

Life After the New Birth

Spring Quarter, 2017

Quarterly Objective: Young teens will manifest the evidences of salvation as they live by the standards established in the Word of God.

Worship (Unit 1)

Young teens will offer acceptable worship to God in private and in public.

March 5	Position Number 1	9
	Luke 10:38-42	
March 12	Worship Is More Than Just Being There!	13
	John 4:19-24; 17:17	
March 19	Don't Even Think About It!	17
	Malachi 1:6-14	
March 26	Now, That's the Way To Do It!	21
	Psalms 95; 100	

Biblical Family Values (Unit 2)

Young teens will discover biblical family values that should be practiced in every home.

April 2	Respecting Dad and Mom	27
	Ephesians 6:1-3; Proverbs 15:5	
April 9	That Doesn't Belong to Me!	31
	Ephesians 4:28; Exodus 20:15	
April 16	But If We Love Each Other, Why Not?	35
	1 Corinthians 6:18-20; 1 Thessalonians 4:3, 4	
April 23	Until Death Alone Shall Part Us	39
	Matthew 19:1-9	
April 30	Honesty Is Best	43
	1 Thessalonians 4:11,12; Proverbs 28:10; 1 Peter 2:12	
May 7	Profanity—Verbal Toxic Waste	47
	Ephesians 4:29-31; Proverbs 18:7	

We Are Saved To Serve (Unit 3)

Young teens will discover ways Christians serve God by serving others.

May 14	Love from the Ground Level	53
	Ephesians 4:31, 32; Romans 12:9-21	
May 21	Living a Good Life in a Bad World!	57
	Philippians 2:15, 16; 1 Peter 2:21	
May 28	Me? A Servant?	61
	Romans 12:6-21	

Learning to use the materials . . .

STEP ONE: Acquaint yourself with the Quarterly Theme.

This quarter's objective is to introduce young teens to a new quality of life—life after the new birth. Young teens will examine how Christians should worship, will learn about biblical family values and how to apply them to their lives and will recognize that they are saved to serve the Lord.

STEP TWO: Read and study the Lesson Strategy.

There are three units in each quarter. A unit begins with two pages containing information about the lessons in the unit, a preview of lesson posters for that unit and information relating to teaching young teens.

STEP THREE: Develop an understanding of the teacher's guide.

The *Young Teen (Junior High) Teacher* explains and helps you develop, follow and apply a four-step active learning procedure that should lead your students to focus on the subject, examine the Scriptures relating to the subject, define the subject's meaning and apply the subject to their lives. The teacher's guide also contains suggestions on how to use the student leaflets.

STEP FOUR: Plan for student involvement.

The questions you ask your students should require more than a simple yes or no answer and should teach students to think a question through before giving a reply. The *Young Teen Teacher* will help you formulate these kinds of questions. Each lesson also includes a number of activities designed to illustrate a particular principle uncovered in the lesson discussion.

STEP FIVE: Check out the student's leaflet.

Instead of a pupil's book, each student receives a four-page, full-color leaflet for each lesson. The *Young Teen (Junior High) Leaflets* contain scriptural applications of each lesson along with stories, facts and illustrations to help apply the lesson to the student's life.

STEP SIX: Examine the visual aids.

The *Young Teen (Junior High) Visuals* contain material such as a Quarterly Theme Poster, three unit theme posters and a poster for each lesson. The visual aids also contain photomasters which may be used as transparencies or handouts and two pages of instructions explaining how to use the visuals. This material is designed to help you with your lesson presentation.

I'M A TEACHER OF YOUNG TEENS, WHAT DO I DO NOW?

Teaching young teens can be as exciting as riding a roller coaster, as frightening as being on a bucking horse and as frustrating as trying to solve the mystery of the Rubik's Cube. Yet, the position is one that can produce a lifetime of rewards.

If you were to ask adults what they remember about Sunday School and church, most of them will recall a Sunday School teacher who took the time to clearly explain how they could apply Bible truths to their lives.

