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Review Lessons 8–12

Lesson Overview



Come On In

page 3

Students will complete the What Happened? Crossword Puzzle. When they are finished, discuss their answers.



Memory Verse Review Game

page 3

Students will review the memory verse by reciting it as they/you erase words, one at a time, from the verse written on the board.



Lesson Theme Poster Review

page 4

You will give a quick overview of the lessons you are reviewing today using the Lesson Theme Posters.



Bible Baseball Review Game

page 5

Students will be divided into two or more teams and answer questions about the previous lessons. Each “batter” will take turns “hitting” the questions the teacher “pitches” to him.



Real World Skit

page 9

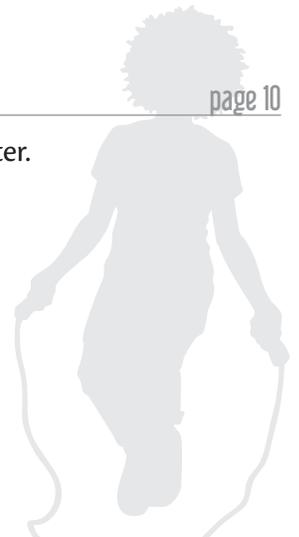
The Word of God is powerful. And the truth about Jesus Christ can change your life. Lilly talks to her friends about how she was changed by the truth of the Gospel.



Snack Celebration (Optional)

page 10

Students will enjoy a special snack to celebrate the completion of this quarter.



Lesson Preparation

WHAT YOU WILL DO

WHAT YOU WILL NEED



COME ON IN

- Print one What Happened? Crossword Puzzle from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student. Print one answer key for your use.

- What Happened? Crossword Puzzle for each student
- What Happened? Crossword Puzzle Answer Key
- Pencils



MEMORY VERSE REVIEW GAME

- Write the memory verse on the board before class.

- Memory Verse Poster
- Optional: small prizes like pencils or bookmarks



LESSON THEME POSTER REVIEW

- Gather the Lesson Theme Posters to review for the class.

- Lesson Theme Posters from Lessons 8–12



BIBLE BASEBALL REVIEW GAME

- Print one Bible Baseball Scripture Sheet from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student.
- Print and cut out the Bible Baseball Hits from the Resource DVD-ROM.

- Bible Baseball Scripture Sheet for each student
- Bible Baseball Hits in cup or container
- Masking tape for bases
- Optional: small rewards



REAL WORLD SKIT

- Print five copies of the Real World Skit: Changed By God's Word from the Resource DVD-ROM—one for each of the parts in the skit and one for you.

- Five copies of the Real World Skit: Changed By God's Word



SNACK CELEBRATION (OPTIONAL)

- Prepare and serve a celebration snack of your choice, if appropriate.

- Celebration snacks



Before the Throne

Dear Lord, I praise your name! You have enabled us to complete our study of the Old Testament in chronological order! Only you could have brought us to this point. I humbly recognize you as the real teacher of these lessons. Holy Spirit, you have moved through the passages we've studied to reveal your Word to us. It's been glorious to watch you create something out of nothing, reveal your plan of salvation, and work miracles through your people. It's been heartrending to read of man's sinfulness and the judgments you were forced to make. It's been convicting as your Word revealed your perfect nature and our own tendency to sin. Use this last review lesson to solidify your Word once again in our hearts. In the fun, may there be honesty as we all reflect on your desire for a pure and humble heart. And in all that we do may you receive the glory!



COME ON IN

As students arrive . . .

- They will complete the What Happened? Crossword Puzzle using the Lesson Theme Posters for help. Review answers when they are finished.



After all the students arrive, pray with them before beginning the lesson.



MEMORY VERSE

Nehemiah 9:6 You alone are the Lord; You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and everything on it, the seas and all that is in them. And You preserve them all. The host of heaven worships You.

Introduction

It's time to begin our fun review. We're going to cover the last five lessons. Everyone will be able to participate as we play Bible Baseball, review the memory verse, and watch a skit.

