

ANSWERS: Unit 4: Disciple of Christ

Live life as a disciple of Christ and intentionally make disciples for the glory of God.

Lesson 6 New Covenant

Day One Mercy Seat

Seventh Covenant: New Covenant

Read Isaiah 42:6–7 and answer question 1–3:

"I, the LORD, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles, ⁷ to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness." Isaiah 42:6–7

1. In the New Testament, who opened blind eyes, freed captives from prison and, brought light to the world (v. 7; see Luke 4:19–21)?

Jesus, the Messiah

Bible verses referenced in question 1:

He [Jesus] went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written ¹⁸"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." ²⁰Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. ²¹He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." Luke 4:19–21

2. Who has the Lord made to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles (v. 6)?

Jesus, the Messiah

3. In addition to the people of Israel, who else is included in the Lord's covenant (v. 6)?

Gentiles or non-Jewish people

Read Jeremiah 31:3 and answer questions 4–5:

The LORD appeared to us in the past, saying: "I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness." Jeremiah 31:3

4. How has God loved Israel?

With an everlasting love.

5. How has God loved you?

With an everlasting love.

Read Jeremiah 31:31, 33 and 2 Corinthians 3:3. Answer question 6–8:

"The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah." Jeremiah 31:31

"This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people." Jeremiah 31:33 (Cf. Hebrews 10:16)

You show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts. 2 Corinthians 3:3

6. What days were coming according to the Lord, and are now here (v. 31:31)?

God will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and Judah.

7. What will this new covenant do for the people (v. 31:33)?

The law will be put in their minds and written on their hearts. God will be their God and they will be His people.

8. Why did the apostle Paul state that believers were a letter from Christ (v. 3:3)?

People could see the Holy Spirit living through believers. They were acting and living in the image of Christ. They were a true example of the new covenant with the law in their minds and hearts.

9. Read Psalm 119:76. What is the psalmist asking of God according to His promise?

May your unfailing love be my comfort, according to your promise to your servant. Psalm 119:76

He is asking for God's unfailing love to be his comfort—according to God's promise of unfailing love.

Read Leviticus 16:2–3 and answer question 10–14:

The LORD said to Moses: "Tell your brother Aaron that he is not to come whenever he chooses into the Most Holy Place behind the curtain in front of the atonement cover on the ark, or else he will die. For I will appear in the cloud over the atonement cover. ³This is how Aaron is to enter the Most Holy Place: He must first bring a young bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering." Leviticus 16:2–3

- **10.** Could Aaron, the high priest, enter the Most Holy Place behind the curtain in front of the atonement cover (mercy seat) whenever he chose to (v. 2)? Yes | No (Underline One)
- 11. What would happen to Aaron, the high priest, if he entered the Most Holy Pace behind the curtain, and appeared in front of the atonement cover (mercy seat) whenever he chose to (v. 2)?

He would die.

12. What reason does God give Moses for why Aaron would die if he presumed to enter the Most Holy Place at will (v. 2c)?

Because God would appear in the cloud over the atonement cover.

13. Why would Aaron, the high priest, die if he entered God's presence whenever chose to (See also Exodus 33:20)?

Because God would appear in the cloud over the atonement cover and no one can see God's face and live.

Bible verse referenced in question 13:

"But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live." Exodus 33:20

14. How was Aaron, the high priest, supposed to enter the sanctuary (v. 3; Exodus 30:10)?

Once a year and he was to first bring a young bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering.

Bible verse referenced in question 14:

"Once a year Aaron shall make atonement on its horns. This annual atonement must be made with the blood of the atoning sin offering for the generations to come. It is most holy to the LORD." Exodus 30:10

Read Leviticus 16:13–16 and answer question 15–17:

"He is to put the incense on the fire before the LORD, and the smoke of the incense will conceal the atonement cover above the tablets of the covenant law, so that he will not die. ¹⁴He is to take some of the bull's blood and with his finger sprinkle it on the front of the atonement cover; then he shall sprinkle some of it with his finger seven times before the atonement cover. ¹⁵He shall then slaughter the goat for the sin offering for the people and take its blood behind the curtain and do with it as he did with the bull's blood: He shall sprinkle it on the atonement cover and in front of it. ¹⁶In this way he will make atonement for the Most Holy Place because of the uncleanness and rebellion of the Israelites, whatever their sins have been. He is to do the same for the tent of meeting, which is among them in the midst of their uncleanness."

