

- Song 55 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD’S WORD

- **“Jehovah Is the God of True Prophecy”:** (10 min.)
Isa 44:26-28—Jehovah prophesied that Jerusalem and the temple would be rebuilt, and he named Cyrus as the conqueror of Babylon (*ip-2* 71-72 ¶|22-23)
Isa 45:1, 2—Jehovah gave details about the conquest of Babylon (*ip-2* 77-78 ¶|4-6)
Isa 45:3-6—Jehovah gave reasons why he used Cyrus to conquer Babylon (*ip-2* 79-80 ¶|8-10)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (8 min.)
Isa 43:10-12—In what way were the Israelites to be a nation of witnesses for Jehovah? (*w14* 11/15 21-22 ¶|14-16)

Isa 43:25—What is the main reason why Jehovah wipes out transgressions? (*ip-2* 60 ¶|24)

What does this week’s Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

What points from this week’s Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Isa 46:1-13

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *lc*—Witness informally to a workmate or schoolmate.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *lc*—Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *jl* lesson 4

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 77
- **How Can We Be Sure the Bible Is True?:** (15 min.)
Play the video (video category OUR MEETINGS AND MINISTRY). Then discuss the following questions: How can we use this video when witnessing informally, publicly, and from house to house? What good experiences have you had with this video?
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 7 ¶|19-23, box on p. 75, chart on pp. 76-77, review box on p. 77
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 83 and Prayer

ISAIAH 43-46 | Jehovah Is the God of True Prophecy

About 200 years before the conquest of Babylon, Jehovah through Isaiah gave a detailed prophecy describing what would happen.

44:27–45:2

- Cyrus would be the conqueror of Babylon
- The city’s double doors would be left open
- The Euphrates River, a part of the city’s main defense system, would “dry up”



a. 732
Isaiah



539
Babylon conquered

About 200 years



1. Ever onward, O my people,
Let the Kingdom tidings go.
Tremble not before our foe.
Let all lovers of truth know
That my reigning Son, Christ Jesus,
To the earth has cast the foe,
Soon to bind the Devil, Satan,
Letting all his victims go.

(CHORUS)

*Fear them not, O my beloved,
Though their boasting threats may fly.
I will keep my faithful servant
As the apple of my eye.*

2. Even though your foes are many,
Though they threaten and revile,
Though they flatter and they smile,
To mislead and to beguile.
Fear them not, my faithful people,
Nor their persecution's heat,
For I will preserve the faithful
Till the vict'ry is complete.

(Chorus)

3. Never fear you are forgotten;
I am still your strength and shield.
Though you die upon the field,
Even death to me will yield.
Fear them not who kill the body
But cannot destroy the soul.
To the end may you be faithful;
I will bring you to your goal!

(Chorus)

Isaiah 43-46

- 43** Now this is what Jehovah says,
Your Creator, O Jacob, the One who formed you,
O Israel:
“Do not be afraid, for I have repurchased you.
I have called you by your name.
You belong to me.
- ² When you pass through the waters, I will be with
you,
And through the rivers, they will not flood over
you.
When you walk through the fire, you will not be
scorched,
Nor will the flame singe you.
- ³ For I am Jehovah your God,
The Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I have given Egypt as a ransom for you,
E·thi·o'pi·a and Se'ba in exchange for you.
- ⁴ For you became precious in my eyes,
You were honored, and I have loved you.
So I will give people in place of you
And nations in exchange for your life.
- ⁵ Do not be afraid, for I am with you.
I will bring your offspring from the east
And gather you together from the west.

- ⁶ I will say to the north, 'Give them up!'
And to the south, 'Do not hold them back.
Bring my sons from afar, and my daughters from
the ends of the earth,
- ⁷ Everyone who is called by my name
And whom I created for my own glory,
Whom I have formed and made.'
- ⁸ Bring out a people who are blind, though they have
eyes,
And who are deaf, though they have ears.
- ⁹ Let all the nations assemble in one place,
And let the peoples be gathered together.
Who among them can tell this?
Or can they cause us to hear the first things?
Let them present their witnesses to prove
themselves right,
Or let them hear and say, 'It is the truth!'"
- ¹⁰ "You are my witnesses," declares Jehovah,
"Yes, my servant whom I have chosen,
So that you may know and have faith in me
And understand that I am the same One.
Before me no God was formed,
And after me there has been none.
- ¹¹ I—I am Jehovah, and besides me there is no
savior."

- ¹² “I am the One who declared and saved and made known
When there was no foreign god among you.
So you are my witnesses,” declares Jehovah,
“and I am God.
- ¹³ Also, I am always the same One;
And no one can snatch anything out of my hand.
When I act, who can prevent it?”
- ¹⁴ This is what Jehovah says, your Repurchaser, the
Holy One of Israel:
“For your sakes I will send to Babylon and bring
down all the bars of the gates,
And the Chal-de'ans, in their ships, will cry out in
distress.
- ¹⁵ I am Jehovah, your Holy One, the Creator of Israel,
your King.”
- ¹⁶ This is what Jehovah says,
The One making a way through the sea
And a path even through turbulent waters,
- ¹⁷ The One who draws out the war chariot and the
horse,
The army together with the mighty warriors:
“They will lie down and not get up.
They will be extinguished, snuffed out like a
burning wick.”
- ¹⁸ “Do not remember the former things,

And do not dwell on the past.

¹⁹ Look! I am doing something new;
Even now it is springing up.

Do you not recognize it?

I will make a way through the wilderness
And rivers through the desert.

²⁰ The wild beast of the field will honor me,
The jackals and the ostriches,

For I provide water in the wilderness,
Rivers in the desert,

For my people, my chosen one, to drink,

²¹ The people whom I formed for myself
So that they might declare my praise.

²² But you have not called on me, O Jacob,
Because you grew weary of me, O Israel.

²³ You have not brought me sheep for your whole
burnt offerings

Or glorified me with your sacrifices.

I have not compelled you to bring me a gift,
Nor have I made you weary by demanding
frankincense.

²⁴ You did not buy me sweet cane with your money,
And with the fat of your sacrifices you did not
satisfy me.

Instead, you have burdened me with your sins
And made me weary with your errors.

