



The Christian Methodist Episcopal Church Department of Christian Education

MAKING DISCIPLES through "events that FORM and TRANSFORM"

Sunday School Lessons

Unit One

"Signs of God's Covenant"

September 2017



The fall quarter of 2017 considers the major covenants that God makes with people on behalf of the earth and the human community. Beginning with Noah, God promises benevolence toward creation. Similar commitments are made with Abram, Phinehas, and Ezekiel. Ultimately, the covenant forms the foundation for the coming Messiah and salvation for the world. Unit I, "Signs of God's Covenants," a four-lesson study drawn from Genesis and Ezekiel, celebrates four signs of God's covenant. Promising to renew the cycle of seasons, God creates the rainbow as a permanent reminder of the covenant with every living thing. Circumcision is the sign of the covenant with Abraham and the Sabbath is the sign of the covenant with Israel at Mount Sinai. The last sign is the spirit-filled heart.

Dr. Carmichael Crutchfield, General Secretary



Humans have an innate desire to support their children and ensure their future. What is required to make this possible? God used circumcision to ratify an everlasting covenant between God and Abram to make him and his descendants prosperous, provided they walk with God and live blameless lives.

Goal for the Learners

- ✓ To explore the promises God made to Abraham and the obligations Abraham was expected to fulfill in response.
- ✓ To reflect on the value of outward signs or expressions of membership used by God's people.
- ✓ To respond in faith to God's call to "walk before [God] and be blameless."

Lesson Challenges for the Week

- Recall a time when your church was called to support the children of the church. What were the obstacles? How did you overcome these obstacles
- Research the membership vows one makes as they become a member of the CME Church. What are the main points of the vows?
- God used circumcision to ratify an everlasting covenant between God and Abram to make him and his descendants prosperous, provided they walked with God and live blameless lives. Research the major tenets of the prosperity gospel. What is the difference between the prosperity gospel and God's covenant between God and Abram?

We are providing these notes from the Committee on Uniform Series that prepares associated Sunday School lesson outlines long in advance of their usage. Included in this Guide are thoughts that are reflected in the Lesson Development Guide for writers of Sunday school lessons and the recommended commentary of the Department of Christian Education, The New International Lesson Annual published by Abingdon Press Nashville, Tennessee.



Send an email to: sundayschool@thecmechurchced.org to receive this guide electronically each week.

