

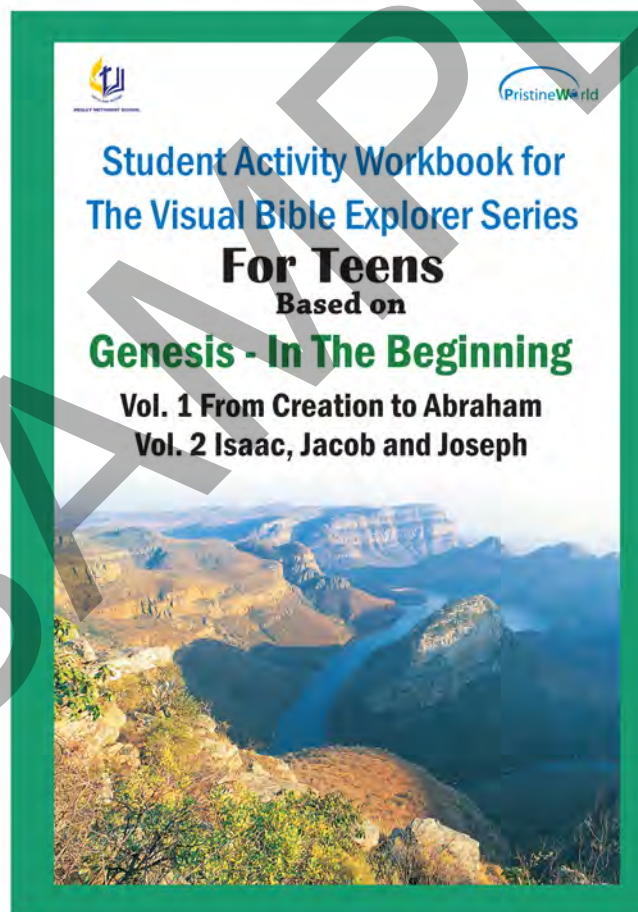


WESLEY METHODIST SCHOOL



Teacher's Guide for Student Activity Workbook

The Visual Bible Explorer Series
For Teens
Based on



Genesis - In The Beginning

Vol. 1 From Creation to Abraham
Vol. 2 Isaac, Jacob and Joseph

SAMPLE



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for

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Genesis - In The Beginning

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Genesis Volume 1

Lesson 1: INTRODUCTION TO THE BIBLE AND THE BOOK OF GENESIS

Questions

- 1. What is the meaning of the word *Biblios* – the Greek word for the Bible?**
Biblios means a library
- 2. How many books are there in the Old Testament?**
39 books
- 3. How many books are there in the New Testament?**
27 books
- 4. What is the meaning of the word *Testament* or *Covenant* as used in the Bible?**
It means a solemn promise between God and man
- 5. Name the first five books of the Old Testament.**
Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers & Deuteronomy
- 6. Name the first five books of the New Testament.**
Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Acts
- 7. Name a few genres or types of writings found in the Bible.**
Law, history, poetry, prophecy, letters or epistles
- 8. After the great flood during Noah's time, who did God make a covenant with to head and lead His people?**
Abraham
- 9. After the Israelites had been enslaved in Egypt for 430 years, who did God use to lead them out of Egypt?**
Moses
- 10. Who led the Israelites into the Promised Land?**
Joshua
- 11. Who was the first king of Israel?**
Saul son of Kish
- 12. Which king brought the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem?**
David son of Jesse

Challenge Questions

- 1. Write down 3 key themes found in the Bible.**
 - a. God is the creator
 - b. God is holy and wants us to be holy
 - c. Sin separates us from God
 - d. Jesus came to pay for our sins and bring us back to fellowship with God
- 2. What does the word *Genesis* mean?**
Genesis means 'Beginning'
- 3. Who is the writer of the book of *Genesis* and also the writer of the first five books of the Bible?**
Moses is the writer of the first five books of the Bible including Genesis
- 4. What are the first five books of the Bible called?**
The first five books of the Bible as a collection is known as The Pentateuch

SAMPLE

Genesis Volume 1

Lesson 2: THE STORY OF CREATION

Based on chapter 1 in the multimedia book and DVD-R

Theme / Overview of Story:

God creates the universe and the earth. He creates all life on earth. He only has to speak and the world is created. Humankind is created in the image of God. God saw all that He created and it was good. God rests from creating on the seventh day.

Bible Passage

Genesis 1:1 – 2:3.

Public Reading

Suggested public reading – Genesis 1:1 – 5 and 24 – 31.

Activities

Play the multimedia Story 1 – The Story of Creation.

Try all the multiple choice quiz questions.

For the older children, if there is enough time, try the Discussion questions.

Objective

That the children will learn to give praise and thanks to God for all that we see in this world. God created the world perfect. Although much of it is destroyed by humans, we must still give thanks to God for a world that sustains life even until today.

Preparation

Pray for wisdom. Read chapter 1 of the text book. Go through the interactive multimedia story 1.

Memory Verse

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1

Lessons from the Story

1. There is one God who created the Universe.
2. When the Universe was created, it was judged by God to be good. The Bible uses this word to show God's satisfaction and pleasure in the world that He has created. It was perfect.

Bible Truth and Application

1. Only the Creator God is worthy of our worship.
2. God is perfect and righteous. He created the World perfect. Let us be mindful of His righteousness.

Response and Prayer

Invite the children to praise God and thank Him for creating each one of them.

If class is in a secular school, the teacher has to use discretion on the prayer item.

Answers to Workbook

Understanding the Lesson

1. Summarize below what God created each day. Fill in the chart below with the Bible Reference and what was created.

Formlessness given form but still empty

Emptiness filled

| | |
|---|---|
| Day 1 – Ref: Gen:1:3-5 God created Light | Day 4 – Ref: Gen:1:14-19 Bright objects in space: sun, moon and stars |
| Day 2 – Ref: Gen 1:6-8 God created (Upper Expanse) – Air God created (Lower Expanse) - Water | Day 5 – Ref: Gen 1:20-23 Filled the Upper Expanse (Air) with Birds Filled the Lower Expanse (Water) with sea creatures |
| Day 3 – Ref: Gen 1: 9-13 God created dry ground And vegetation | Day 6 – Ref: Gen 1:24-31 God created living creatures on land Finally God created humankind |

Day 7 – Ref: Gen 2:2-3

God **Rested and blessed it and made it holy**

“It is important to recognize that verses 2-31 do little more than expand upon verse 1. They do not fully (certainly not in a scientific fashion—who would have cared over the centuries until now?) explain creation. Neither do they prove it, for this is ultimately a faith issue. The facts upon which this faith must be based are simply stated”. By Robert L. (Bob) Deffinbaugh graduated from Dallas Theological Seminary with Th.M.

There does seem to be a pattern to these six creation days, which many Bible students have observed. It can best be illustrated graphically:

Source: <https://bible.org/seriespage/2-creation-heavens-and-earth-genesis-11-23>

2. **List the things God found “good” among His creations from Genesis Chapter 1**

Verse 31 sums it up. All that God had made was very good. However, below are the specific verses. God created the universe, the world and nature in perfect harmony. That is the key message here.

- Verse 4 - The light
- Verse 10 - The land and the seas
- Verse 12 - The vegetation
- Verses 16-18 - The sun, moon and the stars
- Verse 21 - The creatures of the sea and every winged bird
- Verse 25 - The wild animals, the livestock and all the creatures that move along the ground
- Verse 31 - All that he had made, and it was very good

3. **What do we learn about God from Genesis chapter 1?**
and

4. **What does it mean to be made in the image of God?**

Here are some points:

- He is the Creator
- He speaks His creations into existence
- He is the judge of all He creates
- He blesses that which He chooses
- All that He creates belongs to Him (verses 29 and 30)

5. **Select a project to present**
Select your own team and choose one of the following projects to do:

- Encourage the students to form small teams of 2, 3 or 4.
- Ask them to select a topic of their choice and to make a poster or power point slide presentation about the wonders of Creation. Ask them to show how different elements in God’s creation are in perfect harmony with each other. This is before man’s sinful intervention.

Challenge Question:

Application Questions

The application question is designed to make the student reflect on God’s greatness, His personal care for us and what is our appropriate response. For the Christian it is to worship Him and obey his instructions to us as taught in the Bible. One of the first things He has asked us to do is to receive His Son, Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour and to obey His teachings.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

- | | | | | |
|------|-------|----------|-------|----------|
| 1. B | Day 3 | 4. D | Day 6 | 7. True |
| 2. C | Day 5 | 5. E | Day 7 | 8. False |
| 3. D | Day 6 | 6. False | | 9. True |
| | | | | 10. True |

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. **Why do you think the phrase “And God saw that it was good” is repeated many times?**

Notes: The whole world was created by the Creator God and it was created perfect. We do not have to fear the light or the darkness, sea creatures, crawling creatures, land creatures or birds. They were all created by the Creator God. People of that time and place had many superstitions and fears. They feared an assortment of gods (usually of nature such as the Sun, Moon, Fertility, various animals, the Nile River and etc.). The Genesis record taught the children of Israel and teaches us today, that all these things were created by God. It is the Creator God and only the Creator God that is worthy of our worship.

2. **What do you think the phrase “God created man in his own image” means?**

Notes: Refer to Quiz – True False Questions No.2 above.

We are definitely not the equivalent of God. In fact we are far inferior to God. But God has given us some qualities or characteristics that are similar with His. You can ask the children – what they think are some of these characteristics that we may share with God. Obviously it is not in the physical realm – we cannot create the earth or the heavens. We cannot part the Red Sea, the River Jordan, or even the water in our bath tub. But we can love, be angry, feel sorrow.

3. **What are some of the attributes of God that we can learn from this story?**

Notes: When we share about God with others, it is very difficult to explain this God to others if we do not know how he related to people in the past. Of course we can share about our own experience with Jesus, but the Bible and the Genesis record gives us a richer explanation of the nature and attributes of God.

Every verse in the Bible can teach us something about God, or what he would like us to do.

After explaining the above to the children, you can ask them what they can learn about God in this chapter. What does the creation story tell us about God’s nature.

Some pointers would be:

- He is all-powerful. He created everything that we see around us.
- He creates order. The universe is created and brought to order by God. He created man, male and female, to subdue and rule over the rest of creation.
- The beauty and perfection of God’s creation tells us about the nature of God Himself.

3. **How are man and woman “one flesh” when they are married? What do verses 24 and 25 of Genesis Chapter 2 reveal to us about God’s view of marriage, homosexuality, polygamy and adultery? What did Jesus say about marriage based on these verses (Read Matthew 19:5-6).**

God’s view of marriage is that the husband and wife are partners, they are united and of a single purpose, they come together sexually. They both were given the responsibility to care for God’s creation.

God ordained marriage between a man and a woman.

4. **What commands did God give to man when he placed him in the garden? What was it he could and could not do and what were the consequences for disobedience?**

Man had to take care of the Garden. He could eat of any tree in the garden. But he was commanded not eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Death was the consequence of doing what was forbidden (eating from the tree of knowledge of good and evil)

Application Questions

1. **How can we take care of our Garden of Eden - in our house, our neighbourhood, our town, state and country?** Ask the children how can we do our part to maintain the harmony of God’s creation within our area of influence or dominion. Some ideas are:
- How to recycle more
 - Waste less water
 - Keep our house, garden and neighbourhood clean
 - Etc
2. **How are we made in the image of and likeness of God per verse 26 of Genesis Chapter 1?**

Ask the children, based on the story of Genesis so far, what attributes of God has He given to us? No, we are not omnipotent (all-powerful), but we can love, feel anger when we see injustice, feel so many emotions.

Challenge Application Question:

1. Ask the students for their opinion.
Points to note:
- a. God made a garden and put the man in there to take care of it
 - b. God put the man in charge of all the animals and creatures
 - c. God gave the man a special help mate so that he would not be lonely

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. False the Garden was planted in the east, in Eden.
2. True Refer to Genesis 2:10.
3. False Man was to care for the garden. Refer to Genesis 2:15.
4. False God brought the animals for the Man to name. Refer to Genesis 2:19-20.
5. False He was forbidden to eat from one of the trees in the middle of the garden i.e. the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Refer to Genesis 2:17.

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. **Why did Adam call his wife “woman”?**

Notes: Refer to Genesis 2: 23 Adam called her “woman” because she was taken out of man.

2. **How would you imagine life for Adam and Eve to be like in the Garden of Eden?**

Notes: We can ask the children to imagine how Adam and Eve spent their day in the Garden of Eden, but should try to avoid overly speculative suggestions. Try to stay close to what the Bible has told us
The Bible gives us some hints:

- The Garden was a perfect place where there was no sorrow, pain, hardship or death. We know this by implication, because after man sinned, man and woman were punished with hardship and mortality.
- They had to work, to care for God’s creation and to care for the Garden. Refer to notes above.
- The animals were no threat to man or to themselves. Gen 1:29-30 tells us that God gave man plants and fruits to eat, and to all the animals He gave plants to eat.
- They had close fellowship with God. This is implied from Gen 3: 8, when God came to fellowship with Adam and Eve.

3. **What does The Garden of Eden story teach us about our responsibilities towards God’s creation, nature and the environment?**

Notes: We are called to :

- Gen 1: 26 “... Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, overall the earth and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”
- Gen 2: 15. God put the man into the Garden “.. to work it and take care of it.” Man could eat of from any tree in the garden except from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. In other words, man could eat and enjoy the fruits of his labour.
- By implication, man is commanded to care for nature and the environment. Man has been given the ability to master and subdue the earth. But we are not to destroy the earth.
- You can ask the children to state ways in which man is either conserving the environment or destroying it.

4. **What should the Christian attitude be towards work?** Notes:

- Before Adam and Eve sinned, they already worked. Work is good. This is re-emphasized in the New Testament for example in 2 Thessalonians 3:10 “... If a man will not work, he shall not eat.”
- Work must be done within guidelines that God has given us. Here are some points you can ask the children:
- Work with honesty (emphasized in the Ten Commandments and other Bible references)
- Work in obedience to God – Adam was a good and obedient worker, before he sinned.
- Give God honour and respect a day when we are to rest and worship God.

Genesis Volume 1

Lesson 4: ADAM AND EVE - SIN ENTERS THE WORLD

Base on chapter 3 in the multimedia book and DVD-R

Theme / Overview of Story:

The devil in the form of the serpent comes to tempt Adam and Eve.

Eve and then Adam disobey God's command and eat the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. By disobeying God, they have lost the right to remain in the paradise Garden of Eden.

Bible Passage

Genesis 3:1 - 24.

Public Reading

Suggested public reading -
Genesis 3:1 - 19.

Activities

Play the multimedia Story 3 - Adam and Eve.

Try all the multiple choice quiz questions.

For the older children, if there is enough time, try the Discussion questions.



Objective

Help the children understand that just as with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, God loves to have fellowship with us. But when we disobey Him, our sin comes between God and us. We need to ask for His forgiveness through Jesus Christ our Lord, before we can have fellowship with Him again.

Preparation

Pray for wisdom. Read chapter 3 of the text book. Go through the interactive multimedia story 3.

Memory Verse

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23

Response and Prayer

- Teach the children they can always confess their sins to God and ask for forgiveness. They can have fellowship with God in Jesus' name.
- Ask them to list down some of the things that God would like them to do to have fellowship with Him.
- In secular schools, teachers use discretion.

Lessons from the Story

1. God is described in the Bible as a spiritual being as well as a personal being. Although He is all powerful, He fellowships with man on a personal level.
2. God has given humankind freedom of choice. Obedience to God leads to life. Disobedience leads to judgment and separation from God.

Bible Truth and Application

1. Ask the children how we can have fellowship with God. Their answers should include praying, reading God's word and obeying Him.
2. Ask the children what are some of the things that God has forbidden us to do? How do we make sure that we obey God?

Answers to Workbook

Understanding the Lesson

1. **Ask the students to list from Genesis chapter 1 and 2 the verses where the Bible uses human traits to describe what God did.**

- God 'said' is used in Genesis chapter 1: verses 3,6,9,11,14,20,24 and 26
- o By God's command, or voice of will, He created from something from nothing.
- God 'saw' and inspected all that He had created: vs 4, 10, 12, 18, 25, 31
- God 'called': vs 5, 8,10
- God 'rested': Genesis chapter 2 vs 2 and 3
- God 'breathed': chapter 2 vs 7

2. **Describe the transformation of Adam and Eve that occurred when they ate of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. What was different about them after they ate of the tree?**

Prior to the fall they were as little children and had no knowledge of good and evil, whereas after the fall their actual knowledge of evil caused them to realize they were naked. Previously they had no idea it was wrong. Now they hid from God whereas

before they likely enjoyed great fellowship with Him. Now the first instance of fear is seen in mankind.

3. **Write the punishment given to:**

- a. Adam
The earth would not yield its fruit easily. Adam would have to toil to earn a living
- b. Eve
The woman would have terrible pain in child birth and be dominated by her husband
- c. The serpent
The serpent would have to crawl on its belly. There would be enmity between the serpent and the children of Eve. One day, a Messiah would be born from the descendants of Eve and destroy the serpent.

