GENESIS TO REVELATION | LETTER LESSON

The Same Welcome for Everyone

James 2:1-17



YOUR BIBLE READING

Living faith welcomes neighbors fairly and responds to practical needs.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Two Visitors in a Teaching Example

James 2:1-17



James is a letter, and this passage challenges favoritism in a community that trusts Jesus Christ. Favoritism means giving someone better treatment for an unfair reason. James introduces a hypothetical example, something the readers are asked to imagine rather than a named event reported as happening. Two visitors enter a meeting: one wears fine clothes and a gold ring, while the other is poor and wears shabby clothing.

In the example, the group gives special attention to the finely dressed visitor. That person receives a good seat, while the poor visitor is told to stand or sit in a low place. James asks whether this behavior reveals unfair judgments. The difference between the visitors' clothes has been turned into a difference in their welcome. The illustration makes a hidden attitude visible through ordinary things such as attention and seating.

James reminds the readers that God has chosen people who are poor in the world's eyes to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom promised to those who love him. Yet the imagined treatment dishonors the poor visitor. He also names oppression and harmful conduct among powerful wealthy people known to the readers. Money and impressive clothing cannot safely be used as proof that someone deserves the best place.

The lesson is not that every wealthy person is cruel or every poor person must be exactly the same. Its clear challenge concerns the standard used to treat people. Faith in Jesus should not be joined to contempt for someone who has less. The hypothetical meeting asks the readers to examine what their welcome reveals before they claim that their community already loves its neighbors in the way Scripture teaches.

Remember: A caring belief should grow into a caring action.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

A Welcome Made Real through Action



James 2:1-17

James turns to the command to love one's neighbor as oneself. He calls this a royal law. Showing favoritism breaks that law rather than completing it through a few other good actions. A person cannot treat one command as important while using success elsewhere to excuse a deliberate wrong. The letter joins the way people speak with the way they act, because both belong within a life accountable to God.

He emphasizes mercy. Someone who refuses mercy cannot simply expect judgment to ignore that refusal. The readers are to live as people shaped by the law of freedom, with words and actions that agree. This is a serious challenge, but it is not an invitation to shame a child for needing guidance. The passage confronts a community's choices and calls its members toward treatment that respects another person's need and dignity.

James then supplies another hypothetical example. Suppose a brother or sister lacks adequate clothing and daily food. Someone offers pleasant wishes about being warm and well fed, but does nothing about the actual needs. What good have the words done? This is not a report that James met a particular hungry person on a road. It is a teaching illustration showing the gap between a caring claim and useful care.

Faith without corresponding action, James says, is lifeless. His argument gives practical shape to the earlier warning about favoritism. The neighbor should not merely hear a warm greeting while being denied a place, food, or respect. Living faith is to become visible in suitable actions. The two examples move from an unfair welcome to an unmet need, asking the readers to let what they believe change how they respond to real people.

Pause and think: What action would make a welcome fairer for someone who has less money or fewer belongings?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Look beyond the Clothing



Imagine an ordinary school activity where one person has new supplies and another uses worn ones. That is a present-day example, not an event in James's letter. What would equal respect look like? You might use both people's names, share turns fairly, and avoid jokes about belongings. The amount a family can afford does not tell you how important a child is.

James asks whether kind words are joined to helpful action. If someone lacks food or suitable clothing, tell a trusted adult who can respond responsibly. You do not need to surrender things you need or solve a family's whole situation yourself. A useful contribution may be small and supported by adults, while still keeping the person's need private enough to protect their dignity.

You can examine your welcome without deciding that you are beyond learning. Think about where you place attention: who gets heard, who is left standing, and whose ideas are dismissed. An honest conversation can help a group notice an unfair habit and change it. Love of neighbor becomes clearer when it reaches the chair, the turn, the greeting, and the help actually offered.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

James teaches that faith should become a fair welcome and practical care rather than favoritism and empty wishes.

What action would make a welcome fairer for someone who has less money or fewer belongings?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What unfair difference appears in the example of two visitors?

2. Why are pleasant wishes alone inadequate in the second example?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ He points readers toward neighbor-love and mercy.
- ☐ He shows that practical needs call for more than pleasant words.
- ☐ James illustrates favoritism through two imagined visitors.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw a meeting with equal places and useful care offered without attention to expensive belongings.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

A caring belief should grow into a caring action.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: James 2:1-4,14-17

A thoughtful conversation

Both the visitors and the person lacking food or clothing are hypothetical examples in James's argument, not reported incidents. Avoid stereotypes about rich or poor people. Children can seek adult help and offer suitable care without being pressured to give necessities away. Explain the seriousness of favoritism alongside room for learning, repair, and dignity for everyone involved.

Activity answers

1. The richly dressed visitor receives better treatment because of wealth and appearance.
2. They leave the person without the food or clothing actually needed.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 2, 3, 1. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, help us welcome people fairly and join kind words with suitable, useful actions. Amen.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

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GENESIS TO REVELATION | LETTER LESSON

Using Gifts to Serve Others

1 Peter 4:7-11



YOUR BIBLE READING

God-given gifts are entrusted for service, loving welcome, and God's glory.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Prayer, Love, and a Welcome without Grumbling

1 Peter 4:7-11



First Peter is a letter written to encourage believers in the way they live together. This passage begins by saying that the end of all things is near and calling the readers to clear-minded, self-controlled prayer. The letter does not give them a date to calculate or tell them to panic. Its instruction turns their attention toward a thoughtful response to God and toward responsible conduct in the life before them.

Above all, the readers are urged to maintain earnest love for one another. The passage says that love covers many sins. That picture describes love's capacity to meet ordinary failures with mercy rather than constantly exposing them for humiliation. It does not mean hiding abuse, ignoring serious harm, or preventing someone from asking for protection. Care for a person includes truth and safety as well as patience when a relationship needs repair.

The next instruction is practical: offer hospitality without grumbling. Hospitality means making room for another person's welcome and needs. The words without grumbling ask the readers to consider the attitude joined to the action. An offered place can feel quite different if it comes with repeated complaints that make the guest feel unwanted. A faithful welcome should be more than permission to remain nearby while being treated as a burden.

These instructions belong together. Clear prayer, earnest love, and willing hospitality are ways a community can care for people rather than become consumed by anxiety or resentment. The passage is instruction from a letter, not a report of Peter preparing a particular meal. Its everyday direction is still concrete: attend to God, respond to other people with love, and let a welcome carry a genuine willingness to care.

Remember: A gift becomes useful through thoughtful care for others.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

Different Gifts, One Purpose of Service

1 Peter 4:7-11



The letter then speaks about gifts. Each person has received something to use in serving others. Believers are to be good managers of God's grace in its many forms. A manager cares for something entrusted to them rather than pretending to own its whole purpose. Gifts are therefore not trophies for ranking people. Their value is connected to how they can serve the needs of the community with which they are shared.

The passage names speaking and serving. Someone who speaks should treat the words with the seriousness of speaking God's message. That does not mean every sentence a believer says becomes Scripture or that a confident speaker cannot be questioned. It calls for care with what is taught. Words given to guide others should be faithful rather than careless, and listeners deserve truth rather than a performance designed to make the speaker seem important.

Someone who serves should do so with the strength God supplies. The purpose is that God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom glory and power belong. Service is not a way for the helper to claim that everyone else must be impressed. The instruction directs attention beyond the person's status toward God and toward the people helped. Speaking and practical work can both belong to this shared purpose.

Here is an ordinary example, separate from the letter's original setting. A group preparing a gathering may need someone to explain the activity and someone else to arrange the supplies. Both tasks can help. A suitable plan also includes rest, different abilities, and adult responsibility. The lesson is not that everyone should take every job, but that what is entrusted to a person can be used thoughtfully for the good of others.

Pause and think: Which suitable gift or skill could you share in a way that helps someone without exhausting you?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Use a Gift without Taking All the Jobs



What is one thing you are learning to do that could help another person? It might involve clear words, careful hands, a patient ear, or remembering where supplies belong. You do not need to call yourself the best before sharing something useful. Ask an adult which task fits your age and abilities, and accept guidance about how to do it safely.

Hospitality does not require a child to open a door to an unknown adult or handle a stranger's needs alone. Trusted adults are responsible for decisions about visitors and safety. You can help with an agreed preparation or offer a friendly greeting when appropriate. A good welcome respects the safety and boundaries of everyone involved, including the person who is helping.

Earnest love can include an apology after an impatient word. It can also include telling an adult when something harmful has happened. Covering ordinary mistakes with mercy is different from covering up abuse. As you think about the letter's call to service, keep love, truth, and sensible limits together. The aim is useful care, not exhaustion or silence about a problem.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

Use what God entrusts to you for thoughtful service, loving welcome, and truthful care.

