

Some important parts of the good news about Jesus that Matthew wrote  
This page tells a bit more about this book

There were 4 men that wrote books about the things that Jesus did, and the messages he told to people here on the earth. They were Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Each one of them told about some things that the others didn't tell about. In this Mini-Bible we have everything that Mark wrote about Jesus. And we have translated some of what Matthew wrote, but only the stories and messages that are not in the books that the other men wrote.

Matthew had another name. It was Levi.

At first, Matthew was a tax man. He took money from the Jewish people and gave it to the Roman government. But one day Jesus told him, "Follow me," and Matthew left his money job and followed Jesus (see Mark 2:13-14.) Later Jesus picked him to be one of his 12 close followers. They stayed with Jesus all the time.

Matthew saw and heard most of the things that he wrote about in his book.

*The family line of Jesus*

<sup>1</sup> A long time ago God promised to send somebody to save us. Jesus is that one. These are the names of the fathers and grand-fathers of Jesus from a long time before he was born. This list shows that Jesus came from the family of the big boss of the Israel people, called David. It also shows that David came from the family of Abraham.

<sup>2</sup> This list starts with Abraham, a really long time ago. He was the father of Isaac.

Isaac was the father of Jacob.

Jacob was the father of Judah and his brothers.

<sup>3</sup> Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah. Their mother's name was Tamar.

Perez was the father of Hezron.

Hezron was the father of Ram.

<sup>4</sup> Ram was the father of Amminadab.

Amminadab was the father of Nahshon.

Nahshon was the father of Salmon.

<sup>5</sup> Salmon was the father of Boaz. His mother's name was Rahab.

Boaz was the father of Obed. His mother's name was Ruth.

Obed was the father of Jesse.

<sup>6</sup> Jesse was the father of David. He was the big boss of all that mob, the Israel nation.

So in that family there were 14 fathers from Abraham to David.

David was the father of Solomon. At first Solomon's mother was the wife of another man called Uriah.

<sup>7</sup> Solomon was the father of Rehoboam.

Rehoboam was the father of Abijah.

Abijah was the father of Asa.

<sup>8</sup> Asa was the father of Jehoshaphat.

Jehoshaphat was the father of Jehoram.

Jehoram was the father of Uzziah.

<sup>9</sup> Uzziah was the father of Jotham.

Jotham was the father of Ahaz.

Ahaz was the father of Hezekiah.

<sup>10</sup> Hezekiah was the father of Manasseh.

Manasseh was the father of Amon.

Amon was the father of Josiah.

<sup>11</sup> Josiah was the father of Jeconiah and his brothers. At that time the soldiers from Babylon country took the Jewish people to their country.

So in that family there were 14 fathers from David till the time they all had to go to Babylon.

<sup>12</sup> Jeconiah was the father of Shealtiel.

Shealtiel was the father of Zerubbabel.

<sup>13</sup> Zerubbabel was the father of Abihud.

Abihud was the father of Eliakim.

Eliakim was the father of Azor.

<sup>14</sup> Azor was the father of Zadok.

Zadok was the father of Akim.

Akim was the father of Eliud.

<sup>15</sup> Eliud was the father of Eleazar.

Eleazar was the father of Matthan.

Matthan was the father of Jacob.

<sup>16</sup> Jacob was the father of Joseph. Joseph was the husband of Mary, and Mary was the mother of Jesus, who is God's special person.

<sup>17</sup> So in that family there were 14 fathers from Abraham to David, and there were 14 fathers from David till the time they all had to go to Babylon, and there were 14 fathers from that Babylon time till the time God sent his promised one, Jesus.

### *Joseph had a dream*

<sup>18</sup> This is the way Jesus was born. He is the one God talked about a long time ago. God promised to send him to us.

Mary was promised to a man called Joseph. He found out that Mary was going to have a baby, and he was not happy. He knew that the baby wasn't his, so he wanted to leave Mary. <sup>19</sup> But he was a good man and he didn't want to shame her, so he thought, "I will just leave her quietly, without any argument."

<sup>20</sup> While Joseph thought about this he went to sleep and had a dream. He saw an angel messenger from God. The angel said, "Hey, Joseph, you are from the family of David.

Go ahead and marry Mary. Don't be afraid too that. You see, her baby is from the Holy Spirit, not from another man. <sup>21</sup> She will have a baby boy, and you will call him Jesus. (That name Jesus means God saves.) You see, he will save his people, so that God will not punish them for the bad things they do."

<sup>22</sup> This all happened the way one of God's men wrote, a long time ago. He wrote,

<sup>23</sup> "There will be a young woman that has never slept with a man, like a woman does with her husband, but she will have a baby boy.

That boy will have a special name, Immanuel. That name means, God is with us. "

<sup>24</sup> Joseph woke up and did what God's angel told him to do. He married Mary. <sup>25</sup> But he did not sleep with her, like a man does with his wife, until after her son was born. And he named the baby Jesus.

## 2

### *Clever men came to Jesus*

<sup>1</sup> Jesus was born in Bethlehem, in Judea country. At that time the big boss over that country was called Herod.

There were some clever men in a country to the east of Judea. They studied stars and they saw a special star in the sky, so they got up and went west to Jerusalem, the big town in Judea country. <sup>2</sup> They asked the Jerusalem people, "Where was that baby born that is going to be the big boss of you Jewish people? You see, back in our country, we saw his special star when it came up into the sky, so we got up to come here, to show our respect for him. Where will we find him?"

<sup>3</sup> Somebody told the big boss, called Herod, that these clever men were talking about another big boss. Herod

got very worried. He thought this other person might fight against him and take over his job. A lot of other people in Jerusalem were worried about it too. <sup>4</sup> So Herod had a meeting with the leaders of the Jewish ceremonies and the law teachers, and asked them, “Where will that baby be born? You know, the one God promised to send?”

<sup>5</sup> They said, “He will be born in Bethlehem, in Judea country. A long time ago God told one of his men to write about it in his book. He wrote,

<sup>6</sup> ‘Bethlehem is a small town in Judea country, but it is a very important town, because a big boss will come from it.

He will really look after God’s people, Israel.’ ”  
That’s what those Jewish leaders told Herod.

<sup>7</sup> So Herod sent for those clever men to come and meet him, but he didn’t tell anyone else about this meeting. He asked them, “When did you first see that star?” <sup>8</sup> So they told him when they saw first saw it. Then he said to them, “Go to Bethlehem and look carefully for that boy. After you find him, come and tell me the place where he’s living, so that I can go there too and show respect to him.”

<sup>9-10</sup> The clever men listened to Herod, then they got up to go to Bethlehem. Then they saw that same star that they saw before. It made them very happy. And that star moved through the sky and stopped right above the house that Joseph and Mary were living in. <sup>11</sup> The clever men went into that house and they saw Jesus with his mother, Mary, and they got down on their knees, to show him respect. Then they opened their saddle bags and gave him some presents. They gave him some gold, and they gave him some powder called frankincense to burn to make a good smell, and they gave him some rubbing medicine called myrrh, that smells good, like perfume.

<sup>12</sup> After that the clever men had a dream. God told them not to go back to Herod, so they went back to their own country along a different road.

*The big boss called Herod tried to kill Jesus*

<sup>13</sup> After those clever men went away, Joseph had a dream. He heard God's angel messenger say, "Herod will try to kill the baby, so get up and take Jesus and Mary to Egypt country, and stay there till I tell you to come back."

<sup>14</sup> So Joseph got up right then, in the middle of the night, and he got Mary and baby Jesus, and they left to go to Egypt. <sup>15</sup> This happened just like God told one of his men to write, a long time ago. He wrote, "God called his son out of Egypt."

<sup>16</sup> Herod waited for those clever men to come back, but they tricked him. They didn't come back to him. Then he got really angry. He remembered their story about when they first saw the star, so he sent his soldiers to Bethlehem to kill all the baby boys up to 2 years old. So they killed all the baby boys around Bethlehem. Herod wanted to make sure that Jesus was dead. <sup>17</sup> This all happened the way God's man, Jeremiah, wrote a long time ago. This is what he wrote,

<sup>18</sup> "In the place called Ramah,  
a lot of people are really sad, and crying out loud.  
They are the grand daughters of Rachel.  
They are crying for their babies.  
Nobody can cheer them up  
because their babies are dead."

<sup>19</sup> Some time later Herod died. Then, in Egypt, Joseph had another dream. He heard God's angel messenger say, <sup>20</sup> "Get up and take Mary and Jesus back to Israel country. The people that wanted to kill him are dead now."

<sup>21</sup> So Joseph did what God's messenger told him. They got up and started to go back to Israel country. <sup>22</sup> But then somebody told him that Herod's son Archelaus was the new big boss of the part of Israel called Judea, and Joseph was too frightened to go there.

Then he had another dream. God told him, "Go to Galilee country." <sup>23</sup> So he took his family up north to Galilee. He came to the town called Nazareth and stayed there. One of God's men wrote about this in God's book, a long time before it happened. He wrote, "People will say that God's special person comes from Nazareth."

Those words came true when Joseph took his family to live at Nazareth.

### 3

#### *John the Baptist got the people ready*

<sup>1</sup> Many years later John the Baptist started his work. He went to the bush in Judea country, and he started to tell everybody his message. <sup>2</sup> He said, "Listen. God is going to show everyone how they can be in his family. So you have to stop doing bad things. You have to turn around and live God's way."

<sup>3</sup> A long time ago God got one of his men, called Isaiah, to write about this in his book. He wrote, "A man will be out in the bush, and he will call out to people, he will say, 'You mob get ready. God is coming to this country so you have to get ready for him. It is like when a big boss comes, and you have to make a good road for him.'"

