## Lesson 8 | October 25, 2020 The Messiah Comes





**Study Text:** Matthew 1:18–24; Luke 2:41–52; 3:21–22; 4:14–21,31–37; 5:17–26; John 19:16–42; 20:1–22

Central Truth: God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to save us from sin.

#### **Key Verse: Matthew 1:23**

Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us (KJV).

"The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us") (NIV).

#### **Learning Objectives**

- Know and understand the culmination of the plan of God in Jesus Christ.
- Have an increased appreciation for and comprehension of the saving results of Jesus' work.
- Live in the reality of the new spiritual relationship with Jesus provided through His death and resurrection.

## **Introducing the Lesson**

**Say:** After our journey through the highlights of the Old Testament, focusing on God's plan for the redemption of humankind, we now begin our journey through the New Testament where we will focus on the fulfillment of that plan. (*Play the Unit 2 introduction video, available at RadiantLifeCurriculum.com/Adult.*)

### **Opening Activity—The Best-Laid Plans**

Ask: What are some events or projects that you have planned or helped plan in your life?

Students may name such things as building a house, planning a fund-raiser or other event, planning a career, or something else that they planned.

Ask: Did you ever have to change those plans along the way because of unforeseen circumstances? (Ask for a show of hands for "yes" or "no." More than likely, most plans had to be adjusted for some reason.)

Say: There is a saying that "the best-laid plans of mice and men often go awry." While this is true in the human realm, we can rest assured that the plans of God never go awry. In spite of Israel's rebellion and disobedience, God's plan to send His Son as our Savior was fulfilled

with perfect timing. (Read Galatians 4:4–5 aloud, then share your highlights from the following text.)

[Gal 4:4-5 KJV] 4 But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, 5 To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.

With this lesson the focus shifts from tracing God's plan for redeeming of the world in Old Testament prophecies, patterns, and figures to the revelation of that plan in Jesus Christ (see 2 Peter 1:21; Hebrews 8:5; 10:1; 9:23–24). In a relativistic world, we need to grasp that Jesus is the plan for salvation. He is not a savior among others; He is the Savior of the world. Telling the world of that salvation is the missional purpose of the Church.

# Part 1—Jesus' Birth and Childhood God Prepared the Way

Matthew 1:18-24

[Mat 1:18-24 KJV] 18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. 19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just [man], and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily. 20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. 21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. 22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, 23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us. 24 Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife:

**Say:** Perhaps you have been concerned about someone's reaction to news you might share, whether it's good news or bad news. As we trust God with our lives, we often find that He has already prepared the other person's heart for that news. Mary was likely apprehensive about Joseph's reaction to the news of her pregnancy. What an honor to be chosen as an instrument to bring the Messiah into the world! Yet, as a young woman who was about to be married, a certain amount of apprehension would be normal. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

The Gospel of Matthew begins with the revelation of how God miraculously fulfilled the prophecies of the Old Testament to answer the great need of humanity: salvation from sin. Matthew noted that "Mary was the mother of Jesus who is called the Messiah" (Matthew 1:16, NIV), then focused on the confirmation of this reality to Joseph, the husband of Mary (verses 18–24).

Mary and Joseph had entered into a pledge to be married that was as binding as marriage. Customarily, a year would pass between the conclusion of the parental arrangements for their children to be married and the consummation of that marriage. This allowed time for the husband to prepare to care for his wife. It was during this time that Mary was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. However, initially Joseph could only assume that Mary had been unfaithful, placing him in a difficult position. To accept Mary would potentially harm his reputation also.

Although Joseph could have called for Mary's stoning, or embarrassed her by a public spectacle, he chose to divorce her quietly. But before he could implement this decision an angel brought him a message during his sleep: Mary's pregnancy was through the Holy Spirit—not any human sexual relations, the Son must be named Jesus, and Jesus would bring salvation to the world (verses 20–22).

Matthew also revealed that this miraculous birth of a Son through a virgin fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah 7:14, and was the way in which God would be with humans (Matthew 1:23). The name Immanuel, meaning "God with us," assures us that God chose to redeem the world by coming to be with humanity in a special way. Joseph awoke and aligned himself with the work of God by taking Mary to be his wife, but not consummating the marriage until after the birth of Jesus..

#### **Discuss**

- ? How should we react when God works in ways we do not understand.
- ? How can we remain positive while we await the fulfillment of God's plans?

