
SERIES 1: KNOWING JESUS AS MESSIAH

BOOK 3: Messiah in the Prophets

2 Samuel 7 – Micah 5

Book 3: Messiah in the Prophets

Introduction

When you discover the Messiah in the prophets, you will gain a bigger picture of the Lord's Anointed and his work to *redeem* his people, to build them as a *royal household* for God and David, and to set His throne among them for an eternal kingdom *rule*! Starting in 2 Samuel, we will see how God's promise to *raise up Seed* for David is the foundation for the Messiah's work as Israel's kinsman-Redeemer, who will draw all families of the earth back to God and his blessing. As you read of Messiah and His eternal work as your Redeemer, learn to trust him as more than simply your *personal Savior* but the coming King who will spread the knowledge and worship of God throughout the whole world! As your faith grows, so will your hope!

STEPS of a *Devoted Disciple*:

Your *Devotion* matters to the Lord. For, there is only one Lord and God, and He deserves creation's highest honor and praise. So, you were made to give yourself to the Lord God in loving devotion of heart, soul, mind, and strength (Mark 12:30). In this same devotion to the Lord, Jesus Christ calls you to follow Him as His disciple. These short devotionals guide you in the Word to cultivate a heart devotion to the Lord as His disciple.

- First, **discover** what His life-giving Word has to say to you personally, being careful to write down your insights to share with others.
- Then, **discuss** His Word with those closest to you: your family, your friends, and in your home fellowship group (your spiritual family).
- Next, **dialogue** to compare views on key passages with a partner—either another disciple, or an older mentor or younger mentee.
- Finally, **develop** key skills as you abide in the Word by applying it to your life as you read the devotional, notes, and footnotes.

START HERE: *Humble Yourself in Prayer:*

Devote yourself to the Lord to hear and do His Will for you.

☐ *Do I want to humble myself under the Lordship of God by faith?*

☐ *Or, will I live as my own Lord, relying on my own understanding?*

PRAYER OF DEVOTION

Lord God, I devote my life to you today. I offer you my soul to live humbly under your Lordship; my mind to seek your will and Spirit; my heart to love you and others; and, my strength to obey your Word and Will!
Amen.

Chapter 1: PROMISED MESSIAH: The Son of David, The Son of God **2 Samuel 7**

Step 1. Discover: *Preview and View God's Word* for yourself
then *Write Insights* to Share with others.

a. Preview **2 Samuel 7**

Promised Messiah: Son of David and God. Messiah inherits the right to be the Family Redeemer of His people because He is both he Son of David and the Son of God (Rom. 1:1-4). So, read 2 Samuel 7 to find out how Messiah is lawfully both the Son of David and of God to fulfill His role as family redeemer! First, the messianic promise begins in 2 Samuel 7 when David had a heart to build God a *cedar house* (7) but God promises instead a ***dynastic house*** for David (11). Then, continue reading to discover God's promise to ***raise up Seed for David***, to be both the Son of David (12) and the Son of God (14), for only a son *raised up* can be the rightful redeemer of a household for God and David, to rule an eternal kingdom (13). This family redeemer builds such a house by being ***disciplined for iniquity*** (14), atoning for sin (Is. 53:10) to make righteous (Jer. 23:6).

*Seed is not Solomon, born while David was alive, nor anyone after Jeconiah, whose *Seed* was cursed by God and banned from the throne (Jer. 22:30).

b. Prayerfully **Read 2 Samuel 7** and **Write** your insights to share

SEEING What is this Bible passage about? Key words, ideas	
LEARNING What does it mean? What is it teaching me?	
DOING What lesson can I apply to my life?	

Step 2: Discuss: Share Viewpoints. Read the Passage and Discuss Questions with Family, Friends, and Fellowship Group.

Q1. How will Mashiach help God's people by building an eternal House and Kingdom?

Q2. How can Mashiach help us if He is both the Son of God and the Son of David? Why must our Kinsman-Redeemer be both the Son of God and the Son of David?

Step 3: Dialogue: Compare Viewpoints as Disciples. Answer, share, & compare insights with partner, mentor, or mentee.

Q1. Why does God change David's wish for a house of cedar into a promise of a dynastic house built by Messiah? (2 Sam.7:1-11)

1. Cedar House or Dynastic Household?: David sought to build a lasting "house of cedar" (7) where his name would be glorified in Israel. Yet, God had a better "house" in mind which David's "Seed" would build for him (11) and God (13), a shared family of heaven and earth over which Messiah would "build" (13). Such a dynastic household would bring together the realms of heaven and earth by joining together in a common Heir the royal lines of God and David.

Q2. Why does God promise to *raise up Seed* for David as did Judah (Gen. 38:8) and Boaz (Ruth 4) before him? (12-13; Jer. 22:30, 23:5-6; 30:9)

2. Raise up Seed of David: Son of Two Fathers. God promises that His Seed would build a dynastic *house* for both God (13) and David (11). Yet only a Redeemer as the Heir of a family line would have the *right* to build such a house. But a house combining *two royal lines* would require a Redeemer who was both the son of David (12) and of God (14). Only such an Heir would rightfully rule a kingdom over God's realm, heaven, and David's realm of earth (9; Ps. 2:8).

Q3. Why must Messiah be “disciplined”* for “iniquity”? (14-17;)

3. Disciplined for Iniquity*: Family Redeemer. For Messiah to rule an everlasting Kingdom, His throne must be established in a *royal house*, a people whose “generations” are of heaven and earth (Gen. 2:4). Yet, David and his people are fleshly, unfit to share a “house” with God (13). So, to “build” such a combined house for “God” and “David,” Messiah as the family Redeemer must make His people “righteous” (Jer. 23:5-6) by being “disciplined” to atone for sins (14; Is. 53:5).

*Note: Messiah as Redeemer carries and atones for the sins of His people (Is. 53:5), taking on their culpability for sins as if He committed the sins himself.

Step 4: Develop: Review & Apply God's Word as a Growing Disciple to *read* Devotional, Notes, and Footnotes.

Messiah- Son of David, Son of God: Our Family Redeemer:

Messiah never redeems you for life as usual but gives you a life exceeding all your expectations (2 Cor. 5:17)! So, God exceeded all of David's hope when he first promised him Messiah. David simply expected to build God a *house of cedar* (2 Sam. 7:7), even expecting his chosen son Solomon to finish the work. David did not know that Solomon's heart would eventually harden (1 Kg. 11:4) and his line would both lose the kingdom (1 Kg. 12:20) and then be cursed in exile (Jer. 22:30). So, God promises David a new thing. When David was long in the grave (12), God would *raise up David's Seed* to rebuild a new royal house that David (11) and God (13) would share. Imagine a royal house combining God's *kingdom rule of heaven* and David's *kingdom rule on earth*! Messiah builds such a house to last an eternity, long after any *house of cedar* turned to dust. This Messiah calls you to be part of this *world-ruling, royal house*! Claim your birthright of heaven and earth! Set your heart in Messiah's Kingdom, not on the *splintering cedar* of this world!

Respond to Devotional: (mark passage above)	
✓ Agree	? Question ! Differ
SUPPORT: Agree What insight or Bible verse to add ?	
QUESTION: Modify What to question or change?	
DIFFER: Disagree What insight or Bible verse to differ ?	

Personal Study Notes: Understanding the Passage:

Write and share notes with your partner/ mentor/ mentee.

What is the *big idea* of this passage?

- key verse:

What is a key idea?

