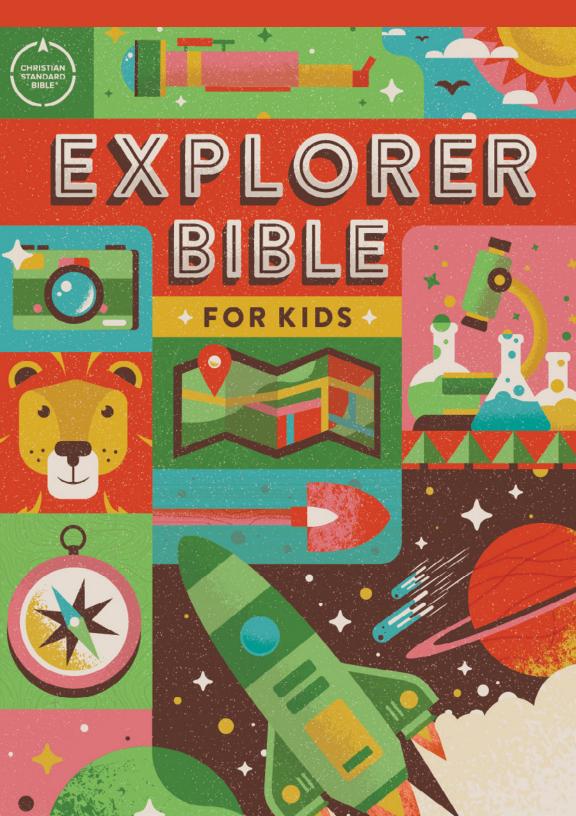
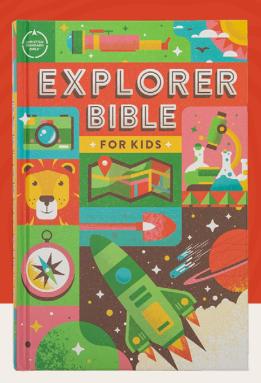
SAMPLE CONTENT | NOT FOR SALE 🔶



+ TABLE OF CONTENTS +

ABOUT

FEATURES AVAILABLE EDITIONS ABOUT THE CSB SAMPLE FROM BOOK OF MATTHEW FOR CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS



HELPING KIDS PLACE GOD'S WORD IN THE MIDDLE OF GOD'S WORLD

ABOUT



The CSB Explorer Bible for Kids is made to help kids place God's Word in the middle of God's world.

Within its pages, kids will explore and interact with the people, places, and things of the Bible and God's creation. This Bible features a fun and engaging full-color design with images, illustrations, timelines, and study helps placed throughout to equip and excite kids of all ages to better read, know, and apply God's Word for a lifetime.



FEATURES

205 EXCAVATING THE PAST

photographs and illustrations connect the dots between the reality of the Bible and important archeological discoveries.

115 EXPLORING CREATION

sections help kids wrap their minds around Bible stories and images by explaining them in comparison with modern-day experiences.

237 DISCOVERING THE TRUTH

features call outs put a spotlight on the big truths of the Bible — including QR codes on most callouts, linked to an engaging video for kids to watch on any smart device.

79 CHARACTER FIELD GUIDES

explain important people in the Bible with fun facts and helpful background like what their name means and who they are connected with.

15 CHARTING HISTORY

timelines and maps to show kids when and where specific events connect to the rest of the Bible and the surrounding world.



