



Guidelines for Teachers

Bibletime Levels 1 and 2

A Series
Lessons 7 - 12

Bible Educational Services

Registered Charity UK (No 1096157)

Mission Statement

Serving you to serve others by producing for worldwide use, consecutive Bible lessons that enable the teaching of the Word of God to the current and next generations.

Vision Statement

To facilitate the production of Bible Educational Resources in many of the world's languages, through various means of communication, in partnership with others who share our core values.

GENERAL INFORMATION

What Bible Educational Services does:-

Bible Educational Services (BES) publish "Bibletime", "New Life" and "Gleaners" Bible lessons in English and support Postal Bible Schools and similar organizations using BES lessons in the UK and overseas, by visiting, networking, advising and training. BES is also currently working in partnership with groups in other countries who are involved in translation, design, publishing and distribution of lessons. Lessons must be provided free of charge to all students.

Bibletime lessons were first used in Southern Ireland over 50 years ago. Bible Educational Services maintain editorial responsibility for Bibletime Lessons in English and in all foreign languages. Bibletime lessons have been normally published in an A4 format which enables students in some areas, every four weeks, to send the lessons back to a Bible School Centre for marking. More recently, thanks to the Every Home Crusade (Revival Movement) in Belfast, lessons for six months have been published in an A5 format, which has made usage in Churches and Schools much easier, especially where there is no effective postal system.

The BES lessons are unique in that they are prepared with home or group (Church/School) study in view, following a planned syllabus which allows students to continue studying for up to 20 years. Five levels of lessons are available for specific age groups, Pre-school, 5-7's, 8-10's, 11-13's, 14-16's. There is a three year syllabus for each age group (See page 4). The age groups may vary according to varying abilities. The Bibletime Resource gives children the opportunity of studying God's Word, learning Bible Stories and facing the challenge of the relevance of the Gospel in their lives.

Printed copies of the lessons are available in English from the BES website – www.besweb.com or from the International Secretary. They are also available on the website in other languages. BES has documents which may be helpful to you if you are considering partnering with us, which are also available on the website.

BES Contact Addresses

International and Northern Ireland Secretary (stockist of all lessons)

Mr S Balmer, 37a Belmore Street, Enniskillen, Northern Ireland BT74 6AA

Phone: 0286 632 2462

Email: sam@besweb.com

UK Secretary

Mr Stephen Gillham, 32 Firs Glen Road, West Moors, Ferndown, Dorset BH22 0ED

Phone: 01202 873500

Email: stephen@sgillham.co.uk

Web address: www.besweb.com

Email address: info@besweb.com

GUIDELINES for TEACHERS

Originally, Bibletime lessons were produced to be used in a postal system with a Postal Bible School Centre but the lessons are increasingly being used where the postal system is unreliable or non-existent especially in Churches and Schools in Africa, India and other locations. Teaching Guidelines are produced for those using Bibletime lessons in such situations. The Teaching Guidelines in this Booklet are designed for use with Level 1 and Level 2 lessons approximate ages 5-10's.

Each Teaching Guide follows the same Bible Reference as the Bibletime lesson. The Bibletime lessons and Guidelines are designed to be used on a weekly basis. The April lessons are particularly related to Easter and the December lessons are related to Christmas.

Some locations will be using an A4 weekly edition of the lessons and others will be using the A5 booklet with 24 lessons included. Normally the teacher or leader will give out the monthly A4 lesson and each week the lesson will be either filled in, in the Church or School or taken home and returned the following week. At the end of the month the teacher or leader will collect the lesson and do the necessary marking, returning the marked lessons as soon as possible to the student.

When using booklets ideally, at the end of each session, the booklets are collected and marked. We realise that in many situations this is impossible. So in the classroom they may be distributed to other students and the teacher or leader will work through the lessons and the students mark their friend's lessons and give a score. At the rear of the booklets there is a place for scores for each month's lesson and a place for a comment about progress that the student has made. There is a certificate also that can be detached and given to the student with an indication of the percentage that the student has obtained for the six months of lessons.

PREPARATION FOR TEACHERS

We do not want to be prescriptive and give no room for teachers to adapt things in their own way with their own ideas and initiatives. These are suggestions which could help in the use of the Bibletime Resource:

- **Be familiar with the story** - Teachers should be as familiar as possible with the Bible Story and also with the Bibletime Lesson that accompanies it. Ideally, the Bibletime Lesson should be completed by the Teacher before the Lesson. The Guidelines for each Lesson should also be carefully considered as a planning aid for the lessons.
- **Understand the lessons to be learned** - At the top of each lesson plan you will notice the words 'We are learning that', followed by two learning intentions which the children will hopefully have grasped after listening to the teacher's presentation and completing the Bibletime lesson. The first learning intention is to do with knowledge about the story, whereas the second encourages the children to think about the knowledge, apply it and make a response. These learning intentions are a precise statement of the main concepts/truth taught in the lesson and teachers may wish to use them for their personal evaluation of the teaching and learning which has occurred.
- **Introduce it** - With all Lessons, we start where the children are with their own experience of the situation. We have suggested various ways that might be used to introduce the story to enable the children to be interactive in discussing the starting point of the story.
- **Teach It** - We have given the Key Points in the story. We would hope that the teachers would not have to refer to these when actually giving the story but would be familiar with the story and be able to teach it in an interesting and inspiring way. The teacher will want the children to understand the main lessons from the story and help them to understand the response they can make from learning the story. As appropriate we have tried to interweave some explanations into the story telling. These are always included in **ITALICS**.
- **Learn It** - There is a Key Verse attached to each story. On some occasions, there are two Key Verses, since we have added another Key Verse which may be easier for children to learn. We hope that the children can learn the Key Verses and will be reminded of it as often as possible so that they begin to build up knowledge of Key Bible Verses.
- **Complete It** - In a school situation you will be aware of the abilities of children to complete worksheets and the amount of teacher support required. For some, it will be a requirement that the teacher reads over the text of the lesson as the children follow what is now a familiar narrative.

Other children may be able to read the text independently. In either case, it may be an idea to draw the children's attention to specific instructions relating to the questions. If you are using Bibletime in a non-school context, it is important to be available to help so that it is not perceived as a chore or test. It should be enjoyable, and encouragement and praise while working on the task are important.

- **Remember it** - We have suggested wherever possible, quizzes or acting to assist the learning, and as a means of revising the story.
- **Show it** - We appreciate that in some situations, visuals will be very difficult to obtain but wherever possible it is important to focus on pictures or objects to help in the understanding of the story. Visual aids can be a great help in telling the stories. Where appropriate in each lesson we have given the information about pictures from www.freebibleimages.org pictures (FBI) which are downloadable from their website. Another source of visual material is Eikon Bible Art [info@eikonbibleart.com] but their material has to be purchased. Where a photocopier is available some Bibletime pictures could be enlarged, coloured, and used in teaching.

