

LESSON NINE | MARK 10

SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

WELCOME

Marriage
2–3 mins.

DRILL TIME

Transfiguration
3–5 mins.

W.O.W!

Eternal Life
3–5 mins.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Timeline
2–3 mins.

BIBLE INVESTIGATION

Mark 10
20–30 mins.

LESSON-AT-HOME

1 John 5:11
3–5 mins.

OVERVIEW

As Jesus continues to teach great crowds of people, the Pharisees continue to try to test Him. This time, they question Jesus about the lawfulness of divorce. Jesus goes right to the heart of the matter, declaring that God intends marriage to be permanent and only our sin brings divorce. After that, people again bring children to Jesus, even though the disciples try to stop them. Jesus blesses the children and teaches that only child-like faith will allow one entrance to the kingdom of God.

Later, a rich young man asks Jesus what He must do to gain eternal life. He thought obeying the law was enough. Jesus taught him that only by giving up his idolatry and following Him would bring salvation. This shocked the disciples who assumed that rich people had a better chance than others at going to heaven. Jesus teaches that salvation is impossible without the work of God.

The chapter continues with Jesus again predicting His death and resurrection. Then, He deals with James and John's selfish request. He teaches that those who would be great in the kingdom must be servants just as Christ is. Finally, blind Bartimaeus is healed because of his faith in Jesus. He follows Christ and enjoys eternal life with God.

PREPARATION

Read over and meditate on Mark 10 this week. **Use flannelgraph figures or other pictures to illustrate the lesson.**

TEACHING ENCOURAGEMENT

You have another opportunity to share the good news of eternal life with your children. In this text, you can deal with several wrong teachings that the world presents to our children. You can teach that eternal life does not come simply by being good and following the rules. You can also share how salvation is not just for the wealthy, since you can't buy your way into heaven. Finally, you can debunk the notion that eternal life is humanly possible. Only God, by His grace, gives us eternal life. It is only possible because of the death and resurrection of Christ. And, it is available to your children as they rest in Christ alone!



WELCOME

Greet the students. Welcome visitors.

Say: *I know this is hard to believe, but one day, when you are older, you will probably get married! Most of you probably live with two parents who are married to each other. If your parents are married, that's quite a blessing.*

Did you know that God ordained and created marriage? It was His idea to bring together one man and one woman into a covenant of companionship. Marriage is supposed to last a lifetime—with the married couple loving each other. But, it doesn't always work out that way. Watch what Jesus says about that as we study today.



DRILL TIME

But first, let's have our DRILL TIME—our weekly opportunity to review what we have already learned.

Today's questions: *When Jesus was transfigured, what did He look like? Who did Jesus bring with Him to the high mountain where He was transfigured? What two prophets talked with Jesus on the mountain? What did God the Father say about Jesus while they were on the mountain?*

Call on volunteers or select students to make attempts.

Answers:

1. His clothes became dazzling white. His face shone like the sun.
2. Peter, James and John.
3. Moses and Elijah.
4. "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to Him!"

Say: *The disciples had the great opportunity to see Jesus in His holiness and glory. How did they react? [They were scared.] The holiness and majesty of God should cause us to fear too—we should be in awe of the God of the universe. Aren't you glad this holy God has sent us Jesus to die for our sins?*



W.O.W!

Are you ready to learn a new word today? Our W.O.W! (Word of the Week) this week is actually two words: **ETERNAL LIFE**. Write the word on the board.

Something that is *ETERNAL* is endless, perpetual, everlasting. So, *ETERNAL LIFE* is life that never ends! It lasts forever. Doesn't it sound great to have *ETERNAL LIFE*?

When the Bible speaks of *ETERNAL LIFE*, it is referring to a person's new and redeemed life in Jesus Christ. *ETERNAL LIFE* is a gift from God given to all who put their faith in Christ. So, only Christians have *ETERNAL LIFE*. All those who are not Christians can only have eternal death.

ETERNAL LIFE is something that everyone longs to have. God has placed *ETERNITY* in our hearts so that only life with Him forever will satisfy us.