Let's get started—with the memory verse. I'm going to take this poster down, but first let's read it together. *Point to the Memory Verse Poster and read the memory verse together several times.*



Memory Verse Review Game

INSTRUCTIONS

Allow students to look at the Memory Verse Poster and say the verse together as a class a couple of times. Write Nehemiah 9:6 on the board. Call on students to erase one word at a time and then repeat the verse. Continue until the verse is completely erased. If time is an issue, have the students erase two or more words at a time. You can award small prizes for all enthused participation if appropriate.

We have been working on this verse from Nehemiah for five weeks. Today, you'll get a chance to say the whole verse from memory for the class. We're going to play a game. This is how it works. Our memory verse, Nehemiah 9:6, is written up on the board already. I'm going to call on you one at a time. The person I call on will come up and erase a word—any word you choose. Then say the whole verse out loud to the class. Each person will erase one word, making it more difficult to recite. *Call on any new student to go first! Encourage the students to keep the game moving at a quick pace by moving quickly up to the board, being ready to erase their word, and then saying the verse right away.*

? **Great job everyone! Would anyone else like to say the verse now?** *Call on any students who would like to say the verse.*

And let's all say it together one more time. *Recite the verse together.*

Materials

- Chalkboard/Dry Erase Board with the memory verse written on it
- Optional: small prizes like pencils or bookmarks

➤ If you have limited time, have the students erase more than one word at a time.

Memorizing Scripture sometimes seems impossible! But look how well you did today! This is a special way to honor God. He wants us to know His Word well, obey it, and share it with others. We'll be starting a new verse next week!



Lesson Theme Poster Review

► Refer to the History of Israel Poster as you review the past lessons. Point out the historical events covered. This will give the students a comprehensive look at this era of biblical history.

Today, we're going to review what we've read and talked about over the past five lessons. Let's go through the Lesson Theme Posters first, so you'll know the answers when we play Bible Baseball. Pay attention!

Refer to Lesson Theme Poster 8. Ezra, the priest, wanted to obey the Law and teach it to the Jews who had returned to Jerusalem. He prayed, and God moved in the heart of King Artaxerxes who allowed him to leave Persia. Ezra led a second group of Jews back to Jerusalem.

When they arrived, Ezra found out that the Jews there had been marrying foreign women who worshipped false gods. He tore his clothes, plucked out some hair, and fell down in prayer.

Ezra asked God for forgiveness and mercy for him and the people. The people heard his cry to God and were convicted of their sin. They turned back to God and separated themselves from the foreigners who had convinced them to worship false gods.

Refer to Lesson Theme Poster 9. Nehemiah also lived far away from Jerusalem when he first heard about some trouble there. The walls of the city were broken down. And the gates were burned! He prayed, and God answered his prayer. God moved in the king's heart to allow Nehemiah to go to Jerusalem and begin rebuilding the wall. Remember, people threatened to stop the work by attacking Nehemiah's men. But Nehemiah came up with a plan that would protect them AND continue the work. He divided up the workers. Some men worked with their construction tool in one hand and a sword in the other!

Nehemiah trusted God to fight for them. Nehemiah prayed to God for wisdom and protection. And he got it! Thanks to God's protection and Nehemiah's plan, the threats and plots against the Jews were stopped. God protected the work, and it was finished!

Refer to Lesson Theme Poster 10. Ezra was a priest and scribe trained in the Law of Moses. When he returned to Jerusalem, he was called upon to read the scroll of the Law of Moses—the Word of God. The people had turned away from God in sin and had not heard the Word of God for a long time. As Ezra read, other priests helped the people understand what was being read. The Word of God changed the hearts of the people. They realized how gracious

God had been to them. And they realized they had turned away from the Creator God in their sin. They reacted to God’s Word by shouting “Amen,” bowing their heads, and lifting up their hands. The people wept when they heard the words because they knew they had not been obeying God. They repented and turned back to God. It was a holy day.

