

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL
SUNDAY SCHOOL
LESSON

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LESSON FOR JUNE 30

REVIEW: JESUS CHRIST OUR REDEEMER AND LORD.

GOLDEN TEXT—For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.—John 3:16.

Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.—Matthew 16:16.

I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth.—Romans 1:16.

The method of review must largely be determined by the individual teacher. For junior and intermediate classes a good way will be by the use of a good map of Palestine, to trace the journeys of Jesus from his birth to his ascension, giving emphasis to some of his vital teachings, deeds of mercy and power, atoning death, triumphant resurrection and glorious coming again. The following day may be suggestive of the latter method:

Lesson I.—As Jesus was passing through the coasts of Tyre and Sidon, he was besought by a Syrophenician woman to heal her daughter, who was grievously possessed with a demon. After apparent indifference, in order to lead her into an intelligent faith, he healed her daughter. As he further journeyed through Decapolis, a deaf and dumb man besought him for healing.

Lesson II.—As his earthly career was approaching its end, Jesus began to take account of his ministry. He wanted the disciples to have definite and personal knowledge as to his person. He knew that the opinions of others would not suffice them in the hours of darkness which were immediately before them.

Lesson III.—Jesus was transfigured before Peter, James and John, to show them his triumph over death in his glorious kingdom. This occurred at a time when the disciples were sorely tried. Jesus' rebuke apparently estranged them. He was transfigured "before them," showing that the chief object of the transfiguration was to prepare the disciples for the ordeal before them. An inspired commentary upon this translation is found in II Peter 1:16-19.

Lesson IV.—As Jesus was endeavoring to show his disciples how he must be crucified, they were disputing as to who should be the greatest in the kingdom. Jesus taught them that humble, self-denying service is the sign of true greatness. This is a lesson which needs to be learned by most of us today, as despite our best efforts we note insidious self-seeking making itself known.

Lesson V.—A certain rich man inquired of the Lord as to what he must do in order to inherit eternal life. This young man was of an amiable disposition and earnest and sincere, but he had wrong notions as to salvation. Jesus showed him that his supreme need was not doing something to be saved, but to be willing to surrender all things for him.

Lesson VI.—While the Lord was consciously facing the cross, the disciples were concerned about positions of pre-eminence. Jesus taught them that those who would follow him must not seek for greatness or position, but to render lowly service. In this Christ is the grand example. In due time he will exalt those who in lowliness of heart serve him.

Lesson VII.—Jesus drove out the money changers from the temple, and declared that the house of God should be a house of prayer instead of a house of merchandise. This lesson needs to be learned by many churches today.

Lesson VIII.—The scribes sought to entrap Jesus by asking captious questions. To the question as to what was the greatest commandment, he replied that it was love to God with all one's heart, soul, mind and strength. Since this is the first and great commandment, to violate this commandment is to be guilty of the greatest sin.

Lesson IX.—While Jesus sat at meat, a certain woman anointed him with precious ointment in anticipation of his burial. The Lord was pleased with this act, for it was out of a heart of fervent love that she lavished upon him her best.

Lesson X.—In connection with the last Passover, at which Judas betrayed Jesus, the symbols which represent the body and blood of Jesus were introduced. In the emblems of the communion we appropriate the very life and blessings of Christ.

Lesson XI.—Jesus died between two malefactors to make atonement for the world's sin. He gave his life a ransom for many. While on the cross, they mockingly said he saved others, himself he could not save.

PAYING OUR DEBT TO FRANCE

"LAFAYETTE, we are here." In these simple words, General Pershing gave eloquent expression to the thought that America today is but paying her debt to France.

The words of General Pershing were spoken as he stood at the tomb of Lafayette, French aristocrat by birth but democrat at heart, who gave his own services and fortune to the cause of American independence and was instrumental in bringing from France the aid that turned the tide in favor of the revolutionists.

Those of the present generation who are not familiar with early American history are apt not to realize the magnitude of the debt which the United States owes to France and to the memory of the gallant Lafayette. In the dark hours before the dawn of freedom for America, France poured forth her men and money in quantities that were in those days most impressive.

