

# Welcome to SPC Kids Corner!

Sunday, March 17, 2024

## THE END OF THE AGE

Mark 13:1-8, 24-37

**Key Verse:**

“And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”  
Mark 13:37

**The Point:**

Trusting in Jesus, we can do God’s work.

**Making Connections:**

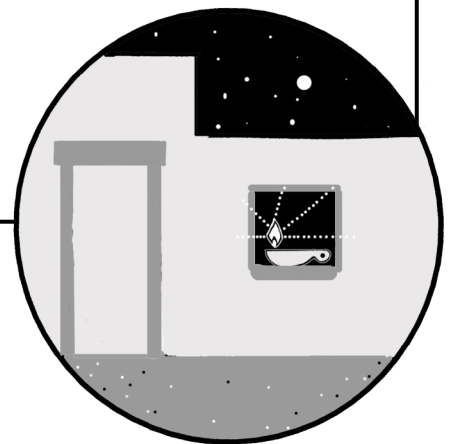
God’s Triumph

**Bible Nuts & Bolts:**

What Is the World to Come?

**Spiritual Practice:**

Worship



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# BACKGROUND

## **Making Connections**

In our last lesson, we read Jesus' teaching about the widow's offering and the greatest commandment, from Mark 12:28-44. Today's lesson picks up as Jesus and his disciples are leaving the temple and begins a brief unit focusing on God's Triumph.

## **Story Summary:**

### ***The End of the Age***

Jesus' teachings take a different turn here, as he tries to open the disciples' eyes to what lies ahead. He uses two illustrations to engage the disciples' imagination: the destruction of the temple and the flowering of the fig tree.

These stories do two things. First, they prepare the disciples for what is coming in the immediate future. In particular, the violence of the overthrowing of the temple can be seen to foreshadow Jesus' death. Secondly, they encourage the disciples to look beyond what is immediately obvious, to seek God's action beyond what seems to be ordinary. This type of seeing will be particularly important when Jesus is no longer with them.

## **The Point**

### **Trusting in Jesus, we can do God's work.**

Churches spend a lot of time remembering stories from the past, but we sometimes forget that those stories are still playing out all around us right now. God is always inviting us into new adventure, into greater compassion, into new creative activity.

There is a special kind of power when we work together to hear God's voice or to follow God's call. Our culture often emphasizes individual effort, but the Bible is clear: where two or more are gathered something really special happens.

## **Bible Nuts & Bolts:**

### ***What Is the World to Come?***

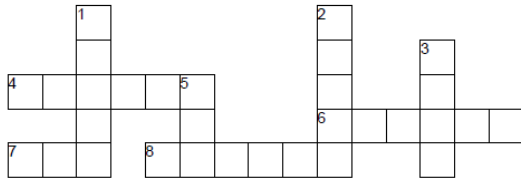
The phrase *Olam Ha-Ba* ("the world to come") is used in the Hebrew Bible to refer to a future age of global peace. Most of the references to the World to Come in the Hebrew Bible saw God's eternal kingdom inaugurated here on earth, in what is known as the messianic age. The messianic age would be a period of peace for all of creation, with people beating their swords into plowshares and no more wars between nations (Isaiah 2:4). This peace extends to all of creation. Wolves will lie down with lambs and children will play with snakes without any fear of harm (Isaiah 11:6-9). The earth will have no more hunger, war, jealousy, or rivalry .

## **Spiritual Practice: Worship**

We are called to pray and stay alert to what God is doing in our lives. Jesus uses signs to alert the disciples to what is coming. By using prayer, worship, and other spiritual disciplines, we too can become more aware of the signs around us, and of how God is using them to speak to us.