- ²⁵ I, I am the One who is blotting out your
transgressions for my own sake,
And I will not remember your sins.
- ²⁶ Remind me; let us bring our case against each
other;
Tell your side of it to prove you are in the right.
- ²⁷ Your first forefather sinned,
And your own spokesmen have rebelled against
me.
- ²⁸ So I will profane the princes of the holy place,
And I will give Jacob over to destruction
And subject Israel to insulting words.
- 44** “Now listen, O Jacob my servant,
And you, O Israel, whom I have chosen.
- ² This is what Jehovah says,
Your Maker and the One who formed you,
Who has helped you from the womb:
‘Do not be afraid, my servant Jacob,
And you, Jesh'u-run, whom I have chosen.
- ³ For I will pour out water on the thirsty one
And flowing streams on the dry ground.
I will pour out my spirit on your offspring
And my blessing on your descendants.
- ⁴ And they will spring up as among the green grass,
Like poplars by the streams of water.

- ⁵ One will say: "I belong to Jehovah."
Another will call himself by the name of Jacob,
And yet another will write on his hand: "Belonging
to Jehovah."
And he will adopt the name of Israel.'
- ⁶ This is what Jehovah says,
The King of Israel and his Repurchaser, Jehovah
of armies:
'I am the first and I am the last.
There is no God but me.
- ⁷ Who is there like me?
Let him call out and tell it and prove it to me!
From the time I established the people of long
ago,
Let them tell both the things to come
And what will yet happen.
- ⁸ Do not be in dread,
And do not become paralyzed with fear.
Have I not told each of you beforehand and
declared it?
You are my witnesses.
Is there any God but me?
No, there is no other Rock; I know of none.'"
- ⁹ All who form carved images amount to nothing,
And their cherished objects will be of no benefit.

As their witnesses, they see nothing and know nothing,
So those who made them will be put to shame.

¹⁰ Who would form a god or cast a metal image
That can bring no benefit?

¹¹ Look! All his associates will be put to shame!
The craftsmen are mere humans.
Let them all assemble and take their stand.
They will be terrified and be put to shame together.

¹² The metalsmith works the iron over the coals with his tool.
He forms it with hammers,
Working it with his powerful arm.
Then he grows hungry and his strength fails;
He drinks no water and grows tired.

¹³ The wood-carver stretches the measuring line,
tracing out the pattern with red chalk.
He works it with a wood scraper and traces it with a compass.
He patterns it after a man,
With the beauty of a man,
To sit in a house.

¹⁴ There is one whose work is to cut down cedars.
He selects a certain type of tree, an oak,

And he lets it grow strong among the trees of the forest.

He plants a laurel tree, and the rain makes it grow.

¹⁵ Then it becomes fuel for a man to make fires.

He takes part of it to warm himself;

He builds a fire and bakes bread.

But he also makes a god and worships it.

He makes it into a carved image, and he bows down before it.

¹⁶ Half of it he burns up in a fire;

With that half he roasts the meat that he eats,
and he is satisfied.

He also warms himself and says:

“Ah! I am warm as I watch the fire.”

¹⁷ But the rest of it he makes into a god, into his carved image.

He bows down to it and worships it.

He prays to it and says:

“Save me, for you are my god.”

¹⁸ They know nothing, they understand nothing,
Because their eyes are sealed shut and they cannot see,

And their heart has no insight.

¹⁹ No one reflects in his heart

Or has knowledge or understanding, saying:

“Half of it I burned up in a fire,
And on its coals I baked bread and roasted meat
to eat.

Should I, then, make the rest of it into a
detestable thing?

Should I worship a block of wood from a tree?”

²⁰ He feeds on ashes.

His own deluded heart has led him astray.
He cannot save himself, nor does he say:
“Is there not a lie in my right hand?”

²¹ “Remember these things, O Jacob, and you, O
Israel,

For you are my servant.

I formed you, and you are my servant.

O Israel, I will not forget you.

²² I will blot out your transgressions as with a cloud
And your sins as with a thick cloud.

Return to me, for I will repurchase you.

²³ Shout joyfully, you heavens,

For Jehovah has acted!

Shout in triumph, you depths of the earth!

Shout for joy, you mountains,

You forest, and all your trees!

For Jehovah has repurchased Jacob,

And on Israel he displays his splendor.”

²⁴ This is what Jehovah says, your Repurchaser,

Who formed you since you were in the womb:
“I am Jehovah, who made everything.
I stretched out the heavens by myself,
And I spread out the earth.
Who was with me?

- ²⁵ I am frustrating the signs of the empty talkers,
And I am the One who makes diviners act like
fools;
The One confounding the wise men
And turning their knowledge into foolishness;
- ²⁶ The One making the word of his servant come true
And completely fulfilling the predictions of his
messengers;
The One saying of Jerusalem, ‘She will be
inhabited,’
And of the cities of Judah, ‘They will be rebuilt,
And I will restore her ruins’;
- ²⁷ The One saying to the deep waters, ‘Be
evaporated,
And I will dry up all your rivers’;
- ²⁸ The One saying of Cyrus, ‘He is my shepherd,
And he will completely carry out all my will’;
The One saying of Jerusalem, ‘She will be
rebuilt,’
And of the temple, ‘Your foundation will be laid.’”

- 45** This is what Jehovah says to his anointed one, to
Cyrus,
Whose right hand I have taken hold of
To subdue nations before him,
To disarm kings,
To open before him the double doors,
So that the gates will not be shut:
- ² “Before you I will go,
And the hills I will level.
The copper doors I will break in pieces,
And the iron bars I will cut down.
- ³ I will give you the treasures in the darkness
And the hidden treasures in the concealed
places,
So that you may know that I am Jehovah,
The God of Israel, who is calling you by your
name.
- ⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob and of Israel my
chosen one,
I am calling you by your name.
I am giving you a name of honor, although you
did not know me.
- ⁵ I am Jehovah, and there is no one else.
There is no God except me.
I will strengthen you, although you did not know
me,

- ⁶ In order that people may know
From the rising of the sun to its setting
That there is none besides me.
I am Jehovah, and there is no one else.
- ⁷ I form light and create darkness,
I make peace and create calamity;
I, Jehovah, am doing all these things.
- ⁸ You heavens, rain down from above;
Let the clouds pour down righteousness.
Let the earth open up and be fruitful with
salvation,
And let it cause righteousness to spring up at the
same time.
I, Jehovah, have created it.”
- ⁹ Woe to the one who contends with his Maker,
For he is just an earthenware fragment
Among the other earthenware fragments lying on
the ground!
Should the clay say to the Potter: “What are you
making?”
Or should your work say: “He has no hands”?
- ¹⁰ Woe to the one who says to a father: “What do you
become father to?”
And to a woman: “What are you giving birth to?”
- ¹¹ This is what Jehovah says, the Holy One of Israel,
the One who formed him:

“Would you question me about the things coming
And command me about my sons and the works
of my hands?

