

# Mercy

**TEXT:** John 8:1-11; Titus 3:3-7

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES:** Genesis 18:23-33; 19:16

**KEY VERSE:** It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.  
— Lamentations 3:22

God's love sent Jesus, who fulfilled all the demands of holiness and justice. Jesus in turn poured out a flood of mercy, grace, and forbearance and made it available to everyone. By faith we can receive this mercy and have "peace with God . . ." and ". . . access by faith into this grace wherein we stand" (Romans 5:1,2).

**1.** The dictionary tells us that the word *mercy* implies "compassion which forbears punishment even when justice demands it." Though the word is not used in the account of the woman taken in adultery, in what ways was divine mercy demonstrated? How is divine mercy extended to each of us today?

**2.** The woman taken in adultery was clearly guilty of breaking God's Law. If the scribes and Pharisees wanted justice, why did they not take the woman to the judge to be tried? Why did they bring her to Christ?

**3.** What do you think the Scripture means when it says that these were "convicted by their own conscience"? If they were convicted, how could any of these have received mercy?

4. The Law demanded justice for the woman's sins (Leviticus 20:10). How could Jesus circumvent this demand?

5. What was the significance of Christ's statement, "Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more"? How was it possible for the woman to do this?

6. In Genesis 18:23-33 and 19:16 we find Abraham praying for God to extend mercy. How did God do this?

7. In Titus 3:3-7, contrast the individual described in verse three to the one in verse seven. Then describe the elements which are mentioned in verses four through six that made the difference.

8. One of the greatest benefits of Christ's mercy extended to us is the salvation of our souls. But once we have been saved, His mercy is extended to us in other ways. List some of these.

# Peace

**TEXT:** Mark 4:35-41; 5:1-20

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES:** John 16:33; Isaiah 57:20,21

**KEY VERSE:** Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. — Isaiah 26:3

Our Lord was a miracle-working Savior on earth, both in the lives of men and in nature. We know He is the same in our day. He gave peace to those who had no peace—He will do the same today. He caused the winds to cease and calmed the raging water—He can do the same today as He puts at rest the storms in the lives of men.

**1.** Note the scriptural description of the storm on the Sea of Galilee as given in the text: “There arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full.” Have you ever been on a ship at sea during a storm? What significance is shown by Jesus’ restfulness during the storm?

**2.** What caused the Lord to awaken from His sleep? And what was His response?

**3.** The Lord rebuked His disciples for being afraid. Why? Is there never reason for us to fear? What lesson can we apply to our own lives from this happening?

4. "What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?" the disciples wondered after the calming of the storm. Name several other instances in which Jesus displayed His power over nature. (See Matthew 14:20,25; 17:27; 21:19.) What do these miracles prove, and what should be our response?

5. In what condition did Jesus and the disciples find the demoniac? What was the cause of this condition?

6. What were the results of man's efforts to help the situation?

7. How was the man healed? What was the evidence of his healing?

8. What was the attitude of the citizens of the city and country? What did the man who was delivered want to do? What instructions were given to him by the Lord?

9. For what purpose was the Son of God manifested? See 1 John 3:8.

# Communication

**TEXT:** 1 Kings 19:1-18

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURE:** Luke 24:13-35

**KEY VERSE:** And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. — Isaiah 65:24

God does not always work by precedent. Because He has communicated in one way at one time does not mean that He will always communicate in the same way at subsequent times. However, His will is sure to be made known to us. Our responsibility is to be attentive to His Spirit for direction.

**1.** Just prior to our lesson text, Elijah had won a great victory on the mountain and undoubtedly was spiritually very much in tune with God. How quickly this changed! What was Elijah's condition after listening to the threats of Queen Jezebel? What lesson can we learn from this?

**2.** God sent an angel to instruct and encourage Elijah. Then the prophet journeyed on to Mt. Horeb. When Elijah arrived, God's next communication was direct. It was in the form of a question, "What doest thou here, Elijah?" (verse 9). What would your reaction be if God spoke to you with a direct question?

**3.** When Elijah heard the still, small Voice, he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went and stood in the entrance of the cave. Why hadn't Elijah shown the same respect or reverence after seeing the manifestations of nature?

**4.** God communicated with Elijah in an audible voice. Often He chooses other methods of revealing His will to us. What might some of these other ways be?

**5.** Sometimes we may find ourselves having difficulty determining whether an impression or communication we are receiving is from the Lord. How can we know that it is the Lord who is giving us direction?