4. **Fill in the chart where God spoke, the serpent lied, Eve's reply and the difference**

From chapter 3 below, what was the lie, the temptation, and the trickery of each?

| | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| <p>God said (Gen 2:16-17)</p> <p><i>"You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."</i></p> | <p>Satan said (Gen 3:1)</p> <p><i>"Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"</i></p> | <p>Eve said (Gen 3:2-3)</p> <p><i>"We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"</i></p> | <p>Comment difference</p> <p>God did not say 'you must not touch it.'</p> |
| <p>God said (Gen 2:16:17)</p> <p><i>"You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."</i></p> | <p>Satan said (Gen 2:4-5)</p> <p><i>"You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."</i></p> | <p>Eve & Adam did</p> <p><i>When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.</i></p> | <p>Comment difference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Lie: They were free to eat of any tree in the garden except one. . . Satan lied and said God said you cannot eat from any tree</i> • <i>God said, 'if you eat from the tree of the knowl edge.....you will surely die'. Satan said 'You will not surely die...your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.'</i> • <i>Temptation: Tempted to doubt God's Word and His intentions</i> • <i>Trickery: Questions the truth of God's Word, tries to cast doubt in her mind</i> |

Challenge Application Questions

- 1. What hope does Genesis 3:15 give us? Explain in your own words what this verse means**
Genesis 3:15 teaches us that among Eve's children or descendants, one day, one of them will defeat the devil. Christians believe that this prophecy is ultimately fulfilled by Jesus Christ. Knowing that Jesus has defeated the devil gives us hope.
- 2. Explain with New Testament verses, what God has given us today to resist the temptations of the devil and how can we make use of it.**
 - a. His Law – the set of instructions written in the Bible which teach us right from wrong
 - b. His moral compass planted in every human – our conscience telling us right from wrong
 - c. For Christians, He has given us the Holy Spirit who dwells in us and renewing and regenerating us and bringing to our remembrance all the teachings of Jesus

- 4. What should our attitude be towards things that have been clearly forbidden by God?** Notes:
Points to consider:
 - When Joseph was tempted by Potiphar's wife, he described his situation quite similarly to Adam and Eve's situation. Refer to Gen 39:8-13. His response was to run.
 - Jesus was tempted by the devil three times while He was in the desert fasting and praying. Refer Matthew 4:1-11. He rebuked the devil with scripture and finally chased him away.
 - Ask the children about situations that they have been in when they felt they were tempted and how they managed the situation.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. False (Gen 3:21).
2. False (Gen 2:16).
3. True (Gen 2:17).
4. False (Gen 2:17).
5. A Refer to Genesis 3:7.
6. B Refer to Genesis 3:27.

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

- 1. What was the effect of sin on Adam and Eve and the rest of creation?**
Notes: Ask the children how they think sin has affected the world we know today. Refer to Gen 3:17 – 19. Points to consider:
 - Before sin came into the world, there was no disease
 - Suffering in the world
 - Natural Disasters
- 2. Why were Adam and Eve banished from the Garden of Eden?**
Notes: Refer to Genesis 3:22-24
- 3. Why did God make garments of animal skin for them?**
Notes: Refer to Gen 3:21
 - God's love – He didn't just make garments of animal skin, but He clothed them.

Genesis Volume 1

Lesson 5: CAIN AND ABEL

Based on chapter 4 in the multimedia book and DVD-R

Theme / Overview of Story:

Adam and Eve have two children named Cain and Abel. Cain and Abel offer sacrifices to God. God is pleased with the offering from Abel but not with the offering from Cain. God tells Cain His reason for not accepting his offering and gives him a chance to repent. Instead of repenting, Cain becomes very jealous and murders his brother Abel. God sees the crime and punishes Cain for it.

Bible Passage

Genesis 4:1 – 26.

Public Reading

Suggested public reading –
Genesis 4:1 – 16.

Activities

Play the multimedia Story 4 – Cain and Abel.
Try all the multiple choice quiz questions.
For the older children, if there is enough time, try the Discussion questions.



Objective

God gave Cain a chance to repent so that his offering would be accepted. Cain did not obey God. Then he murdered Abel when he thought he was alone and no one was watching. Help the children to learn that God knows everything and nothing escapes His eye.

Preparation

Pray for wisdom. Read chapter 4 of the text book. Go through the interactive multimedia story 4.

Memory Verse

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32

Lessons from the Story

1. Cain was given a warning to follow God in obedience. But he refused to listen to God and this led him to committing the terrible sin of murder.
2. God is the judge who sees everything. He holds us accountable for all our actions. Cain thought no one saw his crime but God saw it and punished Cain.

Bible Truth and Application

1. God continues to give people a chance to repent. But when they don't it can lead to disaster.
2. We must never think that we can hide our sins from God. God sees all our actions and even knows what we are thinking. Let us always be honest with God and ask Him for help if we are tempted.

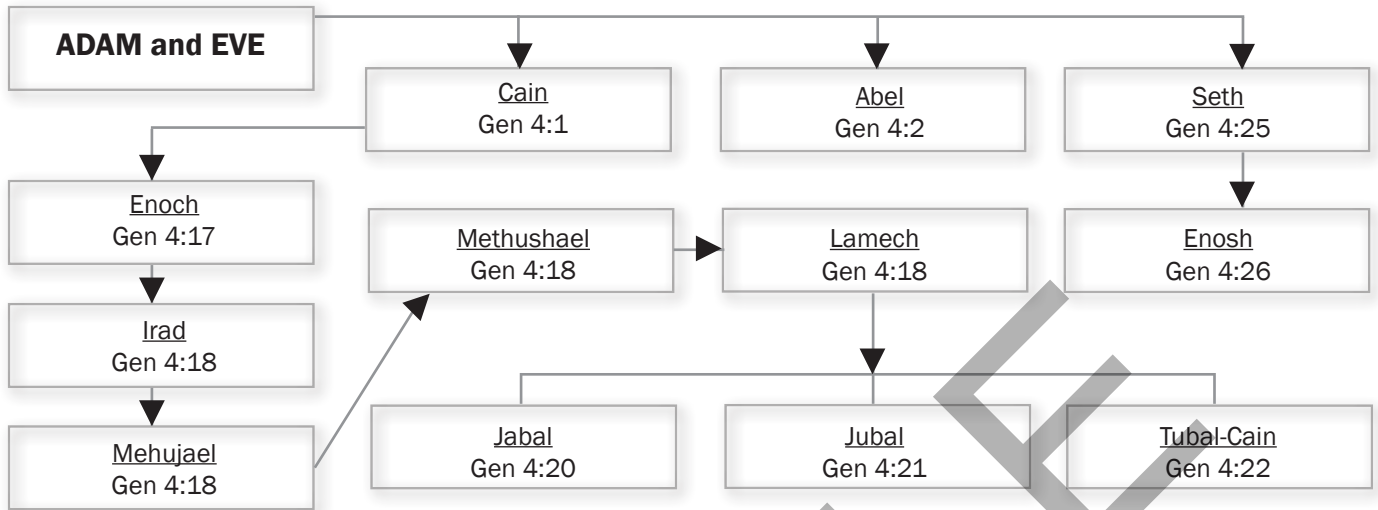
Response and Prayer

- Teach the children to always confess their sins as soon as they are aware of it and ask God for forgiveness and then ask God to show them what they can do to please Him.

Answers to Workbook

Understanding the Lesson

1. **Fill in the family tree chart. Refer to the Bible references. Also fill in a short description of what they did or were famous for as described in the Bible.**



2. **In Verses 1-5 what do we learn about the two brothers and their offerings?**

Cain gave a portion of his harvest as an offering but Abel gave the best from the firstborn of his flock. This signifies that Abel gave the best.

3. **God had advised Cain to “do what is right” or he would become a servant to sin. What prevented him from listening to God? What did God mean when He said “do what is right”? Why was it wrong for Cain to become and stay so angry?**

Cain’s pride prevented him from listening to God. Cain should have offered God the first fruits of the crops not simply some of it. He was angry because he was not accepted because he did not offer the first fruits of his crops. Even after God counsels him to do what is right, Cain’s pride tells him that his offering was not the issue - it was his brother’s offering that was the problem.

4. **What did Cain do to Abel?**

Cain murdered Abel.

5. **What does I John 3:12 teach us about Cain’s motives?**

Cain had evil intentions whereas Abel was a righteous man. Cain was jealous that Abel was accepted by the Lord. Not willing to be righteous like Abel to be accepted by the Lord, his solution was to kill Abel.

Fill in the blanks

1. keeper
2. Nod
3. Enoch
4. Adah, Zillah
5. Jubal
6. Tubal-Cain

7. Lamech

8. Seth

Challenge Question:

What is the meaning and purpose of Lamech’s poem or song? What does this song portray about Lamech’s character? How does the song portray the progress of sin from Adam to Cain to Lamech? Think about how it actually gets worse when we allow ourselves to continue sinning.

In chapter 4 of Genesis, we see how sin has progressively become worse when it is left unchecked. Ask the students for their opinion.

Application Questions

1. **If we are in a situation like Cain and God has given us a warning, how should we respond?**

If God has given us a warning, we must take heed. In Jesus, we can ask for forgiveness of our sins.

2. **Lamech had a revenge policy written into a song. What did Jesus say about taking revenge on brothers who have sinned against us? Refer to Matthew 8:20-22. How can we put this into practice without allowing people to simply ‘walk over us’?**

Give Bible references to support your answer. Ask the children to write their thoughts. If they ask for ideas, you can ask them to read the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5. Or read what Jesus said about forgiving others. Matthew 8:20-22. Or the Lord’s prayer.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. E Refer to Genesis 4:25
2. B Refer to Genesis 4:26
3. D Refer to Genesis 5:3
4. A Refer to Genesis 4:1
5. B Refer to Genesis 4:2
6. A Refer to Genesis 4:2
7. A Refer to Genesis 4:16
8. D Refer to Genesis 4:15
9. B Refer to Genesis 4: 20
10. C Refer to Genesis 4:21
- 11.A Refer to Genesis 4:17

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. **Why was Abel's offering accepted by God while Cain's offering was not accepted?**

Notes: Some clues are given in the Bible:

- Gen 4:3-4 "Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the Lord. But Abel brought fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock..." Abel carefully selected the best from his products to be offered, while Cain did not make careful selection.
- Gen 4:6b "...If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door: it desires to have you, but you must master it." Cain's offering is not accepted because of sin or something that he did not do right. God gives him a second chance to do what is right, then his offering will also be accepted.

2. **Why did Cain say "my punishment is more than I can bear" ? How was his punishment different from Adam's?**

Notes: Points to consider

- To Adam God said "Cursed is the ground because of you." Refer to Genesis 3:18. It was an indirect curse. To Cain God said "Now you are under a curse.." Refer to Genesis 4:11. The curse was directed at him.
- Cain was a farmer but the ground would be prevented from yielding crops for him (Gen 4:12a).
- Cain would be a restless wanderer (Gen 4:12b,14).
- Cain would be hidden from God's presence (Gen 4:14).

3. **What should Cain have done when God gave him the warning?**

Notes: Refer to Genesis 4:6. He should have repented.

4. **What can we learn from this story about giving offerings that will be acceptable to God?**

Notes:

Ask the children what their thoughts are regarding gifts or offerings that are acceptable to God.

Points to consider:

- Abel carefully chose the best of his produce. (Gen 4:4).
- Cain had done something not right, which made his offering not accepted. (Gen 4:6-7).
- A principle to consider is that Offerings are not a substitute for obedience. This is emphasized in many other parts of the Bible. For example, refer to 1 Samuel 15:22.

Genesis Volume 1

Lesson 6: NOAH'S ARK AND GREAT FLOOD

Based on chapter 5 and 6 in the multimedia book and DVD-R

Theme / Overview of Story:

As humankind increase in population, so does the intensity of their sinfulness. This grieves the Lord who is determined to judge the world. However, He finds a faithful and righteous man in Noah and his family. So He commands Noah to build a large Ark that would save not only his family but also one of each species of animals so that they can re-populate the earth after the flood.

Bible Passage

Genesis 6 and 7.

Public Reading

Suggested public reading –
Genesis 6:5 – 22.

Activities

Play the multimedia Story 5 –
Noah Builds the Ark.

There are no quiz
questions in this chapter.



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Objective

Noah lived in a world not different from today. There was sin everywhere but yet Noah kept himself and his family righteous before God. Help the children to learn that while we live in a world that is inclined to sin, we are called by God to live by His rules as written in the Bible. Like Noah we must also be ready and obedient to do what He calls us to do. By our actions, we may bring God's blessings to ourselves and to the people around us.

Preparation

Pray for wisdom. Read chapter 5 of the text book. Go through the interactive multimedia story 5.

Memory Verse

Truly He is my rock and my salvation; He is my fortress, I will never be shaken. Psalm 62:2

Lesson from the Story

Noah's only qualification was that he had faith and loved the Lord. He is selected for the great task of building the Ark and helping to preserve God's creation.

Bible Truth and Application

1. Even when others around us continue to sin against God, we must keep our faith and not do what is forbidden by God, like Noah.
2. God calls faithful people to do His will, which can bring about deliverance or a blessing for the people around them.

Response and Prayer

- Ask the children to consider how they can be obedient to God and be a blessing to those around them.

Answers to Workbook

Understanding the Lesson

1. From Genesis Chapter 4, describe how the human race had progressed.

Read Hebrews 11:7. Noah was a man of faith.

Gen 6:8, Noah found favour in the eyes of the Lord. He was a righteous and blameless among the people of his time and he walked closely with God.

2. From Genesis chapter 6, how had sin become worse since the time of Adam? List some examples of the kind of sin that upset God.

Jude 5-7 implies the people in Noah's time sinned like they did in Sodom and Gomorrah ... sexual perversions and immorality.

From Genesis chapter 6:

- Verses 2 and 3: sensuality and marriage taken lightly
- Verses 5,6 and 7: inclination and thoughts of his heart were evil all the time
- Verses 11,12 and 13: violence

3. For what reasons might the revelation of God to Noah have seemed unbelievable to Noah, his wife and children?

Noah's faith would have been tested to the limit.

- Build a giant Ark. This would have been anextraordinarily large Ark at that time.
- Built on dry land
- Noah telling the people that a great flood was coming.
- Noah was not a shipbuilder or sailor at that time.
- It was only Noah who received the revelation
- Every animal on earth was to be saved
- The daughter-in-law's families would perish in the flood
- Noah's wife's family would perish in the flood
- The magnitude of the event
- The enormity of the task to build the ark

4.

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Application Questions

1. **How was Noah different from his contemporaries?**
Noah was righteous and faithful

2. **What difference did he make in the world and what can we learn from Noah?**

Noah lived in a world that was sinful Noah did not follow the ways of the world. Because of Noah's faithfulness, God did not destroy the whole earth.

Challenge Application Questions:

1. **What did God intend to do at first to the world and what did God plan to do later through Noah?**

The people of the world were going to be judged for their sinfulness. But God saw the faithfulness of one man and his family and decided He would save this family and through them offer salvation to the world.

2. **How is the story of Noah a picture of what Jesus would achieve in the New Testament?**

Jesus offers salvation to those who would put their trust in Him.

3. **What does this tell us about how, by our words and actions, we can make a difference in the lives of other people and of society?**

Ask the students for their opinion.

Genesis Volume 1

Lesson 7: THE TOWER OF BABEL

Based on chapter 7 in the multimedia book and DVD-R

Theme / Overview of Story:

After the flood, people re-populate the earth. Again the people are sinful. They disobey God's command to spread out and inhabit the earth. Instead they build a city and a tall tower to show how great they are. God saw their defiance and decided to confuse their language so that they spoke many languages and could not understand one another. Then the people were scattered.

Bible Passage

Genesis 11:1 - 9.

Public Reading

Suggested public reading -
Genesis 11:1 - 9 .

Activities

Play the multimedia Story 7 -
The Tower of Babel.

Try all the multiple choice quiz questions.

For the older children, if there is enough time, try the Discussion questions.



Objective

We must be obedient to God. All our knowledge and abilities have been given to us by God. We should use these abilities to glorify God and not against His will.

Preparation

Pray for wisdom. Read chapter 7 of the text book. Go through the interactive multimedia story 7.

Memory Verse

Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.
Proverbs 16:18

Lesson from the Story

Humankind disobeys God by refusing to spread out and fill the earth. Instead they build a tower in defiance to God. As long as man continues to choose to disobey God, their plans will be frustrated and they will face judgment.

Bible Truth and Application

Help the children understand why the people wanted to build a tower. How are we like that today? What does this story teach us about making plans which focus on making ourselves look good rather than focus on what God want us to do?

Response and Prayer

- Help the children commit each of their plans to God and ask Him for wisdom in deciding which of their plans deserve higher priority. Then pray over these plans.

Answers to Workbook

Understanding the Lesson

1. **Based on Genesis chapter 11, what motivated the people to build the Tower of Babel?**

- Make a name for themselves (verse 4)
- Not be scattered over the whole face of the earth (verse 4)

2. **Why were the people wrong to build the tower?**

- They were disobedient to God's command to fill the earth - see Genesis 9:1
- They were motivated by pride

3. **From reading Genesis Chapter 11, what 2 things did God cause to happen to those who were building the tower?**

- They spoke different languages (verses 5-9)
- They were scattered over all the earth (verses 5-9)

4. **How were Nimrod and Cain similar?**

- Both built cities
- Both were rebellious to the Lord because both were told to roam but did not (see Genesis 4:12 and 9:1)

Challenge Questions

Which human characters that we have studied in Genesis Chapter 11, and also from the first 10 chapters of Genesis have been _____ and give your reason.

