

# PRIMARY B.I.B.L.E TEACHER

For Teachers of Children  
Ages 6 Through 8



"CHRISTIAN LIFE SERIES"  
**UGP**  
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## SPRING

March, April, May 2019

# Primary Bible Teacher

SPRING QUARTER

March, April, May 2019

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## EDITORIALS

# DEAR PRIMARY TEACHER:

A commitment to become a servant of the Lord should not be taken lightly. Through studying examples from the Bible, we can learn much about how God interacts with His obedient and disobedient servants.

During the first five lessons of this quarter, the children will hear about fearless servants of the Lord. When Korah rebelled against Moses, Moses stood strong before the people he served, vindicating God's sovereignty in His choice of leaders.

As a lad, David had already proved God many times and found Him faithful. When he heard the Philistines mocking his God, he stepped up and battled the giant, knowing that the battle was the Lord's. David was only the instrument God used to obtain victory.

As they continued to hear about the life of God's servant Hezekiah, the children learn that God will fight for us. Against overwhelming odds, Hezekiah prepared to battle Sennacherib and his undefeated army. Hezekiah and Isaiah prayed, and God sent an angel to fight for them. Sennacherib's army was wiped out in one night.

Jeremiah stood up for what was right in lesson 4. He boldly proclaimed God's judgment on a people who refused to obey God.

With no regard for her own life, Esther approached the king for a righteous cause in lesson 5. God heard the prayers of her people and delivered them from the plot of wicked Haman.

God's beloved Servant, Jesus, is the emphasis of our second unit. Beginning with the life of Jesus as He heals and helps, we learn that Jesus is the Servant prophesied in Isaiah. Jesus was hon-

ored and worshipped as the King when He entered Jerusalem on a donkey, only to be crucified shortly afterward.

Lesson 8, our Easter lesson, tells of women coming to Jesus' tomb only to find it empty. His resurrection was the final proof that Jesus, God's Servant, was sent to redeem the world.

Peter and John continued Jesus' ministry by obeying His command to go into all the world and tell about Jesus. Jesus empowered Peter and John to bring healing to the lame man at the temple gate.

The third unit highlights four of God's faithful servants. Each one was ready to give all they had to serve God. In lesson 10, Samuel readily answered yes when God called him into a lifetime of service.

Faithful even to death is the theme of the lesson on the three Hebrew young men. These young men were willing to give up their lives to remain faithful to their God.

Philip responded faithfully when God sent him to minister to one man. God made a divine appointment for Philip, and as God's faithful servant, he obeyed and witnessed to the Ethiopian eunuch.

The quarter ends with Paul in Ephesus as he patiently taught about Christ and endured great hardship. But no matter the difficulty, Paul found a way to keep on serving God.

How do you react when things become more difficult than you thought they would be? When others see you trusting and joyfully serving through difficulties, they will realize that the Bible you teach is the Bible you live by.

*For the Children,*

*Pamela Oslin*

# BACK TO BASICS

The word “indoctrination” has acquired an unacceptable association with brainwashing in our day. However, when you look at biblical examples, you cannot deny their value in training children.

To indoctrinate simply means to instruct in the fundamentals. Is that not the goal of our teaching? Are we not to instruct the children in the fundamentals of the Bible, the truths from Scripture by which they should order their lives?

Be sure to fill your teaching with truths from God’s Word. Teaching children is too important a task to leave to happenstance. Teaching Bible truths must be deliberate and systematic.

Bible scholars have systematized the major doctrines of the Bible. While we cannot teach through an entire doctrine in one lesson, we can build doctrine into our lessons little by little. Week by week, layering one small truth upon another will gradually build Christian beliefs into a child’s life.

“Bibliology” is a word that simply means the study of God’s Word. God’s Word is the foundation of what we believe. It is the sole authority for faith and practice. We must establish in the mind of those we teach that the Bible is completely true, reliable, and unchanging. Every generation must learn the truths of the Word of God for itself.

For example, when you begin your Bible lesson, you might hold up your Bible and say, “God’s Word, the Bible, is the only book that God ever wrote. It is 100 percent true.” By adding that short statement to your teaching, you imprint their hearts with the veracity of the Bible while standing against other books that some claim come from God. At the same time, students learn that God is the author of the Bible, thus adding God’s authority to what you are teaching. The truths of bibliology will begin to take shape in the

mind of the child. Follow this model with other scriptural truths.