FEATURES CONTINUED

CHRIST IN CONTEXT

sections after each book's introduction shows how the whole Bible points to Jesus and the good news of the gospel

ARCHIVING DISCOVERIES

callouts highlighting key verses throughout the Bible to aid in Scripture memorization

EXPLORER GLOSSARY

clearly explaining what some of the big words found in the Bible mean and where they show up — from unusal terms like myrrh to big concepts like Zion or intercession

BONUS ACTIVITY PAGES

A QR code inside the Bible takes you to supplementary resources, including a range of worksheets to help kids understand and apply key passages

QR CODES WITH ONLINE VIDEOS AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

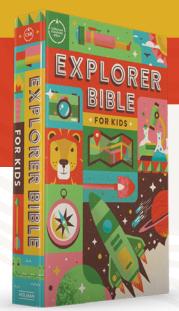
help foster additional home or classroom learning and conversation

+ DOWNLOADABLE MEMORY VERSES



AVAILABLE EDITIONS EXPLORERBIBLEFORKIDS.COM





HARDCOVER ISBN: 978-1-0877-5896-1 \$34.99



BLAST OFF LEATHERTOUCH

ISBN: 978-1-0877-6563-1 \$44.99

Indexed ISBN: 978-1-0877-6564-8 \$54.99

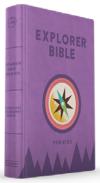


HELLO SUNSHINE LEATHERTOUCH

ISBN: 978-1-0877-6565-5 \$44.99

Indexed

ISBN: 978-1-0877-6566-2 \$54.99



LAVENDAR COMPASS LEATHERTOUCH

ISBN: 978-1-0877-7418-3 \$44.99

Indexed 10/15/2022 ISBN: 978-1-0877-7419-0 \$54.99



OLIVE COMPASS LEATHERTOUCH

ISBN: 978-1-0877-6567-9 \$44.99

Indexed Fall 2022 ISBN: 978-1-0877-6568-6 \$54.99

Bulk Pricing Available



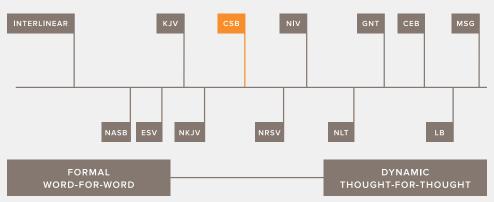
ACCURATE. READABLE. SHAREABLE.

The Christian Standard Bible presents the truth of God's Word with accuracy and clarity for today's readers, equipping them for lifelong discipleship. It's a Bible you can teach from with confidence and a Bible you can share with your neighbor who is hearing God's Word for the very first time.

OPTIMAL EQUIVALENCE

The CSB was created using Optimal Equivalence, a translation philosophy that pursues both linguistic precision to the original languages and readability in contemporary English.

In the many places throughout Scripture where a word-for-word rendering is clearly understandable, a literal translation is used. When a word-for-word rendering might obscure the meaning for a modern audience, a more dynamic translation is used. This process assures that both the words and thoughts contained in the original text are conveyed as accurately as possible for today's readers.



BIBLE TRANSLATION CONTINUUM

Bible translations shown in the top half of the chart are original translations directly from ancient languages to English. Versions shown below the line began with the English text of another Bible translation.

LEARN MORE AT CSBIBLE.COM

JESUS IS THE MESSIAH. HE CAME TO MAKE A NEW COVENANT.

Jesus FED 5,000 MEN with five loaves and two fish (Mt 14:15–21).



Jesus and Peter once paid taxes with a coin found in a FISH'S MOUTH (Mt 17:24-27).



The name "Jesus" was chosen by God. It means "**THE** LORD SAVES" (Mt 1:20–21).

An angel started an EARTHQUAKE by rolling back the stone that sealed Jesus's tomb (Mt 28:1-4). **WHO WROTE THE TEXT?** Matthew, the tax collector (also known as Levi).

WHO IS THE AUDIENCE? Jewish Christians, possibly in Antioch of Syria.

WHAT WAS HAPPENING IN THE WORLD? Roman control of Palestine began, 63 BC; Herod the Great died, 4 BC; Rome destroys the temple in Jerusalem, AD 70.

WHEN WAS MATTHEW WRITTEN? AD 55-65.

WHEN DID THE EVENTS OF MATTHEW TAKE PLACE? 4 BC-AD 33.

WHERE WAS MATTHEW WRITTEN? Coast of Phoenicia or Syria; perhaps Antioch.