<sup>4</sup> John wore rough clothes made of camel's hair, and he wore a leather belt. He ate grasshoppers and bush honey.

<sup>5</sup> A lot of people went out to see John and to listen to him. They went out from Jerusalem city, and from all of Judea country, and from all the country around the Jordan River.

<sup>6</sup> And after those people said they were sorry for the bad things they did, John baptised them in the Jordan River.

<sup>7</sup> Some men came there to watch John baptise people. Some of them were law men called Pharisees, and some were from the mob called Sadducees. John saw them and growled at them. He said, “You mob are bad, and you are tricky. You are just like a mob of cheeky snakes. Did somebody tell you that God is really angry with you, so you want to do something to stop him from punishing you? <sup>8</sup> If you really are sorry for the bad things you did, and if you are turning around properly to live God’s way, then show us. If we see you doing good things we will know it is true. <sup>9</sup> But don’t just say to yourselves, ‘We are in Abraham’s family, so we’ll be all right.’ Listen, God can turn these stones here into Abraham’s family. <sup>10</sup> So you look out. God is going to punish you. He is like a man lifting up an axe to cut the roots of a tree. You are like trees that haven’t got good fruit, so men chop them down and throw them into a fire. God will punish you like that. He will throw you into a fire.”

<sup>11</sup> John kept talking to the people, he said, “If you say you are sorry for the bad things you did, and if you turn to God, I will baptise you with water. But somebody is coming soon who is more important than me. I’m not even good enough to carry his shoes. I’m just nothing. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit, and with fire. <sup>12</sup> You know the way a farmer grows seed food, and how he gets all the seeds. He hits the seed heads with a big stick to get the seeds to fall off the plants. Then he gathers all the seeds and puts them in his shed. But he burns all the rest.



It is rubbish, and he burns it in a fire. Well, God is like that farmer. He's got that big stick in his hand right now. If you turn around to live God's way he will look after you, but if you don't, he will throw you in the fire that never goes out."

### *John baptised Jesus*

<sup>13</sup> At that time Jesus left his home in Galilee country and went south to the Jordan River, for John to baptise him.

<sup>14</sup> But John didn't agree with him. He said, "No. Don't you come to me. I can't baptise you. You are better than me, so really, you have to baptise me."

<sup>15</sup> But Jesus said, "We have to do it the way God wants. So now, while you are baptising people, you can baptise me too." Then John agreed with him.

<sup>16</sup> So John baptised Jesus, and as Jesus came up out of the water the sky opened up, and Jesus saw the spirit of God coming down like a pigeon, and landing on him.

<sup>17</sup> And God talked from heaven, he said, "This is my son. I love him very much, and I'm very happy with him."

## 4

### *The devil tried to trick Jesus*

<sup>1</sup> Then the Holy Spirit led Jesus into the bush, and the devil tested him there, trying to trick him. <sup>2</sup> Jesus was there for 40 days, and he didn't eat anything, so he got very hungry.

<sup>3</sup> At that time the devil came to him and said, "If you are the son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves of bread."

<sup>4</sup> But Jesus told him, "No. I will not do that. You know what God says. These words are in his book, 'People don't live just by eating bread, but they live by every word that God says.' "

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to God's special city, called Jerusalem, and he took him up to the top of the big ceremony house there, <sup>6</sup> and the devil said, "If you are the son of God, jump off. You know, these words are in God's book, too, 'God will tell his angel messengers to look after you, and they will hold you up with their hands so you will not even hurt your foot on a stone.' "

<sup>7</sup> Jesus said, "No. I will not do that. You see, God says this, too. These words are in his book, 'Don't do something stupid just to test God.' "

<sup>8</sup> Then the devil took him up to the top of a very high mountain, and from there the devil showed Jesus all the people of the world, in all their countries, with all their great things. <sup>9</sup> And the devil said, "I will give you all of this, all of these people and all of these things, if you will get down on your knees and show respect to me."

<sup>10</sup> Jesus said, "No. I will not do that either. Satan, you go away. This what God says, and these words are in his book, 'You have to show respect to God. He is the only one, so just do what he says.' "

<sup>11</sup> Then the devil went away, and God's angel messengers came and took care of Jesus.

### *Jesus started his work*

<sup>12</sup> After that Jesus heard that some soldiers grabbed John and put him in jail. So Jesus left Judea country and went back to Galilee country. <sup>13</sup> He went to the town called Nazareth, and then he left that town and went to live in the town called Capernaum. It was beside the big lake called Lake Galilee. It was in the country where the Zebulun tribe and the Naphtali tribe used to live. <sup>14</sup> This

happened just like God said in his book, a long time ago. This is what God's man, called Isaiah, wrote,

<sup>15</sup> "It will happen in the land that belongs to the Zebulun tribe and the Naphtali tribe.

That land is beside the sea, past the Jordan River, in Galilee, where there are a lot of people that are not Jews.

<sup>16</sup> The people there don't know much about God.

It is like they are in darkness, but they will see a big bright light.

They think they are going to die, but a light will start to shine for them."

<sup>17</sup> From then on Jesus began to tell everybody, "Listen. God is going to show everyone how they can be in his family. So you have to stop doing bad things. You have to turn around and live God's way."

### *The first followers of Jesus*

<sup>18</sup> One day Jesus walked along next to Lake Galilee, and he saw 2 men throwing a net into the water to catch fish. That was their job. One man was called Simon and the other was his brother, Andrew.

<sup>19</sup> Jesus said, "Hey, you 2, I want you to come and follow me. I want you to stop catching fish. I'll give you another job. You will catch people for me." <sup>20</sup> And straight away they left their nets and followed him.

<sup>21</sup> Then Jesus kept walking along next to the water, and he saw an old man called Zebedee and his 2 sons, James and John. They were getting their nets ready to catch fish. Like before, Jesus called out to James and John to stop their work and follow him. <sup>22</sup> They got up straight away. They left their father, and the boat, and they followed Jesus.

### *A lot of people followed Jesus*

<sup>23</sup> After that Jesus went through all of Galilee country. He taught people in the Jewish meeting houses, and he told them the good news about God's family. And he made a lot of sick people better, people that had all kinds of sickness. <sup>24</sup> Then people started to tell others about Jesus, so that people as far away as Syria country heard about the things he did, and they all started to bring lots of sick people to Jesus. And Jesus made them all better, no matter what kind of sickness they had. Some of them used to fall down and shake a lot, and some of them couldn't move their arms or legs, and some of them had bad spirits in them. But Jesus made them all better.

<sup>25</sup> A big mob of people followed him everywhere he went. These people were from Galilee country, and from the country called Ten Towns, and from Jerusalem city, and from all over Judea country, and from the country east of the Jordan River.

## 5

*If you do what God wants, you will be really happy later*

<sup>1</sup> Jesus saw big mobs of people coming to him. So he went up a big hill and he sat down there to teach them. His followers, the people that wanted to learn about God, went close to him, to listen to him. <sup>2</sup> Then he started to teach them.

<sup>3</sup> Jesus said, "Some people know that they need God very much. All right, God will take those people into his family and they will be really happy.

<sup>4</sup> Some people are very sad now, and they cry, but God will make them feel better and they will be really happy.

<sup>5</sup> Some people know that they are weak and they don't try to be important. But later God will give them everything in the world, and they will be really happy.

<sup>6</sup> Some people really want to live the right way, and they want other people to live the right way too. They think about this more than anything else, like they are really hungry and thirsty for it to happen. All right, God will give them what they want, and they will be really happy.

<sup>7</sup> Some people feel sorry for others and they don't do payback for the bad things those other people did. All right, God will do the same. He will feel sorry for those people that feel sorry for others. He will not do payback to them for bad things they did, and they will be really happy.

<sup>8</sup> Some people never want to do bad things. These people will see God and they will be really happy.

<sup>9</sup> Some people help others to settle down, stop arguing, and agree with each other. God will tell those people, 'You are my own kids.' And they will be really happy.

<sup>10</sup> Some people do what is right, but some others don't like it and they make trouble for those good people. But God takes those good people into his family and they will be really happy.

<sup>11</sup> And you too. Some people will not like you following me, and they will say bad things about you, and they will make trouble for you. Sometimes people will tell lies about you. But don't worry. Be really happy when they do that. <sup>12</sup> You see, if they do these bad things to you now, God will give you lots of good things later, in heaven. So you can be really happy, no matter what they do. Remember the stories from a long time ago, about the men that told everyone God's message. Some people did bad things to those men too."

*Christians are like salt*

<sup>13</sup> Jesus said, “You people that follow me are like salt for everybody on the earth. You know, salt helps food taste good and stops it getting bad. Well, if you follow me properly you will live in a way that helps people to be good. Yes, salt is good, but if it stops tasting like salt it is no good any more. Nobody can use it for anything. They chuck it away and everyone walks on it. So don’t you be like that kind of salt. Don’t stop following me.”

*Christians have to be like a light for people*

<sup>14</sup> And Jesus said, “You people that follow me have to live the right way and show people the way to God. It is like you are a light for everybody in the world. You know, if people build houses up on a hill, then everyone can see them clearly. You are like those houses on a hill. Everyone can see you clearly. They can know if you are good or if you are bad. <sup>15</sup> Nobody ever lights a lamp and then puts a bowl over it. No way. They put that lamp up in a high place so that its light shines out everywhere. <sup>16</sup> You have to be like that lamp. You have to let everyone see that you are following me. They will see all the good things you do, and they will say good things about your Father in heaven. They will say, ‘God is really great.’”