- key verse:

What is a key idea?

Teaching Preparation Notes: Sharing the Passage:

Share lesson with partner, family, or group.

What is the *big lesson* to learn in this passage?

- verse:

Key lesson to learn?

(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

- verse:

Key lesson to learn?

(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

Notes¹: Raising up Seed: Kinsman-Redeemer. When God promises to *raise up David's Seed* following his death (7:12), He acts as a redeemer like *dutiful Judah* (Gen. 38:8) and *redeeming Boaz* (Ruth 4:10), so that the *Seed* (that is, Son) to be raised up would be the Son of two fathers, David (12) and God (14) according to the laws of *duty* (Deut. 25:5) and *redemption* (Ruth 4:10) to redeem His family (Phil. 2:5-11) and inherit heaven and earth (Col. 1:15-20).

¹ **Footnotes: House for David and God:** The Lord God does not restrict His eternal purposes to fit human expectations. So, He sends Messiah not to simply build an earthly house of *cedar* (2 Sam. 7:7) but to build, to redeem, a royal household for both David (11) and God (13). Such a combined house is populated with *redeemed children* and not simply constructed with beams of cedar.

Chapter 2: KINGDOM OF MESSIAH: Branch of the Lord

Isaiah 2, 4

Step 1. Discover: *Preview and View God's Word* for yourself then **Write** *Insights to Share* with others.

a. Preview Isaiah 2, 4

Branch of the Lord: Earthly Kingdom. Messiah is the Branch of the Lord whose house will be lifted up as a high mountain as His rule fills the earth with the Lord's glory! So, read Isaiah 2 and 4 to see how the Lord Messiah will *branch out* through the world to spread the glory and knowledge of God to all the families of the earth! First, read Isaiah 2 to understand God's promise of a glorious **people of the Lord**, the "mountain of the Lord" (2:2) to rise above all other families of earth, showcasing a people who will brighten the lives of the nations with living hope (2:3) and welcome the nations to learn the "ways" of the Lord! For, the "**Day of the Lord**" (12) soon arrives when the *terrifying* presence of the Lord unmasks human folly and idolatry at once (19). At the center of this new world is the **Branch of the Lord**, who brings "fruit" to the land in his heavenly "beauty" and "glory" (4:2).

b. Prayerfully Read Isaiah 2, 4 and Write your insights to share

SEEING What is this Bible passage about? Key words, ideas	
LEARNING What does it mean? What is it teaching me?	
DOING What lesson can I apply to my life?	

Step 2. Discuss: Share Viewpoints. Read the Passage and Discuss Questions with Family, Friends, and Fellowship Group.

Q1. What is the glorious future that the Lord God plans for His people and their Mashiach, the Branch?

Q2. How will the Lord God use the Day of the Lord to prepare humanity for His future Kingdom?

Step 3: Dialogue: Compare Viewpoints as Disciples. Answer, share, & compare insights with partner, mentor, or mentee.

Q1. How will the nations view the Lord's house in the last days? (Is. 2:2-5)

1. Mountain of the Lord: Messiah's Coming Kingdom. Messiah's Kingdom will be built around His people, the family and *house of the Lord* (Is. 2:2) which is viewed as the earth's *highest mountain* among all the other mountains. As a great *mountain*, we will be honored as His people, being the central hub to which *the nations shall flow* (2) in order to learn of the Lord and his ways (3), a motivator for us now to seek to know him and His ways, for one day we will reveal the Lord and his ways to all people!

Q2. How will the Day of the Lord prepare earth's people for global awareness of the Lord and His glory? (2:6-22)

2. Day of the Lord: Terrifying Dawn. Before the glorious *last days* in which the earth and its people honor the Lord, the terrifying Day of the Lord comes first (2:12). Because the whole earth, and even the Lord's own people, are defiled by their corrupting *idolatry* (2:6, 8), the Lord must *humble* humanity (9) by revealing his terrifying presence (10). When confronted by the Lord's dawning glory, human pride will evaporate as a meaningless delusion, human might will hide in terror (19), and people will discard their idols as useless (20).

Q3. How will the Lord's Messiah be like a *branch* filling the earth in the last days? (4:1-6; Zech. 3:8-9; Jer. 23:5-6)

3. Branch of the Lord: Glorious Jerusalem. Humanity's humility, reflected in the dependence rather than self-sufficiency of its women, enjoys the *glorious beauty* of the Lord's Messiah, the Branch (4:2), who spreads out from Zion to bear fruit throughout the land. Then, the Lord God will shelter Jerusalem with his glorious presence as *fire* and *cloud* (4:4-5).

Step 4: Develop: Review & Apply God's Word as a Growing Disciple to *read* Devotional, Notes, and Footnotes.

Branch of the Lord: Messiah's Dawning Kingdom: If you have come to Jesus Messiah as your Lord, there is a glorious Kingdom awaiting you! For, when we come to God through our Messiah, we are not merely individuals but a mighty *house*, built first around the *God of Jacob* and His servants, the prophets and apostles (2:3). In all the earth, our *house* becomes as the world's chief *mountain*, the center of all nations of earth (2:2). For, the way you know your God now will be earth's most valued treasure, as all earth's people come to you, saying, *teach us his ways!* (3). But, standing in the way of God's Kingdom future is the *hardness of His people, Israel* (6) who have filled their land with *man-made idols and fleshly works*—the self-made religion seeking to establish a Law-based rather than Messiah-led future (8). So, the Lord God plans a *Day of the Lord* to terrify human pride by His coming (10, 12). For, on that day, your Messiah will be a *beautiful and glorious Branch* to fill the whole world with the *fruit* of God's presence (4:2). And we will cover Jerusalem as a bright cloud and flaming fire (4:5) in resurrected bodies!

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Personal Study Notes: Understanding the Passage:

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Notes²: Promised Seed-Branch. God's original name for His Messiah, the chosen *Son* of our family line, is the *Seed* (Heb. *zera*). Messiah would be the Seed of woman (Gen. 3:15); Seed of Abraham (Gen. 17:8, 22:18); Seed of David to redeem a house and kingdom (2 Sam. 7:12-16). This *Seed* branches out by multiplying as countless people (Gen. 22:17) and bearing fruit throughout the whole earth (Is. 4:2).

² **Footnotes: Mountain and Kingdom of the Lord:** Great peoples and nations are described as mountains, so the nation and people of God are His holy mountain, mount Zion, a kingdom which will fill and rule the entire earth in His Messiah (Dan. 2:35,44-45).

Chapter 3: SON ON DAVID: Eternal Kingdom

Isaiah 9

Step 1. Discover: *Preview and View God's Word* for yourself then *Write Insights to Share* with others.

a. Preview Isaiah 9

Son of David: Eternal Kingdom. Messiah is the Mighty God to be born as the Son of David, coming to us as heavenly “light” to our “darkness” and bringing us from enslavement into his glorious kingdom forever! So, read Isaiah 9 to get an overview of the Lord’s great salvation as promised to David (2 Samuel 7:12-16) and fulfilled in the birth of Jesus (Matthew 1:18-25). Read Isaiah 9 to see the **hopeless darkness** (2) which surrounds us spiritually as we await the coming of the Messiah. Then, consider how Messiah accomplishes **a joyful victory** to restore our hope by breaking the spiritual powers which oppress us and keep us in our sins (4-5). Finally, see Messiah revealed as the **ruling Son of David** who rules on David’s throne over an eternal kingdom (7). Only Messiah rules as the “Mighty God” who carries His family name as “Counselor,” “Father,” and “Prince.”

b. Prayerfully Read Isaiah 9 and Write your insights to share

SEEING What is this Bible passage about? Key words, ideas	
LEARNING What does it mean? What is it teaching me?	
DOING What lesson can I apply to my life?	