Refer to Lesson Theme Poster 11. Next, we saw that God sent His prophet Malachi to warn the priests and the people that their sacrifices were not pleasing to God. They were not worshipping God honorably. Instead of offering their best animals to God, they offered blind, lame, and sick animals. And they were stubborn and prideful about it. When God told them to change their ways, they wouldn’t! God requires a humble, obedient heart. Their disobedience, pride, and defiled offerings did not please God.

Refer to Lesson Theme Poster 12. In Lesson 12 we spoke again of God’s prophet Malachi. The book of Malachi is the last book of the Old Testament. In this message to the people of Israel, Malachi’s words brought a message of hope—not judgment and warning. He told the people that the Messiah was going to come. The Messiah would restore God’s people and bring forgiveness of sins. This is how the Old Testament ended—with a promise. God promised that Jesus would come.

It would be 400 years until God spoke to the people again. There were no prophets speaking judgment or hope for 400 years. But when the 400 years were over, the messenger that Malachi spoke of came. He was John the Baptist. He came in the spirit of Elijah, just as Malachi said. He preached that the Messiah—the Lamb of God—had arrived. Jesus came just as the prophets said.

That covers the last five lessons. Now it’s time for Bible Baseball.



Bible Baseball Review Game

Divide the students into two or more teams, depending on class size, and pass out the Scripture Sheets. Mark three bases and home plate with masking tape. Mark the pitcher’s mound with a chair or masking tape. Have the first team line up at home plate. Students on the other team can wait in their seats or along the sideline.

Ask the questions below from the pitcher’s mound. Many of the answers will be found on the Scripture Sheets. If a player answers correctly, he can advance around the bases after picking a hit out of the cup. The team will advance for each correct answer. Allow the next team to play after all team members have answered once.

Each wrong answer is a strike! Three strikes and you are out. Next team’s turn. Repeat the questions if time allows. Keep score of runs and strikes!

Let’s get into teams! We’re going to play Bible Baseball! I need to arrange the room a little in order to set up the bases and the pitcher’s mound. Here’s how we’ll play.

Materials

- Bible Baseball Scripture Sheets
- Masking tape to mark bases
- Bible Baseball Hits put into a cup

► If the batter gives a wrong answer, have him go to the back of the line. Ask the same question to the next batter. If two batters in a row miss the same question, give the answer, ask another question, and repeat the missed question later in the game. Three strikes and the team is out! Next team's turn to play.

Lesson 8

► Keep the game moving quickly. Students will pick a hit and advance for every correct answer! Keep the Lesson Theme Posters available for hints where appropriate.

I'm going to ask questions about the past five lessons. Most of the answers can be found in the verses on your Scripture Sheets. Others you can find by looking at the Lesson Theme Posters for each lesson. Each team will take turns answering the questions I ask—one player at a time. Team 1 line up first. I'll pitch questions out to you. If you answer correctly, that's a hit. If you get a hit, draw from the cup labeled "Hits" and see how many bases you get to advance. Go to your base and see if the players on your team can hit you around to home plate. If you don't know the answer or give an incorrect answer, that's a strike. Once everyone on your team has had a chance to bat, even if you haven't struck out, we'll switch teams. But remember, if your team gets three strikes, you are OUT! And the next team comes up to bat. Ready?

? **First, what is the Bible reference for the memory verse we have been studying?** *Nehemiah 9:6*

? **Recite the verse for me.** *You alone are the Lord; You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and everything on it, the seas and all that is in them. And You preserve them all. The host of heaven worships You. Allow student to recite the verse. If he can't recite it, allow one or two of his teammates to try. Remember, every wrong answer is a strike!*

Refer to the Lesson Theme Poster when appropriate. In Lesson 8, we learned that God used Ezra to lead the second wave of Jews to Jerusalem.

