



SAMPLE

**WORSHIP IN THE  
COVENANT COMMUNITY**

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## THE ORDER OF SERVICE

- I. Bell tap or organ voluntary as a signal for silence
- II. Singing
- III. The Apostles' Creed
- IV. Prayer, closing with the Lord's Prayer in concert
- V. Singing
- VI. Calling roll of officers and teachers
- VII. Responsive reading of the lesson text by school
- VIII. The Decalogue

## THE LESSON

- I. Organ interlude while the classes are being arranged
- II. Class study of the lesson
- III. Warning bell—5 minutes
- IV. Closing bell—silence

## THE CLOSING

- I. Singing
- II. Review and application of the lesson
- III. Secretary's report
- IV. The Church School Creed
- V. Singing
- VI. Benediction

## EDITORIAL STAFF

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• **Rev. Dr. Garland F. Pierce**, Editor  
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### THE APOSTLES' CREED

• I believe in God the Father  
• Almighty, maker of heaven  
• and earth and in Jesus Christ,  
• His only Son, our Lord who  
• was conceived by the Holy  
• Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,  
• suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
• was crucified, dead and buried;  
• the third day He arose from the  
• dead, He ascended into heaven  
• and sitteth on the right hand of  
• God the Father Almighty; from  
• thence He shall come to judge  
• the quick and the dead. I believe  
• in the Holy Spirit, the Church  
• Universal, the communion of  
• the saints, the forgiveness of  
• sins, the resurrection of the  
• body, and the life everlasting.



### THE CHURCH SCHOOL CREED

• I believe my A.M.E. Church  
• School must grow and grow; and  
• that I must make it a top priority  
• to make it so. Every member a  
• Christian, every Christian a work-  
• er, every worker trained so that a  
• worker need not be ashamed. This  
• we ask in Jesus' name.

## ABRAHAM HONORS GOD

LESSON SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 12-13

FOCUS SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 13:8-18

Key Verse: So Abram moved his tent...settled by the oaks of Mamre, which are at Hebron, and...built an altar to the Lord. Genesis 13:18 (NRSV UE)

### Genesis 13:8-18 (NRSV UE)

8 Then Abram said to Lot, "Let there be no strife between you and me and between your herders and my herders, for we are kindred.

9 Is not the whole land before you? Separate yourself from me. If you take the left hand, then I will go to the right, or if you take the right hand, then I will go to the left."

10 Lot looked about him and saw that the plain of the Jordan was well watered everywhere like the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt, in the direction of Zoar; this was before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.

11 So Lot chose for himself all the plain of the Jordan, and Lot journeyed eastward, and they separated from each other.

12 Abram settled in the land of Canaan, while Lot settled among the cities of the plain and moved his tent as far as Sodom.

13 Now the people of Sodom were wicked, great sinners against the Lord.

14 The Lord said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, "Raise your eyes now, and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward,

15 for all the land that you see I will give to you and to your offspring forever.

16 I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if one can count the dust of the earth, your offspring also can be counted.

17 Rise up, walk through the length and the breadth of the land, for I will give it to you."

18 So Abram moved his tent and came and settled by the oaks of Mamre, which are at Hebron, and there he built an altar to the Lord.



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## WORD POWER!!!

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- **Abraham and Abram (ā'-brah-ham and ā'-Bram)** – The faithful follower and man of God whose name was changed from Abram to Abraham.
- **Mamre (mam'ree)** – A place where Abram built his altar.

### GETTING READY!!!

**K**eith was a little sad. His cell phone was stolen, and he was not able to keep up with what was happening in school. Tomorrow was the step contest, and he was the captain of his team. He wasn't sure what he could do, and for a moment he felt like giving up. Then, he remembered what grandma had said to him one day when he had lost something. She had told him to sit quietly, say a little prayer, and wait. "God, I am waiting," he whispered. After a few moments, a thought came to him to check out his friend Jamal. He asked his mom if he could go to a friend's house to see what was happening. When he arrived, his friend Jamal was eating dinner. "Come in," Jamal's mother said, "Would you like some dinner?"

"No, thank you, ma'am. I'm not really hungry."

"What's wrong?"

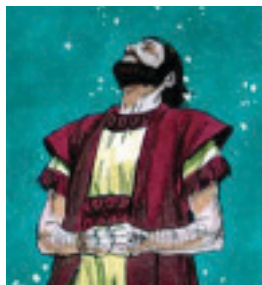
"My phone was stolen, and I need to see what's going on with the step contest tomorrow. I thought I could use Jamal's phone."

"You certainly can, but first sit down and eat. We will work something out. In fact, I have an old cell phone that you can use for the time being until you get your new phone. Will that work?"