Which suitable gift or skill could you share in a way that helps someone without exhausting you?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. How should gifts be used?

2. Does love covering sins mean hiding serious harm?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ Speaking and serving are directed toward God's glory through Jesus.
- ☐ The letter encourages thoughtful prayer, earnest love, and hospitality.
- ☐ Each person is urged to use received gifts in serving others.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw different suitable gifts helping one gathering, with time and space for everyone to rest.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

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Remember this

A gift becomes useful through thoughtful care for others.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: 1 Peter 4:8-11

A thoughtful conversation

The passage calls for prayer, love, hospitality, and service without supplying a timetable for the end. Love covering sins must never mean secrecy about abuse or preventing safeguarding. Children need suitable roles, rest, and adult oversight of visitors. Explain speaking God's message as responsibility for truthful teaching, not a claim that every believer's words are automatically Scripture.

Activity answers

1. To serve others as a responsible use of God's grace.
2. No. Love includes truth, protection, and asking responsible adults for help.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 1, 2. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, help us use our gifts with truth, love, wise limits, and care for others. Amen.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

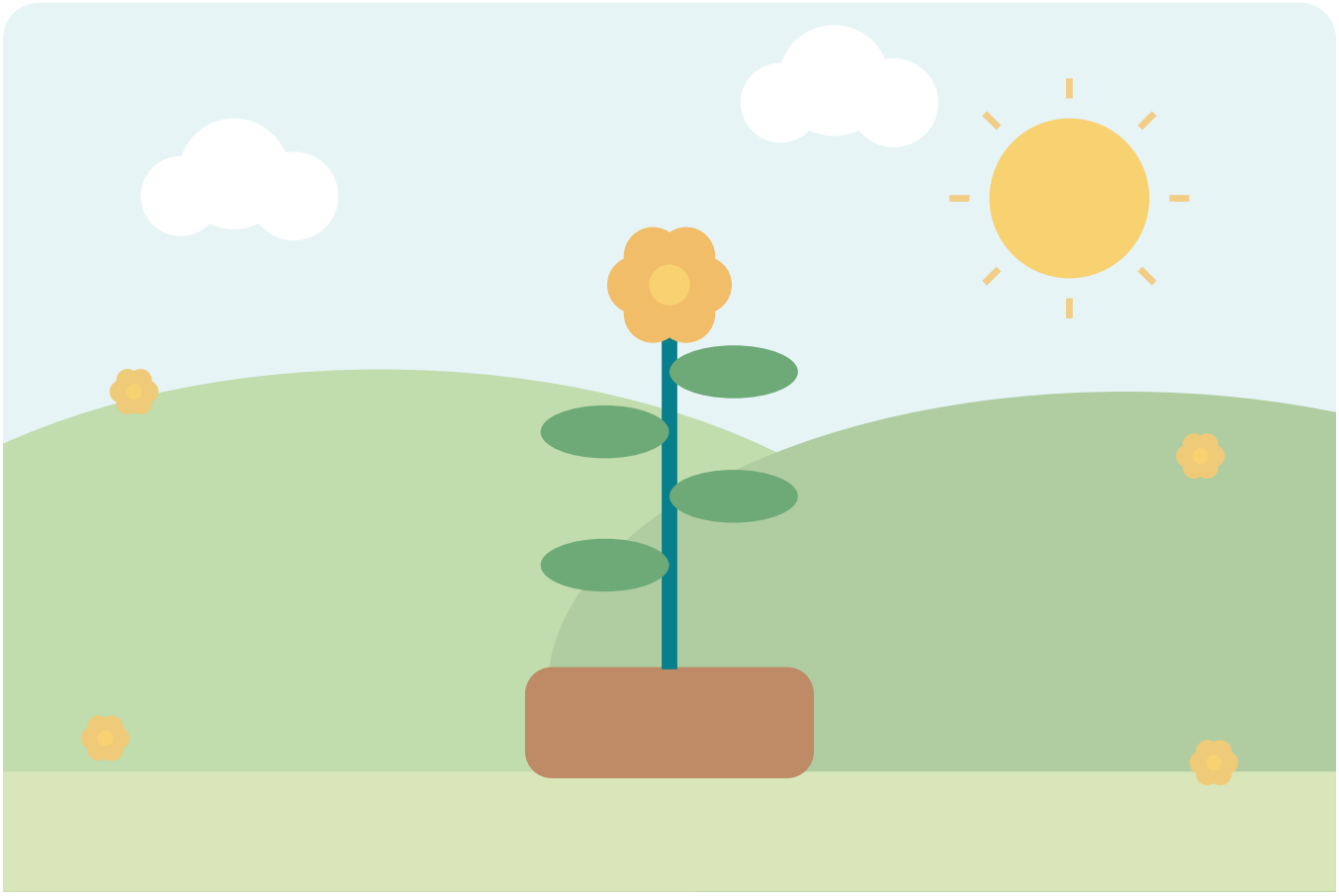
Sources and sharing

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GENESIS TO REVELATION | LETTER LESSON

Growing in Goodness and Love

2 Peter 1:3-11



YOUR BIBLE READING

God-given help supports steady growth that reaches outward in love.

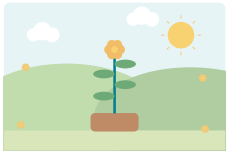
Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Growing from What God Has Given

2 Peter 1:3-11



Second Peter is a letter, and this passage begins with what God provides rather than with a contest over who is strongest. God's power has given what is needed for life and godliness through knowing the one who called believers. Godliness means a life attentive to God. The readers are invited to remember the source of their help before considering the effort and practice that belong to their response.

The letter speaks of precious, great promises. Through them, believers can share in a life shaped by God's nature and escape the corruption caused by harmful desires. This does not mean becoming another god or gaining the right to control other people. It is a picture of receiving God's help toward a changed life, in which what is good becomes more visible than the desires that damage a person and their relationships.

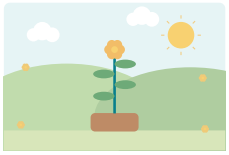
Because of these gifts, the readers are urged to make every effort. Faith is to be joined with goodness, and goodness with knowledge. Goodness is not simply a label worn before anyone sees an action. Knowledge is not merely collecting facts to win an argument. The qualities support a developing life. The letter puts trust, moral care, and understanding together rather than allowing one to become an excuse for neglecting the others.

Knowledge is followed by self-control, perseverance, and godliness. Self-control concerns thoughtful choices instead of being driven by every immediate desire. Perseverance means continuing steadily rather than giving up at the first difficulty. Godliness keeps that effort directed toward God. The list does not describe seven separate adventures or a ladder on which a child earns love. It describes qualities that can grow together as a person responds to the help God has given.

Remember: Let growing understanding become patient, loving action.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

Love at the Heart of Continued Growth



2 Peter 1:3-11

The list continues with affection for fellow believers and love. The movement reaches outward toward people, not only inward toward a person's private achievement. Growing in knowledge without growing in care would miss the direction of the passage. These qualities are meant to become plentiful in the readers' lives so that their knowledge of Jesus Christ is active and fruitful, rather than something they claim without letting it shape their choices.

The letter contrasts that growth with forgetting the cleansing of earlier sins. It uses a picture of short sight and blindness for this spiritual forgetting. The picture is not a statement that a person who is physically blind has done wrong. The issue is remembering God's mercy and responding to it. Someone who forgets the gift already received may stop seeing why a changed way of living matters.

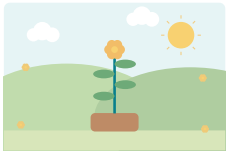
The readers are urged to be diligent about the calling and welcome they have received. They are to keep practicing these qualities as people looking toward the everlasting kingdom of Jesus Christ. The promise of being kept from stumbling belongs to that teaching about faithful life; it is not a guarantee that a person will never trip, struggle with a task, or need help learning after a mistake. The passage concerns a continuing response to God.

Here is an ordinary example to make the qualities concrete, not a scene from the letter. A shared game may require understanding the rules, pausing before an angry response, continuing after a difficult turn, and treating other players with care. Different qualities help one another in the same moment. Growth does not need to announce itself loudly. It can be seen in patient, truthful actions supported by knowledge and completed in love.

Pause and think: Which quality could you practice in one ordinary situation while also receiving help when needed?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Choose One Practice and Keep Learning



The list contains several qualities, but you do not have to turn it into a scorecard against your friends. Pick one that fits a situation before you. If you are learning self-control, you might pause before answering in anger and ask for help finding clear words. A trusted adult can help you choose a practice that is realistic for your age and circumstances.