Do not worry if you are apprehensive about your responsibility; it is understandable. Your job is a formidable one. However, you will find your task an enjoyable one by learning to depend upon the Holy Spirit and following a few simple steps. First, prepare for your job by making sure your life is free from known sin. Second, establish a consistent prayer life. Third, develop a habit of regular Bible study. Fourth, make a commitment to be a good and faithful teacher.

DO YOU KNOW HOW STUDENTS LEARN?



All teens do not learn the same way. One young teen may immediately grasp the lesson by listening to what you have to say. Another teen may have to think a lesson through. Still another young teen will feel the need to test an idea while others learn by analyzing (taking apart bit by bit) the content and context of the lesson. A good teacher learns to look for teaching opportunities—those brief moments when something catches a learner's attention. Make use of those moments when they occur because they do not happen as often as we would like.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR STUDENTS

What is a young teen? A young teen is a pizza-loving, wise-cracking bundle of hormones who possesses a boundless amount of energy housed in a body that cannot seem to get enough rest.

Young teens are individuals who often have difficulty knowing where they belong in the social structure. They are no longer children, but they are not quite adults. In today's society young teens sometimes are forced to face complicated problems which they have neither the wisdom nor the emotional experience to handle. The young teen is searching for identity and trying to gain independence. As children, young teens depended upon their parents for everything. Now they want the independence of an adult. At times in their search for independence, young teens demonstrate an irritating aggressiveness. In the fourth century, the Greek philosopher, Aristotle, said of young people in this age-group: "They think they know everything and are always quite sure about it; this, in fact, is why they overdo everything." A good teacher will try to put this characteristic to good use by showing them how they can use their abilities in Christian service.



UNDERSTANDING YOUR STUDENTS' SPIRITUAL NEEDS



Young teens have unique spiritual needs. Without biblical guidance these needs can cause serious problems. Young teens are at an age when they ask a lot of questions because they want answers to very serious questions. Their questions reflect their interests and usually reveal a particular problem that is troubling them. They want to know about their future and if their faith will get them through times of severe testing. They are looking for someone who can supply them with the answers to their questions.

Today's society offers young teens the lavish glitz and glamor of Hollywood, the pyrotechnical dazzle and ear-splitting sound of rock concerts, the scientific magic of computers and the temptations of the Internet. This kind of environment has redirected teens' attention from spiritual matters to satisfying their natural curiosity. Yet, the spiritual needs of young teens remain the same. First, teens need to be saved. Then they need to understand what life after the new birth is all about.

TEACHER, SHOW ME HOW TO BE SAVED

One of the most exciting things that can happen to a Sunday School teacher is for a young teen to ask how to be saved. Help young teens to understand that being saved is not difficult. Point out that God does not want people to remain lost and He has made it as simple as He can for a person to be saved. In fact, salvation is as simple as A, B, C.

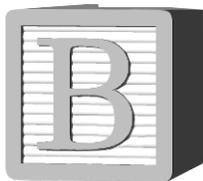


Admit that you are a sinner and repent to God of your sin.

Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."

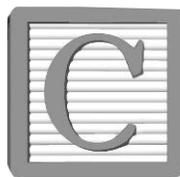
Romans 3:10 "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one."

Acts 3:19 "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out."



Believe or trust in the Lord Jesus Christ and ask Him to save you.

Acts 16:31 "And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house."



Confess publicly that you have asked the Lord Jesus Christ to be your Savior.

Romans 10:9 "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."

FOUR-STEP LESSON STRATEGY



FOCUS

Capture the attention of the students by using an appropriate motivational activity or an exercise that encourages them to think.