Keith nodded his head and smiled from ear to ear. "Yes, ma'am!" Suddenly, he had a big appetite and happily sat down to eat.



### INTO GOD'S WORD!!!



**A**braham is considered the Father of Israel and a great leader of his people. He is one of the most important characters discussed in the Old Testament, particularly in the book of Genesis. God changed his name from Abram to Abraham because he was special in God's sight. In this story, he is obedient to God who has directed him to separate from his family and move to a new land. In doing so, God rewards him; although Abram is already wealthy, God gives him endless land and riches that he will acquire in the future.

### USING GOD'S WORD!!!

**K**eith, like Abram, was having a difficult time because of a loss. Although separating from family is much more critical, Keith was lost without his cell phone, which kept him connected to his friends and family. He was blessed because God had put in his life a friend whose family was generous and willing to help him. Although he had no idea that Jamal's mother would have a phone, God did know. In the end, just as Abram was rewarded for being obedient, Keith was as well, because of his willingness to not give up and follow God's directions.

*We Worship God With Our Words*

Some of the words that talk about how we honor God and

ways that we worship God begin with the letters that spell *worship*! Can you find these in this word search puzzle? You may circle others, but be sure to circle the special words with a different color!

## This is How We Worship!

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

PRAISE  
 HYMNS  
 WILLINGNESS  
 MEDITATE  
 KNEEL  
 PRAY  
 BOW  
 OBSERVE  
 SING  
 DANCE  
 RESPECT  
 CLAP  
 THANK  
 INCLUDE

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/>

## REMIX!!!

God is just as loving to us today as he was in Abram's time. Our circumstances may be different, and it may seem that the problems we have are not the same as what we read in the Bible, but God is the same! Our job is to do as Keith's grandma said, sit quietly and pray. Do not panic, but rather believe that God will

show us the answer. Keith was able to use his temporary phone until such time his parents could get him a new one; he was able to talk to his friends and have a wonderful step contest the next day. We may not always have the solution that Keith did, but we can always know that God hears our prayer and cares about our problems.



### **PRAISE THE LORD!!!**

After solving your puzzles, place your name on them and put them on a bulletin board for others to see. Make sure you make them very colorful – this is a way to worship, too!

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

*(Each quarter you will have a closing prayer that will help strengthen your relationship with the Lord. Can you memorize it?)*

Dear Jesus, help us to remember that for everything we have and even what we don't have, we should remember to say, "Thank you!" Amen.



## YOU ARE OUR LETTER

LESSON SCRIPTURE: 1 KINGS 8:22-53

FOCUS SCRIPTURE: 1 KINGS 8:22-24, 37-39A

Key Verse: Whatever prayer,...from any individual or from all your people Israel,...knowing the suffering of their own hearts...then hear in heaven your dwelling place.” 1 Kings 8:38-39a (NRSV UE)

### 1 Kings 8:22-24, 37-39a (NRSV UE)

#### 1 Kings 8:22-24

22 Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of the whole assembly of Israel and spread out his hands to heaven.

23 He said, “O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love with your servants who walk before you with all their heart,

24 the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand.

#### 37-39a

37 “If there is famine in the land, if there is plague, blight, mildew, locust, or caterpillar; if their enemy besieges them in any of their cities; whatever suffering, whatever sickness there is;

38 whatever prayer, whatever plea there is from any individual or from all your people Israel, all knowing the suffering of their own hearts so that they stretch out their hands toward this house;

39a then hear in heaven your dwelling place,...

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## WORD POWER!!!

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- **Solomon** – A very wise king of Israel who was the son of King David.

### GETTING READY!!!

**N**ancee was president of the Student Government Association (SGA) at her school. Next week, they were going on a field trip to Washington, D.C., and everyone was so very excited. While eating lunch, she found out that one of the students who was newly elected to the SGA was not going on the trip because her family could not afford the hotel and transportation costs. She talked with one or two of her friends, and they decided to put in part of their personal money and allowances in order to pay for their classmate's bus fare and hotel. Later, one of the officers took Nancee aside and said, "Why should we do this? If we do it for one person, we'll have to do it for another."

"I hope not," she replied, "but if we do, we'll find a way. It's the right thing to do."

### INTO GOD'S WORD!!!

**K**ing Solomon was wise and true to his responsibilities as the leader of Israel. He honored God, and before beginning his reign, was quick to ask God to take care of the people, forgive them for any wrong they may have done, and to protect them from harm. He stated that God knew their hearts. Nancee knew that the student who was not able to go on the field trip would be very disappointed, and would miss out on a very educational and important event. She also knew, as president, that it was her responsibility to be concerned about all of her officers, and not just the few who were her friends.

