

The background is a dark purple field filled with various hand-drawn religious symbols in different colors. These symbols include open books, crowns, crosses, question marks, and arrows. A large green triangle is positioned in the center, containing the text 'go GROUPS' in white.

go GROUPS

STUDENT DEVOTIONAL UNIT 25

Name:

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UNIT 25: THE WARNINGS OF JESUS

Session 1: People Welcomed Jesus as King Matthew 21



Sunday, September 10

How is Jesus the perfect Prophet?

Jesus perfectly reveals God the Father and fulfills what the prophets spoke.

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 18:15

"The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own brothers. You must listen to Him."

Session 1 Monday



Before you read...

- ▶ This week, we will be reading about Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. We celebrate this event each year on Palm Sunday, the week before Easter. It might seem strange to read about Palm Sunday when it is not spring, but it is an important event in Jesus' life on earth.
- ▶ When Jesus rode into Jerusalem, it was the beginning of His last week on earth. At the end of that same week, He would be crucified on the cross.
- ▶ Jesus made His way into Jerusalem to make a way for us to be with the Father for all eternity.



Read Matthew 21:1-3

- ▶ What animal did Jesus ask His disciples to get for Him?

- ▶ In verse 3, what did Jesus tell the disciples to say if anyone asked them what they were doing?

- ▶ What do you think Jesus wanted to do with this animal?



Before you read...

- ▶ This week, we are reading about Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, which we call Palm Sunday.
- ▶ Yesterday, we read that Jesus asked His disciples to go into town and bring Him a donkey and her colt. He needed a donkey because the prophet Zechariah, in the Old Testament, said that Jesus would come riding on a donkey.
- ▶ Prophets in the Old Testament helped people understand that God would send the Messiah into the world to save people from their sin.



Read Matthew 21:4-5

- ▶ In verse 5, who does it say is coming, riding on a donkey?

- ▶ What word does the author use to describe the person who is coming?

- ▶ Draw a picture or describe what Jesus might have looked like riding on the foal of a donkey.

Session 1 Wednesday



Before you read...

- ▶ This week, we are reading about Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, which we call Palm Sunday.
- ▶ Jesus knew that a prophet from the Old Testament named Zechariah said that the king (Jesus) would arrive riding on a donkey, so Jesus asked His disciples to bring Him a donkey and her colt.



Read Matthew 21:6-8

- ▶ What did the disciples do with the donkey and colt when they brought them to Jesus?

- ▶ In verse 8 it says that there was a very large crowd. What were the people in the crowd doing?

- ▶ Why do you think there was a large crowd where Jesus and His disciples were?



Before you read...

- ▶ This week, we are reading about Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, which we call Palm Sunday.
- ▶ Yesterday, we read that Jesus did exactly what the prophet Zechariah said He would do. Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. There was a large crowd who spread their cloaks and branches from trees on the road in front of Jesus.



Read Matthew 21:9

- ▶ Write down the three phrases the large crowd shouted.

- ▶ What words would you use to describe how the crowd felt about Jesus?

- ▶ The word, Hosanna means "save now." Who or what do you think the crowd wanted Jesus to save them from?

Session 1 Friday



Before you read...

- ▶ This week, we are reading about Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, which we call Palm Sunday.
- ▶ Jesus fulfilled the words of the prophet, Zechariah by riding into Jerusalem on a donkey.
- ▶ The large crowd of people was very excited to see Jesus and shouted, "Hosanna!" which means save now.