*The law and the messages in God’s book are really important*

<sup>17</sup> Jesus kept teaching them. He said, “You know the law that Moses wrote, well, I didn’t come here to take away that law. And you know all the messages that God gave to his men, to write them in his book for us. I didn’t come here to take away their words either. But I came here to get all those words to come true. <sup>18</sup> Listen, this is true. God’s book is really important. Everything in it will happen. You know, the earth and sky are always here. They don’t change. Well, just like that, God’s word and his

laws will not change, not even a little bit. They will stay the same till everything in God's book happens. <sup>19</sup> So if you think to yourself, 'I can break just one little rule,' and if you teach other people to think like that too, later on in God's family in heaven nobody will respect you. They will say, 'You are no good.' But if you don't break any of God's rules, and if you teach others to follow them too, later on in God's family in heaven everyone will respect you, and they will say, 'You are really good.' <sup>20</sup> I'm telling you this, if you don't do everything that God says, you can't come into his family. You know that mob called Pharisees. They really try to follow God's law. And you know the mob that teach God's law. Well, you have to follow God's law better than all of those Pharisees and law teachers."

### *Don't get angry*

<sup>21</sup> Jesus said, "You know, the teachers of God's law tell you what God told the people long ago. They say, 'Don't murder anybody. If you murder somebody you have to go to court, and the judge will punish you.' <sup>22</sup> But now I'm telling you this. Don't even get angry with anybody. That is bad too. If you are angry with somebody, God will be your judge and he will punish you. Or if you call somebody bad names you will end up in God's court. And if you get so angry with somebody that you tell them, 'You are a stupid fool,' God will judge you for that, and he can send you into the big fire called hell."

### *Be friendly with other people*

<sup>23</sup> Jesus said to the people, "Suppose you go to give a present to God, and you take it to the special table in God's house, but then you remember that somebody is upset with you about something. <sup>24</sup> You have to leave your present there in front of God's special table, and you have

to go and find that other person straight away. Tell them that you are sorry, and fix up that problem with them, so that you can both be friends again. After that, you can go back and give your present to God.

<sup>25</sup> If somebody blames you and says that you have done something wrong, and if they start to take you to court about it, you have to talk to that person straight away and fix up that problem. Both of you have to agree about what is right. Do this even while you are going along the road to the court. If you don't do this, that person will blame you in the court, and the judge might agree with them and tell the police to grab you and put you in jail. <sup>26</sup> And you will stay in jail till you give that other person all the money that you owe them. That's for sure."

*Don't even think about doing bad things*

<sup>27</sup> Jesus said, "You know, the teachers of God's law tell you this, 'Don't sleep with a woman like she is your wife, if you are not married to her.' <sup>28</sup> But now I'm telling you this. If you look at a woman that is not your wife, and you think about sleeping with her, like a man does with his wife, that is bad too. If you think about it like that, you are going wrong. That is just as bad as doing it. <sup>29</sup> You see, if things in your life push you to go wrong, you have to get rid of them, even if it is hard to do. Be careful about the way you use your eyes. If you see something that gets you to go wrong, stop looking. This might be hard to do, like you are pulling out your eye and throwing it away. But it is better to lose one eye here on the earth now, than to keep 2 eyes and go to the bad place called hell. <sup>30</sup> And think about the way you use your hand. If you do something with your hand that gets you to go wrong, then pull your hand away. This might be hard to do, like you are cutting



off your hand and throwing it away. But it is better to lose one hand here on the earth now, than to keep 2 hands and go to hell.”

*Husbands and wives have to stay together*

<sup>31</sup> And Jesus said, “And God’s law says, ‘If a man wants to leave his wife he can write a divorce paper and give it her. Then they aren’t married any more.’” <sup>32</sup> But now I’m telling you this, husbands and wives have to stay married to each other. Only if a man’s wife sleeps with another man, as if he is her husband, only then can her proper husband divorce her. But if a wife never does that, her husband can’t divorce her. If he divorces her, he is forcing her to go and sleep with another man, and that is wrong. And if another man marries her, he is doing wrong too.”

*Don’t use God’s name to get people to believe you*

<sup>33</sup> Jesus said to the people, “The teachers of God’s law tell you what God told the people long ago. They say, ‘If you promise something to somebody and use God’s name, you have to do what you said.’” <sup>34</sup> But now I’m telling you this. If you promise something, don’t use God’s name to get people to believe you. And don’t use the words by heaven when you promise something. God is the boss in heaven, so that is just like using his name. <sup>35</sup> And don’t say the words by the earth when you promise something. God controls the earth too. And don’t use the words by Jerusalem when you promise something. Jerusalem is God’s special city. He is the big boss there. <sup>36</sup> And don’t use the words by my head when you promise something. You can’t change the colour of even one hair on your head, to turn it black or turn it white. <sup>37</sup> Look. Just say what is properly true. When Yes is the true answer, just say, ‘Yes.’ And when No is the true answer, just say, ‘No.’

That really bad spirit tries to get you to say more than this, but don't do it. Don't say anything more to try to get people to believe you."

*Don't do payback*

<sup>38</sup> Jesus kept talking to them. He said, "You know, the teachers of God's law tell you this, 'If somebody hits your eye and blinds it, then this is the payback, you have to hit one of that person's eyes and blind it.' And they say, 'If somebody knocks out your tooth, then this is the payback, you have to knock out one of that person's teeth.' That's what they say. <sup>39</sup> But now I'm telling you this, don't do payback at all. If somebody does something bad to you, don't do payback to them. Somebody might hit you on one side of your face. All right, let them hit you on the other side of your face too. <sup>40</sup> Or if somebody takes you to court to get your shirt, all right, give that person your shirt and give them your coat too. <sup>41</sup> Or a soldier might tell you, 'Carry my bag for a kilometre.' All right. Help him more than that. Carry it for 2 kilometres. <sup>42</sup> Or if somebody asks you for something, give it to them. Or if they ask you to lend them something, let them have it."

*You have to love everyone*

<sup>43</sup> Jesus said, "You know, those teachers tell you this, 'Love your friends and hate your enemies.' <sup>44</sup> But I'm telling you to do more than that. You have to love your enemies too. And if anyone makes trouble for you, pray to God and ask him to be good to them. <sup>45</sup> If you do this, you will be just like your Father in heaven. He gets the sun to shine and the rain to fall on everybody, bad people as well as good people.

<sup>46</sup> You see, if you only love the people that love you, that is nothing. Even crooks do that. God will not pay you

anything for only loving people that love you. <sup>47</sup> And if you only talk to your friends, that is nothing. Everybody talks to their friends, even people that don't believe in God. You are no better than them if you only talk to your friends.

<sup>48</sup> So this is what I say. You have to be properly good, just like your Father in heaven is properly good."

## 6

### *Don't do things just to get people to think you are good*

<sup>1</sup> Jesus kept teaching the people. He said, "If you only do good things so that people will see you and think you are good, then God will not pay you. Instead, you have to do good things and keep them secret. Then your father in heaven will do good things for you.

<sup>2</sup> You know, there are some people that want everyone to think they are good, even though they are not good. So whenever they give something to help a poor person they do it in front of the meeting house or on a busy street, so that people will see it and say that they are good. And that is all the pay they will get. God will not give them anything more. Don't you be like them. <sup>3</sup> Whenever you give something to help somebody, don't tell anyone else about it, not even your best friend. <sup>4</sup> Keep it a secret. God, your Father, always sees what you do in secret, and he will pay you properly for it."

### *Pray the right way*

<sup>5</sup> Jesus said, "Don't pray like those people that want everyone to think they are good, even though they are not good. They like to stand up and pray in the meeting houses and on the busy street corners, so that lots of people can see them praying. They want to hear people

say, 'That's a good person.' And that is all the pay they will get. God will not give them anything more."

<sup>6</sup> And Jesus said, "I'll tell you the right way to pray. Go away from other people to a place where you can be alone, like go into a little room in your house and close the door. There you can pray to God, your Father. He is in that secret place. And he sees what you do. He will listen to you and he will pay you properly for respecting him.

<sup>7</sup> And when you pray, don't keep talking on and on with lots of words that don't mean anything. People that don't know God, they do that. They think that if they talk a lot, God will hear them. But they are wrong. <sup>8</sup> Don't be like them. God, your Father, knows what you need already, even before you ask him.

<sup>9</sup> So pray like this,

'God, our Father, you live in heaven.  
We want everyone to respect you.

<sup>10</sup> We want you to be everyone's boss.

We want everyone in the world to do what you want,  
just like everyone in heaven does what you want.

<sup>11</sup> Please give us the food that we need each day.

<sup>12</sup> Please don't punish us for the wrong things that we did,  
just like we don't do payback to the people that did wrong  
things to us.

<sup>13</sup> Don't let anything push us to do wrong things.  
And keep us safe from the devil.' "

<sup>14</sup> Then Jesus said, "If you don't do payback to other people for the wrong things they do to you, then God, your Father in heaven, will not do payback to you for the wrong things you do. <sup>15</sup> But if you do payback to other people, then your Father will do payback to you. He will punish you for the bad things you do."

*Don't stop eating just to get people to think you are good*

<sup>16</sup> Jesus kept teaching the people. He said, "Some people stop eating for a while so they can think about God and respect him. If you do that, make sure you look the same as you always look. You know, there are some people that want everyone to think they are good even though they are not good. Whenever they stop eating food to respect God, they want everyone to know what they are doing, so they let their faces get dirty and they try to look sad. They want people to say, 'That's a good person.' And that is all the pay these people will get. Don't you be like them. <sup>17</sup> When you stop eating for God, act normal and look the same as you always look. Wash your face and comb your hair. <sup>18</sup> Then nobody will know that you have stopped eating. But God your Father knows. Nobody can see him, but he sees everything you do. He will see what you do in a secret way and he will pay you properly for it."

