



METRO NEW YORK WORLD MINISTRY
ADULT SABBATH SCHOOL CONTRIBUTING NOTES
For the week of Feb 13 – Feb 19, 2016
Lesson #8: **Rebellion and Redemption**

Lesson Title: Comrades in Arms

Introductory Thoughts

When I think of the title of this week's lesson, "Comrades in Arms," two thoughts come to mind. First, as "comrades" we are to learn to work together. Second, "comrades in arms," suggests that we are at war. Therefore, we need to work together in this war between truth and error, between right and wrong, between love and hate, and between Christ and Satan.

Consider the following quotes:

"The church is God's appointed agency for the salvation of men." AA 9

"All who receive the life of Christ are ordained to work for the salvation of their fellow men. For this work the church was established, and all who take upon themselves its sacred vows are thereby pledged to be coworkers with Christ." DA 822

As saints of the Most High, we must take up our appointed task in winning others to Christ. We are to reach out to others who have "no hope", and are "without God in the world."

Our Metro Sabbath School program is an opportunity to bring people to a saving knowledge of Christ. Your own local Sabbath School class is an opportunity to invite precious souls to hear the truth for this time.

But Sabbath School is not the only means to reach people. "It is our work to reveal to men the gospel of their salvation. Every enterprise in which we engage should be a means to this end." MH 148

This makes soul-winning a very personal work. "Everywhere there is a tendency to substitute the work of organization for individual effort. . . Christ commits to His followers an individual work,--a work that cannot be done by proxy." MH 147

You do not need to cast a big net to do soul-winning. You just need a fishing pole with a single hook. Men are not saved collectively, but individually.

The Miracles Highlight the Importance of Individual Work

There are nearly forty specific cases of healing recorded in the Gospels. Only six people who were healed came because of their own individual faith. About twenty were brought to Jesus by others. It was not primarily the faith of the patient that brought them to Jesus, but the faith of the person who brought them. The Bible says, "And, behold, they brought to Him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing **their faith** said to the sick of the palsy: Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee." Matthew 9:2



Sabbath School Lesson Notes – February 20, 2016

Two by Two

As we know, Jesus sent out His disciple two by two. This implies that we often ought to partner together in our evangelism. This can be a husband and a wife. It can be parents with their children. Two or more church members may plan to do evangelism together. Who every you pair up with, consider the following acronym: **PARTNER**

P = Prayer

Every great revival has been preceded by prayer. All that we do individually and in cooperation with others, should be preceded by much prayer.

A = Appeal to the heart

Often we make the mistake of winning an argument but losing the soul. We should find our way to the heart and always share truth in the love of Jesus.

R = Right word at the right time

Do not share five different Bible topics and the same time. Focus on the right topic at the time. Share Bible verses in a logical order. Be clear and loving.

T = Trust God

Trust that God will do His part in working up the heart of your prospect. Work in cooperation with Him and trust your own soul to His keeping.

N = Nurture

We are not called to simply tell the truth. We are to ministry to the needs of others. We are to show sympathy, care, and love. As we nurture others with kind words and deeds, they are more likely to receive the precious seeds of truth.

E = Expect

Expect people to make right decisions. Have faith. Do all that you can to encourage men and women to become sons and daughters of God. Do not talk doubt. Talk faith.

R = Represent Christ

We are at all times to be representatives of Christ in both word and deed. If we fail in representing Christ, they will not believe the truths that we share. Be a consistent follower of Christ.



Sabbath afternoon

Memory Text: “And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while He talked with us by the way, and while He opened to us the Scripture?” Luke 24:32

Emmaus was a village about seven miles northwest of Jerusalem. As the two men were discussing the events that took place at Passover, Jesus came up to them and walked with them. Beginning with Moses, He explained to them the events that just took place. As they listened to the unfolding of prophesy, their hearts burned with in them.

Their despair and doubts were dispelled. Both the presence of Jesus and the truth of God’s Word turned their gloom to glorious light. This will be the experience of all who learn of Christ. As the Holy Spirit leads you into truth, your mind will be enlightened. But remember, we do not seek for truth alone. We are to seek for Him who is the Truth. The Holy Spirit will lead us closer and closer to Christ, with a deeper and greater appreciation of His Word. The two must go together, if we are to become fishers of men.

Sunday’s Lesson

Topic: The Call to Prayer

Scripture: Luke 4:31-41

In the healing of the man with the unclean spirit and Peter’s mother-in-law, we find reference to the mighty words and healing power of Jesus. The Bible says, “. . . for His word was with power. . . And they were all amazed, and spake among themselves, saying, What a word is this! for with authority and power he commandeth the unclean spirits, and they come out. . . And He stood over her, and rebuked the fever.” Luke 4:32, 36, 38

It is clear that there is power in Christ’s Words. But there is no power in our opinions. To be effective ambassadors for Christ we must be armed with the Word of God.

Read Luke 5:6-8

Peter and Andrew had tried to catch fish without Jesus and they got nothing. When they cooperated with Jesus, they caught more than they could have ever expected. In fact, the nets nearly broke.