Leviticus 16:13–16

15. Why did Aaron put incense on the fire before the Lord to conceal the atonement cover (v. 13)?

So the smoke of the incense would conceal the atonement cover and God's presence. In this way, Aaron could not see God and would not die.

16. What was sprinkled on the atonement cover (mercy seat) (vv. 14–15)?

Bull and goat blood.

17. What happened at the atonement cover, and why was it necessary for the people's relationship with God? (vv. 15–16).

At the atonement cover, the high priest sprinkled the blood of a sacrifice to cover the sins of the people. This act was necessary to make atonement and allow the people to remain in relationship with a holy God despite their sin.

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<u>Day Two</u> Christ is the High Priest

Read Hebrews 7:15-19 and answer questions 18-20:

And what we have said is even more clear if another priest like Melchizedek appears, ¹⁶ one who has become a priest not on the basis of a regulation as to his ancestry but on the basis of the power of an indestructible life. ¹⁷For it is declared: "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek." ¹⁸The former regulation is set aside because it was weak and useless ¹⁹ (for the law made nothing perfect), and a better hope is introduced, by which we draw near to God. Hebrews 7:15–19 (See Genesis 14:18–20 regarding Melchizedek.)

18. Who was the priest like Melchizedek, not appointed by ancestry but by the power of an indestructible life (v. 16)?

Jesus

19. What has been set aside because it made nothing perfect (v. 18)?

The former regulation, law, or Old Covenant.

20. Who makes it possible for humans to be in perfect relationship with God (Hebrews 10:14)?

Jesus

Bible verse referenced in question 20:

For by one sacrifice he [Jesus] has made perfect forever those who are being made holy. Hebrews 10:14

Read Hebrews 7:24–28 and answer questions 21–23:

... but because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. ²⁵Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them. ²⁶Such a high priest truly meets our need—one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens ²⁷Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself. ²⁸ For the law appoints as high priests men in all their weakness; but the oath, which came after the law, appointed the Son, who has been made perfect forever. Hebrews 7:24–28

21. Who lives forever, has a permanent priesthood, and is able to save completely those who come to God through Him (vv. 24–25)?

Jesus

22. What does Jesus save people from (Romans 5:9; Revelation 21:8)?

God's wrath and the fiery lake of burning sulfur known as hell or the second death.

Bible verses referenced in question 22:

Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! Romans 5:9

"But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death." Revelation 21:8

23. How many times did Jesus sacrifice Himself for the sins of the people (v. 27)?

Once for all sins.

Five Ways our High Priest Intercedes for Us

- 1. Christ intercedes on believer's behalf regarding sin (1 John 2:1).
- 2. Christ lives in believers and helps us know God's will (Exodus 28:30; Romans 8:27).
- 3. Christ intercedes so believers' praises are acceptable to God (Hebrews 13:15)
- 4. Christ intercedes for believers to be holy priests, offering spiritual sacrifices (1 Peter 2:5).
- 5. Christ intercedes for believers' protection and unity (John 17:11).

Action Step

24. Prayerfully review the five ways Christ intercedes for believers listed above. This week, choose one way to actively cooperate with His intercession and share how God leads you.

Personal Answer

25. Read Numbers 15:30–31. What happened to anyone who sinned defiantly, despised the Lord's Word, and broke His commands?

They were cut off from the people of Israel and their guilt remained on them.

[&]quot;But anyone who sins defiantly, whether native-born or foreigner, blasphemes the LORD and must be cut off from the people of Israel. ³¹ Because they have despised the LORD's word and broken his commands, they must surely be cut off; their guilt remains on them." Numbers 15:30–31

26. Read Hebrews 10:26–29. What happens to anyone today who sins defiantly, despises the Lord's Word, and breaks His commands?