Perseverance includes receiving support. Continuing with a suitable task may mean taking a rest, trying a different explanation, or accepting help rather than forcing the same attempt. You do not have to remain in an unsafe activity to prove faithfulness. Think about whether your next step supports life and care, not only whether it looks determined to someone watching.

The list ends in love, which helps us notice the purpose of growth. More knowledge or better control should not make us contemptuous of people who struggle differently. You can celebrate progress while staying kind. When you make a mistake, remember mercy, make a suitable repair, and return to the practice. Growth is a direction of life, not a claim that learning is finished.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

God's gifts invite steady growth in goodness, understanding, self-control, perseverance, and love.

Which quality could you practice in one ordinary situation while also receiving help when needed?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What is added alongside faith in the list?

2. Why should these qualities grow?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ Remembering mercy supports continued practice and hope in Jesus' kingdom.
- ☐ Believers are urged to grow in qualities that reach toward love.
- ☐ The letter recalls God's power and precious promises.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw a growing plant with labels for goodness, understanding, patience, and love in ordinary actions.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

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Remember this

Let growing understanding become patient, loving action.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: 2 Peter 1:5-8

A thoughtful conversation

The passage begins with God's provision before calling for effort. Avoid turning the virtue list into a comparison chart or a promise of flawless performance. Its blindness language is a metaphor for spiritual forgetting, never a judgment about disability. Explain perseverance alongside rest, suitable support, and safety, while keeping love as the direction of the growth described.

Activity answers

1. Goodness, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, affection, and love.
2. So knowing Jesus becomes active and fruitful in the way believers live.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 2, 1. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, help us receive your care and grow patiently in understanding and love. Amen.

Print and share

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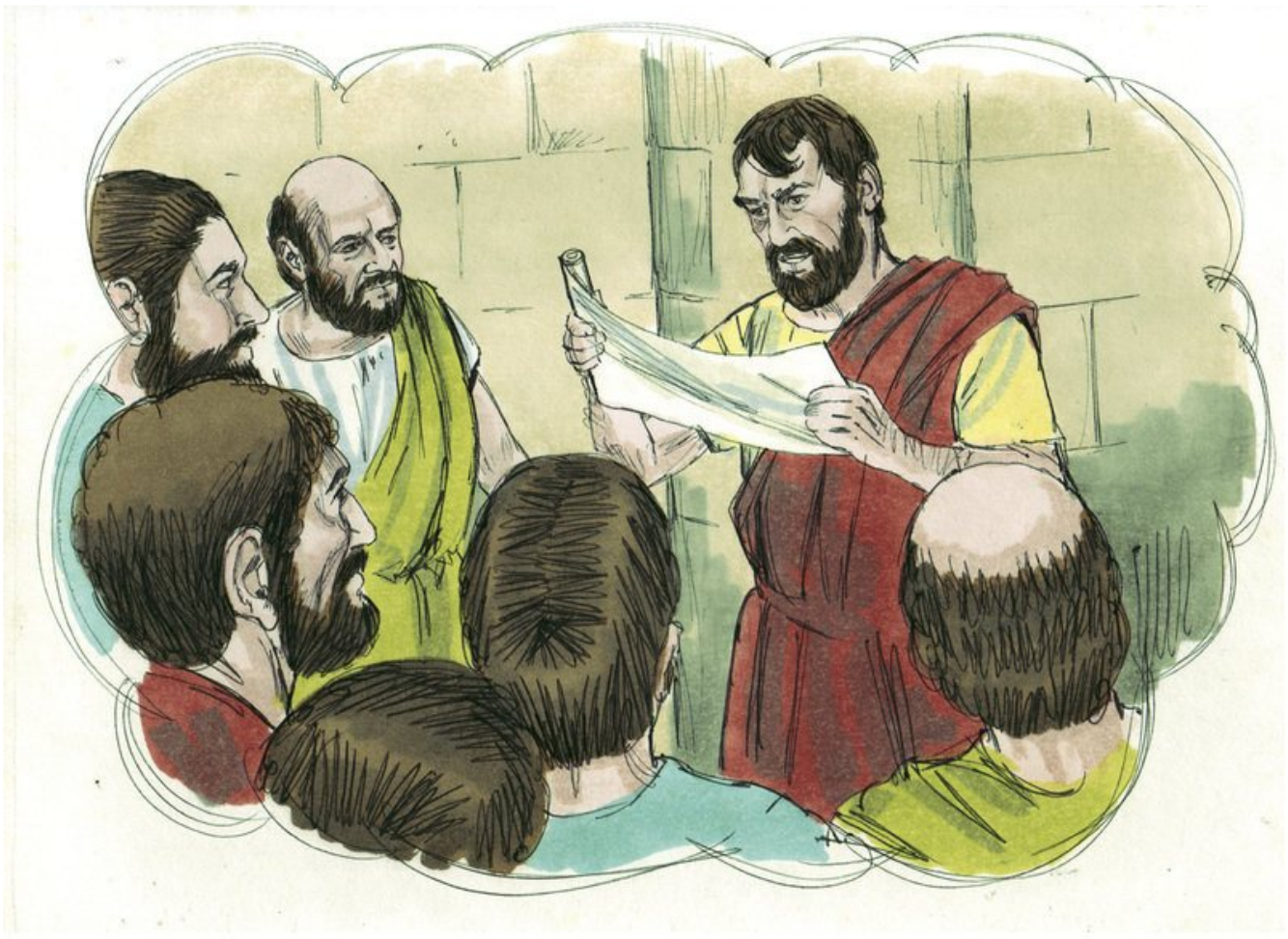
Sources and sharing

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GENESIS TO REVELATION | LETTER LESSON

We Love Because God Loved Us

1 John 4:7-21



YOUR BIBLE READING

God's first love leads believers toward visible care for one another.

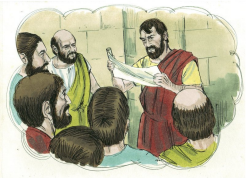
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EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Love Begins with God

1 John 4:7-21



First John is a letter, and this passage asks believers to love one another because love comes from God. Knowing God is not separated from the way people treat their neighbors. The writer speaks strongly: a life without love does not show knowledge of God, because God is love. This lesson concerns more than claiming a special feeling or using religious words while disregarding the person standing nearby.

God's love was shown by sending his only Son into the world so that people might live through him. The passage does not begin with human beings succeeding at love and then receiving a reward. It begins with God's action. Jesus is described as the saving sacrifice for sins. The gift addresses what separates people from God and shows love as costly, active care rather than admiration offered only from a distance.

Because God loved in this way, believers ought to love one another. No one has seen God, the writer explains, yet loving care makes something of God's presence visible among people. If they love one another, God remains in them and his love reaches its intended expression. The unseen God is not made into an object someone can display; the lesson points instead toward the relationships shaped by his love.

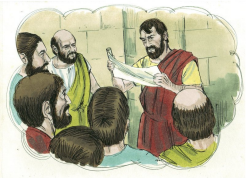
The writer also speaks of the Spirit given by God and testifies that the Father sent the Son as Savior of the world. Acknowledging Jesus as God's Son belongs to remaining in God. The message joins faith in Jesus with the love of God already known and trusted. It is a letter lesson about that shared life, not a new story about an invented family learning to feel affection.

Remember: Love received from God is meant to reach a real neighbor.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

Love Shown toward a Visible Neighbor

1 John 4:7-21



The passage returns to the statement that God is love. Those who remain in love remain in God, and God remains in them. The writer speaks of love being brought to maturity so that believers may have confidence in the day of judgment. Their hope is not based on hiding from God or imagining that his purpose is to keep them constantly terrified. Love gives their relationship with him a different direction.

Mature love drives out fear connected with punishment. This is not a medical diagnosis of anyone who feels anxious or a command that children must instantly stop being afraid. The passage concerns confidence in God's love rather than a contest over who has the calmest feelings. A frightened person can still be loved, can still pray, and can still receive patient help from someone trustworthy while working through what troubles them.

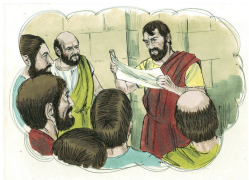
The writer explains that people love because God loved first. Then he gives a direct challenge: someone who claims to love God while hating a brother or sister is contradicting that claim. The neighbor can be seen and encountered. If the person refuses love there, a claim about loving the unseen God does not settle the problem. Their words and treatment of a real person need to agree.

