A DAY IN THE COURTS OF THE LORD

LEVEL IV

NAME:

Lesson 1 Text: Acts 5:1-11

WHAT IS CHURCH?

- (1) But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession.
- (2) And he kept back part of the proceeds, his wife also being aware of it, and brought a certain part and laid it at the apostles' feet.
- (3) But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself?
- (4) "While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God."
- (5) Then Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and breathed his last. So great fear came upon all those who heard these things.



- (6) And the young men arose and wrapped him up, carried him out, and buried him.
- (7) Now it was about three hours later when his wife came in, not knowing what had happened.
- (8) And Peter answered her, "Tell me whether you sold the land for so much?" She said, "Yes, for so much."
- (9) Then Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out."
- (10) Then immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last. And the young men came in and found her dead, and carrying her out, buried her by her husband.
- (11) So great fear came upon all the church and upon all who heard these things.



The Lord knows those who are His.



CHURCH: A GATHERING OF BELIEVERS ACTS 5:1-11

I. Multiple choice: circle the correct answer.

- 1. Ananias and Sapphira were
 - a. members of the invisible church.
 - b, brother and sister.
 - c. members of the visible church in Jerusalem.
- 2. Ananias and Sapphira sold their land and
 - a. gave all the money to church.
 - b. tried to deceived God and the people.
 - c. moved out of Jerusalem.
- 3. When God told Peter what they had done, Peter
 - a. gave them their money back.
 - b. confronted them with their lie.
 - c. told them to join another church.
- 4. When Ananias and Sapphira heard the words of Peter, they
 - a. fell down and died.
 - b. gave the rest of their money to the church.
 - c. ran out of church.
- 5. From this lesson, we learn
 - a. we should sell all of our possessions and give the money to church.
 - b. ministers can read people's hearts.
 - c. only believers in Christ are members of the invisible Church.

II. Questions for further thought:

1. Read the Nicene Creed (below). Circle the phrase you heard about in this lesson.

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen.

2. Explain the difference between the visible church and the invisible Church.

111.	True or false: Write a "T" in the blank if the statement is true or an "F"	if the
	statement is false. Then correct the false statements.	

1	Ananias and Sapphira were members of the Holy Christian Church.
2	Ananias' lie was not wrong because he gave money to the church.
3	Ananias forced his wife Sapphira to also tell a lie.
4	The devil tempts us to lie and cheat.
5	God punished Peter for his sin.
6	The Holy Spirit is God.
7	A hypocrite is one who pretends to believe in Jesus.
8	Peter could see into the hearts of Ananias and Sapphira.
9	Being a member of a Christian congregation will save me.
10	The Holy Spirit makes me a member of the Holy Christian Church by bringing me to faith in Jesus.

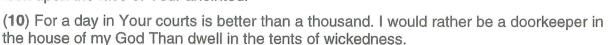
IV. Further study in the Word of God:

- Read Ephesians 4:1-6.
 How does this section of God's Word speak about the unity of the Christian Church?
- Read Psalm 139:1-4.What do these verses tell us concerning the foolishness of trying to deceive God?

Lesson 2 Text: Psalm 84

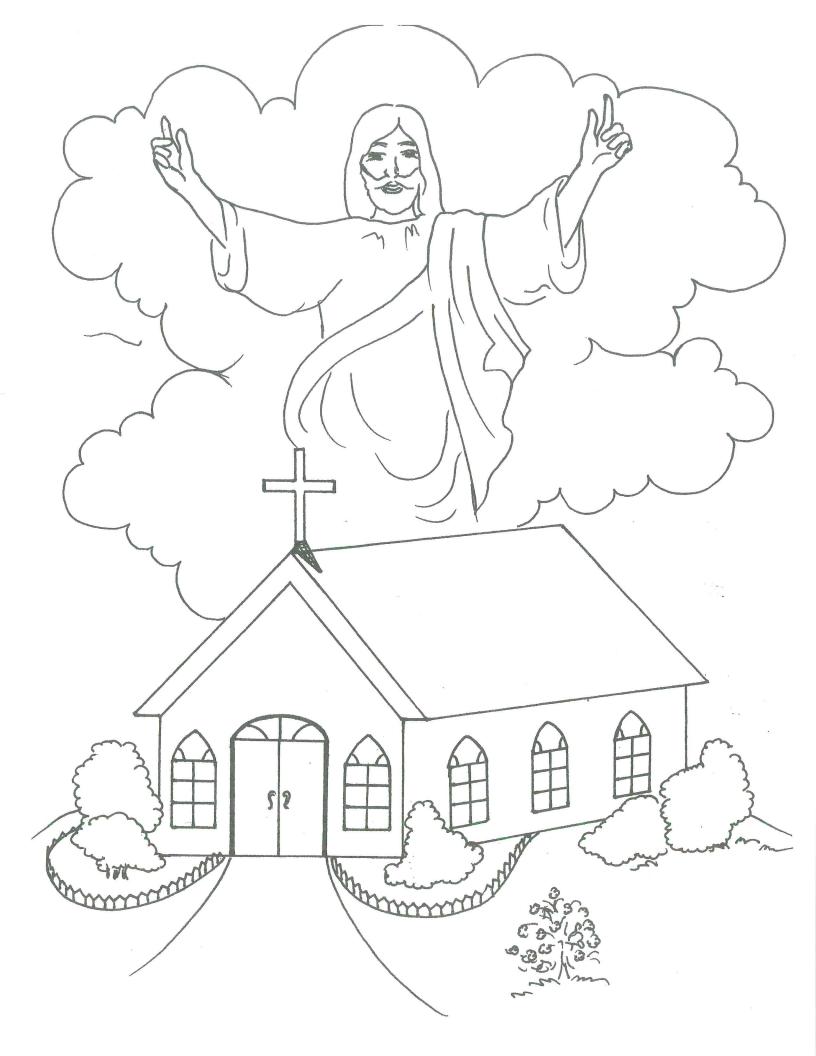
WHY DO WE GO TO CHURCH?