## **Jesus Grew Up Within His Righteous Family** Luke 2:41–52

[Luk 2:41-52 KJV] 41 Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover. 42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast. 43 And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not [of it]. 44 But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among [their] kinsfolk and acquaintance. 45 And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him. 46 And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions. 47 And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers. 48 And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing. 49 And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business? 50 And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them. 51 And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart. 52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

Say: Some people believe children should be allowed to grow up making their own decisions, with little or no influence on choosing their future religion. It is true that each individual must make a choice regarding a relationship with God, yet the Bible makes it clear that parents are responsible for teaching their children God's Word. Even though Jesus was the Son of God, Luke 2:41–52 shows that Mary and Joseph took their parenting responsibilities seriously. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

Mary displayed true righteousness, as she joyfully accepted the mission of bearing the Messiah (see Luke 2:38). So did Joseph, who believed the message of the angel and took Mary to be his wife. Clearly, righteousness was central to their lives, illustrated by their faithful participation in the practice of Judaism. Jews were expected to go to Jerusalem for three major festivals each year: Passover, Pentecost, and Tabernacles. Jesus' family attended the Festival of Passover annually (2:41), but their attendance when He was twelve years old was special. He, like all Jewish boys of that age, transitioned into a "son of the covenant," a ritual still observed today as the bar mitzvah. His approval by the Jewish religious leadership would mark an important transition in His life.

As the caravan of pilgrims, including Mary and Joseph, left Jerusalem to return home, Jesus stayed behind, unknown to His parents (verses 42–44). In New Testament times, the women and children traveled in one group, while the men and older boys traveled in another. It is possible that both Mary and Joseph thought Jesus was with the other, and His absence was not noted until the end of the first travel day. They returned to Jerusalem, a day's journey, and finally found Jesus on the third day. He was in the temple courts interacting with the teachers of the Law. His interactions were of such quality that the teachers and others who witnessed them were

astounded that a twelve-year-old would have such a full and insightful understanding of God's revelation to Israel (verses 45–48).

When Mary and Joseph asked Jesus about His activities, His response revealed His understanding of His mission: He had to be in His Father's house, the temple. Even at this age, Jesus understood the will of the Father better than Mary and Joseph did. The divine will was also evidenced in Jesus' return to Nazareth, where He grew normally and showed the favor of God and man upon His life (verses 49–51).

Ongoing, regular participation in the religious life of Judaism was a hallmark of the home Mary and Joseph created for Jesus. This provided the proper setting for when Jesus affirmed His understanding of the plan of the Father for His life. Their faithfulness is a powerful example for us. Christians are called to live out their faith within a body of believers and in every aspect of life.

#### Resource Packet Item 1: Parenting Teenagers: A Case Study

Distribute the case study and divide your class into small groups. Have the groups read the story and answer the questions, then have a spokesperson from each group share their group's answers.

#### **Discuss**

? How important is it to attend church faithfully in our world today? Explain.

? What are some practical benefits and blessings that come from living a consistent life of faith?

## Part 2—Jesus' Earthly Ministry Baptized and Anointed for Ministry

Luke 3:21-22; 4:14-21

[Luk 3:21-22 KJV] 21 Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened, 22 And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased.

[Luk 4:14-21, 31-37 KJV] 14 And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about. 15 And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified of all. 16 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. 17 And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, 18 The Spirit of the Lord [is] upon me, because he hath anointed

me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, 19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord. 20 And he closed the book, and he gave [it] again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. 21 And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.

**Say:** Before Jesus was born, God had a plan for Him to be introduced to the people of Israel as the promised Messiah. God miraculously gave the childless Zechariah and Elizabeth a son in their old age. This son, John the Baptist, would prepare the way for the Messiah and introduce Him to Israel. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

John the Baptist, a cousin of Jesus (Luke 1:36), had a prophetic ministry that included the baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. His message challenged hearers to repent and turn from their sinful ways. Jesus was baptized by John, which aligned Him with the people He had come to save. Jesus' baptism was not the result of personal forgiveness, as Jesus was and is sinless (Hebrews 4:15).

[Heb 4:15 KJV] 15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as [we are, yet] without sin.

