



The Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

Department of Christian Education

MAKING DISCIPLES through "events that FORM and TRANSFORM"



Sunday School Lessons Unit One "A Fulfilled Covenant" June 2019

This quarter will teach how Jesus fulfilled the law in the sense that it was given full meaning. Jesus emphasized the deep, underlying messages of the gospel and this same message is continued through the apostle Paul and the writer of Hebrews. Relationships of faith empower us to live the covenant and spread the gospel message.

Unit I, "A Fulfilled Covenant," in four sessions, reveals a new sign of the covenant for Jewish and Gentile believers, as recorded in Matthew, Mark, Luke, Hebrews, and Colossians. During the celebration of the Passover, Jesus explained to the disciples that he would initiate a new covenant through his death. Paul explains that the sign of the covenant is now a relationship of the heart between God and God's people, not circumcision.

Dr. Carmichael Crutchfield
General Secretary



Unifying Principle

People bind themselves together by mutual bonds of love and commitment. How can communities avoid losing their identities while under attack? Paul urged the Colossians to be united in love in order to fully understand the rich treasures offered to them by faith so they can resist false teachings and come to appreciate their new spiritual standing in Christ.

Goals for the Learners

- ✓ To contrast the deceptive philosophies of false teachers with the true faith in which the Colossians had been established.
- ✓ To long to be rooted and built up in Christ and more firmly established in the faith we have received.
- ✓ To embrace what Paul teaches about our new standing in Christ as a guard against false teaching.

Challenges for the Week

- Summarize the theological controversies in Colossae at the time of Paul's writing. How are these like or unlike the challenges believers face today? How have you responded to these challenges to your faith? How would you have liked to respond.
- What are ten beliefs and practices that are essential to the Christian faith. Narrow them down to five. If we could only list one item as absolutely essential to our faith, what would it be?
- Create a timeline of the history of your congregation. Fill in major milestones such as the date of its founding, major building campaigns, and so on. When on the timeline did you first become connected to the church? What patterns can be discerned about what the church has "done right" in recent years? How do these strengths provide a foundation on which to build in the future?

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.