EXAMINE

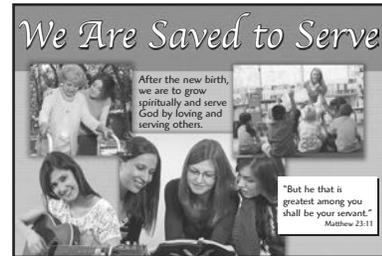
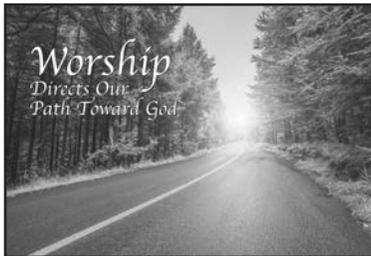
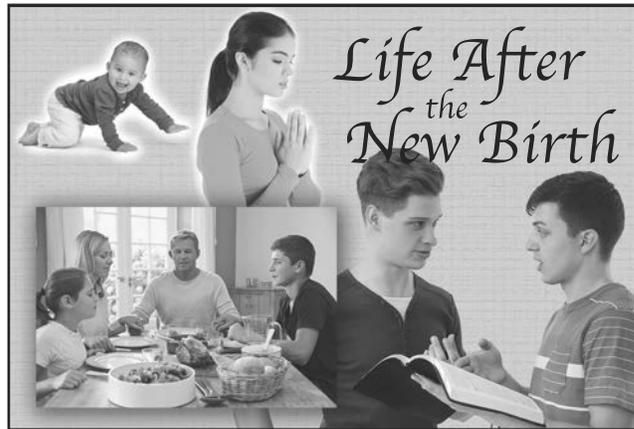
Introduce the Bible Text and encourage the students to discover what the Scripture teaches by analyzing, investigating and comparing it to other passages of Scripture.

DEFINE

Explain the meaning of difficult words and phrases and clarify them through the use of hands-on activities and exercises. Seek to involve student participation.

APPLY

Illustrate and reinforce the lesson with concrete examples and lead them to use a lesson's biblical principle in everyday situations.



QUARTERLY PREVIEW

“Life After the New Birth” is the theme of this quarter’s study. The thirteen lessons contain material, if applied, that will help young teens learn how to grow spiritually after they are saved. Being “babes in Christ” may sound sweet, but according to the apostle Paul, “babes in Christ” are immature, carnal Christians (1 Cor. 3:1). God does not intend for His newborn children to remain babies in the nursery. He wants them to grow up into spiritually mature individuals. The lessons in this quarter will teach that worship, biblical family values and Christian service are the avenues of growth through which young teens must travel to develop spiritually as they should.

UNIT DIVISIONS

There are thirteen lessons in this quarter that are divided into three units. Unit 1: Worship; Unit 2: Biblical Family Values; Unit 3: We Are Saved To Serve.

LESSON OBJECTIVES

In Unit 1, the lessons show learners how to offer acceptable private and public worship. Lessons in Unit 2 examine biblical examples of family values and share how these values are taught in their homes. Lessons in Unit 3 should help learners develop a list of ways they can serve God by serving others.

UNIT THEME:

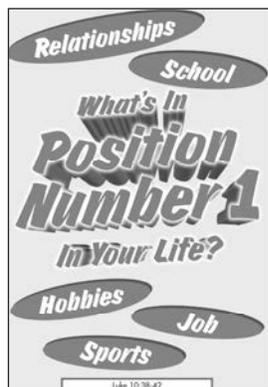
Worship

PREVIEWING THE UNIT—

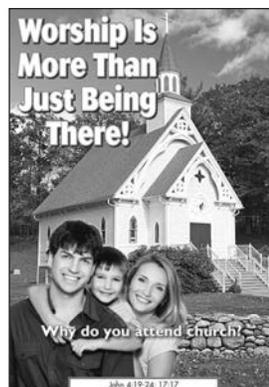
One writer has observed that “worship is a verb.” Worship is not simply a verb; it is an active verb. Worship involves activity that shows reverence and love to God and is the supreme activity of the believer. God wants our worship; God demands our worship.

Lessons 1 through 4 of this unit lead teens to see that worship is a major part of life after the new birth. These lessons also show young teens what acceptable worship is. Lesson 1 explains the position worship should occupy in a Christian’s life. Lesson 2 explains that merely going to church is not all a child of God needs to do to offer acceptable worship to God. Lesson 3 examines the nature of acceptable worship. Lesson 4 discusses how young teens can prepare for worship and lists three elements God requires for worship to be acceptable.