- The most disobedient – Cain with notable mentions: Adam, Nimrod
- The most patient - Noah
- The one with the most self pity - Cain with notable mention: Lamech
- The most humble - Noah
- The most proud - Nimrod or Lamech
- The most naïve – Eve

Application Questions

1. **In what way can we observe modern people trying to build our own 'Towers of Babel':**

- a. among leaders of nations or organisations:
 - Ask the Students to consider when are 'mega projects' for the good of many people, or for their own glory
 - When are 'national projects' for self-glory or for the good of the people
 - When are building projects good for image building or good for many people
 - When are 'image-building' projects good for self or good for many
- b. Among ordinary people
 - Buying your dream house or beautifying your house
 - Buying your dream car
 - Spending money on hobbies
 - Spending money on friends (who can treat you back or who cannot afford to treat you back)

2. **In what ways can we be tempted or become guilty of building our own 'Towers of Babel'? What should we do?**

Open for discussion

Application Questions

1. **Why was it wrong for the people of Babel to build a Tower to honour themselves? Why was God not happy with their project?**

Open for discussion

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. D Refer to Genesis 9:28
2. D Refer to Genesis 10:8-10
3. E Refer to Genesis 11:11
4. B Refer to Genesis 11:2
5. B Refer to Genesis 11:5-7
6. A Refer to Genesis 11:4
7. D Refer to Genesis 11:4
8. E Refer Genesis 11:7-8 There is no mention of any specific method that the Lord God used to confuse the language of the people. He just did.
9. B Refer to Genesis 11:8-9
10. B Refer to Genesis 11:8-9
11. C Refer to Genesis 11:9

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. **Why did the people of Shinar want to build a tower that 'reached to the heavens'?**

Notes: Refer to Genesis 11:4. They wanted to make themselves famous and did not want to be scattered across the earth.

2. **Why was God angry with the people of Shinar?**

Notes: They were disobeying God's command to spread out and "fill the earth". Refer to Genesis 9:1. There is also an implied bold arrogance in man wanting to build a tower that would reach to the heavens.

3. **What happened after God confused the people's language?**

Notes: They were scattered across the earth. Refer to Genesis 11:9.

4. **What does the story teach us about man's plans versus God's plans?**

Notes:

This story is a reminder to us that man can make very great plans. But when these plans are not in line with God's will, the plans will fail.

Genesis Volume 1

Lesson 8: ABRAM AND GOD'S CALL

Based on chapter 8 in the multimedia book and DVD-R

Theme / Overview of Story:

Abram is a righteous man who lives in a city called Ur where people worship all kinds of gods except the true God. God calls Abram to leave his country, people and his father's household to go to a land promised for him.

Bible Passage

Genesis 12:1 – 20.

Public Reading

Suggested public reading – Genesis 12:1 – 20. For younger children a shortened version would be Genesis 12:1 – 9.

Activities

Play the multimedia Story 8 – Abram and God's Call.

Try all the multiple choice quiz questions.

For the older children, if there is enough time, try the Discussion questions.

Objective

Abram was called to leave a rich and advanced city to wander around in a wilderness. God promises that his children and descendants will one day inhabit a land which is fertile and will be flowing with milk and honey. Help the children to learn that Abram's faith led him to follow God's call and eventually from his descendants would come the Lord Jesus who would bring salvation and God's blessing to all nations of the earth.

Preparation

Pray for wisdom. Read chapter 8 of the text book. Go through the multimedia story 8.

Memory Verse

"I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus" Philippians 3:14

Lessons from the Story

1. God's covenant blessing on humanity is now passed on to Abram. Abram, because of his faith in God, is called to be the father and leader of a chosen people through whom God would bless the world.
2. Abram is a wealthy man who lived in the comforts of a large city. But he is willing to answer God's calls and leaves the comfort of the city and heads for the Promised Land, knowing that he would have to live in difficult conditions.
3. Although he should not have lied about his wife, God still protected him while he was in Egypt. Abram would learn from this lesson and eventually trust God completely.

Bible Truth and Application

1. How do we respond when God calls us to do something for Him? Do we look at the obstacles or do we look at the God who calls us? Abraham would not enjoy the comforts of city life ever again in his lifetime, but he still obeyed.
2. Sometimes it looks as if our obstacles are far too big and beyond us. What does this story teach us about any human obstacles that could come in the way of a God given mission?

Response and Prayer

Ask the children when was the last time they heard a call from God. Help think through the above points and pray for wisdom and discernment when we receive a call from God. They can also speak to older Christians if they have questions.

Answers to Workbook

Understanding the Lesson

1. **Reading from the NIV, how many times does the word 'I will' and 'you' appear in the first three verses of Genesis chapter 12? What does this tell you about God's calling for Abraham?**

Ask the students to give their opinion.

Some points to consider: I will appears many times. It shows God's seriousness. It shows God making a promise – which Abram did not deserve but it was given in grace. 'You' and 'your' referring to Abram, appears many times. This shows a very personal discussion.

God, by His unlimited power, is able to cause someone to become the head of a great nation or family of people. By His great power He is able to make someone's name great among people. By His almighty power, God is able to curse or bless people on earth through someone.

But God will do this not to honor any man but to bring honor and glory to Himself through people.



2. **Considering Abraham's call, in what way did Abraham and Sarai have to exercise their faith?**

How did answering this call from God show that Abram and Sarai had faith in Him? Ask the students to write their thoughts. Then see if they have given consideration to the following:

- They were called to go to a land that God would show them; not knowing where it is yet.
- There were many dangers in the wilderness or desert. Dangers from lack of food, water and from enemy attack.
- They had no children of their own yet.

3. **Did Abraham do the right thing by telling Pharaoh, the king of Egypt that Sarai was his sister?**

Abram asked Sarai to say that she was his sister. While this was deceitful, it was also true that she was his wife as well as his half-sister (see Genesis 20:12). Some would say that this is an example of a "white" lie. Most Bible teachers would comment that Abraham should have trusted God and told the truth. Of course, it is very difficult to judge Abram because he must have been under great pressure to try and deceive Pharaoh in order to save his own life.

4. **How did God protect Abraham? Do you think this Pharaoh was smart in letting Abraham go?**

How did God protect Abram? God intervened by giving Pharaoh a disease and a stern warning, somehow telling him that he should not take Sarai to be his wife and that she was already married. It would appear that this Pharaoh was smart enough to know that he could not defeat the God of Israel. Unlike the Pharaoh of the Exodus who thought he could challenge the purposes of God and put his people the Egyptians through much suffering.

This Pharaoh was smart to avoid the suffering by obeying what he knew was a warning from the true God. He could have been smarter if he had asked Abraham to tell him more about this God and then worship him too.

5. **How did God save Abram from his own deception?**

God warned Pharaoh and because Pharaoh was afraid of God, he let Abraham go.

6. **How has God blessed all the people on earth through Abraham (verse 3)? Read Acts 3:25 and Galatians 3:8 to develop your answer.**

God would send the saviour Jesus, who would be born as a descendant of Abraham.

Challenge Questions

What instruction did Abram receive from God in Gen 12:1 and who did he bring along with him. Why do you think he did what he did? Give your reasons.

God told Abram to leave his country, his people and his father's household. Abram brought Lot his nephew along. Maybe because Abram had no children and treated Lot his nephew like his own son.

Application Question

1. **When we encounter challenges, do we take matters into our own hands depending on our own wisdom instead of relying on God? What should Abram have done when he went to Egypt and what can we do in challenging situations?**

Open for discussion

2. **How can we better prepare ourselves for a time when we may have challenges and opportunities?**

Open for discussion

Challenge Application Questions

1. **Why do you think Abram was chosen and called by God?**

Abraham loved and obeyed God's instructions. His faith was counted as righteousness. Abraham did not do anything extraordinary to deserve special favour from God; just faith and obedience.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. B Refer Gen 11:27
2. E Although Sarai is about 10 years younger than Abram, and when Abram left Haran, we are told that he was 75 years old (Refer Gen 12:4), there is a brief period of time between their departure from Haran and the famine in Genesis 12:10. Hence, it is not exactly certain how old Sarai was, when she was brought before the Pharaoh, but we know that she was older than 60.
3. C Refer Gen 12:4
4. C Refer Gen 11:28 - 31
5. B Refer Gen 11:31
6. B Refer Gen 11:31

Genesis Volume 1

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. **How do you think Sarai felt when Abram told her they were going to travel to the Promised Land, first at Ur, and then again at Haran. Do you think she realized they were going to spend the rest of their lives living in tents in the desert?**

Notes: Remind the children of the diagrams they saw in the multimedia or book, about the prosperous cities of Ur and Haran. Compare that to the tents that they must have lived in while wandering in the desert.

Points to consider:

- It probably was extremely uncomfortable.
- They were exposed to the danger of bandits and robbers.
- They were exposed to the danger of extremes in weather.
- They were exposed to the dangers of famine and other natural disasters. Ask the children if Sarai, and the rest of Abram's family thought that Abram was crazy. Ask them why did Abram obey such a command from God. What kind of faith did Abram have?

2. **How do you think Sarai felt when she was asked to lie about not being Abram's wife?**

Notes: Some points to consider:

- They were trying to escape a famine. What condition were they physically in?
- We know from history that Egypt was already a powerful nation at that time. Would they be terrified of a powerful king?
- Sarai had sacrificed much to follow Abram as mentioned in Question 1 above. Now she was to deny he was her husband.
- Was she wondering if the God of Abram was real and powerful?

3. **How do you think Pharaoh felt when he realized that God was protecting Abram?**

Notes: From the evidence shown in the Bible (refer Genesis 12:18-20) we know that:

- He sent Abram and Sarai back immediately. He made no attempt to continue his relationship with Sarai.
- He kept none of the possessions of Abram. Abram was sent away with everything he owned. From this we can conclude that Pharaoh did indeed fear the God of Abraham. He probably was quite terrified when he realized how powerful this God who was protecting Abram was. We can also note that this Pharaoh was much smarter than the Pharaoh who ruled Egypt during the time of Moses. If that Pharaoh had listened to the voice of Moses, he would have spared himself and Egypt so much suffering and disgrace.

4. **How do you think Abram was affected after he left Egypt?**

Notes: Ask the children what they thought Abram must have felt as he was leaving Egypt. Paint the scenario for them. They went into Egypt to escape a famine. Pharaoh had given him much wealth. Although this was given as a result of Abram's deception, God had still intervened to bail him out. Ask the children if they thought it was right for Abram to lie about his wife. Obviously, it is not God's will for us to lie.

Points to consider:

Egypt was a greater power than the smaller kingdoms around the Jordan Valley, such as Sodom and Gomorrah. If God could protect Abram against such a mighty empire and their king and his gods, surely he must be the Lord Almighty.

Genesis Volume 1

Lesson 9: ABRAM AND LOT

Based on chapter 9 in the multimedia book and DVD-R

Theme / Overview of Story:

Abram and Lot part ways because their herdsmen quarrel over pasture land for their flocks. Abram gives Lot a first choice of land and Lot chooses the fertile valleys near Sodom. When there is a war, Lot and many residents of Sodom are kidnapped by enemy forces. Abram with a small but highly skilled task force defeats the enemy and saves Lot and the residents of Sodom. He returns the people of Sodom together with much loot to the king of Sodom. Then he meets Melchizedek a priest of God from Salem and has fellowship with him.

Bible Passage

Genesis 13 and 14.

Public Reading

Suggested public reading – Genesis 13:5 - 18.

Activities

Play the multimedia Story 9 – Abram and Lot.
Try all the multiple choice quiz questions.
For the older children, if there is enough time, try the Discussion questions.

Objective

Help the children to learn some of these characteristics of Abram. He is gracious to Lot. Even though he could have had first choice, he allows Lot to make the first choice of pasture land. He loved Lot. When Lot was kidnapped, Abram personally led a task force to rescue Lot. Abram refuses to accept the loot from the king of Sodom in payment for his action.

Preparation

Pray for wisdom. Read chapter 9 of the text book. Go through the multimedia story 9.

Memory Verse

“Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” Luke 12:15

Lessons from the Story

1. Abram is gentlemanly and offers Lot the choice of land. Lot chooses the better pasture land but ends up living in Sodom, a city of sin.
2. With God on his side, Abram, although vastly outnumbered, did not fear the enemy. He defeats the Northern kings and brings home the loot and the hostages.
3. Abram rejects the offer from the king of Sodom not wanting to accept anything from him. Abram has learnt his lesson from Egypt. He does not need help from wicked kings. God is his provider and greatest ally.
4. Abram returns to the hill country where he pays homage to God by giving a tithe to Melchizedek. Lot returns to the wicked city of Sodom.

Bible Truth and Application

1. Look at the way Abram handled a family dispute. What can we learn from this story?
2. Why did Abraham reject the offer of the king of Sodom? Why was this important and what can we learn from this?
3. Abraham fully trusted God – in giving first choice of pasture to Lot; in rescuing Lot, in rejecting the offer from the king of Sodom and in giving a tithe to Melchizedek. What can we learn from Abraham’s faith in God?

Response and Prayer

Ask the children to list down some things they can commit to God and lead them in prayer.

Answers to Workbook

Questions

1. herdsmen
2. plains
3. Sodom, Gomorrah
4. Kedorlaomer
5. Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, Zeboyim and Bela or Zoar
6. 318
7. Melchizedek
8. With raised hand I have sworn an oath to the LORD, God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth, that I will accept nothing belonging to you, not even a thread or the strap of a sandal so that you will never be able to say, ‘I made Abram rich.’

Challenge Question:

1. **Did Abram have to give Lot first choice of pasture?**
Open for discussion
2. **How was Abram different from Lot? Give references to support your answer.**
Open for discussion

(Optional)

Application Questions

1. **How had Abraham's response to challenges changed in this story as compared to his encounter with Pharaoh? What had changed in Abraham and what can we learn from this?**
Ask the children to write what were some attributes of Abram before and during the sojourn to Egypt. Compare that with his attributes after. What has changed and what had not changed? What can we learn from this?
2. **What are some New Testament references about who Melchizedek represents? What can we learn from the Abraham's response to Melchizedek?**
Melchizedek represents Christ. He was a picture of Christ. Abram recognised that Melchizedek was a priest of God and gave him a tithe. What should we do when we recognise that a cause or someone is sent from God? How do we show respect for a cause if we feel convicted that God has led us to help in this cause.
3. **In Gen 14:21-24 Abram had an encounter with the King of Sodom. How did Abram's actions show his faith in God? What can we learn from this?**

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. E Refer to notes in previous story: he was a, c and d. In this story we know that he also lived in or near Sodom.
2. C Refer Gen 13:3
3. B Refer Gen 13:8
4. D Refer Gen 13:10
5. C Refer Gen 14:14
6. E Refer Gen 14:15
7. B Refer Gen 14:18
8. C Refer Gen 14:20
9. B Refer Gen 14:2

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. **Why do you think the southern kings left their cities unprotected after they were defeated by the northern kings. What does this say about the battle?**
Notes:
The battle happened very fast. The southern kings were defeated and were unable to protect their cities.
2. **Why do you think the king of Sodom came out to offer Abram the loot?**
Notes:
The king of Sodom wanted Abram to become his subject.
3. **Why did Abram not accept the offer from the king of Sodom?**
Notes:
He did not want to receive help and wealth from wicked kings so that he would not be obligated or owe allegiance to them.
4. **Why did Abram offer a tithe to the king of Salem.**
Notes:
To honour God and give Him glory for the victory.
5. **What changes can you see in Abram since the time when he took the detour to Egypt?**
Notes:
Abram was now much more confident of himself. His faith in God had increased.

Genesis Volume 1

Lesson 10: THE PROMISE AND THE COVENANT

Based on chapter 10 and 11 in the multimedia book and DVD-R

Theme / Overview of Story:

Up till now Abram and Sarai do not have children of their own. Yet God had promised him that his descendants would inherit the Promised Land. God promises Abram that he would have a son. Sarai finds it very difficult to believe because she and her husband are both very old. She decides to 'help' God's plan by providing Abram with a servant girl with which to bear a child. But when the servant, Hagar, is pregnant, she becomes arrogant and makes Sarai very angry.

Bible Passage

Genesis 15 and 16.

Public Reading

Suggested public reading –
Genesis 15:1 – 7.

Activities

Play the multimedia Story 10 –
Promise of a Son.

Try all the multiple choice quiz questions.

For the older children, if there is enough time, try the Discussion questions.

Response and Prayer

Ask the children to pray for wisdom to discern when they must wait patiently for God's answer and when to obey God's command.



Objective

When God makes a promise, He will deliver. Nothing is too difficult for the Lord. God did not intend for the promised child to be borne by Sarai's Egyptian maidservant. It was through Abraham and Sarai that the promised son will be provided.

Preparation

Pray for wisdom. Read chapter 10 of the text book. Go through the multimedia story 10.

Memory Verse

"For nothing is impossible with God." Luke 1:37

Lesson from the Story

While Abram is willing to wait for God to fulfill his promise, Sarai becomes impatient and decides to take matters into her own hands. Ishmael is not the promised son. God would fulfill His promise in His own time.

Bible Truth and Application

Why did Sarai do what she did with Hagar? Was this the right action to take in the light of God's promise to Abraham? We need to have faith to know that God will deliver on His promises.

