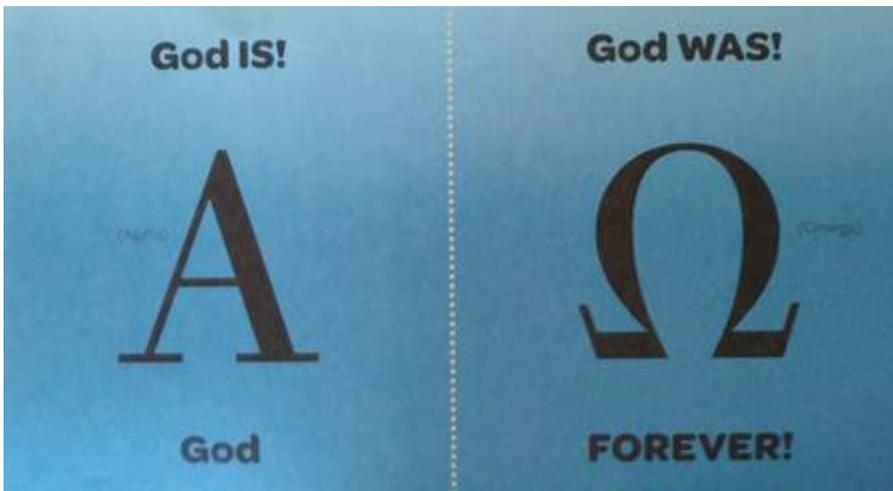


Welcome to St. Peter's Virtual Sunday School! This Sunday is Easter Sunday 2! Today is the Second Sunday of Easter!

While we cannot meet together on Sunday morning, we can still meet virtually to learn about Jesus by reading the Bible, talking about what we've read and doing some activities. Get together with your family and do these lessons when it works for you or phone your friend or Grandma who you can't get together with right now to talk about these lessons. I hope you enjoyed celebrating Easter with your family last Sunday and sharing the good news about Jesus with your family and friends with however you were able to talk to them. Did you phone, email, Skype, Zoom or Facetime? Did you decorate Easter Eggs?

Easter Sunday 2 (This lesson comes from Whirl Lectionary Sunday School, Year C Spring.)

Guess how many Sundays there are in Easter. Did you guess seven? What a lucky guess; you are right, there are seven Sundays in the season of Easter. During the season of Easter, we continue to celebrate that Jesus rose from the dead. God was there through all of it and God is still with us. God is the great and almighty – the beginning and the end! In Jesus' time the beginning and the end was called the Alpha and the Omega; like A and Z, the beginning and end of the alphabet. In the picture below you can see the symbols for the Alpha and the Omega. Did you notice the Alpha symbol is an A, just like the first letter of the alpha-bet that we use today!



The early Christians needed encouragement, because following Jesus was hard – not everyone, who they tried to share the news of Jesus with, understood or even liked what Jesus had to say. But, one man named John wanted to help, so he sent a letter from the island of Patmos (can you find it on the map?) all the way over to seven church congregations. Can you find all the places that are listed below the map, on the map? How do you think John's letters got to these places? (by boat and then probably a messenger) Aren't we lucky we have the internet to send messages.



The Story: The Beginning and the End (Attachments: Easter Sunday 2 - 1 and Easter Sunday 2 - 2)

Before you read the story, look at the pictures. On the first set of pictures, where do you suppose the man is, and what is everyone reading? Look for the clouds, on the second page! Now read the story and Ada and Otto's comments.

Questions to think about, answer and talk about after reading the story:

Who wrote a letter to the churches in Asia? Where did John write from? Why was he there?
 Can you finish what John wrote? "God was! God is! God will come _____!"
 What are God's people like? Who are they? Where are they from?
 You are God's people. Where do you live?
 God is Alpha and Omega. Alpha means "beginning." What do you think Omega means?