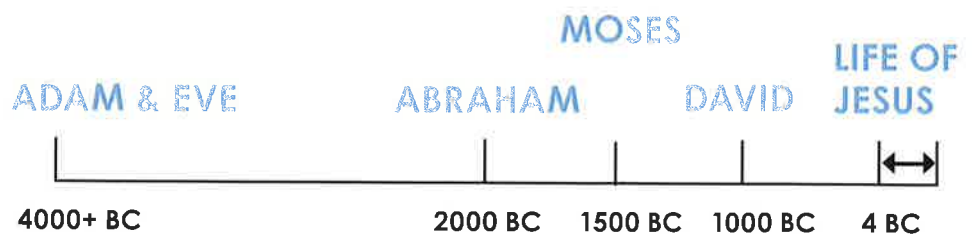
Jesus is asked the question of how to have *ETERNAL LIFE* from someone today. Listen closely for the question, and see how Jesus answers it in our reading.



HISTORICAL CONTEXT

If necessary, draw this timeline on the board, and show the students when these events took place.

This Week's Timeline





Introduction: *Jesus has shown Himself to be the great Teacher—the great RABBI for His people. Did everyone listen to and obey what He taught? [No.] Some responded in faith, others had a hard time believing Jesus’ words. What about you?*

Let’s continue in Chapter Ten. Read Mark 10:1-2.

¹ And he left there and went to the region of Judea and beyond the Jordan, and crowds gathered to him again. And again, as was his custom, he taught them. ² And Pharisees came up and in order to test him asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?”

Discussion: *What a contrast. Again, we have large crowds who want to be taught by Jesus and a few Pharisees who just want to test and trap Jesus. What did the Pharisees want to know? [If it is lawful for a man to divorce his wife.] To divorce is to permanently end a marriage. Is this a good thing? [No.]*

Let’s see what Jesus says. Read verses 3-9.

³ He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” ⁴ They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of divorce and to send her away.” ⁵ And Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment. ⁶ But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ ⁷ ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, ⁸ and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two but one flesh. ⁹ What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.”

Discussion: *Did Moses permit divorce in Israel? [Yes.] If divorce is so bad, why did he allow it? [Because of sinful hearts.] What is God’s plan for marriage? [That a married couple stay together their whole lives.] Since God made marriage for His glory and our good, He expects couples to stay together!*

Listen to more of what Jesus said. Read verses 10-12.

¹⁰ And in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹ And he said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her, ¹² and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

Application: *Jesus emphasizes that married couples who wrongly divorce and then marry other people are sinning against God. We*



sin against God because our hearts love our sin more than we are in love with God!

*Let's move on. **Read verses 13-16.***

¹³ And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴ But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. ¹⁵ Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." ¹⁶ And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

Discussion: *Jesus shows again how much He loves children. Why were the disciples trying to keep the children away from Jesus? [Maybe they thought children were just a bother!] Jesus not only blessed the children, but He said they were welcome in the kingdom, just as He had said before.*

Application: *Jesus also said that ALL people must receive the kingdom of God like a little child. This means that we must humble ourselves and have child-like faith in Jesus. Do you have humble faith in Jesus?*

*Let's read more. **Read verse 17.***

¹⁷ And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

Discussion: *Did you hear our Word of the Week? This man wants to know how to have ETERNAL LIFE. What will Jesus tell him?*

*Listen carefully. **Read verses 18-22.***

¹⁸ And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.' " ²⁰ And he said to him, "Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth." ²¹ And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." ²² Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.



Discussion: *Many Jews thought that the way to gain ETERNAL LIFE was by keeping the Law of God. Does following the law get us ETERNAL LIFE? [No.] Jesus told this man that the only way to ETERNAL LIFE was by following Him. So, why did Jesus tell him to sell everything he had? **Allow answers.** Money and great possessions were this man's idols that he worshipped. In order to truly follow Jesus, he had to get rid of his idols!*

Application: *It's the same for us, boys and girls. In order to put our faith in Jesus and follow Him, we must stop worshipping idols. We must turn away from ourselves and turn to God!*

*Listen to more of what Jesus says. **Read verses 23-26.***

²³ And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" ²⁴ And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God." ²⁶ And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, "Then who can be saved?"

