

## DEFINING HUMILITY

Can you match up each quote with the person who said it?

__ 1. "Humility is not thinking less of yourself, it's thinking of yourself less."	A. St. Augustine
__ 2. "Do you wish to rise? Begin by descending. You plan a tower that will pierce the clouds? Lay first the foundation of humility."	B. Yogi Berra
__ 3. "I believe the first test of a truly great man is in his humility."	C. Jim Yong Kim
__ 4. "Humility is to make a right estimate of one's self."	D. John Ruskin
__ 5. "For me, the most fundamental thing about leadership is to have the humility to continue to get feedback and to try to get better—because your job is to try to help everybody else get better."	E. Charles Spurgeon
__ 6. "It ain't the heat, it's the humility."	F. Rick Warren

## COULD YOU DO IT?

Some things we are asked to do to serve other people are harder than others. Read the following ministries individuals or groups have done and rate them from easiest (1) to hardest (8) for you to do.

- \_\_ Bathe the feet and clip the nails of an elderly person in a nursing home.
- \_\_ Regularly go help a person manage his or her colostomy bag.
- \_\_ Clean up after drunks and addicts in a homeless shelter.
- \_\_ Foster or adopt a special needs child.
- \_\_ Sell your home and move to the inner city for ministry purposes.
- \_\_ Keep four children under the age of 8 for the weekend to give a single mom a break.
- \_\_ Clean the house of a family who has lost someone and will have visiting relatives.
- \_\_ Give emotional support by listening patiently to a depressed or mentally ill person.

Pair off and discuss the following:

1. What would be hardest and easiest for you? Why?
2. What was the hardest thing you have ever been asked to do for a stranger? for a family member?
3. How does Jesus' example of humbling himself make you more willing to humble yourself as you help other people?

# CALLED TO SACRIFICE

Lesson 2, Mark 1:16-20; Luke 14:25-33, NIV

## HIGHEST PERCENTAGE

Surveys are taken worldwide to determine the percentage of various religions in each country. Can you select the country that has the highest percentage of Christians from the choices below?

- \_\_\_ Africa: (A) Rwanda, (B) Tanzania, (C) Mozambique.
- \_\_\_ Middle East: (A) Egypt, (B) Saudi Arabia, (C) Lebanon.
- \_\_\_ Europe: (A) Romania, (B) France, (C) Italy.
- \_\_\_ Asia: (A) South Korea, (B) Armenia, (C) Japan.
- \_\_\_ North America: (A) Canada, (B) United States, (C) Panama.
- \_\_\_ South America: (A) Argentina, (B) Ecuador, (C) Bolivia.
- \_\_\_ Oceania: (A) Australia, (B) New Zealand, (C) Papua New Guinea.

Percentages taken from *World Prayer Atlas*, © 2015 by Spire Resources, Inc.

## WHICH WOULD YOU CHOOSE?

Read the following scenarios, and indicate which choice you would make:

- \_\_\_ 1. Your boat has flipped over in the lake, and you can only save (A) your loving, faithful dog or (B) your “Terrible Twos” toddler.
- \_\_\_ 2. Your house is burning, and you only have time to grab (A) your family photo albums or (B) your stash of gold.
- \_\_\_ 3. You are having brain surgery, and you may lose either (A) your sight or (B) your hearing. Which would you hope to keep?
- \_\_\_ 4. You can (A) live a happy and healthy life and die at 75 (B) or you can live until 85, but spend the last 5 years suffering from dementia.
- \_\_\_ 5. You can (A) live a self-satisfied life as a nominal Christian or (B) take up your cross and risk losing everything to follow Jesus.

# CALLED TO RETURN

*Lesson 3, Luke 15:11-24, NIV*

## HELPFUL DIRECTIONS?

Read the following two sets of directions on how to get to the library. Which would you find most helpful?

