



The Christian Methodist Episcopal Church Department of Christian Education

MAKING DISCIPLES through "events that FORM and TRANSFORM"

Sunday School Lessons

Unit Three

"An Everlasting Covenant"

November 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 III, "An Everlasting Covenant" develops four lessons, drawn from Numbers, 1 Samuel, Jeremiah, Hebrews, and 1 Corinthians, that examine the components of the covenant God makes with the priest, Phinehas, and the divine promise to Israel through the prophet Jeremiah. The unconditional divine promises are to maintain a perpetual priesthood, forgive the unfaithful, and establish a new covenant with Israel. God seals this covenant of pure grace through Christ as mediator and by writing the law in the hearts of God's people.

Dr. Carmichael Crutchfield
General Secretary

SUNDAYSCHOOL

November 5, 2017 "Unwavering Commitment" Numbers 25:10-13; 1 Samuel 2:30-36

Some people are more faithful to their commitments than others. How do we respond to those who are faithful to their commitments and to those who are not? God rewarded faithful Phinehas and punished Eli's unfaithful children, thus proving that God is faithful to the everlasting covenant with God's people.

Goal for the Learners

- ✓ To contrast God's responses to the priestly ministries of Phinehas in Numbers 25 with Hophni and Phinehas (Eli's sons) in 1 Samuel 2.
- ✓ To reflect on the consequences of infidelity to God.
- ✓ To serve others faithfully as ones called by God to lives of service.

Lesson Challenges for the Week

- List individuals who have been faithful to their commitments. Write down the specific commitment of each person and what seems to be the motivating factor for the faithfulness.
- Research the actions of Phinehas in the Numbers passage and what his actions meant for the Israelites. Research Hophni and Phinehas in the First Samuel passage and the repercussions of their actions. List promises fulfilled and promises waiting for fulfillment that God has given.
- Name some reasons people give for keeping commitments. Name some reasons people give for not keeping commitments.

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.