



Theme Thoughts

It has been the aim of Satan since the beginning of time to bring all humanity into his ranks. Ever since the downfall of man in the Garden of Eden, the fight of right against wrong has been raging in this world. But God has made ample provision for the salvation of man's immortal soul.

It is this provision that will be taken up in this study of "God's Cure for Sin." In Genesis 3:15 we see the first beam of light for lost humanity pointing toward Christ, the Redeemer of man. A key lesson in this quarter deals with God offering His own Son as a substitute for mankind.

Woven into this quarter are lessons covering the events leading up to Easter. We will explore the message and hope of the Resurrection as the foundation of the Gospel, and will learn how one can be enabled to walk in newness of life. We will also study some of the results of salvation and the benefits it brings into one's life.

May God bless you as you explore His plan for the redemption of man.

Saved by Substitution

TEXT: Genesis 22:1-14; Isaiah 53:4-8; Hebrews 2:9,10

SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURE: Galatians 3:13,14

KEY VERSE: Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. — 1 Peter 1:18,19

It takes no stretch of the imagination to know that Abraham went through the most crucial trial of his life in the offering of his beloved son, in complete surrender. But this trip to Mount Moriah signified far more than just a trial for Abraham. When Isaac was taken to Mount Moriah to be sacrificed, to a point he typified the “Lamb of God” who would be offered for the sins of mankind on the cross of Calvary.

1. What were the circumstances which might have made it particularly hard for Abraham to obey God’s command about his son? See Genesis 17:19 and 22:2.

2. What similarity can be noted between God offering His Son and Abraham’s offering of his son?

3. What parallel can be drawn between Isaac’s response to the situation and Jesus’ response? See Isaiah 53:7.

4. As Abraham and his son journeyed toward Mount Moriah, Isaac asked his father: “Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” What was Abraham’s reply and in what way was it prophetic? See John 1:29.

5. While Isaac is typical of Christ, the comparison between the two stops at a certain point. What is that point? Explain its significance.

6. Why could there be no substitute for Christ? See Acts 4:10-12.

7. Note the similarities in the Scriptures given below.

A. Genesis 17:7 and Luke 1:33

B. Genesis 17:19 and Luke 1:31

C. Genesis 22:2 and John 3:16

D. Genesis 22:8,13 and John 1:29,36

In concluding this lesson, the important fact should be realized that it was Abraham's love for God and his absolute faith in Him that made it possible for Abraham to obey God in this test. It was God's love for Abraham that provided the substitute of a ram to be offered in the place of Isaac. It is the same love of God for all mankind that brought about Jesus' death on Calvary. No substitute could take the place of Jesus. He became our substitute, without which we would have died eternally for our sins. But Jesus died for all. Through His substitution, we can be redeemed and have the gift of everlasting life.

A Promise of Protection

TEXT: Exodus 12:1-14

SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES: Joshua 2:1-22; Hebrews 9:13-15

KEY VERSE: Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them. — Hebrews 11:28

The forefathers of the Children of Israel had offered sacrifices from the beginning of sacred history. When bringing judgment on the people of Egypt, God once more revealed to the Israelites the importance of the blood of sacrifices when applied as He required. Today we must have the Blood of Jesus applied to our hearts if we expect to escape the consequences of sin.

1. Who gave the instructions to God's people for preparing the Passover lamb? What can we conclude regarding God's plan for spiritual authority? See Ephesians 4:11-13.

2. Why were the Israelites instructed to sacrifice a lamb without blemish? What special significance does this portray? See Hebrews 9:12-14 and 1 Peter 1:18,19.

3. What was to be done with the blood of the lamb?

4. List some of the ways in which the Passover lamb was a type of Christ.

5. Why was it necessary for the Israelites to eat this first Passover feast in haste?

6. What was the final judgment God sent upon the Egyptians, and why? See Exodus 11:1,5.

7. The Israelites had to take some action to escape God's judgment. What action must people take today if they expect to escape the judgment of God on this world? See Romans 3:23; Acts 17:30; John 3:16 and 8:31.

8. The Israelites were instructed to keep the Passover as a memorial forever. At Jesus' last Passover supper, He instituted something which Christians today do in remembrance of their Passover Lamb. What is it called and what does it commemorate? See 1 Corinthians 5:7 and 11:23-26.