¹² I made the earth and created man on it.
I stretched out the heavens with my own hands,
And I give orders to all their army.”

¹³ “I have raised up a man in righteousness,
And I will make all his ways straight.
He is the one who will build my city
And set my exiles free without a price or a bribe,”
says Jehovah of armies.

¹⁴ This is what Jehovah says:
“The profit of Egypt and the merchandise of
E·thi·o'pi·a and the Sa·be'ans, tall of stature,
Will come over to you and become yours.
They will walk behind you in chains.
They will come over and bow down to you.
To you they will say in prayer, ‘Surely God is with
you,
And there is no one else; there is no other God.’”

¹⁵ Truly you are a God who conceals himself,
O God of Israel, the Savior.

¹⁶ They will all be put to shame and be humiliated;
The makers of idols will all go off in disgrace.

¹⁷ But Israel will be saved by Jehovah with an
everlasting salvation.

You will not be put to shame or disgraced for all eternity.

- ¹⁸ For this is what Jehovah says,
The Creator of the heavens, the true God,
The One who formed the earth, its Maker who
firmly established it,
Who did not create it simply for nothing, but
formed it to be inhabited:
“I am Jehovah, and there is no one else.
- ¹⁹ I did not speak in a concealed place, in a land of
darkness;
I did not say to the offspring of Jacob,
‘Seek me simply for nothing.’
I am Jehovah, who speaks what is righteous and
declares what is upright.
- ²⁰ Gather together and come.
Approach together, you escapees from the
nations.
They know nothing, those who carry around
carved images
And pray to a god that cannot save them.
- ²¹ Make your report, present your case.
Let them consult together in unity.
Who foretold this long ago
And declared it from times past?
Is it not I, Jehovah?

There is no other God but me;
A righteous God and a Savior, there is none
besides me.

²² Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth,
For I am God, and there is no one else.

²³ By myself I have sworn;
The word has gone out of my mouth in
righteousness,
And it will not return:
To me every knee will bend,
Every tongue will swear loyalty

²⁴ And say, 'Surely in Jehovah are true righteousness
and strength.
All those enraged against him will come before
him in shame.

²⁵ In Jehovah all the offspring of Israel will prove to be
right,
And in him they will make their boast.'"

46 Bel bends down, Ne'bo stoops over.
Their idols are loaded on animals, on beasts of
burden,
Like baggage that burdens the weary animals.

² They stoop and bend down together;
They cannot rescue the loads,
And they themselves go into captivity.

- ³ “Listen to me, O house of Jacob, and all you who remain of the house of Israel,
You whom I have supported from birth and carried from the womb.
- ⁴ Until you grow old I will be the same;
Until your hair is gray I will keep bearing you.
As I have done, I will carry you and bear you and rescue you.
- ⁵ To whom will you liken me or make me equal or compare me,
So that we should resemble each other?
- ⁶ There are those who lavish gold from their purse;
They weigh out the silver on the scale.
They hire a metalworker, and he makes it into a god.
Then they prostrate themselves, yes, they worship it.
- ⁷ They lift it to their shoulders;
They carry it and put it in its place, and it just stands there.
It does not move from its place.
They cry out to it, but it does not answer;
It cannot rescue anyone from distress.
- ⁸ Remember this, and take courage.
Take it to heart, you transgressors.
- ⁹ Remember the former things of long ago,

That I am God, and there is no other.
I am God, and there is no one like me.

¹⁰ From the beginning I foretell the outcome,
And from long ago the things that have not yet
been done.

I say, 'My decision will stand,
And I will do whatever I please.'

¹¹ I am calling a bird of prey from the sunrise,
From a distant land the man to carry out my
decision.

I have spoken, and I will bring it about.
I have purposed it, and I will also carry it out.

¹² Listen to me, you who are stubborn of heart,
You who are far away from righteousness.

¹³ I have brought my righteousness near;
It is not far away,
And my salvation will not delay.
I will grant salvation in Zion, my splendor to
Israel."

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- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

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ISAIAH 43-46 | Jehovah Is the God of True Prophecy

About 200 years before the conquest of Babylon, Jehovah through Isaiah gave a detailed prophecy describing what would happen.

44:27–45:2

- Cyrus would be the conqueror of Babylon
- The city’s double doors would be left open
- The Euphrates River, a part of the city’s main defense system, would “dry up”



a. 732
Isaiah



539
Babylon conquered

About 200 years



January 30–February 5

Treasures From God's Word

Isaiah 44:26-28—Jehovah prophesied that Jerusalem and the temple would be rebuilt, and he named Cyrus as the conqueror of Babylon

Reference: ip-2 71-72 **paragraphs 22-23.**

22 Uninspired diviners usually dare not be too specific in their predictions for fear that time will prove them wrong. By contrast, through Isaiah, Jehovah reveals the very name of the man he will use to free his people from captivity so that they can go home and rebuild Jerusalem and the temple. His name is Cyrus, and he is known as Cyrus the Great of Persia. Jehovah also gives details of the strategy that Cyrus will use to penetrate Babylon's massive and elaborate defense system. Babylon will be protected by high walls and by waterways that run through and around the city. Cyrus will turn a main element of that system—the Euphrates River—to his advantage. According to ancient historians Herodotus and Xenophon, at a location upstream from Babylon, Cyrus diverted the waters of the Euphrates until the level of the river dropped low enough for his soldiers to wade through. As far as its ability to protect Babylon is concerned, the mighty Euphrates evaporates.

23 What about the promise that Cyrus will release God's people and that he will see to it that Jerusalem and the temple will be rebuilt? Cyrus himself, in an official proclamation preserved in the Bible, declares: "This is what Cyrus the king of Persia has said, 'All the kingdoms of the earth Jehovah the God of the heavens has given me, and he himself has commissioned me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God prove to be with him. So let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and rebuild the house of Jehovah the God of Israel—he is the true God—which was in Jerusalem.'" (Ezra 1:2, 3) Jehovah's word through Isaiah is completely fulfilled!

Isaiah 45:1, 2—Jehovah gave details about the conquest of Babylon

Reference: ip-2 77-78 paragraphs 4-6.