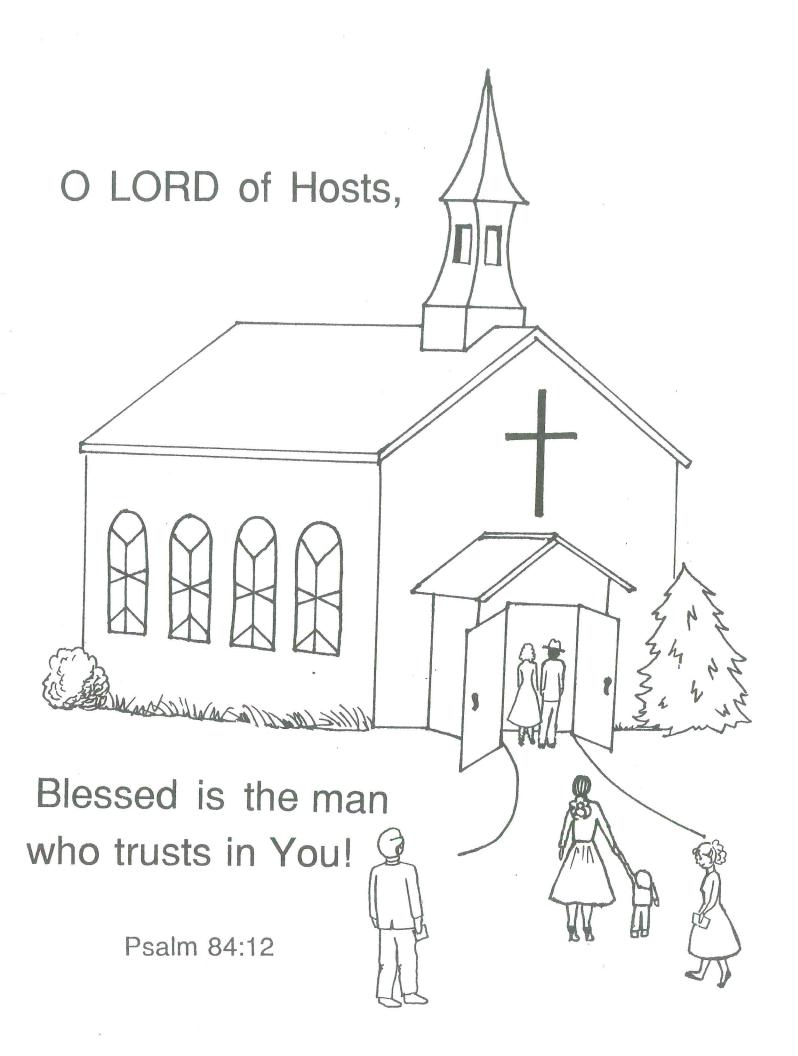
- (1) How lovely is Your tabernacle, O LORD of hosts!
- (2) My soul longs, yes, even faints For the courts of the LORD; My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.
- (3) Even the sparrow has found a home, And the swallow a nest for herself, Where she may lay her young; Even Your altars, O LORD of hosts, My King and my God.
- (4) Blessed are those who dwell in Your house; They will still be praising You. Selah
- (5) Blessed is the man whose strength is in You, Whose heart is set on pilgrimage.
- (6) As they pass through the Valley of Baca, They make it a spring; The rain also covers it with pools.
- (7) They go from strength to strength; Each one appears before God in Zion.
- (8) O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; Give ear, O God of Jacob! Selah
- (9) O God, behold our shield, And look upon the face of Your anointed.