9. Why is it so important to answer yes immediately to the call of God to one's heart? See Genesis 6:3; Matthew 24:44 and James 4:14.

The Lord's Supper

TEXT: Matthew 26:17-30; 1 Corinthians 11:23-34

SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURE: Mark 14:22-25

KEY VERSE: For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come. — 1 Corinthians 11:26

RESOURCE MATERIAL: Tract No. 49 — The Atoning Blood, Tract No. 69 — Ordinances

God has instructed the Jews to keep the Passover once a year as a memorial of their exodus from Egypt and bondage. Just prior to His crucifixion, Jesus and His disciples were celebrating this feast. At the close of the Passover Supper, Jesus instituted what we know today as the Lord's Supper. Though there is no saving grace in the ordinance itself, it depicts the total work of Christ in man's behalf. The Lord's Supper symbolizes the death of Jesus for our sins, and our death to sin through Him. It reminds us that Jesus' death is the means of our righteousness, the union between Jesus and us, and our expectant hope in Christ until He comes.

1. Explain what the Passover was and to what it pointed. See Exodus 12:3-14,22.

2. To what does the observance of the Lord's Supper point?

3. Why did Jesus institute this ordinance? See 1 Corinthians 11:24-26.

4. What did they partake of at the first Lord's Supper? What did these represent?

5. Who was present at the first Lord's Supper? Knowing this, explain who is to partake of the Lord's Supper today.

6. Define what is meant by the word *unworthily* in 1 Corinthians 11:27. Then explain what it means for a man to examine himself (verse 28).

7. Referring to 1 Corinthians 11:29, explain what you think it means to discern the Lord's body.

8. Tell of an instance of blessing in your life, or another's, received while you were participating in this ordinance.

He Died for Us

TEXT: John 19:1-30

SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES: Isaiah 53:1-12; Matthew 27:27-56

KEY VERSE: For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. — John 3:16

The Roman punishment of crucifixion has been considered one of the most cruel forms of death. It was a penalty for slaves, criminals, and persons who were not Roman citizens. Jesus “. . . made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and . . . he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross” (Philippians 2:7,8).

1. In our text one can find the fulfillment of many Old Testament prophecies regarding Jesus’ suffering. Following each Scripture below list the prophecy and the verse or verses in John 19 where it is fulfilled.

Isaiah 53:3

Isaiah 53:7

Psalms 22:18

Psalms 69:21

Psalms 34:20

Zechariah 12:10

2. Jesus suffered greatly during his last 24 hours on earth. In what ways was He physically abused? List as many as you can find. In addition to the text, use Isaiah 50:6; Matthew 26:67; Mark 14:65; 15:19.

3. In what ways did Jesus mentally or emotionally suffer in those last hours? To supplement the text, see Mark 14:43,44,55-57,71; 15:34; Luke 22:44 and John 1:11.

4. Why do you think it was necessary for Jesus to suffer so?

5. In what ways have Christians suffered physically through the centuries because of their love for Jesus? How does this compare to Christ's suffering?

6. In what ways do Christians face mental or emotional suffering?

7. At one point Jesus cried, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" (Mark 15:34). Had God forsaken Jesus? Explain.

8. By His death, Jesus made certain provisions for us. The following Scriptures give some of these provisions. List them here.

Titus 2:14

1 Peter 2:24

Hebrews 13:12

He Lives

TEXT: John 20:1-18

SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES: Matthew 28:1-15; Mark 16:1-11; Luke 24:1-9

KEY VERSE: But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.

— 1 Corinthians 15:20

Jesus had been crucified, had died, and had been buried in a garden tomb. The hopes of His followers had been shattered. Then on the third day, when the women went to the sepulchre to anoint His body with spices, they found the tomb was empty. An angel in white announced the glorious news, "He is not here: for he is risen, as he said" (Matthew 28:6).

1. Was it necessary for the stone to be rolled away from the tomb in order for Jesus to come forth? Explain, using John 20:19 as a reference. If not, then why did the angel come down from Heaven to roll back the stone?

2. Using Matthew 27:66 and 28:2,4, describe how the visible effects of the Resurrection showed that Jesus was victor over the efforts of the chief priests, the Roman government, and nature.