Answers to Workbook

Questions

1. GOD ACCEPTED ABRAM BECAUSE OF HIS FAITH
HAGAR BORE A SON NAMED ISHMAEL
GOD MADE A COVENANT WITH ABRAM
ABRAM WAS GIVEN A NEW NAME ABRAHAM

Challenge Questions

1. **Search a dictionary or Google for the meaning of the word 'Covenant'. Explain in your own words, what was the covenant that God made with Abraham as described in Genesis 17:**
God promised:

- He would be a shield and protector to Abraham and all those living in his household (or his followers)
- Abraham would have a son
- Abraham would have many descendants like the stars in the sky
- His descendants would one day possess the land he was staying in now

What was Abraham to do:

- Follow God's ways
- As a sign of the covenant he was making with God, he must circumcise all males in his household

Who were involved in this covenant and who were not:

- God
- Abraham
- All in Abraham's household including Sarah, Ishmael (as long as he was still in Abraham's house)
- The covenant did not cover the tribes living in Canaan or anyone else outside of Abraham's household

2. **What is another word for 'Testament'?**

Another word for Testament is Covenant
A testament or covenant is a promise made between two parties that would mutually obligate each party to a set of conditions or actions that they promise to do. In modern usage of the word, a covenant is something like a 'solemn agreement' with clauses and conditions. In Abraham's time, a covenant was something an overlord would normally initiate or make with a subject that typically would involve giving protection to the subject and in return receiving payment in goods or in kind.

Application Questions

1. **Circumcision was a sign of the people of Israel making a covenant with God. What did it symbolise?**

Read: a. Deuteronomy 30:6

b. Ezekiel 44:7

Today, as Christians, how can we receive this circumcision of the heart.

Refer to Colossians 2:11-15.

What bad habits can we pray for God to help us "cut out" and what good habits can we build into our life with God's help?

Deuteronomy – The original symbolism of circumcision was to show that 'The LORD your God will circumcise your hearts and the hearts of your descendants, so that you may love him with all your heart and with all your soul, and live' (Deuteronomy 30:6, NIV)

Ezekiel 44:7 – We desecrate God's Temple with uncircumcised hearts Christians are not required to undergo a physical ritual of circumcision – but a spiritual circumcision of the heart by God. Ask the children to reflect what bad habits they need to 'cut away' to show, that they have given themselves to God. Romans 2:26-29, Colossians 2:11-15

2. **Imagine you are now a father who is going to write a covenant with your son or daughter.**

Ask the students to write their imaginary covenant and share / discuss

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. True Refer Gen 15:2
2. True Refer Gen 15:4
3. False Refer Gen 15:6
4. True Refer Gen 15:9
5. False Refer Gen 15:11 Ishmael means "God hears."

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. **Describe the differences between Abram and Sarai's approach to the question of an heir.**

Notes:

Some points you can remind the children of are given below:

1. Abram and Sarai were already 85 and 75 years old respectively. They were beyond the normal child bearing age. Refer Gen 16:3, after Abram had already been living in Canaan, the promised land for 10 years, they were still without their own children. They must have felt tremendous pressure to have an heir.
2. It was an acceptable practice in those days, to have children through a substitute wife. Refer to Tyndale Commentary (Ref. A) p. 126.
3. Refer Gen 16:2. Sarai must have been very disappointed that she could not have children.

Ask the children how jealous Sarai must have felt, to first, have to allow her beloved husband take another wife for the sake of bearing children, and then to see the other woman scorn her, after she became pregnant.

Genesis Volume 1

Lesson 11: ABRAHAM PLEADS FOR SODOM

Based on chapter 12 and 13 in the multimedia book and DVD-R

Theme / Overview of Story:

Abraham receives a visit from three heavenly visitors. The Lord tells Abraham that this time next year Sarah will bear him a son. Sarah laughs secretly and is rebuked by the Lord. Then the Lord tells Abraham that they will visit Sodom to see if the sins of Sodom are as great as what He has been told. Abraham pleads with the Lord to spare Sodom if some righteous men can be found there.

Bible Passage

Genesis 18

Public Reading

Suggested public reading -
Genesis 18:16 - 33.

Activities

Play the multimedia Story 12 -
Abraham Pleads for Sodom.

Try all the multiple choice quiz
questions.

For the older children, if there
is enough time, try the
Discussion questions.

Objective

God is a righteous judge. He will go to Sodom for Himself if to see their sins are as great as the outcry against them. Each human life is of value to Him. He will also not sweep away the righteous together with all the wicked people of Sodom. Also help the children to see that God spoke to Abraham as a friend. Did Abraham change God's mind? No. Help the children to understand that God helped Abraham realize that the wickedness of Sodom cannot be left unjudged, but that He is merciful and would save the righteous.

Preparation

Pray for wisdom. Read chapter 12 of the text book. Go through the multimedia story 12.

Memory Verse

"For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing what is right and just, so that the Lord will bring about for Abraham what he has promised him." Genesis 18:19

Lessons from the Story

1. The Lord speaks to Abraham as with a friend telling him of His future plans and allows Abraham to negotiate with Him to save Lot.
2. The story also shows how much God values human life. God goes to see the sinfulness of Sodom before He punishes them. He reveals this to Abraham so that Abraham will teach his children the Way of the Lord.

1. Why did God tell Abraham what He planned to do with Sodom?
Why did the Lord allow Abraham to plead with Him for Sodom?
What can we learn here?
2. Help the children to understand that although God is infinite and all powerful, it pleases Him to speak to His people like a friend and a gentle Teacher. We must be alert when we hear God speak to us either through the Bible, or through Christian friends or in our hearts.

Response and Prayer

Thank God that we can speak to God as a friend in Jesus' name.

Answers to Workbook

Questions:

1. THE LORD APPEARED TO ABRAHAM IN MAMRE

SARAH YOUR WIFE WILL BEAR YOU A SON

ABRAHAM WILL SURELY BECOME A GREAT NATION

ALL NATIONS ON EARTH WILL BE BLESSED THROUGH HIM

THE WAY OF THE LORD

2. **Who were the three men who came to visit Abraham? What did Abraham do to welcome them into his home? Give Bible references to support your answer.**

Who were the three men? The Bible tells us that two of them were angels and one of them was the Lord Himself. Many Bible scholars say He was the preincarnate Christ, meaning He was God the Son, before He was born as Jesus the son of Mary. (Gen 18: 2, 22 and 19:1, 10-11)

3. **From Genesis 18:19 what responsibility has God given to Abraham?**

Read Genesis 18:19. Abraham must teach his household which includes his children to keep the way of the LORD.

4. **How many people were saved from Sodom?**

3

5. **How was Sodom destroyed?**

Sodom was ruined with fire and sulphur.

Challenge Question

1. **Why did Sarah laugh when she heard that she would bear a son? Did she finally believe the three men? Read Hebrews 11:6, 11:11 and Luke 1:45. Why was it important for her to believe?**

Yes Sarah may have laughed at first because it seemed humanly impossible at that time. But the passages in the New Testament imply that she must have believed later for her receive the blessings from God.

2. **Since God knew how many righteous people there were in Sodom, why did He let Abraham negotiate with Him about sparing Sodom if a number of righteous people could be found there?**

God allowed Abraham to speak to Him like two friends talking. This is God's way of revealing Himself to those who have faith in Him some times. This happened with Moses on Mt Sinai when the Israelites sinned by worshipping the golden calf and Moses prayed to God to prevent Him from destroying the Israelites.

Application Questions

1. **How can we use Abraham's example to help us in our prayers?**

- Abraham pleaded to God for the sake of Lot and his family. He used God's characteristic of being fair and righteous by saying: 'far be it from you to do such a thing – to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of the earth do right?' (Genesis 18:25, NIV)
- But Abraham remained humble before the Lord: 'Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, though I am nothing but dust and ashes.' (Genesis 18:27, NIV)
- Abraham was persistent and stopped finally when the Lord agreed to spare the city if there were 10 righteous people.
- Abraham was not praying for riches or for personal gain but for the sake of others. Let not our prayers be crowded with pleas for personal gain.

2. **Why do you think Lot's wife disobeyed the angel's command not to look back at the city which was being judged? Share a time when we were, tempted, to look back and what were the consequences if we did?**

Lot's wife may have looked back for a number of reasons. Bible scholars usually give the reason as that she longed for the things she had in Sodom and was reluctant to give them up.

Challenge Application Questions

1. **In this story, can you identify where Lot made mistakes and how can we avoid making such mistakes in our lives today?**

Open discussion

2. **From this story, give at least two important principles of God's judgement of the world.**

God will not let sin go un-punished. God is the righteous judge. He goes to Sodom to see if the Sodomites are really as sinful as what they have been accused to be.

Optional Activity: Write a breaking news front page headline story of the disaster that struck Sodom. The story must be written to captivate the attention of the audience but must stay true to the facts provided in the Bible.

Ask the children to present what they have written or prepared. Playing the role of some reporters who were onsite, some points to include in their story:

- The presence of the two strangers
- The events that happened outside Lot's house
- The people's rejection of Lot
- What the angels did
- What happened in the morning
- What happened to Lot's family
- What happened to Lot's wife

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. C Refer Gen 18:1
2. C Refer Gen 18:7
3. True Refer to Gen 17:16 from the previous story
4. True Refer Gen 18:12
5. False There is no record to say that she did
6. C Refer to Gen 18:1
7. B Refer Gen 18:32

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. **Why did the Lord God come to visit Abraham? And why did He come in human form?**

Ask the children this question and hear their response.

God had spoken to Abraham through visions and dreams. He had also spoken to Abraham as from an invisible God in the sky. Why did God now come and visit Abraham and speak to him in human form?

Some points to consider:

- God loved Abraham
- God wanted to fellowship with Abraham as with a friend ... similar to the way He fellowshiped with Adam in the Garden of Eden, before Adam sinned.
- Jesus came in human form

2. **Why does God allow Abraham to negotiate with Him?**

After all God knows everything and is not one to change His mind.

The God who created the universe, the world and life on this world, is truly an all-powerful God. We cannot fathom His mind, like a lizard cannot appreciate Mozart, or a grasshopper cannot fathom the classical Arts. God chooses to limit Himself in human form so that man can relate to Him better. He loves to have fellowship with those who love Him.

3. **What can we learn from this story about God's character?**

- God is a loving God. He came personally to visit Abraham and Sarah.
- He is a just God. He will see for himself if Sodom and Gomorrah are as wicked as the cries that have reached Him. Then only will He pronounce His judgment.

SAMPLE

Genesis Volume 1

Lesson 12: ABRAHAM'S TEST

Based on chapter 14 in the multimedia book and DVD-R

Theme / Overview of Story:

God gives Abraham a test. He is to offer Isaac as a sacrifice. Abraham is ready to obey God but before he completes the sacrifice he is stopped by an angel of the Lord. The Lord then provides a ram for Abraham to sacrifice.

Bible Passage

Genesis 21 and 22.

Public Reading

Suggested public reading –
Genesis 22:1 – 19.

Activities

Play the multimedia Story 14 –
Abraham's Test.

Try all the multiple choice quiz
questions.

For the older children, if there
is enough time, try the Discus-
sion questions.



Objective

Help the children to learn that God wants us to love him more than anything else. Secondly, God has provided the sacrificial lamb for us by sending Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. We obtain forgiveness by putting our faith and trust in Jesus.

Preparation

Pray for wisdom. Read chapter 14 of the text book. Go through the multimedia story 14.

Memory Verse

The LORD is my light and my salvation – whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life – of whom shall I be afraid? Psalm 27:1

Lessons from the Story

1. Isaac's birth brought tension between Hagar and Sarah. Abraham is worried for Ishmael, but God tells Abraham to do as Sarah suggested. God will provide for Ishmael.
2. Abraham's willingness to obey God and sacrifice Isaac was proof that he placed God above everything else in his life.

Response and Prayer

Thank God for giving us Jesus to
take away our sins and accept Him
as our Lord.

Bible Truth and Application

1. What can we learn from Abraham's action in this story? How did Abraham trust God here?
2. God provided the ram for the sacrifice. This sacrifice is only a picture of what God will provide later as the perfect and ultimate sacrifice for our sins i.e. His own son - Christ Jesus.

Answers to Workbook

Questions:

1. Isaac
2. Moriah
3. servants
4. 3
5. the angel of the LORD
6. A ram
7. the LORD will provide
8. Beersheba
9. No, Isaac could have run away if he wanted to but he was obedient to his father and trusting in God.

Challenge Question

1. **What do you think was God's purpose in testing Abraham? Read also Hebrews 11:17-19.**
What do you think was God's purpose in testing Abraham? It was to see if Abraham loved God more than anything or anyone else, and that Abraham would somehow still have faith that God will fulfil His promises. (Genesis 22:12 and Hebrews 11:17-19)
2. **What did God promise Abraham as a reward for his faith?**
God provided Abraham a substitute animal to be sacrificed. Then God re-affirmed His promise to Abraham as found in Genesis 22:17-18 God will bless Abraham. Abraham's descendants will be so numerous as the stars or sand. Abraham's descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies. Through Abraham's offspring, All nations on earth will be blessed.

Application Questions

1. **Is there any challenging thing God is asking you to do to obey Him?**
Ask the students to share anything they feel convicted to. This question may be private and difficult to share, so do not force them to share.
2. **What have you learnt about the character of Abraham in this story and how can you apply it?**
This question should be less private and easier to share. Ask them to share whatever lesson they may have learnt from the character of Abraham, in this chapter or in the complete story of Abraham.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

- | | | | |
|------|-----------------|------|-----------------|
| 1. E | Refer Gen 21:20 | 5. E | Refer Gen 22:2 |
| 2. B | Refer Gen 21:20 | 6. C | Refer Gen 22:13 |
| 3. A | Refer Gen 21:27 | 7. E | Refer Gen 22:3 |
| 4. D | Refer Gen 21:33 | | |

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. **What do you think were Abraham and Sarah's thoughts when Isaac was born?**
Some points to consider:
 - They were already so old. Abraham was 100 and Sarah was 90. How much time would they have with their son.
 - How much time would Abraham have to teach Isaac the ways of the Lord and to become the leader of their camp.
 - Would they live to see Isaac become a man.
2. **How do you think Abraham felt when he was asked to sacrifice Isaac in a distant region of Moriah?**
Some points to consider:
Humanly speaking, we can think only of all the negative things that Abraham must have felt. You can ask the children to give their views here.

But Hebrews 11:17 – 19 comments that Abraham believed that "...God will raise Isaac from the dead, and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from death."
3. **How do you think Isaac felt when he realized that his father was going to kill him and offer him as a sacrifice? What did he do?**
There is no record of Isaac giving a struggle to escape death.
4. **What does this story teach us about God?**
Points to Consider:
 - He wanted Abraham to prove that his love for God was unequalled by anything else.
 - He was merciful to Abraham. He spared Isaac. Through Abraham, God would bring salvation to the world. One of Abraham's descendants would be the Messiah. People from many different nations would be blessed through Jesus Christ.

Genesis Volume 2

Lesson 13: ISAAC AND REBEKAH

Based on chapter 15 in the multimedia book and DVD-R

Theme / Overview of Story:

Sarah is old and dies. Isaac is now grown up and ready to be married. Abraham does not want him to marry a Canaanite. So he sends his trusted servant to go back to Haran to find a wife from their relatives there. The chief servant prays and trusts in God to help him accomplish his mission.

Bible Passage

Genesis 23:1 - 25:28.

Public Reading

Suggested public reading -
Genesis 24:12 - 28.

Activities

Play the multimedia Story 1 -
Isaac and Rebekah.

Try all the multiple choice quiz questions.

For the older children, if there is enough time, try the Discussion questions.



Objective

Help the children to learn to trust in God like the way Abraham and his chief servant did.

Preparation

Pray for wisdom. Read the introduction and chapter 1 of the text book. Go through the interactive multimedia story 1.

Memory Verse

The Lord delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love. Psalm 147:11

Bible Truth and Application

1. We should learn to put our complete trust in God like Abraham and his faithful servant did.
2. God will not disappoint us when we learn to trust and seek His guidance.

Lessons from the Story

1. Abraham trusts in God to help his servant find the right woman to be the wife of his son.
2. The servant of Abraham proves himself to be a faithful and worthy servant. He trusts in God to help him find the right person to be Isaac's wife.
3. Rebekah is willing to leave her home and loved ones to marry a stranger in a distant land.

Response and Prayer

Thank God for His provision, protection and for taking care of our future.