Activity (attachment - Easter 2 Activity)

If you had to figure out which direction was north, south, east or west, what would you do? A compass is a great tool for finding directions. Use a compass to find these four directions in your home. Write North, South, East and West on four sticky notes and stick them on four walls in a room in your house. Now you know where each direction is in your home.

Print the compass on the activity sheet in the attachment or draw one like it on a piece of paper. Add a spinner to the center using a pipe cleaner, paperclip, closed safety pin (or get you Mom or Dad find an ingenious way to create a spinner. Gook luck!)

Now it's time to play "The Everywhere Game!" When it's your turn, spin the spinner on your square. It will land on a direction. Now look toward that same direction in your home and name a place where God is in that direction.

God rules over everything. We are all part of God's kingdom. God is everywhere, even in our homes, and everywhere in the world!

Prayer

God we praise you for being the beginning and the end. Amen.

Other activities to do this week

From A to Z: God is everywhere, and for always. Sit in a circle with your family and name one word for each letter of the alphabet that tells who or where God is or something that is under God's amazing power.

Circles Everywhere: A circle reminds us of God because it has no beginning and no end. Cut our pictures of circles from magazines or newspapers and glue them on a piece of paper to create a circle.

Have a good week! (Remember to stay healthy, keep your distance and wash your hands.)

Blessings,

Jane

ALL God's people are part of God's kingdom. If you live in the east or the west, YOU are in God's kingdom. If you live in the north or the south, YOU are in God's kingdom. No matter WHERE you live, YOU are in God's kingdom.

God is the ruler of EVERYTHING. Praise God forever! It's like the old song says:

*"Look! Jesus comes, riding on a cloud!
Every eye will look and see,
Those who LOVE Jesus,
Those who HURT Jesus,
ALL will know he's here for you and me.*

*God is Alpha and Omega—
The beginning and the end.
God was, God is, God will come again,
Jesus, our savior and our friend!"*

So God is the ruler of everything and everyone? Even little places like our town? Even you and me?

When John says everything, he means EVERYTHING.



The Beginning and the End

REVELATION 1:4-8

ATTENTION, Churches in Asia!

John wrote a letter from his prison cell on an island called Patmos. He wanted Christians all over the world to know about God's faithfulness.

I'm sending you GRACE and PEACE from the all-powerful God! God is strong and will never leave you. God WAS! God IS! God will COME AGAIN!

????????????????????????????????????

What's something you look forward to happening again?

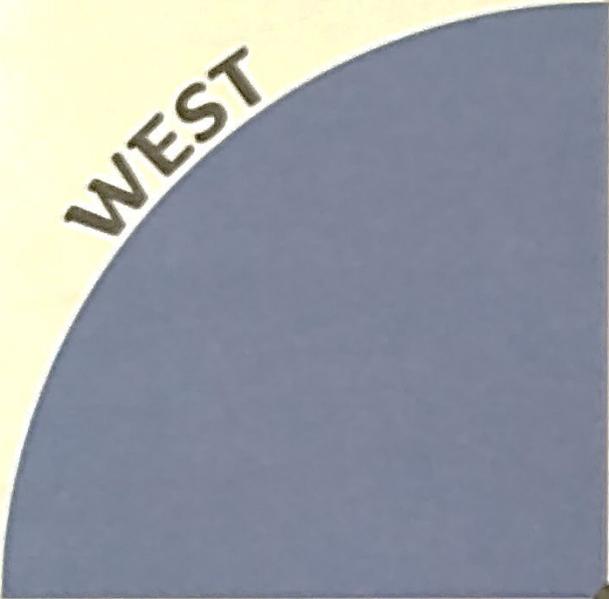
We know God because we know Jesus. Jesus taught us to love OTHERS the way God loves US. Jesus died for YOU and ME. Jesus came alive again. Never forget! The Messiah won against death.