Teaching the Key Verse

- 1) The verse could be written on a sheet of paper or on a board with various words removed as the children repeat the verse until the whole verse is removed and the students can repeat it without the words in front of them.
- 2) To introduce the Key Verse you could use:
 - a) The Hangman approach with two teams – a number of letters- spaces of the Key Verse are given with no actual letters – the children choose which letters they want until someone is able to recognise the verse.
 - b) Sword Drill where Bibles are available, and the children race to find the verse and the first one to find it reads it out.

Time Plan

- **Order.** We have kept the same order in the Teaching Guidelines for each Lesson but it may be the teachers will want to change this from time to time.
 1. The introduction and telling the story - approximately 15 minutes
 2. Teaching the Key Verse – 5-10 minutes
 3. Completing the worksheet - 20 minutes
 4. Quiz and other activities 5-10 minutes.

Remember the important saying:

“Tell me and I may forget,
Show me and I'll remember,
Involve me and I'll understand.”

Bibletime Syllabus

	LEVEL 0 (Pre-School) LEVEL 1 (Ages 5-7) LEVEL 2 (Ages 8-10)	LEVEL 3 (Ages 11-13)	LEVEL 4 (Ages 14+)
STARTER SERIES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Starter Lesson - Intro 2. U1 - Luke's Gospel 3. U2 - Luke's Gospel 4. U2 - Luke's Gospel 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Starter Lesson - Intro 2. U1 - Luke's Gospel 3. U2 - Luke's Gospel 4. U2 - Luke's Gospel 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Starter Lesson - Intro 2. U1 - Luke's Gospel 3. U2 - Luke's Gospel 4. U2 - Luke's Gospel
SERIES A	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creation 2. Noah 3. Peter 4. Peter - The Cross 5. Abraham 6. Abraham 7. Peter 8. Peter 9. Jacob 10. Early Christians 11. Paul 12. The Christmas Story 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creation 2. Noah 3. Peter 4. Peter - The Cross 5. Peter 6. Abraham 7. Jacob 8. Prayer 9. Paul 10. Paul 11. Paul 12. The Christmas Story 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creation & Fall 2. Early developments - Genesis 3. Peter 4. Peter - The Cross 5. Peter 6. Abraham 7. Jacob 8. The Christian Life 9. Paul 10. Paul 11. Paul 12. The Christmas Story
SERIES B	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Early Life of Christ 2. Miracles 3. Bethany 4. The Cross 5. Parables 6. Joseph 7. Joseph 8. People Jesus met 9. Moses 10. Moses 11. Moses 12. The Christmas Story 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parables 2. Miracles 3. Bethany 4. The Cross 5. Early Christians 6. Joseph 7. Joseph 8. Gospel Writers 9. Moses 10. Moses 11. Moses 12. The Christmas Story 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parables 2. Miracles 3. Bethany 4. The Cross 5. Early Christians 6. Jacob & his family 7. Joseph 8. Acts 2: 42 - The way ahead 9. Moses 10. Moses 11. The Law 12. The Christmas Story
SERIES C	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Daniel 2. More Miracles 3. People Jesus met 4. Death of Christ 5. Ruth & Samuel 6. David 7. David 8. Joshua 9. Elijah 10. Elisha 11. Jonah 12. The Christmas Story 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Daniel 2. People Jesus met 3. More Miracles 4. Death of Christ 5. Ruth 6. Samuel 7. David 8. Joshua 9. Elijah 10. Elisha 11. Men used by God - OT 12. The Christmas Story 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Daniel 2. The sayings of Jesus 3. The Lords Power 4. Death of Christ 5. Ruth 6. Samuel 7. David 8. Joshua 9. Elijah 10. Elisha 11. More OT Characters 12. The Christmas Story

A7 Story 1

Peter preaching – This story is about Peter helped by the Holy Spirit to preach about Jesus.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• It was necessary for the disciples to have the Holy Spirit.• The Holy Spirit lives inside everyone who has trusted in the Lord Jesus as Saviour. <p>Key Verse: Acts 2: 36 Bible Passage: Acts 2: 1–14, 36-39</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use questions to introduce the Holy Spirit. Can you see the wind? No. How do you know it's there? You can see what it does. If you can see outside, look for evidence of the wind.• Remind the children of the Easter story - Jesus had died and risen. Before He left to go back to Heaven He had promised to send His disciples a very special unseen helper.• This helper was a person called the Holy Spirit who would come and live inside each of them. Just like the wind, they wouldn't be able to see the Holy Spirit but they would know the difference that He would make in their lives.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One day soon after Jesus had gone back to Heaven, the disciples were together in a house in Jerusalem. (Acts 2: 1-4) Suddenly the whole place was filled with the noise of a mighty rushing wind. Then something like flames of fire settled on each man's head. The Holy Spirit had come! <i>How do you think the Apostles felt, now that the special gift had come? (excited, amazed, happy that Jesus' promise had come true)</i>• Then they discovered that they were speaking in different languages! <i>Explain that normally we can only speak languages that we learned from our parents when we were young or have been taught. Jesus' disciples had not been taught the languages. All of these signs showed that the Spirit had come. What would you have thought if you had been passing by this room?</i>• People who were nearby heard the noise and were puzzled but amazed! (Acts 2: 5–13)• Peter knew that this was his opportunity to explain what was happening and tell them about the Lord Jesus. (Acts 2: 36–39) <i>Discuss what might have been hard about preaching (speaking/explaining) to a big crowd of people. (a bit scary, knowing the right words to say, worried about what people might think or do)</i> But Peter was able to do it because he was helped by the Holy Spirit.• <i>Peter's hearers needed to be saved from their sin and so do we.</i>• <i>Explain that the Holy Spirit is given to anyone who believes in the Lord Jesus as Saviour. The Holy Spirit will help us to tell others about Jesus.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: FBI- The day of Pentecost.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Acts 2: 36. This is part of what Peter said when he was preaching. He told them that they were the people who had put Jesus to death but God had raised Him to life again. This proved that Jesus was not just a man but is Lord and Christ.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Where were the Apostles when the Spirit came?• What did the Spirit sound like?• What did the Apostles see?• What were they able to do as soon as they were filled with the Holy Spirit?• Who overheard what was going on?• Which Apostle stood up and explained what had happened?• Who did Peter talk about?• What did Peter tell them to do about their sin?• Which gift would they receive if they did this?• What type of people have the Holy Spirit living inside them today?