Answers to Workbook

Questions

1.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Q | B | Q | Q | U | U | T | Q | E | S | A | R | Y | T | Q | Q | Q | S |
| Q | T | U | Q | R | J | H | N | A | H | O | R | H | R | A | R | A | M |
| C | E | W | R | E | M | G | O | R | Q | Q | O | F | Y | M | R | U | Q |
| H | S | R | Q | I | E | D | P | E | Q | Q | T | D | U | A | Y | R | R |
| E | R | F | Q | Q | E | R | U | R | R | W | Y | R | E | C | R | D | S |
| I | E | G | Q | Q | E | D | Y | H | T | E | Q | D | O | H | E | T | A |
| F | S | J | A | C | O | B | A | D | U | L | B | T | O | P | D | Y | R |
| S | R | P | E | Q | Q | E | T | K | L | E | E | Q | E | R | N | A | R |
| E | I | E | U | Q | O | E | S | A | U | L | R | L | K | L | Y | H | H |
| R | O | Z | R | J | E | N | U | O | K | T | B | T | K | A | O | J | D |
| V | Y | X | E | Q | I | L | R | O | Y | E | Q | A | T | H | H | D | E |
| A | T | C | Q | T | K | J | R | U | Y | S | H | E | R | T | Q | R | R |
| N | V | D | T | W | I | N | S | T | E | R | A | R | E | R | O | D | S |
| T | N | R | P | Y | T | E | R | R | A | A | R | T | B | D | T | T | Y |
| Y | M | K | R | T | E | D | A | W | U | S | A | S | E | T | R | D | U |
| T | O | H | T | E | R | E | S | P | R | E | N | T | K | R | P | F | R |
| E | O | Y | E | R | S | R | E | Q | E | R | Q | T | A | D | A | F | O |
| R | N | A | H | A | R | A | I | M | J | H | Q | Y | H | U | E | K | P |

2. **Where did Abraham ask his chief servant to go and find a wife for his son Isaac?**

To go to Abraham's home country, to where his relatives are. (Gen24:4)

The servant went to Aram Naharaim and made his way to Nahor (Gen24:10)

3. Bethuel, Nahor, brother

4. **When the twins were born what unusual thing happened?**

1. Rebekah had trouble can conceiving. After Isaac prayed. Then Rebekah concerned twins
2. The twins jostled with each other when they were still in their mother's body.
3. When they were born Esau came out first but Jacob was holding on to Esau's heels (25:26)

5. Esau, Jacob

6. **After she was married, Rebekah became pregnant with twins. The babies struggled with each other even before they were born. When she asked 'why was this happening to me', what answer did the Lord give her?**

(Gen 25:23) The Lord said to her "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from with you will be separated; one will be stronger than the other, the older will serve the younger.

7. **Describe the return of Abraham's chief servant together with Rebekah and her servant and what her arrival must have meant to Isaac.**

Ask the student to describe based on the text

8. **How can this story of God's providing a wife to Isaac be an encouragement to us of God's guidance and loving care?**

Application Questions

1. **Why did Abraham insist on payment for the land he acquired as burial ground?**

2. **What evidence did God give Rebekah that she could trust the servant of Abraham and travel with him such a long distance to Isaac?**

3. D Refer to Genesis 23:17-18
4. E Refer to Genesis 23:15
5. B Refer to Genesis 24:10
6. A Refer to Genesis 24:24
7. B Refer to Genesis 24:29
8. D Refer to Genesis 25:1
9. True Refer to Genesis 25:2
10. D Refer to Genesis 25:7
11. B Refer to Genesis 25:17
12. E Refer to Genesis 25:16
13. B Refer to Genesis 25:20
14. False Refer to Genesis 25:5
15. True Refer to Genesis 25:9
16. C Refer to Genesis 25:10
17. C Refer to Genesis 24:61
18. E Refer to Genesis 25:20

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. **Why was it important to Abraham to find a wife for Isaac from amongst his own people?**

Points to consider:

- Abraham's faith in God is unwavering. He is certain that God who has promised him inheritance of the land, will provide a wife for his son.
- He is determined and will do all in his power to implement God's revealed instructions to him. Emphasis 24:6. Isaac should not be brought back. There is no going back on this mission of claiming the Promised Land.
- There is a consistent teaching in the Bible to marry only within God's people. Refer to Deuteronomy 7:3,4; 1 Corinthians 7:39 and 2 Corinthians 6:14 .

2. **From this story, what can we learn about the character of Abraham's chief servant?**

- Obedience, faithfulness and loyalty to his master Abraham.
- Trust and dependence on God to carry out a very difficult and uncertain task.

3. **What do you think made Rebekah agree to go to a distant land to marry Isaac, a person whom she had never met before?**

Points to consider:

- It is possible Rebekah also knew of the Covenant promise God had made to Abraham, since Abraham was a family relative. She perhaps understood that she had a role to play in fulfilling this promise when Abraham's servant came to take her to be Isaac's wife.
- This showed Rebekah's own faith and trust in God.

4. **What does this story teach us about God?**

- From the story of Abraham's servant, we can learn that God can provide the answers that we are looking for if we trust Him.
- From Rebekah's story, we learn that although God is all-powerful, He wants us to join Him in fulfilling the plans and promises He has for us.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. C Refer to Genesis 23:1-2
2. C Refer to Genesis 23:17-18

Genesis Volume 2

Lesson 14: JACOB AND ESAU

Based on chapter 16 in the multimedia book and DVD-R

Theme / Overview of Story:

Esau's birthright is to be the future leader of his family after Isaac dies and to carry the Covenant blessings and responsibilities of his ancestors Abraham and Isaac. However, he treats it very lightly and does not show much respect for the birthright. Jacob cheats Esau of his birthright and flees to another country to escape Esau's wrath and revenge.

Bible Passage

Genesis 25:19 – 34 and 27:1 – 41.

Public Reading

Suggested public reading –
Genesis 24:12 – 28

Activities

Play the multimedia Story 2 –
Jacob and Esau.

Try all the multiple choice quiz
questions.

For the older children, if there
is enough time, try the
Discussion questions.

Objective

Help the children to learn that whatever talents that they have, they should do their best to use it for God's glory. They should also carry out whatever responsibilities that have been clearly assigned to them with diligence and cheer.

Preparation

Pray for wisdom. Read the introduction and chapter 2 of the text book. Go through the interactive multimedia story 2.

Memory Verse

A fool finds pleasure in evil conduct, but a man of understanding delights in wisdom Proverbs 10:23

Lessons from the Story

1. Esau showed a disregard for his birthright, which carries with it the blessing and responsibility of the covenant promises and leadership of God's people. God raised another leader to take over his place.
2. Rebekah and Jacob plot to steal the birthright from Esau.
3. The birthright with its leadership responsibilities and covenant promises passes to Jacob. This causes great disharmony in the family but God is sovereign and uses the weaknesses of man to bring about His purposes.

Bible Truth and Application

1. What should our attitude be towards a responsibility or a talent that the Lord has given us? We should pray for wisdom to discharge our duties or responsibilities in a way that would please God.
2. What Rebekah and Jacob did was wrong. Although she did not like the behaviour of Esau, she could have prayed and asked God to show her what to do.

Response and Prayer

Help the children to pray so that they will recognise a talent, skill or responsibility that God has given them and then to ask God to help them perform what is asked of them.

Answers to Workbook

Understanding the Lesson

1. How long did Isaac and

Rebekah wait to have children?

Genesis 25:20 tells us Isaac was 40 years old when he married Rebekah. Genesis 25:26 tell us he was 60 years old when Rebekah gave birth to Esau and Jacob. Therefore Isaac and Rebekah had been married for 20 years before their twin children were born. Genesis 25:21 – Rebekah conceived after Isaac prayed a special prayer for her.

- #### 2. Was it God's will for Isaac and Rebekah to have children? (See Genesis 17:19) If yes, then why do you think they experienced problems? (See Psalms 57:2, John 9:3 and any other Bible references you may know)

| Name | Strengths | Mistakes / Weaknesses |
|-------|---|--|
| Isaac | Isaac basically trusted in God. When they could not conceive children, he prayed to God for children. His life showed that he basically trusted in God to protect him. When he finally realised that it was God's will for his son Jacob to seek a wife from their relatives, he instructed Jacob to do so. | Isaac favoured Esau (Gen 25:28) He loved food – wild game food. He loved Esau because Esau because he was a skilful hunter who loved hunting wild animals and could bring back wild game food. Nothing wrong in this by itself, but Isaac seem to place much importance on this. When Esau married Hittite (unbelieving) wives, Isaac did not object or scold him. |

| Name | Strengths | Mistakes / Weaknesses |
|---------|--|--|
| Rebekah | Rebekah had faith and trusted in God. She left her own people and home to marry Isaac in faith. Even when she could not conceive for 20 years, she waited on God. When she experienced unusual difficulties in pregnancy, she prayed to God for direction (Gen 25:22). God revealed to her the future of her two sons, and she believed God's revelation. God used her to speak to Isaac about sending Jacob back to her home country to find a wife. | She showed favour towards Jacob (Gen 25:28). When she overheard Isaac promising to give the birthrights blessing to Esau, she decided to intervene in a deceitful way. She encouraged and conspired with Jacob to deceive Isaac into giving the birthright to Jacob. |
| Esau | As the eldest son of Isaac, he would normally have inherited the birth right blessing. He was a skilful hunter. | He 'despised his birthright' (Gen 25:34 NIV). He had a tendency to seek after instant gratification. When he was hungry he traded his birthright for some bread and lentil stew (Gen 25:33). When he realised that his brother had stolen his birthright (which he had previously despised and sold) he wanted to kill him in revenge (Gen 27:41). He had disqualified himself from inheriting the birthright and being the covenant bearer. |
| Jacob | Although he was a quiet person and seemed content to stay at home, he could see what was important and desired the more important things. When he saw the opportunity, he bought his brother's birthright with a simple meal (Gen 25:31-33). In later chapters we will learn that Jacob's faith grew from strength to strength. He would struggle with God in the only human vs angel struggle recorded in the Bible. And God would bless him at the end of the wrestling match. We will learn more about Jacob later. | Together with his mother Rebekah, Jacob conspired to deceive his father Isaac and steal the birth right blessing from his older brother Esau. But God would teach him many lessons later; first by allowing his uncle Laban to deceive him to obtain a total of 21 years of labour and service from him; then by allowing him to be hunted by his Esau whom he feared very much. |

3. **Look up the definition for the word 'birth-right'. What was Esau's attitude towards his birth-right? What does God think of the choices Esau made and what lessons do you learn from Esau?**

In the Merriam-Webster's dictionary it says, a *birth-right* is a right, privilege or possession to which a person is entitled to by birth.

In the Bible, very often this word – birthright – often denotes the special privileges and advantages belonging to the first-born son among the Jews.

4. **Why do you think Jacob desired the birth-right?**

Ask the children why they thought Jacob might have desired the birthright.

5. **What is the difference between regret and repentance? Which describes Isaac and which describes Esau?**

(Read Gen 27:26-41)

Ask the children if and why they thought Jacob might have been more worthy to receive the birthright.

Refer to the chart above for Question 3.

Challenge Question

1. **From the recorded words and actions of Esau in Genesis 25-27, why do you think Esau proved unworthy to receive the blessing of the first-born?**

In Genesis 25:32 He Esau said, "I am about to die, what good is the birth-right to me?" Obviously he was not about to die. From the context, he was just very hungry. And so he was prepared to sell his birth-right for a very simple meal. In case he had misunderstood things, Jacob asked for and obtained an oath from Esau to sell his birth-right.

Later in the story, Genesis 27:36-41, from Esau's words, it seems that Esau thought he could sell the birth-right but still retain the blessing. This implies that Esau wanted the blessings but not the responsibilities of the birth-right. Then he thought he would kill Jacob after his father had died. Did Esau think that by murdering Jacob, he would by default, get the inheritance and blessings back? How could a murderer be the one to carry God's Covenant blessing.

Application Questions

1. **In what ways can we be tempted to give up long-term benefits in order to gain some immediate satisfaction?**

Ask the students to share their opinion

2. **Share a time when you have been tempted to sell your 'birth-right' for a quick meal and how you overcame such temptations?**

Ask the students to share any experience they may have had.

Challenge Application Questions

1. **Do you think Jacob and Rebekah was right in doing what they did based on what was described in this story? What should Jacob and Rebekah have done instead?**

Ask the students to share

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. False Refer to Gen 25:27
2. True Refer to Gen 25:27
3. True Refer to Gen 25:25
4. True This is an optional question. It is taken from Gen 26:1
5. False This is an optional question. It is taken from Gen 26:1
6. A This is an optional question. It is taken from Gen 26:7
7. False This is an optional question. It is taken from Gen 26:9
8. True Refer to Gen 27:43
9. C Refer to Gen 25:26
10. B Refer to Gen 25:26 (Remember they were twins)
11. E Refer to Gen 27:1
12. B Refer to Gen 27:27-29 and Gen 27:37

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. **Why did Esau treat his birthright so lightly?**

Points to consider:

In Gen 25:34 it is recorded that 'Esau despised his birthright'. The Bible does not tell us exactly the reasons for this attitude but there are some hints.

- He often made decisions based on an immediate need or desire.
- He did not consider the long-term effects that a decision would have on his life afterwards.
- Gen 26:34 tells us that Esau married two Hittite wives. This became a source of grief to Isaac and Rebekah. Obviously he did not care for the feelings of his parents. Isaac was willing to obey his father, Abraham, in the choice of his bride. But Esau was an impetuous person.
- Hebrews 12:14-17 gives us additional information and commentary about Esau. Heb 12:16: See that no one is sexually immoral, or is godless like Esau, who for a single meal sold his inheritance rights as the oldest son. 17 Afterward, as you know, when he wanted to inherit this blessing, he was rejected. He could bring about no change of mind, though he sought the blessing with tears.(NIV).

2. **Why did Jacob want the birthright blessings? And why did his mother help him?**

There are really two questions here, so we need to break them up.

Points to consider:

- For the older children (11+), perhaps it is important to point out that both Esau and Jacob did not have perfect qualities in the beginning. God saw that His purposes would be better fulfilled through Jacob and so Jacob was chosen from the beginning. This is stated in Romans 9:10-13.
- From the narrative, it appears that Rebekah was the initiator of the deception. But as we read the

story it becomes clear that Jacob also wanted to receive the blessing and was equally cunning in deceiving his father.

- Ask the children what they think might have been Jacob's motive.
- As for Rebekah, again no clear cut motive was stated in the Bible but some hints are given. Genesis 25:23 tells us that when the twins were born, she had received a word from the Lord that the 'older will serve the younger.'
- It therefore appears that Rebekah was either trying to do her part to 'help God' achieve His purposes, or that she just wanted to be on the winning side.
- The other point to consider is that in Gen 25:28 it says that Jacob was a quiet man, staying among the tents while Esau was a skillful hunter and loved the open country. Isaac who loved to eat wild game loved Esau, while Rebekah loved Jacob.

3. **What was the 'blessing' that Esau received from his father Isaac?**

Esau did not receive any real blessing from his father as can be seen from the commentary given in Hebrews 12:16-17. He would be unblessed. Ask the children what they think but remind them of what is said about Esau in the book of Hebrews.

4. **It was Esau's birthright to be the leader of the family after his father. But this role was given to Jacob at the end of the story. What should our attitude be when we have been given a task by God?**

Points to consider:

- Be responsible and obedient to God.
- Work hard to fulfil the task.
- Ask God for help if the task is difficult or if we are afraid of the responsibility.
- Trust God to provide the strength and resources to complete the task.

(Help the children to apply these attitudes to smaller, daily tasks at home, school or church.)

Genesis Volume 2

Lesson 15: JACOB'S JOURNEY AND LABAN'S DAUGHTERS

Based on chapter 17 and 18 in the multimedia book and DVD-R

Theme / Overview of Story:

While fleeing Esau, Jacob encounters God. God gives Jacob a vision and makes him a promise. Jacob prays but gives many conditions. His journey to Haran is also the beginning of a personal walk with God and to take on the Covenant responsibilities and promises.

Bible Passage

Genesis 27:42 – 29:12.

Public Reading

Suggested public reading – Genesis 28:10 – 22.

Activities

Play the multimedia Story 3 – Jacob's Journey.

Try all the multiple choice quiz questions.

For the older children, if there is enough time, try the Discussion questions.

Objective

Help the children learn that knowing God is a personal journey. At the start of this journey, we may not be certain if we can trust God, like Jacob who prayed with many conditions, but the more we learn to trust God, the more we find that He keeps His promises.

Preparation

Pray for wisdom. Read the introduction and chapter 3 of the text book. Go through the interactive multimedia story 3.

Memory Verse

He then added, "I tell you the truth, you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man." John 1:51

Lessons from the Story

1. God is personal. He appears to Jacob for the first time and confirms the Covenant promise made to Jacob's forefathers. Jacob prays a prayer with conditions.
2. God begins the process of preparing Jacob to be the leader of His people.

Bible Truth and Application

1. Jacob prays directly to God for the first time. What do you think about his prayer? Has Jacob experienced God personally before this?
2. In what ways is God molding and shaping us? How do we allow Him to prepare us?

Response and Prayer

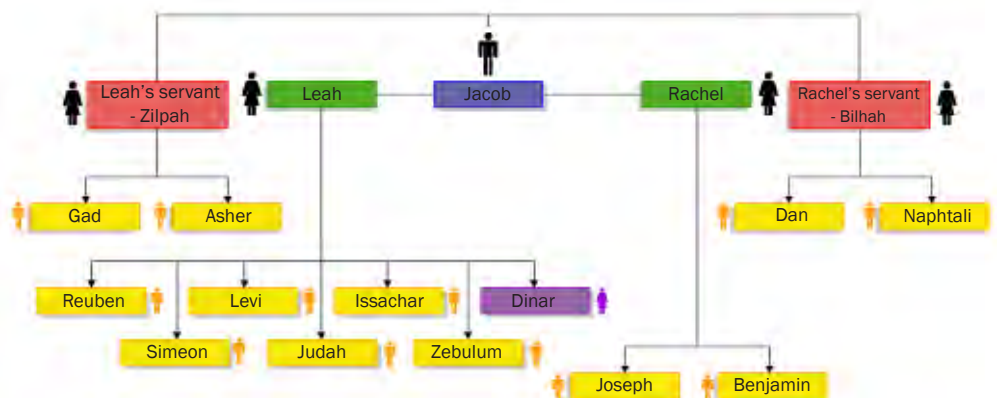
Help the children think about why they believe in God/come to church. Is it because their parents want them to? Teach the children that they can experience God for themselves and have a personal journey with Him.