Step 2. Discuss: Share Viewpoints. Read the Passage and Discuss Questions with Family, Friends, and Fellowship Group.

Q1. Why is the coming Kingdom of Mashiach a better home for us than this world's land of "darkness" in the "shadow of death"?

Q2. What makes the coming Kingdom of Mashiach, the Son of David, the perfect place to live?

Step 3: Dialogue: Compare Viewpoints as Disciples. Answer, share, & compare insights with partner, mentor, or mentee.

Q1. Why is Messiah the only one who can help us in our human condition? (Is. 9:1-2)

1. Hopeless in Darkness: Promised Light of Messiah: All of earth's people need God's Messiah, for the whole world and its people have been helpless in a spiritually irreversible trap. Isaiah describes us as a *people who walked in darkness* (9:2). Our spiritual environment is darkened without the presence of God, for Godlessness and sin rule the earth. And we all live in *deep darkness*, literally, the *shadow of death* (2). We are dead in our sins, and powerless under Satan (Eph. 2:2).

Q2. How can we rejoice as God's people in this world of spiritual darkness and oppression? (9:3-5)

2. Joyful Victory: Breaks Oppression. Under Satan's power of spiritual darkness and death, there is no real basis for joy. For, his spiritual power of darkness *burdened* our lives (9:4), paralyzed us like a *restraining staff* across our *shoulders*, and *abused us* like a punishing *rod*. But Satan's power was *broken* and *burned* by our conquering Messiah (5).

Q3. How will Messiah help us as His people? (9:6-7)

3. Ruling Son of David: Mighty God. The Messiah, the Son of David, brings us full and total salvation, establishing an *eternal Kingdom* (7) established on *justice and righteousness*. This government finally brings *peace* to the entire world. Messiah has the power to rule eternally in peace for He alone is the *Mighty God* to fight for his people; the *Everlasting Father* to nurture our growth; the *Wonderful Counselor* to lead us in His way; and the *Prince of Peace* to guide us (6)!

Step 4: Develop: Review & Apply God's Word as a Growing Disciple to *read* Devotional, Notes, and Footnotes.

The Son of David: Mighty God. As people living in spiritual sin and death, we live in a world covered entirely in spiritual darkness (Is. 9:2). Because your eyes have dimmed in this surrounding *darkness*, the Lord God sends Messiah to you as a *great light* from heaven (2). For, your Messiah embodies the life-giving power of God as *the Mighty God*, who is the *Wonderful Counselor* to reveal the wonder of this light to you; the *Everlasting Father* to favor you with God's kindness and grace; and the *Prince of Peace* to secure your heart in His rest and inheritance.

Messiah comes to you not as *blinding light*, but *born as a child*, a familiar son who brings God's salvation to you as simply joining His family. A firstborn son sent to bring you home to God as a son restored to the family. So, the Son of David does not simply bring you the *light of revelation*. He brings you safely home to God's family and Kingdom of light, ruling protectively over you on His *throne of peace* (7). So, humble yourself under his "righteous" rule!

Respond to Devotional: (mark passage above)	
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Personal Study Notes: Understanding the Passage:

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Teaching Preparation Notes: Sharing the Passage:

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Notes³: Name of Messiah: Messiah is *raised up* by God to bear the name of God (Jer. 30:9). So, as God's appointed Heir, Messiah bears the name of God as a family unity of father, son, and Spirit (Matt. 28:19; Jn. 17:12). So, He comes in the name of His Father as "the Everlasting Father" who himself is the Seed bearing a family of children like the stars (Gen. 22:18). And, he is Anointed by the Spirit to speak as the "Wonderful Counselor" (Is. 11:1-3). For, He is God's Heir, the "Prince of Peace."

³ **Footnotes: Messiah born as a Son:** Isaiah prophesies that Messiah will be born as a child, given to Israel as the promised Son (Is. 9:6-7) to inherit then allocate to his brothers their portion (Gen. 49:10)*. But, he will not be born in the natural way, for David's line of kings had been cut off by God at Jeconiah (Jer. 22:30). Rather, God himself must beget the Son of God (Ps. 2:7), raising him as Seed from David's own body (2 Sam. 7:12). So, God raised up Jesus by His Holy Spirit in Mary, using David's bodily (genetic) matter.

**he comes to Shiloh* (the place where inheritance is divided).

Chapter 4: SERVANT ISRAEL: Atoning for Sins of People

Isaiah 49:1-7; 53

Step 1. Discover: *Preview and View God's Word for yourself then Write Insights to Share with others.*

a. Preview *Isaiah 49:1-7; 53*

Servant Israel: Atones to Save Israel. Messiah is the Lord's Servant Israel, embodying the family name as its Firstborn Heir to offer himself to atone for the sins of His people. So, read Isaiah 49 to hear the Lord's call upon His Servant Messiah and Isaiah 53 to see the atoning work of Messiah to bear the sins of his people. Because Israel and the nations are helpless in their "darkness" (Is. 9:2), the Lord **calls his servant** in Isaiah 49 even from his mother's "womb" (1) to redeem his people. As the family's *firstborn son*, Messiah is named "Israel" (3) to gather both the nation "Israel" (5) and the "nations" to God's "salvation" as the "light" of the world (6). Then, read Isaiah 53 to see how the Lord *raises up His servant as the **atoning Lamb*** to accomplish this great salvation as an "offering for guilt" (10). Finally, God **resurrects his servant** as many are made "righteous" (11).

b. Prayerfully Read *Isaiah 49:1-7; 53* and Write your insights to share

SEEING What is this Bible passage about? Key words, ideas	
LEARNING What does it mean? What is it teaching me?	
DOING What lesson can I apply to my life?	

Step 2. Discuss: Share Viewpoints. Read the Passage and Discuss Questions with Family, Friends, and Fellowship Group.

Q1. Why does the Lord God need to send His Servant to Redeem us, starting with Israel and then the rest of His people?

Q2. How does the Redeemer's atoning sacrifice and resurrection from the dead help us as His people?

Step 3: Dialogue: Compare Viewpoints as Disciples. Answer, share, & compare insights with partner, mentor, or mentee.

Q1. Who is the Lord's Servant and what does the Lord send him to do? (Is. 49:1-7)

1. Servant's: To Israel and Nations. The Lord calls His Servant by the name *Israel* (49:3), even though he is addressing the Messiah. This Servant Israel is the Messiah, because his mission is to *raise up the tribes of Jacob* and to call back the chosen ones from *Israel* (6). As the *firstborn son of all the sons of Israel*, Messiah bears the name of his father Israel.

Q2. How does the Lord's Servant help his people with their biggest need? (53:1-10)

2. Atoning Lamb: Offering for Guilt. The history of the sons of Israel is a story of the Lord's discipline and judgment for their sins. So, the Lord God raises up Messiah as the *promised Seed, the young plant* (Is. 53:2) to serve Him as the *arm of the Lord* to save His people from their sins. So, Messiah was born in human flesh (Is. 49:1) to live as a *man of sorrows* (53:2) who would be *pierced* for the transgressions of his people (53:5, Zech. 12:10) in order to sacrifice his *soul* as a guilt offering (10).