WHY WAS MATTHEW WRITTEN? To reveal Jesus as the Messiah and the one who fulfilled prophesies. To show Jesus's power and his ability to give that power to his disciples in order to spread the gospel.

CHRIST IN CONTEXT: In the book of Matthew, Jesus is the fulfillment of Old Testament promises. He is the King that God's people had been waiting for. As Matthew told the story of Jesus's life, death, and resurrection, he described Jesus as King and Messiah. Jesus reigns over all and he has power over everything—even death.

1042



THE GENEALOGY OF JESUS CHRIST

An account of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham:

FROM ABRAHAM TO DAVID

- ² Abraham fathered Isaac, Isaac fathered Jacob, Jacob fathered Judah and his brothers.
- ³ Judah fathered Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez fathered Hezron, Hezron fathered Aram,
- 4 Aram fathered Amminadab, Amminadab fathered Nahshon, Nahshon fathered Salmon,
- ⁵ Salmon fathered Boaz by Rahab, Boaz fathered Obed by Ruth, Obed fathered Jesse,
- ⁶ and Jesse fathered King David.

FROM DAVID TO THE BABYLONIAN EXILE

David fathered Solomon by Uriah's wife,

- ⁷ Solomon fathered Rehoboam, Rehoboam fathered Abijah, Abijah fathered Asa,
- ⁸ Asa fathered Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat fathered Joram, Joram fathered Uzziah,
- ⁹ Uzziah fathered Jotham, Jotham fathered Ahaz, Ahaz fathered Hezekiah,

- ¹⁰ Hezekiah fathered Manasseh, Manasseh fathered Amon, Amon fathered Josiah,
- and Josiah fathered Jeconiah and his brothers at the time of the exile to Babylon.

FROM THE EXILE TO THE MESSIAH

- ¹² After the exile to Babylon Jeconiah fathered Shealtiel, Shealtiel fathered Zerubbabel,
- ¹³ Zerubbabel fathered Abiud, Abiud fathered Eliakim, Eliakim fathered Azor,
- ¹⁴ Azor fathered Zadok, Zadok fathered Achim, Achim fathered Eliud.
- ¹⁵ Eliud fathered Eleazar, Eleazar fathered Matthan, Matthan fathered Jacob,
- ¹⁶ and Jacob fathered Joseph the husband of Mary, who gave birth to Jesus who is called the Messiah.

" So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations; and from David until the exile to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the exile to Babylon until the Messiah, fourteen generations.

THE NATIVITY OF THE MESSIAH

¹⁸ The birth of Jesus Christ came about this way: After his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, it was discovered before they came together that she was pregnant from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ So her husband, Joseph, being a righteous man, and not wanting to disgrace her publicly, decided to divorce her secretly.

²⁰ But after he had considered these things, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because what has been conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

²²Now all this took place to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ See, the virgin will

become pregnant

and give birth to a son,

and they will name him Immanuel, which is translated "God is with us."



KING DAVID



FAMILY TREE

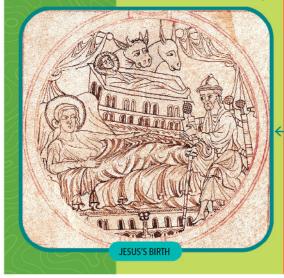
1043

Matthew wanted the Jewish people to understand that JESUS WAS THE PROMISED MESSIAH. So Matthew went all the way back to Abraham and explained how God had been faithful to the Jews and had brought Jesus to earth through their great big FAMILY TREE. From

DIAGRAM OF THE 12 TRIBES OF ISRAEL

earth through their great big FAMILY TREE. From Abraham to Isaac to King David and beyond, Abraham's family tree grew and grew until Jesus was born.

The **TIMELINE** in this photograph was created in the year 1230 by Peter of Poitiers. Like Matthew, Peter of Poitiers went back many, many generations to record Jesus's family tree and create this timeline of world history.