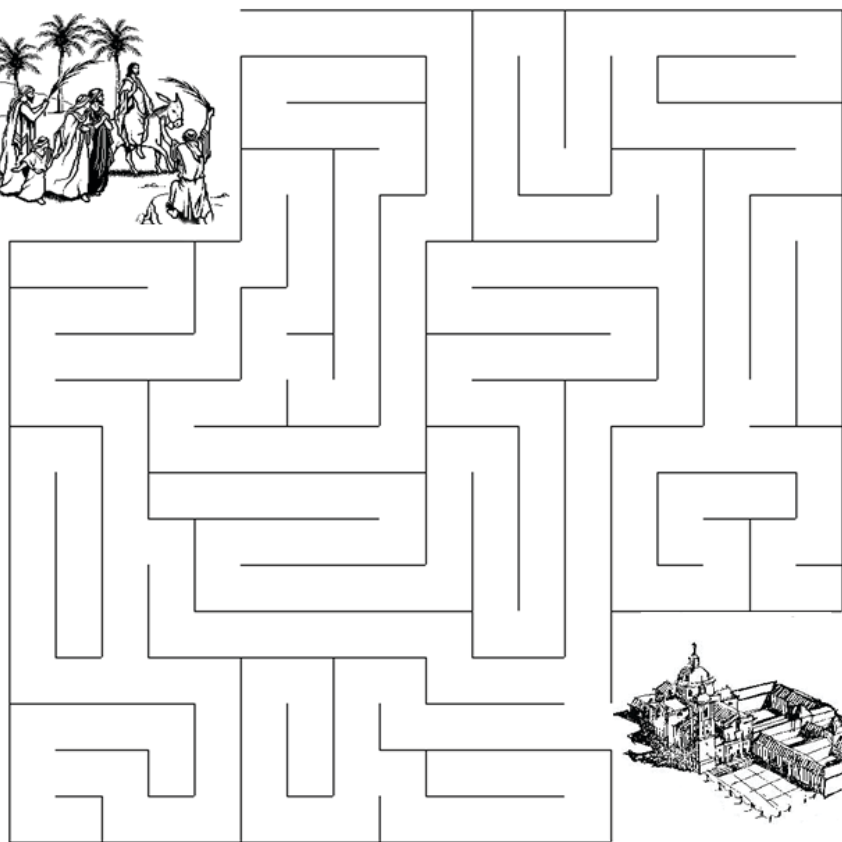


Read Matthew 21:10-11

- ▶ What did people in the city ask when Jesus came into Jerusalem?

- ▶ How did the crowd answer their question?

- ▶ Look back at the first page of this session. Our big picture question asks, "How is Jesus the perfect Prophet?" What is the answer to the question? (It is on the first page.)



Follow Jesus through the streets of Jerusalem.

The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"

Matthew 21:9

UNIT 25: THE WARNINGS OF JESUS

Session 2: Leaders Wanted to Trick Jesus Matthew 22



Sunday, September 17

How is Jesus the perfect Prophet?

Jesus perfectly reveals God the Father and fulfills what the prophets spoke.

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 18:15

"The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own brothers. You must listen to Him."



Before you read...

- ▶ Last week, we read about Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. There were large crowds of people who were so excited to see Jesus and shouted for Him to save them.
- ▶ Sadly, the religious leaders, who were called Pharisees and Sadducees, did not believe Jesus was the Messiah that God promised. They trusted in their own understanding. They thought if they could trick Jesus into saying something wrong then they would have a reason to arrest Jesus and find Him guilty. This week, we will read about two different times the religious leaders tried to trick Jesus.



Read Matthew 22:15-17

- ▶ What does verse 15 say the Pharisees planned to do?

- ▶ In verse 16, the Pharisees give Jesus pretend praise and say He taught the way of God truthfully. But, if the Pharisees were trying to trick Jesus, do you think they actually believed Jesus taught the truth?

- ▶ What question did the Pharisees ask Jesus in verse 17?

Session 2 Tuesday



Before you read...

- ▶ This week, we are reading about the Pharisees, religious leaders who were trying to trick Jesus into saying something wrong so they could arrest Him.
- ▶ Yesterday, we read that the Pharisees asked Jesus if it is right to pay taxes to Caesar. This was a tricky question because the religious leaders did not want to pay taxes to the Romans, but all people were required to pay taxes.



Read Matthew 22:18

- ▶ What does verse 18 say that Jesus knew about the Pharisees?

- ▶ What does Jesus call the Pharisees?

- ▶ How do you think Jesus knew what was in the heart of the Pharisees?



Before you read...

- ▶ Yesterday, we read that Jesus knew the heart of the Pharisees and the evil intentions they had in trying to trick Him. Jesus knew the evil in their heart because He is God and God knows everything.
- ▶ Because Jesus knew what the Pharisees were doing, He did not fall into their trick. He answered their question in a perfect way that could not get Him into trouble at all.
- ▶ Today, we will read Jesus' answer. The passage mentions Caesar. He was the Roman ruler at that time.