4 Jehovah, through Isaiah, speaks to Cyrus as if he were alive, although in Isaiah's day Cyrus has not yet been born. (Romans 4:17) Since Jehovah appoints Cyrus in advance to accomplish a specific task, Cyrus can be said to be God's "anointed one." With God leading him, he will subdue nations, rendering kings weak and incapable of resistance. Then, when Cyrus

attacks Babylon, Jehovah will see to it that the doors of the city are left open, making them as useless as gates that have been shattered. He will go before Cyrus, smoothing out all obstacles. In the end, Cyrus' troops will conquer the city and take possession of its "hidden treasures," its wealth stored in dark vaults. This is what Isaiah foretells. Do his words come true?

5 In the year 539 B.C.E.—some 200 years after Isaiah records this prophecy—Cyrus does indeed arrive at the walls of Babylon to attack the city. (**Jeremiah 51:11, 12**) The Babylonians, however, are not concerned. They feel that their city is unconquerable. Its towering walls loom over deep moats filled with water from the Euphrates River, which forms part of the city's defense system. For over a hundred years, no enemy has been able to take Babylon by storm! In fact, Babylon's ruler in residence, Belshazzar, feels so secure that he feasts with members of his court. (Daniel 5:1) That night—the night of October 5/6—Cyrus completes a brilliant military maneuver.

6 Upstream from Babylon, Cyrus' engineers have cut through the bank of the Euphrates River, diverting its waters so that they no longer flow southward toward the city. Before long, the water level of the river in and

around Babylon falls so low that Cyrus' troops are able to slish along the riverbed toward the heart of the city. (Isaiah 44:27; Jeremiah 50:38) Amazingly, just as Isaiah foretold, the gates along the river are open. Cyrus' forces swarm into Babylon, take the palace, and put King Belshazzar to death. (Daniel 5:30) In one night the conquest is all over. Babylon has fallen, and the prophecy is fulfilled to the letter.

Isaiah 45:3-6—Jehovah gave reasons why he used Cyrus to conquer Babylon

Reference: ip-2 79-80 **paragraphs 8-10.**

Why Jehovah Will Favor Cyrus

8 After stating who will conquer Babylon and how this will be done, Jehovah goes on to explain one reason why Cyrus will be given the victory. Jehovah, prophetically speaking to Cyrus, says that it is “in order that you may know that I am Jehovah, the One calling you by your name, the God of Israel.” (Isaiah 45:3b) It is fitting that the ruler of the fourth world power of Bible history recognizes that his greatest victory comes as a result of the support of one who is greater than he is—Jehovah, the Universal Sovereign. Cyrus should acknowledge that the one who calls, or commissions,

him is Jehovah, the God of Israel. The Bible record shows that Cyrus did indeed acknowledge that his great victory came from Jehovah.—Ezra 1:2, 3.

9 Jehovah explains the second reason why he brings Cyrus to conquer Babylon: “For the sake of my servant Jacob and of Israel my chosen one, I even proceeded to call you by your name; I proceeded to give you a name of honor, although you did not know me.” (Isaiah 45:4) Cyrus’ victory over Babylon is earth-shattering. It marks the fall of one world power and the ascent of another, and it leaves its mark on history for generations to come. Yet, those of the nations round about who are anxiously watching events would likely be astounded to know that it all happens for the sake of a few thousand “insignificant” exiles in Babylon—the Jews, descendants of Jacob. In Jehovah’s eyes, however, these survivors of the ancient nation of Israel are far from insignificant. They are his “servant.” Of all the nations of the earth, they are his “chosen one.” Even though Cyrus previously did not know Jehovah, he is used by Jehovah as His anointed one to overthrow the city that refused to give up its captives. It is not God’s purpose that his chosen people languish forever on foreign soil.

10 There is a third, even more important reason why Jehovah uses Cyrus to overthrow Babylon. Jehovah

says: “I am Jehovah, and there is no one else. With the exception of me there is no God. I shall closely gird you, although you have not known me, in order that people may know from the rising of the sun and from its setting that there is none besides me. I am Jehovah, and there is no one else.” (Isaiah 45:5, 6) Yes, the fall of the Babylonian World Power is a demonstration of Jehovah’s Godship, proof to everyone that he alone is worthy of worship. Because God’s people are released, individuals from many nations—from east to west—will come to acknowledge that Jehovah is the only true God.—Malachi 1:11.

Digging for Spiritual Gems

Isaiah 43:10-12—In what way were the Israelites to be a nation of witnesses for Jehovah?

Reference: w14 11/15 21-22 paragraphs 14-16.

A Nation of Witnesses

14 The Israelites worshipped their God, Jehovah, whereas the other nations worshipped their own deities. At the time of the prophet Isaiah, Jehovah compared the world situation to that of a court trial. He challenged the gods of the nations to produce witnesses to confirm their divinity, declaring: “Let all the

nations assemble in one place, and let the peoples be gathered together. Who [of their gods] among them can tell this? Or can they cause us to hear the first things? Let them present their witnesses to prove themselves right, or let them hear and say, ‘It is the truth!’—**Isaiah 43:9**.

15 The gods of the nations were unable to produce any evidence of their godship. They were mere idols that were speechless and that needed to be carried around. (**Isaiah 46:5-7**) On the other hand, Jehovah told his people Israel: “You are my witnesses, . . . yes, my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and have faith in me and understand that I am the same One. Before me no God was formed, and after me there has been none. I—I am Jehovah, and besides me there is no savior. . . . So you are my witnesses, . . . and I am God.”—**Isaiah 43:10-12**.

16 In what would amount to a universal court case over the issue “Who is the Supreme God?,” Jehovah’s chosen people were to attest loud and clear that Jehovah is the one true God. He called them “the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.” (**Isaiah 43:21**) They were the people who bore his name. Redeemed from Egypt by Jehovah, they were under a moral obligation to support his sovereignty before the other peoples of the earth. In

effect, their stance was to be like that later set forth for God's present-day people by the prophet Micah: "All the peoples will walk, each in the name of its god, but we will walk in the name of Jehovah our God forever and ever."—**Micah 4:5.**

Isaiah 43:25—What is the main reason why Jehovah wipes out transgressions?

Reference: ip-2 60 **paragraph 24.**

Notice, though, that the resulting divine mercy will not simply be because of Israel's contrition; it will be for Jehovah's own sake. Yes, his name is involved. Were he to abandon Israel to permanent exile, his own name would be reproached by onlookers. (Psalm 79:9; Ezekiel 20:8-10) Likewise today, the salvation of humans is secondary to the sanctification of Jehovah's name and the vindication of his sovereignty.

