

Building Life Castles – Vocabulary

A

Anoint – To put oil on someone, showing that the person is chosen for a special purpose (p. 101)

Apostle – A “sent one;” a witness of the resurrection of Jesus; can refer to Christ’s original twelve apostles (p. 56)

Ascension – The event in which Jesus lifted up or ascended from Earth to heaven (p. 60)

B

The Beatitudes – Eight “blessings” that begin Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount (p. 80)

Beelzebub / Beelzebul – A name used in Scripture to refer to Satan or another demon (p. 36)

Blasphemy – Insulting God or something sacred; saying something untrue about God (p. 52)

Bless – To give someone special favor or grace; to wish happiness or success (p. 72)

C

Caesar – The ruler of the Roman Empire, which included the land of Israel in Jesus’ time (p. 14)

Christ / Messiah – A person chosen for a special role; the promised Savior Jesus (p. 10)

Commission – A task or job given to a person; the “Great Commission” is Jesus’ command to make disciples for Him (p. 27)

Compassion – A gentle, loving desire to help someone who is suffering (p. 32)

Condemn – To declare that someone is guilty and deserves punishment (p. 48)

Confess – To admit wrongdoing; to reveal what you believe (p. 72)

Confidence – firm, complete trust; absolute assurance (p. 84)

Conform – To become like someone or something (p. 80)

Contrite – Regretful; remorseful; filled with guilt (p. 101)

Conversion – Accepting or joining a new faith; the moment someone turns from sin to faith in Christ (p. 125)

The Council / Sanhedrin – A group of Jewish leaders who made legal and religious decisions for the people (p. 52)

Courage – Doing the right thing even when you are afraid (p. 93)

Crucifixion – A method of execution; killing someone by attaching them to an upright piece of wood and leaving them to die (p. 52)

D

Deacon – Someone appointed by a church to serve in some way; means “servant” (p. 121)

Debtors – People who owe something, often money (p. 84)

Deity – A divine character, nature, or being; the one God (p. 5)

Demon – A spiritual being that follows Satan and opposes God (p. 36)

Devil – Another name for Satan; means “liar” or “deceiver” (p. 23)

Discern – To see the differences between one thing and another; to know good from evil (p. 117)

Disciple – A student or follower who learns from a teacher (p. 27)

E

Easter – The Sunday each year that Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus (p. 56)

Envy – To want what others have or hate them for having it; similar to *covet* (p. 105)

Epistle – A letter; one of the 21 letters in the New Testament (p. 129)

Eternity – The world beyond time where our spirit will live forever (p. 84)

Exile – To drive out someone from their home country; to banish or separate (p. 10)

F

Faith – A belief and trust in something we cannot prove (p. 27)

The Flesh – The part of us that wants to sin; our mortal weakness (p. 68)

Foolishness – Refusing to learn; using knowledge poorly; the opposite of wisdom (p. 117)

Forgive – To not hold people's wrongs or failures against them; to give up revenge (p. 113)

The Fruit of the Spirit – The attributes or character that the Holy Spirit nurtures in us (p. 68)

G

Gentile – A term for people who are not Jewish (p. 125)

God's Grace – The goodness that God shares with us; His love, care, or blessing (p. 5)

God's Power – God's ability to control all things and do everything He chooses (p. 36)

H

Hallowed – Set apart as special, sacred, holy (p. 84)

Humility – An understanding of your limits; willingness to serve through lowly work (p. 101)

Hypocrisy – Pretending to be more righteous than you are, often to condemn others (p. 72)

I

Idol – A statue or image worshiped as a god; anything valued above the true God (p. 141)

Immortal – Alive forever; never dying; not mortal (p. 48)

Inspiration – The way God worked through human writers to record Scripture; "God-breathed" (p. 10)

Intercede – To act as a go-between for two people; to plead on behalf of someone (p. 65)

J

Justify – To declare that someone is innocent; to defend something as right (p. 48)

L

Leprosy – In Scripture, a term to describe diseases that could result in sores, loss of feeling, and deformities; used to be incurable (p. 36)

M

Magi – The wise men who traveled from the East to honor Jesus (p. 14)

Manger – A place to put food for animals; a feeding trough (p. 14)

Martyr – Someone killed for their religious beliefs (p. 121)

Messiah / Christ – A person chosen for a special role; the promised Savior Jesus (p. 10)

Miracle – A divinely-caused event that breaks the laws of nature (p. 32)

Missionary – A person sent on a mission, often to share the gospel and love of Jesus (p. 129)

Mourn – To feel deep, long-lasting sadness over something (p. 80)

O

Obey – To choose to do what someone else tells you to do; to comply (p. 105)

Omniscience – Knowing everything; “all-knowledge” with perfect wisdom (p. 76)

P

Pagan – Relating to a religion that worships many gods or even nature itself (p. 117)

Parable – A story that pictures or illustrates a lesson (p. 44)

Passover – A Jewish holiday celebrating the day Israelites escaped slavery in Egypt (p. 14)

Patience – The ability to bear troubles over time; perseverance for the sake of a goal (p. 109)

Peacemaker – A person who ends conflict in a lasting way (p. 80)

Pentecost – The “fiftieth day” after Easter; when the Spirit first arrived to bless the Church (p. 60)

Perish – To be ended or destroyed; to die (p. 48)

Persecute – To continually oppress or mistreat people, often for their religion or ethnicity (p. 27)

Pharisees – A Jewish religious group that added their own rules to God’s law (p. 36)

Pre-exist – To exist or live before another (p. 14)

Pride – An overly high opinion of yourself and your abilities (p. 101)

Prophecy – A message of truth from God; often about events in the future (p. 10)

Prophet – A chosen messenger of God who preached God’s truth; sometimes given power to do miracles (p. 40)

Provision – Something stored up to meet a need; what God gives us to show His care (p. 97)

R

Rabbi – A Jewish teacher or scholar, often on Old Testament Law; sometimes appears as “Master” (p. 5)

Regenerate – To give new life; to transform into something new (p. 65)

Resurrect – To bring back to life; to make alive after death (p. 56)

S

Sabbath – A day of the week set aside from work; reserved for rest and worship (p. 40)

Salvation – Saving someone from harm; in Scripture, God rescuing us from sin to Himself (p. 48)

Sanhedrin / The Council – A group of Jewish leaders who made legal and religious decisions for the people (p. 52)

Satan – An evil being opposed to God and those who follow Him; means “adversary” (p. 23)

The Sermon on the Mount – The longest message from Jesus recorded in the Gospels (p. 80)

Sin – Turning away from God; to break God’s Law (p. 23)

Soil – Ground; a mixture of earth; often the kind used for planting crops (p. 44)

The Son of God – A title for Jesus meaning that He has the same nature or being as God (p. 5)

Sower – A person who “sows”—who throws or plants seeds into soil (p. 44)

Spiritual Fruit – Outer evidence of a godly heart; actions changed by following Jesus (p. 27)

Submit – To serve someone or follow leadership; to put your wants under another’s (p. 105)

Synagogue – A gathering place for Jews to learn and worship (p. 14)

T

Temptation – An influence or desire that draws us toward sin (p. 23)

Testament – A promise or covenant; the name for the two major divisions of books in the Bible (p. 10)

Trinity – The three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—mysteriously unified as one God (p. 5)

U

Unity – The state of being one, whole, and at peace (p. 5)

W

Wisdom – Insight and understanding; the ability to use knowledge well (p. 117)