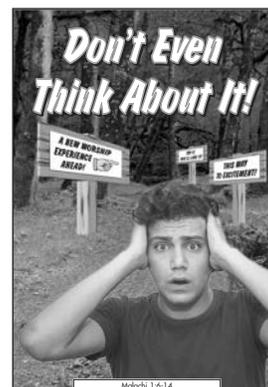
Lesson Posters for Unit 1



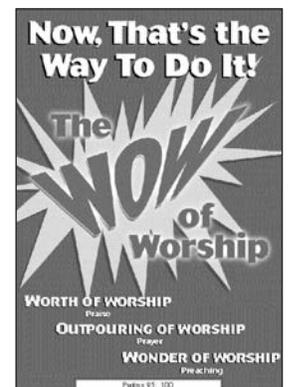
Lesson 1



Lesson 2



Lesson 3



Lesson 4



The challenge—

Rely on the Holy Spirit for help in applying the lesson to

- understand and practice Scripture passages.
- discover the students' needs as they relate to the passages.
- select appropriate ways to involve students in the lesson.
- lead students to apply biblical principles in an everyday setting.

Depend upon the Holy Spirit to help the students

- by becoming receptive to the truths they study.
- by helping them understand the Scripture passages.
- by revealing specific ways the Bible applies to them.
- by giving the learners the strength and courage to apply biblical principles to their lives.

Discovering what makes them tick—



Most young teens will accept challenges that have a purpose. Explain why you ask them to participate in an activity. Boys and girls in this age-group are dealing with physical changes that sometimes make them appear awkward, so young teens are extremely self-conscious. Show them that even though they may feel self-conscious at first, they will benefit by taking part in the discussions and activities.

A young teen's ability to retain vital parts of a lesson is enhanced by the use of visual stimuli. The posters, transparencies and photomasters are supplied for a definite purpose—to help you drive home specific points in each lesson. A teacher who does not or will not use visual aids in presenting his lesson is

missing an opportunity to help learners retain a tremendous amount of information. That students retain far more of what they see than what they hear is a verifiable fact.

Young teens react to their surroundings. So if possible, don't allow your classroom to look like a doctor's office or to look like their classroom at school. Yes, it does take some time to decorate a classroom. And, yes, it does require some ingenuity to enhance the appearance of your classroom, but isn't the fact that you are presenting lessons with eternal value to a future generation enough to make you want to put forth the effort?

Vocabulary Builder—

When you see this symbol at the beginning of each lesson, examine the difficult words you might use in presenting the lesson. The box will also contain simple definitions that will help you convey the meaning of the words to your students.

Position Number 1

- ◆ **Quarterly Theme:** Life After the New Birth
- ◆ **Unit Theme:** Worship
- ◆ **Unit Objective:** Young teens will offer acceptable worship to God in private and in public.
- ◆ **Lesson Theme:** The Prominence of Worship
- ◆ **Lesson Objective:** Young teens will make a list of weekly activities and locate the place given to worship.
- ◆ **Bible Principle:** The worship of God is to be in the first place position in our lives.
- ◆ **Bible Text:** Luke 10:38-42.

Life Application: I will remember that God wants me to make Him preeminent in my life.

Vocabulary Builder—

Preeminent: superior to or notable above all others

Priority: established by order of importance or urgency

Worship: the reverent love and allegiance accorded a deity, idol or sacred object

LESSON EXPOSITION

If it were required that every American family give a report of the activities of the members of the household for the previous week, it might look something like this: time would be given to work, school, carpooling, the kids' sports activities, movies, shopping and work around the house. It is busy, really busy. In fact, the average American family is too busy because it is obvious that, if worship of God is on the list, it holds a position close to the bottom.

This lesson needs to be learned and applied: following the acceptance of Jesus the Son of God as one's personal Savior, it is important for the believer to understand that God not only wants worship to be on the weekly agenda, but also He wants it to be in position number 1 on one's "Things To Do" list. Glen E. Tropp defines worship as, "All that I am, giving homage to all that He is." This is fulfilled when God is worshiped in Spirit and in truth. The Bible teaches that the act of acceptable worship is the most important thing a Christian can do. This principle is understood upon learning that true worship is the result of putting God in life's first place position. That

is not as simple as it may sound because of the influence sin has on a person even after salvation. Thus, many of the average moms and dads take their children through a long list of weekly activities simply because it's the thing to do, and, in doing so, they deprive them of what they need the most. All too often the worship of God is left out because there is no time left. Nevertheless, giving God preeminence in one's life is both a worthy and an attainable goal when the instructions given in the Bible are followed.