Nonetheless, Jehovah loves those who accept his discipline without reservation and who worship him with spirit and truth. He demonstrates his love for these ones—whether anointed or other sheep—by wiping out their transgressions on the basis of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.—**John 3:16; 4:23, 24.**

- Song 55 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD’S WORD

- **“Jehovah Is the God of True Prophecy”:** (10 min.)
Isa 44:26-28—Jehovah prophesied that Jerusalem and the temple would be rebuilt, and he named Cyrus as the conqueror of Babylon (*ip-2* 71-72 ¶22-23)
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What does this week’s Bible reading teach me about Jehovah?

What points from this week’s Bible reading can I use in the field ministry?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Isa 46:1-13

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (2 min. or less) *lc*—Witness informally to a workmate or schoolmate.
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) *lc*—Lay the groundwork for the next visit.
- **Bible Study:** (6 min. or less) *jl* lesson 4

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 77
- **How Can We Be Sure the Bible Is True?:** (15 min.)
Play the video (video category OUR MEETINGS AND MINISTRY). Then discuss the following questions: How can we use this video when witnessing informally, publicly, and from house to house? What good experiences have you had with this video?
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *kr* chap. 7 ¶19-23, box on p. 75, chart on pp. 76-77, review box on p. 77
- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
- Song 83 and Prayer

ISAIAH 43-46 | Jehovah Is the God of True Prophecy

About 200 years before the conquest of Babylon, Jehovah through Isaiah gave a detailed prophecy describing what would happen.

44:27–45:2

- Cyrus would be the conqueror of Babylon
- The city’s double doors would be left open
- The Euphrates River, a part of the city’s main defense system, would “dry up”



a. 732
Isaiah



539
Babylon conquered

About 200 years



Why Have We Produced the *New World Translation*?

For decades, Jehovah's Witnesses used, printed, and distributed various versions of the Bible. But then we saw the need to produce a new translation that would better help people to learn the "accurate knowledge of truth," which is God's will for everyone. (1 Timothy 2:3, 4) Thus, in 1950 we began to release portions of our modern-language Bible, the *New World Translation*. This Bible has been faithfully and accurately translated into over 100 languages.

A Bible was needed that was easy to understand.

Languages change over time, and many translations contain obscure or obsolete expressions that are difficult to understand. Also, ancient manuscripts that are more accurate and closer to the originals have been discovered, resulting in a better comprehension of Biblical Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek.

A translation was needed that was loyal to God's word.

Rather than taking liberties with God's inspired writings, Bible translators should be faithful to the original text. However, in most versions, the divine name, Jehovah, is not used in the Holy Scriptures.

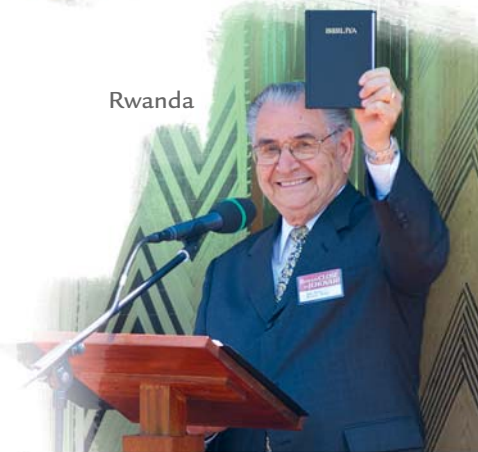
A Bible was needed that gives credit to its Author.

(2 Samuel 23:2) In the *New World Translation*, Jehovah's name has been restored where it appears some 7,000 times in the oldest Bible manuscripts as illustrated in the example below. (Psalm 83:18) The result of years of diligent research, this Bible is a pleasure to read, as it clearly conveys God's thinking. Whether you have the *New World Translation* in your language or not, we encourage you to get into a good routine of reading Jehovah's Word every day.—Joshua 1:8; Psalm 1:2, 3.

- Why did we decide that a new translation of the Bible was needed?
- What daily practice is good for anyone wanting to learn God's will?



Congo (Kinshasa)



Rwanda

FIND OUT MORE

Read the foreword of the *New World Translation*, and answer the question: "With what sense of responsibility did the translation committee produce this Bible?" Then compare their rendering of the following verses with that of other translations that you may possess: Genesis 25:29; Isaiah 14:23; Matthew 5:3; 11:12; 1 Corinthians 10:24, 25; Philippians 1:8.



Symmachus fragment containing the divine name at Psalm 69:31, third or fourth century C.E.

Light in a Darkened World

(2 Corinthians 4:6)

1. In these days, dark and lawless days,
Shines a light we can see.
Like the dawn of another day
That will soon come to be.

(CHORUS)

*Shining through the darkness,
Ours is a message so bright.
It offers hope and light—
Sparkling like the daylight,
Bringing tomorrow in sight—
So ends the night.*

2. Those who sleep need awakening
As the time ebbs away.
We give hope and encouragement.
For their future we'll pray.

(Chorus)

- Song 55 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

TREASURES FROM GOD’S WORD

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ISAIAH 43-46 | Jehovah Is the God of True Prophecy

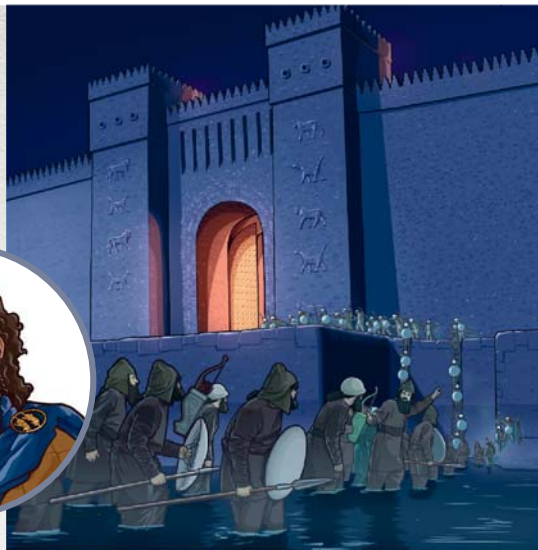
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- The city’s double doors would be left open
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a. 732
Isaiah



539
Babylon conquered

About 200 years



program that spread Bible truths. From 1969 to 1977, the organization produced more than 350 recorded radio programs in the series “All Scripture Is Beneficial.” In the United States, 291 radio stations, in 48 states, carried the programs. In 1996, a radio station in Apia, the capital city of the South Pacific nation of Samoa, transmitted a weekly program entitled “Answers to Your Bible Questions.”

¹⁸ As the 20th century drew to a close, radio no longer played a primary role in spreading the good news. However, another technology emerged that made it possible to reach an audience of unprecedented size.