Q3 What is the result of the Servant's sacrifice and death? (53:11-12)

3. Resurrected Servant: Makes Righteous. When the Messiah is *pierced for transgression* (5) and has his *soul poured out to death* (12), He gives himself to death to atone for the sins of his people. However, Messiah is then resurrected to life, for after His death the Lord promises to show him the fruit of His sacrifice (53:11) and to divide His inheritance among his fellow heirs (12).

Step 4: Develop: Review & Apply God's Word as a Growing Disciple to **read** Devotional, Notes, and Footnotes.

Redeeming Servant: Atoning Lamb. God says we are all like sheep who have strayed from him into danger. Not only are we helpless, but we blindly wander, focusing only on what to eat in front of us (Is. 53:6). So, the Lord sends Messiah, His Servant to gather you and all of us to safety. He calls Messiah Israel, because He embodies God's age-old work to purify the sons of Jacob for himself (3). So, this Servant Messiah first gathers straying Israel to God but also all nations *to the end of the earth* (6). So, the Lord redeems all people by His Servant! Messiah serves the Lord God sacrificially, for people *despise* him because he humbles himself to serve (7). For you, he lived as a *man of sorrows* (53:3) to *bear your griefs* and *carry your sin*, the source of all your suffering (4-5). Messiah served you to the end, giving up even his *soul*, His eternal life with His Father God, to pay His life to ransom your *guilt* (10). Because the Messiah *served* the Lord *to death*, God promises to prosper and satisfy him with life to see you be *reborn as a child in His image* (10), made *righteous* (11) and safe in His Father's family and Kingdom.

Respond to Devotional: (mark passage above)	
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Personal Study Notes: Understanding the Passage:

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Key lesson to learn?

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Notes⁴: My Servant Israel. When God promises Abraham and David a *land* (Gen. 17:8), *people* (Gen. 22:17), and *kingdom* (2 Sam. 7:16), He assigns this promise to their *Seed* (Son), the firstborn Son and Heir of all the sons of Abraham and David. Messiah represents as Head all the sons of Israel, so He himself is called *Israel* (Is. 49:3). As the Head of Israel, Messiah serves God by gathering the “preserved of Israel” (6).

⁴ **Footnotes: Soul an Offering for Guilt (53:10):** Because God is the Creator of the heavens and the earth (Gen. 1:1), all things owe the Lord their lives and existence. So, every living creature owes God their worship, especially the offering of what is *first* in their lives, including all *firstborn* (Gen. 4:4; Lev. 27:26). Thus, the Lord God has the Creator’s right to ask Abraham for Isaac’s life as an *offering* (Gen. 22:2) and to require the life of Israel’s firstborn Son, Messiah, as an *offering for guilt* (Is. 53:10).

Chapter 5: SPIRIT-ANOINTED MESSIAH: Restoring His People *Isaiah 11:1-5, 61*

Step 1. Discover: *Preview and View God's Word* for yourself
then *Write Insights* to Share with others.

a. Preview *Isaiah 11:1-5, 61*

Spirit-Anointed Messiah: Empowered Service. Messiah is Anointed by the Spirit of God to have the Lord God's spiritual power to bring the *good news* and freedom of God's salvation to his people, bringing *righteousness* not just to His people but *all the nations*. So, read Isaiah 11 and 61 to understand the power of the Lord's *anointing* by the Spirit, for you also will share in this Spirit's ministry of righteousness as a follower of Jesus Messiah! First, read in Isaiah 11 to discover how the Lord's very **righteous character** is given to Messiah as the *Spirit of the Lord* rests on him in all "wisdom" and "might" (2). Note how you are also given this same *Spirit of the Lord* who draws you near as a son (Rom. 8:15). Then, discover the Spirit's **righteous Ministry** in Isaiah 61, as Messiah makes many "righteous" (3). Finally, see the **Spirit's Restoring Fruit** fill his people and nations with praise (11).

b. Prayerfully **Read Isaiah 11:1-5, 61** and **Write** your insights to share

SEEING What is this Bible passage about? Key words, ideas	
LEARNING What does it mean? What is it teaching me?	
DOING What lesson can I apply to my life?	

Step 2. Discuss: Share Viewpoints. *Read the Passage and Discuss Questions with Family, Friends, and Fellowship Group.*

Q1. How does the Holy Spirit anoint the Mashiach to minister to His people with spiritual power on earth?

Q2. By the Spirit, how does Mashiach help us to live and grow as God's people on this earth?

Step 3: Dialogue: Compare Viewpoints as Disciples. *Answer, share, & compare insights with partner, mentor, or mentee.*

Q1. How does the Spirit anoint and empower Messiah to accomplish His mission? (Isaiah 11:1-5; 61:1-3)

1. Righteous Character: Spirit of Lord. Because Messiah, the Son of God, is born in humbled flesh to suffer for sins (Is. 53:6), he needs the Lord's Spirit to fulfill His spiritual mission of bringing the Kingdom of God and its healing to his people. So the Spirit equips him with His Father's character-- His wisdom, *power, knowledge* (11:2) for his ministry of restoration by the Gospel (16:1). Anointed by the same Spirit, we have such a spiritual ministry too!

Q2. How does Messiah prepare His people for God's Kingdom Family? (11:6-9; 61:4-9)

2. Righteous Ministry: Children of Kingdom. By the Spirit, the Messiah makes His people *righteous* to grow up in God's spiritual Kingdom Family (61:3). As His holy people, the saints then serve their Father God as *priests of the Lord* (61:6), presenting him with precious offerings of prayer, worship, and stewardship. By spreading the knowledge of their God through the earth, they bring peace to its people (Mt. 5:9).

Q3. How will Messiah's rule restore the world? (11:10-16; 61:10-11)

3. Restoring Fruit: Peace and Righteousness. The Lord Messiah will be the *central authority* in all the earth, and all the nations will seek him (Is. 11:11). He will gather His people Israel and bring His peace to the nations (13). Through the rule of the Messiah, *righteousness and praise* will arise in the nations (61:11) as Messiah's Spirit-anointed ministry bears its full bloom of fruit!

Step 4: Develop: Review & Apply God's Word as a Growing Disciple to **read** Devotional, Notes, and Footnotes.

Spirit-anointed Messiah: Healing and Restoring. Some imagine Messiah to be simply an earthly, fleshly king. But God knows that our real need is spiritual, and only a Spirit-anointed Messiah can truly heal our deepest wounds and restore us to God's eternal, spiritual family and kingdom.

Though Messiah is the Son of God (Ps. 2:7, 2 Sam. 7:14), he is still born as weak *flesh* (Is. 9:6), so the Lord God promises to *anoint* Him with the Spirit to give him spiritual *insight, healing power, and intimacy* with His God and Father (Is. 11:2). So, your Messiah has all the power He needs to enrich you with the Word of God, heal your broken heart, and free you from any spiritual enslavement (Is. 61:1). For, the Messiah prepares you for life and service in His Kingdom Family by making you an *oak of righteousness* (61:3) so you may *glorify* the Lord to serve Him as a pleasing *priest* (6). Around you and our family of spiritually restored saints, Messiah establishes His *righteous rule* so that the *knowledge of the Lord* covers the earth like waters (11:9).

Respond to Devotional: (mark passage above)	
✓ Agree	? Question ! Differ
SUPPORT: Agree What insight or Bible verse to add ?	
QUESTION: Modify What to question or change ?	
DIFFER: Disagree What insight or Bible verse to differ ?	