1. “Head west toward North Goodman Street and turn right. Staying on Goodman, cross under the Route 104 overpass (where you’ll want to be in the right lane to avoid turning traffic), and continue on Goodman all the way to Titus, which is 3.5 miles away. Cross Titus and turn left into the first driveway, and you will be at the library.”

2. “Turn out of the driveway toward Goodman and turn right. You will come to a big intersection with Rite Aid on the corner. Keep going straight until you come to an overpass, which you will go under. The next major intersection has Tim Horton’s to your right. Stay straight for several miles until you cross a street (I can’t remember the name) but you will see the library there on the corner.”

Why do you prefer the type of directions you chose?

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Which type are you more likely to give?

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## MIXED-UP PARABLE

The person who wrote the following account of the parable of the prodigal son got some parts of it mixed up. Cross out any parts that are wrong and rewrite it correctly.

A. “A man had two sons and the younger son said to his father, ‘Would you give me some money as a stake in my future?’” So the father gave him a generous sum.

B. “The young man settled nearby, so he could be close to his family and his people.”

C. “Through no fault of his own, he fell on hard times and became very hungry; a man gave him a good job and food to eat.”

D. “He decided he would be better off back home, so he planned to say to his father, ‘I’ve had a run of bad luck, and I hope you will allow me to come back and live as your son.’”

E. “His father allowed him to finish his speech and then spent some time thinking about whether he would make him a servant or allow him to return as his son.”

F. “It took a while for the father to forgive the son and allow him to move home. And he let him know he wasn’t all that happy to have him back.”

# CALLED TO REPENT

Lesson 4, Luke 19:1-10, NIV

## TRANSFORMED!

The left column indicates what Zacchaeus's life was like before he encountered Jesus. Read Luke 19:1-10, and in the right column describe how his life was transformed after his encounter with Jesus.

BEFORE	AFTER
He was a proud man and chief of the tax collectors.	(See verses 3, 4).
He was curious about Jesus and just wanted to catch a glimpse of him, since he had never met him.	(See verse 5).
He was the last person that anyone expected to be greeted by Jesus and to be invited to host a meal for him.	(See verse 7).
He was rich, and he cheated people in order to get more money.	(See verse 8).
He was lost and had no hope of going to Heaven.	(See verse 9a).
Because he worked for the Romans as a tax collector, he was despised by his own people and treated as a Gentile.	(See verse 9b)

## BIG ANNOUNCEMENT

When Zacchaeus understood how gracious and accepting Jesus was toward him, he wanted to announce to everyone the ways in which he would demonstrate his love for Jesus. In the scroll to the right, write your own announcement of one significant change you will make in the coming days to express your love and gratitude to Jesus.



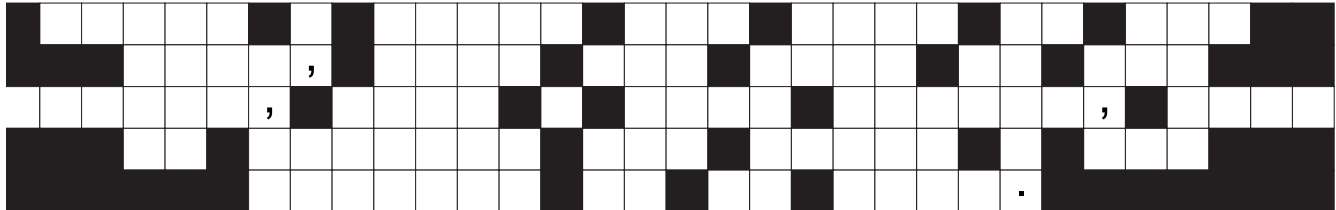
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# CALLED TO FOLLOW

Lesson 5, Matthew 4:12-22, NIV

## GOING MY WAY

Place the letters in each column into the squares above them to create a quotation from an unknown author about taking a new direction in life. Each letter may be used only once in the column directly above it.



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

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## COMPLETE THE OUTLINE

Below is an outline of our lesson text. Look up the texts in the Scripture resources and place them in the outline to support the main points.

