



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

SUNDAY SCHOOL

June 2, 2019 "Making Promises" Mark 14:17-24; Hebrews 8:6-7, 10-12

Unifying Principle

People often make promises to one another seeking lasting, committed relationships. How can one be assured that a relationship will last? In Mark and Hebrews, Jesus is affirmed as the one through whom God's new everlasting covenant is fulfilled.



Goals for the Learners

- ✓ To tell how Jesus is the initiator of the new covenant predicted by the prophets and illustrated in the Lord's Supper.
- ✓ To appreciate one's standing and relationship with Christ because of the new covenant.
- ✓ To approach the Lord's Supper with greater reverence and awe for the Christ of the new covenant.

Challenges for the Week

- Use a Bible dictionary to research the meaning and cultural significance of covenants in the biblical world. Compare and contrast the idea of covenant with the sorts of solemn promises people make today: contracts, wedding vows, etc.
- Research what the CME Church believes about the Lord's Supper. What ties this sacred act to the idea of covenant?
- Use commentaries and other study helps to explore the original context of Jeremiah 31:31-34. What might the exiled Jews have understood this passage to mean? How is that like or unlike what the author of Hebrews may have understood it to mean? How is Jesus the initiator of this new covenant? How can we better appreciate our standing and relationship with Christ because of the new covenant.

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.