Personal Study Notes: Understanding the Passage:

Write and share notes with your partner/ mentor/ mentee.

What is the *big idea* of this passage?

- key verse:

What is a key idea?

- key verse:

What is a key idea?

Teaching Preparation Notes: Sharing the Passage:

Share lesson with partner, family, or group.

What is the *big lesson* to learn in this passage?

- verse:

Key lesson to learn?

(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

- verse:

Key lesson to learn?

(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

Notes⁵: Ministry of Holy Spirit. In this sin-poisoned world of spiritual death (Is. 9:2), we are a damaged people needing restoration for God's spiritual kingdom. We have no spiritual life, so the Spirit of God gives life by His *good news* of God's Word (61:1). Our hearts are *broken* by sin, so Messiah *binds us up* by the Spirit. Our souls are *captivated and enslaved* to this sinful world, so the Spirit gives Messiah the spiritual power to free us for life with God as his sons (Jn. 8:31-36).

⁵ **Footnotes: Kingdom Rule:** In His Kingdom, Messiah rules to bring peace to His people because He has *breaks* the power of the *oppressor* (9:4) and destroys all threats and opposition (5). Instead, He rules as the *Mighty God* on David's throne to bring justice and righteousness.

Chapter 6: BRANCH OF DAVID: Spreading World-wide Rule

Jeremiah 22:24-30; 23:1-8; 30:1-11

Step 1. Discover: *Preview and View God's Word* for yourself then *Write Insights to Share* with others.

a. Preview Jeremiah 22:24-30; 23:1-8; 30:1-11

Branch of David: Making Righteous. Messiah is the Righteous Branch who is *raised up* as the son of David and God to be to his people *the Lord their God* and *David their King*, making them *righteous* in himself (John 15:5). So, read excerpts from Jeremiah 22, 23, and 30 to see how Messiah must be *raised up* by God himself to be the son of two fathers, so that you might be bear righteous fruit as part of his branch. In Jeremiah 22, read first to discover the Lord's ***reason to raise up Messiah*** as sin corrupts David's entire line of kingship so that Jeconiah's seed is cursed (22:30), making natural succession impossible. Instead, God himself ***promises to raise up the Branch*** of David to make his people righteous (5-6). So, Messiah embodies the life and ***name of his fathers*** to rule his people as "the Lord their God and David their king" (Jeremiah 30:9).

b. Prayerfully Read Jeremiah 22:24-30; 23:1-8; 30:1-11 and Write your insights to share

SEEING What is this Bible passage about? Key words, ideas	
LEARNING What does it mean? What is it teaching me?	
DOING What lesson can I apply to my life?	

Step 2. Discuss: Share Viewpoints. *Read the Passage and Discuss Questions with Family, Friends, and Fellowship Group.*

Q1. Why do we, as God's people, need a righteous King like David to rule over us?

Q2. How does Mashiach rule over us in the name of his fathers as "the Lord our God" and "David our King"?

Step 3: Dialogue: Compare Viewpoints as Disciples. *Answer, share, & compare insights with partner, mentor, or mentee.*

Q1. What does the Lord prophesy about David's line of kings through Coniah as Judah falls under God's judgment? (Jer. 22:24-30)

1. Reason to Raise Seed: Cursed Seed of Coniah. Judah's fall into wickedness is reflected in the moral failure of David's line of kingship tracing back to Solomon. So, as Judah falls to God's judgment, its last king before exile, Jeconiah, is cursed so that *none of his Seed* shall sit on the *throne of David* (22:30). If David's line of kingship ends at Jeconiah, whose future offspring are cursed and banned from the throne, how will Messiah, the Son of David, enter the line? God needs to *raise up a new Seed of David* from David himself!

Q2. How does the Lord God promise to establish Messiah as the Son of David? (Jer. 23:1-8)

2. Promised Branch: Restoring Line. Due to Judah's corruption, the Lord God himself promises to *raise up a righteous Branch, a King for David* (23:5), who will come from David's own body, as God had originally promised David (2 Sam. 7:12). Messiah, the Son of David, would be the "Lord" who would make his people *righteous* (6). As Isaiah had promised, this Servant would make *many to be accounted righteous* (Is. 53:11), for He would be the *anointed one* to establish an *everlasting righteousness* (Dan. 9:24).

Q3. Who will the Lord *raise up* to shepherd His people? (Jer. 30:1-11)

3. Name of his fathers: Raised up as King. In the last days, the Lord will finally re-gather His people and restore their fortunes (30:3). For, God raises up a righteous King for his people. Because Messiah is to be both the Son of God (2 Sam. 7:14) and the Son of David (2 Sam. 7:12), He embodies the righteous character of His fathers even as he is called by their name, for Messiah is *the Lord their God* and *David their King* whom the Lord has raised up for them (30:9).

Step 4: Develop: Review & Apply God's Word as a Growing Disciple to **read** Devotional, Notes, and Footnotes.

Branch of David: The Lord our Righteousness. The line of Jesus Messiah matters, because every healthy tree bears healthy fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit (Mt. 7:17). God wants you, and the generations of Messiah's family, to be of the healthiest fruit, so He ensures that Jesus was born the *healthiest* of trees as the Branch of David!

See, if Messiah was born naturally from a living son of David, he would come from a *bad* tree. For, David's royal line had already been corrupted by sin and cursed at Jeconiah (Jer. 22:30). So, God restarts David's line afresh with the birth of Jesus by the Holy Spirit (Mt. 1:18). Because God used David's own bodily (genetic) material, Jesus is the direct *Son of David*. Now, Jesus is *raised up* as a "righteous Branch" for David (Jer. 23:5), and you and his whole family are now the *healthiest* of His fruit, for "the Lord is our righteousness" (6). And, as His *good fruit*, you are attached to him directly to *know Him* and His fathers, for He is raised up so you can know and serve Him as "the Lord" your "God" and "David" your "king"! (Jer. 30:9). So, bear his *royal, Godly fruit!*

Respond to Devotional: (mark passage above)	
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! Differ	
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Personal Study Notes: Understanding the Passage:

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Teaching Preparation Notes: Sharing the Passage:

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(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

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Key lesson to learn?

(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

Notes⁶: Righteous Branch: Lord our Righteousness. God's promised Seed is now called the *righteous Branch*, supplying all His people with a life-sustaining *righteousness* (23:6). And, once this Branch and His holy household are revealed to the world, then the Branch of the Lord *shall be beautiful and glorious*, bearing fruit from its homeland in Israel to nourish the world (Is. 4:2-3).

⁶ **Footnotes: Lord God and King David (Jer. 30:9):** Israel has had two worthy Kings to occupy the throne. God, her Redeemer, and David, her King. Thus, it was the Lord's will that Messiah would be the Son of two fathers—David (2 Samuel 7:12) and God (7:14). When God raises up Jesus as Messiah the Seed according to Jewish laws of duty (Gen. 38:8) and redemption (Ruth 4:10), He rules on behalf of his fathers, so His people may experience the blessed rule once again of David and God!