### USING GOD'S WORD!!!

**W**e all have opportunities on any given day to help someone else or to offer assistance to someone in need. It may not be something as costly as spending our own money, but we should always be willing to offer ourselves, even sacrificially, to befriend others.



Solomon prayed for the people and asked God to be kind and generous to them. He asked God to look at their hearts and respond favorably to them in time of despair or trouble. Nancee went to her friends to ask for help although she was not obligated to do so. Do you believe she did the right thing, or should she have considered the problem it might have caused in the future? Give your answer below or share it with your teacher and the class. Don't forget to say why!

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### REMIX!!!

**R**emember, you do not have to be a leader of an organization or a very popular person to help someone. Even if you stop

before ending your day to say a prayer for someone that you know is in trouble or suffering in some kind of way, you are still offering yourself as an individual interceding on behalf of another. To intercede means that you are coming between a situation and another individual with the intent of helping. Can you think of someone who could use your help or might need a friend? What can you do to make their lives better?

### **PRAISE THE LORD!!!**

Find Hezekiah Walker's song, "I Need You to Survive." Learn the lyrics and for the remainder of the month, sing the song at the end of class!

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

*(Each quarter you will have a closing prayer that will help strengthen your relationship with the Lord. Can you memorize it?)*

Dear Jesus, help us to remember that for everything we have and even when we don't have, we should remember to say, "Thank you!" Amen.



## HEZEKIAH ASKS FOR GOD'S HELP

LESSON SCRIPTURE: 2 KINGS 19

FOCUS SCRIPTURE: 2 KINGS 19:14-20, 29-31

Key Verse: "So now, O Lord our God, save us, I pray you, from his hand, so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you, O Lord, are God alone." 2 Kings 19:19 (NRSV UE)

### 2 Kings 19:14-20, 29-31 (NRSV UE)

#### 2 Kings 19:14-20

14 Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers and read it; then Hezekiah went up to the house of the Lord and spread it before the Lord.

15 And Hezekiah prayed before the Lord and said, "O Lord the God of Israel, who are enthroned above the cherubim, you are God, you alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; you have made heaven and earth.

16 Incline your ear, O Lord, and hear; open your eyes, O Lord, and see; hear the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to mock the living God.

17 Truly, O Lord, the kings of Assyria have laid waste the nations and their lands

18 and have hurled their gods into the fire, though they were no gods but the work of human hands – wood and stone – and so they were destroyed.

19 So now, O Lord our God, save us, I pray you, from his hand, so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you, O Lord, are God alone."

20 Then Isaiah son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I have heard your prayer to me about King Sennacherib of Assyria."

#### 29-31

29 "And this shall be the sign for you: This year you shall eat what grows of itself and in the second year what springs from that; then in the third year sow, reap, plant vineyards, and eat their fruit.

30 The surviving remnant of the house of Judah shall again take root downward and bear fruit upward,

31 for from Jerusalem a remnant shall go out and from Mount Zion a band of survivors. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this."

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## WORD POWER!!!

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**Hezekiah (he-ze-kī-yah)** – A godly king of Judah who served with the prophet Isaiah.

### GETTING READY!!!

“So who is your favorite hero?” Mrs. Baxter was having her vacation Bible school class talk about the people they admired on television or in media games. Each of the students named a character that they liked. “Now,” she asked, “who is your favorite character in the Bible?” No one raised their hand. “Well, we must do something about that. Because there are men and women in the Bible who have done great things and who worked hard for the Lord.” For the rest of that week, the class learned about different people in the Bible who were heroes, and they each chose one of their own.

### INTO GOD’S WORD!!!

Hezekiah was a good king. He obeyed the law of the Lord and listened to the prophet Isaiah who told him what God needed him to do. In this story, he was worried about his country being attacked and whether they would survive. The letter he received spoke of how his country would be destroyed, but he prayed to the Lord and asked for God's protection. In many ways, he was the hero, for believing in God and not panicking. Also Isaiah could be thought of as a hero, because he took the message of God to the king and made sure that God's plans were followed.

### *Who Is My Hero?*

After reading the story today, decide on which person you would like to claim as your hero.

Choose either Hezekiah or Isaiah, and color their picture below. Then cut it out, place it on a poster board and put it on display! Be sure to write a few words about why you chose your hero below:

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### **USING GOD'S WORD!!!**

**H**eroes don't have to be people who have superpowers or special talents. They can be a neighbor next door, a friend, or even a family member. A hero is someone who is willing to give of themselves to help others. As you design your poster of either Isaiah or Hezekiah and write a few words about why they were a hero to you, be sure to think about ways that you can be a hero for someone else. Is there someone that you can help this week? Think about it, and then discuss with your teacher and the class! After the discussion, your teacher will play "Hero" by Mariah Carey; see what you think about the song!