**6.** God may speak to man through the forces of nature by way of judgment. See Exodus 7:24. Why is it possible that miracles alone will not lead men to God?

**7.** What was the result of Elijah's listening and responding to God's communication?

**8.** God's responsibility is to answer our prayers, providing us with guidance and direction. What is our responsibility?

# Protection

**TEXT:** Genesis 6:5-22; Hebrews 11:7

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURE:** Psalm 91

**KEY VERSE:** When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. — Isaiah 43:2

**RESOURCE MATERIAL:** Tract No. 66 — Rescued by God From a Watery Grave

When God sent the Flood upon the world, He provided protection for those who would accept it, in the form of an ark. Christians today are provided with protection far above that which the world knows. We have the promise of divine protection at all times.

**1.** Hebrews 11:7 indicates that Noah was warned by God of impending judgment upon the wicked world. Since we read in 2 Peter 2:5 that Noah was a preacher of righteousness, we can assume that Noah's preaching warned of the coming flood, a time when all people would need divine protection. What warnings do people receive today?

**2.** Why was it necessary for Noah to make the ark exactly to the dimensions that God specified? Parallel this to what we must do if we want God's protection.

**3.** The schooling of the Lord, though sometimes strange to us, is perfect in His plan for our lives. He makes a straight path for our feet, and then lights the way with His presence. We may at times go through deep waters or fiery trials. What has God promised to us at these times? See Isaiah 43:2.

4. Those in Noah's day needed protection from an oncoming flood. Give a specific example of something you need to be protected from and tell how God meets your need in it. Then give an example where God protected you without your being aware of it until sometime later.

5. What roles do angels play in divine protection? Refer to Psalm 91:11, Daniel 6:22, and Acts 12:7.

6. Divine protection is promised when certain conditions are met. The following verses contain a promise along with a requirement. After each reference, give the required condition.

2 Chronicles 16:9

Psalm 34:7

Psalm 41:1

Matthew 6:33

7. Do you think the unsaved should expect divine protection? Why or why not?

8. As Christians, we sometimes still get hurt or find ourselves with problems and in difficult situations. We may be involved in automobile accidents, face persecutions, etc. Does this mean that God is not protecting us? Why do you think God allows these things to happen?

9. The Great Tribulation is coming! What would you say is God's ultimate protection for us?

# Comfort

**TEXT:** Genesis 28:10-19; 32:24-30; 33:1-4

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES:** Isaiah 61:1-3; 2 Corinthians 1:3-7

**KEY VERSE:** Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort. — 2 Corinthians 1:3

Webster tells us the word *comfort* is derived from the Latin *com* meaning “with” and *fortis* meaning “strength.” Hence the first meaning of the verb is “to give strength and hope; to cheer.” Another meaning is “to ease the grief or trouble of; console.” In 2 Corinthians 1:5, the much persecuted Paul the Apostle says, “For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ.” Our study today is aimed at aiding us in being recipients of God’s assistance, support, solace, and consolation: in one word—comfort.

**1.** Genesis 27:41-46 and 28:1,2 indicate that Jacob left the home of his parents, Isaac and Rebekah, for two reasons: He was running from the anger of his brother Esau whom he had defrauded, and he was going to find a wife from among his mother’s family. Why do you suppose Jacob was in need of comfort at this time?

**2.** Jacob went northward to Bethel, traveling about fifty miles the first day. No doubt he was very tired as he gathered stones for his pillows. How did God provide comfort that night as Jacob slept with the earth for his bed and the heavens for his canopy?

**3.** Recall a time of disappointment and the blessing that God provided which resulted in your comfort. Consider sharing this experience with the class on Sunday.

4. In order to gain an appreciation of Jacob's need for further comfort during the next twenty years of his life, read in Genesis, chapters 29-31, the story of his stay with his uncle. How did God comfort Jacob during his stay with Laban?

5. Are there conditions which we must meet to be assured of God's comfort? Refer to the following Scriptures and list the various conditions which Jacob met.

Genesis 28:7

Genesis 28:22

Genesis 31:13

Genesis 32:10

6. How long did Jacob wrestle with the angel? What blessing and comfort did he receive as a result of this prevailing?

7. At some time in one's life, it may appear that all is gone: friends, family, job, etc. How can one find comfort during these times? See Job 23:8-12.

8. During Jesus' ministry, He said to a woman who came to Him, "Daughter, be of good comfort" (Matthew 9:22). What attribute was exercised to secure this blessing? He also promised comfort to His disciples when He said, "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you" (John 14:18). In what ways does Jesus comfort people today?