Answers to Workbook

Questions

1. Laban, Haran
2. your brother's anger has passed
3. Beersheba, Haran
4. stairway, heaven
5. Angels of God
6. your father Abraham and Isaac, the land on which you are lying
7. God, watch over me, journey, food to eat, clothes to wear, my father's house, Lord will be my God, God's house, a tenth.

8. Rachel, weep a loud
9. Leah, Rachel
10. Rachel, Leah
11. seven, Rachel
- 12.



Challenge Question

1. **What did the stairway dream symbolise for Jacob and why did Jesus use it to describe Himself? Read John 1:51 and John 14:6?**

The stairway in Jacob's dream led to heaven and God was standing at the top. Jesus uses this illustration for Himself because He is the way, the truth and the life (John 14:6). He is the One who can bring us back to God the Father.

2. **Why do you think God allowed Laban to deceive and mistreat Jacob? What important lessons of life might Jacob learn from this mistreatment?**

Jacob had deceived Esau. Now he was deceived by his uncle and later father-in-law. Jacob would learn how much pain his deceit had caused by undergoing the pain of deception himself. Most Bible scholars comment that this was God's way of disciplining Jacob and teaching him to trust and have complete faith in God.

Application Questions

1. **In what way did Jacob have to trust in God during his journey to Haran, even more than Abraham's servant as described in Genesis 24? What challenges do we face in our journey today and how can we be encouraged by the story of Jacob's Journey?**

In many ways, during his journey to Padan Aram, Jacob had to trust in God even more than Abraham's servant as described in Genesis 24. Abraham's servant arrived in Padan Aram with a train of 10 camels fully loaded with gifts. Jacob left in a hurry, running away from Esau. From the record, he had no money and was alone. In our own journey of faith today, what challenges do we face and how can we be encouraged by the story of Jacob's journey?

2. **In what way was Jacob a good servant to Laban? What can we learn from Jacob's work attitude?**

Ask the students to give their opinion

3. **How would you like to have Laban as your boss? In what ways should we Not follow Laban's example?**

Laban was not a good fellow. He wanted Jacob to stay and work many years for him. He was willing to use his daughters to trick him into serving extra years. However, he did not consider that his daughter's feelings in his actions.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. E Refer to Gen 28:10
2. E
3. A Refer to Gen 28:19
4. D Refer to Gen 29:10
5. C Refer to Gen 29:9
6. False Refer to Gen 29:23-26
7. A Refer to Gen 28:2
8. C Refer to Gen 28:2 Padan-aram was actually a district of Haran – a generally larger area. But more accurately Laban lived in Padan-aram.

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. **What do you think was the significance of the dream that Jacob had in Bethel?**

- It marked the first time God had ever appeared or spoken to Jacob personally.
- God now passes on the Covenant promise made to Jacob's forefathers to Jacob.
- It illustrates that God is a personal God.
- It was part of Jacob's preparation to be a leader and to fulfil the birthright responsibilities; he had to experience and know the God who had made the Covenant promise for himself.
- Jesus uses the vision of God reaching down to man and providing a 'stairway' from earth to heaven to describe His own mission. Refer to John 1:51.

2. **Why do you think Jacob offered God a conditional vow? How was this different from the reactions of his forefathers when God gave them the covenant promise?**

On first appearance it looked like Jacob was making a bargain with God and so looked like he was just trying to get more for himself from the Lord. He certainly did not respond as nobly as Abraham did when God first spoke to him in Genesis 12. Even Isaac, when he was nearly sacrificed by his old father seemed to have greater faith in that he allowed his father to do whatever he thought was best. Jacob was quite different. What he said was much in character of how he had behaved so far. But having said that, he still gave a response that showed some promise.

Points to consider:

- He recognized that the Lord God had visited him at this place.
- He paid homage to the Lord by building an altar at the place of the vision.
- He did not focus on the things that were promised but on the One who made the promises.
- He promised to give a tithe if God brought him back safely. This showed his recognition of the Lord as his God.
- He rightly saw the tithe not as a gift but as a giving back to God what God has given to him.

3. **Why do you think Jacob wept aloud after he met Rachel?**

- Possibly, Jacob felt great relief after travelling so far upon meeting a member of his mother's family.
- Perhaps finally meeting Rachel and arriving safely also confirmed for Jacob that God had indeed been with him and protected him on his journey.

Genesis Volume 2

Lesson 16: JACOB'S RETURN TO CANAAN

Based on chapter 19 in the multimedia book and DVD-R

Theme / Overview of Story:

Jacob now has 11 sons and a daughter. He decides to return to Canaan a little fearful of Laban his uncle and very fearful of the wrath of his brother Esau. Through this episode the Lord shows Jacob that he has nothing to fear. Jacob struggles with an angel of the Lord before he meets up with Esau. The Lord changes his name from Jacob to Israel. Jacob then meets with Esau. When Jacob/Israel meets God again in Bethel he worships God unconditionally.

Bible Passage

Genesis 31:1 – 33:19 and Genesis 35.

Public Reading

Suggested public reading – Genesis 32:22 – 32.

Activities

Play the multimedia Story 5 – Jacob Returns to Canaan.

Try all the multiple choice quiz questions.

For the older children, if there is enough time, try the Discussion questions.

Objective

Help the children to learn about God's care and protection from this story. Help the children understand we are under God's protection when we put our trust in Jesus and call Him our Lord. But we must also be obedient to His words and know how to respond to Him.

Preparation

Pray for wisdom. Read the introduction and chapter 5 of the text book. Go through the interactive multimedia story 5.

Memory Verse

The LORD gives strength to his people; the LORD blesses his people with peace. Psalm 29:11

Lesson from the Story

1. Jacob wants to return to Canaan but Laban is very hostile. God warns Laban not to harm Jacob and protects Jacob.
2. Jacob is now prepared to accept the responsibilities that come with the birthright he stole from Esau. When God meets him again in Bethel, Jacob worships God unconditionally.

Bible Truth and Application

1. How do we respond to God when we know He has been protecting us and watching over us? What can we do to show our gratitude?
2. When do we wrestle with God? We sometimes may 'wrestle with God' in prayer. Do we pray for ourselves only or for His kingdom?

Response and Prayer

Help the children to pray for others and for God's Kingdom. Help them to also commit all their cares and worries to God and to obey His words.

Answers to Workbook

Understanding the Lesson

1. a. father, relatives
b. covenant
c. Jegar-shadutha, Galeed
d. hundred
e. two
f. forgive
g. wrestled
h. Israel, God, overcome
2. **Why did Jacob decide it was time to leave Haran and return to Canaan?**
Genesis 31:1-3 tells us that Laban's sons were jealous and had ill feelings toward Jacob. Laban's attitude toward him had also changed for the worse. Finally, Jacob was convicted that God was instructing him to go back to Canaan.

3. **What do you think was Laban's intention when he started chasing after Jacob and why do you think he made peace in the end?**

Based on the text (Gen 31:29) Laban had planned to either harm Jacob, or at least to force Jacob to return to Haran with his family and all his belongings. But he changed his mind after he received a rebuke from the Lord (Gen 31:29).

4. **What do you think was Esau's intention when he started out to meet Jacob and why do you think he made peace with Jacob in the end?**

Ask the children to give their thoughts. The text does not say that 'Esau wanted to kill Jacob' but that Esau had set out with 400 men (Gen 32:6 and Gen 33:1). Esau did not come alone or with his family or with a small delegation. 400 men suggest some hostile intention. Jacob therefore had reason to worry. Why did Esau change his mind then? The most likely reason.

Challenge Question

1. **Give your reasons why you think Jacob was so afraid of Esau and what did he do as a result of his fear?**

Jacob feared Esau ... very much.

Ask the students to describe in their own words.

Some hints about Jacob's fear: He was afraid that Esau would kill him. So he divided his family convoy ... just in case Esau attacked one party, then hope fully another party would survive. Jacob was so afraid that he could not have peace of mind and needed time to be alone.

Ask the students to describe in their own words.

Some hints: Esau was a physically strong. He was an outdoor person and a skilful hunter.

He probably was a violent person. He had openly threatened to kill Jacob 20 years ago. His reputation and his threats probably had spread far.

2. **Who was the Man who wrestled with Jacob and what was the significance of the event? What did Jacob learn from it?**

From the text, the Man was God in a human form. Jacob had wrestled with God and managed to obtain a blessing from God although he had to walk with a limp after that. After that he probably knew that he would not be killed by Esau. God had visited him and promised him a blessing. God had even changed his name from Jacob to Israel. Jacob means 'grasper of the heel' while Israel means 'he who prevails with God'. He could now approach Esau with more confidence, knowing that God was with him and protecting him and his family. Jacob must have realised that he had wrestled with and had been blessed by God. He named the place Peniel, which means 'Face of God'. Now he would meet Esau not as the Grasper but as 'he who prevails with God'.

Application Questions

1. **How do we wrestle with God and with men today?**

Ask the students to share

2. **What life lessons can we learn from Jacob's encounter with the angel and with his brother Esau?**

Jacob's prayer in Genesis 32:9-12 is a good example of how we should pray. Ask the children to share how they can pray using Jacob's prayer as a model.

Challenge Application Question

1. **Reading how God changed Laban and Esau's attitude toward Jacob, can we share any instances when we thought certain people were going to do bad things to us but in the end they made peace with us? Did you have to do anything to make that change? What do you think caused them to change their mind?**

Ask the students to share

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

- | | | | |
|------|-------------------------|-------|--|
| 1. B | Refer to Gen 31:19 | 7. B | Refer to Gen 32:28 |
| 2. C | Refer to Gen 32:22-31 | 8. D | Refer to Gen 33:1 |
| 3. A | Refer to Gen 32:14 | 9. E | Refer to Gen 32:4 |
| 4. B | Refer to Gen 32:14 | 10. E | This is an optional question. Refer to Gen 36:9 |
| 5. A | Refer to Gen 32:15 | 11. A | This is an optional question. Refer to Gen 35:29 |
| 6. C | Refer to Gen 32:25 & 32 | | |

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. **Why do you think God sent an angel to wrestle with Jacob as a man?**

This is one of the most unusual stories told in the Bible. This happened at a time when Jacob was feeling very desperate. He feared this encounter even more than the encounter with Laban. But he did not try to avoid the encounter. This is another crucial point in the life of Jacob.

Points to consider:

- Jacob did not even know who he was wrestling with at first. The identity of the person Jacob wrestled with was only slowly revealed.
- The conflict was a vivid lesson to Jacob that he had struggled with man and with the Lord (Gen 32:28). In fact it was not so much with Laban or with Esau, but with the Lord.

2. **Why did Jacob cling on to the man even after he had been disabled by the man at the end of the wrestling match?**

Points to consider:

- Once Jacob recognised who he was wrestling with, he refused to let go unless the man blessed him.
- Jacob was always the opportunist. God had visited him. This was an opportunity not to be missed. So he asked the Lord for a blessing.
- Refer to Hosea 12:4-5.
- Do we hold on to God and seek His blessing in our lives?

3. **What do you think God was teaching Jacob and his family at this time? What does it teach us about God?**

Points to consider:

- Jacob felt he could not run away anymore. He would face his brother and let God take care of the consequences. He now had to learn to trust God to protect him. His faith in the Lord was now shown. He knew he would not overcome Esau in a physical combat. The fate of his family was in God's hands, not Esau's hands.
- Ask the children what this story teaches them about God.

Genesis Volume 2

Lesson 17: JOSEPH AND HIS BROTHERS

Based on chapter 20 and 21 in the multimedia book and DVD-R

Theme / Overview of Story:

Jacob and his family are now back in Canaan. Joseph, one of his sons has the gift of dreams and interpreting dreams. Jacob loves Joseph very much and this makes his other sons jealous. When there is an opportunity, the brothers sell Joseph as a slave to Ishmaelite traders. Joseph is taken to Egypt and sold as a slave.

Bible Passage

Genesis 37

Public Reading

Suggested public reading – Genesis 37:5 – 11.

Activities

Play the multimedia Story 6 – Joseph the Dreamer.
Try all the multiple choice quiz questions.
For the older children, if there is enough time, try the Discussion questions.

Objective

Help the children to learn that God is watching all the time. We cannot do anything in secret and hide it from God. Also, when things seem to go wrong, God is watching and sometimes He allows it to happen but will use it for His good purpose in time to come. God will use Joseph to fulfill a very important task later in his life. But before that can happen, Joseph has to undergo a very difficult testing period.

Preparation

Pray for wisdom. Read the introduction and chapter 6 of the text book. Go through the interactive multimedia story 6.

Memory Verse

He does not take his eyes off the righteous, he enthrones them with kings and exalts them forever. Job 36:7

Lessons from the Story

Joseph's brothers are jealous of him. They sell him off as a slave. However, God has other plans and uses this situation to eventually fulfil His purposes.

Bible Truth and Application

1. God will use Joseph to fulfil a very important task later in his life. But before that can happen, Joseph has to undergo a very difficult testing period.
2. The life of Joseph is a preview of Jesus. Jesus had to undergo great suffering but would eventually be the Saviour for all who will believe. While Joseph was only human and could only save his family, Jesus is God. His sacrifice on the cross can save people from all nations and make them right with God.
3. Help the children to learn patience and to trust in God even in difficult situations as Joseph did in this story.

Response and Prayer

Help the children to pray for others and for God's Kingdom. Help them to also commit all their cares and worries to God and to obey His words.

Answers to Workbook

Make a crossword puzzle

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Seventeen | 7. Reuben |
| 2. Joseph | 8. Judah |
| 3. coat | 9. blood |
| 4. bowed | 10. Egypt |
| 5. Sun, Moon | 11. owned |
| 6. jealous | 12. prison |

Challenge Questions

1. **Why do you think God gave Joseph the dreams mentioned in Gen 37:1-11?**

To prepare him so that he would know that God had spoken to him and later he would use these skill / capability to save his family.

2. **Why do you think Potiphar trusted Joseph so much?**

Refer to Gen 39:2-5

The Bible emphasizes that it was because of the Lord's blessing that Joseph became successful. That

does not mean that Joseph was not a hard-working slave. In fact, Joseph was probably a hard-working and very competent slave. But it was because of the favour of the Lord, that Joseph was so successful. The Bible gives us the following record for consideration:

- The Lord was with Joseph.
- He lived in the house of his Egyptian master – such a privilege.
- Potiphar saw that the Lord was with him – such a good testimony.
- He became Potiphar's attendant – Potiphar enjoyed his counsel and company.
- Potiphar put him in charge of his household and everything he owned – trusted him in personal matters and with his wealth.
- Potiphar saw that he had received God's blessing too because of Joseph and had nothing to worry about with Joseph in charge.

- When Joseph was tempted by Potiphar's wife, he refused her. He told her in no uncertain terms that if he complied with what she asked him to do, he would be betraying his master's trust in him and would also sin against God (Genesis 39:9).

Application Questions

1. **What can we learn from this story about the times when we face unexpected problems or when we are mistreated by family members or friends or others? Can you see any positive outcomes to any difficult situations you are facing now?**

Get the children to imagine what it would be like to be Joseph - hated by your other siblings, alone and frightened in a well, betrayed by your siblings who sell you off. Separated from his family, what would Joseph have felt?

Teach the children that no matter where they are or who they are with, God is always with them. Encourage them to stay curious about the coming lessons in Joseph's story to find out what happens to Joseph in the end.

2. **Joseph is living as a slave far from his country of origin, yet he keeps his faith and worships the God of his fathers. He is a fine example in the way he works for his master. What can we learn from Joseph's example in the way that he carries out his responsibilities and keeps his faith in God?**

Points to consider:

- Joseph is a fine example of someone who did not moan and groan about 'why me?' but rather took on a positive attitude of 'what shall I do now?'
- He kept faith and continued to put his trust in God, even when he had forcibly been taken to a faraway land.
- He resisted temptation even when no one was looking.
- He was punished for doing the right thing - but continued to trust that God would protect him.

Challenge Application Question

In these two stories, how do you think God was using the situation to train Joseph for future leadership?

Ask the students for their opinion.

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. D Refer to Gen 37:3
2. B Refer to Gen 37:2
3. A Refer to Gen 37:21
4. C Refer to Gen 37:28

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. **What were the reasons for Jacob to give Joseph the special ornamented cloak?**

Points to consider:

- Jacob loved Joseph the most. It is important to tell the children that the Bible does not encourage favouritism.

- For older children, perhaps the teacher can explain that Joseph was the eldest son of Rachel. Jacob loved Rachel from the beginning and had intended to marry her only. He was tricked into marrying Leah by his father-in-law Laban. It was his way of showing his love for Rachel.
- The older brothers showed their bad character. Many of the brothers did things that made their father Jacob very angry with them.
 - Simeon and Levi had killed so many people in Shechem to take revenge on them for defiling their sister Dinah. This was not with Jacob's consent. Then all the sons of Jacob came and looted the city. The story is told in Genesis 34:1 - 31.
 - Genesis 35:22 tells of a terrible deed by Reuben. How could Jacob respect his eldest son Reuben after what he had done?
- If we follow ancient customs, the robe was a sign of showing that he had chosen Joseph to be his successor and the leader of the family tribe after him. There is a verse in 2 Samuel 13:18 where a similar word is used to describe a royal apparel.