*Keep your good things in heaven*

<sup>19-20</sup> Jesus said, "If you have a lot of money and other good things here in this world, don't try to keep it all for yourself. No. But give it away to people that need it. In that way you will give it to God, and he will keep it for you in heaven. You see, here in this world you might lose them. There are cockroaches, and maggots, and white ants here that can eat them, or your good things might go rusty, or somebody might steal them. But there are none of those bad things in heaven, and nobody there will steal them. <sup>21</sup> You see, you will always think about the place where you keep your money and your good things. If they are here in this world, then you will only live for

the things of this world. But if you give them to God in heaven, then you will live for God.”

*Have God's light in you*

<sup>22</sup> Then Jesus told them this picture story. He said, “Your eyes are like lights for your body. They show you where to go. If you always want to look at good things, you will think about good things, then you will live God’s way. It will be like God is shining his light for you, to help you live his way. <sup>23</sup> But if you always want to look at bad things, you will think about bad things, and then you will be spiritually blind, and not live God’s way. It will be like you are living in the dark. And if you are spiritually blind, with no light from God, it will be really bad for you.”

*You can't work for both God and money*

<sup>24</sup> And Jesus told them another picture story. He said, “You can’t work for 2 bosses at the same time. If you try to do that you will like only one boss and you will always work properly for him, but you will not like the other boss and you will never work properly for him. You see, you can’t have God as your boss, and money as your boss, both at the same time.”

*Trust God and don't worry about the things you need*

<sup>25</sup> Jesus kept teaching the people. He said, “This is what I’m telling you now. Don’t worry about the things you need to stay alive. Don’t worry about what you will eat or drink. Don’t worry about the clothes you will wear. Your life is more important than food, and your body is more important than clothes. <sup>26</sup> Think about the birds. They don’t put seeds into the ground to grow a garden, to get their food from it. And they don’t build sheds to keep their food in. But God, your father, gives them food

anyway. And you are much more special to God than birds, so you can trust him to give you the food you need.

<sup>27</sup> And don't worry about how long you will live, or when you will die. No matter how much you worry about it you will not live any longer, not even one day longer.

<sup>28-29</sup> And don't worry about your clothes. Listen. You know the story about the big boss called Solomon. He wore very pretty clothes. Well, now think about the wild flowers in the bush. They don't work hard to get clothes for themselves. But those wild flowers are more pretty than Solomon's clothes. <sup>30</sup> You see, we might think the grass and the wild flowers are rubbish and anybody might burn them up at any time. But God makes them very pretty anyway. So God will give you the clothes you need. You have to trust God properly and he will take care of you.

<sup>31</sup> So don't keep asking yourself, 'Where will I get my food? And where will I get my drink? And where will I get clothes to wear?' <sup>32</sup> Listen, God is your Father in heaven and he knows that you need these things. People that don't know God are always worrying about those things, but don't you worry about them. <sup>33</sup> Think instead about the things that are good for God's family and try do the good things that God wants you to do. Then God will give you all those other things that you need. <sup>34</sup> So don't worry about how to get what you will need tomorrow. Each day has enough problems of its own. When tomorrow comes, then you can think about those things."

## 7

### *Don't tell other people they are bad*

<sup>1</sup> Jesus said to the people, "Don't say to anybody, 'You are bad,' and then God will not say to you, 'You are bad.'

<sup>2</sup> God will judge you the same way as you judge other people. If you are easy on other people, God will be easy on you. But if you are hard on other people God will be hard on you.

<sup>3-5</sup> You shouldn't always try to tell other people they are doing bad things. First, you have to think about all the bad things that you do, and you have to stop doing those bad things. Then maybe you can help other people to stop doing bad things too. Maybe you're doing lots of bad things, and your friend is just doing one little bad thing. If you are still doing lots of bad things, you can't help them stop doing that little bad thing. It's like this. All those bad things you do are making you blind, like you have a big piece of wood in your eye. And maybe your friend is just doing one little thing wrong, like they have a little splinter of wood in their eye. You have to take that big piece of wood out of your eye so that you can see properly, then maybe you can help your friend get that little splinter out of their eye."

<sup>6</sup> Jesus kept talking to them. He said, "There are some things that belong to God. Don't give those things to people that don't like God. Those people are like dogs. If you give them God's things they will rubbish them and turn around and bite you, just like dogs. And some of God's things are really special. Don't give them to people that don't know those things are special. They will rubbish those things. They will be just like pigs that don't know good things. They will tread on them and push them into the mud."

*Keep asking God, and he will give you what you need*

<sup>7</sup> Jesus kept teaching the people. He said, "Whenever you need something, you have to keep asking God for it,



and he will give it to you. Keep looking for whatever you need, and God will let you find it. If something blocks you, so you can't get what you need, like there is a door that is shut and you can't get through it, well, keep knocking at that door and God will open it for you. <sup>8</sup> Everyone that asks God for something will get it. Everyone that looks for something will find it. God will open the door for everyone that knocks on it.

<sup>9</sup> It's like this. If your son asks you for some bread, will you give him a stone? No way. <sup>10</sup> Or if your son asks you for a fish, will you give him a cheeky snake? No way. <sup>11</sup> You see, you might be bad, but you give good things to your kids. Well, your Father in heaven is a lot better than you. He is always good, so he will always give good things to people that ask him."

*This is what God's law is all about*

<sup>12</sup> Jesus said, "You know the way you want other people to treat you. Well, you have to treat others that same way. That is the way you have to live all the time. That is a short way of saying the message that is in God's book. It is what God's law is all about, and it is what God got his men to write about in his book. You have to always treat other people the same way that you want people to treat you."

*You have to follow the right track*

<sup>13-14</sup> Then Jesus told them this picture story about how to live. He said, "It is like there are 2 tracks in life and each one has its own gate. One gate is big and wide, but the other is a little gate. It is hard to get through that little gate, and only a few people get through it. Listen, you have to go through that little gate. If you want to live for ever, you have to pick that little gate and go through it,

and you have to follow its track. It is hard to walk on that narrow little track, but if you go that way you will live for ever. The other gate is wide and easy to go through, and its track is wide and easy to walk on. A lot of people go that way. They go through that wide gate and walk along that easy track. But that track goes to the wrong place, and those people will die.”

*Be careful of people that say they have a message from God*

<sup>15</sup> Then Jesus told them, “Always be careful. Don’t believe everybody. There are some people that reckon they are telling you a message from God but they are liars. They try to get you to think they are like sheep, like they are soft and will not give you any trouble. But really, they are like wild dingoes. They will give you trouble, like dingoes hurt sheep. If you believe their words you will get lots of trouble. <sup>16</sup> If you look at the things these people do, you can find out if they are talking true words, or if they are liars.”

Then Jesus told a picture story, he said, “Think about the trees that give us fruit to eat. We can’t get good fruit from rubbish trees. We can’t get grapes from weeds. <sup>17</sup> Good fruit grows on a good tree. Rubbish fruit grows on a rubbish tree. <sup>18</sup> A good tree can’t make bad fruit. A bad tree can’t make good fruit. <sup>19</sup> If a farmer has a tree that only makes rubbish fruit he will cut down that tree and burn it in a fire. <sup>20</sup> So, to find out if a person is good or bad, look at what they do. A good person does good things. And a bad person does bad things.”

*Only the people that do what God wants will go into God’s family*

<sup>21</sup> And Jesus said, “Lots of people call me, ‘My leader and my boss,’ but some of them will never go into God’s

family. God, my Father in heaven, will only have people that do what he wants them to do. They will go into his family, but not the others. <sup>22</sup> One day God will get me to judge everybody, and some people will say to me, 'You are my leader and my boss. We told people your messages while we said your name. And we chased devils out of people while we said your name. And we did a lot of great things while we said your name.' <sup>23</sup> Then I will tell them, 'I don't know you mob. You are bad. You don't do what God wants. So get away from me.'

*Be wise and do what Jesus says*

<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus told them 2 more picture stories. He said, "If you listen to my message and do what I say, you are like a wise man that built his house on hard rock. <sup>25</sup> Then a lot of rain came and made big flood waters that flowed along really fast and hit that house, and strong winds blew hard against that house. But that house didn't fall down. He built it on hard rock, so it stayed strong. That is a picture of what will happen to you, if you do what I say.

<sup>26</sup> But if you hear my message and don't take any notice of what I say, you are like a stupid man that built his house on soft sand. <sup>27</sup> Then a lot of rain came and made big flood waters that flowed along really fast and hit that house, and strong winds blew hard against that house. Then that house fell down and broke up into little bits. That is a picture of what will happen to you, if you don't do what I say."

<sup>28</sup> Then Jesus finished talking to that big mob of people. They were really surprised as they listened to what he taught them. <sup>29</sup> You see, they knew he told them God's word properly. He knew what he was talking about. Their law teachers never talked that way.

(We have not yet translated 8:1-4. You can read that story in Mark 1:40-44.)

## 8

### *A Roman army boss trusted Jesus properly*

<sup>5</sup> Jesus went to a town called Capernaum. There was a Roman army boss there, the boss of 100 soldiers. He came to Jesus and strongly asked him for help. <sup>6</sup> He said, “Sir, my young worker is lying in bed at home. He can’t move, and he is hurting a lot.”

<sup>7</sup> Jesus said, “I will go with you and make him better.”

<sup>8</sup> But the army boss said to Jesus, “Sir, I’m not a good enough man for you to go into my house. But you can do it right here. You can tell that sickness to stop, and leave my worker, and then he will get better straight away. <sup>9</sup> I know it will happen. You see, I know about bosses. I have a boss over me, and I’m the boss of a lot of soldiers. If I tell a soldier to go somewhere, he goes there. And if I tell one to come to me, he comes to me. And if I tell my worker to do something, he does it. Well, I believe that you are a powerful boss. If you just tell that sickness to go, my worker will get better straight away.”