Chapter 7: PROTECTIVE LORD: Dwelling with His People

Zechariah 2, 3:6-10

Step 1. Discover: *Preview and View God's Word* for yourself then *Write Insights to Share* with others.

a. Preview Zechariah 2, 3:6-10

Protective Lord: Glory in Jerusalem: Messiah comes to His people as the Lord God himself, sent by God to dwell protectively in Jerusalem as the Glory in her midst. So, read Zechariah chapters 2 and 3 to realize the Lord's heart for you and the rest of His people as He plans to one day live with us in His glorious power. First, read Zechariah 2 to discover the Lord's ***protective heart*** for His people in Jerusalem, for the Lord God sends Messiah to dwell in "glory" as a "wall of fire" (5). God sends Messiah as Lord to dwell in Jerusalem to show that to attack His people is to touch the "apple" of God's eye (8). Then, see how the Lord's protection of "Judah" as His portion (12) extends Lord Messiah's ***gracious call*** to the nations also become His people (11). Planted in the land, Messiah is the Branch who ***purifies iniquity*** (3:9).

b. Prayerfully Read Zechariah 2, 3:6-10 and Write your insights to share

SEEING What is this Bible passage about? Key words, ideas	
LEARNING What does it mean? What is it teaching me?	
DOING What lesson can I apply to my life?	

Step 2. Discuss: Share Viewpoints. *Read the Passage and Discuss Questions with Family, Friends, and Fellowship Group.*

Q1. Why will Lord Mashiach come to dwell with His people in Jerusalem?

Q2. What does the high priest Joshua foretell about the coming Mashiach and the purpose of his mission?

Step 3: Dialogue: Compare Viewpoints as Disciples. *Answer, share, & compare insights with partner, mentor, or mentee.*

Q1. How will the Lord live with Jerusalem and its people in the last days? (Zech. 2:1-5)

1. Protective Heart: Lord as Wall of Fire: If this Godless world is in a spiritual darkness and shroud of death (Is. 9:2), then the Lord will dwell among His people as *fire*. The Lord declares that he will be a *wall of fire* around Jerusalem and its people (Zech. 2:5). That is, His presence is not just *showy* but a revealing of true spiritual strength and comforting protection. As *fire* surrounding Jerusalem, the Lord will also be the *glory* in her *midst* (5).

Q2. Why does the Lord of Hosts send Lord Messiah to dwell with His people? (2:6-13)

2. Gracious Call: Sent in Love: The Lord God sets his heart to rescue His people in the last days. In love, the Lord sends Messiah, the *Lord of Hosts*, to call His scattered people home and to protect them (2:8). The Lord loves His people as *the apple of His eye*, so He sends Messiah to protect them for His own sake. So, Messiah dwells in the midst of Israel as the central rule over world affairs (11), affirming the Lord's heart for His people and assuring their inheritance (12).

Q3. What does Joshua the high priest learn about the coming Messiah, the Branch of the Lord? (3:6-10)?

3. Branch: Stone Removing Iniquity. As a *sign* of the coming Branch, the Messiah to be named *Joshua*—that is, Jesus, Yeshua, Joshua is introduced to Lord's plan for His Servant. The Messianic Branch is a *stone*, for He will build the house of the Lord (2 Sam. 7:13). This *stone* is also like the stone cleansing Isaiah of His sin (Is. 6:6), for He removes the *iniquity* of the land in a single act of atonement (Zech. 3:9). Finally, this stone acquires perfect knowledge, *seven eyes* (9; Rev. 5:6).

Step 4: Develop: Review & Apply God's Word as a Growing Disciple to *read* Devotional, Notes, and Footnotes.

Lord God sends Lord to Dwell with His People: Even though this dark world and our fleshly eyes obscures our vision, know that the Lord surrounds you and His people with his holy presence and power with a glorious wall of fire!

Consider His promise to Israel on the day of their testing. As the Lord of Hosts unveils the glory of His protective power, know that this same heart burns for you, too, who are the “apple of his eye”! You are untouchable in the Lord! (Zech. 2:8).

Notice that the Lord God sends Messiah as Lord to “dwell in your midst” (10) because His heart is near to you as Immanuel, “God with us” (Mt. 1:23). So, this same heart which causes Jesus to indwell your heart by His Holy Spirit (Jn. 14:15-18) is the same one that will dwell in Zion on the day of their trial (Zech. 2:7). But the Lord’s protective heart seeks to save you from an enemy more deadly than a hostile army. Messiah comes to remove your “iniquity” all at once (Zech. 3:9) when He took your sins on His cross (Heb. 10:10)

Respond to Devotional: (mark passage above)	
✓ Agree	? Question ! Differ
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Personal Study Notes: Understanding the Passage:

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Teaching Preparation Notes: Sharing the Passage:

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(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

- verse:

Key lesson to learn?

(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

Notes⁷: Know that the Lord has Sent me (2:11). There is a *day* when Israel will look upon her Messiah with a terrible realization that He is and has always been her long-lost *Firstborn Son*, sent away in a fit of misguided religious zeal (Zech. 12:10). After *two days*—two long millennia—of deadening unbelief (Hos. 6:2), Israel’s doubt will finally be *assuaged* as she feels the Messiah’s *fiery love protecting her and awakes to His comforting presence in her midst!* (Zech. 2:10).

⁷ **Footnotes: Stone Removing Iniquity:** Before the Lord’s presence are fiery stones of His holy altar, such as the one touching Isaiah’s lips to atone for His guilt (Is. 6:7). In this way, Jesus, the Son of God, is the Stone of God, the Rock of Israel (2 Sam. 23:3) who atones for the sins of God’s people.

Chapter 8: PIERCED SON: Mourning Redeemer

Zechariah 12; 14

Step 1. Discover: *Preview and View God's Word* for yourself
then *Write Insights to Share* with others.

a. Preview Zechariah 12; 14

Redeeming Son: Messiah is Israel's Firstborn Son, finally recognized as the One pierced for her redemption as He is revealed in power to save her. So, read Zechariah 12 to discover the day when Israel finally recognized Jesus as her Messiah, *pierced* to redeem her and the nations of their sins, followed by chapter 14 and the day Messiah returns and reveals His judgment to the nations to establish His eternal Kingdom on earth. Read Zechariah 12 to discover the moment when Messiah is ***revealed to Israel*** as Jesus, raised up by God to be the nation's Firstborn Son (Ps. 2:7) and *pierced to redeem them* (10; Is. 53:5). Then, discover Israel's heart-felt ***repentant response*** to their rejected Messiah, weeping and dedicating themselves to the Lord (11; Rev. 7:1-8). In chapter. 14, Messiah ***returns in power*** to defeat the nations attacking Israel (4) to rule as king (9).

b. Prayerfully Zechariah 12; 14 and Write your insights to share

SEEING What is this Bible passage about? Key words, ideas	
LEARNING What does it mean? What is it teaching me?	
DOING What lesson can I apply to my life?	

Step 2. Discuss: Share Viewpoints. Read the Passage and Discuss Questions with Family, Friends, and Fellowship Group.

Q1. Why do the people of Jerusalem mourn grievously as for a lost firstborn when they finally look upon the face of Lord Mashiach?

Q2: How do you think the world will change when Mashiach comes and rules over the whole earth?

Step 3: Dialogue: Compare Viewpoints as Disciples. Answer, share, & compare insights with partner, mentor, or mentee.

Q1. How does the Lord favor Israel in the last days? (Zech. 12:1-9)

1. Revealed to Israel: The Lord God reveals His glory by favoring Israel and making it a *heavy stone* and a *cup of staggering* for the nations of the earth (12:2). The Lord shows that He faithfully defends his people even when the world's overwhelming forces are arrayed against them. Protecting Israel for the sake of His own name and glory, the Lord *seeks to destroy* the nations that threaten *Jerusalem* (12:9), so He sends Messiah to personally save Israel from destruction.