God requires that He be given first place in our lives. The Creator's uniqueness permits Him to make whatever requirements of the human race He chooses. Moses wrote in Deuteronomy 4:35 that "the LORD he is God; there is none else beside him." Whether or not one wants to accept that and offer acceptable worship to Him is not even considered, there is no option. That may seem to be a difficult saying, but it is the truth. God Himself put the spotlight on true worship when He assigned the first place position to this principle on His list of the Ten Commandments. He wrote on a table of stone, "Thou shalt have no

other gods before me” (Ex. 20:3). Centuries later, Jesus gave this testimony, “Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve” (Matt. 4:10). The writer of the book of Hebrews gave these instructions, “Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching” (Heb. 10:25). It is necessary to place acceptable worship at the top of the list of one’s daily activities if a person is going to please God. Worship should be a part of one’s personal daily activities as well as a public worship with other Christians on Sunday at the house of God.

God promises to provide for those who will put Him in first place. Although a Christian should not worship God merely to receive His favor, it is true that God’s blessings are given to those who please Him. Jesus is God’s Son. When He was on earth, He was God in the flesh. When He spoke, He spoke the words of His Father. Everything He said was as though God the Father Himself was speaking. Jesus said, “For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak” (John 12:49). Claiming this amazing authority to back Him, He promised to provide all the necessities of life to those who will put God first. He said, “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you” (Matt. 6:33). He was saying that, if His children will place Him first in life, He will bless them with the material things needed in life.

The distinction of worship is seen in the precious and divine character of Jesus Christ. Not only did He come to earth to represent God to

men, but also in His incarnation He represented man to Almighty God. In His birth, He displayed divinity. In His life, He showed humanity. In His death and resurrection, man is offered justification. These wonderful truths have been preached and taught in churches of Christ since the first church was established during His personal ministry. They are still preached in His churches today, and Christians should be present to hear them. Both private and public worship please God. Pleasing God should be uppermost in the mind of a believer in Christ. Paul, a worshiper of God through Jesus Christ, said, “Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more” (1 Thess. 4:1). He encourages those who are pleasing God through their spiritual walk to continue to do so.

A Christian teen is not exempt from worshiping God. A good way for a teen to determine whether or not God is being given quality time through the week and to find where He is located on the family’s “Things To Do” list, would be to go through this simple exercise. Beginning with Sunday, the first day of the week, write down each activity of the day. List everything from morning to bedtime at night. Do the same for Monday, then for every day of the week until the entire week has been accounted for. Was worship on the list? If so, where was it located? the top? the bottom? While this is not an absolutely flawless exercise, there is little doubt that by using it one could locate the emphasis placed upon God, private and public worship, prayer, Bible reading and church attendance. With this information a person can begin the worthy goal of giving God the position He deserves in one’s life.

☐ Devotional: First Things First, Matthew 6:33.

Jesus taught His disciples that they could totally depend upon God for their daily needs. He used the helplessness of the flowers in the fields to array themselves in beauty as an example of how God takes care of those people who will put Him first in life (Matt. 6:28).

Lesson Strategy	Focus	Examine	Define	Apply
	10 minutes	15 minutes	10 minutes	10 minutes
	Place Unit 1 Poster under Quarterly Theme Poster.	Hand out student leaflets. Call attention to page 1. Read Bible Text.	Write words in Vocabulary Builder on the board.	Read page 3 of leaflet and follow instructions.
	Conduct activity explained in Focus section. Have students return cards.	Refer to Lesson 1 Poster to introduce information in Lesson Exposition .	Give meaning of words. Students will use each word in a sentence.	Copy and hand out Photomaster 1-2. Complete and discuss activity.
	Discuss importance of acceptable worship.	Read article on page 2 of leaflet. Share information found in Lesson Exposition .	Have students name a priority in their lives. Tell how much time priority occupies.	Read instructions at top of page 4 of leaflet and complete activity.
	Ask how students think God feels when we do not worship Him as we should.	Hand out copies of Photomaster 1-1. List reasons why God deserves our worship.	Discuss how a hobby can become a priority. Students will tell what Exodus 34:14 commands us to do.	Ask students what results of activity reveal to them.