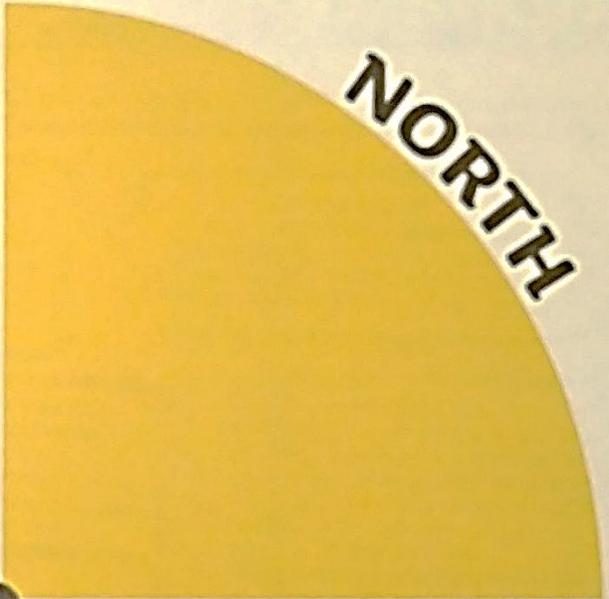
I wonder what John did to get thrown in prison.

He probably got in trouble for spreading the news about Jesus. The emperor didn't want any competition.

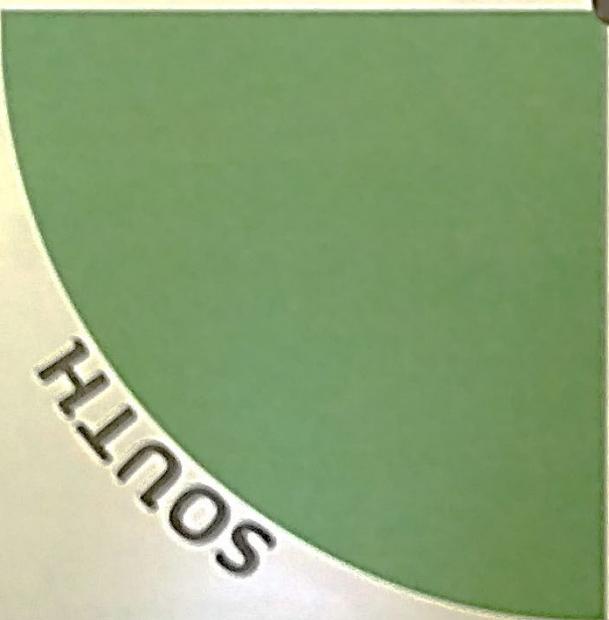




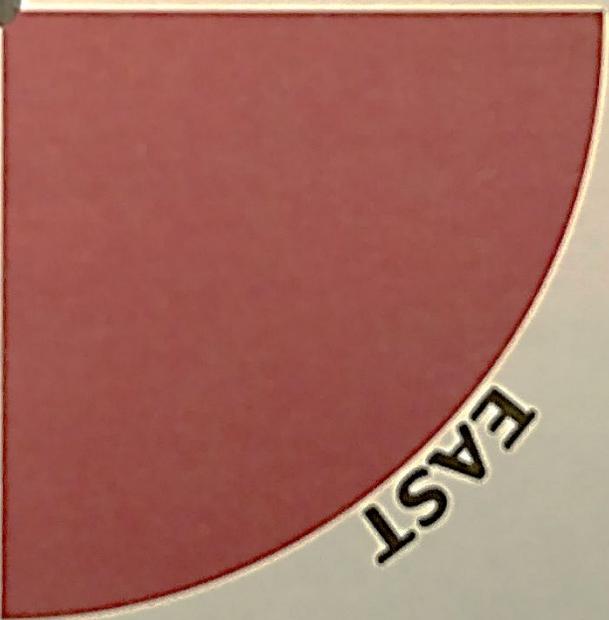
WEST



NORTH



SOUTH



EAST