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Review Lessons 8–12

Lesson Overview



Come On In

page 3

Students will complete a maze and unscramble the words on the Lesson Review Activity Sheet. They can use Lessons 8–12 Lesson Theme Posters if necessary.



Memory Verse Review Game

page 3

Students will review the memory verse by reciting it as you/they 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 Review Maze Activity Sheet from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.

- Review Maze Activity Sheet for each student
- Review Maze Activity Sheet Answer Key
- Pencils



MEMORY VERSE REVIEW GAME

- Write the memory verse on the board before class.

- Memory Verse Poster
- Small prizes like pencils or bookmarks, optional



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 and cut the Bible Baseball Hits from the Resource DVD-ROM.
- Bring in a cup or container for the hits.

- Bible Baseball Hits
- Container for the hits
- Masking tape for bases



REAL WORLD SKIT

- Recruit volunteers to perform the skit for the class if appropriate.
- Print five copies of the Changed by God's Word Skit from the Resource DVD-ROM—one for each of the parts in the skit and one for you.

- Five copies of the Changed by God's Word Skit
- Older students, teachers, or parents to perform the skit during class
- Bible for prop



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 a maze on their activity sheet and unscramble the words as they pass them in the maze.



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 take a look at 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

INSTRUCTIONS

Allow students to look at the Memory Verse Poster and say the verse together as a class a couple of times. Write out Nehemiah 9:6 on the board. Erase one word at a time. Call on students to recite the verse, trying to remember the missing word. Repeat this process with another student, then another, and so on until no words remain on the board. 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. Just do your best! If you need a little hint, I'll help you. *Call on any new student to go first! Keep the game moving quickly.*

- ? **Great job everyone! Who can say the verse for the class without looking at anything for help?** *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
- Small prizes like pencils or bookmarks, optional

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

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

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

Today, we're going to review what we've read and talked about over the past five lessons. First, we are going through the Lesson Theme Posters. This will give you a quick review!

Refer to Lesson Theme Poster 8. Ezra was a faithful priest of God. He wanted to seek the Law of the Lord, obey the Law, and teach the Law to the Jews who had returned to Jerusalem. God moved in the heart of the king, and Ezra left Persia to lead a second group of Jews back home to Jerusalem. When Ezra and the Jews got back to Jerusalem, they found that the people in Jerusalem were disobeying God and sinning against Him.

Ezra prayed and asked God for forgiveness. When the people heard his prayer to God they repented of their sin and turned back to the one true God. God's Law was restored.

Refer to Lesson Theme Poster 9. Nehemiah was far away from Jerusalem when he heard the horrible news that the walls of the city were broken down and the gates were burned. God moved in the king's heart, and the king let Nehemiah return home to rebuild the wall. There were people in the city who wanted Nehemiah to stop the work. But Nehemiah came up with a plan. They worked while they protected themselves from attack. God gave Nehemiah wisdom and protection, and the walls were rebuilt.

Refer to Lesson Theme Poster 10. Ezra the priest was trained in understanding the Law of Moses. When he went to Jerusalem, the people asked him to read the scroll of the Law of Moses—the Word of God. The people had turned away from God in their sin and had not heard the Word of God read for a long time. The Word of God changed the hearts of the people. They realized how good God had been to them in the past. And they realized they had turned away from the Creator God and turned back to their sinful ways. They reacted by shouting "Amen," bowing their heads, and lifting up their hands. The people wept when they heard the words of the Law because they knew they had not been obeying God. They repented of their sins 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 who were not worshipping God like He told them to. Their sacrifices were not pleasing to God. They were not honoring God. Instead of offering their best, they offered defiled

food and blind 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 imperfect offerings did not please God. God demanded and deserved the very best! God still deserves our very best today.

Refer to Lesson Theme Poster 12. In Lesson 12 we talked about God's prophet Malachi again. The book of Malachi is the last book of the Old Testament. God gave a message of hope to the people of Israel through Malachi. Malachi told the people that a messenger was coming, and he would prepare the way for the long-awaited Messiah. This messenger would come like the great prophet Elijah.

Four hundred years later, the messenger did come—John the Baptist. And he came to prepare the people for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Bible says that John the Baptist came in the spirit and power of Elijah!