The command is therefore clear: loving God is to be joined with loving the brother or sister. Such love is not only warm emotion. It can involve listening, truthful speech, practical help, and a willingness to repair a wrong. It can also include safe boundaries. The passage does not require accepting abuse. Its movement is from the love God has already shown through Jesus toward a visible response in the lives of those who receive it.

Pause and think: What action could make your words of care more trustworthy to someone you meet today?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Give Care a Visible Shape



Think of a kind word that needs an action beside it. If you tell someone they matter but never allow them a turn, the words become difficult to trust. A present-day example might be sharing the rules of a game patiently rather than laughing when another person is confused. The useful question is what the other person will actually experience from your response.

God's love does not depend on your being able to produce a cheerful feeling whenever asked. You can feel anxious, sad, or uncertain and still receive care. Tell a trusted adult what is troubling you. The passage's words about fear concern love and punishment; they are never a reason to accuse someone of having failed at faith because they need emotional or medical support.

Loving a neighbor does not mean agreeing with every action or giving up safety. You can name a wrong, ask for help, and set suitable boundaries while refusing to treat a person as worthless. An adult can help with a difficult relationship. Let the love described in the letter lead toward truthful, practical care rather than pressure to hide pain or pretend harm is harmless.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

God loved first through Jesus, and that love calls believers to care for the neighbors they can see.

What action could make your words of care more trustworthy to someone you meet today?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. Who loved first in this passage?

2. What must be joined with a claim to love God?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ God's love invites confidence rather than terror of punishment.
- ☐ Love for God must be joined with care for a visible neighbor.
- ☐ The letter explains that love comes from God and is shown through Jesus.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw one kind sentence beside an action that would make the sentence true in practice.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

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Remember this

Love received from God is meant to reach a real neighbor.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: 1 John 4:19-21

A thoughtful conversation

Explain Jesus' saving sacrifice gently without making children feel personally responsible for his suffering. The passage's fear language concerns confidence before judgment; ordinary fear, anxiety, or trauma is not proof of deficient faith. Keep love connected with truthful care and safe boundaries. Loving someone never requires accepting abuse, concealing harm, or denying a need for professional support.

Activity answers

1. God loved first and showed that love through Jesus.
2. Real love and care for a brother or sister who can be seen.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 2, 3, 1. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, thank you for loving first; help us give that care a truthful, visible shape. Amen.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

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GENESIS TO REVELATION | LETTER LESSON

Walking in Truth and Love

2 John 1:1-6



YOUR BIBLE READING

Truth and love belong together in the way believers live.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

A Greeting in Truth and Love

2 John 1:1-6



Second John is a short letter. Its writer calls himself the elder and addresses the chosen lady and her children. We should begin with that address without inventing a house, a family meal, or a visit described nowhere in the passage. The greeting leads toward a lesson about truth and love shared among believers. It is a letter to read carefully, not a new adventure supplied to fill out the scene.

Readers understand the address in more than one way. Some understand a woman and her family; others understand the lady as a picture for a church and the children as its members. These opening verses do not require us to settle that question before learning from them. In either reading, the writer speaks with affection to people connected by faith and calls their attention to a shared way of living.

The elder says he loves them in truth, and that others who know the truth love them too. The relationship is therefore not based only on a private preference or the advantage someone can offer. It is connected with truth that remains among them and will continue with them. The letter puts love and truth side by side instead of treating truthful teaching as an excuse for coldness or affection as permission to mislead.

The greeting also names grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, in truth and love. These are gifts the readers are invited to receive, not awards attached to an invented contest. The opening gives the rest of the lesson its setting: people held together by God's generosity are called to keep living in the truth they have received and the love that belongs with it.

Remember: Let honest words and caring actions point in the same direction.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

Walking Means Putting Love into Practice



2 John 1:1-6

The elder says he has been very glad to find some of the addressees' children walking in truth, as the Father commanded. Walking is a picture for the direction of a life, not a report about a particular path through town. The writer is rejoicing in faithful conduct. The word some describes those he has encountered; it does not tell us a hidden story about everyone he has not mentioned or met.

He then makes a request: love one another. He explains that he is not writing a new commandment, but one they have had from the beginning. The instruction is familiar, yet it still needs to be practiced. Knowing an old lesson does not mean its work in daily life is finished. The letter returns to love because it remains central to how people receiving the message of Jesus should live together.

Love is described as walking according to God's commandments. Again, walking makes conduct visible. The instruction does not leave love as a word people can repeat while ignoring one another. It joins the command to love with the life that expresses it. The readers have heard this from the beginning and are urged to continue in it, letting the direction of their actions agree with the teaching they claim to receive.

Here is an ordinary example to help explain that connection, not an event from the letter. Someone might promise to tell the truth, then admit that they spilled a shared drink instead of blaming another child. A truthful admission can be joined with a loving attempt to help clean up safely. Truth and love are working together. The letter's brief instruction invites that kind of agreement between what is believed, spoken, and done.

Pause and think: How could you speak truthfully about a mistake while also treating the people involved with care?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Let Truth and Love Travel Together



Truth without care can become a way to hurt someone, while kindness without honesty can leave a problem hidden. Think of a time you need to tell someone about a mistake. You can describe what happened clearly, choose words that respect the person, and ask an adult for help with a fair repair. You do not have to choose between truth and dignity.

Walking is a useful picture because it suggests a continuing direction. One good choice does not finish a whole life of learning. You can return to a familiar lesson and ask how it fits a new situation. Perhaps sharing turns now means including someone younger, or honesty now means admitting uncertainty instead of guessing. Practice gives a familiar teaching a fresh place in the day.

This letter begins with people loved in truth. You do not need to solve every question about its address to hear its invitation. As you read with an adult, notice what is clear and what remains open. Then choose one suitable way to join truthful words with practical care. Learning patiently is itself a better response than pretending to know details the passage does not supply.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

Second John joins truth and love in a continuing way of life shaped by God's command to love one another.

How could you speak truthfully about a mistake while also treating the people involved with care?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What familiar command does the elder repeat?

2. What does walking in truth describe here?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ He urges continued love expressed through God's commandments.
- ☐ The elder greets the addressees in truth, love, grace, mercy, and peace.
- ☐ He rejoices in conduct that follows the truth.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw a path with paired signs: honest words and caring actions.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

Let honest words and caring actions point in the same direction.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: 2 John 1:4-6

A thoughtful conversation

The chosen lady and her children may refer to a household or symbolically to a church community; do not present either interpretation as settled fact. The writer identifies himself as the elder. Explain walking as a picture for conduct. The statement about some children does not authorize inventing unfaithfulness or private events concerning people not described in the passage.

Activity answers

1. Love one another.
2. A continuing way of life whose conduct agrees with the truth received.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 1, 2. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, help our words be truthful and our actions show patient care. Amen.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

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GENESIS TO REVELATION | LETTER LESSON

A Warm Welcome for Traveling Friends

3 John 1:1-12



YOUR BIBLE READING

Faithful hospitality and good examples help a community share in truthful service.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Gaius and a Faithful Welcome

3 John 1:1-12



Third John is a letter addressed by the elder to Gaius, whom he loves in truth. The writer wishes him well and prays for his health. This is a prayer of care, not a promise that everyone with strong faith will always be healthy or wealthy. The opening gives a personal setting to the instructions that follow: someone known and loved is being encouraged in the way he supports other believers.

Traveling brothers had reported that Gaius was walking in truth. The elder rejoiced at their testimony. Walking describes the direction of a life, not a particular road they had watched him take. The writer says that hearing of his children living faithfully brings great joy. Here children can describe people under his spiritual care; we should not invent a list of his biological children or a family scene beyond the letter.

Gaius had acted faithfully in what he did for fellow believers, including people who had been strangers to him. They had spoken of his love before the gathered community. The elder encourages him to continue supporting their journey in a way worthy of God. The letter does not name every meal, room, or object he provided. It records the important thing: his welcome had become practical care recognized by the travelers.

These workers had set out for the sake of Jesus' name without taking support from the people outside the faith to whom they went. The community was therefore encouraged to receive them and become fellow workers for the truth. Supporting a journey could take part in the work even when the helper did not make the same trip. The letter honors this quieter contribution as part of a shared responsibility.

Remember: Choose the example that makes room for truthful, practical care.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

Choose a Good Example, Not a Struggle for First Place

3 John 1:1-12



The letter also names a troubling contrast. Diotrephes loved to be first and did not accept the elder's message. He was spreading harmful accusations, refusing to welcome the traveling believers, and stopping those who wished to receive them. He even expelled such people from the community. These are actions the letter reports, not a reason to invent a secret history explaining everything Diotrephes had ever thought or done.