I. See the great light and you will . . . (Matthew 4:12-17)

- A. Know God through Jesus \_\_\_\_\_
- B. See where you are going \_\_\_\_\_
- C. Change your ways \_\_\_\_\_

II. Follow Jesus and you will . . . (Matthew 4:18-22)

- A. Leave the old things behind \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Embark on a new mission \_\_\_\_\_
- C. Have new family loyalties \_\_\_\_\_

Scripture resources:

Luke 14:26; John 1:14; Acts 22:21; Romans 12:2; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Psalm 119:105

# CALLED TO MISSION

*Lesson 6, Matthew 10:1-15, NIV*

## MILITARY MISSIONS

Desperate times called for desperate measures! We would guess that only a military expert can match these military missions to their goals. Give it a try.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Operation Pluto
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Operation Neptune Spear
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Operation Nifty Package
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Operation Magic Carpet
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Operation Eagle Claw

- A. Mission to repatriate Americans in European, Pacific, and Asian theaters after WWII (1945)
- B. Mission to build underwater pipelines in the channel between England and France (1944)
- C. Mission to rescue hostages in Iran (1980)
- D. Mission to capture Manuel Noriega of Panama (1989)
- E. Mission to capture or kill Osama bin Laden (2011)

## OPERATION LOST SHEEP

Imagine a dossier that gives the details of the first commission Jesus gave to his disciples. Refer to the verses listed to complete it.

### **Code Name: Operation Lost Sheep**

Purpose of Mission (Matthew 10:5-7) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Personnel involved (Matthew 10:2-4) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How mission is financed (Matthew 10:9-11) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Authenticating credentials (Matthew 10:1, 8) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Authority to demand compliance (Matthew 10:13-15) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# CALLED TO REMEMBER

*Lesson 7, Matthew 26:1-13, NIV*

## THE REAL ME

There are many things about us that a casual acquaintance or a coworker may know (ex: your name, your job). But there are some details about you that only those closest to you might know (ex. how you like to spend your free time). In the spaces below, list four examples of each kind of facts about you—the public you and the private you.

### **Facts most people know about me**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

### **Facts only a few know about me**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

## WHO IS JESUS?

During the last months of his ministry, Jesus asked this provocative question: “Who do people say the Son of Man is?” (Matthew 16:13). Imagine the same question being asked of the people in today’s Bible text. How did their understanding affect their actions?

Whom did the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders say that Jesus, the Son of Man, was?

What did they decide to do about it? (Respond referring to Matthew 26:3-5.)

Whom did his disciples say that Jesus, the Son of Man, was? (Respond referring to Matthew 26:8-10.)

What did they decide to do about it?

Whom did the woman with the precious ointment say that Jesus, the Son of Man, was?

What did she decide to do about it? (Respond referring to Matthew 26:6, 7, 12.)

# CALLED TO BELIEVE THE RESURRECTION

*Lesson 8, Matthew 28:1-15, NIV*

## GONE PHISHING

The act of trying to trick people into giving up their private information in an e-mail is called “phishing.” Here are the first lines of a few real phishing schemes. What about each e-mail would lead you to believe it is suspicious or too good to be true?

Dear Mega Mutual (MM) customer: We regret to inform you that your MM account has been locked because we believe it may have been hacked by an outside party. Clicking on the link below will open a secure window where you can enter authenticating information to reopen your account.

We happily announcing to you the beneficiary to this e-mail address the draw of the EUROMILLIONS INTERNATIONAL LOTTERY. To you it has been authorized to pay EUR 1, 456, 009.12. Complete the direct deposit form below so we may deposit your winnings in your personal bank account.

I have been requested by the Nigerian National Petroleum Company to contact you for assistance in resolving a matter. The Nigerian National Petroleum Company is desirous of oil exploration in other parts of the world; however, because of certain regulations of the Nigerian Government, it is unable to move these funds to another region. Your assistance is requested as a non-Nigerian citizen to assist the Nigerian National Petroleum Company, and also the Central Bank of Nigeria, in moving these funds out of Nigeria.