# Divine Healing

**TEXT:** Isaiah 53:1-5; Mark 5:22-42; James 5:13-16

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES:** Psalm 103:1-5; Matthew 8:16,17

**KEY VERSE:** Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.  
— Psalm 34:19

Many times in the Bible we are given accounts of healing for the physical body. Since we know that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8) we have every right to believe that divine healing for our bodies is available today.

**1.** In our text in Mark 5, we have a beautiful example of Jesus healing a young girl who not only was critically ill, but who actually died while Jesus was on His way to heal her. While He was going to her home, a woman who had been diseased for twelve years (verses 25-34) touched His clothes and was immediately healed. What attribute do we see exhibited by the father of the sick girl and by the sick woman, which resulted in their healing? In what way did they exercise this attribute in order to obtain the results?

**2.** A miracle is an act of God whereby something occurs which is unexplainable in terms of known scientific laws, such as healing for an incurable disease. Give an example from your own experience or possibly from the experience of someone you know who has received a definite healing.

**3.** Many will tell us that the day of miracles is past, that healing was provided only during Jesus' ministry and in the time of the Early Church. Read Mark 16:17,18. In the light of these Scriptures, what conclusion can we reach in regard to the previous statement?

**4.** In Mark 6:5,6 and Matthew 13:58, we find that Jesus was sometimes hindered in performing miracles. What reason is given in these Scriptures?

5. On occasion, afflictions may arise which seem especially difficult with regard to healing. One such example is given in Mark 9:25-29. What did Jesus say was necessary in order to receive the answer in this case?

6. Some may say that Christians should never become sick, and if they do it shows a lack of faith or that they are living a life displeasing to God. However, we have examples in the Scriptures that would indicate differently. In the following examples, what might have been the reason for the affliction?

Job 23:10

Psalms 119:71

John 9:3

2 Corinthians 12:7-9

7. What formula does the Bible give us regarding prayer for the healing of our physical bodies? James 5:14,15

8. If we are in need of divine healing, and are unable to go to an elder or have him come to us, what Biblical example do we find in Acts 19:11,12?

9. Both the Old and New Testaments teach us that one of the provisions of Christ's atonement on Calvary is healing for our body. How do Isaiah 53:5 and 1 Peter 2:24 substantiate the beautiful truth that Jesus' Blood avails for our physical healing?

# Wisdom

**TEXT:** Daniel 1:17-20; 2:1-13,24-30

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES:** Job 28:12-28; Proverbs 4:5-13; James 3:13-17

**KEY VERSE:** For God giveth to a man that is good in his sight wisdom, and knowledge, and joy. — Ecclesiastes 2:26

Worldly wisdom and godly wisdom do not come from the same source, and they bring totally different results. Note the key verse and James 3:13-17. Godly wisdom comes when we ask God and then follow the instructions given us, which are always within the guidelines of the Word of God. These are revealed to us by His Spirit. See Isaiah 11:2 and 1 Corinthians 2:10-16.

1. What is wisdom? How do we differentiate between godly wisdom and worldly wisdom? See James 3:13-17.
  
2. Read Job 28:12-28 and list the different sources from which wisdom was sought and could not be found. Where is wisdom to be found?
  
3. According to our key verse, the Lord gives wisdom to the man that is “good in his sight.” What are some of the attributes of a person who is good in the sight of God?
  
4. During a Christian’s life span, he will encounter a variety of trials and direct attempts of Satan to overthrow his faith in God. In no sphere is wisdom so essential, or folly so disastrous, as in the matter of life’s reverses. A clear example of this is found in our text. King Nebuchadnezzar judged that Daniel and his three friends were ten times wiser than the magicians and astrologers in his land. How was this proved by subsequent events?

**5.** Knowing that wisdom is God-given, how can one obtain and develop this most precious gift? How did Daniel go about receiving this? Daniel 2:17-23

**6.** What was the prime quality of Daniel's character as revealed in verse 30? Explain how you arrived at this conclusion and why you feel that this quality is an essential factor in obtaining wisdom.

**7.** Read 1 Kings 3:7 and compare the attitude of Solomon to that of Daniel. The results of this attitude in Solomon's life are brought out in 1 Kings 3:11,12. What were these results?

**8.** There seems to be an important link between humility and the acquisition of wisdom. Why do you suppose this is so?