Read Matthew 22:19-22

- ▶ Whose picture was on the coin?

- ▶ Jesus said, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's." The coin obviously belonged to Caesar. What do you think belongs to God? (This is a deep thinking question where we just want to know what you think!)

- ▶ What did the Pharisees think of Jesus' answer to their question? (Verse 22)

Session 2 Thursday



Before you read...

- ▶ This week, we are reading about the Pharisees, religious leaders who were trying to trick Jesus into saying something wrong so they could arrest Him. For the first three days we read about the Pharisees question about paying taxes.
- ▶ Today, we are skipping ahead a little bit in chapter 22 to read about another question the Pharisees asked Jesus.
- ▶ It is important to know that the Pharisees thought it was super important to follow all 613 laws of the Old Testament perfectly. The Pharisees thought following those laws perfectly was how you would get to heaven.



Read Matthew 22:35-36

- ▶ What does verse 35 say the expert in the law was trying to do?

- ▶ What question did the expert ask Jesus?

- ▶ What do you think is the greatest commandment?



Before you read...

- ▶ This week, we are reading about the Pharisees, religious leaders who were trying to trick Jesus into saying something wrong so they could arrest Him. Yesterday, we read that the Pharisees wanted Jesus to name the greatest commandment.
- ▶ Today, we will read how Jesus replied. He quotes Deuteronomy 6:5 in His answer.
- ▶ In Matthew 22, there are two more times that we did not read about that the Pharisees and Sadducees asked questions trying to trick Jesus. Jesus answered all of their questions with wisdom, power, and authority. They did not dare ask Him any more questions trying to trick Him.



Read Matthew 22:37-39

- ▶ What does Jesus say is the greatest commandment?

- ▶ What does Jesus say is the second greatest commandment?

- ▶ Give an example of how you can love your neighbor as yourself.

Paying Taxes to Caesar

Then he said to them, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's." Matthew 22:21

Based on Matthew 22:15-22 (NIV)



U Q J P F L K C Z Q T A X E S
Y N W N L O V Q P J H N J Z D
Z A H R H A P C K B W K S E K
D P K E F T N I L Q E O Z H G
A H R P A R T S N P S A R A C
D A Y L Q A E K I I M A F D N
D R Y I A P A C N A O N A Y S
W I P E B O C A T S U N A L Z
F S S D L N H E E U U W V D V
Z E I C S G E S G O L E N B E
F E W W I L R A R S Z B T G L
U S T N B P T R I U Y G B I O
V F L Y H G L I T Z U O F V G
K T R U T H O E Y P U T K E H
V M V K Q X K D S O Z A D K G

GOD
CAESAR
WAY
PHARISEES

WORDS
TAXES
PLANS
TEACHER

DISCIPLES
AMAZED
GIVE
INTEGRITY

OPINION
REPLIED
TRAP
TRUTH

UNIT 25: THE WARNINGS OF JESUS

Session 3: Jesus Warned about Not Loving Matthew 23



Sunday, September 24

How is Jesus the
perfect Prophet?

Jesus perfectly reveals God
the Father and fulfills what
the prophets spoke.

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 18:15

"The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from
among your own brothers. You must listen to Him."

Session 3 Monday



Before you read...

- ▶ This week, we are reading from Matthew 23. Throughout this whole chapter, Jesus is talking about the teachers of the law and the Pharisees. These men were the religious leaders and they were not good men. Jesus is scolding them in these verses.
- ▶ Also in these verses, Jesus is warning the people to NOT follow the teachers of the law and the Pharisees because they were hypocrites. This means they said one thing but did something different.



Read Matthew 23:1-4

- ▶ In verse 2, whose seat does Jesus say the Pharisees sit in?

- ▶ Do the people have to obey the religious leaders? (verse 3)

- ▶ Even though the people are supposed to obey, what does Jesus say they should NOT do in verse 3?



Before you read...

