

August 2013

Volume 24:08

# Discovery

*Scripture & Science for Kids*





# Talking to GOD



**WHAT IF YOU WANTED TO TALK TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED States of America?** He is a very busy person. He makes big decisions, sits in important meetings, visits foreign countries, and signs important bills into law, just to

name a few of his activities. Because he is so important and so busy, it would be very difficult for you to talk with him. You probably could not call him on the phone and talk to him, and meeting him for lunch would most likely be completely out of the question. You might be able to write him a letter, but chances are that it would take a long time to get an answer back, and then it might not even come from the President himself.

Now let's think about God. God is much more important than the President of the United States. By God's power the world is held together (Hebrews 1:3). God makes the Sun shine, the stars twinkle, and all the planets stay in their orbits. He feeds the birds, gives life to millions of babies everyday, and controls the weather. He is the busiest Being in the world. So how difficult do you think it would be to talk to God? The truth is, it is not difficult at all. God has designed a way that we can talk to Him any time of any day or night—through prayer. Prayer is talking to God. We can worship God by praying to Him.

Because God created people, and gave each person a soul, God loves His creation and wants humans to talk to Him. In fact, the Bible says that God's children can cast all their cares upon God, because He cares for them (1 Peter 5:7). That means that there is nothing too unimportant for you to tell God. If your pet dies, you can talk to God about how you feel. If your friends make fun of you at school,

God is glad to listen. When you are happy about winning a game or contest, God likes to hear from you. God will always listen to you, even when you talk about things that might seem unimportant to some people.

In the Bible, we read that Jesus prayed often (Luke 6:12). Jesus even gave His disciples a model prayer (Matthew 6:9-13). We also read about large groups of disciples worshiping God by praying together. You can read about one of those groups praying in Acts 4:23-31. Prayer is a wonderful way to worship God. And remember, God is never too busy to listen when we pray.



# The Lord's Supper

**THERE ARE MANY IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER THROUGHOUT LIFE. IT IS IMPORTANT to remember the greatest day of your**

life—the day you are baptized into Christ to become a Christian. One day, if you choose to marry, it will be helpful to remember what day you married the love of your life. Americans remember July 4 and September 11 as important days in American history. The most important day to Christians comes around every week—Sunday. On this day, Christians remember Jesus' death and resurrection.

Christians honor Jesus' death by sharing in the Lord's Supper. Jesus introduced this supper as a reminder (Matthew 26:26-28) when He took the bread and said, "Take, eat, this is My body." He also took the fruit of the vine and said, "Drink from it, all of you. For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remissions of sins."

Sometimes, we can forget the importance of Jesus dying on the cross for us. We forget that He was beaten with harsh whips, forced to carry the cross upon his torn back, spit on by those for whom He was dying, and suffered so much for His love of mankind. By giving us the Lord's Supper, Jesus has helped us to remain in close communion with Him—to remember every Sunday the sacrifice that He made for us.

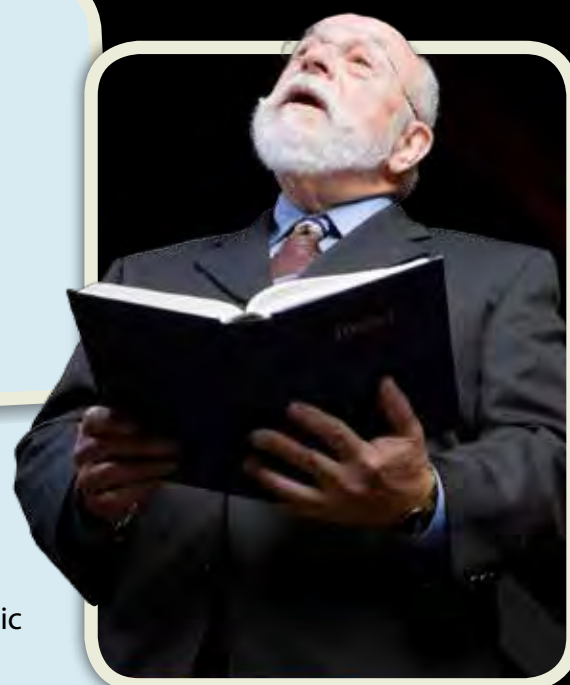
Paul told the Christians in Corinth "as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till he comes" (1 Corinthians 11:26). Many people in the Corinthian church had forgotten the real meaning of the Lord's Supper. Paul had to remind these people that they should be remembering Jesus at this special memorial. He told them that if a Christian did not eat the Lord's supper in a worthy manner, then he would "eat and drink judgment to himself" (1 Corinthians 11:29).

When Christians eat that small piece of bread and drink the cup of grape juice, we should remember that we do so for a very important reason. We should focus our attention on Jesus and what He did in order that we might be saved from our sins.