Luke's account of the baptism of Jesus indicates that the baptism of others preceded that of Jesus, that Jesus was praying, and that a supernatural revelation of God occurred as He prayed (Luke 3:21–22). The heavens opened, the Holy Spirit descended as a dove, and the voice of the Father affirmed Jesus as the Son of God. The anointing of the Holy Spirit, symbolized by a dove, identified Jesus as the One who saves people from their sins. Thus, in this setting, the three Persons of the Godhead—the Trinity—are clearly seen.

From the Jordan baptism, Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness for a time of testing (see Matthew 4). The anointing of the Spirit sustained Him during His forty days of fasting, enabling Him to gain a victory over the devil. The anointing of the Spirit also empowered Jesus for the beginning of His teaching ministry in the synagogues in Galilee (Luke 4:14–21). Jesus' regular participation in the religious life of Judaism is marked in His home town of Nazareth by His reading from Isaiah 61:1–2 and proclaiming that He was the fulfillment of that prophecy. Isaiah predicted an anointed One who would proclaim the good news of the Lord's favor that would result in deliverance, freedom from bondage and oppression, and healing. The long-anticipated Messiah, the Anointed One, was now publicly revealed.

[Isa 61:1-2 KJV] 1 The Spirit of the Lord GOD [is] upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to [them that are] bound; 2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD,

## and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;

#### Discuss

- ? Why do you think repentance held an important part in the ministry of John as well as that of Jesus ?
- ? How can the empowerment of the Holy Spirit make a difference in your life?

### **Authority to Heal and Forgive**

Luke 4:31-37; 5:17-26

[Luk 4:31-37 KJV] 31 And came down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee, and taught them on the sabbath days. 32 And they were astonished at his doctrine: for his word was with power. 33 And in the synagogue there was a man, which had a spirit of an unclean devil, and cried out with a loud voice, 34 Saying, Let [us] alone; what have we to do with thee, [thou] Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art; the Holy One of God. 35 And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him. And when the devil had thrown him in the midst, he came out of him, and hurt him not. 36 And they were all amazed, and spake among themselves, saying, What a word [is] this! for with authority and power he commandeth the unclean spirits, and they come out. 37 And the fame of him went out into every place of the country round about.

[Luk 5:17-26 KJV] 17 And it came to pass on a certain day, as he was teaching, that there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by, which were come out of every town of Galilee, and Judaea, and Jerusalem: and the power of the Lord was [present] to heal them. 18 And, behold, men brought in a bed a man which was taken with a palsy: and they sought [means] to bring him in, and to lay [him] before him. 19 And when they could not find by what [way] they might bring him in because of the multitude, they went upon the housetop, and let him down through the tiling with [his] couch into the midst before Jesus. 20 And when he saw their faith, he said unto him, Man, thy sins are forgiven thee. 21 And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, Who is this which speaketh blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone? 22 But when Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answering said unto them, What reason ye in your hearts? 23 Whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Rise up and walk? 24 But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins, (he said unto the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house. 25 And immediately he rose up before them, and took up that whereon he lay, and departed to his own house, glorifying God. 26 And they were all amazed, and they glorified God, and were filled with fear, saying, We have seen strange things to day.

**Say:** Jesus declared His authority to those around Him, and also demonstrated that authority in His ministry. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

In Luke 4 Jesus went to Capernaum, a village on the northwest shore of the Sea of Galilee and the home of several of His disciples, including Peter. As was His custom, on the Sabbath He was in the synagogue teaching with authority (Luke 4:31–37). In New Testament times, rabbinical teachers gained authority by citing other rabbinical teaching. But Jesus' teaching, flowing from His anointing by the Spirit, was authoritative in itself.

The authority of Jesus was tested on that Sabbath by a demoniac who correctly identified Jesus and demanded to be left alone. Without hesitation, Jesus demonstrated His authority by delivering the demon-possessed man. The exodus of the demons from the man did not harm him, but instead left him restored and whole.

The anointing of the Holy Spirit was regularly nurtured by Jesus through seasons of withdrawal for the purpose of prayer (Luke 5:16). Note that Luke followed that report with an account of Jesus demonstrating His power to heal and forgive. As Jesus ministered in Galilee, He came under scrutiny from the Pharisees and teachers of the Law, some of whom had come from Jerusalem. The Pharisees were responsible for preserving Judaism after the destruction of the temple by the Babylonians, but had become increasingly legalistic. The teachers of the Law, probably from the sect of the Pharisees, were the experts in the Law. In this setting Luke reported that the power of the Lord was with Jesus to heal the sick (verse 17).