- ▶ This week, we are reading from Matthew 23. Throughout this whole chapter, Jesus is talking about the teachers of the law and the Pharisees. Jesus is warning the people to NOT follow these men because they were hypocrites. This means they said one thing but did something different.
- ▶ In today's passage, Jesus tells us a few things the religious leaders do that the people should not follow.
- ▶ Jesus mentions phylacteries in verse 5. These were little boxes the Pharisees and teachers wore on their forehead or arm that hold Scripture verses. They wanted their boxes to be extra big to show that they knew LOTS of Scripture.



Read Matthew 23:5-7

- ▶ In verse 5, Jesus say, "Everything they do is for...?" What do the teachers and Pharisees do everything for?

- ▶ List two things the Pharisees and teachers love to do.

- ▶ What do you think Jesus wants them to do instead?

Session 3

Wednesday



Before you read...

- ▶ Throughout Matthew 23, Jesus is warning the people to NOT follow the teachers of the law and the Pharisees because they were hypocrites. They followed rules to make themselves look good, not because they loved God and others. In this chapter, Jesus says the phrase, “Woe to you” seven times. Jesus used this phrase to bring judgment to these religious leaders and to show His grief over their actions.
- ▶ For the next three days, we are going to read 3 of the “Woe to you” statements. If you want a challenge, read all of chapter 23 and find all seven “Woe to you” statements.



Read Matthew 23:23-24

- ▶ What does Jesus say the teachers of the law and Pharisees give?

- ▶ What does Jesus say the teachers of the law and Pharisees neglect or ignore?

- ▶ Jesus is saying that people should follow all the laws, not just the ones they want to follow. What is one rule at home that is easy for you to follow? What is one rule that is hard for you to follow?



Before you read...

- ▶ Throughout Matthew 23, Jesus says the phrase, “Woe to you” seven times. Jesus used this phrase to bring judgment to these religious leaders and to show His grief over their actions.
- ▶ Yesterday, Jesus taught that people should follow all the rules, not just the ones they want to follow.
- ▶ Today, Jesus talks about cleaning a cup and a dish. But, Jesus actually is talking about the inside—the heart—and the outside of a person.



Read Matthew 23:25–26

- ▶ What does Jesus say the Pharisees are full of on the inside?

- ▶ In verse 26, what does Jesus say they should clean first?

- ▶ Jesus is really saying they should have a clean heart. What is something you can do that would show you have a clean heart?

Session 3 Friday



Before you read...

- ▶ Throughout Matthew 23, Jesus says the phrase, “Woe to you” seven times. Jesus used this phrase to bring judgment to these religious leaders and to show His grief over their actions.
- ▶ Throughout this whole chapter, Jesus is warning the people to NOT follow the Pharisees and teachers of the law because they were hypocrites.
- ▶ Today, we will read one last “Woe to you” statement. This one is also talking about how people look on the outside versus what their heart is like on the inside.



Read Matthew 23:27-28

- ▶ What does Jesus compare the teachers of the law and Pharisees to this time?

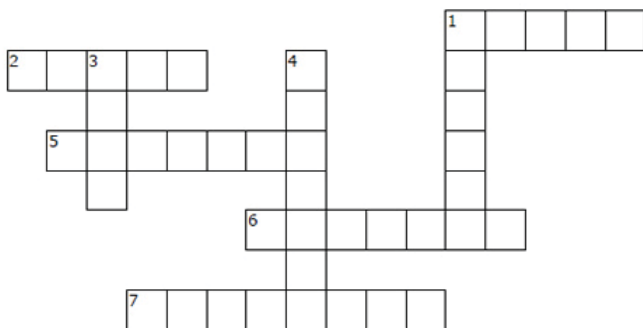
- ▶ In verse 28, what does Jesus say the leaders are full of?

- ▶ Do you know someone who pretends to be nice, but they are actually mean? How can you tell if they are truly nice or just pretending to be nice?