It is not generally remembered that France furnished more troops than America at the battle of Yorktown, where final victory was won for the struggling colonists. In that battle there were engaged 3,500 militia under Gen. Thomas Nelson, 5,500 continentals under Generals Washington, Lafayette and Alexander Hamilton and 7,000 French under Rochambeau, besides the French fleet of nineteen ships at anchor in the York, commanded by De Grasse. Altogether, the total military, naval and transport service which France sent to our aid in the American revolution amounted to 47,989 men and 99 vessels of war and transports.

Gave Money as Well as Men. France, moreover, advanced to the depleted treasury of the revolutionists the equivalent of \$50,000,000, without interest, a loan or gift which she has never claimed. Furthermore she agreed, and adhered absolutely to the compact, that she would ask no share in such territory or booty as might be incident to victory. This agreement was the more remarkable in view of the fact that England had but a short time before taken the richest of French possessions—the Dominion of Canada.

And it was almost wholly due to Lafayette that this invaluable aid was given by France to the new republic.

At the time of the declaration of independence of the United States, Lafayette was only in his nineteenth year. His life had been one of ease and luxury. His family was among the most eminent in France. He was a nobleman with the title of marquis. He never had encountered those influences that usually lead people in the fight for democracy. But, as if it were a vision calling him Lafayette saw the new spark of liberty struck in the West. The greatest fight of the world was being fought for the greatest ideal in the world.

The youth of nineteen realized this, and in the fight he was determined to take part. He made known his intention, but he was forbidden by royal command to leave France. He escaped to Spain, and from there aboard a vessel he had purchased himself sailed for America. He landed in Charleston and set forth immediately to congress, which was then in session at Philadelphia.

Congress at First Lukewarm. His name and fame had preceded him, yet such was the unsettled state of affairs that when Lafayette went to Philadelphia congress was at first lukewarm concerning him. Some of the members could not sense the zeal and devotion of a man who had come 3,000 miles to fight in a cause not his own. There had been a contract signed in Paris through which Lafayette was to have the rank of major general in the American army. Even the wise Franklin, however, did not realize to the full the worth of Lafayette at this time, for in a letter of advice he speaks of the distinguished rank and family of the young soldier and hints that on account of the fact that he had a lovely wife and had left such surroundings at home that it would be well not to place him in any danger unless there should be some unusual emergency.

When the meaning of the self-imposed mission of Lafayette did dawn upon our forefathers recognition soon came. The rank of major general was conferred and it proved no empty title. Washington had gone to Philadelphia to consult with congress, and he and Lafayette, meeting for the first time at a dinner, began that friendship as proverbial as the affection between David and Jonathan.

Lafayette was then not of age, boyish in appearance, and had never studied English until he began his seven-weeks' voyage across the Atlantic. His zeal for liberty was such and there was such fire in his eye and such de-



THE STATUE OF LIBERTY, A GIFT FROM THE PEOPLE OF FRANCE

LAFAYETTE, THE GODFATHER OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE

of the Pennsylvania troops, and was reinforced by the militia from the Virginia mountains. With 4,000 men he gave battle to Cornwallis at Albemarle and sent him in retreat to Yorktown. The surrender of Yorktown soon followed, and Lafayette stood by the side of Washington when the British forces laid down their arms. He received the thanks of congress for his part in this campaign, which brought triumph at last to the cause of American independence. He returned to his native land with the love and respect of a people who revered him as second only to Washington himself.

Termination in his manner that Washington at once welcomed him to his staff. As soon as the opportunity offered the leader of the Continental army put Lafayette in command of large bodies of men and that judgment was well justified.

The marquis was severely wounded at Brandywine without being aware of it for a time, so intense was his devotion to duty. When he recovered he renewed his activities at the right hand of General Washington, and lost no opportunity to serve the nation which was then coming into being. He was with the great leader at Valley Forge, where he conducted himself with such sympathy and understanding that he was soon as beloved by all the officers as by the commander himself.