<sup>10</sup> Jesus heard what that Roman army boss said, and he was very surprised. He said to the people that were following him, “This man is not one of you Israel mob, but he trusts me more than any of you Israel people.”

<sup>11</sup> Then Jesus told them about something that will happen one day. He said, “Listen. You know that God picked you Israel mob to be his special people, but one day a lot of other people will come from everywhere in the world, and they will join God’s family in heaven. God will put on a big dinner there for his family, and these other people will sit down and eat it with your grand-fathers of

long ago, called Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob. <sup>12</sup> But a lot of Israel people will not eat any of it. God will grab them and chuck them out. They will be very upset and angry. They will cry a lot, and they will be so angry that they will bite their teeth together.”

<sup>13</sup> Then Jesus said to the army boss, “You can go back home now. You are trusting me to make your worker better, so I am doing it.” And right then, at that same time, that army boss’s worker got better.

(We have not yet translated 8:14-17. You can read that story in Mark 1:29-34.)

*If we follow Jesus it might be hard for us*

<sup>18</sup> At another time Jesus saw a big mob of people coming around him, so he told his followers to take him in a boat to the other side of the lake.

<sup>19</sup> After they got there a Jewish law man came to Jesus and said, “Teacher, I want to be one of your followers. I will go everywhere with you.”

<sup>20</sup> Jesus said to him, “Wild dogs have places where they can sleep, and wild birds have nests they can sleep in. But I have no home to lie down and sleep in, even though I’m God’s special man from heaven.”

<sup>21</sup> There was another man that was already a follower of Jesus. He said to Jesus, “Sir, I will come with you. But my father has died, so let me go home to bury him. After that, I will come with you.”

<sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, “No. You come and follow me now. You see, some people are spiritually dead, so they can bury the dead bodies of their own people. But you come and follow me.”

(We have not yet translated 8:23—9:26. You can read those stories in Mark 4:35-41, 2:1-22, 5:1-43.)

## 9

*Jesus made 2 blind men see again*

<sup>27</sup> Jesus was walking along, and 2 blind men followed him. They kept on shouting to him, “You belong to David’s family, so you are the one God promised to send. Please, be sorry for us.”

<sup>28</sup> Jesus went into a house, and the blind men came to him. He asked them, “Do you believe that I can make your eyes good, so you will see again?”

The men said, “Yes, Sir, we believe that you can do that.”

<sup>29</sup> Then Jesus touched the men’s eyes and he said, “You believed in me, so you will see again.” <sup>30</sup> Then straight away those men could see again.

Jesus told them strongly, “Don’t tell anybody about this.” <sup>31</sup> But they went away and told everybody in that country that Jesus made their eyes better.

*Jesus threw the bad spirit out of a man that couldn’t talk*

<sup>32</sup> Jesus and his followers got up and started to walk along the road. Then some people brought a man to Jesus that had a bad spirit living inside him, so he couldn’t talk.

<sup>33</sup> Jesus said to that bad spirit, “Get out of this man.” Then the bad spirit went out of that man, and he started to talk.

Everybody there was very surprised. They said, “Nothing like this ever happened before in our country, called Israel.”

(We have not yet translated 9:34-36. You can read those stories and messages in Mark 1:14-15, 1:39, 3:22, 6:34.)

*Jesus needs workers*

<sup>37</sup> Jesus said to his followers, “Lots of people need to hear about me. They are ready to listen, but nobody is telling them. They are like a big crop of food plants on a

farm that are ready for the workers to get their seeds for food. But there are only a few workers. The farmer needs a lot of workers to bring all those seeds into the shed, and in the same way I need a lot of workers to tell people about me, and bring them to God. <sup>38</sup> So you have to ask God to send more workers out to tell everyone about me, just like the farmer has to ask for more workers for his crop.”

(We have not yet translated 10:1-23. You can read those stories and most of those messages in Mark 3:13-19, 6:7-13, 13:9-13.)

## 10

*Don't be frightened of people that will hurt you if you follow Jesus*

<sup>24-25</sup> Jesus told his followers, “You know about students and teachers. The teacher is more important than any of the students. The students have to learn to be like their teacher. And I am your teacher, so you have to learn to be like me.

And you know about workers and their boss. The boss is more important than any of the workers. The workers have to learn to be like their boss. And I am your boss, so you have to learn to be like me.

People will treat you the same way as they treat me. I am your leader, and they call me the biggest devil. You are my followers, so they will say bad things about you too, more than they say about me. <sup>26</sup> But don't be frightened of them. You see, people might do things secretly now, but later God will let everyone know what they do. People hide things now, but later God will show them to everybody.

<sup>27</sup> And think about the message I tell you now. Sometimes I tell you something when nobody else is here. I

might even just whisper it in your ear. But later on, I want you to tell my message to everyone in the world. Get up on a high place, if you can, and shout my words out loud, for lots of people to hear.

<sup>28</sup> Don't be frightened of those people that can only kill your body. They can't kill your soul. Listen, you have to take notice of God. He can kill your body, and then he can also kill your soul too, in that bad place called hell.

<sup>29</sup> You know those little birds called sparrows? They are not very dear. You can buy 2 of them for a few dollars. But God remembers each one of them anyway, and if one of them falls down to the ground, God notices it. <sup>30-31</sup> Well, you are more important to God than a big mob of those birds, so don't be frightened. He knows you properly. He even knows how many hairs you have on your head. So he will only let things happen to you that will be good for you."

### *Follow Jesus properly*

<sup>32</sup> Jesus said, "If you tell everyone that you are one of my followers, then I will tell God, my Father in heaven, that you are one of my followers. <sup>33</sup> But if you tell everyone that you are not one of my followers, then I will tell God, my Father in heaven, that I don't know you, and I will tell him you are not one of my followers.

<sup>34</sup> Don't think that I came into the world to get everyone to agree with each other. No. People will not agree about me, and some will fight those that they don't agree with. It will be like this,

<sup>35-36</sup> Maybe your own family will not want me, and they will turn against you and be your enemies.

A man will be the enemy of his father.

A daughter will be the enemy of her mother.



A woman will be the enemy of her mother-in-law.

<sup>37</sup> You see, you have to love me more than you love your own father and mother. Then it is all right for you to be my follower. And you have to love me more than you love your own son or daughter. Then it is all right for you to be my follower. If you don't love me like that, you are not the right person to be my follower." <sup>38</sup> If anyone wants to follow me properly, they have to stop thinking only about themselves. They have to live like me. They have to be ready to die, yes, die like a crook on a cross, just like me. <sup>39</sup> If anyone only wants to look after their own life here on earth, they will not live for ever. Really, they will lose their life. But if anyone is happy to give up their life here and live my way, they will find real life. They will live with me for ever.

(We have not yet translated 10:40-42. You can read some of those messages in Mark 8:34-35, 9:37, 9:41.)

## 11

### *Jesus talked about John the Baptist*

<sup>1</sup> Jesus finished talking to his 12 close followers, then he went around the towns in Galilee country. He talked to people and taught them more about God.

<sup>2</sup> At that time, John the Baptist was in jail. But people told him about all the things that Jesus was doing. So John sent some of his own followers to ask Jesus some questions. <sup>3</sup> They came to Jesus and said to him, "John the Baptist has sent us to you. He wants us to ask you, 'Are you the special one that God has sent to us? Or do we have to start looking around for somebody else?'"

<sup>4</sup> Jesus said, "Go back and tell John what you see here. <sup>5</sup> Some people were blind, but now they can see. Some people were crippled, but now they can walk. Some

people had a bad skin sickness, but now their skin is good again. Some people were deaf, but now they can hear. Some people were dead, but now they are alive again. And tell John that you heard us telling the good news to poor people. <sup>6</sup> Maybe I'm not the kind of person you thought God would send, but just trust me anyway, and God will make you happy."

<sup>7</sup> Then the followers of John went away, and Jesus started to talk to all the people about John. He said, "You know, you went out into the bush to see John. What kind of man did you think you would see? You didn't go out there to see a man that is weak, like grass that bends any way the wind pushes it. <sup>8</sup> And you didn't go out there to see a man wearing pretty clothes. No, men that wear pretty clothes live in the town, in good big houses. <sup>9</sup> Did you go out there to see a man that tells people God's messages? Yes, John the Baptist told you God's message, and he did something even more important than that. <sup>10</sup> You see, a long time ago God got one of his men to write about somebody that will get everything ready, and now it is in God's book. The man he wrote about was John. This is what he wrote,  
'God will send a man to get everything ready for God's special person.

That man will talk about God's person, and he will make a way for people to listen to him.'

<sup>11</sup> Then Jesus said, "John the Baptist is a very important man. He is greater than any other man that ever lived. But everyone in God's family is more important than John the Baptist. <sup>12</sup> John started to teach some time ago, and from that time till now, God's family has been getting bigger. There are people that really want to be friends with God, and they have been trying hard to get

into his family. <sup>13</sup> You see, before John came, God told his words and his laws to his men, and they wrote them in God's book. And you know, that was a long time ago, but they wrote about the things that will happen now, at this time. <sup>14</sup> Look. Try to believe this. They wrote about John, but they didn't use that name for him. They called him Elijah."

<sup>15</sup> And Jesus said, "You've got ears, so you have to listen to me properly, and take notice of my words."