Did you listen well? Let's play Bible Baseball. And you will get to answer questions and run the bases!



Bible Baseball Review Game

Divide the students into two or more teams depending on class size. 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." 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!

*Divide the students into two or more teams depending on class size. **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.***

I'm going to ask questions about the past five lessons. You can look at the Lesson Theme Posters to get hints for the answers. Each person on a team will take turns answering the questions I ask. I want Team 1 to line up at home plate in the order that you want to bat, and I'll pitch questions out to you. If you answer correctly, that's a hit. You can pick a hit from the cup and move around the bases. 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. And

Materials

- Masking tape to mark bases
- Bible Baseball Hits cut and put into a cup
- Lesson Theme Posters

➤ 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 that question later in the game. Three strikes and the team is out! Next team's turn to play.

► 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!

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.

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. Nehemiah 9:6.*

Refer to the Lesson Theme Poster when appropriate. In Lesson 8, we learned that God used Ezra to lead the second wave of Jews back to Jerusalem after the 70 years of captivity in Babylon.

I'm going to read a verse and ask a question. Listen carefully. It is Ezra 7:6. "The king granted [Ezra] all his request, according to the hand of the Lord his God upon him." Now answer the next two questions.

- ? **Who granted Ezra all his request?** *The king.*
- ? **The king granted Ezra what he wanted because someone's hand was upon Ezra. Whose hand was that?** *The hand of the Lord his God.*
- ? **Great! In our lesson, what was Ezra preaching from?** *God's Law.*
- ? **Before Ezra preached to the people, what did he do? Look at the Lesson 8 Lesson Theme Poster for a hint.** *He prayed.*
- ? **What were the people in Jerusalem doing when Ezra got back?** *Disobeying God and sinning against Him.*
- ? **What did Ezra do when he heard the bad news? Remember, it seemed a bit odd to us. It had something to do with his hair, his beard, and his clothes.** *He tore his clothes, plucked out his hair, and prayed.*
- ? **What was the first thing Ezra told the people they must do about their sin? Look at the Lesson Theme Poster.** *Confess to the Lord.*
- ? **And the second? Look at the Lesson Theme Poster again.** *Do His will.*
- ? **And how did the people respond to Ezra? What did they say? Again it is on the Lesson Theme Poster.** *They said, "Yes! So we must do."*

Ezra prayed and then preached God's Word to the people. The people realized their sin and turned back to God. They wanted to obey God and the law was restored in Jerusalem.

Refer to the Lesson Theme Poster when appropriate. As we moved to Lesson 9 we learned about God's prophet Nehemiah. God used Nehemiah to bring the last group (the third group) of Jews back to Jerusalem. While he was still far away 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?

What happened to the walls? *The walls were broken down.*

? Why did Nehemiah want to go back to Jerusalem? *To rebuild the walls.*

Listen to this verse. I'm going to ask a question about it. It is Nehemiah 1:4.

"...when I heard these words, . . . I sat down and wept, and mourned for many days; I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven." *Read the verse emphasizing wept, mourned, fasting, praying.*

? What did Nehemiah do when he heard about the city of Jerusalem?

Mourned, wept, fasted, prayed.

Nehemiah returned to Jerusalem and wanted to repair the city wall. But, others did not want the wall rebuilt. Nehemiah continued to obey God. He came up with a plan that would allow them to continue building.

? Look at the men on the Lesson Theme Poster. This was a part of the plan. One group of workers held tools in one hand and what in the other?

Swords, weapons.

The workers were armed! This allowed the work to continue while the people were protected.

? Who did Nehemiah believe would fight for them if they had to fight? *God.*

? Did Nehemiah finish rebuilding the walls? *Yes.*

God gave Nehemiah wisdom and protection. Nehemiah prayed, obeyed, and went ahead with his project with faith in God. And 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.