3. What particular point of the Easter story does Mark 15:43-46 and John 19:31-34 establish? How does John 20:20 prove that He rose from the dead?

4. What is the great importance of the Resurrection of Christ to the Christian and the Church today?

5. To whom did Jesus first personally appear after His resurrection? Who else saw Him alive that first day? See Mark 16:12; Luke 24:13-18,34 and John 20:19.

6. Using the following Scriptures, what were the different reactions of those who were told of His resurrection?

Matthew 28:8

Matthew 28:9; John 20:16

Matthew 28:11-15

Mark 16:11; Luke 24:11; John 20:25

Luke 24:12

Luke 24:22,23

John 20:8

7. What had Jesus done to prepare His disciples for the shock of His death and resurrection? See Matthew 16:21; Mark 9:9,10 and Luke 9:21,22; 24:6-8,44.

8. In considering the events of the first Easter, what do we have today that helps us to believe that Jesus is alive? See John 20:31. What might we conclude with regard to our responsibility to believe?

How Can I Be Saved?

TEXT: Luke 13:1-5; Isaiah 1:18; 55:6,7

SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES: Isaiah 53:6; Romans 8:1-16

KEY VERSE: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
— Isaiah 55:7

The Bible tells us that “All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.” No one can go to Heaven who has not been cleansed from his sins. But before one can receive salvation and forgiveness, he must first repent of those sins he has committed.

1. What does *repent* mean?

2. What is necessary before a person can repent?

3. Why might the statement, “I believe on the Lord Jesus Christ,” be insufficient to bring about salvation?

4. Which words in the following verses indicate that repentance takes action?

Isaiah 1:18

Ezekiel 18:31

Hosea 14:2

Joel 2:12

5. What are the eternal consequences of the statement of Jesus, "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish"?

6. Many people attempt to justify the fact that they have sins which are unrepented of by saying their sins are not serious enough to require repentance. Why is this false?

7. How much does it cost a person to receive salvation?

8. How can you know you are saved?

Brand-New

TEXT: John 3:1-19; Romans 8:1

SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES: 1 Samuel 10:9; Romans 3:23; 1 John 3:9; 5:4,5

KEY VERSE: Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. — 2 Corinthians 5:17

RESOURCE MATERIAL: Tract No. 30 — The New Birth

Because of the original sin of Adam and Eve, we are unable (without Christ) to live without sinning against God and against our fellowman. The Bible says, “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked” (Jeremiah 17:9). “All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). However, the Bible has outlined certain steps that a person may take in order to have his sins forgiven. If we follow these steps carefully, acknowledging Christ as the Son of God with power to forgive and keep us from sin, honestly inviting Him to be Lord of our lives, a miracle happens. We become a brand-new person in Christ Jesus, as expressed in our key verse.

1. What kind of person was Nicodemus? Why did he come to Jesus by night?

2. Why would the working of miracles attract a person to Christ?

3. Explain in your own words what Jesus told Nicodemus.

4. Why is there no exception to the necessity for the new birth? What about “good” people?

5. Once a person is born again, how is it possible for him to live each day without sinning against God?

See 1 John 3:9; 5:4,5,18.

6. Jesus healed a man at the pool of Bethesda and gave him a special command. What was this command (John 5:14)? What explicit directions did Jesus give to the woman taken in adultery, whom He forgave (John 8:11)? What significance must be placed upon these instructions?

7. List the works of the flesh, of which a Christian will not be guilty (Galatians 5:19-21). Which part of the key verse applies to these things?

8. When “old” things pass away, what are some of the “new” things that come into our lives?

9. Review John 3:16; Romans 5:1; 8:1 and 12:2, and list some additional results of being born again.

Squared Away With Others

TEXT: Luke 19:1-10

SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES: Leviticus 6:2-7; Numbers 5:6-8

KEY VERSE: If the wicked restore the pledge, give again that he had robbed, walk in the statutes of life, without committing iniquity; he shall surely live, he shall not die. — Ezekiel 33:15

RESOURCE MATERIAL: Tract No. 68 — Restitution

There are few, indeed, who are called from a sinful life who do not have restitutions to make. Some would tell us that when we are saved, God forgives our past and we can forget it. However, Scripture reveals that if we have in any way wronged our fellowman, God expects us to make this right. His Spirit will surely bring to mind the things for which we need to make amends. Restitution covers not only repayment of what may have been taken of monetary value, but also making right such things as lying, cheating, backbiting, and hatred.