# Crossword Puzzle



## ACROSS

4. White fluffy items that float in the sky
6. To come back
7. A period of twenty-four hours.
8. Heavenly beings that serve God

## DOWN

1. A position of high honor
2. Twinkling bodies in the night-time sky
3. A time period of sixty minutes
5. The source of light during the day

ANGELS	GLORY	SUN	HOUR
STARS	DAY	CLOUDS	RETURN



"At that time people will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory."  
Mark 13:26

*There's a Great Day Coming!*

G K K G C A W F H G J A Z B R  
 H U K L N S S O F T B N G J S  
 K N D O X W G T C Y U G E N T  
 D B B R E O I E A S Z E S N D  
 U X T Y C B L R R R F L K N K  
 M O O N L E B Z B H S S R S N  
 S H L A O K U N X E O T J J E  
 G G I S U G A T H E R U F Y M  
 T B Y F D E B N O Q Y D R S D  
 A A J L S B W P P R R H N S Z  
 D J W X Y O H V O G H E S G W  
 T F T Q N B G L W Z W D K E B  
 T Z X K D Q G O E B F S M Z D  
 X E N G X F H J R Z A X U E Q  
 G U H Y P A O V V Z R V F N I

GATHER	POWER	MOON	POWER	UNKNOWN
GLORY	HOUR	SUN	ANGELS	GLORY
STARS	SUN	ELECT	DAY	CLOUDS

# Third Sunday in Lent

John 2:13–22

*see page 55*

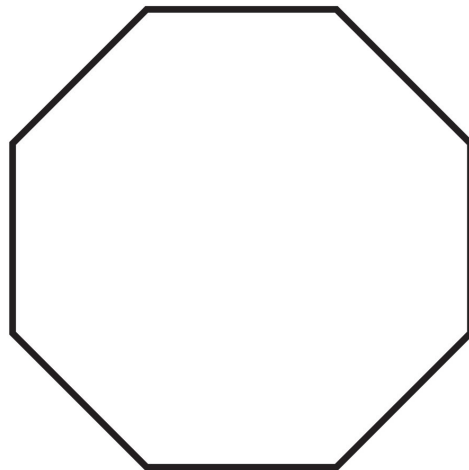
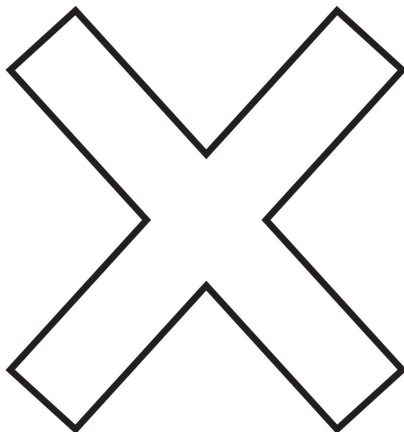
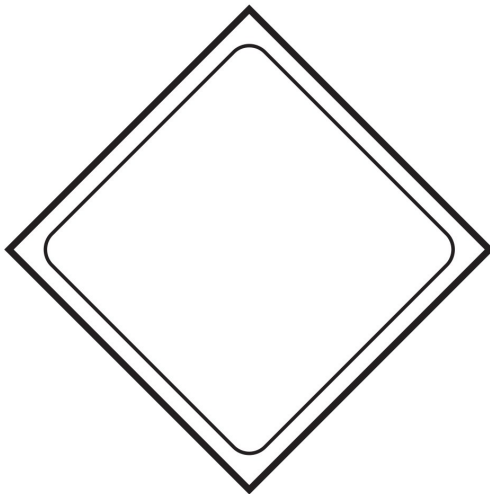
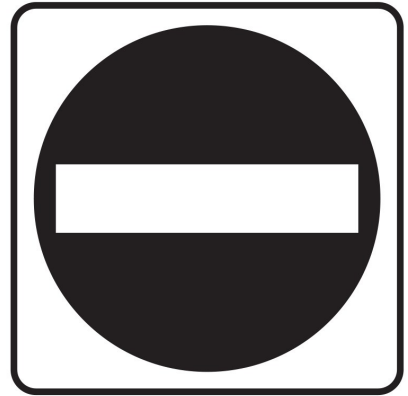
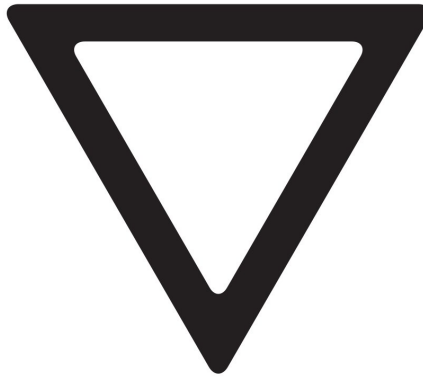
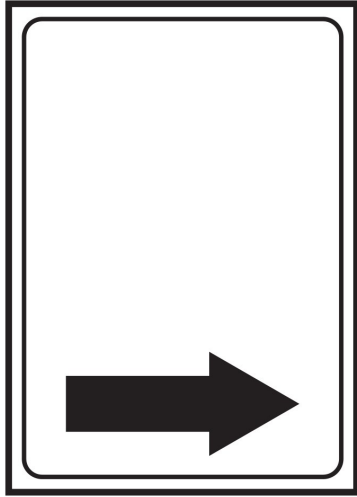