? Who was reading to the people? *Ezra.*

? What did Ezra read to the men and women? *The Law, God's Word.*

Listen carefully as I read Nehemiah 8:3. "Then he read from it [God's Law] in the open square that was in front of the Water Gate from morning until midday." *Emphasize from morning until midday.*

? How long did Ezra read? *From morning until midday.*

? How many hours was that? *About 6 hours.*

? What did the people say out loud when they heard God's Word? *Amen!*

? What else did the people do? Look at the people on the Lesson Theme Poster for help. *They lifted up their hands, got on their knees in worship, bowed down, cried.*

? Why did the people cry when they understood God's Word? *They realized they had sinned against God! They were sorry.*

► When questions can be answered in several ways or with multiple answers, you may want to allow several students to answer. This will keep the game moving quickly and allow students to participate more often.

Lesson 10

Lesson 11

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 sinned against God and were sorry. The Word of God had changed their hearts.

Refer to the Lesson Theme Poster when appropriate. In the next lesson we read that God sent Malachi to warn the priests about something. God is our Father and Master! He deserves our very best!

I am going to read out of Malachi 1. He was warning the people about the sacrifices they were making to God. Listen carefully so you can answer the questions I ask. "You offer defiled food on My altar . . . And when you offer the blind [animals] as a sacrifice, is it not evil? And when you offer the lame and sick, is it not evil? *Malachi 1:7–8.*

- ? What was Malachi warning the priests about? *The sacrifices they were making to God.*
- ? What was wrong with the food the priests were sacrificing? *It was defiled, rotten, spoiled, not the best.*
- ? And what was wrong with the animals the priests were offering to God? *They were blind, lame, and sick.*
- ? What did God command the people to bring as a sacrifice to Him? *Their very best.*
- ? What did God call the sacrifices the priests were making? The Bible says, "Is it not _____? What? *Evil!*

The priests would not change their ways and God was angry with them. They did not offer God their very best. Their offerings did not please God. God demanded and deserved the very best! God still deserves our very best today.

Lesson 12

- ? *Refer to the Lesson Theme Poster when appropriate.* On to Lesson 12. Look at the Lesson Theme Poster as I ask the questions. This lesson was about the prophet Malachi, too. Malachi gave another message—not a message of judgment. This was a message the Jews had waited a long time to hear.
- ? What type of message did Malachi give? *A message of hope.*
- ? Who was the Lord going to send to give this message? *A messenger.*
- ? What was the messenger coming to do? *Prepare the way for the Lord.*
- ? Who was the messenger Malachi spoke of? *John the Baptist.*
- ? Who was John preparing the way for? Who was he going to tell about? *Jesus, the Messiah.*

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

Refer to the *History of Israel Poster*. These past five lessons covered a lot of important history. From the time when God led the second group of Jews back to Judah with the priest Ezra, to the last word of the Old Testament in Malachi. Malachi promised that someone would come and prepare the way for the Messiah. And the Messiah would come! But then there were 400 years of silence from the Lord. No prophets spoke for the Lord God during that 400 years until the one that Malachi prophesied about would come—John the Baptist. And he would prepare the way for the Messiah just as God promised through Malachi.

Let's see who won! *Determine a winner for the Bible Baseball Game*. We had a winning team today. Congratulations! *Students can sit down*. But what we learn from studying God's Word is 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. God's Word teaches us the truth about God and about Jesus the Savior. When Ezra preached the Law to the people, they turned from their sins and turned back to God. Their lives were changed. The truth in His Word 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

Recruit four volunteers—older students, other teachers, helpers, parents, etc. to act out the skit for your class. Encourage them to make their part come alive by using facial expressions and hand motions that match their character.

DISCUSS THE SKIT

So, Lilly's friends wanted to learn more about the Bible, God, and Jesus! The Word of God had changed Lilly. Her friends wanted to join her at church because they saw this change in her life and wanted to know more about it. She said that the Word of God and what Jesus did on the Cross is what changed her life.

Lilly talked to her friends about the Bible, but she didn't pretend to know it all.

Has Jesus changed your life? If He has, you can share all about His truth with your friends, too. 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!

Materials

- Five copies of the Changed by God's Word Skit copied from the Resource DVD-ROM
- Volunteers—preferably older students—to act out the skit for your class
- Bible for prop



Snack Celebration—Optional

Materials

- Fun snack of your choice

INSTRUCTIONS

Prepare a simple snack to share with your class in order to make this review a special day to remember!

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



Group Prayer Time

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

- Praise God for His Word.
- Thank God for your church.
- Pray that the hearts of your students will continue to change from hearing the Word.