1. Why do you think the Spirit of God inspired Luke to include the story of Zacchaeus? Surely there were many more dramatic incidents that could have been recorded.

2. Zacchaeus was a chief among the publicans (tax collectors) for the Roman government. Such men were usually Romans, but Zacchaeus, who was a Jew, probably represented the Jews in Jericho. As chief, he would have been the one who sold the privilege of collecting taxes to the highest bidders. In turn, these men could add as much of a commission as they could collect. Zacchaeus no doubt started his career as one of these tax collectors, and was not held in any regard by the Jews. Which verse in our text establishes the fact that Zacchaeus' poor reputation was known by those in Jericho?

3. What was required of a person bringing a trespass offering under the Mosaic Law? See Leviticus 6:2-7.

4. Restitution obviously played an important part in obtaining forgiveness under the Mosaic Law. What part does it have in obtaining forgiveness in our time?

5. Explain in your own words the meaning of the key verse.

6. What evidence do we have that Zacchaeus, in his heart, met the required conditions spoken of in the key verse?

7. Why is it as important to make a small restitution as it is a large one?

8. What happens if we refuse to make a restitution?

9. What are some of the benefits that might be received as a result of making a restitution?

The Fruit of the Spirit

TEXT: Galatians 5:22-26

SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES: Psalm 1:1-6; 1 Corinthians 13; 2 Peter 1:4-8

KEY VERSE: If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. — Galatians 5:25

In his letter to the Galatians, Paul shows that since the time of Christ's death no rites or ceremonies of the Jewish Law or any of man's own works can avail in the justification of a sinner. Jesus Christ is our only means of salvation (Acts 4:10-12). The fruit of the Spirit becomes evident in our lives when we are saved, and grows as we continue to live and walk in the Spirit.

1. Why do you think the nine virtues listed in our lesson are referred to as "the fruit" and not "the fruits"?

2. Explain why the flesh must be crucified if we are to be fruit-bearing Christians.

3. What do the nine virtues of the Spirit have in common?

4. List the fruit of the Spirit. Then name some benefits that Christians enjoy from having each of these virtues in their lives.

5. Why can a Christian still feel peace when things go wrong?

6. Describe an incident in which the fruit of the Spirit really proved to be a benefit to the one who exhibited a specific virtue.

7. How can the fruit of a tree be used to determine the worth of the tree that is bearing it? See Matthew 7:16-18.

8. Self-image is an important concept in our society. Distinguish between self-improvement and the fruit of the Spirit.

9. How can you be sure you have the fruit of the Spirit in your life?

Christian Maintenance

TEXT: Romans 12:1,2; 1 Thessalonians 5:15-22; 1 John 2:15-17

SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES: Matthew 22:37-40; 2 Corinthians 6:17,18; Ephesians 4:1-3

KEY VERSE: If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. — John 15:19

We exercised the power of choice when we sought forgiveness for sins, and were born into the family of God. The same choice must be maintained daily if we are to remain “sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world” (Philippians 2:15). That choice was—and remains—the choice to love the things of God in place of loving the things of the world by an ever closer companionship with Jesus Christ. John 3:31 says, “He that cometh from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: he that cometh from heaven is above all.”

1. What is meant by “present your bodies a living sacrifice”?

2. What is meant by “holy, acceptable unto God”?

3. Why should the control of worldly pursuits be considered as a “reasonable service”?

4. What is meant by “be not conformed to this world”?

5. How do Christians renew their minds? See Philippians 4:8.

6. As Christians, we want to bring our lives under the control of Christ. From Romans 12:2, what are three things we could ask ourselves about our plans as criteria for establishing whether God is really in control of our lives and plans?

7. As we continue the thought of Christian maintenance, how does the phrase, "See that none render evil for evil unto any man," apply?

8. Why can the Christian give thanks in everything (Romans 8:28)? Explain why this is important in the light of maintaining our Christian testimony.