The discipline that encompasses bibliology and from which all Christian doctrines flow is theology, the study of God. It is important that those we teach have an accurate knowledge of who God is. Making God known should be at the center of our teaching. Someone has well said, “Do not speak to men about the Bible only; speak to them about God.” Children can begin to learn who God is through an accurate understanding of His qualities. Teach them that God is great but that we are profoundly limited in our understanding of Him.

A theological truth central to a child’s life is the study of sin—Hamartiology. Many people have a very low opinion of God and a very high opinion of self. God’s Word rightly shows us that we are sinners. Our own personal failings also reveal that we are sinners. Keep in mind that to be saved, a person must see God as righteous (holy) and see himself in his lost, sinful condition. The object of a study of sin should not be to introduce children to particular sins but to show mankind’s exceeding sinfulness and self-righteousness (cf. Isa. 64:6).

In order for a person to come to Christ, he must understand his lost, sinful condition (cf. Rom. 7:13). Of course, the greatest sin is unbelief. This sin alone determines where a person will spend eternity (cf. John 3:18).

Christology is the study of Jesus Christ. The Scriptures are all about our Lord Jesus Christ (John 5:39). Our highest goal should be to exalt the Lord Jesus Christ and make Him known to every child.

This short list is by no means exhaustive. Ask your pastor to recommend a book on theology or Bible doctrines to get you started on a

study of specific doctrines as you begin teaching the children. Ask God to open your eyes to every opportunity to teach a nugget of scriptural truth.

As you prepare to teach each week, commit your way to the Lord; He will help you (cf. Ps. 37:5). Begin preparing early. Read the Scripture passage and the context around it. Determine what it is saying. Your mind will meditate on the lesson even when you are not actively working on it. When you stand in front of the children, be sure you know the lesson thoroughly. If you do not know it, the children will not be able to grasp it.

Engage the children the moment they enter the room. Be enthusiastic. Show them you are glad to be there and glad they came. Be an encourager. Encourage the children to grow closer to Christ, to trust Him as Saviour, and to learn more about Him. Help them to take the next step in their spiritual life.

Have a plan before you go into the room. A simple plan could include the following elements. Welcome the children. Pray with and for them. Present the lesson enthusiastically. Close in prayer, thanking God. Complete the Helping to Remember activity. Review, if there is time, and dismiss.

As you teach, keep the main points of the lesson in mind. What important concepts do you want the children to come away with? This will help keep the lesson on target. Do not let conversations and other distractions sidetrack you.

While children are working on the craft, talk about the main points to see if they understand them. Ask application questions and encourage discussion.

Evaluate as you are teaching. If the children do not seem to understand a word or an idea, stop and explain it. This might slow you down, but your goal is not simply to cover the material in the lesson. Your goal is to teach the children, moving them forward to a

clearer understanding of biblical truth.

Give the children an opportunity to move during class. Children are going to move one way or another, so you may as well control the movement. If you sense the children have stopped listening, get them up and play a quick game, asking questions from the lesson.

One activity that is quick and requires very little preparation is “True or False.” Put a paper with the word “true” on one wall and a paper with the word “false” on the opposite wall. Have the children stand in the middle. Make a statement. If it is true, they should walk to stand beneath the true sign. If it is false, they should stand under the false sign.

Lastly, always teach from your Bible, in addition to the lesson booklet. Make sure that all your teaching is Bible based. Take time to allow the children to find Scripture passages in their Bibles. Pick out a pertinent, easy-to-read verse from the lesson text and let the children take turns reading it. That way they will know your lesson is from the Bible. This will help them realize that the Bible is for them and that they can find answers in it. It will also give them a reason to bring their Bibles to church.

Stay in touch with your students during the week. Send birthday cards, e-mail parents, or send postcards. Encourage them to learn verses. Remind them about a key point in the lesson from last week. Build interest about what is coming next.