The elder says that if he comes, he will call attention to this behavior. That is a planned response, not a report that the visit has already happened. The problem was not simply a difference in personality between two people. The conduct was harming the community's ability to welcome and support others. A desire for first place had become a way to control who was allowed to offer care.

Gaius is urged not to imitate evil but to imitate good. The letter then mentions Demetrius, who has a good testimony from everyone and from the truth itself. The writer adds his own testimony. The passage does not specify every task Demetrius performed or tell us with certainty that he carried this letter. What it supplies is a contrast between conduct that damages welcome and a reputation supported by faithful testimony.

The lesson therefore asks readers to consider what kind of example they follow. An important position or a strong demand to be first does not make behavior good. Gaius's welcome, the travelers' work, and the good testimony about Demetrius point toward shared service. Diotrephes's harmful control points in another direction. The letter encourages care that cooperates in the truth rather than turning leadership into a way to shut out other people's faithful help.

Pause and think: What actions would help you recognize a leader or example who makes room for others to contribute?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Notice What an Example Actually Does



A person who insists on being first may still need to learn how to treat others. In an ordinary group activity, you can look beyond who gives the loudest instructions. Do they listen? Do they let others contribute? Do they help the group act fairly? These present-day questions can help you recognize an example worth following without inventing new events about the people in the letter.

Gaius's care helped travelers, but children should not manage unknown visitors alone. An adult is responsible for deciding how a family or community offers safe hospitality. You can help with an agreed task or a suitable greeting. A genuine welcome respects boundaries and safety; it does not ask you to ignore discomfort or keep a visitor's request secret from responsible people.

The letter values truthful testimony, not careless rumors. Before repeating something harmful about a person, ask an adult how to handle what you actually know. If someone is being mistreated, speaking to the right person can help protect them. Good care joins accurate words with practical support, rather than using accusations to gain attention or control a group.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

Third John encourages a faithful welcome and good examples instead of harmful demands for first place.

What actions would help you recognize a leader or example who makes room for others to contribute?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What did the travelers report about Gaius?

2. What example is Gaius urged to imitate?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ He urges imitation of good and notes the testimony about Demetrius.
- ☐ He contrasts that care with Diotrephes's harmful control.
- ☐ The elder rejoices in Gaius's faithful welcome of traveling believers.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw a safe, adult-guided welcome where several people contribute suitable help.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

Choose the example that makes room for truthful, practical care.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: 3 John 1:5-8,11-12

A thoughtful conversation

The letter reports Gaius's hospitality and Diotrephes's harmful conduct; do not invent a later visit, reconciliation, or punishment. Health is prayed for, not guaranteed as a reward for faith. Demetrius receives good testimony without a specified travel role. Children need adult oversight around visitors, and reporting harm truthfully must be distinguished from repeating gossip or controlling others.

Activity answers

1. His conduct was faithful and his welcome showed practical love.
2. What is good, rather than harmful behavior or a demand to be first.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 2, 1. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, help us welcome wisely, speak truthfully, and follow examples of generous care. Amen.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

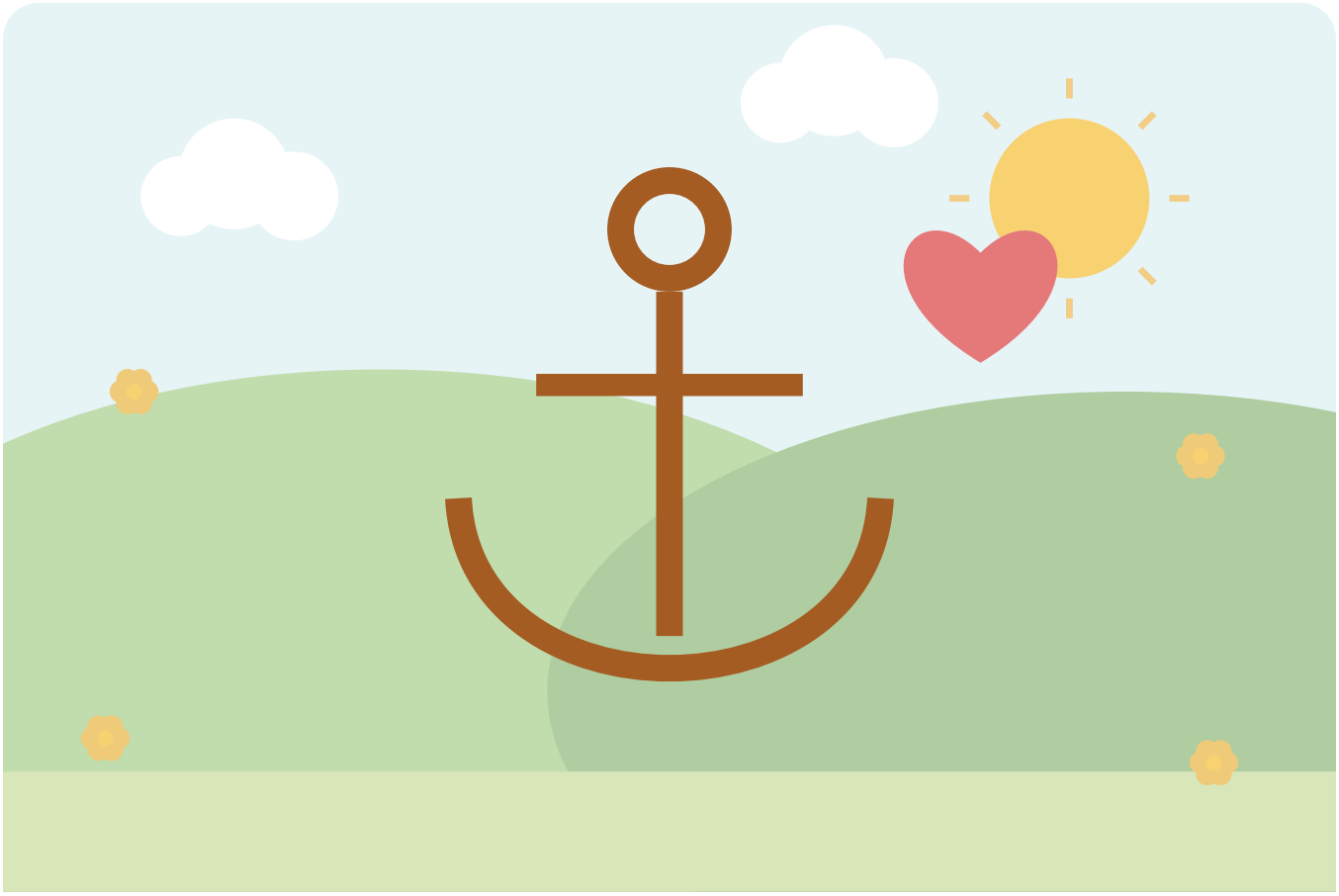
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GENESIS TO REVELATION | LETTER LESSON

Hold on to Faith and Show Mercy

Jude 1:17-25



YOUR BIBLE READING

Hold to faith, pray, and show merciful care while trusting God's saving power.

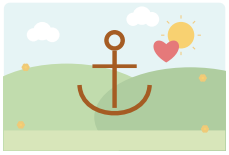
Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Remember, Pray, and Remain in Love

Jude 1:17-25



Jude is a letter, and this final section speaks to people loved by God amid serious confusion and division. Jude asks them to remember the words already spoken by the apostles of Jesus Christ. They do not need to treat every confident voice as a trustworthy guide. Remembering sound teaching gives the community a way to consider what is being said instead of following whoever makes the strongest demand for attention.

The apostles had warned about people who mock and follow their own ungodly desires. Jude describes such people as causing divisions and living without the Spirit's guidance. The concern is not that someone has asked an honest question or needs help understanding a difficult passage. It is about a pattern that draws people toward harmful conduct and pulls the community apart. The readers are urged to remember the difference.

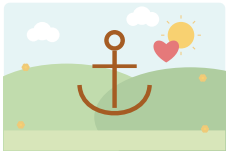
Jude then turns from the troubling conduct to what the readers should do. They are to build themselves up in their holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit. Building is a picture for strengthening their shared life, not an instruction to construct a particular room. Prayer and faithful learning can support one another. The community does not need to answer confusion only with louder arguments or equally harsh treatment.

They are also to keep themselves in God's love while awaiting the mercy of Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. Waiting here is joined to prayer and growth, not to a date they can calculate or a panic they must spread. The passage points toward a hopeful relationship with God. The readers are called to remain attentive to love while they face questions about truth, conduct, and the people who need their care.