### **REMIX!!!**

**I**n our Bible story today, the biggest hero of all is God! He came to the rescue of the people of Judah, and kept his word to King Hezekiah. The hero inside each of us is ready to come out as



soon as we are willing to be used for God's good. Hezekiah was a king, yes, but he was humble enough to listen to Isaiah. Isaiah always told the truth and made sure that God's plan was clear and told to the people. Each of them had a role to play, but in the end, it was God who used both of these heroes to his glory. How can you let God use you today? How can you be a hero for the Lord?

### **PRAISE THE LORD!!!**

Sing "I Need You to Survive"

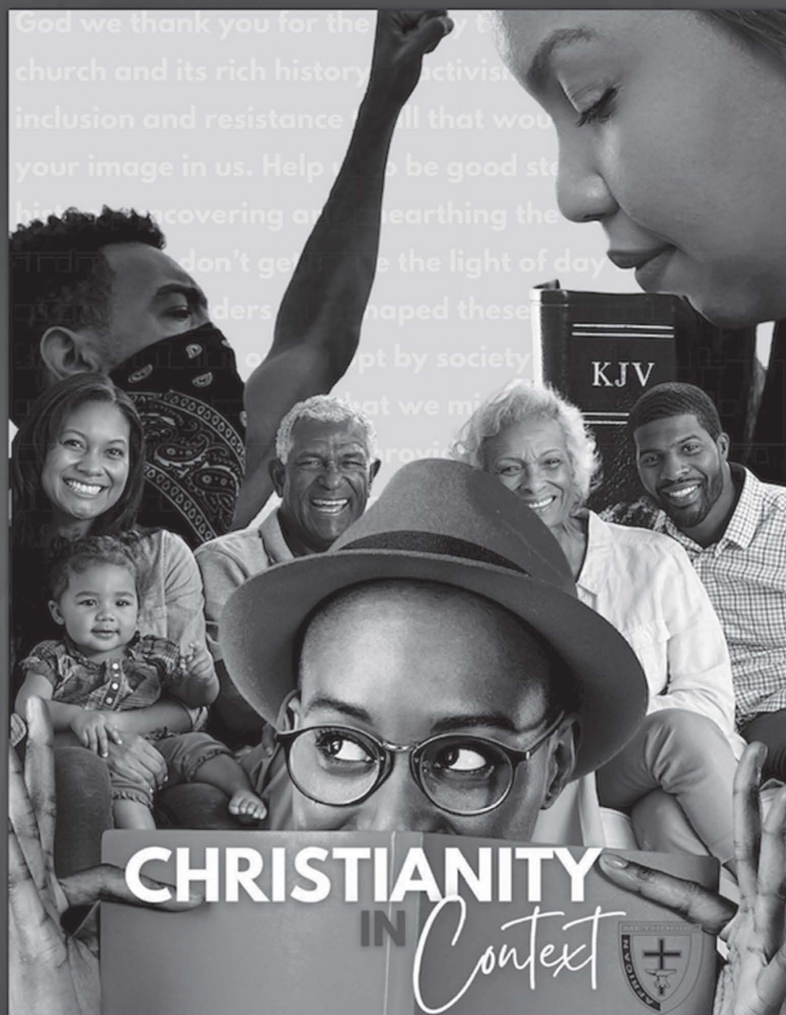
<https://youtu.be/JBwUkCYW2n0?si=Jc-FZZSmGas8qrTs>

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

*(Each quarter you will have a closing prayer that will help strengthen your relationship with the Lord. Can you memorize it?)*

Dear Jesus, help us to remember that for everything we have and even when we don't have, we should remember to say, "Thank you!" Amen.

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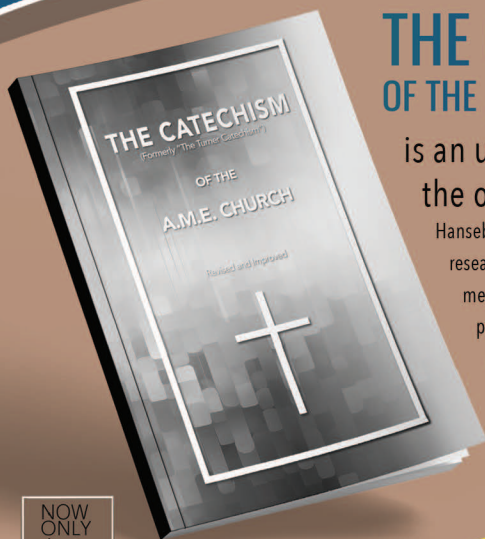
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