

Introducing Unit Four

Title Page Photo: (118)

The instrument pictured on this page would have no use were it not for gravity. This portable platform balance is designed to measure the attraction between the earth and whatever object is placed on the platform. Sometimes it is very important to know the strength of gravity. Many weighing devices are used to measure the quantity of some material being bought or sold. Standard weights and precision balances are needed to be honest in many business dealings. The label on the top part of the pictured balance says "precision indicator." Above the center of the scale it says "under" meaning "underweight"; below the center it says "over" meaning "overweight." This attachment scale helps to produce very accurate weighings. Also notice the extra weights hanging on a bar near the top of the support column. Unless these weights were made according to some standard, they would likely be either too heavy or too light. It would be wrong to use a balance or weights in buying and selling that were known to measure the force of gravity inaccurately.

Searching for Truth: (119)

Gravity is a very fundamental part of our existence. Gravity is such an integral part of matter that to go against its laws can mean disaster. Man has no power to "turn off" gravity and its effects on matter.

Not only did Jesus Himself have control over the effect of gravity, but He was also able to allow Peter to follow His example of walking on the water. Surface tension cannot explain this phenomenon. Buoyant force cannot explain it. God, the Creator of heaven and earth, is the only explanation for this miracle.

Searching for Understanding: (119)

These are questions about very ordinary things: down, weight, float, sink, smoke, and water. However, it may be difficult for the students to answer them. Have a student give an answer to the first question and then have him test his answer by asking questions such as: Would that