Discussion: *The disciples were amazed at what Jesus was teaching about ETERNAL LIFE. It's hard for rich people to have ETERNAL LIFE because they tend to trust in their riches instead of in Jesus. The disciples must have thought that rich people would be good people, so their goodness would get them to heaven. Does being good gain you ETERNAL LIFE? [No!]*

*Let's hear more. **Read verses 27-31.***

²⁷ Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God." ²⁸ Peter began to say to him, "See, we have left everything and followed you." ²⁹ Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, ³⁰ who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹ But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

Discussion: *Did you hear what Jesus said? Gaining ETERNAL LIFE is impossible on our own. Only God can give ETERNAL LIFE, and He*



only gives it to those who follow Jesus. Were the disciples following Jesus? [Most of them!] Even though the disciples gave up everything to follow Jesus, they gained wonderful blessings in this life—and most importantly, ETERNAL LIFE.

Application: *Following Jesus isn't about what we lose, it's about what we gain. We lose things that don't matter for what matters most—ETERNAL LIFE with God.*

Let's continue our reading. Read verses 32-34.

³² And they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them. And they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. And taking the twelve again, he began to tell them what was to happen to him, ³³ saying, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles. ³⁴ And they will mock him and spit on him, and flog him and kill him. And after three days he will rise."

Discussion: *Jesus again tells His disciples that He will be arrested, beaten, and killed. But, Jesus also said that He will rise again. That's good news! Do you think the disciples understood that Jesus needed to die for their sins in order for them to have ETERNAL LIFE? Do you?*

Let's read on. Read verses 35-37.

³⁵ And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." ³⁶ And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" ³⁷ And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory."

Discussion: *Now that's a pretty selfish question, isn't it? James and John wanted to sit right next to Jesus in His kingdom. Will Jesus grant this request?*

Let's see. Read verses 38-40.

³⁸ Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" ³⁹ And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be



baptized, ⁴⁰ but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

Discussion: *Do you understand what Jesus is saying here? The “cup” He will drink and the “baptism” He will be baptized with are both the same thing—His suffering and death. Jesus is asking them if they can go through great suffering and death for Him. Do you think they knew what Jesus was asking? I don’t think so. These disciples would suffer and die for Jesus, but Jesus could not grant them their request to sit at His right or left.*

Application: *Even though we gain many blessings in this life when we follow Jesus, we will also suffer too. Jesus says that all who follow Him will have to suffer for Him. That’s why we need the grace of God every day!*

Let’s continue. Read verses 41-45.

⁴¹ And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. ⁴² And Jesus called them to him and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ⁴³ But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Application: *You will be great in God’s kingdom only if you are a servant. This is opposite of what the world teaches. It teaches you to be bossy and demanding instead of leading by being a servant. Jesus is the ultimate example, coming to serve His people instead of being served. His ultimate service gives us ETERNAL LIFE!*

Now, let’s finish our reading. Read verses 46-52.

⁴⁶ And they came to Jericho. And as he was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a great crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, the son of Timaeus, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷ And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁸ And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁹ And Jesus stopped and said, “Call him.” And they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take heart. Get up; he is calling



you.” ⁵⁰ And throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹ And Jesus said to him, “What do you want me to do for you?” And the blind man said to him, “Rabbi, let me recover my sight.” ⁵² And Jesus said to him, “Go your way; your faith has made you well.” And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him on the way.

Conclusion: *Did the blind man have faith that Jesus could heal him? [Yes.] His faith in Jesus brought sight to His eyes. Now, with opened eyes, Bartimaeus can follow Jesus. When Jesus opens our eyes and gives us spiritual sight, we will follow Him! Blind Bartimaeus received more than sight—he received ETERNAL LIFE. As Jesus continues to make His way to the cross to die for our sins, He spreads the message of the gospel. ETERNAL LIFE is free to all those who put their faith in Him and follow Him always. Our temptation is to follow our own way and do things our own way instead of following Jesus. Will that bring ETERNAL LIFE? [No.] That only brings death. Think about that, and we’ll pick up here next time.*



LESSON-AT-HOME

Distribute the “Lesson-At-Home” bookmarks. Read the Scripture Memory verse (I John 5:11) together.

I John 5:11 (ESV)

¹¹ And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

Say: *That sums it all up, doesn’t it. Who gives ETERNAL LIFE? [God.] How do we receive ETERNAL LIFE? [In Christ.] This is the gospel, boys and girls: God gives ETERNAL LIFE to all who have faith in Jesus Christ. That’s great news!*

Direct the students’ attentions to the bottom half of the bookmark. It includes reminder points of today’s lesson that can be discussed with their parents and reviewed during the week.

