

Letters From Heaven



Parents' Page

Lesson 9

Running the Race

Your child should understand...

Faith—Believing and obeying the Son of God

Your child should be able to...

1. Describe what the high priest under the old Law of Moses did.
2. Identify our High Priest.
3. Identify the law we are to follow today.
4. Define “faith.”
5. Identify some of the people named in Hebrews 11 who obeyed God and tell how they did so.

Your child should be memorizing...

Hebrews 12:1-2

“...So let us throw off everything that stands in our way. Let us throw off any sin that holds on to us so tightly. Let us keep on running the race marked out for us. Let us keep looking to Jesus....”

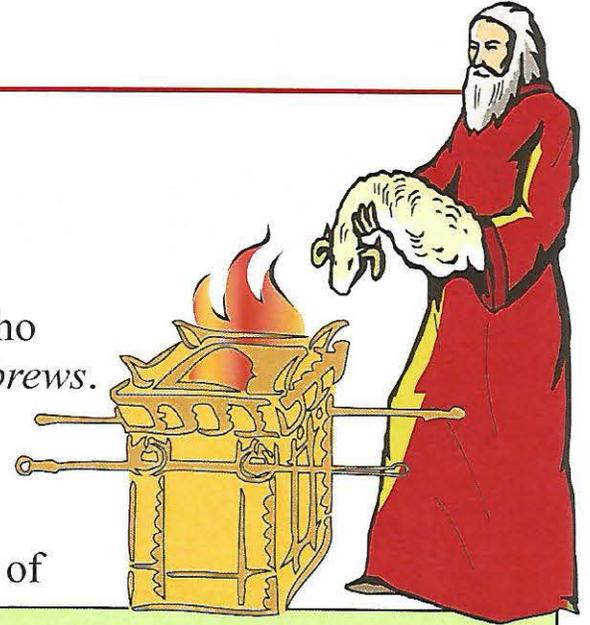
Please help your child read...

- 1 Hebrews 1:1-3; Hebrews 2:17-18; Hebrews 3:12-14
- 2 Hebrews 4:12-15; Hebrews 5:8-9; Hebrews 7:27
- 3 Hebrews 9:11-12, 26-28
- 4 Hebrews 10:22-25; Hebrews 11:1-4, 6-7
- 5 Hebrews 11:32-38; Hebrews 12:1-2; Hebrews 13:15-16

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A letter was sent out to help some of the Jews who became Christians. This letter is the book of *Hebrews*. These Jewish Christians believed that Jesus was the Son of God. They obeyed Jesus. But following Jesus was hard for them and they thought it would be easier to go back to the Law of Moses. The book of *Hebrews* helps all Christians to understand that the Lord Jesus is the best and the only way.



What did the old Law of Moses tell the high priest to do for the sins of the people?

Remember in the Old Testament when God gave Moses the Law on Mount Sinai? God told the Israelites that Aaron was their first high priest. After that, they always had a high priest. This high priest offered animal sacrifices for his sins and for the sins of the people.

When Jesus died on the cross, *He* was the *perfect* sacrifice for our sins—no more animal sacrifices! Jesus became the last sacrifice any believer needs. And with this last sacrifice, Jesus gave a new law. This new law of Jesus Christ is what God wants everyone to obey today. Jesus Christ is also our perfect High Priest forever—no more human high priests! Jesus loves us and is faithful to us. Loving and obeying Jesus the Son is the only way to be with God the Father.

Our High Priest is _____.

Put a line under the law God wants everyone to follow today.
Put an X on the law we are *not* to follow today.

the old Law of Moses	the new law of Jesus Christ
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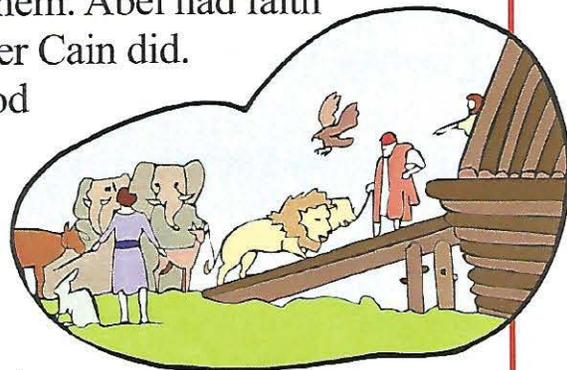
The book of Hebrews tells us a lot about *faith*. Do you know what faith is? Faith is believing there is a God Who keeps His promises, even though we can't see Him. Faith in Jesus means believing He is the Son of God and trusting Him to save us from our sins. If we don't have faith in Jesus, we can't please God!

People who have great faith in God do whatever He

says to do, even when we don't understand why He commands something. We believe in God and trust Him to keep His promises, so we obey Him.

The book of Hebrews tells about people who had great faith. Many people who lived in Old Testament times obeyed God because they had faith in Him as the one true God. They trusted Him to always care for them. Abel had faith so he offered a better sacrifice to God than his brother Cain did.

Noah built an ark to save his family. He believed God would really bring the flood, so he built the ark just as God told him to do. Did Noah put his faith in men? No! Noah's faith was in God!



In Hebrews, we can read about God's people who were laughed at, beaten, chained, put in prison, killed with stones or swords—treated badly in every way. But what great faith these men had! They believed that God had eternal life planned for all who trust and obey Him.

Be ready to tell the class about some people who obeyed God because of their great faith in Him.

God wants us to be faithful just as these men were. He says it's like running a race. We have to hold on to our faith until the very end. The Bible says, "...So let us throw off everything that stands in our way. Let us throw off any sin that holds on to us so tightly. Let

us keep on running the race marked out for us. Let us keep looking to Jesus...." Do you want to have great faith, too? We can do it if we keep looking to Jesus!

Is faith being sure there is a God who keeps His promises, even though we can't see Him? _____

When we have faith, what do we believe about Jesus?

What do we trust Jesus to do?

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Memory Verse:

Here are your **new memory verses**. Practice saying them again and again with your mother or daddy.

Hebrews 12:1-2

“...So let us throw off everything that stands in our way. Let us throw off any sin that holds on to us so tightly. Let us keep on running the race marked out for us. Let us keep looking to Jesus....”

What are **1 & 2 Thessalonians** about?
(Do your work until Jesus comes)



Say the **Beatitudes** from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, found in Matthew 5. (*"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."*) NASB

On your **Bible map**, point to the city of **Bethany**.