**9.** In James 3:17 we read a number of attributes that are related to the wisdom that is from Above. Beside each attribute, give an example of how it is a part of godly wisdom. For example:

Pure — every decision or motivation will be based on pure thoughts and actions.

Peaceable —

Gentle —

Easily entreated —

Merciful —

Possessor of good fruits —

Without partiality —

Without hypocrisy —

**10.** We seek after many things in life. The wisest man gave us some advice in Proverbs 4:7. Paraphrase his counsel.

# Guidance

**TEXT:** Exodus 13:17-22, 14:19-31

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES:** 2 Samuel 5:18-25; Psalm 29:1-11; Acts 16:6-10

**KEY VERSE:** And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left. — Isaiah 30:21

God used the pillar of fire by night and the pillar of cloud by day to guide the Children of Israel on their way to the Promised Land. Note that one has to follow God's guidance in order to receive the benefit of it. The pillar of fire was light to Israel, but it was darkness to the Egyptians who were trying to recapture their former slaves. In like manner the Gospel is the savor of life unto life, or of death unto death. The Stone laid in Zion "is a sure foundation," or "a stone of stumbling," depending upon our following or rejecting Him. See Isaiah 28:16 and 1 Peter 2:6-8.

**1.** God led the Children of Israel through the wilderness of the Red Sea on their way to the Promised Land.

Why do you think He did this, even though it was not the most direct route?

**2.** God used a pillar of cloud and a pillar of fire to guide the Israelites. List some of the benefits of these manifestations.

**3.** The Egyptians pursued the Israelites, wanting to capture them. What parallel might be drawn between this occurrence and the opposition a newly-delivered Christian faces?

4. The Children of Israel were afraid when they saw the Egyptian army. What did Moses say (Exodus 14:13,14)? What promise does God give His followers today? See Romans 8:31.

5. God divided the Red Sea after Moses stretched out his rod over it. At the point where Bible commentator, Adam Clarke, places the crossing, the water was estimated to have been more than 80 feet deep and approximately 12 miles across. The Bible says that as Moses stretched out his hand, the Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong wind, and caused the ground to be dry. The people crossed over this dry ground while the waters stood as walls on either side of them. God is a God of miracles. Describe in detail how God destroyed the Egyptians.

6. In 2 Samuel 5:18-25, David was confronted with two battles which seemed to be similar. After asking God's direction, however, he found that God didn't choose to operate in the same manner both times. To what can we attribute David's success?

7. What happens when people do not walk in the way God has revealed? Give a Biblical example to substantiate your answer.

8. In Acts 16:6-10, what two means did God use to guide His missionaries?

9. What one point have you learned regarding guidance? How would you encourage a person who is seeking God's guidance?

# Courage

**TEXT:** 1 Samuel 17:19-51

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURE:** 1 Samuel 14:1-16

**KEY VERSE:** Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest. — Joshua 1:9

The challenge of Goliath stirred a response in David's soul, and his courage mounted as he thought of the One who neither slumbers nor sleeps. A lion, a bear, a giant—what did it matter so long as God was David's Keeper? Up through the chain of command David's words were rehearsed, until Saul sent for him. "Let no man's heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine." With a prayer, a sling, a shepherd's crook, and five smooth stones from the brook, David ran to meet Goliath. With faith and courage in his God, David prevailed over the giant of Gath.

1. David had slain both the lion and the bear that came to take lambs from his father's flock. In what way did these previous experiences help David?
  
2. What was the difference between the attitude of David and that of King Saul and the rest of the armies of Israel? What was the reason for the difference?
  
3. Why did David put off the king's armor and go to meet the giant with a sling and five stones?
  
4. Goliath came against David with his sword and shield and armor. We do not wear physical armor, but we do have a spiritual sword and shield with which to fight the enemy. What does the Bible tell us these weapons are? See Ephesians 6:16,17.

**5.** On a previous occasion when King Saul was fearful, Jonathan and his armorbearer offer another example of courage in fighting the enemy against great odds. Where David had to face the enemy single-handedly, Jonathan and his armorbearer had the advantage of fighting together. Name some of the advantages we have as Christians in working together. See Deuteronomy 32:30 and Matthew 18:19,20.

**6.** Peter was very outspoken in his desire to fight for the Lord, and even used his sword to defend Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. What happened to Peter's courage by the time the young woman accused him? Why? See Luke 22:54-62.

**7.** An experienced warrior named Paul wrote a letter of instruction to a young man named Timothy. Read 1 Timothy 6:11,12, and enumerate several suggestions Paul made that would increase Timothy's courage in the fight against evil.