- (11) For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold From those who walk uprightly.
- (12) O LORD of hosts, Blessed is the man who trusts in You!







CHURCH: THE HOME OF OUR GOD PSALM 84

١.		or false: Write a "T" ment is false. Then o		ank if the statement is true or an "F" if the ne false statements.						
	1.	A Psalm is a	prayer simi	lar to what we call a hymn.						
2 Zion means parched valley or desert.										
	3.	The LORD G	od is a sun	and a shield for His children.						
	4.	cause we go to church.								
5 This Psalm does not teach us about Jesus.										
	6 The LORD gives grace and glory in church.									
	7 Selah means stand up and shout.									
	8 Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD.									
				trust only in our own strength.						
	10	The LORD G	od wants us	s to come to church so that He can give us many blessings.						
11.	Fill	in the blanks:								
	1.	In church God gives grad	ce. The mea	ans of grace are the gospel in and						
	2.	Church is a gathering of								
	3.	"My hear n (John 10:27)	ny	and I them and they Me."						
	4.	"I would rather be a the wicked." (Psalm 84:1	in	the of my God than dwell in the of						
	5.	is a vale of	tears. Zion	is a picture of						
III.	Que	estions for further the	ouaht:							
		ead Psalm 84:10 and expla		s nassage means to you						
	. 10	ad r daim o i ro di d dxpic	an what the	passage means to you.						
IV.	Mate	ch the Bible passage	with the	reason for going to church.						
		Luke 11:28		To offer our prayers						
		2 Cor. 9:7-8	b.	To confess Christ publicly						
		Hebrews 10:25	C.	To hear His Word						
		I Timothy 2:1-2								
		Psalm 32:5	d.	To encourage one another and be encouraged						
	-		е.	To confess our sins and be assured of forgiveness						
		Matthew 10:32	f.	To worship and praise God						
	_	Matthew 4:10	g.	To bring our gifts of faith and love for Jesus						

V. Further study in the Word of God:

Read Luke 2:41-52. How did Jesus fulfill the Third Commandment and also give us a good example of being found in God's House?

Lesson 3

Text: John 4:5-26

WHAT HAPPENS IN CHURCH?

- (5) So He came to a city of Samaria, which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph.
- (6) Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour.
- (7) A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink."
- (8) For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.
- (9) Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.
- (10) Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water."
- (11) The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water?
- (12) "Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?"
- (13) Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again,
- (14) "but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."
- (15) The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw."
- (16) Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here."
- (17) The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You have well said, 'I have no husband,'
- (18) "for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly."
- (19) The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet.
- (20) "Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship."
- (21) Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father.
- (22) "You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews.
- (23) "But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.
- (24) "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."
- (25) The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things."
- (26) Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He."





Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.



CHURCH: Worshiping God in Spirit and Truth John 4:5-26

	Fill in the b	lanks using the f	following wor	ds.								
	Samaria	everything	well	spoke	drink	believed						
	surprised	Messiah	worship	spirit	prophet	Christian						
	living	where	truth	Jesus	He	important						
	Jesus was t	raveling through	when F	le stopped at	a	There He ask	ed a					
		voman for a										
		ut water										
		and wanted to know										
	worship Goo	d isn't bu	ut only that we w	orship Him in	a	nd	The					
		said she believed th										
		answered, "I am										
						seeds and now	wasa					
II.	Draw a line	from the church	festival to its	meaning.								
	Good Friday				e coming of Ch	nrist						
	Lent			The coming of the Wise Men; the Gentile Christmas								
	Pentecost		The birth of	Jesus	200.4 20 200 200 200 2010							
	Advent			A 40-day period focusing on the suffering of Jesus								
	Maundy Thu	rsday		Jesus' entry into Jerusalem								
	Christmas	•	Institution of the Lord's Supper									
	Palm Sunday	У	The day Jesus died									
	Easter			us rose from t	he dead							
	Epiphany			When Jesus left this earth to return to heaven								
	Ascension			of the Holy Sp		aven						
III.	Questions for	or further though	nt.									
		What is the most important thing to remember about worship in church?										
	vilatio tro n	nost important tiling i	o remember abo	out worsnip in	church?							
IV.	Match the B	ible passage wit	h the parts of	f a church s	service.							
	Coloss	sians 3:16	a. The I	Hymns								
	Luke	11:1-4	b. The									
	2 Cori	nthians 9:7		Creed		3.10.						
	Roma	ns 10:9-10	d. The S	Sermon								
	Numb	ers 6:23-26	e. The	Offering								
	1 Cori	nthians 1:17-18		Prayers								
	1 Johr	1:9-10		Benediction								

V. Further study in the Word of God:

Read Ecclesiastes 5:1. How does this passage relate to our worship attitude and behavior in church?

