives . . . and for eternity.

It doesn't seem as if this talk about wheat has anything to do with the Greek men Philip and Andrew brought to Jesus. If you will look a little closer, though, Jesus is comparing the Jewish leaders, and Judas, who are rejecting His teaching and seeking to kill Him with these Greek men. "Even after Jesus had performed so many signs in their presence, they still would not believe Him." (John 12:37 NIV) The Jewish leaders were trying to hold on to life as they knew it, all the studying and keeping their nation and in the process they were losing out. A few of them believed, even some of the leaders. "But because of the Pharisees, they would not admit they believed. They were afraid they would be thrown out of the synagogue. **They loved praise from people more than praise from God.**" (John 12:42b-43 NIV)

The Greeks, on the other hand, were looking for Jesus. They didn't want life to remain the same. Jesus explained that belief in Him is belief in God. Jesus came into the world as the Light of the World. Anyone who believes in Him moves from the darkness of a life without Him into the Light! This leads to a life that pleases God and to eternal life!

### Preparing for the Next Lesson

The Passover



# Preschool Lesson

## Teachers:

Bring a picture that illustrates the concept of a seed dying and then springing to life and producing fruit.

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In our lesson for today we read that the Jewish leaders make plans to kill Jesus. Judas visited these Jewish leaders. Judas was one of Jesus' disciples. He was one of twelve who spent a lot of time with Jesus. The other eleven men were changed by their time with Jesus. They lived a different life because of what they had learned from being with Jesus. Judas' life hadn't changed at all. Judas was a thief! Nothing about Judas surprised Jesus, though. Even when Jesus chose Judas to be one of His disciples, He already knew that Judas would be the one to betray Him and turn Him over to these leaders to die.

Judas went to visit these leaders because He wanted to be the one who turned Jesus over to them. Judas took 30 pieces of silver for the job. Judas began looking for ways to do the job.

Unlike Judas and the leaders, there were some men who came looking for Jesus because they believed what He had to say. They didn't want to kill Jesus, they wanted to follow Him!

Jesus explained it this way. He said, "When a kernel of wheat falls into the dirt nothing really happens to it until it begins to die. Once that happens it can begin to live again!"

Have you ever put a seed into the ground? Did you dig it up a few days later only to find that it had shed its outer layer of "skin" and was opening up? That seed was dying. If you put it back in the ground, what would happen a few days after that? A stem would start to grow from the seed, wouldn't it? That stem would continue growing until it popped through the ground, grew up with leaves and then produced more of the same kind of seed.

What does that seed have to do with following Jesus? Well, when we know that we are ready to follow Jesus, what we want to do isn't so important any more. Our selfishness dies away like that seed and a new life begins to grow. Do you follow Jesus?



## Activities

- Memory Verse Activity - Print each word of the memory verse on separate strips of paper. Hide the strips of paper around the area where you meet. Encourage your students to “seek” the strips of paper, giving clues if necessary. Once all strips of paper have been found, place them in the correct order and practice the memory verse.
- Encourage your students to fill out the journal/note page found on page 8. This can be used during the story to help focus your students or after the story as a review.
- Bring wheat crackers, or other wheat products, for the snack.
- Encourage your students to reenact the story as you narrate.
- Sing “It’s All About You,” “I Surrender All,” or other songs related to the lesson.
- Find Jerusalem and the Mt. of Olives on a map. Remind your students that Jesus is teaching in the temple during the day and leaving the city at night to go to the Mt. of Olives.
- Bring plants in various stages of growth or bring a picture that illustrates the process.
- The name “Judas” means “May God be praised.” Judas’ life didn’t match his name. How about you? Do you carry the name Christian? Does your life match that name?
- Read Jeremiah 29:11-13. Discuss these verses in light of the lesson.
- Read Ephesians 4:25-32, focusing on verse 27. How did Judas give the devil a foothold, or opportunity, in his life. What can you do to prevent that? Be sure to read 1 Peter 5:8 and Ephesians 6:10-18.

**You will  
seek Me  
and find Me  
when you  
seek Me with  
all your heart.  
Jeremiah 29:13**

Trace the letters.

Seek

Ham

# Focus on the Story

○  
**Story Title:**

**Scripture References:**

**Main Characters:**

**Story Summary:**

When?

○  
Where?

What?

How?

○





# Word Search

H T G S R I K M S E D D R W A  
P S S R E D E A L H S I W E J  
R T U O J G R E E K M E N R C  
E R U N E R N A T E S T L D R  
G A D L C G E A D W R O O N S  
N E O P T S L D N Y L L F A C  
A H N L J S O J I H E I V D N  
N R G A E U F S F L S V A N E  
T U C N S S W S D S M E N A J  
W O R T U E H N N J D B S P N  
O Y W O S J E S A D U J N I S  
M L M K T K A M K S I L O L F  
A L H I S E T H E O P L E I F  
N A A L R E D A E T S R I H T  
R E V L I S F O S E C E I P J

**JEWISH LEADERS**

**JUDAS**

**PLAN TO KILL**

**PIECES OF SILVER**

**REJECT JESUS**

**GREEK MEN**

**PHILIP AND ANDREW**

**SEEK JESUS**

**KERNEL OF WHEAT**

**DIE TO LIVE**

**SEEK AND FIND**

**ALL YOUR HEART**



# Word Search

H	T	G	S	R	I	K	M	S	E	D	D	R	W	A
P	S	S	R	E	D	E	A	L	H	S	I	W	E	J
R	T	U	O	J	G	R	E	E	K	M	E	N	R	C
E	R	U	N	E	R	N	A	T	E	S	T	L	D	R
G	A	D	L	C	G	E	A	D	W	R	O	O	N	S
N	E	O	P	T	S	L	D	N	Y	L	L	F	A	C
A	H	N	L	J	S	O	J	I	H	E	I	V	D	N
N	R	G	A	E	U	F	S	F	L	S	V	A	N	E
T	U	C	N	S	S	W	S	D	S	M	E	N	A	J
W	O	R	T	U	E	H	N	N	J	D	B	S	P	N
O	Y	W	O	S	J	E	S	A	D	U	J	N	I	S
M	L	M	K	T	K	A	M	K	S	I	L	O	L	F
A	L	H	I	S	E	T	H	E	O	P	L	E	I	F
N	A	A	L	R	E	D	A	E	T	S	R	I	H	T
R	E	V	L	I	S	F	O	S	E	C	E	I	P	J

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PLAN TO KILL

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PHILIP AND ANDREW

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# Preschool Word Search

R I F S E A Y T A L L G  
B P A N D V E N O D Y E  
F S B I R T H P A I N S  
F T R F I N D M E S U S  
J E S U S O U L N Y L S  
H Y O U R H E A R T D O  
S T R E N C L O S E R E  
H E L A N T H I R S U S  
M G O A S E E K M E E S  
D E A J M I N D I S E N  
L A K I N G G O S E Y J  
C O M J E S U S J E P T

JESUS

SEEK ME

AND

FIND ME

ALL

YOUR HEART



# Preschool Word Search

R I F S E A Y T **A L L** G  
B P **A N D** V E N O D Y E  
F S B I R T H P A I N S  
F T R **F I N D M E** S U S  
J E S U S O U L N Y L S  
H **Y O U R H E A R T** D O  
S T R E N C L O S E R E  
H E L A N T H I R S U S  
M G O A **S E E K M E** E S  
D E A J M I N D I S E N  
L A K I N G G O S E Y J  
C O M **J E S U S** J E P T

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