9



²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did as the Lord's angel had commanded him. He married her ²⁵ but did not have sexual relations with her until she gave birth to a son. And he named him Jesus.

WISE MEN VISIT THE KING

2 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of King Herod, wise men from the east arrived in Jerusalem, ² saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star at its rising and have come to worship him."

³ When King Herod heard this, he was deeply disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴So he assembled all the chief priests and scribes of the people and asked them where the Messiah would be born.

⁵ "In Bethlehem of Judea," they told him, "because this is what was written by the prophet:

- ⁶ And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
 - are by no means least among the rulers of Judah: Because out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."

⁷Then Herod secretly summoned the wise men and asked them the exact time the star appeared. ⁸He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. When you find him, report back to me so that I too can go and worship him."

^o After hearing the king, they went on their way. And there it was — the star they had seen at its rising. It led them until it came and stopped above the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ Entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and falling to their knees, they worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their own country by another route.

THE FLIGHT INTO EGYPT

¹³ After they were gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Get up! Take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. For Herod is about to search for the child to kill him." ¹⁴ So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night, and escaped to Egypt. ¹⁵ IIe stayed there until IIerod's death, so that what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet might be fulfilled: **Out of Egypt I called my Son**.

THE MASSACRE OF THE INNOCENTS

¹⁶Then Herod, when he realized that he had been outwitted by the wise men, flew into a rage. He gave orders to massacre all the boys in and around Bethlehem who were two years old and under, in keeping with the time he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷Then what was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled:

¹⁸ A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children; and she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.

THE RETURN TO NAZARETH

¹⁹ After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, ²⁰ saying, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, because those who intended to kill the child are dead." ²¹ So he got up, took the child and his mother, and entered the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned in a dream, he withdrew to the region of Galilee. ²³ Then he went and settled in a town



HEROD WHO'S WHO

A HEROD is a ruler from the HERODIAN DYNASTY. King Herod, also known as Herod the Great, was the King of Judea when Jesus was born. He is one of SIX HERODS mentioned in the New Testament.

HEROD THE GREAT

was king between 37–4 BC over Judea, during the Christmas story.

HEROD ARCHELAUS

was king between 4 BC-AD 6 over Judea, Samaria, and Idumea. He was the reason Joseph refused to move Mary and Jesus back to Bethlehem.

HEROD PHILIP II

was king between 4 BC-AD 34 over Iturea and Trachonitis, northeast of the Sea of Galilee.

HEROD ANTIPAS

was king between 4 BC-AD 39, reigning most of Jesus's life and killing John the Baptist. His territory included Galilee and Perea.

HEROD AGRIPPA I

was king between AD 37-44. He put Peter in prison in the book of Acts (read about it in Acts 12).

HEROD AGRIPPA II

ruled over various areas north of Israel between AD 53-ca 93. He heard the apostle Paul's defense in Caesarea (read about it in Acts 25).

1046



HEROD THE GREAT'S GREAT BUILDING PROJECTS

HEROD THE GREAT ruled over Judea when Jesus was born. Explore some of the places he had built during his reign.

MODEL OF THE TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM



FORTRESS AT MOUNT HERODION



RUINS OF HEROD'S FORTRESS



PALACE IN SEBASTIA, SAMARIA



RUINS OF THE PALACE AT MASADA



HIPPODROME (STADIUM) IN CAESAREA MARITIMA

MATTHEW 2-3

called Nazareth to fulfill what was spoken through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.

THE HERALD OF THE MESSIAH

3 In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea ² and saying, "Repent, because the kingdom of heaven has come near!" ³ For he is the one spoken of through the prophet Isaiah, who said:

> A voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way for the Lord; make his paths straight!

⁴Now John had a camel-hair garment with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then people from Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the vicinity of the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

⁷When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸Therefore produce fruit consistent with repentance. ⁹ And don't presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that God is able to raise up children for Abraham from these stones. ¹⁰The ax is already at the root of the trees. Therefore, every tree that doesn't produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ "I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I. I am not worthy to remove his sandals. He himself will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.¹² His winnowing shovel is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn. But the chaff he will burn with fire that never goes out."

THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ But John tried to stop him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you come to me?"

¹⁵ Jesus answered him, "Allow it for now, because this is the way for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then John allowed him to be baptized.

¹⁶ When Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water. The heavens



JOSEPH Jesus's Earthly Father

STORY IN BIBLE: Matthew 1–2; Luke 3.

BORN: Around 30 BC.

NAME MEANING: "May He Add."

OCCUPATION: Carpenter.

RELATIVES: Wife—Mary. Adopted son—Jesus. Children-other sons and daughters.

CONTEMPORARY: Herod the Great.

CLAIM TO FAME:

- Earthly father of Jesus.
- In the ancestral line of David.
- Lived in Nazareth, a hilltop town in northern Israel.
- Never speaks a word in the Bible.
- Probably made furniture and farm tools, as houses then were made of stone and earth.
- Was told in a dream to marry Mary, even though she was already pregnant.
- Took Mary to his family's hometown of Bethlehem to register for the census.
- Was told in a dream to take Jesus and Mary to Egypt to escape Herod.
- Is not mentioned at all after Jesus is about 12 years old.



suddenly opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. "And a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased."

THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

4 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² After he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³ Then the tempter approached him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."

⁴Hc answered, "It is written: Man must not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God."

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city, had him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. For it is written:

He will give his angels orders concerning you, and they will support you with their hands so that you will not strike your foot against a stone."

⁷ Jesus told him, "It is also written: Do not test the Lord your God."

⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. ⁹And he said to him, "I will give you



all these things if you will fall down and worship me."

¹⁰ Then Jesus told him, "Go away, Satan! For it is written: Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."

"Then the devil left him, and angels came and began to serve him.

MINISTRY IN GALILEE

¹² When he heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali. ¹⁴ This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah:

- ¹⁵ Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, along the road by the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles.
- ¹⁶ The people who live in darkness have seen a great light, and for those living in the land of the shadow of death, a light has dawned.

"From then on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, because the kingdom of heaven has come near."



THE FIRST DISCIPLES

¹⁸ As he was walking along the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter), and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the sea — for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ "Follow me," he told them, "and I will make you fish for people." ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him.

²¹ Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and

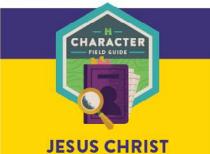


NEBRA SKY DISK

The Nebra sky disk was discovered in Germany in 1999, and it is estimated to be over 3,600 YEARS OLD! The disk shows the sun, moon, and a few constellations. Researchers think this artifact is the OLDEST DEPICTION of the cosmos ever discovered.

More than 1,000 YEARS AFTER this disk was created,

people, like the wise men in Matthew 2, were still trying to learn all they could about our galaxy. Because the wise men were paying such close attention to the sky, they immediately noticed and followed the new, special star that had appeared. 1050



The Promised Messiah

STORY IN BIBLE: Books of Matthew; Mark; Luke; John.

BORN: Around 5 BC in Bethlehem.

NAME MEANING: "The Lord Is Salvation."

OCCUPATIONS: Craftsman, rabbi, traveling preacher.

RELATIVES: Adoptive Father— Joseph. Mother—Mary. Brother— James, among others.

CONTEMPORARIES: King Herod, Pontius Pilate, the disciples including Peter, James, John.