Was Jesus a better fisherman? Did He know where all the fish were? Or did the fish obey the call of their Creator? This was not a lucky catch, but a miracle. It was a catch that could not have been predicted.

In the same way, without Jesus we are not able to become effective fishers of men. But when we cooperate with Jesus, we will see miraculous conversions. We will see things and experience things that we could never have predicted or anticipated. It is beyond human calculation.



Read Luke 5:11

They had just made their greatest catch of fish. Business could have been booming from that point on. But they forsake all to follow Jesus. In following Him, they need not fear of want. After all, they just witnessed the greatest fishing catch of all time.

This miracle catch made earthly wealth and success unattractive. Their eyes were now opened to something far greater, namely, fellowship with Jesus. They were no longer part-time disciples. They now united their life with His. They were not the learned of Judaism, but they were sincere. They were teachable. They were available. They loved Jesus.

Monday's Lesson

Title: "With Him"

Scripture: "And He ordained twelve, that they should be with Him, and that He might send them forth to preach."
Mark 3:14

The word "ordained" means "to appoint." When He ordained the twelve, He had initiated His kingdom of grace. Beginning with the twelve, the followers of Jesus would increase. After His crucifixion, one hundred and twenty would meet in an upper room and prepare themselves to receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. On the day of Pentecost, three thousand souls were added to the church.

Before they could receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, they needed to "be with Him." They were first ordained to be with Him. They were to learn of Him. They would become His apostles. The word "apostles" means "to be sent" or "one sent forth." They were sent forth "to preach."

Not by word alone would they preach, they heavily engaged in the medical missionary work. They ministered to the needs of others. As they went forth helping suffering humanity, they shared the good news Christ's life and teachings, self-sacrificing death, His resurrection, His ascension, and constant intercession.

We too should seek to be ordained of God. We are to dedicated all of who we are and all of what we have to His service. We want our talents to be anointed for His service. We want to hear the call to go forth and make disciples of all nations. We need that upper room experience where we settle all our differences. As we all daily "with Him," we are preparing ourselves to receive the latter rain in these last days.



Tuesday's Lesson

Title: Jesus' Dominion Over Nature

Scripture: Matthew 8:23-27

Jesus and the disciples are on a small fishing boat. Jesus falls asleep quickly. A storm begins to brew and turns into a "great tempest." The boat is taking on water faster than the disciples can bail it out. They find Jesus fast asleep and awaken Him. They cry out, "Lord, save us: we perish." This should be the cry for all who face the tempest of temptation.

Jesus said to His disciples, "Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith?" They had seen miracles before, but they had never seen Jesus rebuke the great forces of nature. But did they have enough light and evidence that Jesus loved them? Had they enough evidence of His power to save? I believe they did.

Jesus now turns to the angry waves and fierce wind. He rebukes the "great tempest" and now there is a "great calm."

What if one of the disciples had displayed faith in this situation, would it have encouraged the others?

Too often we look at the waves instead of placing our faith in Him who is all-loving and all-powerful. As comrades in arms, lest us not talk doubt, but faith. Let us encourage one another to look to Him who is greater than every disease and every storm.

Wednesday's Lesson

Title: Who is the Greatest?

Scripture: Mark 9:33-37

The disciples had been disputing over who was to be the greatest in Christ's kingdom. They assume that Jesus would destroy the Romans and set up an earthly kingdom. In that kingdom, Jesus would need to appoint people to very important positions. They assumed that they would occupy those positions. But who would occupy the highest positions?

Jesus knew of their bickering. He said to them, "If any man desire to be first, the same shall be last of all, and servant of all." Mark 9:35. As servants of Christ, we are to minister to the needs of others. The great law of life is to receive for the purpose of giving. As Christ gave Himself, we are to be giving. Life is not about the accumulation of wealth and receiving service from others. Rather, it is about dedicating your time and talents in the service to both God and man.

How can we be comrades in arms if we are bickering over who is the greatest?

As comrades in arms we are to esteem other as better than ourselves.



Thursday's Lesson

Title: Divine Encounter With the Word

Scripture: Luke 24:19-35

The two men traveling along the road to Emmaus, were deeply affected by the crucifixion of Jesus. That had heard that His body was gone, but could not bring themselves to believe that He was alive. Jesus then explains to them, beginning with Moses, all that the Bible taught about the His first advent.

Telling the whole story is both helpful and necessary. We need to see the whole picture, from Creation and the Fall, to the Earth made new. When Cleopas and his friend understood the plan of salvation, their hearts burned within them.

When we grasp the greater picture of this great controversy, we can see where we are in time and the kind of people we need to be. We need the Word to paint that picture. We need the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth. We need the truth. Truth will both sanctify and inspire us.

As comrades in arms, we must covenant to become good Bible students that we might encourage one another. By our ignorance we can mislead one another. But when we are armed with truth, we become a mighty influence for good with fellow believers.

Have a great Sabbath!