Q2. What happens when Israel looks upon her saving Messiah?
(Zech. 12:10-14)

2. Repentant Response: Israel Mourns Messiah. For generations, Israel has rejected Jesus as her Messiah. In the Day of the Lord, Jesus Messiah reveals Himself to Israel as he destroys her encircling enemies! First, His Spirit turns the faces of Israel up to heaven in helpless prayers for mercy (12:10). Then, as they look up, they *look upon me, on him whom they have pierced*. Jesus Messiah is the one pierced for Israel's sins according to prophecy (Ps. 22:16; Is. 53:5). Seeing the face of her Firstborn Son, Israel mourns! (Zech. 12:12).

Q3. How does the Lord Messiah reveal Himself once more to the nations on His Day? (Zech. 14:1-9)

3. Returns in Power: Earth's King. Israel repents and proclaims Jesus as Messiah! But, Satan's *Antichrist* attacks and defiles the temple and the city's women (14:2). So, the Lord Messiah returns with His armies to earth, this time *touching and splitting the Mount of Olives* (14:4) and defeating the Antichrist and earth's rebellious armies once and for all. From this point, the *Lord* will rule as *king over all the earth*, so that there is only one *Lord* and only one *name* to be exalted in all the earth (9). So begins the Kingdom of God!

Step 4: Develop: Review & Apply God's Word as a Growing Disciple to **read** Devotional, Notes, and Footnotes.

Pierced Son Saves Israel: Day of the Lord: Sometimes, the most courageous acts are done with a broken heart. And so, God's Messiah was the holy stone *removing the world's iniquity* (Zech. 3:9). Yet, even as countless were cleansed by Messiah's atoning work, His own people Israel rejected him as an imposter, to His great sorrow (Matthew 23:37).

If you love Messiah, rejoice in the great day of homecoming when Jesus and his people Israel are finally reconciled! On that day, as Israel is encircled by its deadly enemies, Jesus Messiah will reveal himself to Israel in all his saving glory! (12:10). Pleading for the Lord's mercy, Israel will look up. In the words of Jesus, "*they will look on me, on him whom they have pierced*" and will recognize him in that moment that He indeed is their *chosen child*, the *firstborn son* they had abandoned all these generations. So, they will *mourn* (11-14) only to be *reborn* by His indwelling (Ezek. 37:13-14) and consecrating (Rev. 7:3) Holy Spirit.

Respond to Devotional: (mark passage above)	
✓ Agree	? Question ! Differ
SUPPORT: Agree What insight or Bible verse to add ?	
QUESTION: Modify What to question or change?	
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Personal Study Notes: Understanding the Passage:

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Teaching Preparation Notes: Sharing the Passage:

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(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

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Notes⁸: Day of the Lord: Messiah Revealed. The Day of the Lord, Jesus Messiah is first revealed to Israel for its national repentance and salvation (Zech. 12:10). It concludes when the Lord Jesus Messiah returns to earth with His armies to defeat the Antichrist and His armies, revealing His mighty power to the nations opposed to God's rule.

⁸ **Footnotes: Israel's Heart-breaking Salvation:** Like their ancestor Jacob wrestling with God (Gen. 32:24), Israel looks to the Lord God for mercy only when she finds herself helpless (Zech. 12:10). The Lord responds by pouring out on her the spirit of grace and supplication to open Israel's eyes to know the Messiah as Jesus. Revealing their utter brokenness before their Messiah, Israel mourns by families and by clans (12:11-14). Only such heart-break can generations of hardness turn to prayers of consecration.

Chapter 9: LORD OF HOSTS: Dawning Day of Righteousness

Joel 2, Malachi 4

Step 1. Discover: *Preview and View God's Word* for yourself then **Write** *Insights to Share* with others.

a. Preview Joel 2, Malachi 4

Lord of Hosts: Dawning Day of Righteousness. Messiah is the Lord of Hosts whose righteous dawn brightens the earth on the Day of the Lord's Judgment. So, read first Joel 2 to understand the terrifying power of the Lord of Hosts and His Armies and then Malachi 4 to see that the Day of the Lord replaces the world's current darkness with light in the Lord. First, read Joel 2 to understand the Lord's **heavenly power** displayed on that day. His force is expressed through His "great and powerful people" (2) but the true source of power is the Lord's "word" itself (11). Yet, before this raw display of heavenly power, the Lord pours out His **Spirit** to **work** through his *sons and daughters of weak flesh* to show His power (28) so people call to Lord for salvation (31). In Mal. 4, we see that the Lord's Day **radiates righteousness** from Messiah to burn evildoers (1) but heal those who fear him (2).

b. Prayerfully Read Joel 2, Malachi 4 and Write your insights to share

SEEING What is this Bible passage about? Key words, ideas	
LEARNING What does it mean? What is it teaching me?	
DOING What lesson can I apply to my life?	

Step 2. Discuss: Share Viewpoints. *Read the Passage and Discuss Questions with Family, Friends, and Fellowship Group.*

Q1. Why will the coming of Lord Mashiach terrify the people of earth? What do they fear?

Q2. How do the Spirit's works and the Lord's Messenger prepare people for the arrival of Mashiach? How would you respond to Mashiach at his coming?

Step 3: Dialogue: Compare Viewpoints as Disciples. *Answer, share, & compare insights with partner, mentor, or mentee.*

Q1. Why is the Day of the Lord so terrifying, and what is the Lord's purpose for it? (Joel 2:1-17)

1. Heavenly Power: Repent and Consecrate. In the shadow of this current reality, humanity has no hint of the Lord's terrifying glory. So, the Lord reveals His judgment on the *Day of the Lord* (2:1) by revealing His terrible glory through his *great and powerful people* (2). They are as inescapable as a shadow enveloping the entire mountain. They are as unstoppable as a *battle-ready army* (5). What is the source of their power? They obey the Lord's words without question (11), so humanity's only hope is repentance (12).

Q2. How will the Lord's Spirit work among His people before the Day of the Lord, and for what purpose? (Joel 2:26-32)

2.Spirit's Work: Before Day of Lord. Before the Lord confronts the peoples in the sheer power of the Day of the Lord, He continues to seek people to *call on His name for salvation* (Joel. 2:32). To draw people to return, the Lord first pours out His Spirit on his weak people who do powerful works to testify to His name (28). Then, He displays powerful signs in the “heavens” (30) to call people to repent.

Q3. How will the Lord's presence affect people on the Day of the Lord? (Mal. 4:1-6)

3. Radiant Righteousness: When Lord Messiah is finally revealed to the people of earth on the Day of the Lord, His awesome coming is felt as a burning fire (1)—a consuming heat like a “burning oven” that will set people “ablaze.” But there are two responses to the Lord. To the “arrogant and evildoers” the Lord's righteous person is a destructive fire to consume them (1). But, to those who “fear” the Lord, his radiant righteousness is the “sun” that “heals them” (2).

Step 4: Develop: Review & Apply God's Word as a Growing Disciple to **read** Devotional, Notes, and Footnotes.

Returning Hearts to Lord: As a follower of the Lord Messiah, you understand that everything in life changes when you humble yourself to *fear* Him. The Lord works mightily in your life for your *good* and *growth*! But the Lord opposes arrogance and fleshly pride with fiery wrath. So, the Day of the Lord accelerates this reality in the Lord's radiant presence—the *righteous* are healed and the *wicked* consumed (Mal. 4:1-2). For this reason, the Lord uses you, His people, to persuade people to return and call to him before the Day of the Lord arrives (Joel 2:31-32)!

