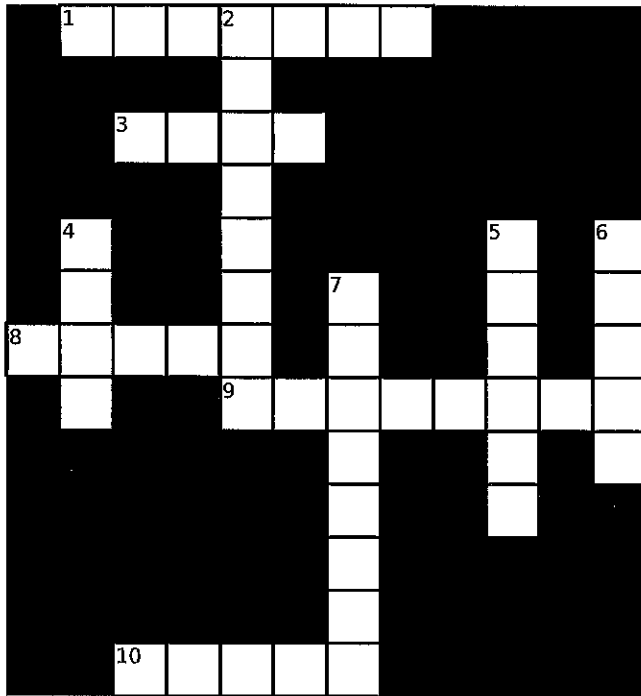


LESSONS FOR LAMBS

WEEK OF SEPTUAGESIMA

The word *Septuagesima* comes from the Latin word for "seventieth." It is named this because it is the Sunday approximately 70 days from Easter. The color for the Week of Septuagesima is green or purple.



Across

- 1 "For the _____ of heaven is like a master of a house."
- 3 At first, _____ greatly opposed the Christian Church.
- 8 Paul preached about salvation by _____ alone.
- 9 The master agreed to pay each laborer a _____ a day.
- 10 Paul became _____ for three days, and after he received his sight again he became a follower of Christ.

Down

- 2 The first workers hired _____ when the last workers got paid the same.
- 4 All of the workers did not _____ the same amount of time.
- 5 Paul was trained as a rabbi of the _____ law.
- 6 "So the last will be _____, and the first last."
- 7 The master sent the laborers into the _____ to work.



Produced by Heidi D. Sias. May be reproduced intact for congregational use only, not to be sold. For further permissions contact heldi@heldisias.com.

Front cover art (by Ed Riojas) copyright © 2006 by Higher Things. Used by permission. Available from Higher Things through their web store at: www.higherthings.org/store.html.

Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Catechism excerpts from the 1912 Catechism, other art and all hymns are in the public domain.

Remainder copyright © 2010 Heidi Dawn Sias.

What to listen for during the service?

Listen for the singing of the Offertory after the Offering is collected. The words of the Offertory are from Psalm 51. What are we asking God to do?

Gospel Reading: Matthew 20:1-16

(The Gospel Reading is from the part of the Bible that is about Jesus and his ministry.)

1 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. 2 After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. 3 And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, 4 and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' 5 So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. 6 And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' 7 They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' 8 And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' 9 And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. 10 Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. 11 And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, 12 saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' 13 But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? 14 Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. 15 Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' 16 So the last will be first, and the first last."

Questions to talk about with your parents:

- 1) What is a denarius?
- 2) Did all the workers work the same amount of time?
- 3) Why were the first workers hired angry when they got paid?
- 4) When Jesus talks about the kingdom of heaven he talks about how He saves us. Does the amount of work we do decide how much we will be saved?

- 5) What does the master tell the angry worker?
- 6) Jesus says, "the last will be first, and the first last." God's kingdom works differently than earthly kingdoms. How is it different? (see verse 15)
- 7) How does the grace we receive from King Jesus help us treat others?

People of the Bible: Paul

The Epistle reading is from 1 Corinthians, which was written by Paul. But who was Paul? Paul was a Christian apostle and wrote several of the epistles (meaning letters) of the Bible, including those in your Bible from Romans all the way to Philemon. Paul was not always a Christian though. He was trained as a rabbi of the Jewish law and followed the law very strictly. Because of this he greatly opposed the Christian Church and followers of Jesus. He wanted to destroy the Church. Then as we read in Acts 9 (read verses 1-20) we read about how one day on the way to the city of Damascus, a light from heaven flashed around him and he fell to the ground. He heard the voice of the Lord asking him, "why are you persecuting me?" Paul became blind for three days after this. When he received his sight, he became a follower and preacher of Christ as the Son of God. Paul who once preached about the law as a rabbi, now preached about salvation by grace alone apart from the works of the law—salvation through Christ alone through His work on the cross.

Catechism Corner

The Tenth Commandment

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his cattle, nor anything that is thy neighbor's.

What does this mean? Answer:

We should fear and love God that we may not estrange, force, or entice away from our neighbor his wife, servants, or cattle, but urge them to stay and do their duty.