B7 Story 2

Peter heals a lame man – This story is about God's healing power.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The power of Jesus worked through Peter and John to heal the lame man.• Peter and John wanted to help the lame man and we should try to help others. <p>Key Verse: Level 1 - Acts 3: 6, Level 2 - Acts 3: 16 Bible Passage: Acts 3: 1-12</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sensitively describe the lame man who couldn't walk but could only beg for money to buy food to keep himself alive.• You may have a pair of crutches you could show, but explain that this man had to be carried there by his friends.• Use a simple drawing of a sad face to represent the man.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One day as Peter and John were going up to the Temple the lame man asked them for money. (Acts 3: 1–5) Point out that they took time to stop with him.• Use Peter' words. "I have no silver or gold. But what I have shall be yours. In the name of Jesus, stand up and walk!" (Acts 3: 6–7) <i>Explain that silver and gold would only help a little bit – it couldn't fix the man's legs. Peter was able to offer the man something which would change his life completely.</i>• Peter took his hand and helped him to his feet. Suddenly the man's legs and feet were strong. He was able to walk and jump for the first time in his life! He was full of praise to God and continued into the Temple with Peter and John. (Acts 3: 8) <i>Show a drawing of the happy face in contrast to the previous one. What would you have thought if you had been used to seeing the lame man begging every day?</i>• Everyone was amazed at what had happened. (Acts 3: 9–12)• <i>Consider how we can follow Peter's example. Talk about helping others at a practical level and you could also mention that the most important thing we can share with others is the good news about the Lord Jesus.</i>• <i>Like the man we have a problem in our lives too. Jesus' power is able to take away our sin just as the man was freed from not being able to walk.</i>• <i>Think of some things which we can praise God for.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: FBI- A lame beggar is healed.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Level 1 - Acts 3: 6, Level 2 - Acts 3: 16. <i>If appropriate, children could say the Key Verse as they walk, jump or hop on the spot.</i></p>
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What time was it?• Where were Peter and John going?• How long had the man been unable to walk?• Where did he sit every day?• What did he ask Peter and John for?• Whose name did Peter use to heal the man?• What else did Peter do as well as speak to him?• Name three things the man was now able to do?• Where did he go after he was made better?• What can Jesus' power do in our lives?

A7 Story 3

Peter in prison – This story is about how God helps those who serve Him.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The first Christians faced opposition from the religious leaders who had crucified the Lord Jesus.• Those who truly love Jesus will want to obey Him, whatever the problems. <p>Key Verse: Hebrews 13: 6 Bible Passage: Acts 4: 1-22</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As this story is the continuation of the previous one, it would be best to review a few basic facts at the outset.• Use the happy and sad face drawings as prompts.• How had the man been made able to walk? Ensure that children understand that it was by the power of Jesus.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• After this, Peter and John preached about the risen Lord Jesus and many people believed. (Acts 4: 1–2, 4) But the men in charge of the Temple were angry about Peter telling the people that Jesus had risen. At once they arrested Peter and John and put them in prison. (Acts 4: 3) <i>Explain what this would have been like for them.</i>• Next morning they were brought out and questioned by a court. (Acts 4: 5–7) <i>Explain that a court is a group of people who decide whether someone is guilty of doing wrong.</i>• Once again Peter was helped by the Holy Spirit to explain how the man had been healed. (Acts 4: 8–12) The court found it hard to know what to do with Peter and John! They knew that a great miracle had happened but after discussing it, they made their decision and told Peter and John not to speak about Jesus again. (Acts 4: 13–19) <i>How would Peter and John feel about this? Could they obey?</i>• Peter and John knew that it would be impossible not to speak about the Lord Jesus! (Acts 4: 20) <i>They loved Jesus so much that they were determined to obey him. They knew they could count on the Lord being with them no matter what happened. The Holy Spirit would help them.</i>• <i>Jesus wants us to love and obey Him too, however difficult that might be.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: FBI - Peter and John are arrested.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Hebrews 13: 6. You could play “Hangman” with the first five words and the reference before adding on the next two parts. The children could be divided up into three groups to say a section each and all could repeat the reference. <i>Do you think these words could have been a help to Peter and John? Explain that knowing them can help us too!</i></p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Do a true/false quiz with statements written out on card and put in a bag. Each statement is assigned a number of points. (5 to 100). Have two teams.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The police were very angry with Peter and John.• They spent a night in prison.• When they were released they were questioned by a court.• Peter told the court that Jesus’ power had healed the man.• The Holy Spirit helped Peter and John to speak to the court.• Peter and John escaped from the court.• The court decided that Peter and John must not speak about Jesus.• Peter and John said they would obey the court

A7 Story 4

Peter is set free – This story is about God answering prayer.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• God gives His power and help to Christians so that they can do His work.• Prayer is important in every situation we may face. <p>Key Verse: Either Acts 4: 31 or Matthew 6: 33 Bible Passage: Acts 4: 23-31</p>
INTRODUCE IT	Talk about news that the children would like to share with friends or family – possibly it's exciting news about what they've done on an outing or winning a race. Or maybe they've been worried about something and sharing it with friends has helped.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Peter and John had news to share with their friends. (Acts 4: 23) Explain the good news was that they were out of prison but the bad news was they had been told not to speak about Jesus!• Peter and John's friends made a wise decision to pray. (Acts 4: 24-30) They knew that God was in control. He was much greater than the people who had tried to stop them. As they prayed, they remembered the amazing things that God had already done which showed His power. They asked God to give them courage and do more miracles by Jesus' power. (Acts 4: 29,30)• As soon as they prayed, God answered their prayers! (Acts 4: 31) <i>Explain that the building shook because God was again showing them the power of the Holy Spirit who would be with them to help them as they spoke about the Lord Jesus.</i>• <i>Explain that we can pray to God when we have difficult things to do.</i>• <i>God hears and answers our prayers and He will help us to put the Lord Jesus first, like the people in today's story.</i>• <i>With Level 2 children, you may wish to refer to Christians living in countries where others try to stop them from telling the good news about Jesus. We can pray that they will be given the courage to put the Lord Jesus first.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: FBI - Peter and John are arrested.</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Either Acts 4: 31 or Matthew 6: 33. In Matthew 6: 33 , the word "seek" simply means put. The Kingdom of God means everything that is important to God and of course that includes the Lord Jesus.
REMEMBER IT	Base a quiz on all four stories from A7