<sup>16</sup> Then Jesus said, "You people that are alive today, I'll tell you what you are like. You are like kids that are playing in the street. Some kids say to the other kids, <sup>17</sup> 'We played happy music for you, but you didn't dance. So we sang a sad song, but you didn't cry. No matter what we do, you say we are wrong.' <sup>18</sup> And you mob are just like them. You rubbish God's people no matter what they do. You see, John the Baptist often stopped eating for a while to respect God, and he never drank wine, but you rubbished him and said, 'He's got a bad spirit living inside him.' <sup>19</sup> But I don't go without eating, and sometimes I drink wine, and even though I'm God's special man from heaven you rubbish me too. You say, 'He eats too much and he drinks too much. He's a friend of those bad men that get tax money from people and give it to the Roman government, and he's a friend of other bad people that don't follow the law properly.' But, if you really want to know if somebody is right or not, just wait and see what comes from the things he does. In that way you can find out if he is wise, or not."

(We have not yet translated 11:20-24. You can read that message in Luke 10:13-15.)

*God shows things to people that know they are not smart*

<sup>25</sup> At that time Jesus prayed to God. He said, “Oh Father, you are the biggest boss. You are the boss of everything in the sky and everything on the earth. There are some people here that reckon they are smart and understand everything, and other people that are just like little kids. They know they are not smart. Thank you for showing the meaning of your message to the ones that are like kids, and for hiding it from those that reckon they are smart. <sup>26</sup> Yes, Father, this is the way you wanted to do it.” <sup>27</sup> Then Jesus told the people, “God, my Father, gave me everything, so I can teach people all about him. You see, I am God’s son, and my Father knows me properly. Nobody else knows me properly. And I know my Father properly. I pick some people and show them what my Father is like, but nobody else knows God properly.”

*Jesus is good to his workers*

<sup>28</sup> Jesus said to the people, “Come to me, all of you mob that are tired. You did a lot of ceremony things to get God to save you, but that is not the right way. It’s like you worked hard, and you carried a lot of heavy things. Look, instead of that, just come and work for me, and I will let you rest really good. <sup>29</sup> Be my follower and work for me. Listen to the things I teach you, and you will feel good inside yourselves, like your spirit is resting. You see, I am not a big tough boss. I will be easy on you. <sup>30</sup> I will never ask you to do things that are too hard for you.”

(We have not yet translated 12:1-15a. You can read those stories and messages in Mark 2:23–3:6.)

## 12

<sup>15b</sup> Big mobs of people followed Jesus. Some of them were sick, and he made them better. <sup>16</sup> But he told them straight, “Don’t go and tell other people about me.” <sup>17</sup> A

long time ago God got his man called Isaiah to write about this in God's book, and it happened just like that man wrote. Isaiah said,

<sup>18</sup> "This is the man God picked to work for him.

God loves him, and he makes God very happy.

God will put his spirit in him,

and he will show everyone in every nation that God is right and fair.

<sup>19</sup> He will not fight with anyone or shout at people.

Nobody will hear him shouting in the streets.

<sup>20</sup> Some people are weak, like a blade of grass that is almost broken,

and some people can't help themselves, like a lamp wick that has almost gone out.

He will not forget those people but he will help them to get strong.

He will keep on being right and fair to everyone,

till people, too, are fair to each other,

<sup>21</sup> and people everywhere will believe that he can save them."☆

(We have not yet translated 12:22-37. You can read those stories and messages in Mark 3:20-30 and Luke 6:43-45.)

*The law men asked Jesus to do something powerful*

<sup>38</sup> One day some Jewish law teachers, and other law men called Pharisees, went to Jesus and said, "Teacher, we want to see you do something powerful. This will show us that God sent you."

<sup>39</sup> Jesus said, "You mob that are alive today are really bad. You turned away from God. But now you want me to show you something powerful, right? No. I will not do that. The only powerful thing you will see is the same

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☆ 12:21 Isaiah 42:1-4

thing that God did to his man called Jonah, a long time ago. <sup>40</sup> Do you remember that story? Jonah stayed inside a big fish for 3 days. And just like that, I will stay in the ground for 3 days. I am God's special man from heaven.

<sup>41</sup> And, remember, Jonah went to the people that lived in the city called Nineveh, and he told them God's message. Those people listened to him, and they stopped doing bad things and turned to God. Well, later, on the day when God will judge everyone, that Nineveh mob will get up and tell you mob here that you are wrong. You see, that Nineveh mob took notice of Jonah. And I am greater than Jonah, but you mob don't take any notice of me. You don't turn to God, and you don't stop doing bad things.

<sup>42</sup> And do you remember the story about the woman that was the big boss of the country called Sheba? She heard about Solomon. He was the big boss of our country. She heard that he was a very wise man, so she came here to listen to the good things he said. Well, later, on the day when God will judge everyone, that woman will get up and tell you mob here that you are stupid. You see, she came a long way from her country just to listen to Solomon. And I am more wise than Solomon, but you mob don't want to listen to me."

### *Bad spirits come back*

<sup>43</sup> And Jesus said, "When a bad spirit goes out of a person, it goes around in dry country looking for a new place to live. But it doesn't find a good place. <sup>44</sup> So it says to itself, 'I will go back to the place that I lived in before.' Then it goes back to that person, and it finds the place is good, empty and clean. <sup>45</sup> Then the bad spirit goes out and gets 7 other bad spirits that are worse than itself, and they all go into the person and they live there. Then that

person has more bad spirits than he had before, so he is worse than before. Listen, I'm talking about you mob here today. You don't listen to me, so you are worse now than you were before I came."

(We have not yet translated 12:46—13:23. You can read those stories and messages in Mark 3:31-35, 4:1-20.)

## 13

### *Jesus told a story about some rubbish plants*

<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus told the people another picture story. He said, "This story shows you something about God's family.

A farmer planted some good food seeds in his garden.

<sup>25</sup> But there was a bad man that didn't like the farmer. One night, when everyone was asleep, that bad man went to the farmer's garden and planted some rubbish plant seeds in it, beside the good seeds. Then that bad man went away.

<sup>26</sup> The good seeds grew into good plants and started to make seed food. But at the same time, the seeds of the rubbish plants, that we call weeds, they grew big there too.

<sup>27</sup> So the farmer's workers came to him and said, 'Boss, you planted good food seeds in that ground. How come a lot of weeds are growing there too?'

<sup>28</sup> The farmer said, 'I reckon a bad man planted those weeds, somebody that doesn't like me.'

The workers said, 'Do you want us to go and pull up those weeds?'

<sup>29</sup> The farmer said, 'No, don't do that. Those plants are all mixed together, so if you pull up the weeds you will pull up some of the good food plants with them. <sup>30</sup> No. Just let them all grow up, the good plants and the rubbish plants together. Later, when the right time comes, I will get some men to get the good seed food. But I will talk to hem before they do that job. I will tell them to cut down

the weeds first, and tie them in bundles, and burn them. After that they will get all the good seed food and bring it in to my shed.’ ”

(We have not yet translated 13:31-35. You can read some of those stories and messages in Mark 4:30-32.)

*Jesus told the meaning of the story about the rubbish plants*

<sup>36</sup> Then Jesus went into a house, away from all the people. And his followers came to him and said, “Please tell us what that story means, that picture story about the weeds.”

<sup>37</sup> Jesus said to them, “I’m God’s special man from heaven, and I’m like the farmer in that story. I’m like the one that planted good food seeds in a garden. <sup>38</sup> That garden is like the world. The good food seeds are like the people that belong to God. The weeds are like the people that belong to the devil. <sup>39</sup> The bad man that planted those weed seeds in the garden is like the devil. The time to get all the good seed food is like the time for the end of the world. The workers that cut down the plants are like God’s angel messengers.

<sup>40</sup> And in the story the workers cut down the weeds and burnt them in the fire. That is a picture of what will happen at end of the world. <sup>41</sup> You see, I’m God’s special man from heaven, and at the end of the world I will send out God’s angel messengers. They will get the people that belong to the devil. They will get all the people that don’t belong in God’s family. Those are the people that break God’s law, and they make other people do bad things. <sup>42</sup> The angels will chuck all those bad people into a big fire. Those people will cry, and they will be so angry that they will bite their teeth together. <sup>43</sup> But at that time God will show everyone that the good people are really great.



It will be like they are shiny, like the sun. And they will be in the family of God, their Father.”

Then Jesus said, “You’ve got ears, so you have to listen to me properly, and take notice of my words.”

*Jesus told 2 stories to show us that God’s family is very good*

<sup>44</sup> Jesus told his followers 2 more picture stories. He said, “This story shows you more about God’s family.

A man buried a lot of gold in the ground, to hide it. Some time later another man found that gold, but he didn’t own the land, so he couldn’t get it for himself. So he buried it again. Then he went away, and he sold everything that he owned, to get some money. Then he bought that land. After that he got all that gold for himself, and he was really happy. Well, if you find out how to get into God’s family, it is like you find a lot of gold.”

<sup>45</sup> Jesus talked some more, he said, “This is another picture story that shows you about God’s family. There was a man that used to buy things, and then take them to another place and sell them again at a higher price. That was his job. One day he was looking for beautiful pearls to buy, <sup>46</sup> and he found a really good and beautiful pearl, but its price was very high. So that man sold everything that he owned, to get enough money. Then he bought that very good pearl.”

*Jesus told a story about a fishing net, to show more about God’s family*

<sup>47</sup> Then Jesus said, “This is another picture story that shows you about God’s family. Some fishermen threw their fishing net into the water and caught a lot of fish in it. There were all kinds of fish in that net. <sup>48</sup> Then they dragged it up on to the land, and sat down, and sorted out the fish. They put the good fish into baskets to keep them,

and they chucked the bad fish away. <sup>49-50</sup> That's what it will be like when God will finish up this world. His angel workers will come and sort everybody out. They will save good people, and they will chuck the bad people into a big fire. Those people will cry a lot, and they will be so angry that they will bite their teeth together."

*Teachers in God's family use both new and old messages from God*

<sup>51</sup> Then Jesus asked his followers, "Do you understand all these things?"