## REASSEMBLE!

Put the text blocks together to discover a quote from evangelist Dwight L. Moody.

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# CALLED TO MAKE DISCIPLES

*Lesson 9, Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 1:6-8, NIV*

## NOW WHAT?

Life is unpredictable. At any moment, a situation may occur that requires a reasonable response. Identify the emergency situations from the list of recommended responses.

Emergency \_\_\_\_\_

- Move away from windows and open doors and into an interior hallway.
- Move to the lowest level of the building.
- Sit on the floor and cover your head with your arms to protect from flying debris.

Emergency \_\_\_\_\_

- If a window is available, place an article of clothing (shirt, coat, etc.) outside a window as a marker for rescue crews.
- If there is no window, stay near the floor where the air will be less toxic.
- Shout at regular intervals to alert emergency crews of your location.

Emergency \_\_\_\_\_

- Stop. Do not run or make quick movements.
- Drop. Fall to the ground.
- Roll. Turn your body over and over on the ground.

Emergency \_\_\_\_\_

- Lie on your back on the floor as flat as possible.
- Reject the strategy of jumping at the moment of impact.
- Cover your face and head to protect yourself from ceiling parts that may break loose.

## TRANSLATION, PLEASE!

Oops! Our editor just got a new thesaurus and enjoyed using it in outlining our Bible text. Read each supporting passage and try to translate the jargon-heavy points into understandable English.

Articulate absolute conviction in the Messiah's utter supremacy over the infinite cosmos. (See Matthew 28:16-18.)

At every juncture bid others to affirm affiliation, initiate them by ritual immersion, and continue your theological pedagogies to realize their deific tutelage. (See Matthew 28:19, 20.)

Repel the enticement to construct derived foci as principal concerns. (See Acts 1:6-8.)

# CALLED TO RIGHTEOUSNESS

Lesson 10, Romans 3:21-31, NIV

## JUSTICE WITHOUT PITY

Below you will find a short article about an ancient Greek lawgiver. The last line of the article cannot be read because each letter in it was replaced by the letter immediately following it in the alphabet. Decode that sentence by reversing that process.

*Draco is known to this day for the legal code he imposed on Athens. On the positive side, before Draco, the law could change at the whim of a leader. Justice was meted out by relatives of the wronged party, usually in bloody fashion. Under Draco, a written code was publicized so all knew it, and the code was enforced by courts.*

*But the term Draconian does not refer to justice today, but harshness. Draco's code mandated slavery for those in debt to someone of a higher social station. Also, crimes as minor as stealing a cabbage were punishable by death.*

**Esbdpjbo mbx qvojtife xspohepjoh, cvu eje tp xjuipvu nfsdz.**

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## SORT 'EM OUT

Read Romans 3:21-31. Mark each of the following statements below as having a permissive (P) view of sin, a legalistic (L) view of sin, or a biblical (B) view of sin.

- 1. God forgives; that's just his job.
- 2. God loves me more than he loves those people.
- 3. Everyone sins, so it's no big deal.
- 4. Everyone sins, and it is a very big deal. But we are powerless to conquer it on our own.
- 5. We become right with God by doing the right things.
- 6. Jesus paid a high price for our sins so we don't have to.
- 7. Evil is an old-fashioned, out-of-date concept
- 8. People can overcome evil by knowing God's law.
- 9. Jesus displays God's love and satisfies his justice.

# CALLED TO LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

Lesson 11, Romans 8:1-14, NIV

## SYLLABLES

Note the five clues below. The number after each indicates the number of syllables in the answer. Transfer syllables from the resources into the answer spaces. (Each syllable will be used once and only once.) Read the boxed letters from top to bottom to discover the culprit that could cause these maladies.

