

# Homeschool Lesson:

## Charles Spurgeon – Faith, Preaching, and Legacy

**Based on the book:** *Charles Spurgeon: A Brief Life and Legacy*

**Recommended age range:** 10–16 (adaptable for younger or older students)

**Subject areas:** History, Christian Studies, Literature, Character Education

**Estimated time:** 60–90 minutes (can be split over 2 days)

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### Lesson Overview

In this lesson, students will learn about the life of Charles Haddon Spurgeon, one of the most influential Christian preachers in history. They will explore his early life, faith, preaching ministry, compassion for others, and lasting legacy. Students will also reflect on the importance of Scripture, character, and perseverance.

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### Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

- Identify who Charles Spurgeon was and why he is historically significant
  - Describe how his early upbringing shaped his faith
  - Explain why preaching and the Bible were central to his life
  - Recognize how Spurgeon showed compassion through action
  - Apply lessons from Spurgeon's life to their own character and faith
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### Required Materials

- *Charles Spurgeon: A Brief Life and Legacy* (student copy or read aloud)
- Notebook or paper
- Pencil or pen
- Optional: printed illustrations from the book
- Optional Bible

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### Vocabulary (Introduce Before Reading)

- **Preacher** – someone who proclaims God’s Word publicly
- **Sermon** – a message taught from Scripture
- **Legacy** – what a person is remembered for after their life
- **Compassion** – deep concern shown through action
- **Conviction** – a strong belief held with confidence

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### Reading Assignment

Read (or read aloud):

- **Chapter 1:** A Godly Heritage
- **Chapter 2:** Conversion and New Life
- **Chapter 3:** A Call to Preach

(Optional: Older students may continue through all 8 chapters over several lessons.)

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### Discussion Questions

1. How did Spurgeon’s family influence his faith?
2. Why do you think Spurgeon took his faith seriously even as a child?
3. What changed after Spurgeon’s conversion?
4. Why was the Bible so important to Spurgeon?
5. What does this quote mean?

“A church without the Bible is a body without a soul.”

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### Activity 1 – Timeline Exercise

Have the student create a simple timeline with at least **5 key events** from Spurgeon’s life, such as:

- Birth in 1834
- Conversion at age 15
- First preaching role
- Ministry in London
- His lasting influence after death

Younger students may draw pictures instead of writing sentences.

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### Activity 2 – Character Study

Ask the student to list **three character traits** Spurgeon showed (examples: faithfulness, courage, compassion, discipline).

For each trait:

- Write one sentence explaining how Spurgeon showed it
  - Write one sentence explaining how the student can practice that trait today
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### Bible Connection (Optional)

Read one of the following passages and discuss how it connects to Spurgeon’s life:

- Romans 10:17 – *Faith comes by hearing the Word*
  - 2 Timothy 4:2 – *Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season*
  - Psalm 119:105 – *Your word is a lamp to my feet*
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### Activity 3 – Creative Response (Choose One)

- **Art:** Draw or paint a scene from Spurgeon’s life (preaching, studying, helping children)
- **Writing:** Write a short paragraph titled “*What I Learned from Charles Spurgeon*”
- **Memorization:** Memorize the quote:

“A church without the Bible is a body without a soul.”

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### **Assessment (Simple & Gentle)**

Ask the student to answer in writing or verbally:

1. Who was Charles Spurgeon?
  2. Why is he still remembered today?
  3. What is one lesson from his life that matters to you?
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### **Extension Ideas**

- Compare Charles Spurgeon with another Christian figure (William Tyndale, Martin Luther, etc.)
  - Listen to a short excerpt of one of Spurgeon's sermons (older students)
  - Create a short "book report" or illustrated summary
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### **Parent/Teacher Note**

This lesson is designed to emphasize **faith, character, perseverance, and love for Scripture**, not just historical facts. Feel free to adjust the depth based on your child's age and maturity.

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### **End of Lesson**

# Answer Key

## Charles Spurgeon – Faith, Preaching, and Legacy

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### Part 1 – Reading Check

1. **Where and when was Charles Haddon Spurgeon born?**

*Charles Haddon Spurgeon was born on June 19, 1834, in Kelvedon, England.*

2. **How did Spurgeon’s family influence his faith?**

*His father and grandfather were pastors who surrounded him with Scripture, prayer, and serious Christian teaching from a young age.*

3. **Describe Spurgeon’s conversion experience.**

*At age fifteen, Spurgeon heard a sermon based on Isaiah 45:22 during a snowstorm and placed his faith in Christ, finding peace and assurance of salvation.*

4. **Why was the Bible so important to Spurgeon?**

*He believed the Bible was the Word of God and the foundation of true faith, preaching, and church life.*

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### Part 2 – Understanding the Story

1. **Spurgeon began preaching when he was:**

**Correct answer:** b) A teenager

2. **Spurgeon is often called:**

**Correct answer:** b) The Prince of Preachers

3. **One way Spurgeon showed compassion was by:**

**Correct answer:** b) Building orphanages

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### Part 3 – Vocabulary Match

1. Sermon – c. **Message taught from the Bible**
2. Legacy – a. **What a person is remembered for**
3. Compassion – d. **Love shown through action**

4. Conviction – **b. Strong belief held firmly**

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**Part 4 – Quote Reflection**

“A church without the Bible is a body without a soul.”

**Sample acceptable answers:**

1. *The quote means that without God’s Word, the church has no true spiritual life or direction.*
2. *Spurgeon believed the Bible was essential because it reveals God’s truth and brings spiritual life.*

(Responses may vary if they show understanding.)

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**Part 5 – Character Study**

**Acceptable traits include:** Faithful, Courageous, Compassionate, Patient, Disciplined

- Students should explain how Spurgeon demonstrated the trait (example: courage in preaching truth).
  - Application answers will vary and should be considered correct if thoughtful and sincere.
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**Part 6 – Creative Response**

**No single correct answer.**

Evaluate based on effort, creativity, and connection to Spurgeon’s life.

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**Part 7 – Short Answer Review**

1. **Why is Charles Spurgeon still remembered today?**  
*He is remembered for his powerful preaching, faithfulness to Scripture, compassion for others, and lasting influence on Christianity.*
  2. **What is one lesson from Spurgeon’s life that matters to you?**  
*Answers will vary. Accept responses showing personal reflection.*
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**Teacher Note:** This answer key allows flexibility for thoughtful responses, especially in reflection and application sections. Focus on understanding rather than exact wording.

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**End of Answer Key**