They said, "Yes, we do."

<sup>52</sup> Then Jesus said, "Every teacher of God's word that joins God's family will teach new messages from God as well as old messages. He is like a man that owns a big house. That man has a storeroom in that house, where he keeps his very special things. Sometimes he brings those things out to show to his friends. He shows them new things, as well as old things."

(We have not yet translated 13:53—17:23. You can read those stories and messages in Mark 6:1—9:32.)

## 17

*Jesus paid tax money for God's house*

<sup>24</sup> Jesus and his followers went and stayed in the town called Capernaum. There were some men that worked in God's ceremony house. Every year they collected the tax money that all the Jewish people had to pay to look after God's ceremony house. Those men went to Peter and asked him, "Is your teacher going to pay the tax money for God's ceremony house?"

<sup>25</sup> Peter said, "Yes."

Then Peter went into the house where they were staying, to talk to Jesus about it. But Jesus talked first, he said, “Peter, think about the big bosses of this world. They take money from people, but what do you reckon? Do they take it from their own mob or do they take it from other people?”

<sup>26</sup> Peter answered, “They take money from other people, not from their own mob.”

Then Jesus said, “All right. That means their own families don’t have to pay anything. And we are God’s family, so we don’t have to pay money for God’s house. <sup>27</sup> But we don’t want to make those tax men angry. So, you get a fish line and go down to the lake, and throw in the line to catch a fish. Get the first fish that you catch, open its mouth and you will find a gold coin inside it. Take that coin and give it to those tax men. This will be enough money for both my tax and your tax.”

(We have not yet translated 18:1-14. You can read those stories and messages in Mark 9:34-47, Luke 15:3-7, 17:1-2.)

## 18

### *What if somebody does bad things to you*

<sup>15</sup> Jesus said, “If another Christian does something wrong to you, then you have to go to them and talk about it. Just the 2 of you can talk about it together, while you are alone. If they listen to you and agree with you, then you can call them your Christian friend again.

<sup>16</sup> But if they don’t want to listen to you, take one or 2 other people with you and go to them. These other people will hear about the wrong things your friend did, and they will hear what you say to your friend. They will find out what is true. <sup>17</sup> If your friend will not listen to all of you, go to the church, and tell the people in the church

what happened, and let them sort it out and talk to your friend. If your friend doesn't want to listen to them, you can stop being their friend. They are like somebody that doesn't know God, or like somebody that doesn't do what God says."

<sup>18</sup> Then Jesus said, "Listen. This is true. You Christians in the church are the ones that will know what God wants. If you all agree that something here on this earth is wrong, it will be something that God in heaven already said is wrong. And if you all agree that something here on this earth is all right, it will be something that God in heaven already said is all right.

<sup>19</sup> I'll tell you this again. If you agree together about something, even if it is only 2 of you, and then you ask my Father in heaven to do that thing, he will do it for you.

<sup>20</sup> You see, if you get together to respect me I will be right there with you, even if it is only a few of you, or only 2 or 3 of you at that time."

*The story about the worker that was rough on another man*

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came to Jesus and said, "Teacher, if my friend is always doing wrong things to me, how many times do I have to let it go and not pay him back? If I let it go 7 times, is that enough? Then if he does another wrong thing I can pay him back, right?"

<sup>22</sup> Jesus said, "No, not 7 times, but I say lots of times, like 77 times."

<sup>23</sup> Then Jesus told them a story. He said, "I will tell you a picture story to show you the way it is in God's family. There was a big boss that wanted to check up on his workers. Some of them borrowed money from him, and he wanted them to give it back. <sup>24</sup> So that big boss started to check up on them, and he got his soldiers to bring those workers to him. They brought a worker that

borrowed a real lot of money, like millions of dollars, and the boss said, 'Give me that money now.'

<sup>25</sup> The worker said, 'No, not yet. I haven't got any money right now.' The big boss wanted to get something back, so he told his soldiers, 'Grab this man, and his wife, and his kids, and make them like prisoners. They will work for no pay. Grab all their things too. I'll keep them.'

<sup>26</sup> Then the worker went down on his knees in front of the big boss and said to him, 'Please, please give me more time, then I will give you back all your money.'

<sup>27</sup> Then the big boss felt sorry for his worker, and he changed his mind, and he said, 'All right. You don't have to give that money back to me. You can go free now.'

<sup>28</sup> But after that, his worker went away, and he met another man. Before this time that other man borrowed a little bit of money from this worker, just 100 dollars. So the worker grabbed that other man's neck and said, 'Give me back that money right now. It's my money.'

<sup>29</sup> That other man went down on his knees and said, 'Please, please give me more time. Then I will give you back your money.'

<sup>30</sup> But the worker said, 'No way. I will not forget what you owe me.' And he put that man in jail, and he told the boss of the jail to keep him there till he gives back all of that money.

<sup>31</sup> Some of the other workers saw what happened, and they were not happy about it. So they went to the big boss and told him all about it. <sup>32</sup> Then the big boss got the worker to come in, and said to him, 'You are really bad. You asked me to forget about all my money that you borrowed. It was millions of dollars. And I was good to you. I said you didn't have to give it back to me. <sup>33</sup> So you have to be good to that other man, just like I was

good to you.’ <sup>34</sup> The big boss was really angry, and he told the soldiers to grab that worker, to beat him up, and to put him in jail. He will stay there till he can give all that money back to the big boss.”

<sup>35</sup> Then Jesus finished the story and he said, “You have to be good to your friends. If they do wrong to you, don’t do payback to them. Then, in the same way, my Father in heaven will not do payback to you.”

(We have not yet translated chapter 19. You can read those stories and messages in Mark 10:1-31.)

## 20

### *Jesus told a story about workers in a garden*

<sup>1</sup> Jesus said to his followers, “This picture story is about the people that will be in God’s family. There was a man that owned a garden, and he wanted to get some workers, to get a job finished in one day. So he went out early in the morning to the place in the town where men used to wait around, looking for a job. <sup>2</sup> He talked to the men there, and they agreed to work for him. He agreed to give them the right pay, the pay that men always got for a day’s work. Then he sent them to work in his garden.

<sup>3</sup> At 9 o’clock in the morning he went again to that place in the town, and he saw some men standing around doing nothing. <sup>4</sup> So he gave them each a job too. He told them, ‘Come and work in my garden today, and I will pay you the right money at the end of the day.’ <sup>5</sup> So they went to work in his garden.

That boss went to that place in the town again in the middle of the day, and he found some more men there, and he did the same for them. He gave them jobs. At 3 o’clock he did the same thing. He found some more men and gave them jobs too.

<sup>6</sup> At 5 o'clock in the afternoon he went into town again, and he saw some more men standing around. He asked them, 'Why haven't you been working today?'

<sup>7</sup> They said, 'Because nobody gave us a job.'

The boss told them, 'All right. I'll give you each a job. Go and work in my garden.'

<sup>8</sup> At the end of the day he told his manager, 'Tell all the workers to come here and we will pay them their money. Tell the last workers to come first.'<sup>9</sup> So he paid the men that started their job at 5 o'clock, and he gave each of them a full day's pay. He kept paying the other men and gave each one a full day's pay.<sup>10</sup> Last of all he paid the men that started their job early in the morning. They thought they were going to get more money, but they didn't. Each of them got a full day's pay, just like the others.<sup>11</sup> When they got their money, they grumbled about it. They said to the boss,<sup>12</sup> 'Those men only worked for one hour, and you paid them just as much money as you paid us. That's not fair. We worked all day in the hot sun.'

<sup>13</sup> The boss said to one of them, 'My friend, I'm not cheating you. You agreed to work all day for one day's pay, didn't you?'<sup>14</sup> All right. Take your money and go home. You see, I wanted to pay these last workers the same as you.<sup>15</sup> It's all right for me to do what I want to with my own money, isn't it? If I'm good to somebody, don't you get upset with me.' "

<sup>16</sup> Then Jesus told them the story's meaning. He said, "Later, one day, those that are last now will be first, and those who are first now will be last."

(We have not yet translated 20:17–21:27. You can read that story and those messages in Mark 10:32–11:33.)

Matthew 21:28      48      Matthew 21:32  
21

*Jesus told a story about 2 sons*

<sup>28</sup> Jesus talked to the Jewish leaders. He said, “Tell me what you think about this picture story. A man had 2 sons. He went to the oldest son and said, ‘Son, go and work on our farm today.’

<sup>29</sup> The oldest son said, ‘No. I don’t want to.’ But later he changed his mind, and he went and worked on their farm.

<sup>30</sup> The father also went to his youngest son and said the same thing to him, he said, ‘Son, go and work on our farm today.’

The youngest son said, ‘Yes, Dad, I will go.’ But he didn’t go to work on their farm.”

<sup>31</sup> Then Jesus asked those Jewish leaders, “Which one of that man’s sons did what his father wanted?”

They said, “The oldest son did what his father wanted.”

Then Jesus said, “This message that I am telling you now is true. There are people that did bad things, but they will go into God’s family before you mob do. You know, there are some men that get tax money from people and give it to the Roman government. And sometimes a woman does bad, so if a man pays her money she sleeps with him, like a woman sleeps with her husband. But listen. Some of those bad people will go into God’s family before you mob do. <sup>32</sup> You see, John the Baptist came and told everyone the right way to live, and you mob didn’t believe him. But some of those bad people did believe him, and they stopped doing bad things. And even when you saw them do that, you still didn’t change your minds. You didn’t say you were sorry for the bad things you did, and you didn’t turn around to follow God’s way.”



(We have not yet translated 21:33–24:44. You can read most of those stories and messages in Mark chapters 12 and 13, Luke 11:37–51, 13:34–35, 14:15–24, 17:24–35.)