Close in prayer and dismiss the students.

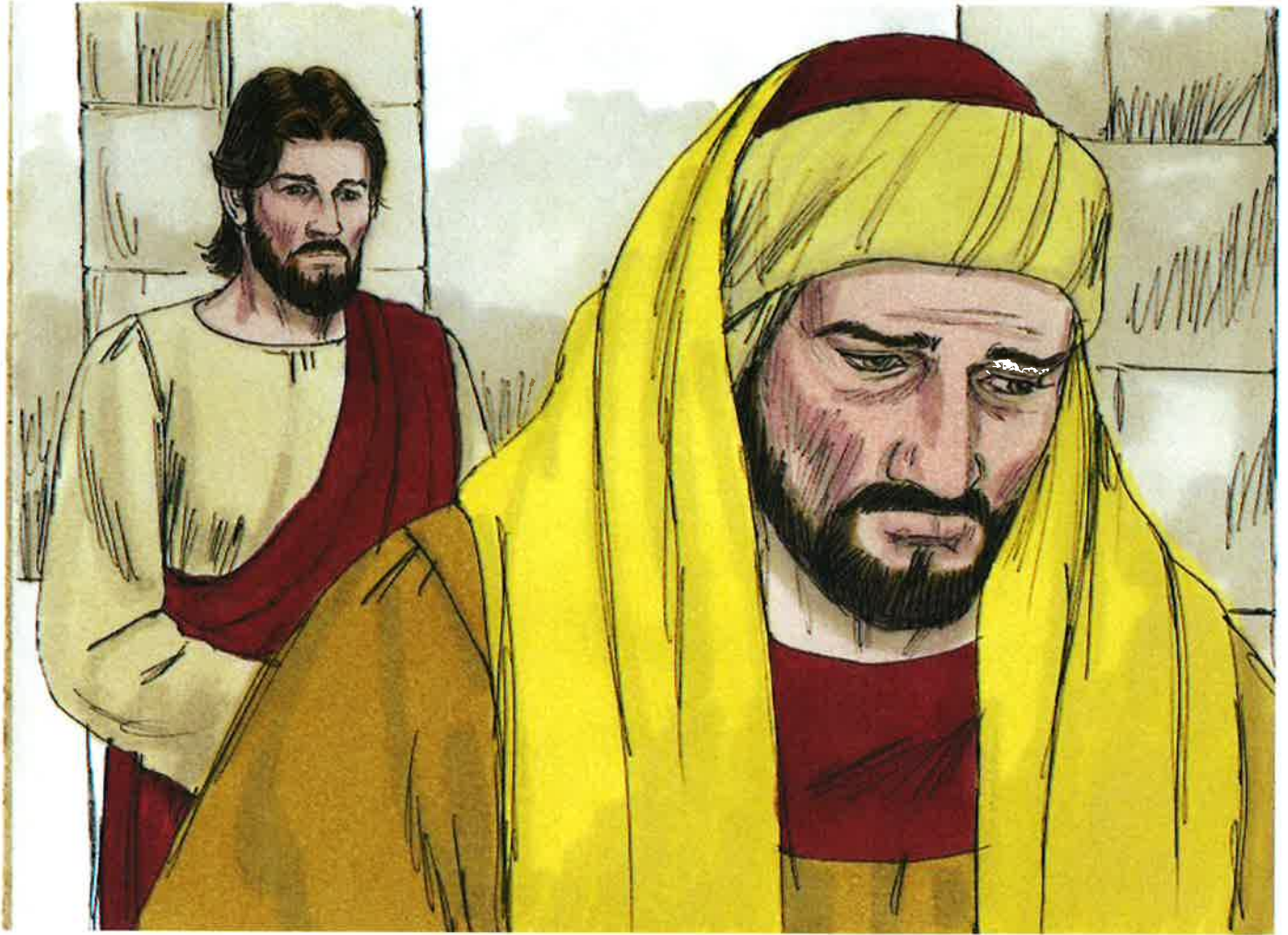






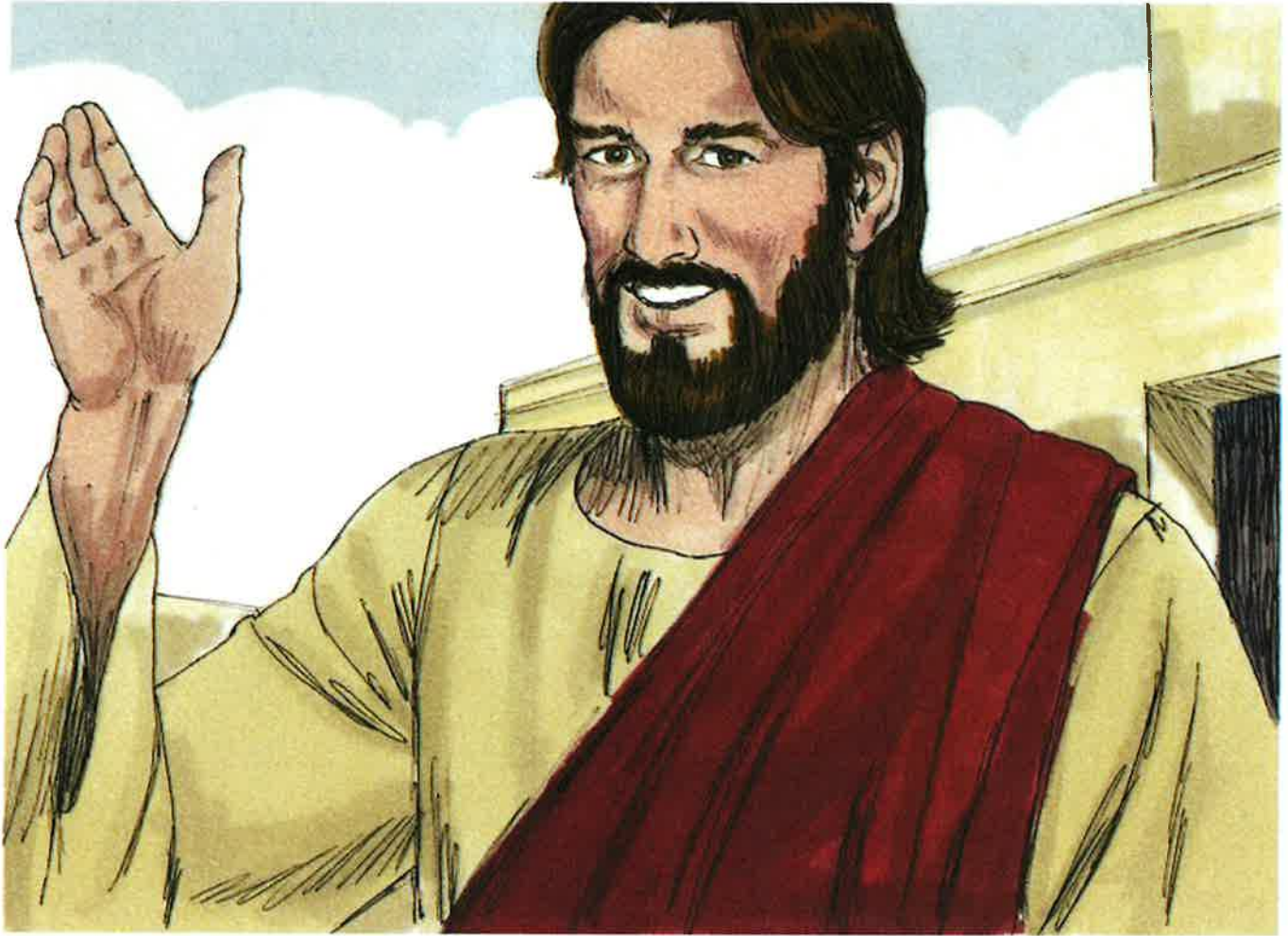




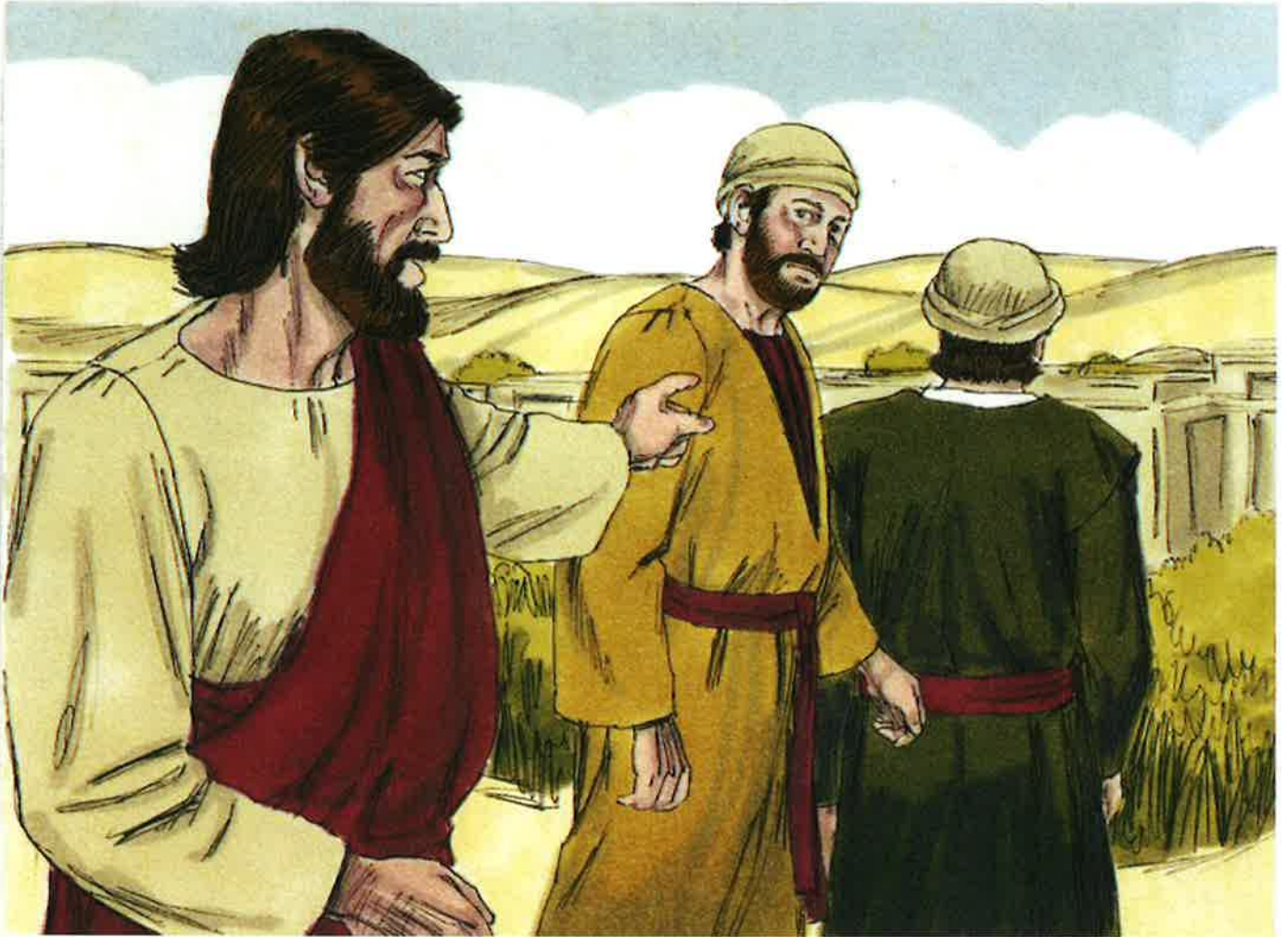


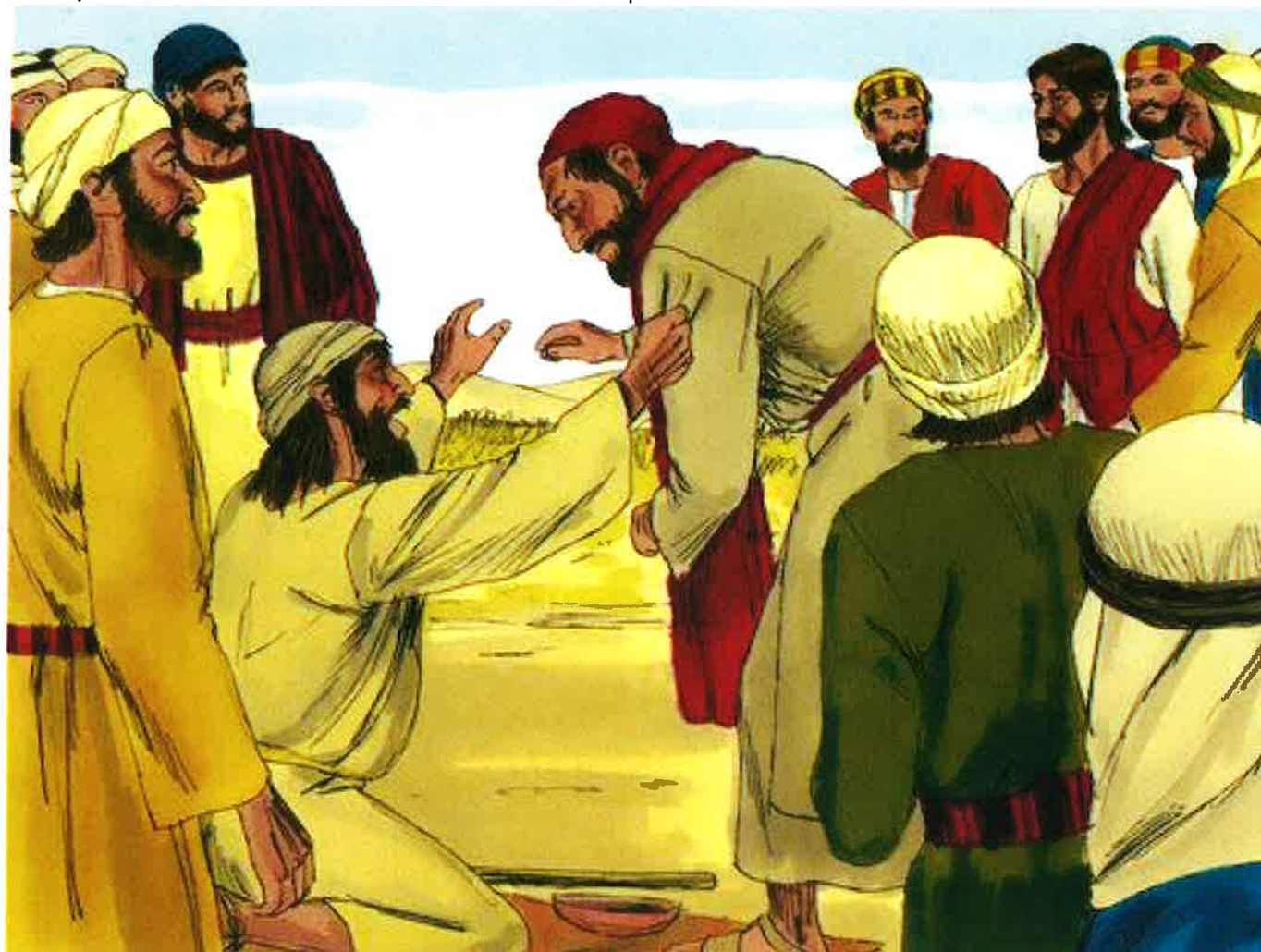


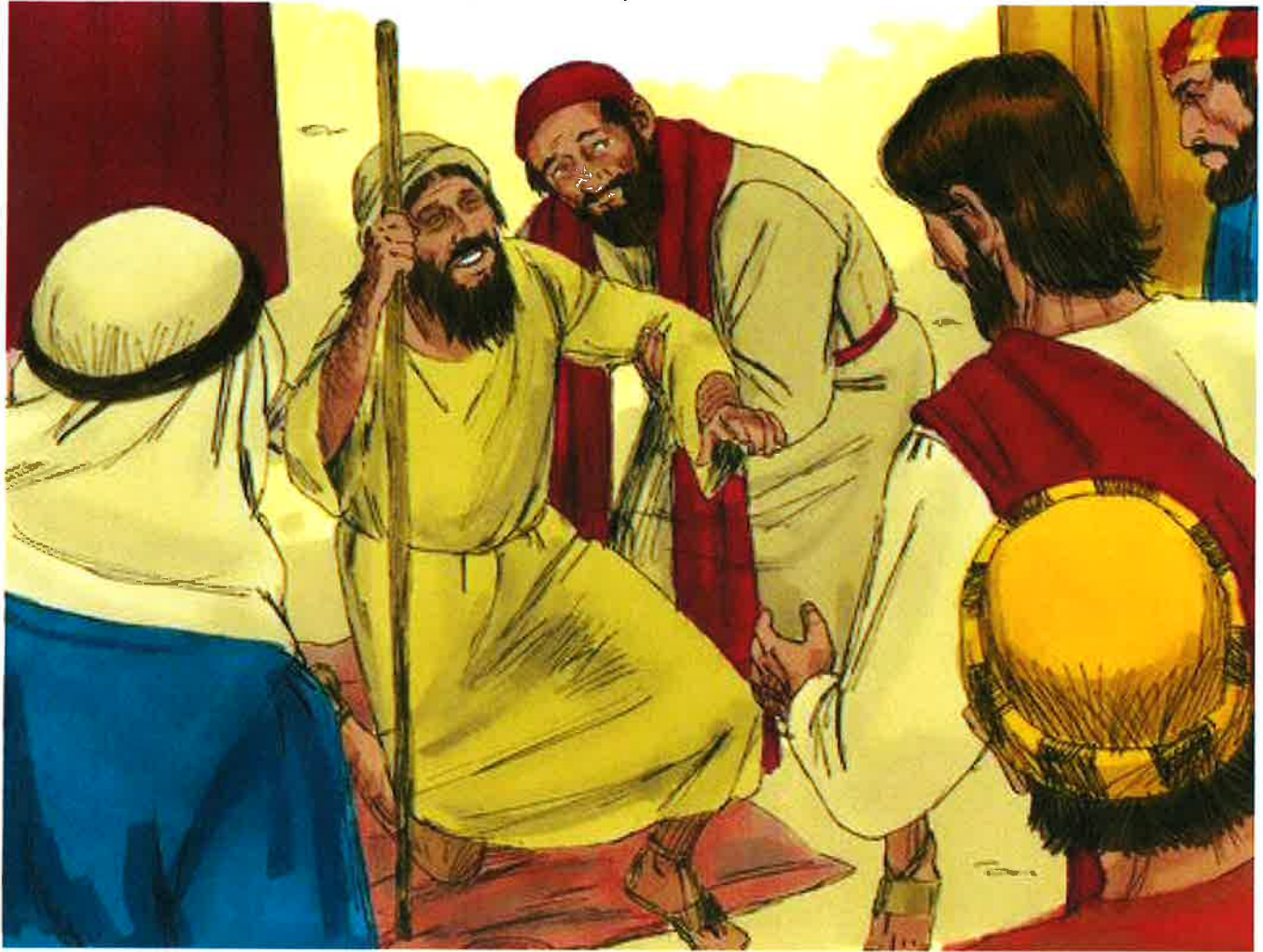














Lesson-At-Home

Bookmark

Scripture Memory

I John 5:11

*And this is the