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# SIGNS OF THE TIMES

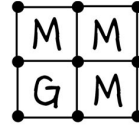
*Create signs of Jesus' presence.*



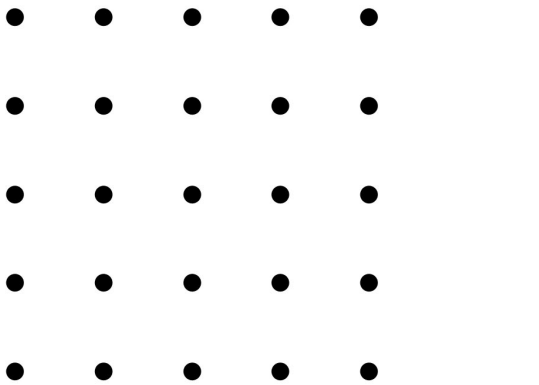
# Dots and Boxes

Play: Each player takes turn drawing one line between two dots (no diagonals!) If that line completes a square, the player writes their initial in the box and draws another line. Play continues until all dots have been connected. The player with the most boxes wins!

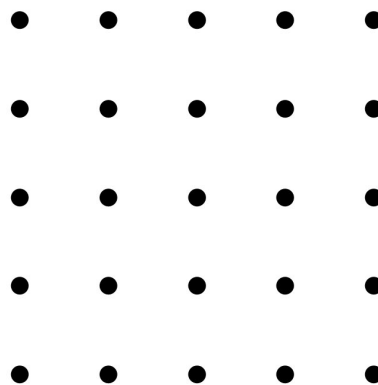
sample: M wins!