2. **Why did Reuben try to save Joseph?**

This is not an easy question to attempt. Suggest this is used only for the older children, 11 and above. Points to consider:

- Genesis 37:19 - 22 tells of a feeble attempt by Reuben to spare Joseph's life from the hands of his own brothers.
- Reuben was the eldest son of Jacob. We don't know if Jacob had ever intended for Reuben to be the successor and leader after him, but after the incident of Genesis 35:22, Jacob must have been disgusted with him. Perhaps this was Reuben's way of trying to win back his father's trust.
- Jacob was very angry with Reuben and pronounced his judgment over Reuben at his deathbed in Genesis 49:1 - 4.

3. **How did Jacob feel when he was told that Joseph had probably been killed by wild animals?**

Jacob probably felt like it was the end of his life. He mourned for Joseph believing he was dead, and would not be comforted. He appeared to become very self-absorbed in his grief.

It could be interesting to discuss what Jacob felt about the Covenant promise at this point in time - would his grief over Joseph have overshadowed the promises of God?

Genesis Volume 2

Lesson 18: THE PRISONER AND THE KING

Based on chapter 22 and 23 in the multimedia book DVD-R

Theme / Overview of Story:

God's favour is with Joseph and Potiphar, his new master, recognises this. Soon Joseph is given a high responsibility. But temptation comes in the form of Potiphar's wife. Joseph resists the temptation but is wrongfully sentenced to jail. Joseph is wronged twice but he still keeps faith with God.

Bible Passage

Genesis 39:1 - 20

Public Reading

Suggested public reading -
Genesis 39:1 - 9.

Activities

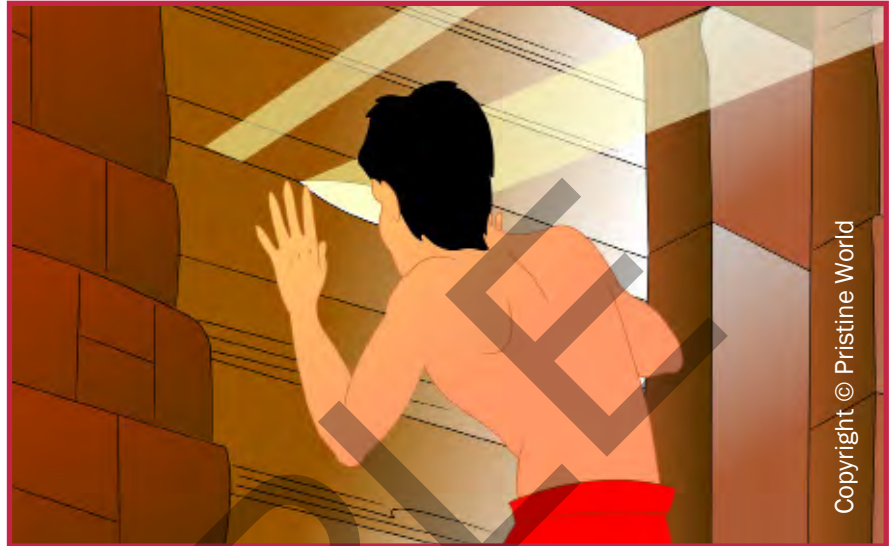
Play the multimedia Story 7 -
Joseph the Dreamer.

Try all the multiple choice quiz questions.

For the older children, if there is enough time, try the Discussion questions.

Bible Truth and Application

1. How do we keep faith, even when our situation has gone from bad to worse?
2. What was Joseph's attitude when faced with temptation? He refused to do anything against the teachings of God. He ran from the woman who was tempting him. What can we learn from Joseph's action?



Objective

Even when things have gone wrong for Joseph, he keeps faith with God and resists temptation. Help the children to learn that in everything we do, we should do it to the best of our ability as if it is done for God. Even as a slave and far away from his home, Joseph refuses to do anything that will go against God's laws.

Preparation

Pray for wisdom. Read the introduction and chapter 7 of the text book. Go through the interactive multimedia story 7.

Memory Verse

For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish. Psalm 1:6

Lesson from the Story

1. In spite of his circumstances, Joseph keeps faith with the God of his forefathers. God blesses Joseph in all that he does and his master recognises it.
2. Potiphar's wife tempts him. Joseph does not long for the forbidden fruit.

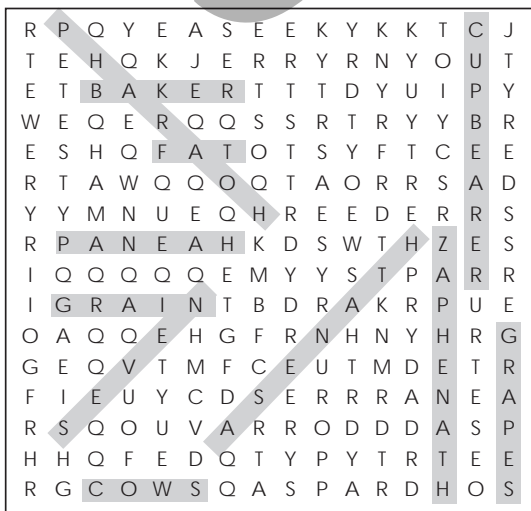
Response and Prayer

Help the children to pray and ask God for wisdom to know when they should stay and do their best to bring glory to God and when they should run away from a temptation.

Answers to Workbook

Questions:

- How did the prison warden view Joseph?**
Ask the students to give their opinion
- What did the prison warden do for Joseph?**
The prison warden put Joseph in charge of all those held in the prison.
- Who were two officials put into the same prison as Joseph?**
The Royal cupbearer and Baker
- Describe the two dreams that Pharaoh had**
Ask the students to describe based on the story in the passage
- Why did God give Pharaoh two dreams?**
Because the matter has been decided firmly and it was going to happen soon (Gen 41:25-32).
- What was the meaning of the dreams?**
There will be seven years of abundance followed by seven years of severe famine. During the famine, the years of abundance will be forgotten
- Who did Joseph say has revealed the meaning of the dreams?**
God has revealed the dreams to him.
- Who did Pharaoh give Joseph as a wife?**
Asenath daughter of Potiphera, priest of On.
- How old was Joseph when he entered the service of Pharaoh?**
30 years old
- Look for the following words in the word puzzle:**



Challenge Questions:

- What do you think was Joseph's greatest disappointment while in prison?**
Joseph must have had many disappointments
 - Wronged by his family
 - Falsely accused by Potiphar's wife and sent to Jail.
 - Forgotten by the cupbearer after he had been re-instated by Pharaoh
- Give four main points in Joseph's interpretation of Pharaoh's dream (Gen 41:25-32). What five things did Joseph tell Pharaoh to do? (Read Gen 41:33-36)**
Joseph made four points clear (Genesis 41:28-32)
 - There will be seven years of abundance
 - Followed by seven years of severe famine
 - During the famine, the years of abundance will be forgotten
 - The matter has been decided firmly by God and it will happen soon

Joseph then made five recommendations to Pharaoh (Genesis 41:33-37)

 - Look for wise man
 - Put him in charge of this project
 - Appoint commissioners to tax 20% of all the food during the good years
 - Store all the food collected
 - This food should be held in reserve for the famine years
- How did Pharaoh honour Joseph and raise him to a highly exalted position?**
Pharaoh raised Joseph to an exalted position
 - He put Joseph in charge (Gen 41:40-41)
 - Pharaoh gave Joseph his own signet ring (Gen 41:41)
 - Dressed him in robes of fine lined with a gold chain round his neck (Gen 41:42)
 - Gave him a chariot and people shouted before him "Make way" (Gen 41:43)
 - Gave Joseph a royal name (Gen 41:44)
 - Gave Joseph a high ranking wife (Gen 41:45)

Application Questions

- How do we know that God was watching over Joseph through all his difficult circumstances? What can we learn from this when we are going through difficulties?**
The answers here are similar to the answers in question 2. God continued to give Joseph wisdom in making correct interpretations to dreams. God continued to watch over him, showing him kindness and giving him favour with the prison warden.

In most cases any slave accused of having sexual relationships with his master's wife, what more, a royal captain's wife, would most certainly have been executed. Yet Joseph was not executed but kept in a royal prison. This most certainly was a sign of protection from the Lord.

Potiphar may also have had some doubts about the accuracy of his wife's report. But behind the scene we know that it was God who had protected Joseph and allowed him to be brought to the royal prison.

2. **List the characteristics of Joseph which have been consistently shown since Joseph's childhood till the time he was brought before Pharaoh. List some changes in his behaviour since his childhood with his family in Canaan.**

Ask the students to list down all the good characteristics of Joseph from Genesis 37 to 41

Challenge Application Question

Share some lessons you have learned in the past few years which have brought about positive changes in your attitude and reaction to other people. What did you learn that helped you make those changes?

Ask the students to share

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. True Refer to Gen 40:21
2. False Refer to Gen 40:22
3. False Refer to Gen 39:23

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. **Why did the prison warden let Joseph be in charge of all those held in the prison?**
 - Again, it was because of God who watched over and protected Joseph, and who showed him favour. God caused Joseph to become the prison warden's favourite. The prison warden trusted Joseph with all things in the prison.
2. **How do we know that Joseph continued to keep faith in God?**

Points to Consider:

 - The Lord was with Joseph showing him kindness and granting him favour.
 - He told the cupbearer and the baker in Gen 40:8 "Do not interpretations belong to God?"
 - God gave him the correct interpretations to the dreams of the cupbearer and the baker.

Genesis Volume 2

Lesson 19: FAMILY CONFRONTATIONS

Based on chapter 24 and 25 in the multimedia book and DVD-R

Theme / Overview of Story:

Joseph has set his brothers up for a test. Will they abandon Benjamin and run for their lives? How far would they go to save Benjamin? When he puts them to the test they all refuse to run and Judah offers his own life and freedom for Benjamin. Joseph is convinced his brothers have repented and changed, and reveals himself. He asks his brothers to bring their father and all their families to Egypt where he will provide for them.

Bible Passage

Genesis 44:14 - 46:7

Public Reading

Suggested public reading –
Genesis 44:24 - 34

Activities

Play the multimedia Story 12 – Family Confrontation and Reconciliation.

Try all the multiple choice quiz questions.

For the older children, if there is enough time, try the Discussion questions.

Objective

Help the children to learn from this story – that to receive forgiveness and reconciliation, there must first be a willingness to confess our sins and to repent of them.

Preparation

Pray for wisdom. Read the introduction and chapter 12 of the text book. Go through the interactive multimedia story 12.

Memory Verse

If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9

Lessons from the Story

1. The brothers refuse to abandon Benjamin even at the expense of their own freedom. Joseph then reveals himself.
2. Joseph knows that God has used this situation to save his family from the famine and bring them all together for His purposes in Egypt.
3. Jacob is delighted to hear that Joseph is alive. Before he leaves Canaan he seeks God's blessing to go to Egypt and receives it. He gives thanks and worships God.

Bible Truth and Application

1. What would we have done? When we have done wrong to others and now have a chance to make things right, what would our response be ... even if the chance to make things right can be costly?
2. Why did Jacob seek God's blessing before leaving Canaan to go to Egypt? What does this teach us about seeking God's will for our life ... even when things all seem to point in a certain direction?
3. This story of Joseph is a preview of what Jesus did for us at Calvary. God sent His only Son to suffer and die for our sins so that we may be reconciled to the Father and enjoy the blessings of being the children of God.

Response and Prayer

Help the children to learn to confess their sins to God and ask for His forgiveness in Jesus' name. And because we have received forgiveness from God, we should also learn to forgive others.

Answers to Workbook

Genesis 41:47 – 42:26

1. **What did Joseph do to help Egypt prepare for the approaching famine?**

More than 20 years but less than 22 years. It was 13 years of slavery before Joseph entered the service of Pharaoh. Then 7 years of abundance had passed. And now the years of famine had begun but we know from later text that there were still 5 more years of famine ahead.

2. **What intention for his brothers' good did Joseph have when he did the following:**

- a) **He was harsh and accused them of being spies?**

Joseph's brothers were bullies, violent and arrogant. He wanted to let them feel how it was to be on the 'other side' of injustice. They had treated him with great injustice. Joseph wanted them to know how felt to be treated with injustice and bullied.

- b) **He put them in prison for three days?**

to make them reflect on their wicked ways. Time to think. They were totally helpless. In a foreign land and powerless. This was how Joseph had felt.

- c) **He kept Simeon in prison and released the others?**
 Reuben was the oldest who did try to save Joseph although ineffectively. But being the oldest he was needed to lead them back. Simeon was the most violent of them. Although the Schechem incident happened after Joseph had been sold as a slave, Joseph must have seen some of Simeon's violent tendencies and decided he was the best candidate to keep as a hostage.
- d) **He required Benjamin's presence on their return?**
 This was to prove that their story was true and that they were not spies. Again this was to punish them. The result was it reminded them of their past sin against Joseph (Gen 42:21-22).
- e) **He put money in their sacks?**
 He wanted to see how they would react when they returned.

3. **What clue did Joseph give them that he would treat them fairly?**

Joseph gave them some clues that he was a fair person. He let them all go and only kept one brother as a 'hostage' in prison. He told them "I fear God" and instructed them to bring the grain back for their starving households (Gen 42:19).

Genesis 42:27 – 44:13

4. **Give reasons why you think Jacob did not trust Reuben even though he was the eldest son?**

Reuben was the eldest son. Ordinarily he would be the future leader by birthright. However he had done much to forfeit his father's trust in him. "While Israel was living in that region, Reuben went in and slept with his father's concubine Bilhah, and Israel heard of it..." (Genesis 35:22, NIV). Jacob never forgave Reuben for this until his dying day (Genesis 49:3-4) Reuben was the oldest brother when Joseph 'died'. Reuben spoke with words that did not give Jacob confidence. What was the use of sacrificing his two sons if he failed to bring Benjamin back? He was talking like Lot did when trying to defend the angels from rape i.e. by offering them his virgin daughters.

5. **Give reasons why you think Jacob accepted Judah's word?**

Jacob accepted Judah's word. Probably because some time had passed and they had run out of food again. Plus Judah had shown Jacob that he could be trusted. Perhaps Jacob also realised he had to trust God on this matter. It was now in God's hands.

6. **Why was Jacob reluctant to send Benjamin with the brothers to buy food from Egypt?**

Jacob had 'lost' his favourite son Joseph. Now Benjamin was the only other son from his beloved late wife Rachel. He could not bear to lose him. Some commentators note that when the brothers returned with extra silver but without Simeon, he may have suspected some foul play on the part of the brothers. He was afraid another act of foul play may take Benjamin away from him.

7. **What clue did Joseph give his brothers that he knew something more about their family than ordinary? Why do you think he did it?**

He asked them about their aged father in a tone more personal than usual for a Governor. He arranged their seats from the eldest to the youngest. Although the Bible does not say exactly why Joseph arranged them in that way ... perhaps, long ago, when they were still together, that was the way they sat down to eat their meals as a family, arranged from the oldest to the youngest. Now seated in this way, it would remind them of how things were long ago when Joseph was with them?

Challenge Questions:

1. **Why did Joseph give his brothers a big meal? What do you think was his purpose to serve Benjamin five times more food during this meal? What good would that have done to his brothers?**

Again the Bible does not say exactly why Joseph served everyone a big meal but gave Benjamin five times the portion. Probably he was setting up the test that was coming soon. He would show overt favour to Benjamin and see if the brothers become jealous just like they were jealous of him when their father showed him favour over his brothers.

2. **What was his purpose of putting his own silver goblet into Benjamin's sack?**

Joseph put his silver goblet into Benjamin's sack so that he could test his brothers by threatening to arrest Benjamin.

Application Questions:

1. **Imagine you are one of the brothers and you have realised that something you have done in the past was terribly wrong. What would you have done?**

Ask the students to share their opinions or experiences

2. **Imagine you were Joseph in this story. What would you do? What can you do for people who have wronged you in the past? What can we learn from Joseph's actions?**

Ask the students what they had done in the past in a similar situation or would do if faced with a similar situation.

Genesis Volume 2

Challenge Application Question

1. **Look at Reuben's actions. Based on what he did and said, what can we learn from his mistakes and how can we avoid similar actions or words?**

Ask the student – looking at the character of Reuben – why did his father not trust him? How can we learn from his mistakes and avoid similar actions or words?

2. **Look at Judah's actions. What can we learn from what he did and said?**

What can we learn from Judah in this story?

Answers to Multimedia Quiz

1. C Refer to Gen 44:18-34
2. C Refer to Gen 45:1-3
3. False Refer to Gen 44:12
4. E Refer to Gen 46:29

Answers to Discussion Questions in the Multimedia

1. **Why did Joseph wait until Judah spoke up before revealing himself to his brothers?**

Points to consider:

- Joseph wanted to see if his brothers had repented of their past sins.
- Although all of them offered to stay as slaves because of Benjamin, Joseph wanted to test them one step further by offering them their freedom. Only Benjamin would be left behind.
- When Judah offered to stay in place of Benjamin, Joseph felt convinced that his brothers had truly repented.

