



Whirl

LECTIONARY NRSV BIBLE

SAMPLER

WHIRL NRSV BIBLE SAMPLER
New Revised Standard Version

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WELCOME TO THE WHIRL NRSV BIBLE SAMPLER!

Kids in third through sixth grade explore this Bible for every lesson in the Whirl lectionary Sunday school curriculum. This Sampler contains everything you need to check out the unique features of the Whirl NRSV Bible.

ABOUT COLOR

Every reading in the Revised Common Lectionary is highlighted in this Bible. The color corresponds to the church season in which it's read. For readings used in more than one season, you'll find multicolored passages.

GENESIS 45:9

to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, "Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty." And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here. Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them: and after that his brothers talked with him.

16 When the report was heard in Pharaoh's house, "Joseph's brothers have come," Pharaoh and his servants were pleased. Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Say to your brothers, 'Do this: load your animals and go back to the land of Canaan. Take your father and your households and come to me, so that I may give you the best of the land of Egypt, and you may enjoy the fat of the land.' You are further charged to say, 'Do this: take wagons from the land of Egypt for your little ones and for your wives, and bring your father and come. Give no thought to your possessions, for the best of all the land of Egypt is yours.'"

21 The sons of Israel did so. Joseph gave them wagons according to the instruction of Pharaoh, and he gave them provisions for the journey. To each one of them he gave a set of garments but to Benjamin he gave three hundred

pieces of silver and five sets of garments. To his father he sent the following: ten donkeys loaded with the good things of Egypt, and ten female donkeys loaded with grain, bread, and provision for his father on the journey. Then he sent his brothers on their way, and as they were leaving he said to them, "Do not quarrel along the way."

25 So they went up out of Egypt and came to their father Jacob in the land of Canaan. And they told him, "Joseph is still alive! He is even ruler over all the land of Egypt." He was stunned; he could not believe them. But when they told him all the words of Joseph that he had said to them, and when he saw the wagons that Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of their father Jacob revived. He said, "Enough! My son Joseph is still alive. I must go and see him before I die."

JACOB BRINGS HIS WHOLE FAMILY TO EGYPT

46 When Israel set out on his journey with all that he had and came to Beer-sheba, he offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac. God spoke to Israel in visions of the night, and said, "Jacob, Jacob." And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "I am God, the God of your father; do not be afraid to go down to Egypt, for I will make of you a great nation there. I myself will go down with you to Egypt, and I will also bring you up again; and Joseph's own hand shall close your eyes."

5 Then Jacob set out from Beer-sheba, and the sons of Israel carried their father Jacob, their little ones, and their wives, in the wagons that Pharaoh had sent to carry him. They also took their livestock and the goods that they had acquired in the land of Canaan, and they came into Egypt. Jacob and all his

¹ Or he appointed ² Heb the God

58 • PENTATEUCH

GENESIS 15:5

ABRAM BLESSED BY MELCHIZEDEK

17 After his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the Kings Valley). And King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was priest of God Most High. He blessed him and said, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, maker of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!"

And Abram gave him one-tenth of everything. Then the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the persons, but take the goods for yourself." But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have sworn to the Lord, God Most High, maker of heaven and earth, that I would not take a thread or a sandal-thing or anything that is yours, so that

you might not say, 'I have made Abram rich.' I will take nothing but what the young men have eaten, and the share of the men who went with me—Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre. Let them take their share."

GOD'S COVENANT WITH ABRAM

15 After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision. "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him. "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him



Year C
Lectionary
Genesis
15:1-6

LENT 2

YEAR C
GENESIS 15:1-12, 17-18

PSALM 27

PHILIPPIANS 3:17-4:1
LUKE 13:31-35 or LUKE 9:28-36



Pretend you've been given a large piece of land. What do you see? Mountains? Strawberry fields? Lakes and rivers? Draw a map showing every detail of the landscape.