 **Checklist of Supplies:**

- ✓ Quarterly Theme Poster
- ✓ Unit 1 Poster
- ✓ Lesson 1 Poster
- ✓ index cards
- ✓ Photomasters 1-1 and 1-2
- ✓ student leaflets
- ✓ pencils
- ✓ marker board
- ✓ dry markers

FOCUS

 Before class, place the Quarterly Theme Poster and Unit 1 Poster on a wall or bulletin board.

 As class members arrive give each one an index card. Instruct them to outline an “ideal” worship service. The outline should include songs and activities that young teens feel should be included in a good worship service.

Have class members sign their cards. Read the various suggestions without comment. Keep the index cards until the end of Unit 1.

After reading the students’ cards, ask the following questions:

- How important is learning what acceptable worship is?
- Why is acceptable worship important to a newborn child of God?
- Why should worship be the number *one* priority in a Christian’s life?
- How do you think God feels when we do not worship as we should?

Inform the students that at the end of Unit 1 you will give their worship cards back to them and at that time you will see whether any of them would like to make changes in their suggestions.

EXAMINE

 **Student leaflet, page 1.** Select a student to read Luke 10:38-42. Use Lesson 1 Poster to point out that there are a number of things that keep young teens from allowing worship to occupy the number *one* position in their lives.

Have students look at page 1 of the leaflet and suggest how school, a job, hobbies, sports and even friendships can interfere with worship.

 **Student leaflet, page 2.** Present reasons why worship should occupy position number *one* in a person’s life. Explain how God’s nature and character demand that we make worship our number *one* priority.

Focus—(10 Minutes)

Examine—(15 Minutes)

Hand out student leaflets.

Is there any evidence that man is by nature a worshiping creature? If so, what is it?

Give each class member a copy of Photomaster 1-1. Have students list reasons why God deserves our worship.

Student leaflet, page 3. Read the first article on page 3. Discuss how young teens can put into practice the four means of making sure worship occupies position number *one* in their lives.

Have students honestly respond to the question, “What area of your life occupies more of your time during the week?” Discuss whether their answers please God.

DEFINE

Write the words in the Vocabulary Builder on a marker board with a dry marker. Find out whether students understand the meaning of the vocabulary words by having them use each one in a sentence.

Name a priority in your life. How much of a priority is it?

How can a hobby become an object of worship? What does Exodus 34:14 reveal that we should not do?

APPLY

Hand out copies of Photomaster 1-2 and explain:

- the meaning of Jesus’ expression in Luke 10:42, “Mary hath chosen that good part.”
- how, in Matthew 6:33, Jesus said we put God first.
- the command in Psalm 145:3.

Student leaflet, page 4. Read the instructions at the top of the page. Give students a few minutes to consider and write their answers. Then ask the following questions:

- What day of the week do you have more activities?
- What activity occupies more of your time during the week?
- Which activity is the least important?
- What percentage of your week is given to worship?

Ask class members what lesson they learned from the activity.

Define—(10 Minutes)

Vocabulary Builder—

Preeminent: superior to or notable above all others

Priority: established by order of importance or urgency

Worship: the reverent love and allegiance accorded a deity, idol or sacred object

Apply—(10 Minutes)

Luke 10:42: Jesus told Martha that Mary’s decision to listen to His teachings was Mary’s number *one* priority, and He would not take it from her.

Exodus 20:3: God demands our loyalty. Nothing is to come between us and God.

Matthew 6:33: We are to seek His kingdom first. That means counting the things that concern God’s work more important than anything else in our lives.

Psalm 145:3: We should express our reverent love for God (worship) because of His greatness.