A8 Story 1

Peter helps Dorcas – This story is about raising Dorcas back to life.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Lord Jesus' power was at work through Peter in healing Dorcas.• We need to respond to the Lord Jesus by believing in Him. <p>Key Verse: Acts 9: 42 Bible Passage: Acts 9: 32-43</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Talk about ways in which we can help people who are in need by sharing what we have. Possibly use some visual aids to illustrate ways of doing this.• Introduce Dorcas as a very kind lady who loved the Lord Jesus. Because of this, she spent her time helping others and was good at sewing and making clothes for those who were poor.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One day Dorcas became very sick and died. (Acts 9: 37) <i>How would her friends have felt?</i>• Two of the Christians went to find Peter who was in the nearby town of Joppa. (Acts 9: 38, 39)• Straight away, Peter came to Dorcas' home. (Acts 9: 40, 41) <i>Explain in detail how Peter first prayed, then spoke to her, took her hand and helped her to her feet. Dorcas was alive! Contrast the scene of happiness compared with what Peter had encountered when he arrived at first. Emphasise that this was a miracle which Peter could only do because the power of the Lord Jesus was working through him.</i>• Many people believed in the Lord Jesus. (Acts 9: 42)• <i>We need to believe in the Lord Jesus like those who saw Dorcas brought back to life.</i>• <i>Explain simply what this means – we must realize that He is God's Son, He is alive and has the power to take away our sins. Believing in Jesus means that we are trusting completely in Him.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: FBI -Tabitha Dorcas is raised to life.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach the Key Verse - Acts 9: 42</p> <p><i>This Key Verse will be easy for even the youngest children – again check that the children understand it. Check they know who "Many" refers to. What made them believe in the Lord? Why is it important for us to believe in the Lord? How can a person believe in the Lord?</i></p>
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Where did Dorcas live?• How did she help people?• Why did she help people?• How did people feel when Dorcas died?• Who went to find Peter?• What did Peter do when he knelt beside Dorcas' bed?• What did Peter say to Dorcas?• What did Peter do after he spoke to Dorcas?• What did many people do after Dorcas was brought to life?• Where is the Key Verse found?

A8 Story 2

Peter has a vision – This story is about God’s love for everyone.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Peter was obedient to doing what God asked him to do.• God loves everyone and wants everyone to know the good news about the Lord Jesus. <p>Key Verse: John 3: 16 Bible Passage: Acts 10: 9-23</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Talk about ways in which people from different countries are different – use photos or pictures if available.• Talk about differences of skin colour, hair, clothes, language etc.• God made everyone. He wants every single person to learn about Himself and about His Son, the Lord Jesus.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• While Peter was praying at Joppa (link with A8 Story 1) God taught Peter that He loves everyone. (Acts 10: 9–16) <i>There is no need to go into the detail of the vision. With Level 2 children, it might be explained that this truth was difficult for Peter to grasp because he was a Jew and up until now he thought that it was only Jews who were important to God. Peter had to learn that everybody is special to God.</i>• Three visitors arrived and invited Peter to go with them to Cornelius’ home. (Acts 10: 17–22) <i>Explain that Cornelius was an important Roman soldier who was keen to learn more about God. Cornelius was different from Peter and Peter would not usually have gone to visit someone like him. Explain how Peter knew that it was right for him to go (1) from what God had just taught him (2) the Holy Spirit guiding him.</i>• Peter travelled to Cornelius’ home at Caesarea. (40 miles away) (Acts 10: 23) <i>Try to give some indication of this distance by comparing it to a distance which the children might be familiar with. This would have taken a whole day. Focus on Peter’s obedience to God in making this journey.</i>• <i>Emphasise that God wants everyone to know that He loves them. He gave His Son to die on the cross so that everyone can be forgiven.</i>• <i>If you have already believed in the Lord Jesus then you can help others to know about Him.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: FBI - Peter tells Cornelius about Jesus.</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - John 3: 16
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who was Peter staying with?• What was Peter doing at midday?• What did God want Peter to know when He spoke to him?• How many men came to see Peter?• Who was Peter to visit?• What did Cornelius work at?• Why did Peter go to Cornelius’ house?• How did God show that He loved everyone in the world? <p>Act It: The part of the story where the visitors arrive could be acted out and continued in Story 3. Adult leaders could play the parts of the visitors and Peter.</p>

A8 Story 3

Peter and Cornelius – This story is about God saving a Roman Army Officer.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cornelius was one of the first non-Jews (Gentiles) to believe in Jesus and how this came about.• God is willing to forgive the sins of anyone who believes in Him. <p>Key Verse: Acts 10: 43 Bible Passage: Acts 10: 23-48</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As this is the continuation of last week's story it would be appropriate to use some of the quiz questions from Story 2 to revise the details.• Having done this, you may be able to give the children an example of some important event in your community which brings people together to hear news.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Peter arrived at Cornelius' house. (Acts 10: 24–33) Help the children to picture the scene – the crowded house full of Cornelius' family and friends and everyone keen to see Peter. Cornelius wanted to treat Peter as a very special visitor so he bowed down before him! Peter told him to stand up again because it wasn't right to bow to an ordinary man. Then Cornelius explained that God had told him to send for Peter. <i>You may wish to point out that God had been preparing both of them for this meeting!</i>• Peter's message. (Acts 10: 34–43) <i>Explain how Peter told them that God wants people from every nation to believe in Him.</i>• Talk about the facts which he told them about the Lord Jesus - how He did good things, healed people, was put to death and raised from the dead by God. The Lord Jesus will one day be Judge but most importantly He offers forgiveness of sins to those who believe in Him now.• The listeners' response. (Acts 10: 44–48) The Holy Spirit helped these people understand what Peter had told them. They believed in the Lord and their sins were forgiven.• <i>Explain that when we hear the good news about the Lord Jesus, we should respond to Him as these people did. By believing in Him we too can have our sins forgiven.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: FBI - Peter tells Cornelius about Jesus.</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Acts 10: 43 . <i>Explain the meaning of "whoever" (anyone) and "remission" (forgiveness).</i>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Instead of more quiz questions it might be an idea to make a collage of faces to surround the Key Verse written in large writing. Each child could draw his/her face. This would help to reinforce the truth about God's love that Peter had learned and help them to understand that "whoever" includes them personally. Alternately children could cut different faces from old magazines if these were available.</p> <p>Act It: As suggested in Story 2, this could be acted out.</p>

A8 Story 4

Peter is rescued – This story is about God answering prayer.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Peter's friends prayed for him.• That God can choose to do wonderful things in answer to our prayers. <p>Key Verse: James 5: 16 Bible Passage: Acts 12: 1-19</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Talk about using phones to speak to our friends or for asking for help from someone. If possible have a mobile phone as a visual aid.• Review the concept of prayer as talking to God. God doesn't speak back to us but He is always listening. He has the power to answer our prayers.• In today's story a group of friends prayed about something important.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Peter in prison. (Acts 12: 1–4) King Herod hated the followers of Jesus. James was put to death. Shortly afterwards Peter was arrested and put in prison. Recall the previous time this had happened to Peter. (Acts 5: A7/ Story 3)• Peter's friends' prayers. (Acts 12: 5) <i>Discuss why this was the best thing to do.</i>• Freed from prison. (Acts 12: 6-10) It was the night before Peter's trial (<i>explain how important the outcome of this trial would be</i>). Peter was chained to two soldiers but he was fast asleep. Tell how Peter was rescued by the angel with lots of drama and attention to detail, conveying amazement at what happened. Peter felt sure he was dreaming.• Peter at his friends' house. Once Peter was out on the street, he realised that God had rescued him. <i>How would Peter be feeling now?</i> Straight away he went to his friends' house. (Acts 12: 11–17) Describe Rhoda answering his knock on the door and their reactions. Should they have been surprised?• <i>Discuss situations that we can pray to God about. God always hears our prayers and will answer them in the way that He knows is best.</i>• <i>We should remember to thank and praise God when He answers our prayers.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: FBI - Peter's miraculous escape from prison.</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - James 5: 16 . This verse is telling us that our prayers can really make a difference. God uses our prayers to do His work.
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who had put Peter in prison?• Who had King Herod already put to death?• What was Peter doing when God sent an angel?• Why had Peter's friends come together?• What did the angel tell Peter to do?• How did Peter get through the prison gate?• How far did the angel walk with Peter before they parted?• Whose house did he go to?• Who found Peter at the door?• Why did Rhoda not open the door at first? <p>Act It: The part where Peter leaves prison could be acted out in pairs, one child as Peter and the other as the angel. An adult could provide a narrative incorporating actions for the children to follow.</p>

A9 Story 1

Jacob deceives his brother – This story is about being selfish.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Being selfish is putting yourself first even if it hurts other people.• Like Jacob, we can be selfish, and this is sinning against God. <p>Key Verse: Either Genesis 25: 28 or Philippians 2: 3 Bible Passage: Genesis 25: 19 - 34</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do you know of any sets of twins? Are they different or alike in personality and appearance? Do you ever fight with your brothers and sisters?• What does it mean to be selfish? Can you think of a time when someone you know acted selfishly and it hurt you?• This story is about two brothers who didn't get on very well. One of them thought only about himself and cheated his brother.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Isaac and Rebekah were expecting twins. Before the twins were born, God told Rebekah that her older son would serve her younger son. (Genesis 25: 19-23)• When the twins were born it was clear they were going to be very different. The older son, Esau, was very hairy but his brother, Jacob, had smooth skin. (Genesis 25: 24-26) They also enjoyed different things - Esau became a very good hunter but Jacob liked to stay at home. Each parent had a favourite son. Isaac loved Esau, but Rebekah loved Jacob. (Genesis 25: 27-28)• One day, Jacob was cooking stew. Esau had been out hunting. Help the children to imagine the scene – Esau tired and very hungry, the smell of the delicious stew! Esau had to have some right now! But Jacob was very crafty. Quickly, he said he would only give the stew if Esau would give him his birthright. <i>Explain the birthright. The eldest son in the family usually received the birthright. This meant he would become head of the family when his father died. He would also receive a double portion of his father's wealth.</i>• Esau didn't stop to think, he was so hungry! He allowed himself to be tricked by his brother and sold his birthright for some stew. (Genesis 25: 29-34) <i>Discuss the actions of both sons. Was Jacob right to cheat Esau out of his birthright? Should Esau have agreed to sell his valuable birthright for only a bowl of stew?</i>• <i>Do you think that God was pleased with Jacob and Esau?</i>• <i>Sometimes, just like Esau and Jacob we think only about what we want. When we are selfish we are sinning against God.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: bibleforchildren.org - Jacob. FBI – Esau sells his birthright to Jacob.</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Either Genesis 25: 28 or Philippians 2: 3
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What were the names of the two boys in the story?• Which son was the older?• Name two ways in which the boys were different.• What was the birthright?• Why do you think Jacob wanted the birthright for himself?• How did Jacob cheat Esau?• What lessons can we learn from this story?

A9 Story 2

Jacob deceives his Father – This story is about how Jacob cheated.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rebekah and Jacob wanted to deceive Isaac.• Cheating and telling lies are wrong in God's eyes. <p>Key Verse: Either Genesis 27: 20 or Psalm 32: 2 Bible Passage: Genesis 27: 1-29</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What does it mean to tell a lie?• In this story Jacob tells lies to his father. His lies hurt his father and brother very much.• Can you think of any other stories where someone has told lies and hurt another person?
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Now Isaac was old and blind. He wanted to bless his oldest son Esau, before he died. He asked Esau to prepare him a special meal. (Genesis 27: 1 – 4) <i>Explain that in Biblical times a father would give a blessing to his eldest son before he died.</i>• Rebekah overheard that Isaac was going to bless Esau. She and Jacob devised a plan to trick Isaac into blessing Jacob instead. So Rebekah cooked a special meal and covered Jacob's arms with goats' skins so that he was hairy, like Esau. (Genesis 27: 5 – 17) <i>Remind children that each parent had a favourite son. Rebekah's favourite son was Jacob and Isaac's was Esau. They each wanted their favourite son to get the blessing. Give an example of favouritism in a home or school context which the children will identify with as being unfair!</i>• Jacob brought the special meal to Isaac. He lied to Isaac and pretended to be Esau. Isaac was surprised that Esau had been able to get this delicious meal so quickly. (Genesis 27: 18 – 20). <i>Do you think Rebekah and Jacob pleased God? Why/Why not?</i>• Isaac was still suspicious. Was this really Esau? He wanted to be sure so he asked to feel the hair on Jacob's arms. Yes ... the arms felt like Esau's but the voice was like Jacob's. Isaac was confused. So Jacob lied again and told his father that he was Esau. (Genesis 27: 21 – 24)• Isaac ate the meal that Jacob had brought to him. When he had finished, he blessed Jacob, thinking that he was blessing Esau. (Genesis 27: 25 – 29) <i>How do you think Isaac would feel when he realised he had been lied to?</i>• <i>Why do you think that God commanded us not to lie?</i>• <i>Consider the example of the Lord Jesus.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: bibleforchildren.org- Jacob. FBI – Jacob deceives Isaac.</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Either Genesis 27: 20 or Psalm 32: 2
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who was Isaac's favourite son?• Who was Rebekah's favourite son?• What was Isaac going to do to Esau before he died?• Did Rebekah want Esau to get the blessing? Why not?• How did Jacob and Rebekah trick Isaac?• Why did Isaac not know it was actually Jacob?• Do you think that Jacob and Rebekah pleased God in this story? Why not?