¹⁹ **The Internet.** As of 2013, more than 2.7 billion people, almost 40 percent of the world’s population, were connected to the Internet. According to certain estimates, some two billion access it on mobile devices, such as smartphones and tablets. That figure continues to climb globally, but the fastest growth in mobile Internet connection is currently occurring in Africa, where there are more than 90 million

19, 20. Why have Jehovah’s people produced jw.org, and how effective has it been? (See also the box “JW.ORG.”)



VISITS:

**Each day jw.org receives more than
750,000 individual visits**

SITE LANGUAGES:

Ability to navigate in over 300 languages

PUBLICATIONS:

Available for download in more than 520 languages

DOWNLOADED EACH MONTH:

**About 3 million short videos, 3 million complete
books, 4 million complete magazines, and 22 million
audio tracks**

All figures as of 2013

mobile Internet subscriptions. Those developments have fundamentally changed the way many people receive information.

²⁰ Starting in 1997, Jehovah's people adopted this method of mass communication. In 2013, the jw.org Web site became available in some 300 languages, and Bible-based information was made available for download in over 520 languages. Each day the site

SOME METHODS USED TO REACH

LARGE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE

1914
 “Photo-Drama
 of Creation”^{*[2]}

1933
 Sound cars

	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940
(Year indicates when a particular method began to be used)	1903 Newspaper sermons			1922 Radio	1936 Placard work

*[2] The “Photo-Drama” included some motion pictures.

receives more than 750,000 individual visits. Each month, in addition to viewing videos, people download over 3 million complete books, 4 million complete magazines, and 22 million audio tracks.

²¹ The Web site has become a powerful method of spreading the good news of God’s Kingdom, even in lands where our preaching work is restricted. For example, early in 2013, a man named Sina found the jw.org site and called world headquarters, which is located in the United States, asking for more information about the Bible. What made this call unusual? Sina comes from a Muslim background and lives in a remote village in a country where the work of Jehovah’s Witnesses is severely restricted. As a re-

21. What have you learned from the experience involving Sina?

1954
Motion pictures

1997
Internet

1950

1960

1970

1980

1990

2000

2010

1990
Videos

2011
Metropolitan
witnessing

sult of this call, arrangements were made for Sina to study the Bible twice a week with a Witness in the United States. The study was conducted using an Internet video service.

Teaching Individuals

²² None of the methods we have used to reach large audiences, such as newspapers, the “Photo-Drama,” radio programs, and the Web site, were meant to replace the door-to-door ministry. Why not? Because Jehovah’s people learned from the pattern set by Jesus. He did more than preach to large crowds; he focused on helping individuals. (Luke 19: 1-5) Jesus also trained his disciples to do the same, and he gave them a message to deliver. **(Read Luke 22, 23. (a) Have the methods of reaching large audiences replaced the door-to-door ministry? (b) How has the King blessed our efforts?**

10:1, 8-11.) As discussed in Chapter 6, those taking the lead have always encouraged each servant of Jehovah to speak to people face-to-face.—Acts 5:42; 20:20.

²³ One hundred years after the Kingdom's birth, more than 7.9 million publishers actively share in teaching others about God's purposes. Without question, the King has blessed the methods we have used to advertise the Kingdom. As the following chapter will show, he has also provided us with the tools we need to spread the good news to every nation, tribe, and tongue.—Rev. 14:6.

How Real Is the Kingdom to You?

- What events involving our use of newspapers, picture presentations, radio, and the Internet prove to you that the Kingdom is real?
- Why do we emphasize the door-to-door ministry?

(Acts 20:20)

1. From house to house, from door to door,
Jehovah’s word we spread.
From town to town, from farm to farm,
Jehovah’s sheep are fed.
The good news that God’s Kingdom rules,
As Jesus Christ foretold,
Is now declared throughout the earth
By Christians young and old.
2. From house to house, from door to door,
Salvation we proclaim.
It comes to those who make the choice
To call upon God’s name.
But how can they respect the name
Of One they do not know?
To ev’ry home and ev’ry door,
The sacred name must go.
3. So let us go from door to door
To spread the Kingdom news.
And whether it’s embraced or not,
We’ll let the people choose.
At least we’ll name Jehovah’s name,
His glorious truth declare.
And as we go from door to door,
We’ll find his sheep are there.

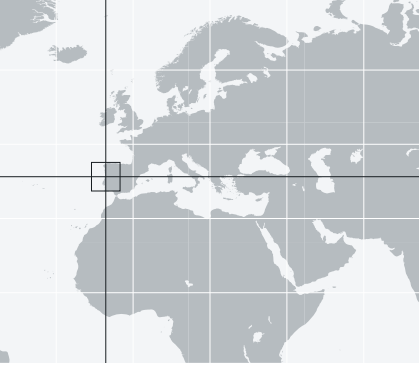
DECEMBER 2016

THE WATCHTOWER

ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM



STUDY ARTICLES FOR:
JANUARY 30–FEBRUARY 26, 2017



COVER IMAGE:
PORTUGAL

Many tourists come to the city of Aveiro in northern Portugal to see the interesting salt evaporation ponds. Local Witnesses make sure to offer the good news to those who sell the locally produced salt

PUBLISHERS
48,840

BIBLE STUDIES
28,687

MEMORIAL ATTENDANCE
(2015)
91,472

TABLE OF CONTENTS

3 LIFE STORY
Becoming “All Things
to People of All Sorts”

8 WEEK OF **JANUARY 30–FEBRUARY 5**
By Undeserved Kindness
You Were Set Free

13 WEEK OF **FEBRUARY 6-12**
‘Setting Your Mind on the Spirit
Means Life and Peace’

In Romans chapters 6 and 8, we find vital information related to our life as Christians. Studying that material can help us to benefit from God’s undeserved kindness and to maintain our focus on what will result in our everlasting good.

18 DO YOU REMEMBER?

19 WEEK OF **FEBRUARY 13-19**
Throw All Your Anxiety on Jehovah

24 WEEK OF **FEBRUARY 20-26**
Jehovah Rewards Those
Who Earnestly Seek Him

The first of these two articles discusses how we can throw all our anxiety on God. The second article explains how we can strengthen our faith by being firmly convinced that God rewards those who earnestly seek him. It also shows how the hope of a reward benefits us.

