

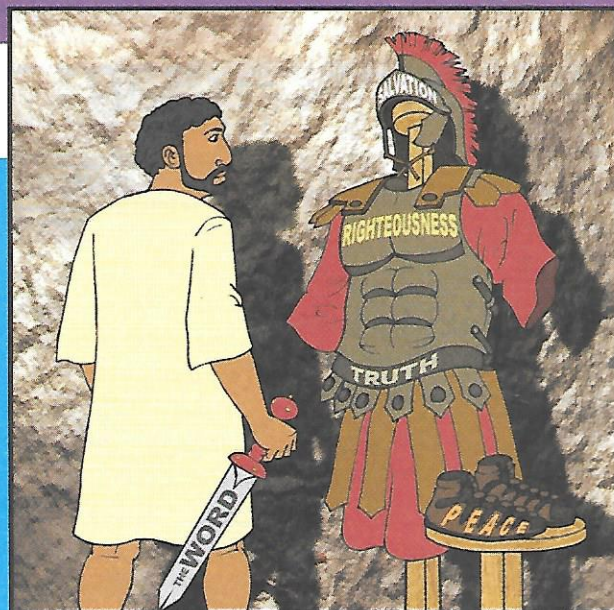
August 15, 2021

BIBLE LESSON

11



**KEY VERSE:** Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. (Hebrews 10:24)



# Hold On

**Lesson Scripture:** Hebrews 10:23-36

## God's Word

**23** Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. **24** And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, **25** not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. **26** If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, **27** but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. **28** Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. **29** How much more severely do you think someone deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified them, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace? **30** For we know him who said, “It is mine to avenge; I will repay,” and again, “The Lord will judge his people.” **31** It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. **32** Remember those earlier days after you had received the light, when you endured in a great conflict full of suffering. **33** Sometimes you were publicly exposed to insult and persecution; at other times you stood side by side with those who were so treated. **34** You suffered along with those in prison and joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property, because you knew that you yourselves had better and lasting possessions. **35** So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. **36** You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.



# Bible Story

## Hold On

### Hebrews 10:23-36

Christians in the early church faced persecution. This means they were mistreated. Because of the mistreatment, some of them were tempted to give up on their faith.

In today's Bible lesson, we read where the writer of the book of Hebrews encouraged the believers to hold on to God. He let them know that God can be trusted to keep His promises. The believers were reminded that even though the situation they were in may be difficult, they should continue to motivate and encourage each other. He told them not to give up. Even though it was easy and probably safer not to come together to worship, they still needed to be around other believers.

At times, it was difficult for the early Christians. The writer warned them not to deliberately sin after knowing the truth of God's forgiveness. The persecution was difficult to endure. However, they were reminded not to forget about when they first met Jesus, the Messiah. This current situation was not new. There were times in the past when they were laughed at and beaten. There were times when they watched others go through some of the same things. Some believers were even thrown in jail.

In spite of all this, we as believers must stay strong, because better things are waiting for us in heaven. We must remember to wait on God—because He will do what He has promised to do.

## Keep Going

### (Part 1)

"Mama, I'm worried about my friend Mason. He hasn't been to Church School all summer," Liam stated with concern.

"Now that you mention it, I haven't seen his parents either. Maybe they have been visiting relatives this summer," Mom suggested.

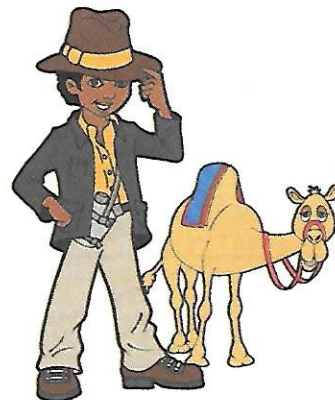
"I thought maybe he was at summer camp, but I saw him at the neighborhood pool yesterday. When I asked him why he hadn't been to church, he said they weren't coming anymore," Liam replied.

"Did he say why?" Mom asked.

"He just said the family was going through some things, but he didn't really want to talk about it. Do you think there is anything we can do to help them?" Liam asked.

## Exploring the Story with Nicholas and Cornelius

Hello, everyone! Nicholas and Cornelius here! In part of today's Bible lesson there are three "let us" statements for the early believers that are important for us today. **Let us** come close to God. **Let us** hold firmly to the hope that we have confessed. And **let us** reach out to each other. How can we come near to God? Is it easy to trust God when you are being mistreated?





## Keep Going

### (Part 2)

"We can send them a card letting them know how much we miss them," Mom suggested.

"I like that idea! I always love it with Grams and Gramps send me a card," Liam replied.

"We have our summer revival in two weeks. I'll call Mason's parents and extend a special invitation. Sometimes, you just need a little encouragement to keep going," Mom explained.

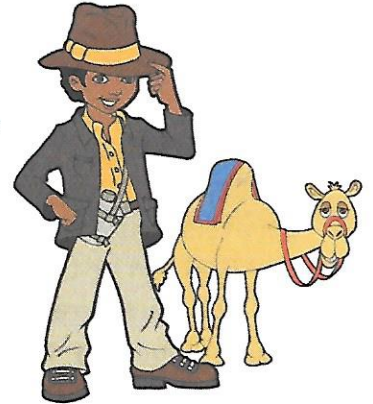
"I'll text Mason and remind him that the children and youth have a special night at the revival. We had a lot of fun last year," Liam noted.

"That's a good idea too. I'll go call his parents right now," Mom commented.

"I'm already texting Mason. Thank you, Mama, for helping me," Liam said.

## Exploring the Story with Nicholas and Cornelius

These are the issues the writer was addressing with the early church. There are many ways to draw nearer to God. Two ways are through prayer and studying the Bible during Church School. Sometimes, it might be difficult to trust God, but remember that He always keeps His promises. Keep your eyes on Him, not on the problems. And don't forget that everyone needs encouragement—and joining others in worship is a good place to find it.



## True or False?

Read each sentence below that is related to today's lesson. Circle **T** if the statement is true, or **F** if it is false. Then use the lines below to rewrite any false statements to make them true.

- T or F** 1. Believers in the early church were mistreated just because they were followers of Jesus Christ.
- T or F** 2. Sometimes God can be trusted to keep His promises.
- T or F** 3. We should encourage each other to remain faithful.
- T or F** 4. When things are difficult, you should give up.
- T or F** 5. It is okay to deliberately continue to sin.