## 24

*Jesus told a picture story about 2 workers*

<sup>45</sup> Then Jesus said to the people, “Think about a good worker. His boss knows that he will always do what the boss says, and he does things properly. So, if the boss has to go away for a while, he picks that good worker to be in charge of all his other workers, to look after them and feed them every day. <sup>46</sup> Later the boss will come home, and if he sees that worker doing everything properly, the boss will be good to that worker. <sup>47</sup> He will put him in charge of everything he owns. Yes, that’s right.

<sup>48</sup> But now think about a bad worker. If the boss goes away for a while that bad worker will say to himself, ‘My boss will be away for a long time.’ <sup>49</sup> Then he will do bad things. He will hit the other workers, and he will eat too much food, and get drunk with others that drink too much. <sup>50</sup> Then the boss will come home at a time when the bad worker doesn’t think he will, and the boss will catch him doing bad things. <sup>51</sup> And the boss will punish that bad worker a lot. He will put him in a bad place with all the other people that never do what they say. Everyone in that place will cry, and they will be so angry they will bite their teeth together.”

## 25

*Jesus told a story about 10 young ladies at a wedding ceremony*

<sup>1</sup> Jesus said to his followers, “This picture story is about what will happen in God’s family, at the time when I come back from heaven.

There were some young ladies that had a special job at a wedding ceremony. When the man getting married came to the house they had to meet him, and they had to bring him into the house. Then they were all going to eat a big dinner with that man and his new wife. That wedding was at night time, so the young ladies had their oil lamps with them. <sup>2-4</sup> There were 10 of these young ladies, and 5 of them used their brains. They took jars of extra oil with them for their lamps. But the other 5 were stupid. They didn’t take any extra oil with them.

<sup>5</sup> That man getting married didn’t come for a long time, so all the young ladies got tired and went to sleep.

<sup>6</sup> In the middle of the night, somebody shouted, ‘He is coming now. Come out to meet him.’

<sup>7</sup> The 10 young ladies woke up. Then they got up quick and they tried to make their lamps burn bright. <sup>8</sup> The 5 stupid ladies that didn’t have any extra oil said to the other 5 ladies, ‘Give us some of your oil. Our lamps are going out.’

<sup>9</sup> The other ladies said, ‘Sorry, we can’t do that. There is not enough oil for all of us. You have to go and buy some oil for yourselves.’

<sup>10</sup> So those 5 stupid ladies went to buy some oil. While they were away, that man came to the house to get married. The 5 other ladies were ready, and they went with him into the house, and somebody locked the door. Then they all started to eat the wedding dinner.

<sup>11</sup> Later, the 5 stupid ladies came back. They called to that man, they said, ‘Sir, please open the door for us.’

<sup>12</sup> But he said, ‘Who are you? I don’t know you.’ ”

<sup>13</sup> Then Jesus said, “It will be like that for you, too. You don’t know when I will come back. You don’t know the day or the time. So you have to keep waiting for me properly. You have to be ready for me when I come.”

(We have not yet translated 25:14-30. You can read a story like that story in Luke 19:11-27.)

*After Jesus comes back he will judge everybody*

<sup>31</sup> Jesus said, “I am God’s special man, and one day I will come back from heaven, and all God’s angel messengers will come with me. At that time I will be really great and powerful. I will be the biggest boss, and I will sit down on a special seat. <sup>32</sup> All the people in the world, from every country, will all come together in front of me. Then I will split all those people into 2 mobs. <sup>33</sup> I will put one mob on one side of me, and the other mob on the other side of me.

<sup>34</sup> Then I will say to those on my right-hand side, ‘Come on, you mob. My Father is happy with you, so you can be in his family. He made a good place for you long ago, when he made the world. It is ready for you now. <sup>35</sup> You see, at one time I was hungry, and you gave me some food to eat. I was thirsty, and you gave me some water to drink. I was a stranger with nowhere to live, so you took me into your home. <sup>36</sup> In the cold weather time I didn’t have enough clothes to keep me warm, so you gave me some more clothes. I was sick, and you looked after me. I was in prison, and you visited me there.’

<sup>37</sup> Then these good people will say, ‘Sir, when did we ever see you hungry, and feed you? Or thirsty, and give you water to drink? <sup>38</sup> When did we ever see you as a stranger, and take you into our homes? When did we ever see you short of clothes, and give you some more?’

<sup>39</sup> When did we ever see you sick, or in prison, and look after you?’

<sup>40</sup> I will say to them, ‘Listen, this is true. You did all these things to help my followers. They were not important people, but they were mine, so every time you helped them, you helped me at the same time.’

<sup>41</sup> Then I will turn to those on my left-hand side, and I will say to them, ‘Get away from me, you mob that God will punish. Go into that big fire that burns for ever. God made that fire for the devil and his bad spirits, and you have to go there too. <sup>42</sup> You see, I was hungry, but you didn’t give me anything to eat. I was thirsty, but you didn’t give me a drink. <sup>43</sup> I was a stranger with nowhere to live, but you didn’t take me into your home. I didn’t have enough clothes to keep me warm, but you didn’t give me any more clothes. I was sick, and in prison, but you didn’t visit me.’

<sup>44</sup> Then they will say, ‘But Sir, when did we ever see you with those problems and not help you? We never saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or short of clothes, or sick, or in prison.’

<sup>45</sup> And I will say to them, ‘Listen, this is true. You wouldn’t do anything to help my friends. They were not important people, but they were my people. Every time you said “No” to helping them, at that same time you were saying “No” to helping me.’

<sup>46</sup> Then that bad mob will go to the bad place, and God will punish them for ever. But the good mob will go to live in the good place for ever.”

(We have not yet translated 26:1—27:62a. You can read those stories and messages in Mark chapters 14 and 15, and Luke chapters 22 and 23. They tell about the way people killed Jesus and buried his body in a cave.)

## 27

*Soldiers guarded the cave that had Jesus's body*

<sup>62b</sup> The leaders of the Jewish ceremonies got together with their law men called Pharisees, and they went to the Roman boss called Pilate. <sup>63</sup> They said, "Sir, we can remember what Jesus said while he was still alive. That man tried to get people to believe things that are not true. He said, 'I will die, then 3 days later I will come alive again.' <sup>64</sup> So we want to stop his followers, so that they can't come and steal his body, and then tell everyone he got up alive again. If they do that, we'll be worse off than before. So we want somebody to look after the cave that has his body, and guard it properly for 3 days."

<sup>65</sup> Pilate said, "All right. You can take a mob of soldiers to guard that cave. And you can put some mud around the edge of that stone, so that we will know if somebody tries to move it. You know how to do that."

<sup>66</sup> So they did that. They put mud around the edge of the stone that blocked the cave. And they told the soldiers, "Guard this cave. Don't let anyone touch it."

## 28

*Jesus came alive again*

<sup>1</sup> On Sunday morning Mary Magdalene, and another woman called Mary, they got up really early and went to look at the cave that had Jesus's body. <sup>2</sup> Suddenly there was a big earthquake. One of God's angel messengers came down from heaven, and he rolled the big stone away from the cave, and he sat on top of it. <sup>3</sup> His face was bright and shiny, like lightning. His clothes were really white, like snow. <sup>4</sup> The soldiers that were guarding the cave were

really frightened. They fell down on the ground like dead men, and they couldn't move.

<sup>5</sup> Then the angel said to the women, "Don't be afraid. I know that you are looking for Jesus, the one they killed on a cross. <sup>6</sup> But Jesus is not here. God made him alive again, just like he told you. Come over here and see the place where he was lying. <sup>7</sup> Now you have to go quickly to his followers. Tell them, 'Jesus is alive again, and he is going to Galilee country ahead of you mob. You have to go and see him there.' That is my message for you."

<sup>8</sup> Then the women ran away from that cave. They were really frightened, but they were really happy too. They were running to the other followers of Jesus, to tell them the angel's message. <sup>9</sup> But Jesus met them and called out, "Hello." They came up to Jesus, and showed him strong respect. They even got down and held on to his feet. <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said, "Don't be frightened. Go and tell my other followers to go back to Galilee country, and they will see me there."

### *The guards told the Jewish leaders what happened*

<sup>11</sup> While the women were going away, some of the soldier guards went into the city and told the bosses of the Jewish ceremonies everything that happened at the cave. <sup>12</sup> Then those men called a meeting of the Jewish leaders. They all agreed to give the soldiers a lot of money to get them to tell a lie. <sup>13</sup> They told the soldiers, "You have to tell everyone, 'The followers of Jesus came in the night, while we were asleep, and they stole his body.' <sup>14</sup> If anyone tells Pilate about this, we'll talk to him and tell him you didn't do anything wrong, so you will not get any trouble." <sup>15</sup> The soldiers took the money, and they told everyone that lie, like the leaders told them to say. So a

lot of Jewish people heard that story, and some of them still tell that lie to other people.

*The followers of Jesus have to tell everyone in the world about him*

<sup>16</sup> The women told Jesus's message to his 11 close followers. Then those men remembered that Jesus told them to meet him on a mountain in Galilee, so they went there. <sup>17</sup> They saw Jesus there and they felt really happy, and they showed him strong respect. But some of them were thinking, "Is this really Jesus? I don't know."

<sup>18</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "God, my Father, has made me boss of everything now. I'm boss of everything up in heaven. And I'm boss of everything down here on the earth. <sup>19</sup> So, go out to all the people in the world, and tell them about me. Teach those people to follow my way, and baptise them with water to show that they belong to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. <sup>20</sup> You have to teach them to do everything that I told you to do. And remember this, I will be with you all the time. I will be with you to help you right up till the time when this world will finish."

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