Lesson 4

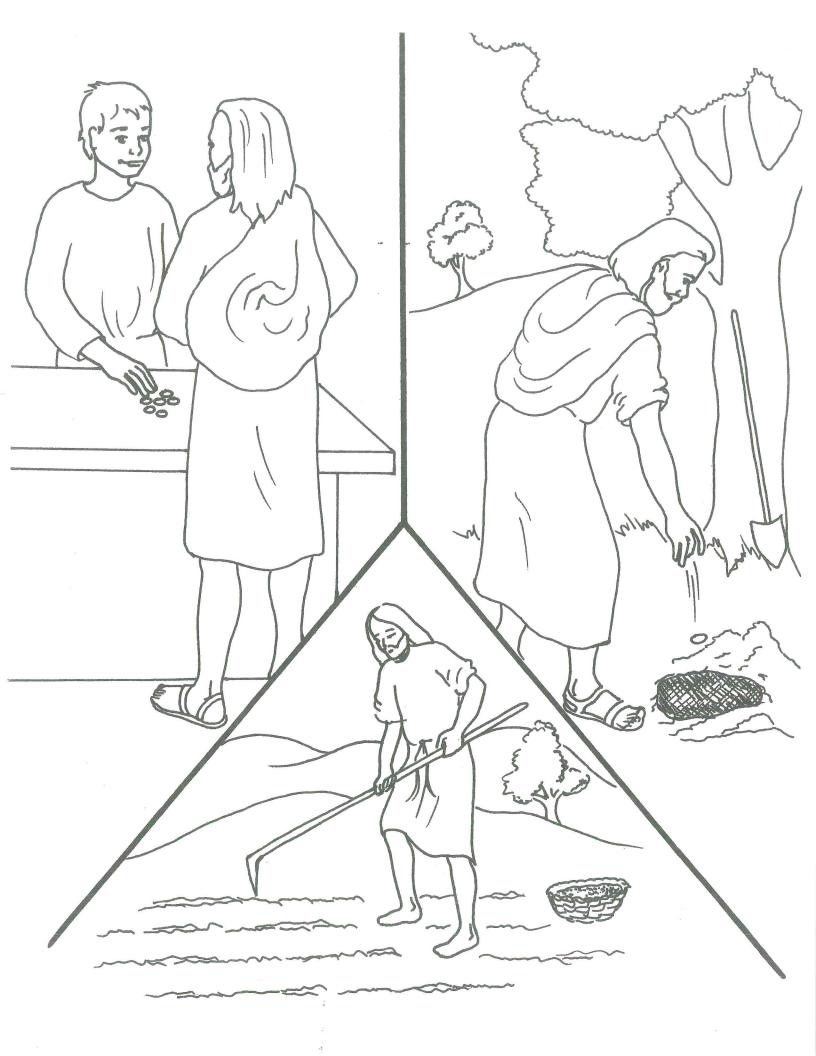
Text: Matthew 25:14-30

WHAT CAN WE DO FOR CHURCH?

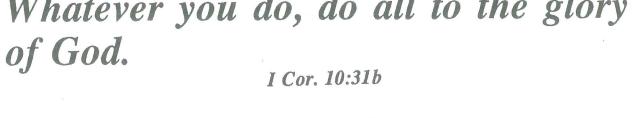
- (14) "For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them.
- (15) "And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey.
- (16) "Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents.
- (17) "And likewise he who had received two gained two more also.
- (18) "But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money.
- (19) "After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them.
- (20) "So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, 'Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.'
- (21) "His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'
- (22) "He also who had received two talents came and said, 'Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.'
- (23) "His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'
- (24) "Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed.
- (25) 'And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.'