Remember: Faithful care includes patient mercy toward people who struggle.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

Mercy for Others and Praise for God



Jude 1:17-25

Jude calls for mercy toward people who are struggling or uncertain. People with doubts need compassion rather than contempt. Some wording in this short passage differs among Bible translations, but its call to merciful, careful help is clear. The community is not to treat every questioner as an enemy. It needs discernment about harmful teaching and a caring response to people who need support in understanding or turning away from danger.

The letter uses the vivid picture of snatching someone from fire and urges caution about becoming involved in wrongdoing. This is figurative language about urgent spiritual help, not an instruction for children to enter a burning building or perform a dangerous rescue. Hating what harms a life is different from hating the person. Mercy can include help, truthful warning, and safe boundaries rather than either cruelty or careless participation in the harm.

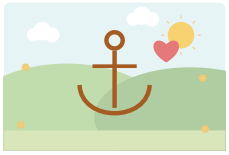
Jude closes by praising God, who is able to keep his people from stumbling and bring them into his glorious presence with great joy. The final attention rests on God's saving power, not on the readers' ability to manage every problem alone. The warning about danger has not removed hope. The letter holds serious care about wrongdoing alongside confidence in the one who can protect, restore, and welcome his people.

Glory, majesty, power, and authority belong to God the Savior through Jesus Christ, before all ages, now, and forever. That praise gives the passage its ending. Readers have been urged to remember, pray, remain in love, and show mercy; they finish by looking toward God rather than congratulating themselves for winning an argument. The lesson asks for a community whose faithfulness includes both clear understanding and compassionate care for others.

Pause and think: How can you respond with both clear boundaries and patient mercy when someone has a difficult question?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Questions Deserve Patient Care



If a Bible passage puzzles you, ask a trusted adult to read it with you. A sincere question is not the same as deliberately hurting people or spreading a harmful teaching. You can name the part you do not understand and listen to a careful response. Jude's call to mercy leaves room for patient support rather than a cruel label attached to someone learning.

You can also be merciful when another person is confused. Instead of laughing or pretending to know everything, you might help them find the relevant words or ask an adult together. It is fine to say that you do not know yet. Careful learning takes time, and a kind answer should not pressure someone to hide a concern simply to make the group comfortable.

The fire picture is about serious help, but a child should never imitate it as a rescue activity. If someone is physically unsafe, get responsible adult help immediately. Spiritual care needs wise limits too. You can refuse a harmful action, tell a trusted person what is happening, and still want good for the people involved. Mercy does not require joining their wrongdoing or carrying a crisis alone.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

Jude joins faithful learning and prayer with mercy for others and confidence in God's saving care.

How can you respond with both clear boundaries and patient mercy when someone has a difficult question?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What practices does Jude encourage?

2. How should people with doubts be treated?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ He calls for merciful, careful help for others.
- ☐ He ends by praising God's power to keep and welcome his people.
- ☐ Jude urges readers to remember, grow in faith, and pray.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw a patient conversation with a question, a listening ear, and a trusted adult nearby.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

Faithful care includes patient mercy toward people who struggle.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: Jude 1:20-25

A thoughtful conversation

Jude's brief mercy instructions have textual and translation variations; explain compassion toward struggling or doubting people without treating questions as rebellion. The fire and stained-clothing images are figurative warnings, not child rescue instructions or reasons to despise a person. Keep the closing praise central: God's preserving power supports prayer, discernment, mercy, and hope rather than panic or self-reliance.

Activity answers

1. Remembering faithful teaching, growing in faith, praying, and remaining in God's love.
2. With patient mercy and careful help, not contempt.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 2, 3, 1. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, help us seek truth patiently, show mercy, and trust your saving care. Amen.

Print and share

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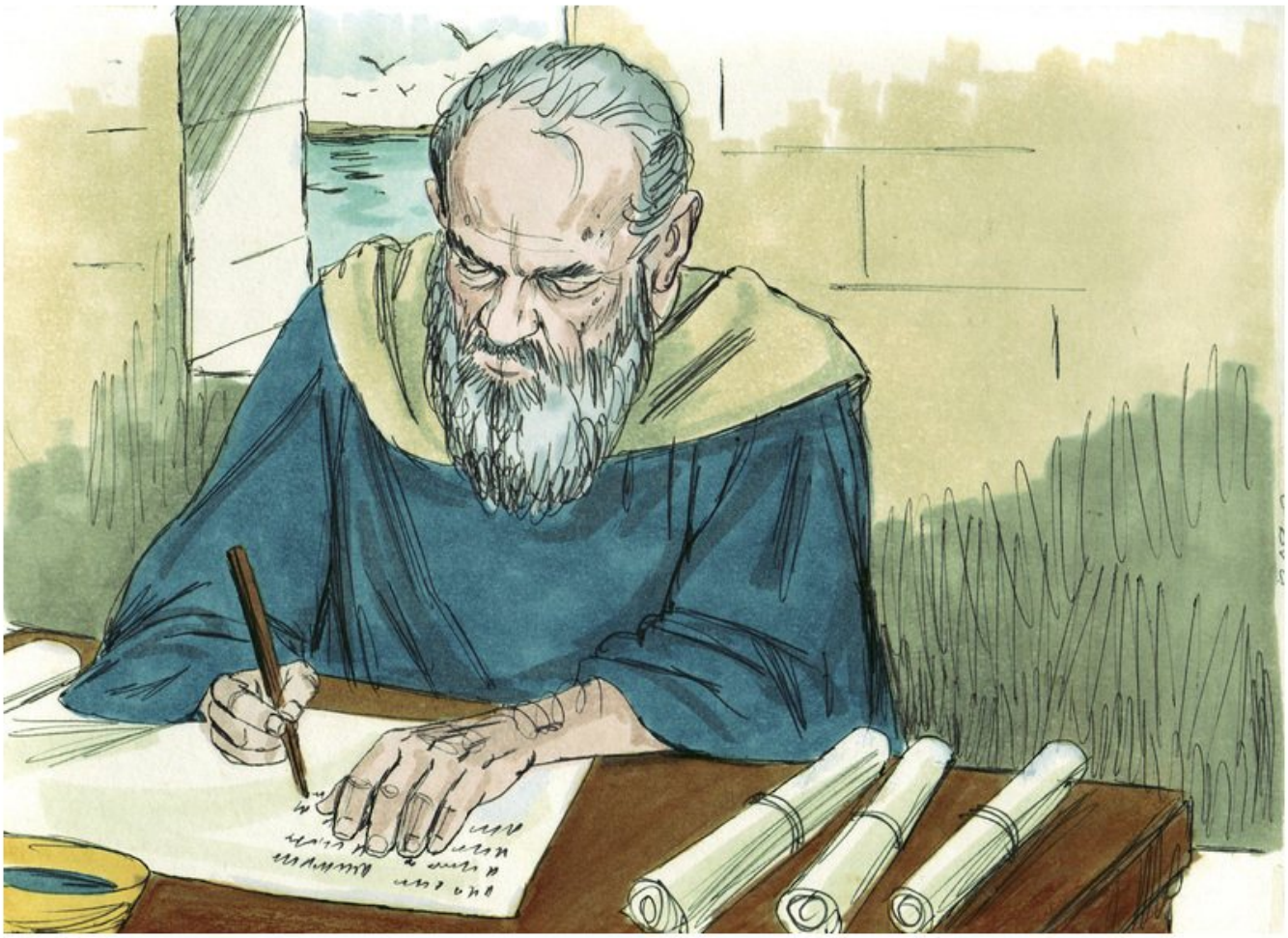
Sources and sharing

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GENESIS TO REVELATION | VISION

John's Vision on Patmos

Revelation 1:9-20



YOUR BIBLE READING

The risen Jesus is pictured among his churches and speaks reassurance to John.

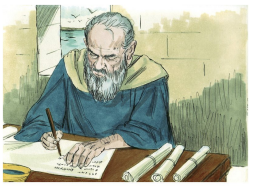
Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

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EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

A Vision Shared with Seven Churches

Revelation 1:9-20



Revelation presents John's visions, full of pictures and symbols. John describes being on the island of Patmos because of God's word and the testimony of Jesus. He calls himself a brother and companion of the believers in suffering, God's kingdom, and patient endurance in Jesus. His words connect the writer on the island with the communities who will read his message. They share a faith lived through real difficulty.

On the Lord's day, John was in the Spirit and heard a loud voice behind him, like a trumpet. He was told to write what he saw and send it to seven churches: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea. Each name belongs to a community that would receive the message. What John sees is to become words that people can read, hear, and consider together in their shared life.

John turned and saw seven golden lampstands. Among them stood someone like a son of man, wearing a long robe and a golden sash across his chest. His hair was white like wool or snow, and his eyes were like a flame of fire. His feet shone like refined metal. His voice sounded like many waters, adding a powerful sound to the brightness John describes in the vision.