A9 Story 3
Jacob meets God – This story is about God’s care.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We can trust God because He always keeps His promises. • God cares for us. <p>Key Verse: Either Genesis 28: 16 or Psalm 86: 11 Bible Passage: Genesis 28: 1-22</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remind the children of how Jacob had cheated Esau in the previous story. Esau was very angry and was planning to kill Jacob. Jacob decided to leave home for a while. • Ask the children to imagine they are Jacob. How would they feel if they had to leave home like this? • Explain to the children that even though Jacob had done wrong things, God still cared about him and loved him. Our story today tells us how God showed Himself to Jacob.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isaac blessed Jacob and gave him instructions to leave home and go to his Uncle Laban’s family in Haran. There, he was to find himself a wife. (28: 1–5) • On his journey, Jacob stopped to rest for the night. He used a stone for his pillow. <i>Imagine what this would be like!</i> While he slept, he had a dream about a ladder reaching from earth to Heaven. The angels of God were going up and down it. (28: 10–12) • God was standing at the top of the ladder. He told Jacob that He would bless him and give him many descendants. God promised to be with Jacob. One day God would bring Jacob home again. (28: 13 – 15) <i>Discuss what a promise is. Do we always keep our promises? Why not? Explain to children that God always keeps his promises. He is all-powerful and He does not lie.</i> • When Jacob woke up he knew that God had been in that place. <i>Explain how Jacob felt afraid at the thought of God having been there with him. Jacob had done lots of wrong things which were not pleasing to God. But God still cared for him!</i> Then he took the stone that he had used for his pillow and poured oil on top of it. He called the name of the place Bethel. Jacob promised that if the Lord would be with him and bring him back to his home, then the Lord would be his God. (28: 16–22) Jacob still needed to learn that God always keeps His promises! • <i>We are like Jacob because we have done wrong things. God loves and cares for each one of us, just as He loved Jacob. Explain that He sent His Son to die on the cross for us. The Lord Jesus is like “a ladder” to bring us to God, to bring us to our home in Heaven.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: bibleforchildren.org- Jacob. FBI – God speaks to Jacob in a dream.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Either Genesis 28: 16 or Psalm 86: 11</p>
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why did Jacob have to leave home? • What did Jacob use as a pillow? • What did Jacob see in his dream? • What did God say to Jacob in the dream? • Did God care for Jacob even though he had done wrong things in the past? • How do we know God cares for us? • What did Jacob do with the stone? • How is the Lord Jesus like a ladder?

A9 Story 4

Jacob finds a wife – This story is about how Jacob was treated by his uncle.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jacob the cheat, was cheated himself.• We should treat other people the way we want to be treated. <p>Key Verse: Either Genesis 29: 28 or Galatians 6: 7 Bible Passage: Genesis 29: 1-30</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have you ever gone to stay with family that you've never met before? How did it feel? Or maybe tell a relevant incident from your own experience. Remind children that Jacob was going to stay with his Uncle Laban in Haran.• Introduce the new characters in the story; Laban and his daughters, Leah and Rachel.• In this story Jacob discovers what it feels like to be the one being cheated.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jacob was on his way to Haran. At the end of his journey he met some shepherds at a well. They knew his Uncle Laban. (Genesis 29: 1 – 8)• Rachel, Laban's daughter, came to the well with her sheep. Jacob helped her to get water for her sheep by rolling the stone away from the top of the well. (Genesis 29: 9 – 10)• Jacob told Rachel who he was. She ran home to tell her father and Laban invited Jacob to stay with him. (Genesis 29: 11 – 14) <i>Try to imagine some of the conversation they might have had!</i>• Jacob started working for Laban. Jacob had to work seven years for Laban in exchange for Rachel as his wife. He was willing to do this because he loved Rachel. (Genesis 29: 15 – 20)• But then Laban tricked Jacob. Instead of giving him Rachel, he gave him Leah for a wife. (Genesis 29: 21 – 27) <i>How do you think Jacob felt when he discovered that he had been tricked? Ask the children to recall the ways Jacob had tricked others.</i>• Jacob married Rachel too but then he had to work for another seven years. (Genesis 29: 29 – 30) <i>It seemed that Laban had got the better of Jacob!</i>• <i>Do you think Jacob might have felt sorry for the times when he had tricked other people?</i>• <i>Some might say Jacob got what he deserved. Discuss what the children think about that.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: bibleforchildren.org- Jacob. FBI – Jacob is deceived at his wedding.</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Either Genesis 29: 28 or Galatians 6: 7
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Where did Laban live?• What were the names of Laban's two daughters?• How did Jacob help Rachel when he arrived in Haran?• Which daughter did Jacob love?• How long did Jacob say he would work for, if he could marry Rachel?• How did Laban trick Jacob?

A10 Story 1

Stephen dies for the Lord Jesus – This story is about Stephen's great love for the Lord Jesus.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stephen loved God and also loved his enemies.• Jesus was with Stephen when he was being stoned and was waiting for him in Heaven. <p>Key Verse: 1 John 4: 19 Bible Passage: Acts 6: 8-15, 7: 54-60</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ask the children about times when they have helped others.• How would it feel if you were trying to help someone and they didn't want your help? What if they called you names or even tried to hurt you?• Today's story from the Bible is about a man who helped others. Let's find out how others treated him.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stephen loved the Lord Jesus. He did miracles that helped people but some Jewish men did not like him or Jesus. They decided secretly to hurt him and stop him telling people about Jesus dying for them. (Acts 6: 8-11)• These men told lies about Stephen and turned the people against him, bringing him to a court to decide what to do with him. They even had witnesses lie about the things that Stephen was saying. (Acts 6: 12-15) <i>How would you have felt if you were Stephen?</i>• Even though lies were being told about Stephen and about Jesus, Stephen didn't get angry. People could see that Jesus was with him – in fact his face looked like an angel's. (Acts 6: 15) Stephen defended Jesus but this only made the men angrier. (Acts 7: 54) Instead of being afraid, Stephen looked up to Heaven and saw Jesus waiting for him there. (Acts 7: 55-56) <i>How would Stephen have felt when he saw Jesus?</i>• The men were now furious at Stephen and refused to listen anymore. They took Stephen outside the city and threw large stones at him to kill him. While they did this, Stephen prayed that Jesus would receive his spirit and forgive the men for what they were doing to him. Then he died. (Acts 7: 57-60)• <i>Before Stephen died he asked Jesus to do something for his enemies - why do you think he did this?</i>• <i>How can we be forgiven for the bad things we do?</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: FBI - Stephen is martyred.</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - 1 John 4: 19 . Explain that Stephen's love for the Lord Jesus was shown by the way he was willing to die for Him. The Lord Jesus had already shown His love for Stephen by dying on the cross.
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stephen was a helper in the Church. How did he help?• Did everyone like Stephen? Why not?• How did the Jewish men turn people against Stephen?• How did Stephen act when lies were told about him and Jesus?• What did Stephen see when he looked up to Heaven?• What did the men do to Stephen?• What did Stephen pray?• How can we be forgiven?