9. What does it mean to "abstain from all appearance of evil"?

10. Explain why a person cannot love the things of the world and love God at the same time. See Matthew 6:24.

11. Explain 1 John 2:17 in your own words.

A Mother's Love

TEXT: Matthew 15:21-28

SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES: Joshua 24:14,15; Proverbs 22:6; 2 Timothy 1:1-5

KEY VERSE: Thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.
— Deuteronomy 6:7

The love of a godly mother for her children is one of the greatest loves a human can experience. A young child looks to his mother for care, comfort, security, and love. As that child grows older, he honors her integrity, example, and resourcefulness. A godly mother is prayerful, self-sacrificing, and dedicated to her family. The Bible speaks of her as a virtuous woman.

1. What was the nationality of the woman who came to Jesus (Mark 7:26)? What was His statement (in our text) concerning this?

2. What spiritual virtues did the woman exhibit in coming to Jesus for physical healing for her daughter?

3. Why do you feel Jesus acted as He did toward the woman? How might you have reacted if Jesus had shown such a seemingly unconcerned attitude toward your need?

4. We have many beautiful accounts in the Bible which depict a mother's love. How do you think these mothers felt in a time of emotional stress?

Moses' mother, as she put her son into the basket in the river — Exodus 2:3

Hannah, as she left her son with Eli — 1 Samuel 1:24-28

Mary, as she watched Jesus hang on the cross — John 19:25

5. Christ is our example. What kind of concern and care did He show toward His mother? See Luke 2:51 and John 19:26,27.

6. Tell of some ways our mothers show their love for us without words. How can we reciprocate?

7. What is the highest spiritual responsibility a mother and father have toward their children? See Deuteronomy 6:5-7.

8. Read 2 Kings 4:1-7. In what manner does this account show us how a mother's love for her sons brought physical help through spiritual means?

Is My Name There?

TEXT: Revelation 21:1-7,21-27

SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES: Revelation 3:5; 20:12-15; 22:19

KEY VERSE: And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

— Revelation 20:15

RESOURCE MATERIAL: Tract No. 30 — The New Birth

Tears, death, sorrow, crying, and pain will soon be a thing of the past for some, “for the former things are passed away . . . Behold, I make all things new.” The new will be a glorious state of blessedness reserved for those who have had their names written in the Book of Life.

1. What type of people will not enter into the City described in our text? Be specific, supporting your answer with Scripture.

2. Explain what the Book of Life contains (Revelation 3:5). Of what importance is the Book of Life?

3. Read Revelation 21:3,4. Who are the people in these verses?

4. The Book of Life is not the only book John saw (Revelation 20:12). What do you think is found in the other books?

5. Why is the Book of Life sometimes called “The Lamb’s Book”?

6. What is the alternative to the Book of Life?

7. Once your name is written down, can it ever be removed? See Exodus 32:33.

8. What can a person do to ensure that his name will remain in the Book of Life?

9. Read Revelation 22:18,19. What does it mean to you?

10. From the text, list some of the things you can look forward to if you keep your name in the Lamb’s Book of Life.

Quarter Review

TEXT: Review Quarter Texts

KEY VERSE: Student's choice from this quarter

In this quarter, we studied God's remedy for sin. It began with the story of how God provided a lamb as a substitute for Abraham's son Isaac. That pointed to the Lamb of God who was our substitute on Mt. Calvary. We learned of the protection afforded by the Blood of the Lamb, what must be done to be under this protection, and what we must do to maintain it. We also learned of some of the blessings that are ours if we follow the Lord, and where our names are recorded when we give our hearts and lives to God.

1. What great truth is portrayed in the story of Abraham's taking Isaac to Mt. Moriah for a sacrifice?

2. What did God require the Children of Israel to do to protect their firstborn from death during one of the plagues in Egypt? What must man do today to escape the coming judgment?

3. Explain the difference between the Feast of the Passover and the Lord's Supper.

4. Make a list of the many things Jesus suffered for our sake, and explain why He willingly went through them.

5. Tell in your own words what happened on the Resurrection morning and what that means to us.

6. What does it mean to *repent* and why is it so important?

7. Jesus told Nicodemus that he must be born again. Explain in your own words what that means and how it affects one's life.