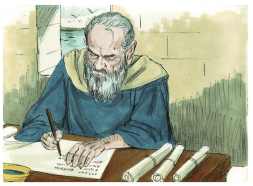
The figure held seven stars in his right hand. A sharp, double-edged sword came from his mouth, and his face shone like the sun at its brightest. These are the vision's rich symbols of majesty and power. The stars, the golden lampstands, and the shining face fill John's account with light. The glorious figure among them is about to speak directly to John, giving reassurance and explaining important parts of what he sees.

Remember: The living Jesus knows his people amid their hardship.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

The Living One Gives Reassurance

Revelation 1:9-20



When John saw him, he fell at his feet as though dead. The figure placed his right hand on him and told him not to be afraid. He identified himself as the first and the last, the living one who had died and was now alive forever. These words identify him as the risen Jesus. The hand holding the stars also reaches toward John, joining the vision's glory with personal reassurance.

Jesus spoke of holding the keys of death and Hades, the realm of the dead. Keys are a picture of authority. The one speaking has passed through death and lives forever, and he declares his authority over the realm of death itself. John had introduced himself as a companion in suffering. Now the message gives him a reason for hope rooted in the life and power of the risen Lord.

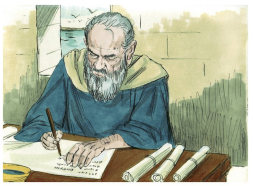
John was told to write what he had seen, what was, and what would take place afterward. Then Jesus explained two of the vision's symbols. The seven stars were the angels, or messengers, of the seven churches. The seven lampstands were the churches themselves. The explanation brings the vision close to the named communities. John can connect the stars and stands he has seen with the people for whom he is writing.

Jesus stands among the lampstands and holds the stars in his hand. His presence among them is at the heart of this vision. The churches facing difficulties are known to the living Lord, and his message is being sent to them. John receives both a task and reassurance: write what has been shown, and hear the one who lives forever. The vision's bright, powerful images gather around Jesus' identity and his care for his people.

Pause and think: Which explanation or reassuring words help you understand the powerful pictures in John's vision?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Read the Pictures with the Words



Picture the golden lampstands, the white hair like snow, and the face shining like the sun. Which comparison helps you imagine the scene most clearly? Read the words beside the picture with an adult. Notice how John uses familiar things such as light and the sound of water to describe the greatness of what he sees in his vision.

The passage explains the stars and lampstands, giving you a useful place to begin understanding. Try drawing the seven lampstands, then add the words seven churches beside them. A label can connect an image with its meaning. You can also ask your reader about another comparison in the passage and explore what it helps you notice about Jesus' power and presence.

John calls himself a companion of people enduring hardship. Jesus' words of reassurance are meant for this setting of patient faith. Think of someone who helps you face a difficult task by staying near and speaking clearly. That ordinary experience can help you notice the care in the vision: the glorious Jesus reaches toward John and speaks to him personally.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

John's symbolic vision shows the risen Jesus among his churches, speaking reassurance and holding authority over death.

Which explanation or reassuring words help you understand the powerful pictures in John's vision?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What do the seven lampstands represent?

2. How does Jesus identify himself to John?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ Jesus reassures him and explains the stars and lampstands.
- ☐ John hears a command to write to seven named churches.
- ☐ He sees the glorious figure among seven lampstands.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw seven lampstands and a symbol of light, showing that this is John's vision rather than an ordinary scene.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

The living Jesus knows his people amid their hardship.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: Revelation 1:17-20

A thoughtful conversation

Explicitly identify this as John's symbolic vision. Revelation itself explains the stars as angels or messengers and the lampstands as churches. John falls as though dead; do not say he dies. Avoid literalizing the sword image, assigning modern dates or figures to symbols, or promising freedom from all suffering. Pause around frightening imagery and return to Jesus' reassurance.

Activity answers

1. The seven churches, according to the explanation in the vision.
2. As the living one who died and is alive forever.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 1, 2. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

Jesus, help us read carefully and receive your reassurance when strong pictures trouble us. Amen.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

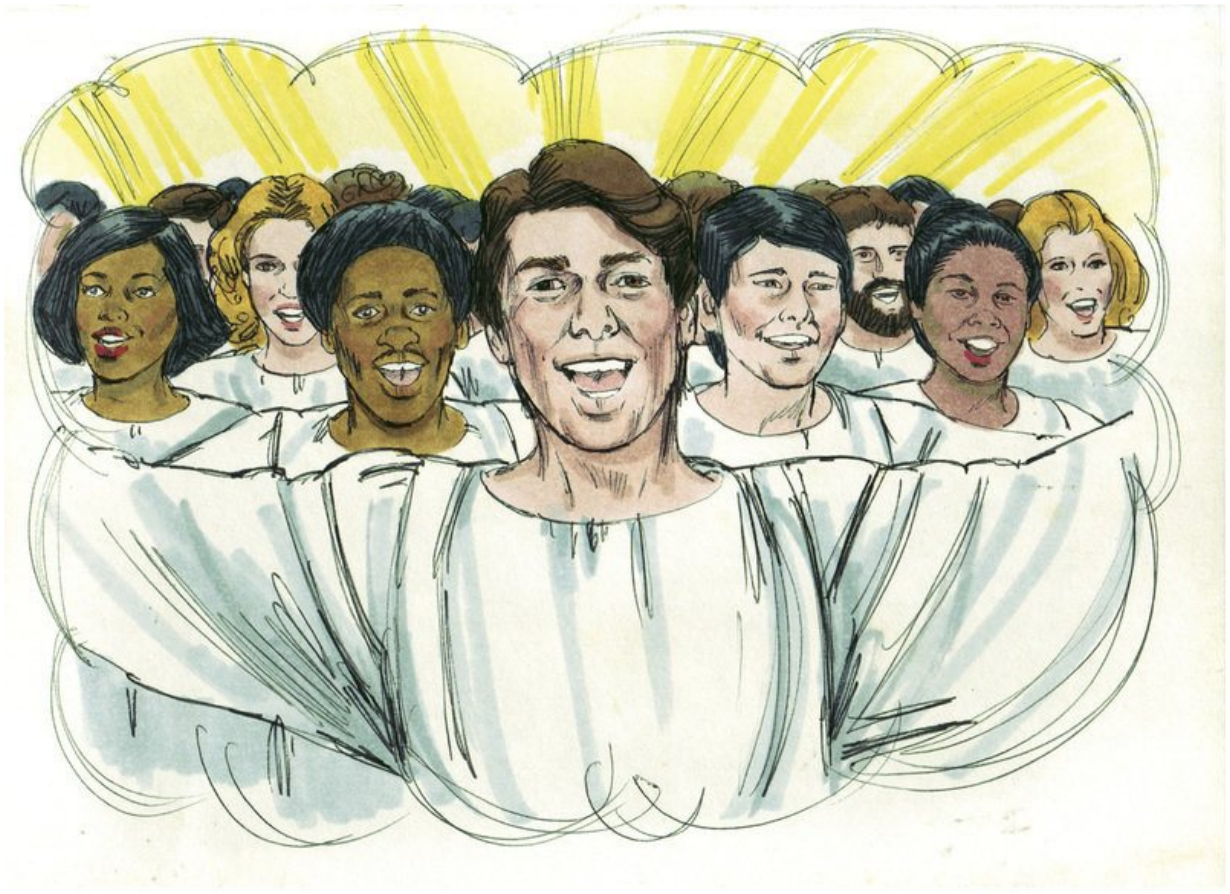
Sources and sharing

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GENESIS TO REVELATION | VISION

A Vision of God Making All Things New

Revelation 21:1-7,9-27



YOUR BIBLE READING

John's vision offers hope of God's presence, renewed creation, and an end to grief.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

A Vision of God Dwelling with People

Revelation 21:1-7,9-27



Revelation continues John's visions, using powerful pictures and symbols to speak about God's hope for his people. John sees a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and earth have passed away, and in the vision the sea is no more. This great opening picture announces renewal. What follows will show a holy city, God's presence with people, and a promise that reaches into their deepest sorrow.

John sees the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. It is prepared like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. A loud voice announces that God's dwelling is with people. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them. The city and bride are joyful images of belonging. The promise at their center is that God makes his home with his people.

God will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death, mourning, crying, and pain will no longer remain, because the former things have passed away. The one on the throne declares that he is making all things new and tells John to write these faithful, trustworthy words. The promise names sorrows people know well, then looks toward their ending. God's care reaches the tears themselves in this tender picture of comfort.