- 1. Rage (2) □
- 2. Upset tummy (3) □
- 3. Inability to sleep (4) □
- 4. Stomach sores (2) □
- 5. Bulimia, anorexia, etc. (5)  
(2 words) □

Possible cause of these? □ □ □ □ □

### RESOURCES

A	A	AN	CERS	DERS	
DIS	EAT	GER	IN	ING	
NAU	NI	OR	SE	SOM	UL

## JUST BECAUSE

Paul spells out the way we can live guilt free. We have paraphrased statements of Paul. Following each statement, Paul gives reasons for the statements. Support his reasoning by paraphrasing the verses we cite.

Those in Christ Jesus are not condemned anymore! (v. 1).

(v. 2) Because \_\_\_\_\_

(v. 3) Because \_\_\_\_\_

God's righteousness is displayed when we walk in harmony with God's Spirit (v. 4).

(v. 5) Because \_\_\_\_\_

(v. 6) Because \_\_\_\_\_

(vv. 7, 8) Because \_\_\_\_\_

We don't have to be controlled by our bodies, the flesh (v. 12).

(v. 11) Because \_\_\_\_\_

(v. 13) Because \_\_\_\_\_

(v. 14) Because \_\_\_\_\_

# CALLED TO MUTUAL ACCEPTANCE

Lesson 12, Romans 11:11-24, NIV

## SPIRITUAL HERITAGE

List individuals who have been instrumental in your coming to faith in Jesus and continuing to grow in him. Include family, friends, ministers, teachers, etc.

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## SPIRITUAL SUPERIORITY

Check off all the following statements that apply to you.

- I have been a member of this congregation for over 10 years.
- I was raised in a Christian family.
- I myself or members of my family are part of the leadership of this church.
- I became a Christian before the age of 18.
- I faithfully tithe my income.
- Other family members (in addition to my immediate family) attend here.
- I can name all the books of the Bible.
- I can find Scripture references without looking up the location of the book in the table of contents.
- I have led a friend or family member to the Lord.
- I have been asked to pray during the worship service.

How many of the above did you check off? \_\_\_\_\_

Does that number make you feel superior or inferior to other Christians?

Why did the Jewish Christians feel superior to the Gentile Christians?

Why were they wrong to feel that way?

In what way are all Christians equal in God's sight?

Name one way you can work on your feelings of superiority or inferiority to get more in line with how God sees you.

# CALLED TO BE TRANSFORMED

*Lesson 13, Romans 12:1-8, NIV*

## SURVEY SAYS

1. Name one thing with pages found in a church. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Name a common item at the front of the church. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Name one volunteer position at a church. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Name something at church that you can open. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Name something preachers wish more believers would do every day. \_\_\_\_\_

## MAY I SERVE YOU?

Match the people listed (on the left and written sdrawkcaB, er, backwards) with items they commonly serve.

- |                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| __ 1. lanimirc           | A. the ball    |
| __ 2. truoc eht fo tnegA | B. food        |
| __ 3. naicitilop         | C. summons     |
| __ 4. reyalp sinnet      | D. jail time   |
| __ 5. retiaW             | E. office term |

## Lesson 1

**Defining Humility:** 1=F. 2=A. 3=D. 4=E. 5=C. 6=B.

## Lesson 2

**Highest Percentage:** Africa: A=Rwanda, 93.6%. Middle East: C=Lebanon, 40%. Europe: A=Romania, 99%. Asia: B=Armenia, 98.7%. North America: C=Panama, 99%. South America: B=Ecuador, 99%. Oceania: C=Papua New Guinea, 96.4%.