2. **Why do you think Jacob offered sacrifices along the way to Egypt, in Beersheba?**

Points to consider:

- Verse 1 seems to indicate that Jacob recognised that his family had a calling. It was the covenant relationship his family had with the Lord God which was passed down to him from his father Isaac.
- His action and God's words to him, as recorded in Gen 46:1-4 seem to imply that Jacob was seeking permission from God to move out of Canaan, the Promised Land.
- He had become the man of faith who put his trust in God. Not even his grandfather Abraham had a record of stopping and asking God's permission to leave for Egypt when the land of Canaan was struck with famine as recorded in Gen 12:10.

3. **What do you think were some of Jacob's thoughts when he was told that Joseph his son was still alive?**

Points to consider:

- At first he was 'stunned'. There was an element of disbelief at first (Gen 45:26-28) But when they told him what Joseph had said and what he had sent, slowly his spirit revived.
- Jacob loved Joseph the most from the beginning as recorded in Gen 37 and still loved Joseph.
- He could now see God's hand in action in his family.
- When he met Joseph his son again after missing him for 20 years, he said to him, "Gen 46:30 Now I am ready to die, since I have seen for myself that you are still alive."(NIV).
- It would not be wrong if we deduced that he must have been very, very happy and praised God.

Genesis Volume 2

Lesson 20: FAMILY RECONCILIATION

Based on chapter 26 in the multimedia book and DVD-R

Theme / Overview of Story:

Joseph has set his brothers up for a test. Will they abandon Benjamin and run for their lives? How far would they go to save Benjamin? When he puts them to the test they all refuse to run and Judah offers his own life and freedom for Benjamin. Joseph is convinced his brothers have repented and changed, and reveals himself. He asks his brothers to bring their father and all their families to Egypt where he will provide for them.

Bible Passage

Genesis 44:14 - 46:7

Public Reading

Suggested public reading –
Genesis 44:24 - 34

Activities

Play the multimedia Story 12
– Family Confrontation and
Reconciliation.

Try all the multiple choice quiz
questions.

For the older children, if there
is enough time, try the
Discussion questions.

Objective

Help the children to learn from this story – that to receive forgiveness and reconciliation, there must first be a willingness to confess our sins and to repent of them.

Preparation

Pray for wisdom. Read the introduction and chapter 12 of the text book. Go through the interactive multimedia story 12.

Memory Verse

If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9

Lessons from the Story

1. The brothers refuse to abandon Benjamin even at the expense of their own freedom. Joseph then reveals himself.
2. Joseph knows that God has used this situation to save his family from the famine and bring them all together for His purposes in Egypt.
3. Jacob is delighted to hear that Joseph is alive. Before he leaves Canaan he seeks God's blessing to go to Egypt and receives it. He gives thanks and worships God.

Bible Truth and Application

1. What would we have done? When we have done wrong to others and now have a chance to make things right, what would our response be ... even if the chance to make things right can be costly?
2. Why did Jacob seek God's blessing before leaving Canaan to go to Egypt? What does this teach us about seeking God's will for our life ... even when things all seem to point in a certain direction?
3. This story of Joseph is a preview of what Jesus did for us at Calvary. God sent His only Son to suffer and die for our sins so that we may be reconciled to the Father and enjoy the blessings of being the children of God.

Response and Prayer

Help the children to learn to confess their sins to God and ask for His forgiveness in Jesus' name. And because we have received forgiveness from God, we should also learn to forgive others.

Genesis Volume 2

Answers to Workbook

Understanding the Lesson

1. **Why had Joseph shown extra favour and kindness to Benjamin? And why was he picking on Benjamin as the main culprit now?**

Joseph wanted to test the brothers to see if they had changed from 20 years ago, when they got jealous with him and tried to kill him at first but later sold him as a slave.

2. **What were some of the signs which showed that the brothers may have changed in character from the time when they had sold Joseph off as a slave?**

The brothers considered themselves as slaves if anyone of them was caught stealing the governor's goblet, not just the one whose sack the goblet was found in (Genesis 44:16).

3. **Why was Joseph not satisfied with these signs?**

Joseph was not satisfied because he wanted to give the brothers a chance to run and leave Benjamin behind and then see if they would do it. This would prove if they had changed or not.

4. **What further test did Joseph put to his brothers?**

He then allowed them all to leave with their grain but only to leave Benjamin behind as punishment for having 'stolen' his goblet.

5. **Why did Judah's answer convince Joseph that his brothers had repented from the past?**

Judah was willing to be imprisoned instead of Benjamin. He was willing to take the punishment for Benjamin even though he did not deserve it. That showed that the brothers, and especially Judah, was not willing to leave Benjamin and run for their lives. They were willing to sacrifice themselves to save Benjamin. Joseph was now convinced that his brothers had indeed changed.

6. **How did Joseph show them that he had forgiven them?**

Joseph showed that he had forgiven them by revealing himself to them; then by telling them he believed that this was all part of God's plan to save the family in the time of famine; and then by inviting them all to return with their father and their families to Egypt where he will provide for them.

7. **How did Pharaoh show great respect and honour towards Joseph and why do you think he did this?**

Pharaoh showed great respect for Joseph, by asking Joseph to tell his brothers to bring all their families to Egypt. He would even provide carts for them so that their children and wives and their old father could travel in comfort. He also gave them provisions for the journey (Genesis 45:17-23)

8. **Why did Jacob stop at Beersheba and to offer sacrifices and pray? What message did he receive from God?**

Abraham went to Egypt to escape a famine which nearly ended in a disaster. Then Isaac was told by God specifically not to go to Egypt (Genesis 26:2). Jacob wanted an assurance from God that he was acting within God's will by going to Egypt. God gave Jacob an assurance to go to Egypt. He would make them into a great nation there. God would be with Jacob in Egypt and he would see his beloved son Joseph again. Joseph will be with him in his old age and bury him (Genesis 46:3-4).

Application Questions

1. **What can we learn from Judah's actions in this story? What some good characteristics shown by Judah that we can emulate today?**

Ask the students what can be learnt from Judah's actions in the story.

2. **How did Joseph give all the credit and glory to God? What can we learn from his character and how can we apply it today?**

How did Joseph give all the credit to God? How can we learn from his character and apply it meaningfully today.

Genesis Volume 2

Lesson 21: GENESIS EPILOGUE - FROM TRIBAL CHAN TO NATION

Based on chapter 27 in the multimedia book

Read through all the summaries in the previous lessons

Theme / Overview of Story:

The children of Israel/Jacob settle in Goshen, Egypt for over 400 years. They grow from just being a small clan of people into a huge nation of about two million people. This chapter summarizes the 50 chapters of Genesis into three key areas:

- a. Genesis tells the story of many beginnings:
 - Creation of the world and humankind.
 - Sin coming into the world.
 - Beginning of the nations and of one nation in particular i.e. Israel.
- b. It shows how God relates to people through covenant relationships which were both personal and formal.
- c. It gives us many preview pictures of Jesus and the work of Jesus.

Bible Passage

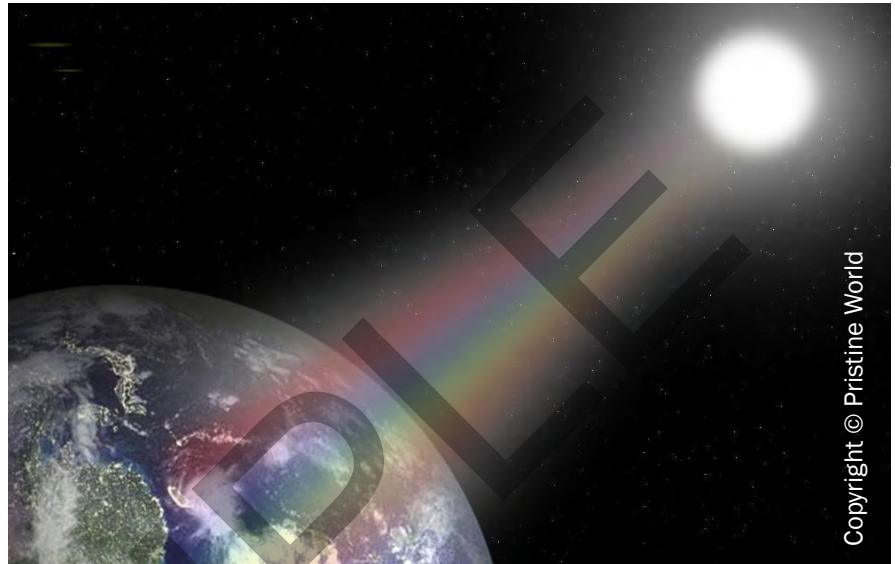
Genesis 50.

Public Reading

Suggested public reading – Optional

Activities

Read Chapter 13 of the multimedia book together with the children.



Objective

Help the children to see that once sin came into the world through the disobedience of Adam and Eve, the perfect world that God created was no longer perfect. There was nothing in creation that could bring back the perfection of God's creation. God had to intervene Himself through His Son Jesus Christ. Some of the heroes we encountered in Genesis are like fore-runners of Jesus Christ. They were chosen by God to accomplish a certain task at a certain time. But they were not perfect and so could not bring eternal reconciliation of God and humankind. This could only be achieved by Jesus Christ, the perfect Son of God.

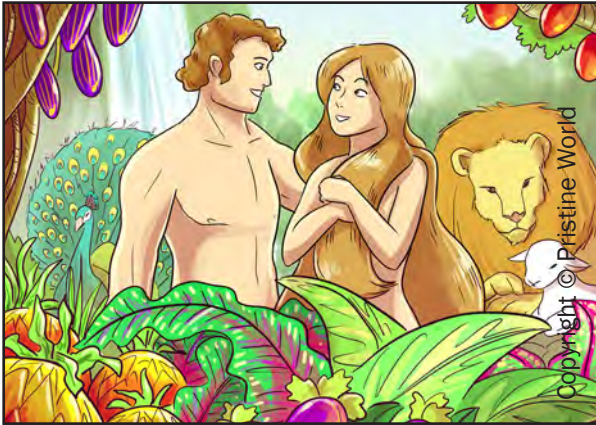
God is a loving Creator who wants a relationship with humankind. Help the children to understand the Bible's most important message, that we can only be restored to this loving relationship with God if we trust and commit our life to Jesus. We need to ask Him to forgive our sins and we must put our faith in Him as Lord of our lives.

Response and Prayer

There are a number of ways to approach the topic of personal salvation with young children. More matured children who say they are ready can be guided in prayer in asking forgiveness for their sins and to begin a personal relationship with Jesus. Other children can be shown how to pray for help to know and understand more about Jesus first. Impress upon the children that following Jesus is a choice and the beginning of something new they will keep working at. Always be sure the children understand what they are deciding to do and do not force them if they do not respond.

Notes: The questions in this lesson are very subjective. The students are encouraged to give their own opinions and use the whole of Genesis as reference. It is a revision of what they have studied in the book of Genesis. However, they can also use references from other parts of the Bible to support their points.

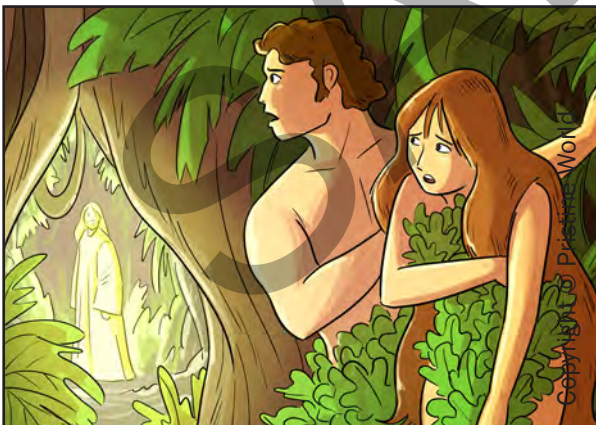
a. The Creation



Points they can consider:

- The Bible teaches that the Universe and our planet was created by one God.
- God is the creator of all life.
- God has given humans something special to set humans apart from animals and plants. Human kind have the 'breath' of God and the 'image' of God.
- God creates order out of chaos. He creates the environment first before he populates the living the environment. He creates a Garden of Eden and then He puts the man and woman in the Garden.
- What is the human response? It is to obey and worship God.
- God desires personal fellowship with humankind as it is depicted in the Garden of Eden.

b. The entry of sin in the world



- It was a perfect world before sin came into the world.
- Sin came into the world when the Devil tempted Adam and Eve into disobeying the commands of God.
- Death and the loss of paradise was the result of sin.
- But even as God pronounced judgment He promised provision of a Saviour who would come later.
- Christians believe the Saviour is Jesus Christ.

c. The Flood



- Sin left unchecked in the world spins out of control. Humankind become more and more evil until God 'repents' that He had created human kind and wanted to destroy the whole world.
- But because of one righteous man and his family, a way of salvation is provided in the form of an Ark. The sinful would be destroyed, but the righteous family would be saved. All were given a chance, but those who did not enter the Ark would not be saved.

d. The Tower of Babel



- After a time, humankind multiply and because of their gift of intelligence, they are able to build beautiful buildings. Soon they become proud and arrogant. They take pride in their ability and their tall buildings and defy God's instructions to them.
- God punishes them by causing them not to be able to understand each other. And so they are forced to spread out into the world.
- Humans today are still very proud of our own 'Tower of Babels'.

2. Ask the students to read through all the lessons and summarise them. And then share which characters / heroes in the book of Genesis they can most identify with and why.

What principles from the stories of the lives of the key characters have most affected you?
Below are a few. You can add others if you wish.

a. **Abraham**

d. **Joseph**

b. **Isaac**

3. What is the most significant lesson you have learned from the study of Genesis and how can you apply it in your life?

c. **Jacob**

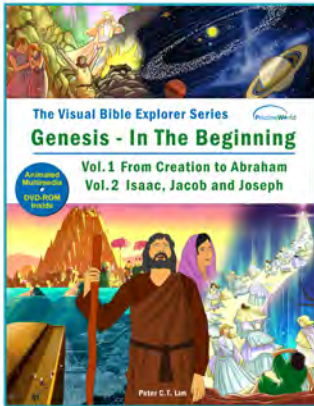
Challenge Question

Which stories in Genesis paint a picture of Jesus and what He would do later?

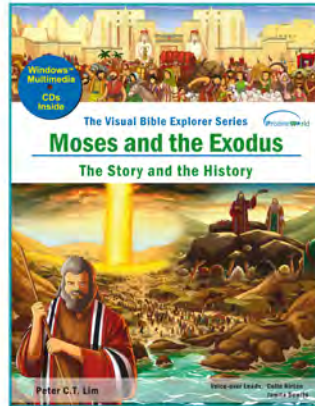
SAMPLE

The Visual Bible Explorer Series

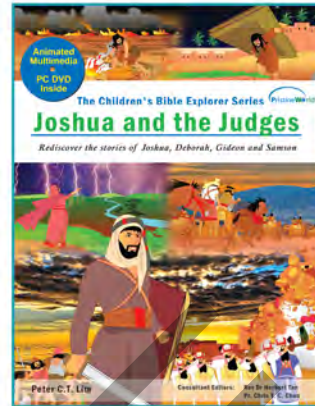
Multimedia Books Currently Available



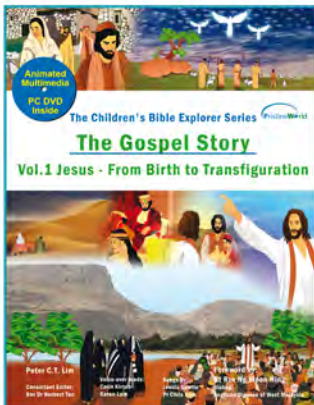
Genesis - In The Beginning



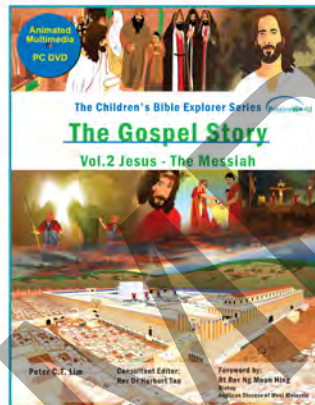
Moses and the Exodus



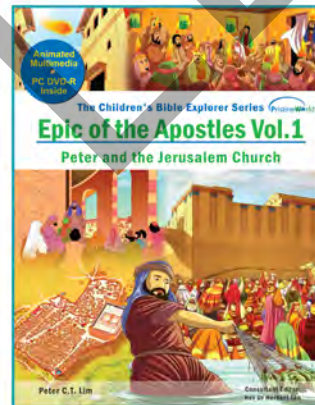
Joshua and the Judges



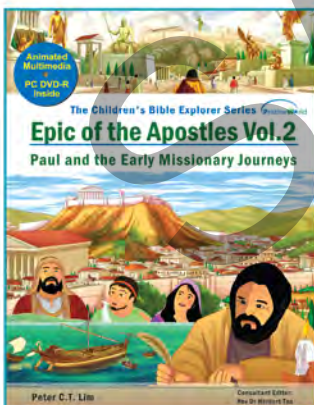
The Gospel Story Vol. 1



The Gospel Story Vol. 2



Epic of the Apostles Vol. 1



Epic of the Apostles Vol. 2



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