

Enoch

Genesis 5:18-24

MEMORY VERSE

HEBREWS 11:6

“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

As many lunch sack bags as the number of children in your class, string, white construction paper, scissors, glue, and markers or crayons.

As many 6”x8” pieces of construction paper as the number of children in your class, staplers, scissors, and magazines.

Several lunch bags containing pungent objects like: an onion, boiled egg, garlic, peanut butter, bell pepper, lemon, coffee, vanilla extract and cologne, and several rating sheets from 1-10.

ATTENTION GRABBER!

Translated to Heaven

Give each child a paper lunch sack. Have them cut cloud like shapes out of white construction paper and glue them to the front, back, and sides of the bag. Have them cut a small hole in the top of the bag and thread a piece of string about twice the length of the bag. Have them tie a knot on the end of the string at the bottom of the bag. On the other end of the string, have them tie a “man” cut-out of construction paper (your students can make these men with as much detail as they like with markers or crayons.

Turn the bag upside down so the “man” is plainly seen on the outside and slowly pull the string so that the man disappears inside the bag. Explain that the Lord translated Enoch; He took him up to be with Him without ever experiencing death. This is kind of

like what it will be like when those Christians who are alive at Jesus' return are "raptured" up to be with Him forever.

LESSON TIME!

When you think of a "hero" who do you think of? Some might think of the comic book character Superman. Oftentimes the "heroes" of today are cartoon characters who live "action-packed" lives. Superheroes with super powers that take a stand for what is right and fight against the forces of evil. They may even be threatened to the point of death, but always win in the end. They may show great wisdom, and do things that no one else could ever do. Deep down inside of us, there is a part of us that wants to be "just like them." We may see toy figures of them, even pretending that we are them, but in all reality, it is all pretend.

What if you could read about a man who had very strong principles and always lived his life for what was right, and never compromised? He stands as having done something that only happened with one other person in all of history. He leaves a legacy with the same honor as only one other man. A man who had great wisdom whose life will even speak to us today, a man who is not "pretend," but really lived. In just seven short verses, we will meet such a man. His name was Enoch.

Although Enoch wasn't "superhuman" he did live a life that was "supernatural". He had a relationship with the Lord and lived a life that pleased God. When we submit to the Lord and live our lives according to His plans then we will see some pretty amazing things in our lives, just like Enoch. The neat thing is that he was just a regular guy just like us, but God did amazing things. Let's learn more about Enoch and the lessons that God has for our lives. **God rewards those that please Him.**

GENESIS 5:18-24

Jared lived one hundred and sixty-two years, and begot Enoch.

After he begot Enoch, Jared lived eight hundred years, and begot sons and daughters.

So all the days of Jared were nine hundred and sixty-two years; and he died.

Enoch lived sixty-five years, and begot Methuselah.

After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God three hundred years, and begot sons and daughters.

So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years.

And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.

In verses 6-32 of chapter 5, we see a listing of the generations of Adam through Seth. The accounts go on for several generations without anything very remarkable, just different names and numbers of years the person lived. That is, until we are introduced to Enoch. Special notice is taken of this man who is the seventh in the line of Adam through Seth. There is not a great deal written about him, but what is written does speak a great deal about him.

"And Enoch walked with God after he begot Methuselah, three hundred years." What does it mean that Enoch "walked with God"? Whenever you see two people walking together down the sidewalk what do you know about those people? The first thing you know is that they probably know each other. It is very rare that you see strangers taking a walk together. There may be strangers walking

on the same sidewalk, especially in big cities, but they really aren't walking "with" one another unless they "know" one another.

So we know from this verse that Enoch had a relationship with God. And not only did he just know who God is, He walked with God and spent time with him every day. He got to know God very well. Maybe you have taken walks with a friend, or maybe your family. Imagine taking a walk with God. Well, did you know that you can take a walk with the Lord any time? It's true because God, the Holy Spirit lives inside of you if you have given your life to Jesus. You can walk with the Lord, just like Enoch. You can talk to Him and get to know Him. You can read His word and ask Him questions. What a wonderful blessing to be able to do.

Of the other people in the list of the generations, it is said, "and he lived", which tells the length of life after the birth of the first-born, but with Enoch, the statement is "he walked with God." So we know that the fact of Enoch walking with God was something that stood out in his life. His relationship with God wasn't just something extra to do once a week, but the most important thing in his life.