## Lesson 3

**Mixed-up Parable:** A=1. Change “Some money as a stake” to “Give me my share of your estate.” A=2. Change “a generous sum” to “one-third of his property.” B=1. Change “settled nearby” to “went into a far country.” B=2. Change “close to his family and his people” to “split from his family and people.” C=1. Change “Through no fault of his own” to “he wasted his substance with riotous living.” C=2. Change “a man gave him a good job and food to eat” to “he was given a job feeding swine and no one gave him any food.” D=1. Change “decided he would be better off back home” to “he came to himself and repented of his ways.” D=2. Change “I’ve had a run of bad luck” to “I have sinned again Heaven and against you.” D=3. Change “allow me to come back and live as your son” to “I am an unworthy son; make me a hired servant.” E=1. Change “his father allowed him to finish his speech” to “his father interrupted his speech.” E=2. Change “spent some time thinking about allowing him to return as his son” to “immediately treated him as a beloved son.” F=1. Change “It took a while for his father to forgive him” to “his father forgave him right away.” F=2. Change “he let him know he wasn’t all that happy to have him back” to “he killed the fatted calf and threw a party to celebrate his return.”

## Lesson 4

**Transformed!** Verses 3, 4, In order to see Jesus, he humbled himself by running ahead of the crowd and climbing into a tree; Verse 5, Jesus honored him by calling him by name and telling him to come down and meet him face to face; Verse 7, He had the joy of providing a meal for Jesus and entertaining him in his home; Verse 8, He repented of his wicked ways and promised to pay back anyone he cheated; he also offered to give half of his wealth to the poor; Verse 9a, Jesus said that this very day salvation had come to Zacchaeus’s house; Verse 9b, Jesus declared that he was a true “son of Abraham.”

## Lesson 5

**Going My Way?** Today I close the door to the past, open the door to the future, take a deep breath, step on through and start a new chapter in my life.

**Complete the Outline:** I–A=John 1:14. II–A=2 Corinthians 5:17. I–B=Psalm 119:105. II–B=Luke 14:26. I–C=Romans 12:2. II–C=Acts 22:21.

## Lesson 6

**Military Missions:** 1=B. 2=E. 3=D. 4=A. 5=C.

## Lesson 7

Possible responses for **Who Is Jesus?** The religious leaders saw Jesus as a popular imposter, so they plotted to have him killed far from the crowds. The disciples saw Jesus as a good and compassionate teacher, so they wanted to be sure their treasury was prepared for future ministry. The woman with the ointment saw Jesus as the sacrificial Lamb of God who would be killed as he predicted. She symbolically prepared him for burial.

## Lesson 8

**Reassemble!** God never made a promise too good to be true.

## Lesson 9

**Now What?** tornado, trapped in a building, clothing on fire, in a falling elevator.

**Translation, Please!** Trust in Jesus’ Authority, Tell and Baptize Others, Stay Focused on Your Mission.

## Lesson 10

**Justice Without Pity:** Draconian law punished wrongdoing, but did so without mercy.

**Sort ’em Out:** 1=P. 2=L. 3=P. 4=B. 5=L. 6=B. 7=P. 8=L. 9=B.

## Lesson 11

**Syllables:** 1=ANGER, 2=NAUSEA, 3=INSOMNIA, 4=ULCERS, 5=EATING DISORDERS. Possible cause=GUILT.

Suggested responses for **Just Because:** (v. 2) Because the Spirit frees us from the law. (v. 3) Because Jesus paid the debt we could not. (v. 5) Because when we do what the flesh tells us to do, we are not following God’s Spirit. (v. 6) Because our own drives bring death, but the Holy Spirit leads us to life. (vv. 7, 8) Because our own drives rebel against God and displease him. (v. 11) Because the Spirit that raised Christ transforms us. (v. 13) Because living in the Spirit helps negate our sinful nature. (v. 14) Because we become God’s children through faith in Jesus rather than works..

## Lesson 13

Possible answers to **Survey Says:** 1. Bibles, hymnals, bulletins, Sunday school lesson books. 2. cross, altar, podium, microphone, music equipment. 3. Sunday school teacher, nursery worker, usher, greeter, worship team member; hospitality helper. 4. your mind, your heart, Bible, doors. 5. read their Bible, pray, talk to others about Jesus, depend on God’s Spirit.

**May I Serve You?** 1=D. 2=C. 3=E. 4=A. 5=B.