The speaker identifies himself as the beginning and the end. He promises water from the spring of life freely to the thirsty. Those who overcome receive the inheritance of belonging to God as his children. Life, family, and a generous gift come together in these words. John's vision of new creation is filled with relationship: God dwells with people, comforts them, and promises life to those who look to him in hope.

Remember: God's promised future gives hope without asking us to hide today's tears.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

The City Shines with God's Glory

Revelation 21:1-7,9-27



An angel tells John he will show him the bride, the Lamb's wife. In the Spirit, John is carried to a great, high mountain. There he sees the holy city, Jerusalem, coming from God and shining with God's glory. Its radiance is compared to a precious jasper stone, clear as crystal. The bride and the radiant city are connected pictures in the vision, full of beauty, belonging, and joy.

The city has a great wall, twelve gates, and twelve foundations. The gates bear the names of Israel's twelve tribes, and the foundations bear the names of the Lamb's twelve apostles. The angel measures the city; its length, width, and height are equal. Precious stones adorn the foundations, including sapphire, emerald, and amethyst. Each gate is pictured as a pearl, and the street is pure gold, transparent like glass.

God Almighty and the Lamb are the city's temple. Their presence fills the place that a temple building would ordinarily mark. God's glory illuminates the city, and the Lamb is its lamp. The vision describes light coming from the very ones at its center. It joins a beautiful place with a deeper promise: the people dwell in God's presence and receive their light and life from him.

The nations walk in this light and bring their glory and honor into the city. Its gates stay open, and there is no night there. Nothing unclean or false enters; those written in the Lamb's book of life belong within it. John's symbolic vision is a picture of welcome joined with goodness and truth. The city shines because God is with his people, and the promise of renewal surrounds their life together.

Pause and think: Which picture of God's care in this vision gives you room to speak honestly about sorrow and hope?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Hope Makes Room for Tears Now



The promise of tears being wiped away is a gentle picture of comfort. What part of it do you notice: God's nearness, his attention to sorrow, or the hope of pain ending? You can talk about that with your reader while also speaking honestly about something sad now. Hope and a conversation about real feelings can belong beside one another.

John describes the city through bright light, precious stones, and open gates. Choose one of these pictures and explain what it helps you notice. You might draw an open gate and write welcome beside it, or draw light around the words God is with his people. The image and the promise can help you explore the vision together with an adult.

God's promised renewal can encourage us to value people and creation today. With adult guidance, you might tend a plant, listen to a sad friend, or make a shared place more welcoming. These are ordinary actions of care as we look toward the hope John describes. Think about one small action that would show attention to a life or place entrusted to your care.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

John's symbolic vision pictures God dwelling with people, making all things new, and bringing tears and death to an end.

Which picture of God's care in this vision gives you room to speak honestly about sorrow and hope?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What is central to the promise about God's dwelling?

2. What happens to grief in the vision?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ An angel shows the radiant city lit by God and the Lamb.
- ☐ He hears a promise that grief and death will end.
- ☐ John sees renewed creation and hears of God dwelling with people.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw John's vision with symbols of light, open gates, comfort, and God's welcome.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

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Remember this

God's promised future gives hope without asking us to hide today's tears.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: Revelation 21:3-5

A thoughtful conversation

This is John's vision, full of symbols, not a date-setting chart or a demand to literalize every image. Keep God dwelling with people and the end of grief central. The bride, city, Lamb, light, and precious materials are vision language. Present hope alongside present grief without shaming sadness or using purity language to stigmatize illness, disability, or cultural difference.

Activity answers

1. God will be with his people, and they will belong to him.
2. God wipes tears away, and death, mourning, crying, and pain are no more.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 2, 1. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, comfort people who grieve and help us hold your hope with patient care for life today. Amen.

Print and share

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GENESIS TO REVELATION | VISION

The River of Life and a Hopeful Promise

Revelation 22:1-5,12-21



YOUR BIBLE READING

John's vision pictures God-given life and ends with Jesus' hopeful promise.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

The River and Tree in John's Vision

Revelation 22:1-5,12-21



Revelation's final chapter continues John's visions, full of symbols of life and God's presence. An angel shows him the river of the water of life, clear as crystal. It flows from the throne of God and the Lamb through the city's street. The source of life is at the center of the picture. From God's throne comes the bright river that fills this next part of the vision.

The tree of life is pictured on both sides of the river. It bears twelve kinds of fruit and yields its fruit each month. The leaves are for the healing of the nations. River, fruit, and healing belong together in this vision of abundant life. The picture reaches beyond one person's need toward the nations, offering hope of restoration wherever peoples have known pain, division, and loss.

No curse remains. The throne of God and the Lamb is present, and God's servants serve him. They see his face, and his name is on their foreheads. These images speak of a close relationship and a clear belonging to God. The people who serve him are welcomed into his presence. The river's generous life is joined with the joy of knowing the one from whom that life comes.

There is no night, and the servants need neither lamp light nor sunlight, because the Lord God gives them light. They reign forever. John's vision gathers its symbols into a hopeful whole: clear water, fruitful branches, healing for nations, and light from God himself. The same throne from which the river flows is present among the people. Life, service, and belonging are held together in the brightness of God's presence.

Remember: Life from God is offered generously, and Jesus' promise invites hope.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

An Invitation and a Promise from Jesus



Revelation 22:1-5,12-21

The final words include Jesus' promise that he is coming, bringing his reward and judging rightly according to what people have done. He identifies himself as the first and the last, the beginning and the end. The city is a place of faithful belonging, while harmful falsehood and wrongdoing remain outside its life. The promise joins hope with goodness: the future pictured here is shaped by God's righteous care.

Jesus says he has sent his angel to testify to the churches. He is described through the family line of David and as the bright morning star. The Spirit and the bride invite people to come, and those who hear are invited to join that call. Whoever is thirsty may receive the water of life freely. The river's picture of abundance becomes a generous invitation addressed to people who long for life.

The chapter also warns against adding to or taking away from the words of this prophecy. Its message is to be received faithfully and treated with care. Our explanations and retellings are not Scripture; they are aids for reading beside the Bible. An adult can help compare the passage with an explanation, keeping John's words and the learning aid clearly in view. Faithful reading attends to what the text actually gives us.

The book ends by welcoming Jesus' promised coming and speaking grace to the readers. Its final prayer looks toward the Lord whose promise has been heard. The vision's river and tree, its light and healing, now stand beside an invitation to come and receive life. John has given the churches a message to hear and keep. The closing words leave them with the grace of Jesus and a hope they can welcome together.

Pause and think: Which images in John's vision help you notice God's generosity, belonging, and hope?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Life Freely Offered, Hope Shared



The tree's leaves are for the healing of nations. Think about how wide that picture reaches, including peoples who have known division and loss. With your reader, name a place or community you would like to remember in prayer. You might draw leaves around its name as a way to explore the vision's generous hope for healing and peace.

The water of life is offered freely to the thirsty. Picture someone receiving a needed drink, then consider the greater gift of life pictured here. What does the invitation help you notice about God's generosity? You could draw the river and add the words life freely offered. Talk with an adult about how this picture connects with belonging and hope.

Jesus' promise and the invitation to come give the ending a shared voice. The Spirit, the bride, and those who hear are joined in the call. Read the ending aloud with your adult reader, then discuss one image or phrase you want to remember. Let that conversation lead toward gratitude for God's gift and a thoughtful way to care for someone today.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

John's symbolic vision ends with life freely offered, Jesus' promised coming, and a call to receive his words faithfully.

Which images in John's vision help you notice God's generosity, belonging, and hope?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What flows from the throne of God and the Lamb?

2. How is the water of life offered?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ Jesus speaks his promise, and people are invited to receive life freely.
- ☐ The prophecy is to be received faithfully, and the book ends in hopeful grace.
- ☐ John sees the river, tree of life, healing, and God's light.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw a clearly labeled vision with a bright river, a fruitful tree, and symbols of healing and welcome.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

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Remember this

Life from God is offered generously, and Jesus' promise invites hope.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: Revelation 22:1-5,16-21

A thoughtful conversation

Keep river, tree, light, and morning-star language within John's symbolic vision; provide no dates or end-times predictions. The leaves are not medical instructions. Explain the warning against altering prophecy as respect for Scripture, while explicitly distinguishing this educational retelling from Scripture itself. The freely offered water and Jesus' promise support hope without fear-based speculation or claims to decode every image.

Activity answers

1. The river of the water of life, pictured as clear as crystal.
2. Freely to the thirsty person who desires to come.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 2, 3, 1. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

Jesus, help us receive your words carefully and live with patient hope in your promise. Amen.

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