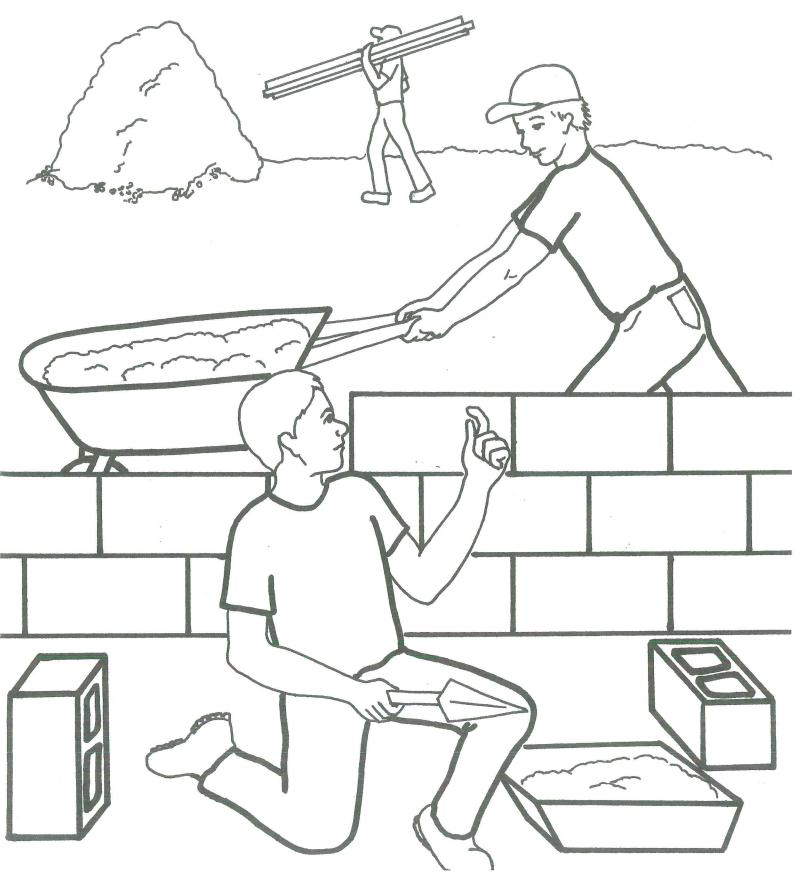


- (26) "But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed.
- (27) 'So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest.
- (28) 'Therefore take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents.
- (29) 'For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away.
- (30) 'And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'



Whatever you do, do all to the glory





CHURCH: AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE MATTHEW 25:14-30

 Fill in the blanks and find the words in the crypto 	ogram.
---	--------

H	A	V	N	T	0	B	T	The was leaving on a journey.
	E	0	U	W	Q	A	L	He gave his servants
F	C			Z			D	One servant received talents.
V				F	15			Another received talents.
				A				One servant his talent.
W				G		A	B	The one who buried his talent-was cast into
2.12						Ċ		Those who used their talents properly were praised by their
								<u> </u>

II. Multiple choice: circle the correct answer.

- 1. We are to remember that our bodies and possessions
 - a. come from our parents.
 - b. are really God's and He gives them to us to use here on earth.
 - c. belong to us and we have the right to use them as we wish.
- 2. Our motivation for serving God faithfully as His steward is
 - a. the desire to earn heaven.
 - b. fear of being damned.
 - c. Jesus' love for us by living and dying as our substitute.
- 3. God gave us our talents and abilities so that we may
 - a. develop them and get a good job.
 - b. use them in service to Him and to help others.
 - c. use them as we think hest
- 4. As far as our money is concerned, the Christian knows that
 - a. it belongs to God and is to be used for His work and according to His will.
 - b. God doesn't care about it or how we use it.
 - c. it is the most important thing in life, so we should try to earn as much as we can.
- 5. If we are not faithful stewards to God
 - a. we probably will not earn eternal life because we do not have enough good works.
 - b. there is no reason to worry because Jesus died for all people.
 - c. there is a problem in our heart and in our relationship with Jesus Christ.

III. Questions for further thought:

List some talents that you have and tell how you could use them to serve the Lord.

IV. True or false: Write a "T" in the blank if the statement is true or an "F" if the statement is false. Then correct the false statements.

1	Some Christians don't have enough time to serve Jesus.
2.	Our faithful service to God helps us get into heaven as our reward.
3.	Trusting in Jesus as Lord and Savior will always lead to faithful stewardship.
4	Since God does not need money, it is not important for us to give it to church for His work on earth.
5	It is a privilege and joy to be able to serve Jesus as His stewards on earth.
6	Our lives and work as stewards is the evidence of faith or unbelief in the heart.

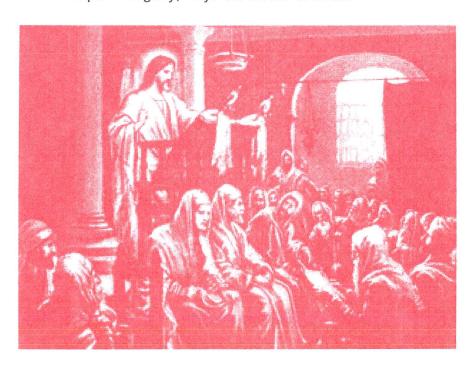
V. Further study in the Word of God:

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-22. What do these words tell us concerning the many ways we all can serve the Lord?

