

# MSM

# STUDY BOOKLET

— **Sept.–Dec. 2024** —



## EXPECTATIONS

**And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another...**

**Hebrews 10:24-25a**

### **BY SIGNING BELOW, YOU ARE AGREEING TO THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS:**

- I agree to be respectful of the church building and all that is happening within it...
- I agree to use my words and actions to be encouraging and loving towards church members, my leader and small group members...
- I agree to attend Middle School large group, small group, and service events to the best of my ability...
- I will not use my cell phone during Middle School Ministry unless directed to do so by my leaders...
- I agree to put real effort into fulfilling the Middle School Ministry expectations...
- I agree to honor God by participating, discussing, and engaging my heart and mind in what is happening here.
- I agree to not bring food or drinks into the Sanctuary.
- I agree to stay at the church from the time I am dropped off till the time I am picked up. (I will not leave the church.)
- I agree to bring my Bible every week.

**Small Group Leader Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signatures:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Signatures:** \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Small Group Leaders, please keep this covenant in your packet and reference it as needed throughout the year.*

*\*If a student does not follow the expectations outlined in this covenant, please inform your Grade Level Middle School Coordinator about the situation so they can support you.*

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## **Activity**

Icebreaker Dice Game

## **Prayer**

Lord God, grand architect of the universe, Your design of creation is unflawed. Yet we continue to litter your creation with defects and imperfections. Show us how not to destroy, but to create, not to demean, but to uplift, not to hate, but to love, so that your creation may be made perfect once again. Amen.



**Scripture:** Genesis 15:1-6

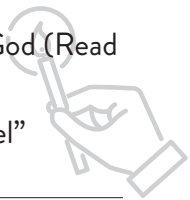
**Memory Verse:**

“Abraham believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.” Genesis 15:6 (NIV)

**Questions:**

1. Ice Breaker: Where is your favorite place to stargaze?
2. We all believe in something. What is something you believed in growing up? Do you still believe in it?
3. What does it mean to believe in something?
4. What does it mean to believe in God?
5. Would you consider yourself to be a good person? What makes someone good?
6. How good do you think someone needs to be to go to Heaven?
7. How would you define the word righteousness in verse 6?
8. God tells Abraham that his descendants will be as many as the stars in the sky. What do you think he meant by this? (Read Galatians 3:23-29)
9. What makes us a descendant of Abraham and a child of God? (Read Romans 4:18-25)?

**Activity:** Brainstorm Questions for the “Ask the Pastor Panel”



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**Scripture:** Genesis 37:3-34; 50:15-21

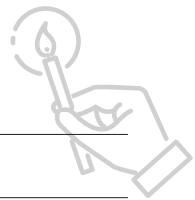
**Memory Verse:**

“You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.”  
Genesis 50:20 (NIV)

**Questions:**

1. Why do you think Joseph’s brothers treated him so poorly?
2. How do you normally respond when people treat you poorly?
3. Describe how Joseph must have felt after receiving these dreams and hearing from his brothers?
4. How have you seen God work good out of a bad situation?
5. When Joseph’s brothers asked for forgiveness (verse 17), Joseph wept and forgave them. When is a time you asked someone for forgiveness?
6. When is a time someone asked you for forgiveness?
7. In verse 20, what was the good that God provided in this broken situation?

**Activity:** Prayer Cross Night (NC/WC)



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**Scripture:** Exodus 12:1-13; 13:1-8

**Memory Verse:**

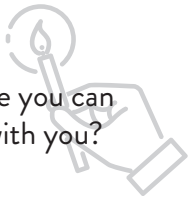
“Then Moses said to the people, “Commemorate this day, the day you came out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery, because the LORD brought you out of it with a mighty hand.” Exodus 13:3a

**Questions:**

1. Questions to come
2. What is a sacrament? what three things make up a sacrament?
3. What is baptism?
4. What is the Word of God?
5. What benefits does Baptism give?
6. What are these words and promises of God?
7. How can water do such great things?
8. What does baptizing with water indicate?