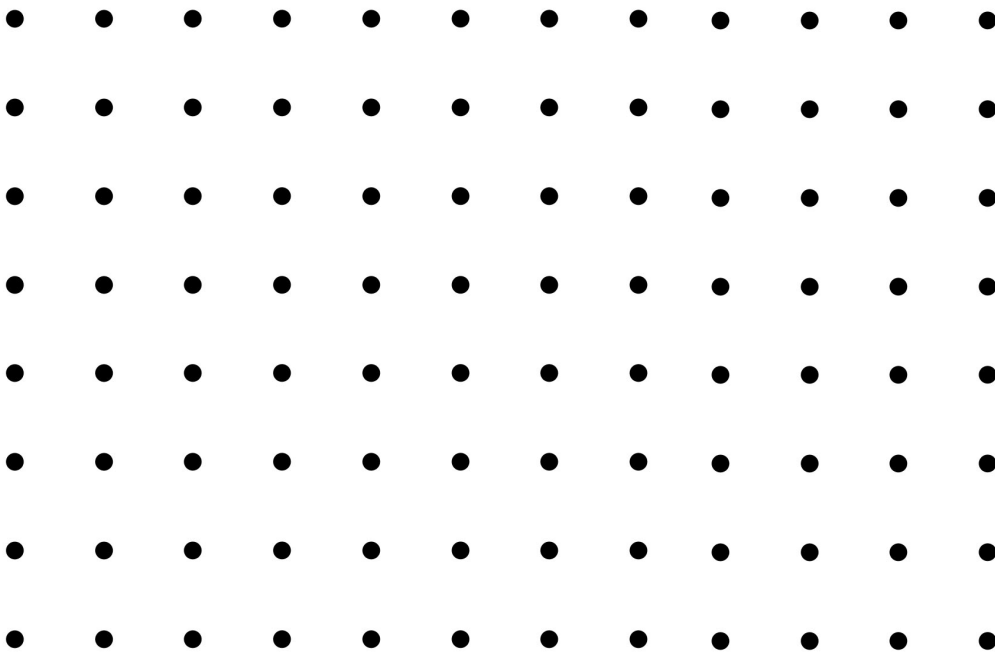
Game 1

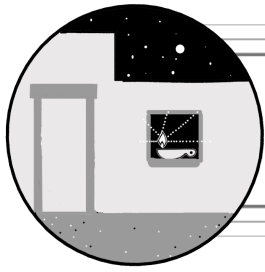


Game 2



Game 3





# THE STORY @ HOME

**KIDS  
3RD-6TH**

**NL**

**Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story**  
Narrative Lectionary, Year 2 (2023-2024)

**Lesson #2-27**  
Mark 13:1-8, 24-37

## LAST WEEK

Jesus teaches in the temple about loving God and loving neighbor. He then criticizes those who make a show of their giving and praises the widow who is willing to give all that she has to God's kingdom (Mark 12:28-44).

## THIS WEEK

As Jesus draws nearer to the end of his earthly ministry, his teachings become more direct and strongly worded. He warns about both the destruction of the temple and the Day of the Lord (Mark 13:1-8, 24-37)

## STORY SUMMARY

### The End of the Age

Jesus' teachings take a different turn here. He uses two illustrations to engage the disciples' imagination: the destruction of the temple and the flowering of the fig tree. These stories prepare the disciples for what is coming in the immediate future. In particular, the destruction of the temple foreshadows Jesus' death. The stories also encourage the disciples to look beyond what they can see to seek God's action beyond the ordinary. This type of seeing will be particularly important when Jesus is no longer with them.

## PRACTICE WORSHIP

We are called to pray and stay alert to what God is doing in our lives. Jesus uses signs to alert the disciples to what is coming. By using prayer and other spiritual practices, we can become more aware of how God is using signs to speak to us. Pray together in a dark room, and use a flashlight or candle to represent the light of Jesus that chases away the darkness.

## THE POINT

Trusting in Jesus, we can do God's work.

## BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

### *What Is the World to Come?*

The phrase *Olam Ha-Ba* ("the world to come") is used in the Hebrew Bible to refer to a future age of global peace. Most of the references to the World to Come in the Hebrew Bible saw God's eternal kingdom inaugurated here on earth, in what is known as the messianic age. The messianic age would be a period of peace for all of creation, with people beating their swords into plowshares and no more wars between nations (Isaiah 2:4). This peace extends to all of creation. Wolves will lie down with lambs and children will play with snakes without any fear of harm (Isaiah 11:6-9). The earth will have no more hunger, war, jealousy, or rivalry.

## NEXT WEEK

We move backwards to Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem as well as moving forward to his crucifixion and resurrection (Mark 11:1-11; 15:16-39; 16:1-8).

### Family Discussions

Use the questions below or other questions you think of to discuss today's Scripture reading (listed above) with your family.

- ✚ In what way does this text teach about the theme of God's Triumph?
- ✚ What does this Scripture have to do with our lives today?
- ✚ What part of this Scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

### Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

#### Sunday—Read Mark 13:24-27

The Son of Man comes.

Draw a picture of this descriptive passage.

#### Monday—Read Mark 13:28-31

The lesson of the fig tree.

Eat fig cookies as you read this lesson or look up pictures of figs online.

#### Tuesday—Read Mark 13:32-37

Keep awake.

Take turns pretending to fall asleep and waking each other.

#### Wednesday—Read 1 Thessalonians 5:1-5

Times and seasons.

Talk about your favorite season.

#### Thursday—Read 1 Thessalonians 5:6-11

Do not fall asleep.

Do a family inventory of the things which keep you distracted: TV, cell phones, video games, etc. Come up with a plan to cut down on a few of these distractions to spend time in prayer and observation together.

#### Friday—Read Romans 13:11-14

Salvation is near.

Take a walk at twilight to gaze into the night sky. What are the signs you see in the heavens that God is present?

#### Saturday—Read Mark 14:1-2

A plot is hatched.

Make your own God signs. What kind of sign would best describe this plot?