

★ Contending for the Faith

A Needful Subject

Lesson 11

The Teacher's Preparation

Scripture Passages to Study: Jude

Study Guide: Read "Contending for the Faith: *A Needful Subject*" from *New Testament Highlights - Part 2*.

Lesson Objective: Why must we contend for our faith so earnestly? Satan obviously knows the value of our faith, and he does all he can to destroy it. He will inspire people to try to destroy churches by destroying the lives of the Christians who attend them.

Lesson Application: I will contend, or fight, for my faith!

Memory Verse: Jude 3



Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

—Jude 3

The Teacher's Checklist

- Activity Worksheets and Pencils
- Attendance and Record Notebook
- Lesson Plan
- Cue Card
- Memory Verse Card
- Music Player
- Visual Illustrations for the Lesson
- Attention Getter: Toolbox

Teacher Tips

Make sure to encourage your students when they show improvement in any area.

They should be praised for bringing a Bible to church, for dressing up, and or for knowing a memory verse.

Look for every opportunity to praise the good that they do.

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1st - 3rd Grade
Lesson 11

A Needful Subject

The book of Jude is a letter written by Jesus' half brother. He was the son of Mary and Joseph. But he calls himself "the servant of Jesus Christ" (Jude 1:1). Jude talks about some things that are very important to all Christians.

Our Faith Was Delivered to Us

First, Jude reminds us that God gave us our faith. It is a gift from Him. It is very precious.

Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

—Jude 3

God spoke to certain men and told them what to write in the Bible. The Apostle Paul was one of those men. He says in I Corinthians 11:23, "For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you."

Paul says in I Corinthians 11:2:

Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you.

Since our faith is a gift from God, we must do the things God tells us to do. Our faith is important to God. It must also be important to us.

Contending for the Faith

You would think we could just enjoy our faith. We should just be able to enjoy going to church. But Jude makes it very clear that we can't do that. We must *contend*, or "defend" what we believe.

Satan is God's enemy. He knows that our faith is important to God. He wants to ruin our lives. He wants to ruin our church.

If we do not know what we believe, we will not live right. The devil will be able to get us to listen to the wrong music. He will be able to get us to dress in a sinful manner. He will be able to get us to act in ways and go places that do not please the Lord. We must know God's Word and obey it.

God's Judgment

God is very loving and patient with us. But if we continue to sin, God will have to judge our sin. Jude gives three examples of how God judged people in the Old Testament. First, God's people, Israel, did not obey God and His leader, Moses. So the adults that God led out of Egypt

