



**HOPEWELL MB CHURCH**  
**VIRTUAL INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON**  
**OVERVIEW STUDY GUIDE**

The following information is provided for participants who wish to study the lesson beforehand. The study materials are part of the **International Sunday School Lesson**, excerpted from the **Union Gospel Press Sunday School book**.

The lesson will be presented each Sunday Morning @ 8:30, prior to regular Sunday Morning Worship Service. Lesson discussion material will be rotated weekly amongst the various Target Groups (Adult Women, Adult Men, Young Adult, Youth) in an effort to include all ages in this lesson series.

This is merely a brief discussion of the bible lesson. In order to gain a better understanding of the lesson, it is recommended that, prior to each lesson, participants read through the **Lesson Text, Related Scriptures, Daily Bible Reading** scriptures (each day), try to answer the **Discussion Questions**, and make a note of any additional questions you may have. Prayer and meditation are always essential in gaining a better understanding of God's Word and its relevance to your life and situation.

Lessons are no longer live streamed; however, you are welcome to join us for in-person study.

**August 2023**

**UNIT III: Entering God's Kingdom**

**All lessons this month focus on what it takes to enter into God's kingdom**

**WEEK 1-Forgiving One Another:** This lesson examines the role of forgiveness in a believer's life

**WEEK 2- A Story of Forgiveness:** This lesson covers the parable of the prodigal son

**WEEK 3- God's Gracious Rewards:** This lesson teaches us how God rewards us according to His sovereignty and grace

**WEEK 4- God's Great Mercy:** This lesson teaches us about the dangers of relying upon our own righteousness

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**DATE OF LESSON:** August 6, 2023

**LESSON TITLE:** Forgiving One Another

**LESSON TEXT:** Matthew 18:21-35

**RELATED SCRIPTURES:** Luke 6:27-38; 17:1-4

**GOLDEN TEXT:** *“Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me: shouldst not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee?”* (Matthew 18:32-33)

**TARGET AGE GROUP:** This week’s discussion is taken from the **Adult Bible Class** book.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What had caused Peter to wonder about how often to forgive?
2. How do we know his concern was about fellow believers?
3. How did Jesus respond to Peter’s seemingly generous offer to forgive seven times? What did He mean?
4. How does the concept of debt relate to our need to forgive?
5. What was Jesus portraying in the first servant’s huge debt?
6. What did the servant do after being forgiven, and what did this reveal about him?
7. What must we keep in mind about interpreting a parable?
8. How did the master respond to what he heard about the servant?
9. What does this parable teach?
10. What is a practical way in which we can apply this parable?

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

(Readings are for the week leading up to the lesson)

M- Love and Forgive Enemies (Luke 6:27-38)

T- Much Love With Much Forgiveness (Luke 7:36-50)

W- Mercy to the Unfaithful (Psalm 78:32-40)

Th- Called to Forgive (Colossians 3:12-17)

F- Always Willing to Forgive (Luke 17:3-4)

Sa- Forgiveness Through the Blood (Ephesians 1:3-10)

Su- Repeated Forgiveness (Matthew 18:21-35)

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**DATE OF LESSON:** August 13, 2023

**LESSON TITLE:** A Story of Forgiveness

**LESSON TEXT:** Luke 15:11-24

**RELATED SCRIPTURES:** Luke 15:25-32; Romans 12:9-21; II Corinthians 5:17-21

**GOLDEN TEXT:** *"This my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found"*

(Luke 15:24)

**TARGET AGE GROUP:** This week's discussion is taken from the **Young Adult Bible Class** book.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why do you think the father agreed to give the son his inheritance?
2. How did the younger son manage to lose his wealth?
3. What effect did the famine have on the lost son?
4. Why did the lost son take a job feeding swine?
5. Why did the son crave the husks that he fed to the swine?
6. What are some of the negative things that can happen to us when we leave God's side?
7. Why did the father extend so much kindness to the son?
8. What was meant by the father when he said that his son "was lost, and is found" (Luke 15:24)?

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

(Readings are for the week leading up to the lesson)

M- Firstborn's Portion (Deuteronomy 21:15-17)

T- Grace of the Father (Matthew 7:7-12)

W- Prayer for Mercy (Psalm 86:1-7)

Th- Turn From Sin and Live (Ezekiel 18:21-23)

F- Welcome the Repentant (Luke 15:25-32)

Sa-God Will Comfort the Repentant (Isaiah 57:15-21)

Su- Repentance and Reconciliation (Luke 15:11-24)

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**DATE OF LESSON:** August 20, 2023

**LESSON TITLE:** God's Gracious Rewards

**LESSON TEXT:** Matthew 20:1-16

**RELATED SCRIPTURES:** Matthew 19:16-30; 20:20-28; Luke 13:22-30

**GOLDEN TEXT:** "*{The man} said unto them; Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you. And they went their way*" (Matthew 20:4)

**TARGET AGE GROUP:** This week's discussion is taken from the **Senior High School Bible Class** book.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why did Jesus tell the parable of the workers in the vineyard?
2. What agreement did the landowner make with each group of workers for their labor?
3. What did each group of laborers expect to receive in payment, and why?
4. How was the landowner completely within his rights to pay the way he did?
5. In telling this parable, what did Jesus teach about God's methods of giving rewards?

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

(Readings are for the week leading up to the lesson)

M- A Rich Man's Sorrow (Matthew 19:16-22)

T- Salvation Only By God's Grace (Matthew 19:23-30)

W- Beware of Envy (James 3:13-18)

Th- The Last Will Be First (Luke 13:22-30)

F- God Will Assign Us Our Place (Matthew 20:20-23)

Sa- Not Demanding Our Privileges (Matthew 17:24-27)

Su- God's Grace Illustrated (Matthew 20:1-16)

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**DATE OF LESSON:** August 27, 2023

**LESSON TITLE:** God's Great Mercy

**LESSON TEXT:** Luke 18:9-14

**RELATED SCRIPTURES:** Matthew 18:1-5; 23:1-12; Luke 16:14-17; Romans 3:10-30

**GOLDEN TEXT:** *"Everyone that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted"* (Luke 18:14)

**TARGET AGE GROUP:** This week's discussion is taken from the **Adult Bible Class** book.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What did Jesus cover in the two parables He told?
2. Who were the two personalities Jesus used for His teaching in the second parable?
3. What was their purpose in going to the temple?
4. How did the Pharisee view himself, and what was his standard of comparison that led him to these conclusions?
5. How did the Pharisee emphasize how he viewed his religious activities?
6. What did the publican do to reveal a sense of unworthiness?
7. What was his prayer request?
8. What did Jesus declare about him and the Pharisee?
9. What does it mean that a person is justified?
10. What principle did Jesus state in Luke 18:14 about how God deals with people?

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

(Readings are for the week leading up to the lesson)

M- No Place For Boasting (Romans 3:21-26)

T- Fast In Secret (Matthew 6:16-18)

W- God Knows the Heart (Luke 16:13-15)

Th- The Proud Humbled (Matthew 23:1-12)

F- Faith Like A Child's (Matthew 18:1-5)

Sa- Turn From False Worship (Isaiah 1:10-17)

Su- Humble Faith (Luke 18:9-14)