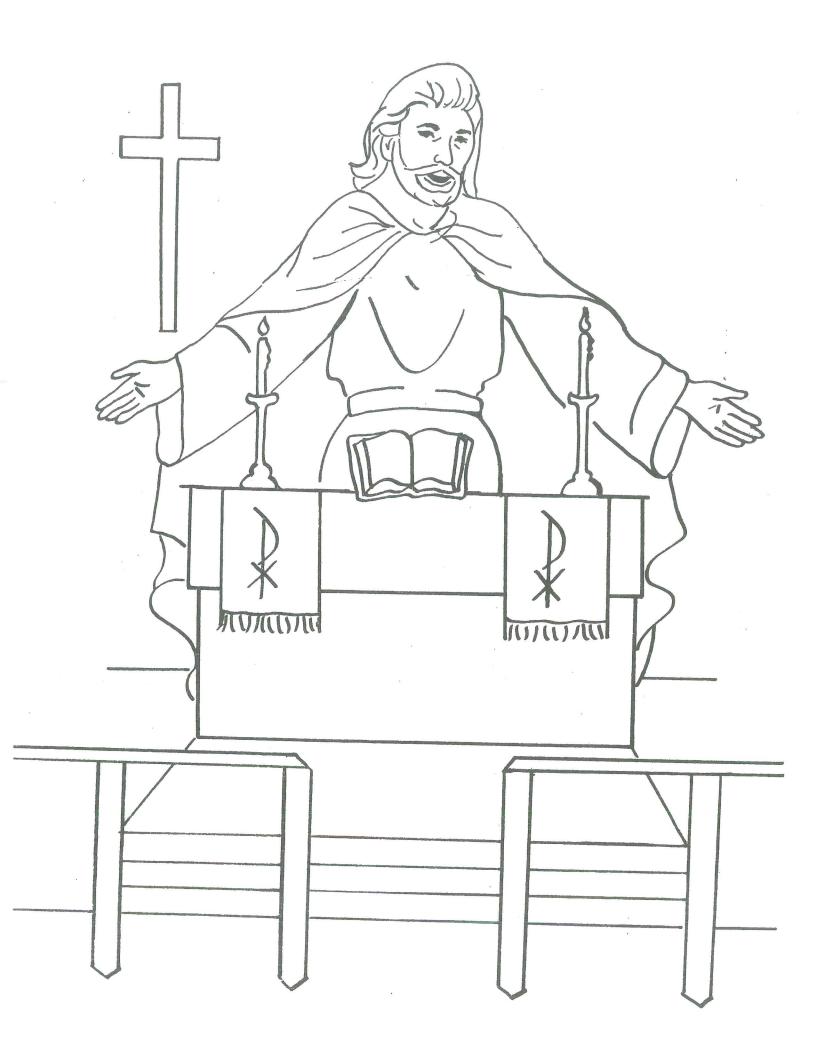
Lesson 5 Text: Haggai 2:1-9

HOW DO WE PICK A CHURCH?

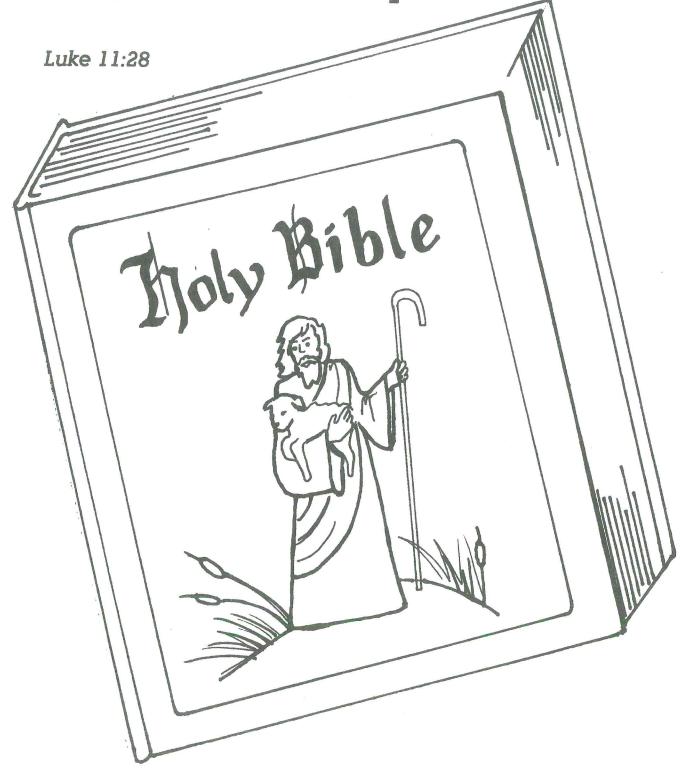
- (1) In the seventh month, on the twenty-first of the month, the word of the LORD came by Haggai the prophet, saying:
- (2) "Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, saying:
- (3) 'Who is left among you who saw this temple in its former glory? And how do you see it now? In comparison with it, is this not in your eyes as nothing?
- (4) 'Yet now be strong, Zerubbabel,' says the LORD; 'and be strong, Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; and be strong, all you people of the land,' says the LORD, 'and work; for I am with you,' says the LORD of hosts.
- (5) 'According to the word that I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt, so My Spirit remains among you; do not fear!'
- (6) "For thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Once more (it is a little while) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land;
- (7) 'and I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations, and I will fill this temple with glory,' says the LORD of hosts.