29 A Mild Temper—The Way of Wisdom

32 SUBJECT INDEX
FOR *THE WATCHTOWER* 2016

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THE WATCHTOWER®
ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM

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December 2016
Vol. 137, No. 18 ENGLISH

We Thank You, Jehovah

(1 Thessalonians 5:18)

1. We thank you, Jehovah, each day and each night,
That you shed upon us your precious light.
We thank you that we have the priv'lege of prayer,
That we can approach you with ev'ry care.
2. We thank you, Jehovah, for your loving Son,
Who conquered the world; by his faith he won.
We thank you for guidance in doing your will.
You lovingly help us our vows fulfill.
3. We thank you, our God, for the honor to preach
About your great name and the truth to teach.
We thank you that soon all earth's woes will be past,
While your Kingdom blessings forever last.

By Undeserved Kindness You Were Set Free

“Sin must not be master over you, seeing that you are . . . under undeserved kindness.”—ROM. 6:14.

SONGS: 46, 127

HOW WOULD YOU ANSWER?

Why is God’s provision of the ransom an undeserved kindness?

How is it that we can consider ourselves “dead with reference to sin”?

Why does appreciation for God’s undeserved kindness move us to avoid more than just serious sins?

IMAGINE you wanted to list Bible verses that Jehovah’s Witnesses know well and use often. Would Romans 5:12 be high on your list? Think about how often you have referred to the statement: “Just as through one man sin entered into the world and death through sin, and so
1, 2. Why is Romans 5:12 of interest to Jehovah’s Witnesses?

death spread to all men because they had all sinned.”

2 That verse is repeatedly used in the book *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* As you study this book with your children or others, you will likely read Romans 5:12 when you discuss God’s purpose for the earth, the ransom, and the condition of the dead—chapters 3, 5, and 6. But how often do you think of Romans 5:12 with regard to your own standing before Jehovah, your actions, and your future prospects?

3 All of us, of course, must face the reality that we are sinners. We make mistakes every day. Yet, we are assured that God remembers that we are made of dust, and he is willing to show us mercy. (Ps. 103:13, 14) Jesus included in the model prayer the request to God: “Forgive us our sins.” (Luke 11:2-4) Hence, we have no reason to dwell

3. We ought to face what fact about sin?

on mistakes that God has forgiven. Still, we can benefit from thinking about how he could—and did—forgive us.

FORGIVEN THROUGH UNDESERVED KINDNESS

4 We find important information in the chapters surrounding the apostle Paul’s words at Romans 5:12, especially in chapter 6. This will help us to understand how Jehovah can forgive us. In chapter 3, we read: “All have sinned . . . , and it is as a free gift that they are being declared righteous by his undeserved kindness through the release by the ransom paid by Christ Jesus.” (Rom. 3:23, 24) What did Paul mean by saying “undeserved kindness”? He used a Greek word that, according to one reference work, has the sense of “a favour freely done, without claim or

4, 5. (a) What sheds light on the sense of Romans 5:12? (b) What is the “undeserved kindness” that is mentioned at Romans 3:24?

expectation of return.” It is unearned and unmerited.

5 Scholar John Parkhurst noted: “When spoken of God or Christ, it [that Greek word] very often particularly refers to *their free and undeserved favour or kindness in the redemption and salvation of man.*” Thus, the rendering “undeserved kindness” in the *New World Translation* is fitting. But how did God manifest this undeserved kindness? And what does it have to do with your hope and your relationship with him? Let us see.

6 Adam was the “one man” through whom sin and death “entered into the world.” Thus “by the trespass of the one man death ruled as king.” Paul added that “the abundance of [God’s] undeserved kindness” came about “through the one

6. To what extent can individuals benefit from God’s undeserved kindness?

person, Jesus Christ.” (Rom. 5:12, 15, 17) And that undeserved kindness has resulted in good for all mankind. “Through the obedience of the one person [Jesus] many will be made righteous.” Actually, God’s undeserved kindness can lead to “everlasting life through Jesus Christ.”—Rom. 5:19, 21.

7 Jehovah was not obliged to have his Son come to earth to provide the ransom. Moreover, imperfect, sinful humans did not of themselves merit, or deserve, what God and Jesus did in providing a ransom by which forgiveness was possible. So our being forgiven and offered the prospect of living forever is truly a kindness that is undeserved. We should highly value the gift of God’s undeserved kindness and let it affect our life daily.

7. Why was God’s provision of the ransom both kind and undeserved?

APPRECIATION FOR GOD'S UNDESERVED KINDNESS

8 Being imperfect descendants of Adam, we are inclined to err, to do what is bad, to sin. Still, it would be a serious mistake to presume on God's undeserved kindness, such as by thinking: 'Even if I do something wrong—something that God views as sin—I do not have to worry about it. Jehovah will forgive me.' Sadly, some Christians felt that way even while some of the apostles were still alive. (Read Jude 4.) We ourselves might never voice such a thought; yet, the seeds of this wrong viewpoint might be in us or they could be planted in us and start to grow.

9 Paul stressed that we must strongly reject the

8. What mistaken view might some people have of their sins?

9, 10. How were Paul and others set free from sin and death?

view: ‘Oh, God understands. He will overlook my wrong deeds or actions.’ Why? Because, as Paul writes, Christians have “died with reference to sin.” (Read Romans 6:1, 2.) While they were still alive on earth, how could it be said of them that they had “died with reference to sin”?

10 God applied the ransom to Paul and others of his day. Thus Jehovah forgave their sins, anointed them with holy spirit, and called them to be his spiritual sons. Then they had the heavenly hope. If they proved faithful, they would live and rule with Christ in heaven. But Paul could speak of them while they were still alive and serving God on earth as having “died with reference to sin.” He used the example of Jesus, who died as a human and then was raised up as an immortal spirit in heaven. Death was no longer master over Jesus. It was similar with anointed Christians, who could consider themselves “dead with

reference to sin but living with reference to God by Christ Jesus.” (Rom. 6:9, 11) Their way of life was not as it once was. They were no longer obeying the dictates or impulses of their sinful desires. They had died to that previous way of life.

11 What of us? Well, before we became Christians, we often sinned, perhaps not realizing how wrong or bad our actions were in God’s eyes. We were like “slaves to uncleanness and lawlessness.” It could be said that we “were slaves of sin.” (Rom. 6:19, 20) Then we came to know Bible truth, made changes in our lives, dedicated ourselves to God, and got baptized. Since then, it has been our desire to be “obedient from the heart” to God’s teachings and standards. Even if we might not have spoken of it in those terms, we “were set free from sin” and we “became

11. In what sense have we who hope to live forever in Paradise “died with reference to sin”?

slaves to righteousness.” (Rom. 6:17, 18) So we too could be said to have “died with reference to sin.”