8. What does *restitution* mean, and why is it important?

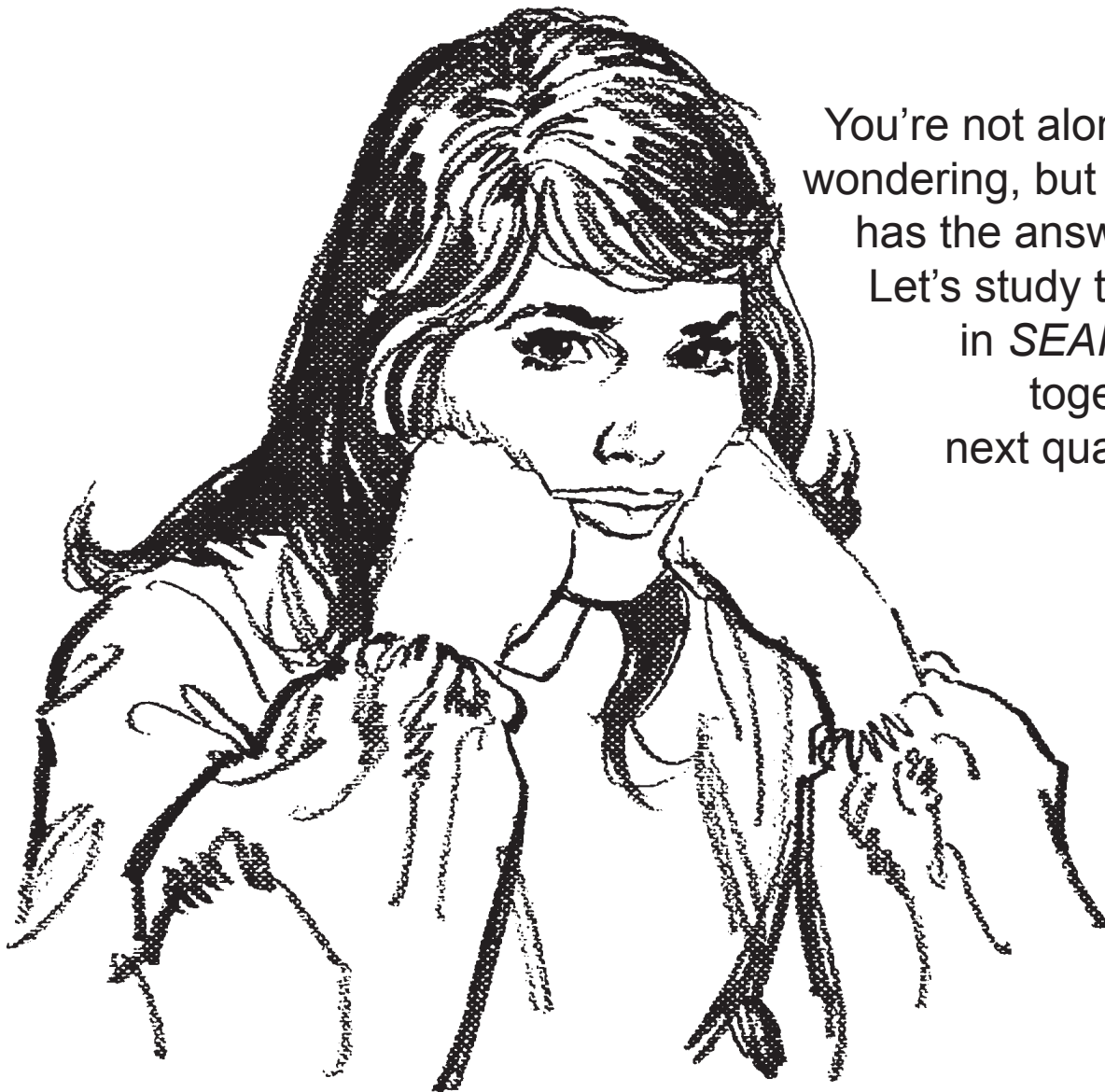
9. How many virtues does Paul list which make up the fruit of the Spirit? Which do you think would be unnecessary?

10. Explain what you think it means to "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world."

11. How did the Syrophenician woman show how much she cared for her daughter?

12. Will everyone's name be found in the Lamb's Book of Life? What must a person do to have his name written there?

What is God's plan for me?
Just where do I fit in?
How can I find out?
How do I talk to God?
Who can help me?



You're not alone in
wondering, but God
has the answers!
Let's study them
in *SEARCH*
together
next quarter.