

# In the World . . .

**“And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world . . .” (John 17:11).**

**Use this news story from recent days to help your students see the relevance of this week’s Sunday school lesson from the Standard Lesson Commentary®/Standard Lesson Quarterly.**

## **THE KING IS DEAD . . .**

Steve Jobs was arguably the “king” of Silicon Valley, a center of America’s computer industry. Last week, the 56-year-old Jobs lost his battle with pancreatic cancer. He has been eulogized as a person on par with Thomas Edison and Henry Ford—outstanding entrepreneurs whose inventions changed the way we live. As one writer noted, Jobs left a legacy of transformation in the computer and cultural worlds. His various “i-inventions” (iPhone, iPad, iPod, iMac, and iTunes) have profoundly affected the way we communicate, work, and entertain ourselves.

## **. . . AND SO WILL WE BE!**

Ecclesiastes urges us to heed the fact that we shall die. We are to remember God while we are young, rather than doing so in old age after spending our lives on frivolity. The early death of Steve Jobs is a reminder that Psalm 90:10 does not guarantee that every one of us will make it to age 70. In urging people to “follow their hearts,” Jobs himself said, “Remembering that you are going to die is the best way I know to avoid the trap of thinking you have something to lose.” Regrettably, Jobs’ faith seems to have been more in his own creative genius than in the God who blessed him with it. Now Jobs is gone (as we too will be), but God is still here.

1. When Steve Jobs stands before the judgment seat of God, what questions will God ask him? Why?
2. What challenges to exercising Christian wisdom does the computer age confront us with? How do you meet these challenges?
3. What opportunities for exercising Christian wisdom does the computer age offer us? How will you take advantage of those opportunities?
4. How have you seen people’s perspective on life change as they have aged?
5. Is “following your heart” (as Steve Jobs advised) the biblical way to approach life? Why, or why not?

—Charles R. Boatman

<http://www.standardlesson.com/what-you-get>

Copyright © 2011 by Standard Publishing, Cincinnati, OH. All rights reserved.  
Each download is for the use of one church only.