12 Now think of yourself in the light of Paul’s words: “Do not let sin continue to rule as king in your mortal bodies so that you should obey their desires.” (Rom. 6:12) We could “*let* sin continue to rule” by doing whatever our imperfect body moves us to do. Because we can “let” sin rule or refuse to let it rule, the question is, What do we really want at heart? Ask yourself: ‘At times, do I let my imperfect body or mind point me in a bad direction and then go there? Or am I dead with reference to sin? Am I living with reference to God by Christ Jesus?’ It really comes down to how much we appreciate the undeserved kindness God has shown by forgiving us.

12. What choice does each of us have to make?

A FIGHT THAT YOU CAN WIN

13 Jehovah's people have turned their back on "the fruit that [they] used to produce" before they came to know, love, and serve God. Their past way of life may have included "things of which [they] are now ashamed" and that would have merited death. (Rom. 6:21) Then they changed. That was true of many in Corinth to whom Paul wrote. Some had been idolaters, adulterers, homosexuals, thieves, drunkards, and the like. Yet, they were "washed clean" and "sanctified." (1 Cor. 6:9-11) That was likely also true of some in the Roman congregation. Paul was inspired to write to them: "Neither go on presenting your bodies to sin as weapons of unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, also your bodies to God as weapons of righ-

13. What evidence gives us confidence that it is possible to turn our back on sin?

teousness.” (Rom. 6:13) Paul was sure that they could remain spiritually clean and thus continue to benefit from God’s undeserved kindness.

14 It is similar today. Some brothers and sisters may at one time have been like those in Corinth. But they too changed. They left their sinful past and were “washed clean.” To whatever extent that may be true in your case, what is your situation before God at this time? Now that God’s undeserved kindness and resulting forgiveness are available, are you determined no longer ‘to present your body to sin’? Will you instead ‘present yourself to God as alive from the dead’?

15 For us to do that, we must certainly avoid choosing to practice the serious sins that some in Corinth had been guilty of. That is vital if we are to say that we have accepted God’s undeserved
14, 15. What should we ask ourselves about being “obedient from the heart”?

kindness and that ‘sin is not master over us.’ However, are we also determined to be “obedient from the heart” by doing our best to avoid sins that some would view as less serious?—Rom. 6: 14, 17.

16 Think of the apostle Paul. We can be sure that he was not sharing in the gross wrongs mentioned at 1 Corinthians 6:9-11. Nonetheless, he confessed that he was still guilty of sin. He wrote: “I am fleshly, sold under sin. For I do not understand what I am doing. For I do not practice what I wish, but I do what I hate.” (Rom. 7:14, 15) This shows that there were other things that Paul viewed as sins, and he was fighting against those wrongs too. (Read Romans 7:21-23.) May that also be true of us as we strive to be “obedient from the heart.”

16. How do we know that being a Christian involves more than leaving behind the practice of serious sins?

17 Consider, for example, the matter of being honest. Honesty is basic to Christianity. (Read Proverbs 14:5; Ephesians 4:25.) Satan is “the father of the lie.” And Ananias and his wife lost their lives because of lying. We do not want to imitate such ones—we avoid lying. (John 8:44; Acts 5:1-11) Is that, though, as far as our honesty goes? Actually, our honesty should reflect our deep appreciation for God’s undeserved kindness.

18 To lie is to say something untruthful. However, Jehovah wants his people to go beyond not telling outright lies. He urged the ancient Israelites: “You should be holy, because I, Jehovah your God, am holy.” Then he gave examples of being holy. In part, God said: “You must not steal, *you must not deceive*, and you must not deal falsely with one another.” (Lev. 19:2, 11)

17. Why do you want to be honest?

18, 19. How does being honest go beyond simply not telling outright lies?

Sadly, a person who makes it a point never to tell outright lies might still resort to deceiving others, dealing falsely with them.

19 For instance, a man tells his boss or fellow workers that he cannot be at work the next day or that he must leave early because he has a “medical” appointment. In fact, his “medical” appointment is merely a brief stop at a pharmacy or a quick visit to the doctor’s office to pay a bill. His real reason for not being at work is so that he can get a head start on a trip or so that he can take his family to the beach. There may have been a grain of truth in his mentioning a “medical” appointment, but would you say that he was being honest? Or was he being deceptive? You may know of similar instances of deliberate deception. Perhaps this is done to avoid punishment or to profit at others’ expense. Even if no outright lie is told, what of God’s direction: “You must not

deceive”? Think, too, of Romans 6:19, which says: “Present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to holiness.”

20 The point is that our appreciation for God’s undeserved kindness involves more than avoiding adultery, drunkenness, or other sins that some in Corinth had been guilty of. Accepting God’s undeserved kindness means not only avoiding sexual immorality but also fighting any tendency to enjoy lewd entertainment. Presenting our members as slaves to righteousness will not only keep us from drunkenness but also move us to shun drinking to the point of almost being drunk. It may require considerable effort for us to fight against such wrong practices; still, it is a fight that we can win.

21 Our goal should be to avoid gross sins as well as wrongs that are not as flagrant. We will

20, 21. God’s undeserved kindness should move us to what extent?

not be able to do that perfectly. Nevertheless, we should strive to do so, even as Paul did. He urged his brothers: “Do not let sin continue to rule as king in your mortal bodies so that you should obey their desires.” (Rom. 6:12; 7:18-20) As we fight against sin in all its forms, we show true appreciation for God’s undeserved kindness through Christ.

22 By means of God’s undeserved kindness, our sins have been forgiven and can continue to be forgiven. In appreciation, let us work at overcoming any tendency to give in to what others might consider minor sins. Paul emphasized the reward that then awaits us: “Now that you were set free from sin and became slaves to God, you are producing your fruit in the way of holiness, and the end is everlasting life.”—Rom. 6:22.

22. What awaits those who prove their appreciation for God’s undeserved kindness?

127 *The Sort of Person I Should Be*

(2 Peter 3:11)

1. How can I repay you, what gift can I give
To thank you, Jehovah, for the life that I live?
I look in my heart with your Word as my mirror;
The person I see, may you help me see clearer.

(BRIDGE)

My life I have promised in service to you,
But not from mere duty will I do what I do.
Whole-souled and wholehearted I serve you by choice;
May I be one more who makes you rejoice.

Help me to examine, and help me to see
Just what sort of person you desire me to be.
Those loyal to you, you will loyally treasure;
May I be among those who bring your heart pleasure.