Practice What You Preach

But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach. Matthew 23:3b (NIV)

Based on Matthew 23:1-12 (NIV)



ACROSS

1. To show high respect or esteem for someone
2. A large gathering of people
5. Someone who trains or instructs other people
6. A formal dinner honoring a particular person or occasion
7. Most important, powerful, or famous

DOWN

1. To consider yourself as having no special importance; not proud
3. To do what you are told or expected to do
4. A person hired to work for someone else

CROWD
HONOR

BANQUET
TEACHER

GREATEST
SERVANT

HUMBLE
OBEY

UNIT 25: THE WARNINGS OF JESUS

Session 4: Jesus Warned about Not Acting Matthew 25



Sunday, October 1

How is Jesus the
perfect Prophet?

Jesus perfectly reveals God
the Father and fulfills what
the prophets spoke.

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 18:15

"The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from
among your own brothers. You must listen to Him."



Before you read...

- ▶ This week, we are going to read a parable that Jesus told. Jesus told parables (or stories) to help people understand truths about God and His Kingdom. In this parable, we will learn that the master is like God. The Master is good and has given all of us ways to serve Him with our lives.
- ▶ This parable talks about “talents.” This is a unit of money worth more than a thousand dollars.



Read Matthew 25:14-18

- ▶ How many men did the master give money to?

- ▶ What did the men who got five and two talents do with their money?

- ▶ What did the man who got one talent do with his money?

Session 4 Tuesday



Before you read...

- ▶ This week we are reading the parable of the talents from Matthew 25. Remember, the master in this parable is like God. He is good and has given all of us ways to serve Him with our lives.
- ▶ Yesterday, we read that the master gave money to three of his servants. Two of the men put their money to work and earned more money for the master. The other man buried his money in the ground to hide it.



Read Matthew 25:19-21

- ▶ How many more talents did the servant bring to his master?

- ▶ How did the master respond to the servant?

- ▶ Why do you think the master was so happy?



Before you read...

- ▶ This week we are reading the parable of the talents from Matthew 25. Remember, the master in this parable is like God. He is good and has given all of us ways to serve Him with our lives.
- ▶ Yesterday, we read that the master was pleased with the servant who earned five more talents to go with the five he was given. The master said he would put the servant in charge of many things.



Read Matthew 25:22-23

- ▶ How many more talents did this servant bring to his master?

- ▶ How did the master respond to his servant?

- ▶ This servant made less than the other servant, but the master was still happy. Why do you think he was still happy with the servant?

Session 4 Thursday



Before you read...

- ▶ So far this week, in the parable of the talents, we have read about two servants who have earned more money for their master. The master is very pleased with his servants and will put them in charge of many things.
- ▶ There is one more servant in this story...the one who hid his talent in a hole in the ground.



Read Matthew 25:24-27

- ▶ Why did the servant say he hid the talent in the ground?

- ▶ How does the master describe the servant in verse 26?

- ▶ What does the master say the servant should have done with his talent?



Before you read...

- ▶ This week we have read the parable of the talents from Matthew 25. In this parable, two servants earned double the amount of money the master had given them. But one servant was lazy and hid his money in a hole. The master was very pleased with the first two servants, but very angry with the third servant.
- ▶ This story is meant to show that God gives all of us many gifts to use to serve Him. God is a good Father and wants to welcome us into His joy. But, we have to choose to accept and use His gifts. There are consequences if we reject God. Today we will read the consequences of the servant who rejected his master.



Read Matthew 25:28-30

- ▶ What does the master do with the talent that the servant hid in the ground?

- ▶ What does the master do with the servant who hid the talent in the ground?

- ▶ What is a gift God has given you that you can use to serve Him and help others know more about Him?

The Parable of the Talents

But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Matthew 25:18

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
R	N	J	Z	M	C	W	L	O	K	Q	S	I	T	D	F	E	P	U	V	H	X	G	Y	A	B

- 12-21-25-1-17 _____
- 16-25-13-14-21-16-19-8 _____
- 21-13-15-17 _____
- 5-9-2-17-24 _____
- 23-9-9-15 _____
- 12-17-1-20-25-2-14 _____
- 3-9-19-1-2-17-24 _____
- 25-16-1-25-13-15 _____
- 8-25-4-24 _____
- 21-25-18-18-13-2-17-12-12 _____

FAITHFUL	GOOD	HAPPINESS	SHARE	AFRAID
LAZY	JOURNEY	SERVANT	MONEY	HIDE



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