The portrait painters of the time put the generals and colonels of the day in fine uniforms of blue and buff, but very often some of the ablest had only nondescript clothes, and some were even ragged.

Washington once remarked to Lafayette that to one accustomed to being with French troops the appearance of the soldiers of the colonies must indeed have seemed unusual.

"I come not here to teach, but to learn," was the reply of Lafayette.

Enlisted Aid of France.

Part of the year 1779 was spent by Lafayette in France, where he did so much to get substantial aid from the French government, which was then in actual war with Great Britain.

That victory ultimately rested upon the American standards was largely due to those activities in Paris, for the coming of the French fleet was a deciding factor in the long and unequal struggle for American independence.

Lafayette was received with affection and admiration by those who had so bitterly opposed his going from France, and he gained support even from the powerful Noailles, father of the Marquis. On Lafayette's return to America Washington sent him in 1781 to operate against Benedict Arnold in Virginia. After Cornwallis came with 5,500 more men Washington showed his confidence in the young general by continuing him in the command. Lafayette was near Richmond when Cornwallis started for him.

"The boy can't escape me," said the English general. Lafayette promptly retreated, made a junction with 1,000

of freedom. To Lafayette France owed its first declaration of rights drawn in the revolution. To him also it owed its tricolored flag, the same red, white and blue as that which glorifies our own Stars and Stripes, under which Major General Lafayette, U. S. A., fought for the existence of a nation of American freemen.

In the present struggle for the wresting of the world from the grip of an avid Attila Americans, British and French are shoulder to shoulder at the front. How our General Lafayette would have enthused and gladdened at the thought! The quarrel of the American colonies, many historians show, was not with the people of England but with a Hanoverian king who acted against the counsel of the wisest statesmen of British birth. The instinctive love of fair play which is implanted in the Englishman rebelled at the thought of a colonial taxation without representation.

Lafayette's attitude to the English was revealed when, while visiting his uncle, the Marquis de Noailles, then ambassador to the Court of St. James, he declined all invitations to visit arsenals and shipyards, believing that by so doing he would be taking an unfair advantage of a nation which was to be his foe through the stupidity of a ruler who could not and would not understand.

His home in Paris after the close of the war of the revolution became a place of rendezvous for both English and Americans.

"Since the war is over and we have won it," he wrote to General Washington in 1780, "I have, I confess, an extreme pleasure in meeting English people. Either as a Frenchman, or a soldier, or an American, or a mere individual, I find myself without embarrassment in the presence of that proud nation."

There could have been no gentler acts of courtesy than those which he did when Cornwallis had surrendered at Yorktown, for he had the highest opinion of the British commander as a man, and, as he modestly wrote Cornwallis, "held him in high esteem."

Long before there were hands stretched across the sea between this country and England, Lafayette, the American general, was doing much to bring about a reunion of the two nations which are brothers of one blood.

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REMARKS BY NOTABLE MEN

Forceful Expression Frequently Heard From Prominent Personages in the Public Eye.

Ezra Pound—Go out and defy opinion.

John Galsworthy—We are awakening to the dangers of Gadsdening.

General Foeh—A battle is never lost until its loss is acknowledged.

Clarence Rex—It is all right for a girl to marry for money if she is worth the money.

Rudyard Kipling—Nine-tenths of the atrocities that Germany has committed have not been made public.

Billy Sunday—Germany lost out when she turned from Christ to Krupp and from the cross of Calvary to the iron cross.

Lloyd George—There is no time for ease, delay or debate. The call is imperative, the choice is clear. It is for each free citizen to do his part.

T. C. O'Donnell—A stanza or two from "America" sung whenever opportunity and time permit, will bring oxygen into your lungs and strengthen the muscles of the abdomen and breasts.—New York Independent.

Jewelry or Munitions.

A high official in the British ministry of munitions says that there are several reasons why people should not buy platinum jewelry. In the first place, it is very expensive; then the world supply has almost been exhausted, and also the men at the front need more munitions, and platinum is required for the manufacture of explosives wherewith to win the war.

Put Into Practice

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