CLAIM TO FAME:

- Perfect and eternal Son of God, Savior of the world.
- Descendant from the line of David.
- Fulfills more than 100 Old Testament prophecies about the promised Messiah, including the "Suffering Servant" in Isaiah.
- Began his public ministry at the age of 30.
- First miracle was changing water into wine at a wedding.
- Raised three people from the dead.
- Although sinless, convicted of a capital crime and punished by death on a Roman cross.
- Was raised from the dead on the third day.
- Spent 40 days with his followers after his resurrection before ascending into heaven.

his brother John. They were in a boat with Zebedee their father, preparing their nets, and he called them.²² Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

TEACHING, PREACHING, AND HEALING

²³ Now Jesus began to go all over Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. ²⁴ Then the news about him spread throughout Syria. So they brought to him all those who were afflicted, those suffering from various diseases and intense pains, the demon-possessed, the epileptics, and the paralytics. And he healed them. ²⁵ Large crowds followed him from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan.

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

5 When he saw the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² Then he began to teach them, saying:

THE BEATITUDES

- ³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.
- Tor the kingdom of heaven is thens.
- ⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
- ⁵ Blessed are the humble, for they will inherit the earth.
- Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
- 7 Blessed are the merciful,
- for they will be shown mercy.
- ⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
- ⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.
- Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

¹¹ "You are blessed when they insult you and persecute you and falsely say every kind of evil against you because of me.¹² Be glad and rejoice, because your reward is great in heaven. For that is how they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

BELIEVERS ARE SALT AND LIGHT

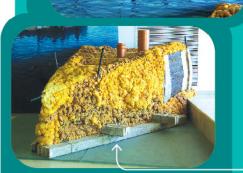
¹³ "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt should lose its taste, how can it be made salty? It's no longer good for anything but





GALILEAN BOAT

In Bible times, Galilean fishermen usually used SMALL BOATS to catch fish. Galilean fishing boats generally had one mast and sail and were equipped with nets, spears, and lines with hooks to help the fishermen with their catch. Peter and Andrew were likely using a boat like this one when Jesus called them to FOLLOW HIM.





In 1986, while the water in the Sea of Galilee was very low, two brothers spotted the remains of an ANCIENT FISHING BOAT. The boat was covered with mud, which had prevented it from decomposing.

Rescuing the boat from the mud without damaging it (and before the water in the lake rose again!) was a challenge. It took 12 DAYS AND NIGHTS. Scientists carefully dug the boat out of the mud and filled it with POLYURETHANE FOAM. The foam acted like a cocoon that protected it so it could be moved to a museum.

For the next seven years, the boat soaked in a special "bathtub" filled with chemicals that would **PRESERVE** it. It's now on display at the Yigal Alon Museum in Kibbutz Ginosar, Israel. 1052



to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city situated on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ No one lights a lamp and puts it under a basket, but rather on a lampstand, and it gives light for all who are in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

CHRIST FULFILLS THE LAW

¹⁷ "Don't think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or one stroke of a letter will pass away from the law until all things are accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commands and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven. But whoever does and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

MURDER BEGINS IN THE HEART

²¹ "You have heard that it was said to our ancestors, **Do not murder**, and whoever murders will be subject to judgment.²² But I tell you, everyone who is angry with his brother or sister will be subject to judgment. Whoever insults his brother or sister will be subject to the court. Whoever says, 'You fool!' will be subject to hellfire.²³ So if you are offering your gift on the altar, and there you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, 24 leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled with your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵ Reach a settlement quickly with your adversary while you're on the way with him to the court, or your adversary will hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶Truly I tell you, you will never get out of there until you have paid the last penny.

ADULTERY BEGINS IN THE HEART

²⁷ "You have heard that it was said, **Do not** commit adultery. ²⁸ But I tell you, everyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹ If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of the parts of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰ And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of the parts of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰ And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of the parts of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

DIVORCE PRACTICES CENSURED

³¹ "It was also said, **Whoever divorces his wife must give her a written notice of divorce**. ³² But I tell you, everyone who divorces his wife, except in a case of sexual immorality, causes her to commit adultery. And whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

TELL THE TRUTH

³³ "Again, you have heard that it was said to our ancestors, You must not break your oath, but you must keep your oaths to the Lord. ³⁴ But I tell you, don't take an oath at all: either by heaven, because it is God's throne; ³⁵ or by the earth, because it is this footstool; or by Jerusalem, because it is the city of the great King. ³⁶ Do not swear by your head, because you cannot make a single hair white or black. ³⁷ But let your 'yes' mean 'yes,' and your 'no' mean 'no.' Anything more than this is from the evil one.