**8.** Our courage is often attacked by the devil through doubts and fears. We are admonished many times in the Bible not to be afraid. What do the following Scriptures say about why we do not have to be fearful?

Joshua 1:9

Proverbs 3:24,26

Isaiah 12:2

Hebrews 13:5,6

**9.** Share with the class an incident in your life when God gave you courage. It may have come through His Word, a song, or encouragement from someone else, enabling you to face a situation which otherwise might have caused anxiety.

**10.** Many Biblical accounts give examples of people who exhibited courage when facing an enemy. Most battles in our day, however, do not entail facing actual warfare. Name some trials of a mental, spiritual, or physical nature that will require courage to overcome.

# Help Against Enemies

**TEXT:** Joshua 6:1-20

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES:** Judges 7:1-25; Psalm 3:1-8

**KEY VERSE:** Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not your's, but God's. — 2 Chronicles 20:15

At the time of the taking of Jericho, the Children of Israel had learned a hard lesson. They had just finished wandering in the wilderness for forty years because they had disobeyed God. He had told them He would fight for them if they obeyed and trusted Him. As they marched around Jericho, they were obedient to God. The method was unorthodox, but God gave the victory! The people shouted with a great shout, and the walls fell down flat.

**1.** Why were the inhabitants of Jericho so terrified of the Israelites that they wouldn't come out of their city to fight against them? See Joshua 2:9-11.

**2.** After the fall of Jericho, Joshua 7 records that the Children of Israel were badly defeated when they fought against the much smaller city of Ai. The Israelites had been told not to take any spoil from Jericho, but Achan disobeyed God's command, and all the people suffered because of it. What principle does this lead us to understand regarding deliverance from our enemies?

**3.** Several times in the Old Testament, God used the forces of nature to fight against Israel's enemies. Look up the following Scriptures and describe what instrumentality God used in each instance.

Joshua 10:11

Joshua 10:12-14

Joshua 24:12

1 Samuel 14:15,16

**4.** We likely won't face the literal battles like Joshua and other Biblical characters did. What kind of personal enemy might we face in our day?

**5.** We don't expect the Lord to slay those who oppose us, but what kind of help and victory can we expect the Lord to provide?

**6.** What does the Lord expect of us after He has delivered us from our enemies? What benefit will we receive by doing this? See Psalm 107:1,2 and Revelation 12:10,11.

**7.** One of the keys to receiving victory is praise. Paul and Silas are a notable example of this (Acts 16:25). How can we praise God when we are facing an enemy? Why does this increase our faith to believe for victory over our enemies?

**8.** Jesus told His disciples that He gave them power over all power of the enemy (Luke 10:19). Yet He told them not to rejoice in this. In what were they to rejoice? See Luke 10:20.

# Deliverance

**TEXT:** Acts 12:1-11; 1 Corinthians 10:13; 2 Peter 2:9

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES:** Psalm 91; Acts 5:17-23; Romans 8:37-39

**KEY VERSE:** For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling.  
— Psalm 116:8

**RESOURCE MATERIAL:** Tract No. A6 — Family Suicide Plans Foiled

Pentecost empowered the New Testament church to act on their belief and witness for Christ as they faced beatings, scourgings, separation of families, dislocation of homes, and even death itself. God provided miraculous deliverances, some of which are recorded in the first ten chapters of Acts. For example, in Acts 5, we read that the angel of the Lord provided deliverance from prison for two of the Apostles. Most importantly, however, God delivered, protected and preserved His followers from evil contamination by the sin all around them. As we study this lesson, we become acutely aware that God wants to provide the same deliverance from spiritual perils for us today.

**1.** Webster defines *deliverance* as “the state of being freed; a release or rescue.” However, deliverance to the Christian does not necessarily mean immunity from suffering, persecution, or earthly troubles. Read 1 Corinthians 10:13 and note what you think this word means for Christians.

**2.** Read Psalm 24:3-5 and summarize the condition of the one who shall “ascend into the hill of the LORD,” or “stand in his holy place.” Does attaining this condition have any bearing on our right to expect deliverance? Explain.

**3.** On what condition does God “deliver” one who has been disobedient? See Psalm 51.

**4.** God has promised us spiritual deliverance in every aspect of our Christian lives. Next to each Scripture below write what the deliverance is from.

