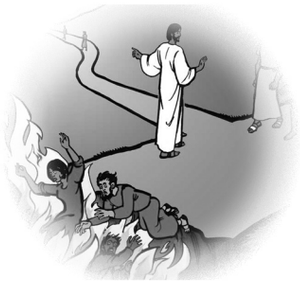
LESSON 24

THE WAY TO EVERLASTING LIFE



Aim: **To make the children think about the two ways Jesus talked about.**

Scripture Reading: **Psalm 1; Matthew 7:13–14; John 14:6**

Memory Verse: **The Ten Commandments. No new verses. Review the passage the children have learnt.**

Presenting the Lesson

Starting point

Talk about winnowing grain. It would be great if you could find a winnowing basket to bring to class and ask the children what it is used for. This is used to hold the grain when it is separated from the chaff, which is the rough skin around the grain. The grain we can use for food, but the chaff is useless. We let it blow away in the wind.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. King David wrote a psalm in which he described two people. This psalm says that people who follow God are like fruitful trees, while those who don't are useless, like chaff (Ps 1:3–4). The children learnt this psalm as a memory passage in Book 4, Servants of God.
2. Jesus said life was like entering through a certain gate that lead to a certain road. The wide gate leads to a broad road that looks very attractive, but it will take you away from God and his commandments. This is the way of godlessness and it leads to death and destruction. Sadly, many people choose that wide gate (Matt 7:13).
3. Jesus invites us urgently to follow his road. This is like entering through a small gate onto a narrow and much harder road with fewer people on it. However, no matter how hard the road of life is, on the road that leads to our Heavenly Father's house Jesus is always by our side. This is the road of everlasting life, which begins when we give ourselves to Jesus. **Show Picture 24.** Here Jesus is pointing out his narrow road. This is the best way to follow in life (Matt 7:13–14; John 14:6).
4. Use the stories of the various people in this set of lessons to show how they chose to follow either God's way on the narrow road, or the godless way along the broad road.

Examples:

Lessons 11 and 12: Mordecai, Esther's uncle, chose God's way. Haman, the Prime Minister, chose the wicked way.

Lesson 9: The people of Nineveh turned from the godless way to God's way.

Lessons 17 and 18: Daniel chose God's way, which was a very difficult road under the circumstances. The evil people who plotted against Daniel chose the godless way.

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Our Response to the Story

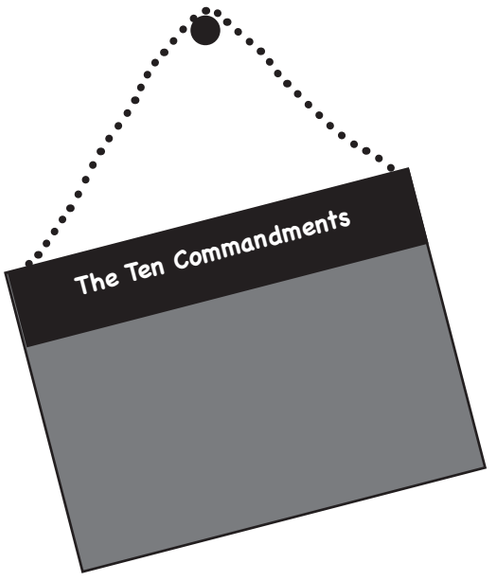
I want every one of you to think very carefully about which road you are following. Are you walking with Jesus?

If any of you want to know more about this, you are always welcome to come and talk to me, another teacher or the pastor. **Children love to please, so if you ask those who want to follow Jesus to raise their hands or stand up, many will do so who do not really mean it.** The Holy Spirit himself will prompt anyone he is calling to come to you of his or her own accord.

Instil the Memory Verses

Instead of all the children reciting all the commandments, divide the class into two or more groups and let each group say one commandment in turn. It is better not to let one child say them on his or her own, as the others will become bored.

A note about Picture 24: The Bible does not tell us much about hell. What we do know for sure is that it is a place of complete and eternal separation from God, who is the source of light and love. Therefore it will be terrible. This is difficult to show in pictures. What this picture wants to show us is that there is nothing worse than being separated from God, who created us and loves us.



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