GO THE SECOND MILE

³⁸ "You have heard that it was said, **An eye** for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. ³⁹ But

I tell you, don't resist an evildoer. On the contrary, if anyone slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also. ⁴⁰ As for the one who wants to sue you and take away your shirt, let him have your coat as well. ⁴¹ And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two. ⁴² Give to the one who asks you, and don't turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

43 "You have heard that it was said, Love your neighbor and hate your enemy. ⁴⁴ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 so that you may be children of your Father in heaven. For he causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. 46 For if you love those who love you, what reward will you have? Don't even the tax collectors do the same? 47 And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what are you doing out of the ordinary? Don't even the Gentiles do the same? 48 Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

HOW TO GIVE

6 "Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. Otherwise, you have no reward with your Father in heaven. ² So whenever you give to the poor, don't sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be applauded by people. Truly I tell you, they have their reward. ³ But when you give to the poor, don't let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

HOW TO PRAY

⁵ "Whenever you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites, because they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by people. Truly I tell you, they have their reward. ⁶ But when you pray, go into your private room, shut your door, and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ⁷ When you pray, don't babble like the Gentiles, since they imagine they'll be heard for their many words. ⁸ Don't be like them, because your Father knows the things you need before you ask him.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

- "Therefore, you should pray like this: Our Father in heaven, your name be honored as holy.
- Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
- ¹¹ Give us today our daily bread.
- ¹² And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.
- ¹³ And do not bring us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

¹⁴ "For if you forgive others their offenses, your heavenly Father will forgive you as well.¹⁵ But if you don't forgive others, your Father will not forgive your offenses.

HOW TO FAST

¹⁶ "Whenever you fast, don't be gloomy like the hypocrites. For they disfigure their faces so that their fasting is obvious to people. Truly I tell you, they have their reward. ¹⁷ But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ so that your fasting isn't obvious to others but to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

GOD AND POSSESSIONS

¹⁹ "Don't store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven,



Lighthouses are TALL buildings with beacon

lights on top. Located near the sea, lighthouses help people on boats stay SAFE-especially at nighttime or during storms. Why did Jesus say we should be a light? Here are some fun facts about lighthouses.



where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves don't break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

22 "The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light.²³ But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. So if the light within you is darkness, how deep is that darkness!

24 "No one can serve two masters, since either he will hate one and love the other. or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

THE CURE FOR ANXIETY

25 "Therefore I tell you: Don't worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Isn't life more than food and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Consider the birds of the sky: They don't sow or reap or gather into barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Aren't you worth more than they? 27 Can any of you add one moment to his life span by worrying? 28 And why do you worry about clothes? Observe how the wildflowers of the field grow: They don't labor or spin thread. 29 Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was adorned like one of these. ³⁰ If that's how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and thrown into the furnace tomorrow, won't he do much more for you - you of little faith? ³¹So don't worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' 32 For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you. ³⁴ Therefore don't worry about tomorrow, because tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

DO NOT JUDGE

"Do not judge, so that you won't be judged. ² For you will be judged by the same standard with which you judge others, and you will be measured by the same measure you use. 3 Why do you look at the splinter in your brother's eye but don't notice the beam of wood in your own eye?4Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the splinter out of your eye,' and look, there's a beam of wood in your own eye? 1055

MATTHEW 7-8

⁵ Hypocrite! First take the beam of wood out of your eye, and then you will see clearly to take the splinter out of your brother's eye. ⁶ Don't give what is holy to dogs or toss your pearls before pigs, or they will trample them under their feet, turn, and tear you to pieces.