If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, ²⁷but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. ²⁸Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. ²⁹How much more severely do you think someone deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified them, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace? Hebrews 10:26–29

When we sin defiantly, we can expect judgment, punishment, and raging fire that will consume the enemies of God

Read Hebrews 9:11-14 and answer questions 27-28:

But when Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation. ¹²He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. ¹³The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. ¹⁴How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God! Hebrews 9:11-14

27. What tabernacle or sanctuary did Christ enter as high priest (v. 11)?

The sanctuary in heaven. He went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands and is not a part of earthly creation.

28. What sacrifice did Christ our high priest offer (vv. 12, 14)?

Christ offered Himself as the sacrifice.

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Day Three

Christ is the Atoning Sacrifice

Read Matthew 26:28 and Luke 22:20. Answer questions 29-31:

This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. Matthew 26:28

In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you. Luke 22:20

29. Why and how did Jesus pour out His blood for humanity (v. 28; Ephesian 1:7; 1 Peter 3:18)?

Why: For the forgiveness of sins to bring people to God. How: Suffered death.

Bible verses referenced in question 29:

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace . . . Ephesians 1:7

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. 1 Peter 3:18

30. What does Jesus mean when He says, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood" (v. 20)?

Jesus means that the red wine is symbolic of the blood that He will shed on the cross for our sins and His blood establishes the new treaty between God and humanity.

31. What is *your* part in the New Covenant relationship with God (John 3:16, 14:15, 21)?

Personal answer, but should include obeying Jesus, obeying God.

Bible verses referenced in question 31:

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

"If you love me, keep my commands." John 14:15

"Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them." John 14:21

Read Hebrews 10:4–12 and answer questions 33–37:

It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. ⁵Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; ⁶with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased. ⁷Then I said, 'Here I am—it is written about me in the scroll—I have come to do your will, my God.'" ⁸First he said, "Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them"—though they were offered in accordance with the law. ⁹Then he said, "Here I am, I have come to do your will." He sets aside the first to establish the second. ¹⁰And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. ¹¹Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. ¹²But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God . . . Hebrews 10:4–12

33. What is most important to *you* in these verses?

Personal Answer

34. Jesus said, "Here I am, I have come to do your will" (v. 9). With a clear conscience and sincere heart, can you say this to God the Father? Yes | No

Personal Answer

35. Explain your response to #34. What does doing God's will look like in your life right now?

Personal Answer

36. What has the love of the triune God accomplished for you (v. 10)?

God's love through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ made me holy.

37. What is the significance of Jesus, our high priest, sitting down at the right hand of God (vv. 11–12)?

Jesus completely took away sins by His blood sacrifice. His job or duty was performed and completed. Jesus rested from His salvation work.

From Lesson Notes: Under the Old Covenant the high priest had to stand and perform his duties over and over again. The standing signifies a job not finished. He could not sit down from his labors because they never ended. The people continued to sin and sacrifices had to be continually made. Jesus completed His salvation work and like God the Father rested from His creation work—Jesus also rested.

38. Read Matthew 27:50–51. What did the torn curtain that separated the Most Holy Place symbolize at Jesus' death on the cross? (See also Hebrews 10:19–22.)

And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. ⁵¹ At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. Matthew 27:50–51

The tearing of the curtain at the time of Jesus' death symbolized that His sacrifice, the shedding of His blood, was a sufficient atonement for sins. The way into the Holy of Holies and God's presence had been opened for all people (those who trust in Jesus Christ).

Bible reference from #38:

Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Hebrews. 10:19–22

Action Step

39. Read the book of Hebrews at one sitting or at one time. Mark passages about the New Covenant. Contemplate (meditate, think deeply) on those passages that you marked or underlined. Share one or two things that you learned or that God impressed upon you:

Personal Answer

—End Day Three—

Day Four

Terms and Promises

Read Ephesians 2:4–5 and answer questions 40–41:

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. Ephesians 2:4–5

40. Who has great love for us and is rich in mercy (v. 4)?

God

41. How did God reveal His great love and richness in mercy to us (v. 5)?

God made us alive with Christ when we were dead in transgression. He saved us by grace.

42. Read, meditate, and ask God to speak to you through Psalm 109:26. What did God say to you?

Help me, LORD my God; save me according to your unfailing love. Psalm 109:26

Personal Answer

Read Psalm 25:14 and answer questions 43-44:

The LORD confides in those who fear him; he makes his covenant known to them. Psalm 25:14 ("Make His covenant known" means God reveals His promises and the terms of His relationship with His people.)