Psalm 18:48

Psalm 34:4

Psalm 54:7

Matthew 6:13

2 Peter 2:9

**5.** Referring to our text in Acts, Peter undoubtedly knew that Herod had killed James. When he was seized and imprisoned by the same ruler, one might expect Peter to be afraid for his life and concerned about being imprisoned. If this was so, he demonstrated a great calmness in spite of it, for verse 6 tells us that Peter was asleep. How can you account for this? How might a heartfelt belief in the promise given in Romans 8:28 bring about a parallel attitude in our lives?

**6.** What important event was continuing uninterrupted while the angel was awakening Peter in the prison and telling him to arise and follow him? What might we learn from this regarding situations where deliverance is needed?

**7.** Comment on why you feel God sometimes sends an immediate deliverance in answer to a sudden short prayer, and sometimes delays His deliverance until much prevailing prayer has been offered.

**8.** In reference to our key verse, the Psalmist is giving praise to God for deliverance. He mentions three ways God has given deliverance. Explain these in your own words, giving specific examples of what might be meant by each in our day.

# Food and Water (Thanksgiving)

**TEXT:** 1 Kings 17:1-16; Matthew 14:15-21

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES:** Deuteronomy 8:3; Job 23:12; Jeremiah 15:16

**KEY VERSE:** Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. — Ephesians 5:20

Thanksgiving Day is a day appointed for the giving of thanks to the One who gives “life, and breath, and all things” (Acts 17:25). Christians recognize that God is the provider of spiritual as well as physical nourishment. This realization results in every day being a day of thankfulness to God.

**1.** During the first part of the famine, ravens brought Elijah food and he drank from the brook Cherith. What did he have to do before receiving this provision and what can we learn from his actions?

**2.** When circumstances change in our Christian life, we should realize that God won't lead us down a dead-end street. Analyze and write what Elijah did after the brook dried up. Then write what could have happened had he not followed God's leading.

**3.** In considering the first two questions, we can conclude that it is vital to obey the directions of the Lord. In so doing, we can then have genuine praise and thanksgiving for what He has done and know that He will supply our need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19). A good illustration of needs being supplied is in the Matthew portion of our text. When Jesus saw that the multitude was hungry, He commanded His disciples, “Give ye them to eat.” But the disciples were in a dilemma. They did not have enough food to feed 5,000 men plus women and children. There was a lad who had five loaves and two fishes, and this was taken to the Lord. What did Jesus do before giving the food to the disciples to distribute among the people? What lesson can we derive from this?

4. Referring to our physical needs, Jesus said, “Take therefore no thought for the morrow . . .” (Matthew 6:34). What can we do to keep from being overly concerned about our physical needs? Support your answer with Scripture.

5. Man cannot survive long without eating, yet many are trying to live spiritually without a proper spiritual diet. List some items that you consider an important part of a healthy spiritual diet.

6. Read 1 Timothy 4:4,5. Why is it important to pray over our food before eating?

7. Referring to our key verse, and looking beyond the obvious blessings of food, clothing and shelter, what are some of the things that might be included in the “all things” for which we are to give thanks?

# Eternal Life

**TEXT:** Luke 16:19-31; John 14:1-3

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURES:** John 17:1-3; Revelation 21:1-7; 22:1-5

**KEY VERSE:** My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life. — John 10:27,28

During this quarter the lessons have brought out how God provides for our needs. Is eternal life one of our needs? If we do not obtain eternal life, what is the alternative? Jesus said if one does not enter the strait gate and walk in this narrow way that leads to life, he goes through the wide gate, walking in the broad way that leads to destruction. In 2 Peter 3:9 we read that God is “not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.” Through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ, we have everlasting life. That promise is found in John 3:16.

**1.** The earthly social standing of Lazarus and the rich man were vastly different, but there was one common ground on which they met. What was that? See Hebrews 9:27.

**2.** It wasn't Lazarus' poverty that made him worthy to be carried to Abraham's bosom. It wasn't the rich man's riches which caused him to be cast into a place of torment. What was it that determined their eternal destinies?

**3.** Do you think the rich man did or did not have the opportunity to prepare for eternal life during his natural lifetime? Why?

4. Explain the rich man's plan for getting his brothers ready for eternal life. Why did Abraham say this plan would not work?

5. According to our text in John, why did Jesus tell His disciples that He must go away?

6. Summarize how much the Christian has to do with the quality of his mansion. See 1 Corinthians 3:11-15.

7. Jesus has promised to return. What will happen when this event occurs?

8. In this past quarter, we have been studying how God meets our needs, including His provision for our eternal life. What must we do now to ensure our obtaining this greatest of all provisions?