A paralyzed man's friends had faith in the authority of Jesus to heal, and they put that faith into practice by lowering him to Jesus through the roof. In that moment, **Jesus linked His authority to forgive sins with that of healing (verse 20)**; **He declared the man forgiven, then commanded him to stand, take up his mat, and go home. The forgiveness of sins, something easily verbalized, was confirmed by healing, something obviously miraculous (verses 23–26). What authority Jesus displayed!** 

#### **Resource Packet Item 2: Anointing for Service**

Distribute the work sheet. Students can fill in the acrostic individually, or you can do it as a class, writing the responses on the board..

#### Discuss

? What can Luke 5 teach us about how to respond when we encounter spiritual battles?

? Describe a time when you have seen or experienced a spiritual battle. How did the Lord help you in that situation?

## Part 3—Jesus' Death and Resurrection Jesus Died for Sinners

John 19:16-18,28-42

[Jhn 19:16-42 KJV] 16 Then delivered he him therefore unto them to be crucified. And they took Jesus, and led [him] away. 17 And he bearing

his cross went forth into a place called [the place] of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha: 18 Where they crucified him, and two other with him, on either side one, and Jesus in the midst.

28 After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst. 29 Now there was set a vessel full of vinegar; and they filled a spunge with vinegar, and put [it] upon hyssop, and put [it] to his mouth. 30 When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost. 31 The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the sabbath day, (for that sabbath day was an high day,) besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and [that] they might be taken away. 32 Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the first, and of the other which was crucified with him. 33 But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs: 34 But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water. 35 And he that saw [it] bare record, and his record is true: and he knoweth that he saith true, that ye might believe. 36 For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled. A bone of him shall not be broken. 37 And again another scripture saith. They shall look on him whom they pierced, 38 And after this Joseph of Arimathaea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus: and Pilate gave [him] leave. He came therefore, and took the body of Jesus. 39 And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound [weight]. 40 Then took they the body of Jesus, and wound it in linen clothes with the spices, as the manner of the Jews is to bury. 41 Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid. 42 There laid they Jesus therefore because of the Jews' preparation [day]; for the sepulchre was nigh at hand.

**Say:** The words of Isaiah and many other prophets regarding the Messiah came to fulfillment in John 19. The sacrificial system of the Old Testament had pointed to this day when the sinless Lamb of God would lay down His life to redeem humanity from the depth of sin.(Share your highlights from the following text.)

After repeated efforts to convince the Jewish leadership of His innocence, Pilate finally acquiesced and handed Jesus over to be crucified (John 19:16–18). Jesus submitted to the cross, the most cruel manner of inflicting death as the means of providing forgiveness for all the sins of the human race.

After being flogged and abused, Jesus carried the beam of His cross, with the assistance of Simon from Cyrene (see Matthew 27:32), to the place of execution. Jesus' hands were attached by nails, and the cross beam lifted and connected to the pole. After His feet were nailed to the pole, a long and painful death began. The ability to breathe became increasingly difficult. For many who were crucified, death could be extended for days. But for Jesus, who retained authority even over His life, death came earlier.

Jesus recognized the fulfillment of the plan of redemption (John 19:28) and declared, "It is finished" (verse 30). This referred to more than His death; God's plan had been accomplished in full. His work of redemption was complete.

Normally, the bodies of executed criminals were thrown into a common grave without proper burial processes. Not wanting to violate the impending Passover festival, the Jewish leadership petitioned that death be hastened by breaking the legs of the condemned. This was not necessary for Jesus, as He had already died. His body was removed from the cross and buried in a tomb by Joseph of Arimathaea and Nicodemus (verses 38–42).

#### **Discuss**

? How would you describe to an unbeliever what Jesus experienced in dying for their sins?

? What is the proper response to the knowledge that Jesus died for you?

#### Jesus Rose From the Dead

John 20:1,11-22

[Jhn 20:1-22 KJV] 1 The first [day] of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre.

11 But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, [and looked] into the sepulchre, 12 And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. 13 And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him. 14 And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou?