**Journal Time**

What do you remember from your baptism? Who is someone you can ask this week who was there to share about this experience with you?



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# WHERE IN MY BIBLE CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT BAPTISM?

Genesis 1:2, “The Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.” The Bible starts with water and Spirit.

Exodus 12:24-28, “When your children ask you, tell them, ‘It is the Passover sacrifice to the Lord.’ On Passover, the parents’ faith protected their child.

Leviticus 12:3, “On the eighth day the boy is to be circumcised,” entering God’s Covenant. Baptism is the new circumcision (Colossians 2:11-12).

Numbers 19:18, “Dip it in the water and sprinkle the tent.” The Greek (LXX) word here is baptizo, “baptize,” meaning “cleanse with water.”

2 Kings 5:14, the leper Naaman “dipped himself in the Jordan seven times... and became clean.” This baptizo foreshadows our cleansing in baptism.

Psalms 51:5, “Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.” From birth, we all need to be cleansed from sin.

Ezekiel 36:25 prophesies baptism, “I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities.”

Matthew 19:14, “Jesus said, ‘Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.’” The kingdom of heaven has no age limit.

Matt. 28:19 is the Great Commission: “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Jesus commands us to be baptized and to baptize.

Mark 16:16, “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.” Belief and baptism work together for our salvation.

Luke 1:59, “On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child.” The Greek word for this infant is teknon. Acts 2:38 says baptism is for teknon.

Luke 18:15, “People were also bringing babies to Jesus for him to place his hands on them.”

Luke 23:43, Jesus tells the thief, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.” While baptism matters (a lot), God is God—able to save even an unbaptized thief.

John 1:32, when Jesus was baptized, “John gave this testimony: ‘I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him.’” Jesus made the water holy. Now, water and Spirit make us holy.

John 3:22, “Jesus and his disciples went out into the Judean countryside... and baptized.” From the beginning, baptism is central to Jesus’ ministry.

## Prayer (Prayer Requests)

Lord Jesus, we thank you today for the gift of baptism. That in baptism you join us to the death of Jesus so that we might also join Him in His Resurrection. Please help us every day to remember our baptisms. In your name we pray, Amen!













**Scripture:** Jonah 1:1-17; 3:1-10

**Memory Verse:**

“Who knows? God may yet relent and with compassion turn from his fierce anger so that we will not perish.” Jonah 3:9

**Questions:**

1. Why did God want Jonah to preach against the city of Ninevah?
2. Did Jonah obey? What was the consequence?
3. Jonah ran away from God. Have you ever ran away from God? If so, why?
4. Jonah repented of his sin and came back to God and obeyed him.
5. Was Jonah deserving of punishment or mercy for his sin? Did he get what he deserved? Why or why not?
6. Jonah was in the belly of the fish for 3 days and 3 nights? How do you think this connects to Jesus?

**Activity:** Confessions Box

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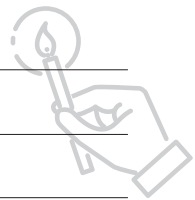
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**Scripture:** Isaiah 6:1-8

**Memory Verse:**

“Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty.” Isaiah 6:5

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I. Send me!” Isaiah 6:8

**Questions:**

1. The seraphim were crying out, “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty.” What does it mean to be holy? What makes something holy?
2. What was Isaiah’s response to seeing God on His throne?
3. How was Isaiah forgiven of his sin? What does this have to do with Jesus?
4. What do you think it means to be called by God?  
Who are we called to be?  
What are we called to do?  
When are we called?  
Where are we called to go?  
Why are we called?



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**Scripture:** Isaiah 61:1-11

**Memory Verse:**

“The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor.” Isaiah 61:1a

**Questions:**

1. When you hear the word service, what is the first thing that comes to your mind? Why?
2. Have you ever served? If so, how did you feel when you were serving?
3. Have you ever been served? If so, how did you feel when someone served you?
4. Do you know someone you would consider a servant? What makes them a servant?
5. How did the Holy Spirit call Isaiah to serve?
6. How/Where could the Holy Spirit be calling you to serve?

**Activity:** Mass Service Project



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