A10 Story 2

Philip shares the Good News – This story is about an African believing in the Lord Jesus.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We need to believe in the Lord Jesus to have our sins forgiven.• God helps us to understand difficult parts of His Word, the Bible. <p>Key Verse: Acts 8: 35 Bible Passage: Acts 8: 26-40</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ask the children what a desert is like. What does it look like? What would it feel like? If you were asked to go into a desert to speak to a stranger, would you go?• Or can you remember a time when you found something difficult to understand e.g. a book, a Maths problem? Who helped you?
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Philip believed Jesus and preached the good news about Jesus in towns and cities. One day an angel told him to go on a road that went through the desert. (<i>What might Philip have been thinking about this?</i>) Explain how Philip saw a chariot coming towards him. It turned out to be an important man from Ethiopia who was on his way home. (Explain where this is) (Acts 8: 26-28) <i>Who do you think the Ethiopian man needed to hear about?</i>• Then the Holy Spirit told Philip to go up to the man. He was reading aloud from Isaiah, a book in the Old Testament. Philip asked if he understood it but the man was confused! (Acts 8: 29-31). <i>One of the verses was about someone who would be killed like a lamb. (Explain that a lamb makes no fuss when it is being taken to be killed.)</i> Philip explained that the verses were about the Lord Jesus dying on the cross for our sins. (<i>Explain Jesus' willingness to die</i>)• The Ethiopian man then understood that he had sinned and needed to be forgiven by God. Without delay, he believed that Christ died for him. (Acts 8: 32-35)• Philip baptised him to show that he was a follower of Jesus (<i>Explain baptism</i>). <i>Convey the change and the joy which had come into his life.</i>• The Holy Spirit took Philip away to tell others about Jesus. (Acts 8: 36-40)• <i>God wants everybody to know that Jesus died on the cross for their sins. Talk about people who help us to understand what the Bible is about. We should be thankful that we have heard the good news about Jesus.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: FBI - Phillip and the Ethiopian Official.</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Acts 8: 35
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Where did the angel tell Philip to go?• Which country was the man from?• Why did Philip go over to him?• What was the reading about?• What did the man do when Philip explained to him about Jesus?• Where was he baptised?• How was he feeling as he travelled home?• How can we have our sins forgiven?

A10 Story 3

Saul and a bright light! – This story is about God’s power to change lives.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jesus loves everyone and died for everyone, even people who hate Him.• Only the Lord Jesus has the power to change our lives. <p>Key Verse: 2 Corinthians 5: 17 Bible Passage: Acts 9: 1-9</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Saul was a Jew who hated Jesus. He hated all the people who followed Jesus so much he wanted to see them killed. Explain how he had been there when Stephen had been stoned. (Story 1)• Ask the children if they would have liked Saul as their friend? Why / why not?
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One day Saul set out to a city called Damascus to find Christians and have them put in prison. (Acts 9: 1-2) <i>Discuss Saul’s feelings and attitudes on the way there.</i>• As he came to Damascus he suddenly saw a bright light all around him and he fell to the ground. <i>Use the words which were spoken to Saul and his reply. Explain how Saul was feeling now.</i> (Acts 9: 3-4)• The voice replied that it was Jesus. <i>Explain what Saul now realised – Jesus is the Son of God, He is alive, his thoughts about Jesus had all been wrong!</i> Jesus told him to go into the city of Damascus where he would be told what to do. The men with Saul were amazed as they heard the voice but didn’t see anyone. (Acts 9: 5-7)• When Saul got up he was blind and had to be led into the city. For three days he was blind and didn’t eat or drink anything. (Acts 9: 8-9) <i>How do you think he felt being blind?</i>• <i>Discuss why the Lord Jesus met Saul in this way. Remind the children that Saul hated Jesus and His followers. He wanted to see them all killed but Jesus loved him and wanted him to be His follower even though he didn’t deserve to be. The Lord Jesus wanted to change his life completely.</i>• <i>We need the Lord Jesus to take away our sin and give us power to live a new life.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: FBI - The conversion of Saul.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - 2 Corinthians 5: 17, relating it to Saul’s old life and the fact that it is when we are “in Christ” that our lives are changed and made new.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Where was Saul going?• Why was he going on this journey?• What did he see?• What did he hear?• What did the voice say?• What did Saul realise when He knew it was Jesus speaking to him?• What did Saul not have for three days?• Who is the only person who can give us power to live a new life?

A10 Story 4

Saul becomes a changed man – This story is about how God used Saul to tell others.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• God wants to help us and sends people to us when we need them.• Like Saul, God changes people's lives today and He can make them useful for Him. <p>Key Verse: Acts 9: 20 Bible Passage: Acts 9: 10-23</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review the first part of the story of Saul – do you remember what the “old” Saul was like? How would the followers of Jesus who lived in Damascus have felt about the “old” Saul? (frightened ...)• God needed to prepare them so that they were willing to accept the new Saul as one of His family. Let's find out what happened....
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• God spoke to Ananias in a dream and told him to go and find Saul. (Acts 9: 10-12) <i>Do you think Ananias would want to go? Why not?</i>• Ananias was afraid that Saul might arrest him or kill him. God told him not to worry as He had chosen Saul for a special job - to tell people about God who had never heard of Him before. (Acts 9: 13-16)• Ananias obeyed and went to Saul. He called him brother (<i>explain why they were brothers</i>) and told him that he had been sent by the Lord Jesus. He put his hands on Saul's eyes so that he was able to see again. Saul was also filled with the Holy Spirit. He was baptised and had some food to eat. (Acts 9: 17-19a) <i>How would Saul feel about Ananias visiting him?</i>• Soon Saul met the other followers of Jesus in Damascus. Immediately he began to preach about the Lord Jesus. <i>Explain the reaction of those who met Saul in Damascus. This wasn't what they expected Saul to be like!</i>• The Jews who heard about the change in Saul's life did not like the message he preached so they plotted to kill him. Saul had to escape from Damascus by being let down from the walls in a basket during the night. (Acts 9: 19-25) <i>Contrast the change in Saul's life and circumstances now that he was a believer in Jesus.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: FBI - The conversion of Saul.</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Acts 9: 20
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How did God speak to Ananias?• Why was Ananias afraid to go to Saul?• What was Saul's new job going to be?• What happened to Saul's eyes when Ananias put his hands on him?• What other gift did Saul receive when Ananias visited him?• What did Saul begin to do immediately?• Why did Saul have to escape in a basket?• How can our lives completely change like Saul's did?