She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away. 16 Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master. 17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and [to] my God, and your God. 18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and [that] he had spoken these things unto her. 19 Then the same day at evening, being the first [day] of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace [be] unto you. 20 And when he had so said, he shewed unto them [his] hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord. 21 Then said Jesus to them again, Peace [be] unto you: as [my] Father hath sent me, even so send I you. 22 And when he had said this, he breathed on [them], and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost:

**Say:** The horrors of crucifixion were not the end of God's plan to redeem fallen humanity. Jesus, the eternal Son of God—who came into this world miraculously in human form—was anointed by the Spirit, ministered with authority, and died bearing the sins of the world. This same Jesus rose from the dead, for death had no power over Him. And now, through Him, we can be victorious over sin and death! (Share your highlights from the following text.)

The Gospel accounts of Jesus' resurrection all identify the role of women in testifying to its reality. But John especially placed focus on Mary Magdalene (John 20:11–18; see Matthew 28:1). Mary arrived at the tomb early on the first day of the week, finding the stone rolled away from the entrance. It was she who shared the news with Peter and John (referred to as the disciple whom Jesus loved; John 20:2). It was she who encountered the risen Jesus at the entrance to the tomb (verse 14). And it was she who witnessed to the disciples that she had seen the Lord (verse 18). In that time, women held low social status compared to men. For a woman to be the witness of such an event reminds us of the inclusiveness of God's work through Jesus.

Mary's role also pointed toward a new relationship with Jesus, one not dependent on physical but spiritual presence. The instruction of Jesus that Mary not hold on to Him points toward the Ascension and a future relationship—not bound by physical limitation and endued with the power of the Spirit (see also John 20:19–22).

#### Resource Packet Item 3: The Resurrection—Then and Now

Distribute the work sheet and use it to spark a discussion of the historical reality of the Resurrection and the impact it holds for today.

#### **Discuss**

? Why is it significant that the Gospels record women as the first witnesses of the Resurrection?

? How would you describe the current nature of the Christian's relationship with Christ? The future nature of that relationship in heaven?

### What Is God Saying to Us?

Say: In spite of the sin of Adam and Eve, the frailty of the patriarchs, and the rebellion of Israel, God never gave up on humanity. He sent His Son to die for the sins of all of humankind and rise from the dead, gaining victory over Satan. We can rejoice in His love for us and enjoy our restored relationship with Him even as we anticipate our eternal home that He is now preparing for us.

### **Living It Out**

#### **Ministry in Action**

- Look for ways you can share the marvelous plan of salvation with someone who needs a relationship with Christ.
- Examine your daily life and identify actions you can take to make your relationship with Jesus stronger than it currently is.
- Pray that God will open doors for you to demonstrate His love to those around you this week

## **Daily Bible Readings**

Monday:

From the Seed of Woman.

Genesis 3:13–15

[Gen 3:13-15 KJV] 13 And the LORD God said unto the woman, What [is] this [that] thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat. 14 And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou [art] cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: 15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

#### Tuesday:

From the House of David.

1 Chronicles 17:7–14

[1Ch 17:7-14 KJV] 7 Now therefore thus shalt thou say unto my servant David, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I took thee from the sheepcote, [even] from following the sheep, that thou shouldest be ruler over my people Israel: 8 And I have been with thee whithersoever thou hast walked, and have cut off all thine enemies from before thee, and have made thee a name like the name of the great men that [are] in the earth. 9 Also I will ordain a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, and they shall dwell in their place, and shall be moved no more; neither shall the children of wickedness waste them any more, as at the beginning, 10 And since the time that I commanded judges [to be] over my people Israel. Moreover I will subdue all thine enemies. Furthermore I tell thee that the LORD will build thee an house. 11 And it shall come to pass, when thy days be expired that thou must go [to be] with thy fathers, that I will raise up thy seed after thee, which shall be of thy sons; and I will establish his kingdom. 12 He shall build me an house, and I will stablish his throne for ever. 13 I will be his father, and he shall be my son: and I will not take my mercy away from him, as I took [it] from [him] that was before thee: 14 But I will settle him in mine house and in my kingdom for ever: and his throne shall be established for evermore.

Wednesday:

Christ's Priesthood Foretold.

Psalm 110:1-6

Thursday:

Christ's Compassionate Ministry.

Matthew 9:35-38

Friday:

Christ's Death Frees From Sin.

Romans 6:4-14

Saturday:

Jesus the Messiah Brings Life.

2 Timothy 1:8-11