- (8) 'The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine,' says the LORD of hosts.
- (9) 'The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former,' says the LORD of hosts. 'And in this place I will give peace,' says the LORD of hosts."



Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!



CHURCH: THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST HAGGAI 2:1-9

	True or false: Write a "T" in the blank if the statement is true or an "F" if the
	statement is false. Then correct the false statements.
	1 This story takes place after the birth of Christ.
	2 The new temple wasn't as beautiful as the old one.
	3 The people were happy with the old temple.
	4 God sent the Prophet Habakkuk to talk to the people.
	5 We can only worship properly in a big and beautiful church.
	6 Jesus is the true glory of a church.
	7 We look for a church that teaches Jesus as the Bible does.
	8 A church, which teaches the Word of God in its truth, will have Jesus.
II.	Questions for further thought:
	Discuss the work of the church on the basis of Matthew 28:18-20.
III.	Multiple choice: circle the correct answer.
	1. To be faithful followers of Jesus, we will
	a. join any church, so that we can worship Jesus.
	b. avoid all visible congregations because there may be hypocrites in them.c. join with a Christian congregation that is faithful to what the Bible teaches.
	2. We can be sure that a congregation is faithful to God's Word by
	a. finding out how friendly the members are and how good a preacher the pastor is.
	b. comparing what it teaches and does with what God says in His Word.c. checking to see if it is growing in new members.
	3. To join with a false teaching church that is not true to the Bible is
	a. neither good nor bad, since church membership is not so important.b. all right as long as we know the wrong things that are taught.
	c. always wrong since God's Word tells us to avoid such churches.
	4. Our personal responsibility as members of the church is to
	a. go to church every Sunday, and that's it.
	b. use our gifts and talents for the good of others to the glory of God.

- 5. Being a part of a congregation and serving the Lord through it is something that
 - a. is not enjoyable at all but must be done.
 - b. helps us to earn our way to eternal life.
 - c. God desires for us to do and which believers are therefore happy to do.

c. obey the pastor even if he teaches us something contrary to God's Word.

IV. How do we pick the right church?

Read the statements below. If the statement describes a congregation or religious organization you should NOT be in fellowship with, put a ✓ before it. 1. _____ A congregation that doesn't say the Apostolic Creed in every service. 2. _____ A congregation where the members kneel while confessing their sins. 3. _____ A congregation that says that the Bible is not true in all of its parts. 4. _____ A congregation that distributes the wine of the Lord's Supper in individual glasses rather than in the common cup. An organization that says you can be saved by the good works that you do. 6. _____ A congregation that teaches babies should not be baptized. 7. _____ A congregation that uses a guitar and brass instruments to accompany hymns. 8. _____ A congregation that teaches that Jesus will rule on earth for 1,000 years. 9. _____ A congregation where the pastor doesn't wear a robe, but instead wears a suit coat. 10. _____ An organization that declares a human being is the head of the church and the spokesman for Jesus. 11. _____ A congregation that worships only God the Father, and says that Jesus and the Holy Spirit are not true God. 12. _____ A congregation that says we are saved by faith in Jesus and by the good works that we do.

V. Further study in the Word of God:

- Read Romans 10:13-17.
 What does God tell us concerning the importance of hearing pastors preach the Gospel to us?
- 2. Read Matthew 7:15-20. What do these words tell us about how to determine if a pastor is a false teacher?