¹ Heb El Elyon ² Meaning of Heb uncertain

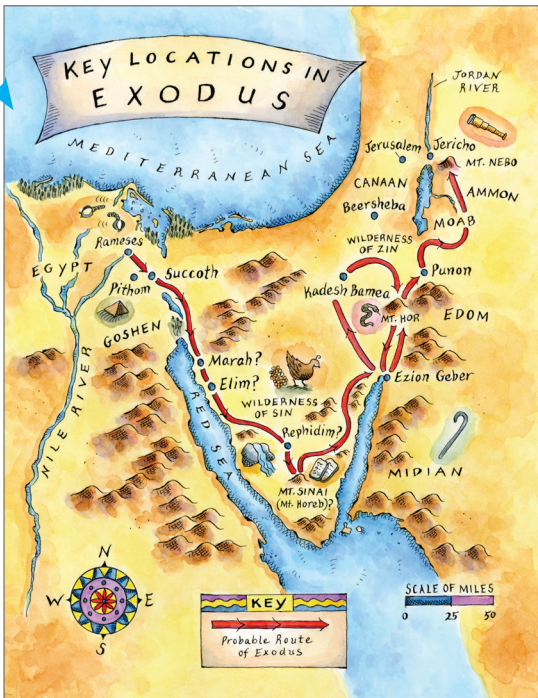
PENTATEUCH • 19

ABOUT THE PREVIEW ACTIVITIES

For every lesson in Whirl, kids complete the Preview Activity first and then read the Bible story together. Preview Activities help prime kids for the texts they will read by focusing on a word or idea from the story.

ABOUT ADDITIONAL CONTENT

Every book in the Whirl NRSV Bible has a one-page introduction. Kids can also read about the Bible's seven sections to learn more about how the books of the Bible are organized. In the back of their Bible, kids will find a listing of every reading in the three-year lectionary. They can also look up Bible story locations on nine colorful fully-illustrated maps.



ABOUT ICONS

As kids experience the church year together in Whirl, they'll see it is full of seasons, festivals, and holy days. Circular icons for each of these seasons and days are used throughout Whirl resources.

As kids see these symbols, they can identify seasons and colors at a glance.

John

WHO is the audience for this book?

The Gospel of John was written around the year 100 AD. In the years leading up to this time, some of the first Christians, who were also Jews, spoke in their synagogues about Jesus. But around 70 AD, the temple in Jerusalem was destroyed. Following this event, the Pharisees took charge of the Jewish faith. They did not want people talking about Jesus. Many Jewish Christians experienced rejection within their communities. John's Gospel may have been written for these early followers of Jesus.

WHAT does this book tell us?

John tells seven very long stories about Jesus. (The other three Gospels include much shorter stories about Jesus.) In these stories, Jesus taught about himself using statements that begin with "I am." John also describes seven miracles, or signs, that Jesus performed during his life. Chapter 1 of John's Gospel starts at the beginning of *everything*, not just the start of Jesus' earthly life and ministry.

WHY is this book important?

John's Gospel offers some different stories and perspectives about Jesus compared to the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. These stories help us learn more about who Jesus was. While every gospel tells us that Jesus was divine *and* human, John's gospel makes it clear that Jesus is the Word who was *with* God in the beginning and who *is* God. Toward the end of John's Gospel, we read that the signs recorded in this book "are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God" (Chapter 20:31).

WHEN do we read this book during the lectionary?

The other three Gospels are read during specific years: Matthew in Year A, Mark in B, and Luke in C. Readings from John are included in every year of the lectionary during just about every church season. Because readings from John's Gospel are included throughout all three years, we hear stories that are not included in the other gospels, like the wedding in Cana, the meeting with Nicodemus, and the raising of Lazarus.



Years A, B, C
Easter Day
John 20:1-18

body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. ⁴²And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS

20

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes.

JESUS APPEARS TO MARY MAGDALENE

¹¹ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look^a into the tomb; ¹²and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of

Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” ¹⁶Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew,^b “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

JESUS APPEARS TO THE DISCIPLES

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

JESUS AND THOMAS

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin^c), one of the twelve, was not with

Year A
Day of
Pentecost
John 20:
19-23



Years B, C
Easter 2
John 20:
19-31

^a Gk lacks to look ^b That is, Aramaic ^c Gk Didymus

them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

THE PURPOSE OF THIS BOOK

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe^a that Jesus is the Messiah,^b the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

JESUS APPEARS TO SEVEN DISCIPLES

21 After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ²Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin,^c Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know

EASTER 2

YEAR A

JOHN 20:19-31

ACTS 2:14a, 22-32

PSALM 16

1 PETER 1:3-9



Somebody gives you a one-hundred-dollar bill. Write three things that help you know it is real. How do we know Jesus is real?

that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.” ⁶He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. ⁸But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards^d off.

⁹When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, “Come and



Year C
Easter 3
John 21:1-19

^a Other ancient authorities read *may continue to believe* ^b Or *the Christ* ^c Gk *Didymus* ^d Gk *two hundred cubits*