? **In Ezra 7:6, where did Ezra come from?** *Babylon.*

? **Also in Ezra 7:6, whose hand was upon Ezra?** *The Lord his God.*

? **Ezra found out the people in Jerusalem were doing something that God had forbidden them to do. What was it? Look in Ezra 9:2.** *They had taken the daughters for themselves; they had married foreigners who worshipped false gods.*

? **In Ezra 9:3. How did Ezra react to the bad news? Name one thing.** *He tore his clothes.*

? **Name another.** *He plucked out some of his hair.*

? **And another.** *He sat down astonished.*

? **What did Ezra tell the people they must do about their sin? Look at Ezra 10:11.** *Confess to the Lord and do His will; separate from the pagan wives.*

? **Before Ezra preached to the people, what did he do? This is on the Lesson 8 Lesson Theme Poster.** *He prayed.*

Ezra prayed and then preached God's Word to the people. The people were convicted and repented. They were determined to obey God. Worship of God was restored in Jerusalem.

Refer to the Lesson Theme Poster when appropriate. As we moved to Lesson 9, we learned of God's prophet Nehemiah. God used Nehemiah to bring the last group of Jews back to Jerusalem. While still in Persia, Nehemiah heard bad news about his homeland and the city of Jerusalem.

Lesson 9

? What was the bad news from Jerusalem that Nehemiah heard about? See Nehemiah 1:3. *The walls were broken down. The gates were burned.*

? Look in Nehemiah 1:4. What did Nehemiah do when he heard this news? *Mourned, wept, fasted, prayed.*

Nehemiah returned to Jerusalem and wanted to repair the city wall. Others did not want the wall rebuilt. But Nehemiah would not stop even though he and the people were in danger of attack. He came up with a plan that would allow them to continue building.

? In Nehemiah 4:16, Nehemiah divided the workers into two groups. What did one group do? *Worked at construction.*

? And in the same verse, what did the other group do? *Held spears, shields, bows, and wore armor.*

This allowed the work to continue while the people were protected.

? In Nehemiah 4:20. If the enemy did attack, what would the warning of danger be? *The sound of a trumpet.*

? And in that same verse, who did Nehemiah believe would fight for them? *God.*

? What did God give Nehemiah and the people in order to safely and completely rebuild the walls of Jerusalem? Look on the Lesson 9 Lesson Theme Poster for this one. *Wisdom and protection.*

God gave wisdom and protection. Nehemiah prayed and acted. The rebuilding of the wall was completed.

? Refer to the Lesson Theme Poster when appropriate. In Lesson 10, we talked about Ezra, the priest. Ezra loved God and loved to preach the Word of God.

? Look in Nehemiah 8:2. What did Ezra bring before the assembly of men and women? *The Law.*

? And how long did Ezra read? That is also in Nehemiah 8:3. *From morning until midday.*

? Look in Nehemiah 8:6. The people responded to the reading of God's holy Word in three ways. What is the first way? *They answered, "Amen, Amen!"*

? The second? *They lifted up their hands.*

? The third? *They bowed their heads and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground.*

? Look at the Lesson 10 Lesson Theme Poster. Why did the people cry when they heard the Word of God? *They understood their sinfulness.*

The people had not heard the Word of God for a long time. They cried and repented as they heard God's Word. They realized they had fallen into sin against God and were sorry. The Word of God had changed their hearts.

Lesson 10

Lesson 11

Refer to the Lesson Theme Poster when appropriate. In the next lesson, we read that God sent Malachi to warn the priests about animal sacrifices that were not pleasing to Him. God is our Father and Master! He deserves our very best!