testimony, that God
gave us eternal life,
and this life is in his
Son.*

Lesson Review

Mark 10

*Jesus is questioned about
marriage.
Jesus blesses the children.
Salvation is impossible on
our own.
Blind Bartimaeus follows
Jesus.*

Year Two

Investigating God's Word.
Summer Quarter ~ Lesson Nine

Lesson-At-Home

Bookmark

Scripture Memory

I John 5:11

*And this is the
testimony, that God
gave us eternal life,
and this life is in his
Son.*

Lesson Review

Mark 10

*Jesus is questioned about
marriage.
Jesus blesses the children.
Salvation is impossible on
our own.
Blind Bartimaeus follows
Jesus.*

Year Two

Investigating God's Word.
Summer Quarter ~ Lesson Nine

Lesson-At-Home

Bookmark

Scripture Memory

I John 5:11

*And this is the
testimony, that God
gave us eternal life,
and this life is in his
Son.*

Lesson Review

Mark 10

*Jesus is questioned about
marriage.
Jesus blesses the children.
Salvation is impossible on
our own.
Blind Bartimaeus follows
Jesus.*

Year Two

Investigating God's Word.
Summer Quarter ~ Lesson Nine

Lesson-At-Home

Bookmark

Scripture Memory

I John 5:11

*And this is the
testimony, that God
gave us eternal life,
and this life is in his
Son.*

Lesson Review

Mark 10

*Jesus is questioned about
marriage.
Jesus blesses the children.
Salvation is impossible on
our own.
Blind Bartimaeus follows
Jesus.*

Year Two

Investigating God's Word.
Summer Quarter ~ Lesson Nine