First, the Lord displays His mighty power in you as you obey His Word of command (Joel 2:11), doing mighty works through us as His "camp." Now, this power is veiled, but it will form us into His unstoppable force on the Day (10)!

Then, the Spirit will work *signs* of spiritual wonders through the Lord's servants (28). Even now, the Spirit empowers you to serve in ways beyond the flesh. Before that Day, a great *outpouring* will fill the land (29) so that as the heavens testify (30), many will call to the Lord to save (32)!

Respond to Devotional: (mark passage above)	
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(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

Notes⁹: Signs and Spirit Poured Out. Turning to the Lord God is near impossible for most people because their *hearts* are hardened by this world (Joel 2:13). So, the Lord first judges as the *sun darkens and the moon bleeds*. On earth, blood, fire, and smoke shake human pride (2:30). Godless hearts believe only what is seen, so the Spirit *washes over all flesh* in the spiritual power of *prophecies, dreams, and visions* (28). So, *fleshly hearts* realize the power of God's spiritual glory!

⁹ **Footnotes: Prophet Elijah:** Human hearts of flesh are hardened to the Lord (Rom. 8:7-8), so God sends the prophet to prepare people for the way of the Lord (Is. 40:3). As Elijah turned the hearts of Israel back to the Lord (1 Kings 18:37), so the prophet rebukes Godlessness to prepare hearts for the Lord's coming. He prepares hearts by restoring natural human affections between fathers and children (Mal. 4:6).

Chapter 10: SHEPHERD RULER: Peaceful Kingdom

Micah 4:1-5; 5

Step 1. Discover: *Preview and View God’s Word* for yourself then **Write** *Insights to Share* with others.

a. Preview *Micah 4:1-5; 5*

Shepherd’s Ruler: Peaceful Kingdom. Messiah is the Shepherd Ruler who establishes his holy house as a mountain drawing earth’s nation to worship. So, read in Micah 4 and 5 how the Lord’s Shepherd’s rule and care of His own people of Israel re-aligns the world’s nations. First, read Micah 4 to see how the Shepherding Messiah establishes *Israel* as the **Lord’s Mountain** drawing *obedient worshippers* from the nations seeking to learn His “ways” (2). For, the centerpiece of this holy house is its Ruler, who ***shepherds in strength*** of the Lord (4) to establish his people in “peace” (5). In Micah 5, see the Lord ***exalt Israel*** (7) to becomes a “lion” unleashed to judge disobedient nations (15).

b. Prayerfully *Read Micah 4:1-5; 5* and *Write* your insights to share

SEEING What is this Bible passage about? Key words, ideas	
LEARNING What does it mean? What is it teaching me?	
DOING What lesson can I apply to my life?	

Step 2. Discuss: Share Viewpoints. *Read the Passage and Discuss Questions with Family, Friends, and Fellowship Group.*

Q1. How will we live with the Lord Mashiach in the new world he will create at his coming?

Q2: How will Mashiach shepherd us and the world for our good?

Step 3: Dialogue: Compare Viewpoints as Disciples. *Answer, share, & compare insights with partner, mentor, or mentee.*

Q1. How will the Lord Messiah transform the world in the last days? (Mic. 4:1-5)

1. Lord's Mountain: Nations Gathered: The Lord Messiah establishes His peaceful Kingdom around His *people, the mountain of the House of the Lord* settled in Zion, *their eternal homeland* (4:1-2). From this *holy mountain*, the lawful rule of *Lord Messiah* fairly judges *disputes* between strong nations and assures the nations of equitable and fair outcomes (3), allowing them to *beat their swords into plowshares*.

Q2. Why is the Messiah qualified to rule the nations as their Lord? (Mic. 5:1-5)

2. Strong Shepherd: Worldwide Peace. Weak *flesh* hampers the rule of earthly kings. But, the Lord Messiah is eternal, from *ancient days* and has the experienced wisdom to rule over the nations. This Lord is not hampered by *fleshly* Self-interest, for He rules as a *shepherd* caring for His precious flock (5:4). Nor is he limited in power, for Lord Messiah rules *in the name of the Lord His God* and His surpassing power. In Lord Messiah, earth's people find their unshakeable *peace*.

Q3. What place will Israel have in Lord Messiah's Kingdom in the last days? (5:7-15)

3. Israel Exalted: Jacob and Nations Cleansed. Accustomed to *fleshly* rule, the nations of the earth are like *flocks of sheep* who have never known the Lord nor His power. So, God establishes the *remnant of Jacob* in Messiah's kingdom as an example to the world of *a people holy to the Lord!* Like a *lion among the beasts*, Israel is endowed with the glorious power of her Lord! (5:8). The Lord's cleansing work will move from His House to the nations of the world (14), so that nations who resist His rule experience His wrath (15).

Step 4: Develop: Review & Apply God's Word as a Growing Disciple to *read* Devotional, Notes, and Footnotes.

Shepherding Messiah: Bringing Peaceful Kingdom: Ever since sin established a Godless, human rule over this earth, we have known only oppression and conflict. For, underlying this human rule is an ingrained *fear*. Such pervasive fear—from attack or loss—stems from the dark *god* stalking this godless vacuum. But, when the Lord God establishes His *shepherding Messiah* to rule the world, we will finally know peace, for “*no one shall make them afraid*” (4:4).

This Messiah will rule with the *heart and power* of a *shepherd*, for he will *shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord* (5:4). Under His limitless and good Lordship, Messiah's people can *dwell securely by resting in His greatness* (4). As you learn to rest in the *greatness of* your shepherding Messiah, you can foretaste even now a freedom from fear to enjoy the glorious peace of His Kingdom rule. For, His peace starts with us, His *house* to become the chief *mountain* to which all nations will stream to know our Lord and His ways! (4:1-2).

Respond to Devotional: (mark passage above)	
✓ Agree	? Question ! Differ
SUPPORT: Agree What insight or Bible verse to add ?	
QUESTION: Modify What to question or change?	
DIFFER: Disagree What insight or Bible verse to differ ?	

Personal Study Notes: Understanding the Passage:

Write and share notes with your partner/ mentor/ mentee.

What is the *big idea* of this passage?

- key verse:

What is a key idea?

- key verse:

What is a key idea?

Teaching Preparation Notes: Sharing the Passage:

Share lesson with partner, family, or group.

What is the *big lesson* to learn in this passage?

- verse:

Key lesson to learn?

(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

- verse:

Key lesson to learn?

(write a question for people to discover this lesson)

Notes¹⁰: Holy House. The Lord establishes and builds our House around His covenantal people of Abraham. Once gathered in by Messiah's redemption, our house takes root in the ancient homeland of Israel then spreads throughout the earth (Mic. 4:1-3) to teach all nations of the earth the ways of our Lord.

¹⁰ **Footnotes: Shepherding King Messiah:** The Lord's Kingdom purpose to bring all nations of the earth together as one flock begins with Israel. Given dominion as the Son of Man by the Ancient of Days (Dan. 7:13), Messiah rules Israel first as its rightful Shepherd. Then, he brings all the ends of the earth under His protective care to be their peace (Mic. 5:5).

Prayer Requests:

Prayer Request/ Date	Answered Prayer/ Thanks

Journaling:

What is God teaching you?	How are you growing?

Sermon Notes:

Sermon Notes/ Date	Applying it to my life

Notes: