

Discovering

God's Story

An IBS for ELSS
for young adults

UNIT 5
...through witnesses
to Jesus

DISCOVERING GOD'S STORY (UNIT 5)

...THROUGH WITNESSES TO JESUS

1. The Women and the Burial of Jesus
2. The Guards--First Witnesses
3. Mary Magdalene
4. Thomas and the Male Disciples
5. Peter
6. Stephen
7. Saul (Paul) -- His Life
8. Paul - His Teaching
9. Carol, U, So What?

Name:

Table of Contents for Discovering God Unit 5

Discovering God's Story (Unit 5) ...through witnesses to Jesus.....	1
1. The Women and the Burial of Jesus.....	4
Music: "Low in the Grave" vs 1.....	4
Bible: Matthew 27#55-66.....	4
2. The Guards--First Witnesses.....	5
Music: "Low in the Grave He Lay" (chorus, vs 2,3).....	5
Bible: Matthew 28.....	5
3. Mary Magdalene.....	6
Music: "For God So Loved the World" vs 1.....	6
Bible: John 20.....	6
4. Thomas and the Male Disciples.....	7
Music: Review of Songs.....	7
Bible: John 20.....	7
5. Peter.....	8
Music: "For God So Loved the World" vs 2.....	8
Review: Who is Peter.....	8
Bible: Acts 2.....	8
6. Stephen.....	9
Music: "Dare to be a Daniel".....	9
Bible: Acts 6-7.....	9
7. Saul (Paul) -- His Life.....	10
Music: "One Mediator".....	10
Bible: Acts 8, Acts 9.....	10
8. Paul - His Teaching.....	11
Music: 愛.....	11
Bible: Writings of Paul.....	11
9. Carol, U, So What?.....	12

Music.....	13
1. Low in the Grave He Lay.....	13
2. For God So Loved the World.....	13
3. Dare to Be a Daniel.....	13
4. One Mediator (1 Timothy 2:15).....	13
5. 愛 (1 Corinthians 13).....	14
Chinese Translation.....	15
1. The Women and the Burial of Jesus.....	15
2. The Guards--First Witnesses.....	15
3. Mary Magdalene.....	15
4. Thomas and the Male Disciples.....	16
5. Peter.....	16
6. Stephen.....	17
7. Saul (Paul) -- His Life.....	18
8. Paul - His Teaching.....	18
9. Carol, U, So What?.....	19
Map of Israel at the time of Jesus.....	20
My Cellmates.....	21

1. The Women and the Burial of Jesus

Music: "Low in the Grave" vs 1

Bible: Matthew 27#55-66¹

Matthew 27:55-56 Not very far away, many women were watching. They had followed Jesus from Galilee to take care of his needs. Mary Magdalene was among them. Mary, the mother of James and Joses, was also there. So was the mother of Zebedee's sons.

Burial (葬禮)
approach (接近)
wrap (纏繞)
Preparation Day (預備日)
priest (祭司)

Matthew 27:57-61 As evening approached, a rich man came from the town of Arimathea. His name was Joseph. He had become a follower of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body. Pilate ordered that it be given to him.

Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth. He placed it in his own new tomb that he had cut out of the rock. He rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb. Then he went away.

Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were sitting there across from the tomb.

Matthew 27:62-66 The next day was the day after Preparation Day. The chief priests and the Pharisees went to Pilate. "Sir," they said, "we remember something that liar said while he was still alive. He claimed, 'After three days I will rise again.' So give the order to make the tomb secure until the third day. If you don't, his disciples might come and steal the body. Then they will tell the people that Jesus has been raised from the dead. This last lie will be worse than the first."

"Take some guards with you," Pilate answered. "Go. Make the tomb as secure as you can." So they went and made the tomb secure. They put a seal on the stone and placed some guards on duty.

¹ Matthew 27#55-66 Scripture taken from the Holy Bible, NEW INTERNATIONAL READER'S VERSION®. Copyright © 1996, 1998 International Bible Society. All rights reserved throughout the world. Used by permission of International Bible Society.

2. The Guards--First Witnesses

Music: "Low in the Grave He Lay" (chorus, vs 2,3)

Bible: Matthew 28¹

Witness (見證)
Sabbath (安息日)
earthquake (大地震)
disciple (門徒)
spread (傳開)

(Mt 28#1-4): The Sabbath day was now over. It was dawn on the first day of the week. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. There was a powerful earthquake. An angel of the Lord came down from heaven. The angel went to the tomb. He rolled back the stone and sat on it. His body shone like lightning. His clothes were as white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

(Mt28#11-15) While the women were on their way, some of the guards went into the city. They reported to the chief priests all that had happened. When the chief priests met with the elders, they came up with a plan. They gave the soldiers a large amount of money. They told the soldiers, "We want you to say, 'His disciples came during the night. They stole his body while we were sleeping.' If the governor hears this report, we will pay him off. That will keep you out of trouble." So the soldiers took the money and did as they were told. This story has spread all around among the Jews to this very day.

¹ Matthew 28#1-4;11-15 Scripture taken from the Holy Bible, NEW INTERNATIONAL READER'S VERSION®. Copyright © 1996, 1998 International Bible Society. All rights reserved throughout the world. Used by permission of International Bible Society.

3. Mary Magdalene

Music: "For God So Loved the World" vs 1

Bible: John 20¹

Observation (實測)
bend over (趴著進)
strip (細條布)
fold (折疊)
Scripture (聖經)

The Stone is Moved (1-2) Early on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb. It was still dark. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the entrance. So she ran to Simon Peter and another disciple, the one Jesus loved. She said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb! We don't know where they have put him!"

Observations of Peter and John (3-10): So Peter and the other disciple started out for the tomb. Both of them were running. The other disciple ran faster than Peter. He reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there. But he did not go in. Then Simon Peter, who was behind him, arrived. He went into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there. He also saw the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head. The cloth was folded up by itself. It was separate from the linen. The disciple who had reached the tomb first also went inside. He saw and believed. They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead. The disciples went back to their homes.

Mary sees Jesus (11-18) But Mary stood outside the tomb crying. She bent over to look into the tomb. She saw two angels dressed in white. They were seated where Jesus' body had been. One of them was where Jesus' head had been. The other sat where his feet had been.

Angel: "Woman, why are you crying?"

Mary: "They have taken my Lord away, I don't know where they have put him."

Narrator: She turned around and saw Jesus standing but didn't realize that it was Jesus.

Jesus: "Woman, why are you crying? Who are you looking for?"

Mary (thinking it was the gardener): "Sir, did you carry him away? Tell me where you put him. Then I will go and get him."

Jesus: "Mary."

Mary (she turned toward him, she cried out in Aramaic: "Rabboni!")

Narrator: Rabboni means Teacher.

Jesus: "Do not hold on to me. I have not yet returned to the Father. Instead, go to those who believe in me. Tell them, 'I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.' "

Narrator: Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news.

Mary: "I have seen the Lord!"

¹ John 20# Scripture taken from the Holy Bible, NEW INTERNATIONAL READER'S VERSION®. Copyright © 1996, 1998 International Bible Society. All rights reserved throughout the world. Used by permission of International Bible Society.

4. Thomas and the Male Disciples

Music: Review of Songs

Bible: John 20¹

All but one (19) On the evening of that first day of the week, the disciples were together. They had locked the doors because they were afraid of the Jews.

Jesus came in and stood among them. He said, "May peace be with you!" Then he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were very happy when they saw the Lord.

Again Jesus said, "May peace be with you! The Father has sent me. So now I am sending you." He then breathed on them. He said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven. If you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

Thomas (24) Thomas was one of the Twelve. He was called Didymus. He was not with the other disciples when Jesus came. So they told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "First I must see the nail marks in his hands. I must put my finger where the nails were. I must put my hand into his side. Only then will I believe what you say."

A week later, Jesus' disciples were in the house again. Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus came in and stood among them. He said, "May peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here. See my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen me but still have believed."

Conclusion (30) Jesus did many other miraculous signs in front of his disciples. They are not written down in this book. But these are written down so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. If you believe this, you will have life because you belong to him

¹ John 20# Scripture taken from the Holy Bible, NEW INTERNATIONAL READER'S VERSION®. Copyright © 1996, 1998 International Bible Society. All rights reserved throughout the world. Used by permission of International Bible Society.

5. Peter

Music: "For God So Loved the World" vs 2

Review: Who is Peter

- A fisherman by trade
- Basic character: speak first/think second. honest/kind.
- Called by Jesus to be his disciple
- A close friend and follower of Jesus for 3 years
- When Jesus arrested
 - denied he knew Jesus 3 times
 - afterwards very sad
- When heard tomb empty, first man to rush to tomb to see.
- Forgiven by Jesus when he met Jesus again.

Passover (逾越節)
feast (禁食)
Holy Spirit (聖靈)
approval (許可)
miracle (神蹟)
apostle (使徒)

Bible: Acts 2

Acts 2#1-13. 50 days after the Passover (when Jesus died), the Jews had a feast. Godly Jews from all over the world were in Jerusalem. Suddenly tongues of fire came from heaven and fell on Jesus' followers. They were filled with the Holy Spirit. They started to speak in many different languages. They told about the wonderful things God has done.

People heard their own language spoken. They were amazed. They wondered, "What does this mean?" Other people laughed, "These people have drunk too much wine."

Acts 2:14-38. Peter stood up. He started to speak: "My Jewish friends, let me explain this to you. You think these people are drunk. But they aren't. It's only nine o'clock in the morning! No, here is what the prophet Joel meant. He said,

'In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Holy Spirit on all people. ...

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.' —(Joel 2:28-32)

Jesus of Nazareth was a man who had God's approval. God did miracles, wonders and signs among you through Jesus. You yourselves know this. Long ago God planned that Jesus would be handed over to you. With the help of evil people, you put Jesus to death. You nailed him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead. He set him free from the suffering of death. It wasn't possible for death to keep its hold on Jesus. ... Jesus has been given a place of honor at the right hand of God. He has received the Holy Spirit from the Father. This is what God had promised. It is Jesus who has poured out what you now see and hear. "

They said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter replied, "All of you must turn away from your sins and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then your sins will be forgiven."

6. Stephen

Music: "Dare to be a Daniel"

Bible: Acts 6-7

Introduction (Acts 6#1-7) The number of Christians was growing rapidly. People shared what they had with each other. *Widows* were given food each day. Within the church, there were two groups: local (本省人) and Greek speaking (外省人). The second group felt their widows were not being treated fairly. They complained of *discrimination*. The *apostles* called everyone to a meeting. Seven men were chosen to do this job. One of these men was Stephen.

widow (寡婦)
discrimination (歧視)
apostles (使徒)
arrest (拘捕)
court (法院)
descendant (後裔)
blameless (無可責備的)

Work of Stephen (Acts 6#8-11) Stephen did many wonders among the people. The Holy Spirit spoke through him. Soon he was *arrested*. Here is his speech to the *court*:

Stephen's Speech (Acts 7#2-53): God said to Abraham: "Leave your country and go where I will tell you." Although God did not give Abraham any land, God promised him that his *descendants*, after 400 years of slavery, would live there. His great grandchild, Joseph, was sold by his brothers to be a slave in Egypt. God raised up Joseph to be a leader in Egypt. He saved the Egyptians and his family from famine. 400 years later, God raised up Moses to deliver the people from slavery. Moses said, "God will send you a prophet, He will be like me. He will come from your own people." But our people refused to obey Moses. King David's son Solomon built a temple for God. But we know that the Most High God does not live in houses made by human hand. You people! You won't obey! Was there ever a prophet your people didn't try to hurt? They even killed those who told about the coming of the *Blameless One*. You have murdered him. The law you received was brought by angels. But you haven't obeyed it

Stephen's Death (Acts 7:54-60): When the *court* heard this, they became very angry. Stephen looked up to heaven and saw God's glory. "Look!" he said. "I see heaven open. The Son of Man is standing at God's right hand." Hearing this, they dragged him out of the city. They threw stones at him to kill him. Stephen prayed: "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit," Then he fell on his knees. He cried out, "Lord! Don't hold this sin against them!" When he had said this, he died.

7. Saul (Paul) -- His Life

Music: "One Mediator"

Bible: Acts 8, Acts 9

religious (宗教的)
arrest (拘捕)
flashed (發光)
oppose (對抗)

Acts 8#1-3 One of the men helping with the killing of Stephen was a leader named Saul. He was very religious. After Stephen died, Saul went from house to house arresting Jesus' followers. Many of Jesus' followers fled to other towns.

Acts 9 Saul decided to go to Damascus to arrest Christians. On the way, a light from heaven suddenly flashed around him. He fell to the ground. He heard a voice speak to him. "Saul! Saul! Why are you opposing me?" Saul asked: "Who are you, Lord?" The voice replied: "I am Jesus, I am the one you are opposing. Now get up and go into the city. There you will be told what you must do."

The men traveling with Saul stood there. They weren't able to speak. They had heard the sound. But they didn't see anyone. Saul got up from the ground. For three days he couldn't see. He didn't eat or drink anything. His friends let him to Damascus. The Lord told a follower of Jesus in a vision: "Ananias! Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street. Ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. He is praying." Ananias went. He placed his hands on Saul. "Brother Saul, you saw the Lord Jesus. ...He has sent me so that you will be able to see again. You will be filled with the Holy Spirit." Right away something like scales fell from Saul's eyes. He could see again. He got up and was baptized. After eating some food, he got his strength back. At once he began to preach in the Jewish meeting places. He taught that Jesus is the Son of God. The Jews living in Damascus couldn't believe what was happening. Saul proved to them that Jesus is the Christ.

8. Paul - His Teaching

Music: 愛

Bible: Writings of Paul

Summary of his Life. In his life, Saul went many places telling people about Jesus. He suffered a lot. Five times he received 39 stripes, two he was beaten, one time stoned, 3 times he was involved in a shipwreck. But he continued to preach about Jesus. ^[2Cr11#25-26]

suffer (受苦)
stripe (鞭笞)
involve (捲入)
shipwreck (船難)

What did Paul teach?

- Everyone has sinned. No one measures up to God's glory. ^[Rm3#23]
- Jesus gave his life for our sins. He set us free from this evil world. ^[G11#4]
- Anyone who believes in Christ is a new creation. The old is gone! The new has come! ^[2Cr5#17]
- We have been made right with God because of our faith. ... Through faith in Jesus we have received God's grace. ... We are full of joy even when we suffer... God has poured his love into our hearts.... He did it through the Holy Spirit, whom he has given to us. ^[Rm5#1-5]

Paul's Goal: I want to know Christ better. I want to know the power that raised him from the dead. I want to share in his sufferings. ^[Ph3:10]

9. Carol, U, So What?

MUSIC

1. Low in the Grave He Lay¹

Words & Music: Robert Lowry, 1874

¹
Low in the grave He lay, Jesus my Savior,
Waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord!

Chorus

Up from the grave He arose,
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes,
He arose a Victor from the dark domain,
And He lives forever, with His saints to reign.
He arose! He arose!
Hallelujah! Christ arose!

²
Vainly they watch His bed, Jesus my Savior;
Vainly they seal the dead, Jesus my Lord!

³
Death cannot keep its Prey, Jesus my Savior;
He tore the bars away, Jesus my Lord!

grave (墳墓)

triumph (勝利)
victor (勝利者)
dark domain (黑暗權勢)
saints (聖徒)

vainly (枉然地)

prey (犧牲品)

2. For God So Loved the World

For God so loved the world,
He gave his only son,
To die on Calvary's tree,
From sin to set me free.
Some day he's coming back,
What glory that will be,
Happy will that meeting be!

If God so loved the world,
Then we should love it too,
And try to live for him
In everything we do
Then we'll be ready when
Our Savior comes again
Happy will that meeting be.

3. Dare to Be a Daniel

Words & Music: Philip P. Bliss, 1873

Dare to be a Daniel
Dare to stand alone
Dare to have a purpose firm, and,
Dare to make it know.

Dare to be a Stephen
Dare to stand alone
Dare to have a purpose firm, and,
Dare to make it know.

4. One Mediator (1 Timothy 2:15)

For there is one God
and one mediator
...Between God and man
...The man Christ Jesus

因為只有一位神，
在神和人中間，
只有一位中保，
乃是降世為人的基督耶穌；

¹ Music and words downloaded from <http://www.cyberhymnal.org>

5. 愛 (1 Corinthians 13)

愛是恆久忍耐，
又有恩慈；
愛是不嫉妒；
愛是不自誇，
不張狂，
不做害羞的事，
不求自己的益處，
不輕易發怒，
不計算人的惡，
不喜歡不義，
只喜歡真理；
凡事包容，
凡事相信，
凡事盼望，
凡事忍耐。
愛是永不止息。

CHINESE TRANSLATION

1. The Women and the Burial of Jesus

Matthew 27:55-56 有好些婦女在那裡，遠遠的觀看；他們是從加利利跟隨耶穌來服事他的。內中有抹大拉的馬利亞，又有雅各和約西的母親馬利亞，並有西庇太兩個兒子的母親。

Matthew 27:57-61 到了晚上，有一個財主，名叫約瑟，是亞利馬太來的，他也是耶穌的門徒。這人去見彼拉多，求耶穌的身體；彼拉多就吩咐給他。約瑟取了身體，用乾淨細麻布裹好，安放在自己的新墳墓裡，就是他鑿在磐石裡的。他又把大石頭輓到墓門口，就去了。有抹大拉的馬利亞和那個馬利亞在那裡，對著墳墓坐著。

Matthew 27:62-66 次日，就是預備日的第二天，祭司長和法利賽人聚集來見彼拉多，說：「大人，我們記得那誘惑人的還活著的時候曾說：『三日後我要復活。』因此，請吩咐人將墳墓把守妥當，直到第三日，恐怕他的門徒來，把他偷了去，就告訴百姓說：『他從死裡復活了。』這樣，那後來的迷惑比先前的更利害了！」彼拉多說：「你們有看守的兵，去吧！盡你們所能的把守妥當。」他們就帶著看守的兵同去，封了石頭，將墳墓把守妥當。

2. The Guards--First Witnesses

Matthew 28:1-4 安息日將盡，七日的頭一日，天快亮的時候，抹大拉的馬利亞和那個馬利亞來看墳墓。忽然，地大震動；因為有主的使者從天上下來，把石頭輓開，坐在上面。他的像貌如同閃電，衣服潔白如雪。看守的人就因他嚇得渾身亂戰，甚至和死人一樣。

Matthew 28:11-15 他們去的時候，看守的兵有幾個進城去，將所經歷的事都報給祭司長。祭司長和長老聚集商議，就拿許多銀錢給兵丁，說：「你們要這樣說：『夜間我們睡覺的時候，他的門徒來，把他偷去了。』倘若這話被巡撫聽見，有我們勸他，保你們無事。」兵丁受了銀錢，就照所囑咐他們的去行。這話就傳說在猶太人中間，直到今日。

3. Mary Magdalene

John 20#1-2 七日的第一日清早，天還黑的時候，抹大拉的馬利亞來到墳墓那裡，看見石頭從墳墓挪開了，就跑來見西門彼得和耶穌所愛的那個門徒，對他們說：「有人把主從墳墓裡挪了去，我們不知道放在那裡。」

John 20:3-10 彼得和那門徒就出來，往墳墓那裡去。兩個人同跑，那門徒比彼得跑的更快，先到了墳墓，低頭往裡看，就見細麻布還放在那裡，只是沒有進去。西門彼得隨後也到了，進墳墓裡去，就看見細麻布還放在那裡，又看見耶穌的裹頭巾沒有和細麻布放在一處，是另在一處捲著。先到墳墓的那門徒也進去，看見就信了。（因為他們還不明白聖經的意思，就是耶穌必要從死裡復活。）於是兩個門徒回自己的住處去了。

John 20:11-18 馬利亞卻站在墳墓外面哭。哭的時候，低頭往墳墓裡看，就見兩個天使，穿著白衣，在安放耶穌身體的地方坐著，一個在頭，一個在腳。天使對他說：「婦人，你為什麼哭？」他說：「因為有人把我主挪了去，我不知道放在那裡。」說了這話，就轉過身來，看見耶穌站在那裡，卻不知道是耶穌。耶穌問他說：「婦人，為什麼哭？你找誰呢？」馬利亞以為是看園的，就對他說：「先生，若是你把他移了去，請告訴我，你把他放在那裡，我便去取他。」耶穌說：「馬利亞。」馬利亞就轉過來，用希伯來話對他說：「拉波尼！」（拉波尼就是夫子的意思。）耶穌說：「不要摸我，因我還沒有升上去見我的父。你往我弟兄那裡去，告訴他們說，我要升上去見我的父，也是你們的父，見我的神，也是你們的神。」抹大拉的馬利亞就去告訴門徒說：「我已經看見了主。」他又將主對他說的這話告訴他們。

4. Thomas and the Male Disciples

John 20#19-23 那日（就是七日的第一日）晚上，門徒所在的地方，因怕猶太人，門都關了。耶穌來，站在當中，對他們說：「願你們平安！」說了這話，就把手和肋旁指給他們看。門徒看見主，就喜樂了。耶穌又對他們說：「願你們平安！父怎樣差遣了我，我也照樣差遣你們。」說了這話，就向他們吹一口氣，說：「你們受聖靈！你們赦免誰的罪，誰的罪就赦免了；你們留下誰的罪，誰的罪就留下了。」

John 20:24-29 那十二個門徒中，有稱為低土馬的多馬；耶穌來的時候，他沒有和他們同在。那些門徒就對他說：「我們已經看見主了。」多馬卻說：「我非看見他手上的釘痕，用指頭探入那釘痕，又用手探入他的肋旁，我總不信。」過了八日，門徒又在屋裡，多馬也和他們同在，門都關了。耶穌來，站在當中說：「願你們平安！」就對多馬說：「伸過你的指頭來，摸（原文作看）我的手；伸出你的手來，探入我的肋旁。不要疑惑，總要信。」多馬說：「我的主！我的神！」耶穌對他說：「你因看見了我才信；那沒有看見就信的有福了。」

John 20:30-31 耶穌在門徒面前另外行了許多神蹟，沒有記在這書上。但記這些事要叫你們信耶穌是基督，是神的兒子，並且叫你們信了他，就可以因他的名得生命。

5. Peter

Acts 2:1-13 五旬節到了，門徒都聚集在一處。忽然，從天上有響聲下來，好像一陣大風吹過，充滿了他們所坐的屋子，又有舌頭如火焰顯現出來，分開落在他們各人頭上。他們就都被聖靈充滿，按著聖靈所賜的口才說起別國的話來。那時，有虔誠的猶太人從天下各國來，住在耶路撒冷。這聲音一響，眾人都來聚集，各人聽見門徒用眾人的鄉談說話，就甚納悶；都驚訝希奇說：「看哪，這說話的不都是加利利人嗎？我們各人，怎麼聽見他們說我們生來所用的鄉談呢？我們帕提亞人、瑪代人、以攔人，和住在米所波大米、猶太、加帕多家、本都、亞西亞、弗呂家、旁非利亞、埃及的人，並靠近古利奈的呂彼亞一帶地方的人，從羅馬來的客旅中，或是猶太人，或是進猶太教的人，革哩底和亞拉伯人，都聽見他們用我們的鄉談，講說神的大作為。」眾人就都驚訝猜疑，彼此說：「這是什麼意思呢？」還有人譏諷說：他們無非是新酒灌滿了。

Act 2:14-38 彼得和十一個使徒站起，高聲說：「猶太人和一切住在耶路撒冷的人哪，這件事你們當知道，也當側耳聽我的話。你們想這些人是醉了；其實不是醉了，因為時候剛到巳初。這正是先知約珥所說的：神說：在末後的日子，我要將我的靈澆灌凡有血氣的。你們的兒女要說預言；你們的少年人要見異象；老年人要做異夢。在那些日子，我要將我的靈澆灌我的僕人和使女，他們就要說預言。在天上、我要顯出奇事；在地下、我要顯出神蹟；有血，有火，有煙霧。日頭要變為黑暗，月亮要變為血；這都在主大而明顯的日子未到以前。到那時候，凡求告主名的，就必得救。「以色列人哪，請聽我的話：神藉著拿撒勒人耶穌在你們中間施行異能、奇事神蹟，將他證明出來，這是你們自己知道的。他既按著神的定旨先見被交與人，你們就藉著無法之人的手，把他釘在十字架上，殺了。神卻將死的痛苦解釋了，叫他復活，因為他原不能被死拘禁。大衛指著他說：我看見主常在我眼前；他在我右邊，叫我不至於搖動。所以，我心裡歡喜，我的靈（原文作舌）快樂；並且我的肉身要安居在指望中。因你必不將我的靈魂撇在陰間，也不叫你的聖者見朽壞。你已將生命的道路指示我，必叫我因見你的面（或作：叫我在你面前）得著滿足的快樂。「弟兄們！先祖大衛的事，我可以明明的對你們說：他死了，也葬埋了，並且他的墳墓直到今日還在我們這裡。大衛既是先知，又曉得神曾向他起誓，要從他的後裔中立一位坐在他的寶座上，就預先查明這事，講論基督復活說：他的靈魂不撇在陰間；他的肉身也不見朽壞。這耶穌，神已經叫他復活了，我們都為這事作見證。他既被神的右手高舉（或作：他既高舉在神的右邊），又從父受了所應許的聖靈，就把你們所看見所聽見的，澆灌下來。大衛並沒有升到天上，但自己說：主對我主說：你坐在我的右邊，等我使你仇敵作你的腳凳。「故此，以色列全家當確實的知道，你們釘在十字架上的這位耶穌，神已經立他為主，為基督了。」眾人聽見這話，覺得扎心，就對彼得和其

餘的使徒說：「弟兄們，我們當怎樣行？」彼得說：「你們各人要悔改，奉耶穌基督的名受洗，叫你們的罪得赦，就必領受所賜的聖靈；

6. Stephen

Acts 6:1-7 那時，門徒增多，有說希利尼話的猶太人向希伯來人發怨言，因為在天天的供給上忽略了他們的寡婦。十二使徒叫眾門徒來，對他們說：「我們撇下神的道去管理飯食，原是不合宜的。所以弟兄們，當從你們中間選出七個有好名聲、被聖靈充滿、智慧充足的人，我們就派他們管理這事。但我們要專心以祈禱、傳道為事。」大眾都喜悅這話，就揀選了司提反，乃是大有信心、聖靈充滿的人，又揀選腓利、伯羅哥羅、尼迦挪、提門、巴米拿，並進猶太教的安提阿人尼哥拉，叫他們站在使徒面前。使徒禱告了，就接手在他們頭上。神的道興旺起來；在耶路撒冷門徒數目加增的甚多，也有許多祭司信從了這道。

[8] 司提反滿得恩惠、能力，在民間行了大奇事和神蹟。當時有稱利百地拿會堂的幾個人，並有古利奈、亞力山大、基利家、亞西亞、各處會堂的幾個人，都起來和司提反辯論。司提反是以智慧和聖靈說話，眾人敵擋不住，就買出人來說：「我們聽見他說謗讟摩西和神的話。」

Acts 7:2 司提反說：「諸位父兄請聽！當日我們的祖宗亞伯拉罕在米所波大米還未住哈蘭的時候，榮耀的神向他顯現，對他說：『你要離開本地和親族，往我所要指示你的地方去。』他就離開迦勒底人之地，住在哈蘭。他父親死了以後，神使他從那裡搬到你們現在所住之地。在這地方，神並沒有給他產業，連立足之地也沒有給他；但應許要將這地賜給他和他的後裔為業；那時他還沒有兒子。神說：『他的後裔必寄居外邦，那裡的人要叫他們作奴僕，苦待他們四百年。』神又說：『使他們作奴僕的那國，我要懲罰。以後他們要出來，在這地方事奉我。』神又賜他割禮的約。於是亞伯拉罕生了以撒，第八日給他行了割禮。以撒生雅各，雅各生十二位先祖。先祖嫉妒約瑟，把他賣到埃及去；神卻與他同在，救他脫離一切苦難，又使他在埃及王法老面前得恩典，有智慧。法老就派他作埃及國的宰相兼管全家。後來埃及和迦南全地遭遇饑荒，大受艱難，我們的祖宗就絕了糧。雅各聽見在埃及有糧，就打發我們的祖宗初次往那裡去。第二次約瑟與弟兄們相認，他的親族也被法老知道了。約瑟就打發弟兄請父親雅各和全家七十五個人都來。於是雅各下了埃及，後來他和我們的祖宗都死在那裡；又被帶到示劍，葬於亞伯拉罕在示劍用銀子從哈抹子孫買來的墳墓裡。

[17] 「及至神應許亞伯拉罕的日期將到，以色列民在埃及興盛眾多，直到有不曉得約瑟的新王興起。他用詭計待我們的宗族，苦害我們的祖宗，叫他們丟棄嬰孩，使嬰孩不能存活。那時，摩西生下來，俊美非凡，在他父親家裡撫養了三個月。他被丟棄的時候，法老的女兒拾了去，養為自己的兒子。摩西學了埃及人一切的學問，說話行事都有才能。「他將到四十歲，心中起意去看望他的弟兄以色列人；到了那裡，見他們一個人受冤屈，就護庇他，為那受欺壓的人報仇，打死了那埃及人。他以為弟兄必明白神是藉他的手搭救他們；他們卻不明白。第二天，遇見兩個以色列人爭鬥，就勸他們和睦，說：『你們二位是弟兄，為什麼彼此欺負呢？』那欺負鄰舍的把他推開，說：『誰立你作我們的首領和審判官呢？難道你要殺我，像昨天殺那埃及人麼？』摩西聽見這話就逃走了，寄居於米甸；在那裡生了兩個兒子。

[30] 「過了四十年，在西乃山的曠野，有一位天使從荊棘火焰中向摩西顯現。摩西見了那異象，便覺希奇，正進前觀看的時候，有主的聲音說：『我是你列祖的神，就是亞伯拉罕的神，以撒的神，雅各的神。』摩西戰戰兢兢，不敢觀看。主對他說：『把你腳上的鞋脫下來；因為你所站之地是聖地。我的百姓在埃及所受的困苦，我實在看見了，他們悲歎的聲音，我也聽見了。我下來要救他們。你來！我要差你往埃及去。』這摩西就是百姓棄絕說『誰立你作我們的首領和審判官』的；神卻藉那在荊棘中顯現之使者的手差派他作首領、作救贖的。這人領百姓出來，在埃及，在紅海、在曠野，四十年間行了奇事神蹟。那曾對以色列人說『神要從你們弟兄中間給你們興起一位先知像我』的，就是這位摩西。這人曾在曠野會中和西乃山上，與那對他說話的天使同在，又與我們的祖宗同在，並且領受活潑的聖言傳給我們。我們的祖宗不肯聽從，反棄絕他，心裡歸向埃及，對亞倫說：『你且為我們造些神像，在我們前面引路；因為

領我們出埃及地的那個摩西，我們不知道他遭了什麼事。』那時，他們造了一個牛犢，又拿祭物獻給那像，歡喜自己手中的工作。神就轉臉不顧，任憑他們事奉天上的日月星辰，正如先知書上所寫的說：以色列家啊，你們四十年間在曠野，豈是將犧牲和祭物獻給我嗎？你們抬著摩洛的帳幕和理番神的星，就是你們所造為要敬拜的像。因此，我要把你們遷到巴比倫外去。

[44] 「我們的祖宗在曠野，有法櫃的帳幕，是神吩咐摩西叫他照所看見的樣式做的。這帳幕，我們的祖宗相繼承受。當神在他們面前趕出外邦人去的時候，他們同約書亞把帳幕搬進承受為業之地，直存到大衛的日子。大衛在神面前蒙恩，祈求為雅各的神預備居所；卻是所羅門為神造成殿宇。其實，至高者並不住人手所造的，就如先知所言：主說：天是我的座位，地是我的腳凳；你們要為我造何等的殿宇？那裡是我安息的地方呢？這一切不都是我手所造的嗎？」

[51] 「你們這硬著頸項、心與耳未受割禮的人，常時抗拒聖靈！你們的祖宗怎樣，你們也怎樣。那一個先知不是你們祖宗逼迫呢？他們也把預先傳說那義者要來的人殺了；如今你們又把那義者賣了，殺了。你們受了天使所傳的律法，竟不遵守。」

[54] 眾人聽見這話就極其惱怒，向司提反咬牙切齒。但司提反被聖靈充滿，定睛望天，看見神的榮耀，又看見耶穌站在神的右邊，就說：「我看見天開了，人子站在神的右邊。」眾人大聲喊叫，摀著耳朵，齊心擁上前去，把他推到城外，用石頭打他。作見證的人把衣裳放在一個少年人名叫掃羅的腳前。他們正用石頭打的時候，司提反呼籲主說：「求主耶穌接收我的靈魂！」又跪下大聲喊著說：「主啊，不要將這罪歸於他們！」說了這話，就睡了。掃羅也喜悅他被害。

7. Saul (Paul) -- His Life

Acts 8:1-3 從這日起，耶路撒冷的教會大遭逼迫，除了使徒以外，門徒都分散在猶太和撒瑪利亞各處。有虔誠的人把司提反埋葬了，為他捶胸大哭。掃羅卻殘害教會，進各人的家，拉著男女下在監裡。

Acts 9:1-21 掃羅仍然向主的門徒口吐威嚇兇殺的話，去見大祭司，求文書給大馬色的各會堂，若是找著信奉這道的人，無論男女，都准他捆綁帶到耶路撒冷。掃羅行路，將到大馬色，忽然從天上發光，四面照著他；他就仆倒在地，聽見有聲音對他說：「掃羅！掃羅！你為什麼逼迫我？」他說：「主啊！你是誰？」主說：「我就是你所逼迫的耶穌。起來！進城去，你所當作的事，必有人告訴你。」同行的人站在那裡，說不出話來，聽見聲音，卻看不見人。掃羅從地上起來，睜開眼睛，竟不能看見什麼。有人拉他的手，領他進了大馬色；三日不能看見，也不吃也不喝。

[10] 當下，在大馬色有一個門徒，名叫亞拿尼亞。主在異象中對他說：「亞拿尼亞。」他說：「主，我在這裡。」主對他說：「起來！往直街去，在猶大的家裡，訪問一個大數人，名叫掃羅。他正禱告，又看見了一個人，名叫亞拿尼亞，進來按手在他身上，叫他能看見。」亞拿尼亞回答說：「主啊，我聽見許多人說：這人怎樣在耶路撒冷多多苦害你的聖徒，並且他在這裡有從祭司長得來的權柄捆綁一切求告你名的人。」主對亞拿尼亞說：「你只管去！他是我所揀選的器皿，要在外邦人和君王，並以色列人面前宣揚我的名。我也要指示他，為我的名必須受許多的苦難。」亞拿尼亞就去了，進入那家，把手按在掃羅身上，說：「兄弟掃羅，在你來的路上，向你顯現的主，就是耶穌，打發我來，叫你能看見，又被聖靈充滿。」掃羅的眼睛上，好像有鱗立刻掉下來，他就能看見。於是起來受了洗；

[19] 吃過飯就健壯了。掃羅和大馬色的門徒同住了些日子，就在各會堂裡宣傳耶穌，說他是神的兒子。凡聽見的人都驚奇，說：「在耶路撒冷殘害求告這名的，不是這人嗎？並且他到這裡來，特要捆綁他們，帶到祭司長那裡。」

8. Paul - His Teaching

2Corinthians 11:25 被棍打了三次；被石頭打了一次，遇著船壞三次，一晝一夜在深海裡。

2Corinthians 11:26 又屢次行遠路，遭江河的危險、盜賊的危險，同族的危險、外邦人的危險、城裡的危險、曠野的危險、海中的危險、假弟兄的危險。

Romans 3:23 因為世人都犯了罪，虧缺了神的榮耀；

Galatians 1:4 基督照我們父神的旨意，為我們的罪捨己，要救我們脫離這罪惡的世代。

2Corinthians 5:17 若有人在基督裡，他就是新造的人，舊事已過，都變成新的了。

Romans 5:1-5 我們既因信稱義，就藉著我們的主耶穌基督得與神相和。我們又藉著他，因信得進入現在所站的這恩典中，並且歡歡喜喜盼望神的榮耀。不但如此，就是在患難中也是歡歡喜喜的；因為知道患難生忍耐，忍耐生老練，老練生盼望；盼望不至於羞恥，因為所賜給我們的聖靈將神的愛澆灌在我們心裡。

Philippians 3:10 使我認識基督，曉得他復活的大能，並且曉得和他一同受苦，效法他的死，

9. Carol, U, So What?

認識耶穌是我生命的轉機

我是一個看重關係的人，我愛我的家人，朋友一般都覺得我的個性溫和。但是，曾經我和母親長期爭吵關係破裂，甚至我幾度想要離家。認識耶穌使我們的關係有轉機，因祂使我們和睦。

從小，因著常和妹妹被比較，我總是覺得母親偏心，自己不得她的喜愛，心中有許多的不平衡。長期不滿累積下來，中學時期我開始變得叛逆，硬是有自己的意見。當時，父母常吵吵鬧鬧，家中老是不得安寧，我的情緒常是一團混亂，隨時處在暴發狀態，很容易幾句話就和母親槓上，後來吵架幾乎就成了家常便飯，處處都可以爆發，連放個遙控器也可以吵得你死我活！

學校畢業後，我刻意選擇避開家人的工作時段，最好都不要碰面。因著作息與人顛倒，精神狀況常常很昏沉，不知不覺中，我變了！變得封閉、沉默寡言，不會表達自己，更糟的是——不知如何與人相處，對外功能完全當機。那是我生命的黑暗期，一切都沒有意義，有時會想乾脆出去給車撞死算了。就在此時，我認識了耶穌，生命開始有了轉機。

當時，有位姐妹固定關心我，幫我上“內在醫治”課程，在當中讓我看見與母親關係中，有著許多不饒恕、仇恨種種，帶來彼此傷害，她帶我為這些認罪禱告，我的心經歷到上帝的醫治。在當中，我變了！以前，總是只會說：“我很不快樂，但我不知道為什麼！”漸漸地，我能開始分享週間發生過的事。耶穌使我的心有了轉變！

穩定在教會後，母親認為我的行為脾氣還是跟以前一樣，質疑到教會有什麼用，強烈反對我去。這時也聽到弟兄姐妹信耶穌後，在家中顯出好見證。我讀到聖經上寫著：“回答柔和，使怒消退，言語暴戾，觸動怒氣。”以前母親說一句，我就回三、四句。那時起，我開始學習忍耐，學習不頂嘴，克制不住就用平常語調簡答。

愈多認識真理，就明白神的心意是要我們——孝敬父母，順服神在地上設立的權柄。可是，很苦惱，有許多時候我做不到！我常痛哭在神面前，把自己內心對母親又愛又恨的矛盾心情，禱告在神面前。感謝耶穌，我的心愈來愈多得醫治，也不斷能付諸行動來愛母親！以前很想逃離母親的我，常躲在房間內避開，如今我會積極和母親接觸，帶她出遊，陪她看電影、出國旅遊、參加小組會外會及母親節聚會等。

感謝耶穌，過去的是傷害，現在用愛來彌補。認識耶穌使我們的關係有轉機，因祂使我們和睦！

MAP OF ISRAEL AT THE TIME OF JESUS