# WHY WE SING IN WORSHIP



## MOST RELIGIOUS PEOPLE AGREE THAT IT IS GOOD TO HAVE MUSIC IN WORSHIP SERVICES. HOWEVER, MANY

of them disagree about what kind of music should be included. As you probably know, some religious groups use piano music in their worship; others have a whole band, complete with drums and electric guitars. Other churches only use a cappella singing (with no instruments). Who's right?

The leaders of some churches base their decisions concerning what will happen in worship mostly on what the members of the churches like. So, if the people enjoy opera music, then the worship will feature that style of instrumental music. On the other hand, if the local church members prefer upbeat rock 'n' roll music, then the church leaders might hire a seven-piece band to "liven up" the service.

Should we base our worship practices on the preferences of humans, or on the commands of God? We should not design our worship services in order to please ourselves (John 4:24).

We must worship according to the plan of God (Matthew 15:9).

Has God given us any specific instructions about music in worship? Yes: "[S]peaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, **singing** and making melody in your heart to the Lord" (Ephesians 5:19). If we do what God commanded us in that verse, will we sing, play instruments, or play instruments **and** sing? We will sing—without the addition of musical instruments.

Notice what Paul wrote: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, **singing** with grace in your hearts to the Lord" (Colossians 3:16). Did God command us to use musical instruments? No. In fact, there is no authorization for the use of instruments in New Testament worship, so we should not use them (see 1 Corinthians 14:15).



## The Gift OF GIVING

### IF YOU ARE LIKE MOST CHILDREN, YOU LOVE TO RECEIVE GIFTS. IT FEELS REALLY GOOD TO GET A NEW

book, bicycle, or basketball. We must understand, however, that in order to receive gifts, there must be someone who **gives** them. Jesus taught: "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). Why is it better that we give? After all, receiving gifts is so much fun.

Christian giving is a sign of happiness. The fact is, the more you give, the happier you will be. God rewards men who give cheerfully (2 Corinthians 9:6-7). Those who earn money should examine their money, and determine how much they should return to the Lord. Paul taught the Christians at Corinth that they were to give of their means on the first day of every week (1 Corinthians 16:1-2), just as he instructed the Galatian churches. Giving is a sacrificial part of our worship.

A good giver first realizes that he is very blessed—with a way to earn money, to have good health, life, and so much more. Second, he realizes that all of his blessings come from God (James 1:17). Finally, a good giver realizes the importance of giving his money to help in the work of the church.

The contribution helps to support preachers and missionaries who spread the Gospel. It helps those in serious need. When a man thinks on all of the good that comes from his giving, he can be the cheerful giver that God desires him to be.

God does not command us to give an exact amount. Instead, God gives each of us the choice to decide how much we should give. In Mark 12, Jesus watched people as they put money in the treasury. Some rich people put in much money, but this did not impress Jesus. A widow came by and threw in two copper coins. Jesus called His disciples together, and said that the widow had put in the most, because she gave all that she had. The widow was an excellent giver. She gave with an abundance of joy—just as God commands. When we give cheerfully, we can know that God will one day reward us with cheerfulness—and that's worth more than all of the money in the world.



# ACTIVITY PAGES

## COMPLETE THE BIBLE VERSES (NKJV)

1. "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all \_\_\_\_\_, teaching and \_\_\_\_\_ one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, \_\_\_\_\_ with grace in your hearts to the Lord" (Colossians 3:16).
2. "As often as you eat this \_\_\_\_\_ and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's \_\_\_\_\_ till he comes" (1 Corinthians 11:26).
3. "It is more blessed to \_\_\_\_\_ than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

## SOLVE, FIND, AND CIRCLE

1. Instituted the Lord's Supper \_\_\_\_\_
2. Talking reverently to God \_\_\_\_\_
3. You drink this during the Lord's Supper \_\_\_\_\_
4. The kind of singing in New Testament, Christian worship \_\_\_\_\_
5. Those who are followers of Christ wear this name (Acts 11:26) \_\_\_\_\_
6. A congregation in this city that Paul taught a lot about the Lord's Supper \_\_\_\_\_
7. Jesus died on a \_\_\_\_\_
8. According to John 4:24, Christians are to worship God in spirit as well as in \_\_\_\_\_

C O R I N T H M E C  
 C V H J U N L T C N  
 H V U J R Z Z P A Y  
 R W Z R A R C R C X  
 I T V V A F G A A S  
 S U V C I L R Y P A  
 T S I C B T A E P O  
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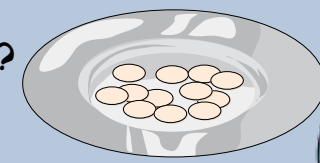
## TRUE OR FALSE

1. \_\_\_ God wants us to sing praises to him with musical instruments.
2. \_\_\_ You can talk to God anytime through prayer.
3. \_\_\_ You should not pray all the time, because it would be nagging God.
4. \_\_\_ The Lord's Supper is for honoring the death of Jesus.
5. \_\_\_ The Corinthians forgot what the Lord's Supper was all about.
6. \_\_\_ We should concentrate on the sacrifice Jesus made for us when partaking of the Lord's Supper.
7. \_\_\_ Bible teachers are not very important in the world today.
8. \_\_\_ The disciples taught the Gospel to others.
9. \_\_\_ The Gospel is for all.
10. \_\_\_ The Word of God builds up the church.

## ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER

1. Explain in your own words why it is important to worship God.
2. What are the five "acts" of worship that Christians can participate in scripturally?

Dear Digger Doug,  
 When should I start eating the Lord's Supper?



Dear Reader,

One of the reasons that the Lord's people come together on the first day of the week is for the purpose of partaking of the Lord's Supper. The Lord's Supper was not intended to be for everyone. The Lord's Supper is a privilege for Christians—those who have been washed in the blood of Jesus through baptism. Jesus commanded His disciples and all future generations to partake in this memorial. For every Christian, it is an honor to eat the Lord's Supper. By doing this, Christians remember Jesus' crucified body, how He shed His blood, and how He died for sinful man.

Jesus told His disciples: "I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom" (Matthew 26:29). The Lord's Supper is designed for those who have entered the kingdom of God. Jesus said: "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3). A person must be born again through immersion to enter the kingdom of heaven, and once he or she reaches that point, he may partake of the Lord's Supper.



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

# Teaching and Preaching GOD'S WORD

Acts 2:42; 20:7).  
 Christians today  
 should understand  
 the importance of  
 teaching the Bible  
 when the church  
 assembles. It is the

## TEACHERS HAVE ALWAYS PLAYED A VERY IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE WORLD. MANY HELP EDUCATE CHILDREN

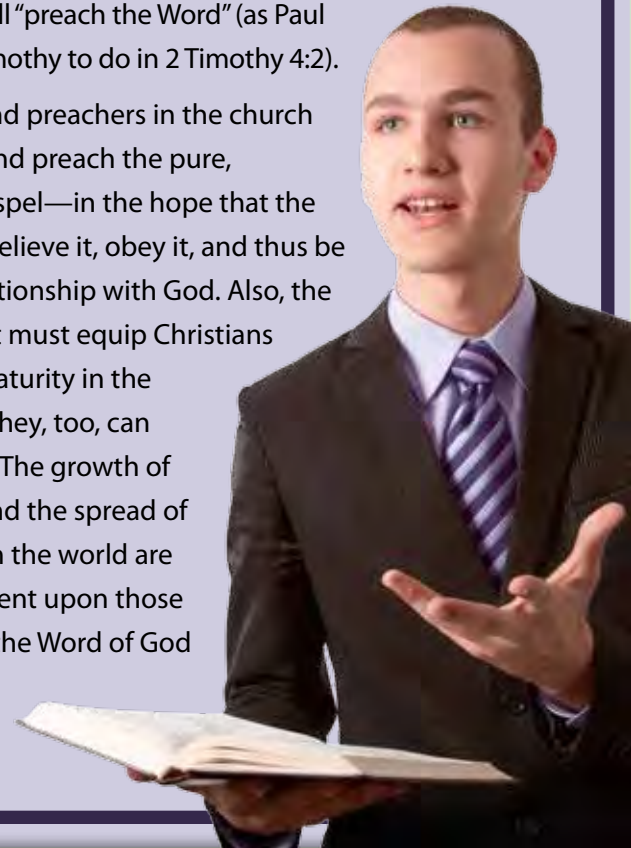
by teaching them reading, writing, and other subjects that they will need to know throughout their lives. Other teachers, such as evangelists, teach important spiritual lessons that are necessary for people to learn if they want to be pleasing to God and go to heaven.

In the New Testament, Jesus said, "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, **teaching** them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo I am with you always, even to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:19-20). As the disciples taught the Gospel to others, the result was additional disciples, who then were rooted and grounded in the fundamentals of God's Word.

When the early disciples gathered to worship God, they listened to men teach truths from God's Word (read

Word of God that builds up the church (Acts 20:32). Thus, we need to make sure we have men teaching in the Lord's church today who will "preach the Word" (as Paul instructed Timothy to do in 2 Timothy 4:2).

Teachers and preachers in the church must teach and preach the pure, complete Gospel—in the hope that the hearers will believe it, obey it, and thus be in a right relationship with God. Also, the things taught must equip Christians for greater maturity in the faith so that they, too, can teach others. The growth of the church and the spread of Christianity in the world are both dependent upon those who believe the Word of God and teach it to others.



## ANSWERS

**TRUE OR FALSE:** 1. F; 2. T; 3. F; 4. T; 5. T; 6. T; 7. F; 8. T; 9. T; 10. T.  
**SOLVE, FIND, AND CIRCLE:** 1. Jesus; 2. prayer; 3. grape juice; 4. a capella; 5. Christians; 6. Corinth; 7. cross; 8. truth.  
**COMPLETE THE BIBLE VERSES:** 1. wisdom, administering, singing; 2. bread, death; 3. give.  
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