THE WEEK IN REVIEW

I. Our series this week asked five questions. Complete the chart below by choosing one number from each the columns.

		Bible story	What it teaches	Supporting passage
	1. What is Church?	-		
	2. Why do we go to			
	3. What happens in church?			
	4. What can we do for church?			
	5. How do we pick a church?		and the second second second	
	1. The rebuilt temple at Jerusalem	6. The Presen	11. 1 Cor. 10:31	
	2. The parable of the talents	7. The Home	12. John 4:24	
	3. Ananias and Sapphira	8. An opportur	13. John 8:31-32	
	The Samaritan woman at Jacob's well	9. A gathering	14. Psalm 122:1	
	A psalm about the blessings found in the LORD's House	10. Worshippin	ng God in spirit and in truth	15. John 10:27
II.	Match the contrasting terms.			
	Zion	a.	God's House	
	human	b.	Peter	
	Sapphira	C.	Samaritan	
	Jew	d.	Sinner	
	The World	e.	Holy Spirit	
	Jesus	f.	Baca	

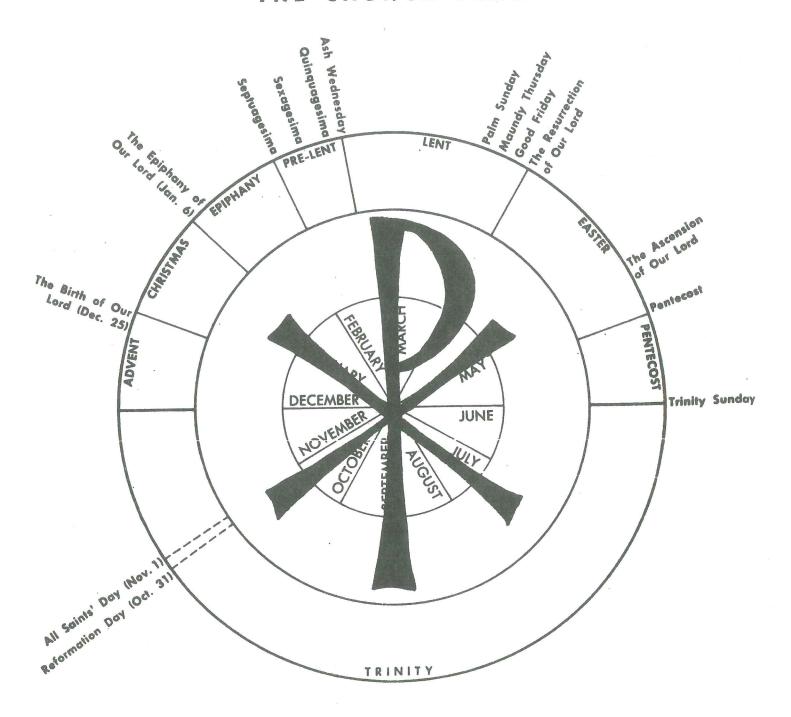
III. Discuss the following questions in the light of the Word of God that you have studied this week.

- 1. "I know I haven't been to church in a while, but I have still been praying to God at home."
- 2. "I don't want to go to church, it is full of hypocrites."
- 3. "I don't have any abilities to help the church."
- 4. "Oh, that church is beautiful. It is so big inside, and it has such nice stained glass windows, and a nice old pipe organ."
- 5. "It doesn't make any difference which church you go to, as long as you go."

IV. Questions for further thought:

Describe what the Holy Spirit does for the hearer of God's Word.

THE CHURCH YEAR



A DAY IN THE COURTS OF THE LORD

MEMORY VERSES

Level 1-2:

2 Timothy 2:19 — "The Lord knows those who are His."

Psalm 84:12 — Blessed is the man who trusts in You!

Psalm 136:1 — Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.

1 Corinthians 10:31b — Whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

Luke 11:28 — Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

Level 3-4:

John 10:27 - My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

Psalm 122:1 — I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go into the house of the LORD."

John 4:24 — God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.

1 Corinthians 10:31 — Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

John 8:31-32 — "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

MEMORY HYMN

The Lutheran Hymnal — Hymn 2:1,2,6,7

- To Thy temple I repair; Lord, I love to worship there When within the veil I meet Christ before the mercy seat.
- 2. I through Him am reconciled,
 I through Him become Thy child.
 Abba, Father, give me grace
 In Thy courts to seek Thy face.
- 3. While Thy ministers proclaim
 Peace and pardon in Thy name,
 Through their voice, by faith, may I
 Hear Thee speaking from the sky.
- From Thy house when I return, May my heart within me burn, And at evening let me say, "I have walked with God today."

SUGGESTED PRAYER

Dear LORD God, we confess that we are sinful. We have made mistakes.

We indeed are weak, but You are strong. Help us!

- O LORD, make us members of Your Church and gather us together with other believers.
- O LORD, make us happy to be in church, for it is Your home on earth.
- O LORD, lead us to worship You, the true God, in spirit and in truth.
- O LORD, help us to use the gifts You have given to us in the work of Your Church.
- O LORD, teach us to look to Jesus Christ, for He is the true beauty of the Church.
- O God the Father, O God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, give us grace to spend our days in the courts of the LORD.

In the name of Jesus, our Savior from sin, we pray. Amen.