ASK, SEARCH, KNOCK

⁷ "Ask, and it will be given to you. Seek, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. ⁹ Who among you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰ Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? ¹⁰ If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him. ¹² Therefore, whatever you want others to do for you, do also the same for them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

ENTERING THE KINGDOM

¹³ "Enter through the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the road broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who go through it. ¹⁴ How narrow is the gate and difficult the road that leads to life, and few find it.

¹⁵ "Be on your guard against false prophets who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravaging wolves. ¹⁶ You'll recognize them by their fruit. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ In the same way, every good tree produces good fruit, but a bad tree produces bad fruit. ¹⁸ A good tree can't produce bad fruit; neither can a bad tree produce good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that doesn't produce good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ So you'll recognize them by their fruit.

²¹ "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven. ²² On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, didn't we prophesy in your name, drive out demons in your name, and do many miracles in your name?' ²³ Then I will announce to them, 'I never knew you. **Depart from me, you lawbreakers!**'

THE TWO FOUNDATIONS

²⁴ "Therefore, everyone who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be



like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ The rain fell, the rivers rose, and the winds blew and pounded that house. Yet it didn't collapse, because its foundation was on the rock. ²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and doesn't act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷ The rain fell, the rivers rose, the winds blew and pounded that house, and it collapsed. It collapsed with a great crash."

²⁸ When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, ²⁹ because he was teaching them like one who had authority, and not like their scribes.

A MAN CLEANSED

8 When he came down from the mountain, large crowds followed him.² Right away a man with leprosy came up and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean."

³Reaching out his hand, Jesus touched him, saying, "I am willing; be made clean." Immediately his leprosy was cleansed. ⁴Then Jesus told him, "See that you don't tell anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."

A CENTURION'S FAITH

⁵When he entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, pleading with him, ⁶ "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, in terrible agony."

'IIe said to him, "Am I to come and heal him?"

⁸ "Lord," the centurion replied, "I am not worthy to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed.9 For I too am a man under authority, having soldiers under my command. I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this!' and he does it."

¹⁰Hearing this, Jesus was amazed and said to those following him, "Truly I tell you, I have not found anyone in Israel with so great a faith.¹¹I tell you that many will come from east and west to share the banquet with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. 12 But the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." ¹³Then Jesus told the centurion, "Go. As you have believed, let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that very moment.

HEALINGS AT CAPERNAUM

¹⁵ So he touched her hand, and the fever left her. Then she got up and began to serve him. 16 When evening came, they brought to him many who were demon-possessed. He drove out the spirits with a word and healed all who were sick, ¹⁷ so that what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

He himself took our weaknesses and carried our diseases.

THE COST OF FOLLOWING JESUS

¹⁸When Jesus saw a large crowd around him, he gave the order to go to the other side of the sea. ¹⁹ A scribe approached him and said, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go."

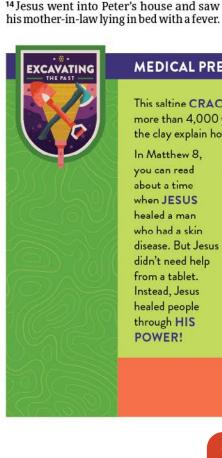
²⁰ Jesus told him, "Foxes have dens, and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."

²¹ "Lord," another of his disciples said, "first let me go bury my father."

²² But Jesus told him, "Follow me, and let the dead bury their own dead."

WIND AND WAVES OBEY JESUS

23 As he got into the boat, his disciples followed him.²⁴ Suddenly, a violent storm arose on the



MEDICAL PRESCRIPTION TABLET

This saltine CRACKER-SIZED TABLET is estimated to be more than 4,000 years old. The tiny symbols carved into the clay explain how to treat a skin disease.

In Matthew 8, you can read about a time when JESUS healed a man who had a skin disease. But Jesus didn't need help from a tablet. Instead, Jesus healed people through HIS POWER!



FOR CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS

QR CODES WITH VIDEOS THROUGHOUT PRINTABLE ACTIVITY PAGES CHURCH CURRICULUM AVAILABLE