This phrase is used only of Enoch and Noah, and speaks of the closest communion with the living God, walking by the side of God. It does not say he walked before God, or was walking after God, but with God. What a great thing to have that be the thing that marks our lives. Because Enoch walked with God his life was blessed. **God rewards those that please Him.**

In Psalm 1:1 it says, "Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly..." To walk with God is to walk in holiness, for light has no fellowship with darkness. So, to walk with God, means we choose God's way. We turn from the ways of the world, and follow His ways. There is such wonderful fellowship when we walk with one another. Walking here also speaks of progress in a forward direction. A moving onward, no staying in one place and

growing stagnant, but growing in the grace and the knowledge of the Almighty God. (2 Peter 3:18). **God rewards those that please Him.**

Now Enoch was born with a sinful, fallen nature, but at some point in his life he was reconciled with God. Perhaps verse 22 intimates when that happened. It says, "And Enoch walked with God after he begot Methuselah." He then walked for 300 years with God. Now Enoch had to have taken a strong stand for God, for corruption was rampant in the world at that time. He was a man of godly principles and did not compromise in his beliefs. **God rewards those that please Him.**

How do we know that? In Hebrews 11:5 it says, "By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death, and was not found, because God had translated him; for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God." How did he please God? Verse 6 answers that; "But without faith it is impossible to please Him; for he that comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him." Faith was how he began his relationship with God. He was born a sinner, he was saved by grace through faith. Jesus the Messiah had not come yet, but He believed God and followed Him. In the same way we come to God through faith in Jesus Christ.

A Picture In My Wallet

Give each child in your class a 6"x 8" piece of construction paper. Have them fold the paper in half along the 8" side, making an overall size of 3"x8". Staple the 3" sides together, creating a "wallet".

Have your class cut out pictures from magazines of things that they think are pretty or represent things they are fond of (making sure they are appropriate). Have them put the pictures in their wallets.

Explain to your class that their parents probably have pictures of them in their wallets. They have them there because they are fond of their children. They take out the pictures proudly to show their friends the important people in their lives; the people that they love the most. If God had a wallet, He might have shown Enoch's picture; He was very pleased with this man's life.

Another result of Enoch's walk was his witness for God. Before we can witness for God, we must walk with God. In Jude vs. 14-15 Enoch's witness is confirmed. "And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying Behold the Lord comes with ten thousands of his saints, to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they had ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."

We see that God used Enoch to prophesy. This prophecy of Enoch's from Jude is the earliest recorded revelation of the Second Coming of Christ. Also the name of his son, Methuselah indicates a revelation from the Lord, for the name signifies, "When he is dead it shall be sent," (i.e. the flood). Truly a man whose heart and ear were towards the Lord, and as a result he was used by the Lord. **God rewards those that please Him.**

So we see that Enoch was used by God to prophesy about things that would come to pass in the future and to call those who were caught in sin to turn away from their sin. God could use him because his life backed up what he was sharing. He couldn't call the ungodly to repent (turn away from sin and towards God) if his life was filled with sin. When we walk with God we too can be a witness for God.

And now with Enoch, instead of the expression, "and he dies" as was used with all of the other people in the list of generations, it says, "and he was not, for God took him." Enoch was taken away by God, and carried into the heavenly paradise, so that he did not

experience death. He was taken up from this temporal life and transfigured into life eternal, being exempted by God from the law of death and returning to the dust. **God rewards those that please Him.**

Enoch is a type of those believers who shall be alive on the earth when our Lord shall descend into the air to catch up to Himself his redeemed people! This is what is known as the "rapture". Just as Enoch was translated to heaven without seeing death, so also will those of the Lord's people who remain on the earth till the time of His return (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). **God rewards those that please Him.**

God's greatest gift to man is shown, life with Him which has no end. In Christ, the longing of man to be with God forever is assured for all who put their trust in Him. **God rewards those that please Him.**

We can see that Enoch led an "action-packed" life. One can never walk with God and not have a life that is filled to overflowing with a treasury of excitement and experience. He took a stand for righteousness and truth in a dark world.

It was said of Enoch that he walked with God and that he pleased God. What a legacy to leave behind. He was translated, transferred to another place. He was on the earth one moment, and then just gone, gone to be with the Lord, never tasting death. Elijah is the only other one spoken of as being just taken by the Lord. What an exciting life he lived. So we too, as we put our trust in Jesus and take a stand for Him, will have a walk that is ever growing in grace and truth. **God rewards those that please Him.**

Which One Is Pleasing?

Prepare several small paper bags containing various pungent smelling items. Use an onion, boiled egg, garlic, peanut butter, bell

pepper, lemon, coffee, vanilla extract and cologne. Seal the bags and cut a hole big enough for a child to smell the aroma of each bag's contents. Give the child a rating sheet with the number of each bag listed. Have the children rate on a scale of 1 to 10 how pleasant each fragrance is; 1 being the least appealing, 10 being the most.

The Bible says that Enoch was pleasing to the Lord. His life was a sweet smelling fragrance in a world that was a foul odor to God. How can our lives be a sweet smelling fragrance to the Lord?

PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of thanksgiving for the rewards of the Lord. If there are any children in your class who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them an opportunity to do so.