The children in your class are the flock the Lord has assigned to your care. Each one is precious to God. Are you giving your best to nurture them? Are you an example they can follow? Expect each child to grow in grace while he or she is in your class. Take responsibility for helping them along the road to a lifetime of service for God.



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Moses pronounced God's judgment on the disobedient Israelites who had rebelled against God.

# God's Servant Moses

Lesson Text:  
Numbers 16:23-34

**GOLDEN TEXT**—"If these men die the common death of all men, . . . then the Lord hath not sent me" (Numbers 16:29).

## Scripture Lesson Text

**NUMBERS 16:23** And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

**24** Speak unto the congregation, saying, Get ye up from about the tabernacle of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram.

25 And Moses rose up and went unto Dathan and Abiram; and the elders of Israel followed him.

**26** And he spake unto the congregation, saying, Depart, I pray you, from the tents of these wicked men, and touch nothing of theirs, lest ye be consumed in all their sins.

27 So they gat up from the tabernacle of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram, on every side: and Dathan and Abiram came out, and stood in the door of their tents, and their wives, and their sons, and their little children.

**28** And Moses said, Hereby ye shall know that the LORD hath sent me to do all these works; for I have not done them of mine own mind.

29 If these men die the common death of all

men, or if they be visited after the visitation of all men; then the LORD hath not sent me.

**30** But if the LORD make a new thing, and the earth open her mouth, and swallow them up, with all that appertain unto them, and they go down quick into the pit; then ye shall understand that these men have provoked the LORD.

31 And it came to pass, as he had made an end of speaking all these words, that the ground clave asunder that was under them:

**32** And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their houses, and all the men that appertained unto Korah, and all their goods.

33 They, and all that appertained to them, went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation.

**34** And all Israel that were round about them fled at the cry of them: for they said, Lest the earth swallow us up also.

# NOTES ON THE LESSON

Beginning this unit, we encounter an age-old issue that plagues all people. The issue expresses itself in one phrase—“You are not the boss of me.” In today’s lesson, prideful people determined that they were equal to or better than those God had placed over them. That is a very dangerous position as we will see.

Moses and Aaron were God’s chosen leaders. Korah decided that he was more qualified and capable of leading the people than Moses and Aaron. But there was one thing that Korah lacked—he was not the one God had chosen to lead. Korah set about gathering support. Dathan and Abiram joined him in his rebellion against God’s chosen leaders, along with two hundred fifty others. Following evil brings trouble, and these men were in for trouble. As Korah’s popularity grew, so did God’s anger.

Moses prayed for guidance and pleaded with God for mercy toward His people. He followed God’s instructions and set up a showdown to prove to the nation of Israel that he and Aaron were its appointed leaders.

The rebellion of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram ended as the earth cracked open and swallowed the men, their families, and their belongings. Nothing was left. The authority God had placed in Moses and Aaron was authenticated.

“You are not the boss of me” is a sentiment that children voice. However, through our actions, do we not sometimes say the same thing to God?

When God convicts us through His Word, do we not at times ignore His admonition and continue in our own way instead of God’s way? We must determine to go God’s way instead of our way in our thoughts, words, and actions.

## THE OBJECT IN VIEW:

When people criticize you as you obey God, pray for them, but keep obeying.

## TRUTHS TO STRESS:

1. God chooses those with humble, willing, obedient hearts to serve Him.
2. When people stand against God’s chosen leaders, they are standing against God.
3. Following our own evil hearts brings trouble; following God brings joy.

## PLANNING VISUAL AIDS

For Telling the Lesson, you will need a picture of adult Moses and a picture of Aaron.

For Helping to Remember, each child needs a half sheet of light-colored construction paper with the words “Following evil brings \_\_\_\_.” written on one side and “Following God brings \_\_\_\_.” written on the other side. Supply crayons, colored pencils, or markers for the children to use.

## BEGINNING THE LESSON

Young children often like to argue about who is in charge. One child tries to get another do what he wants, but she refuses, saying, “You are not the boss of me!” The argument continues: “Yes, I am!” “No, you’re not!” Do you recall hearing anyone say those words?

Nobody enjoys having someone else in charge. Each person wants to be his own boss. We all believe that our plans, ideas, and opinions are perfect and everyone should follow us. However, that is not God’s plan for our lives.