- ? Look in Malachi 1:6. What does God expect from someone who knows He is the Father? *Honor.*
- ? And in that same verse, what else does God expect from those who say He is their Master? *Reverence.*
- ? At the end of Malachi 1:6, how did the priests feel about God's name? *They despised His name.*
- ? They had no honor or reverence for God. In fact, they despised or hated Him.
- ? And in Malachi 1:8, what kinds of animals were the priests sacrificing to God? *Blind, lame, sick.*
- ? Again in Malachi 1:8, what did Malachi call the sacrifices the priests were making? *Evil!*
- ? What was God going to do because the priests would not give glory to God's name? Look in Malachi 2:2. *Send a curse.*

- ? And still in Malachi 2:2. What was God going to curse? *Their blessings.*

The priests would not honor God. They did not treat Him with reverence as He demanded. They would not change their ways, and God was angry with them.

Lesson 12

- ? Refer to the Lesson Theme Poster when appropriate. On to Lesson 12. This lesson was about the prophet Malachi, too. But Lesson 12 was not a message of judgment like we heard about in Lesson 11. The message we learned about in Lesson 12 was a message of hope to the Jews who had waited so long for news of the Messiah!

- ? Look at Malachi 3:1. What was the Lord going to send? *A messenger.*
- ? In the same verse. What was the messenger going to do? *Prepare the way for the Lord.*
- ? Who was the messenger Malachi spoke of? Look on the Lesson 12 Lesson Theme Poster. *John the Baptist.*
- ? And who would John the Baptist tell about when he came? Who was John preparing the way for? *Jesus, the Messiah.*
- ? Look in Luke 1:17. Which great prophet was John the Baptist compared to? *Elijah.*

The Old Testament ends with that wonderful promise from God through Malachi. The people looked forward to the day when they hoped for Messiah would come with the New Covenant.

? Look at the Lesson Theme Poster. How long did the people wait before John the Baptist, the messenger, came? *400 years.*

Refer to the History of Israel Poster. These past five lessons covered a lot of important history: from the time the second group of Jews moved back to Judah, to the last Word of the Lord in Malachi—and then a time of silence from the Lord. That silence wouldn't be broken for 400 years. When God would announce that someone—John the Baptist—would come to prepare the way for the Messiah.

Let's see who won! *Determine a winner.* **Good job!** *Encourage the students to find their way back to their seats.* But please understand that the lessons we learn from studying God's Word are the real prize. The entire Bible is true history. And as we study, we become more aware of who God is, what He has done for us, and that He is faithful to His promises. He is holy and just. He must punish sin, but He offers forgiveness, grace, and mercy through Jesus the Messiah to those who turn to Him in humility, repentance, and love. God's Word teaches us the truth about God and about Jesus, the Savior. God's Word can change lives. When Ezra preached the Law to the people, they turned from their sins and turned back to God. Their lives were changed. His Word and the truth in it has changed my life, too. And the Bible can change your life as well.

We have a skit today about that. Let's get started.

➤ If time allows go back and point out the events just reviewed on the History of Israel Poster.



Real World Skit: Changed by God's Word

INSTRUCTIONS

Choose four students to act out the skit in front of the class. Encourage them to make their part come alive by using facial expressions and hand motions that match their character. Follow along in case students get lost or need help. Perform the skit.

Materials

- Five copies of the Real World Skit: Changed by God's Word from the Resource DVD-ROM

DISCUSS THE SKIT

Lilly's friends saw a change in her. She was different! She admitted that the Word of God and what Jesus did on the Cross are what changed her life.

Lilly was comfortable talking about what she knew about the Bible, but she didn't pretend to know it all.

Has Jesus changed your life? If He has, you can share His truth with your friends. You don't have to be afraid.

And if Jesus hasn't changed your life, keep reading your Bible. Ask questions. Come to church. The change that Jesus brings is worth it!



Snack Celebration (optional)

Now, who is ready for a snack? *Have your snack as you discuss the skit, today's review, and/or memory verse.*



Group Prayer Time

Be sure to pray with your class before you dismiss them.

- Praise God for His Word and for the truth of Jesus who can change lives.
- Pray that the lives of your students will change by the power of the Gospel.
- Pray that we will become bold as we tell our friends about Jesus.