43. Who does the Lord confide in, and who does He make His covenant known to?

In those who fear Him

44. What has the Lord made known to you about the New Covenant?

Personal Answer

45. Read Luke 11:9 and Romans 1:17. Since God's terms are all based on your faith, what will you do if you feel your faith is lacking, small, weak, or faltering at times?

Pray that I have faith and live by my faith.

"So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." Luke 11:9

For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith." Romans 1:17

46. Memorize Jude 1:20–21. (**Note:** The verbs "building" and "praying" in verse 20 are present participles. This means they describe ongoing, continual actions. Growing in faith and staying strong in prayer is not a one-time event—it is a daily choice and habit.)

Personal memorization

But you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, ²¹ keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life. Jude 1:20–21

47. If life does not go your way—if family does not love you, friends turn away, sickness strikes or disaster comes—will you still love and trust God? Definitely | Not Sure | Hope So (Underline One)

Personal Answer

48. Briefly explain your answer to question 47 about loving and trusting God.

Personal Answer

49. If family members reject you, friends betray you, or others mistreat you—will you still love the people God created? Definitely | Not Sure | Hope So (Underline One)

Personal Answer

50. Briefly explain your answer to question 49 about loving people.

Personal Answer

51. Read Psalm 23:3. God guides me along the right paths for His name's sake.

He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake. Psalm 23:3

52. As a Christian, if you are engaging in any kind of behavior that would give others the wrong idea about God's character and the truth of His Word, what steps will you take to change?

Personal Answer

—End Day Four—

Day Five

Presumption, Faith or Sin?

Read 2 Corinthians 1:20 answer questions 53-56:

For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God. ²¹Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. 2 Corinthians 1:20–21

53. How many promises that God has made are "Yes" in Christ?

All of them.

54. How do *you*—or how will *you*—appropriate (take for your use) the promises God has made in the Bible?

Personal answer, but say "Yes" in Christ. (Yes, this promise is for me and I graciously accept this gift in Jesus' name.)

55. How do *you* glorify God by affirming, believing, and trusting in His promises?

Personal answer, but should include the fact that we put the spotlight on God by showing that God is faithful and true. He is God and as such has perfect character. He has graciously given us gifts in the form of promises and *not* to accept and act upon them is to disrespect God and His generosity.

- **56.** Memorize 2 Corinthians 1:20.
- **57.** Read Psalm 106:24–27. What was the root cause of the Israelites' fall in the wilderness and the scattering of their descendants among the nations (v. 24)?

Then they despised the pleasant land; they did not believe his promise. ²⁵They grumbled in their tents and did not obey the LORD. ²⁶So he swore to them with uplifted hand that he would make them fall in the wilderness, ²⁷make their descendants fall among the nations and scatter them throughout the lands. Psalm 106:24–27

The root cause of the Israelites grumbling and disobedience was that they did not trust God. They did not believe His promise. They forgot God and the miracles He performed in Egypt so they made and worshiped a golden calf. They despised the pleasant land, the promised land.

58. Read 2 Corinthians 3:4–6. How do you know that you are a competent (capable and proficient) minister (servant and helper) of the New Covenant?

Such confidence we have through Christ before God. ⁵ Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God. ⁶ He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant—not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. 2 Corinthians 3:4–6

Because God's Word says that He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant.

59. Read Psalm 147:10–11. What delights or brings joy to the Lord (v. 11)?

His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor his delight in the legs of the warrior; ¹¹ the LORD delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love. Psalm 147:10–11

Those who fear Him and put their hope in His unfailing love.

60. Review and meditate on *God's Terms* listed on page 22. Pray for increased faith and help in keeping His terms. Share one term that is difficult for you.

Personal Answer

61. Review and meditate on *Believer's Benefits or Promises* listed on pages 23-24. Choose one that you might need to lay hold of for a more vibrant, joyful, and empowered life. Pray and ask God to help you in trusting Him for all of His promises and especially the one you chose.

Personal Answer

—End Answers Day Five and Lesson 6—

Next—Lesson 7: Forgiveness, Unit 4: Disciple of Christ

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