A11 Story 1

Paul (Saul) at Antioch – This story is about helping in God’s work.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• People who believe in Jesus are called “Christians”.• God has a special plan for us when we believe in Him - He wants us to be His helpers. <p>Key Verse: Acts 11: 26 Bible Passage: Acts 11: 19-26</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ask the children how they could help in different situations – How could you help your teacher? What could you do at home to help if your mother was sick?• Explain that today’s story is about two men helping together in God’s work.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The good news about Jesus was spreading and God’s church was growing. Some believers had gone to live in a city called Antioch. There, they were able to tell the good news to people who had never heard it before and many believed in the Lord Jesus. (Acts 11: 19-21)• Soon the church at Jerusalem heard about the great things that were happening at Antioch. <i>How would the believers feel? (excited)</i> They decided to send a man called Barnabas to find out more. He went to Antioch and was very pleased to find that there were many new believers. Barnabas did all he could to teach the new believers and to encourage them to love the Lord Jesus. (Acts 11: 22-24) <i>What kind of man was Barnabas?</i>• Barnabas was so busy at Antioch that he needed a helper. God reminded him of Saul, whom he had met some years before. After Saul had met the Lord Jesus, he went back to Tarsus, the city where he had been born. Barnabas went to Tarsus and brought Saul back to Antioch to help him with the work. (Acts 11: 25-26).• <i>Explain that Antioch was an important place for Saul/Paul because he first began his work as a missionary there. It was a special work that God had planned for him. Saul and Barnabas spent the next year in Antioch, teaching the believers there. During that time, the believers in Jesus Christ were first called “Christians”. (Acts 11: 26)</i>• <i>When we trust in Jesus we too become “Christians”. We share His name! God has a special plan for all Christians, just like He had for Paul. He wants Christians to be His helpers.</i>• <i>What do we need to do to become Christians?</i>• <i>If we are Christians, in what way can God use us as his helpers?</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Acts 11: 26
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In which city was the church growing?• Who did the people in Jerusalem send to Antioch?• What did Barnabas do in Antioch?• What did Barnabas soon need?• Who did Barnabas go to look for?• How long did Saul and Barnabas spend in Antioch?• What name was given to the people who believed in Jesus?• Whose work did Saul do?

A11 Story 2

Paul (Saul) in Cyprus – This story is about telling others about the Lord Jesus.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We need to make the right choice by believing in Jesus.• We should tell other people about Jesus. <p>Key Verse: Matthew 28: 19 Bible Passage: Acts 13: 1-12</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Get children to work in pairs and think of as many things as they can about Jesus.• Explain to the children that today's story is about Paul (mention change of name), Barnabas and John Mark, telling people about Jesus.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One day the Christians in Antioch were gathered together. Paul and Barnabas were there. The Holy Spirit made it clear to the other leaders that Barnabas and Paul were to do a special work for God. After praying about it Barnabas, Saul and John Mark, who was a young nephew of Barnabas, set off in a boat to an island called Cyprus. (Acts 13: 1-4)• When they arrived, they travelled around preaching the good news. At a place called Paphos they met a magician who worked for the governor of Cyprus. The governor heard about Barnabas and Saul and wanted to meet them. He listened to the Word of God but Elymas, the magician, tried to stop him believing. (Acts 13: 5-8)• Saul knew that the magician was doing the devil's work. Saul was filled with the Holy Spirit's power. He looked straight at the magician and told him he was doing evil and the Lord would make him blind. As soon as Paul spoke, Elymas became blind and he had to grope around to try and find someone to lead him. (Acts 13: 9-11) <i>Explain that it is wrong to oppose the Lord Jesus.</i>• The governor saw the greatness of God's power and he believed in Jesus. (Acts 13: 12)• <i>Paul, Barnabas, John Mark and the governor made the right choice by believing in Jesus. Elymas made the wrong choice. Jesus wants us to believe in Him too.</i>• <i>Why is the message of Jesus the only message that really matters?</i>• <i>Do you know anyone who tells people in another place about Jesus?</i>• <i>How can you tell other people about Jesus?</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: FBI - Paul and Barnabas visit Cyprus.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Matthew 28: 19. Explain that these are the words of Jesus before He went back to Heaven. It was His plan that people everywhere (all nations) should hear the good news and believe in Him.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who sent Paul and Barnabas to do a special work?• Who went with them?• How did they travel?• What was the name of the island they went to?• Who did they meet in Paphos?• Which person in Paphos believed in Jesus?• What happened to the magician?• Who spoke the words in today's Key Verse?

A11 Story 3

Paul meets Lydia – This story is about a lady who believed in the Lord Jesus.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anyone who trusts in the Lord Jesus will be saved.• We can talk to God anywhere and about anything. <p>Key Verse: Acts 2: 21 Bible Passage: Acts 16: 6-15</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ask the children to tell you about a time when they went on a journey far away. Where did you go? How long did it take you? Who did you see there?• Explain to the children that today's story is about Paul and his friends going on a journey.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paul and his two friends Silas and Timothy travelled for many miles, going from country to country. The Holy Spirit showed them exactly where God wanted them to go. No matter where they went, there were lots of people who needed to hear about the Lord Jesus. (Acts 16: 6-8)• Eventually they arrived at a seaside town. That night, Paul had a special kind of dream in which a man from Macedonia pleaded with Paul to come over and help the people there. Paul knew that God was showing them clearly where they should go next. (Acts 16: 9-10)• <i>Explain that God wanted the people there to hear about Jesus so He sent Paul and his friends there. It doesn't matter to God where we live. He wants everyone to hear about Him.</i>• Quickly they found a ship going there. Soon they arrived in a large city called Philippi. On the Sabbath day, Paul and his friends went outside the city to the river bank. There they found some ladies who had come to pray. (Acts 16: 11-13) <i>The ladies at the river were praying to God. Where can we talk to God? (Explain to children that we can talk to God anywhere)</i>• One of the ladies was called Lydia. She sold purple cloth. She had believed in God for a long time but she had never heard about God's Son, the Lord Jesus. Lydia listened carefully to all that Paul said. She knew in her heart that what she heard was true and she became a believer in the Lord Jesus. She was so glad that Paul had come to her city. (Acts 16: 14-15) Lydia's family became Christians too. They were all baptised and Lydia invited Paul and his friends to stay at her house.• <i>What can we talk to God about? (Allow children to come up with some ideas and explain to them that we can talk to God about anything)</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: FBI - Paul and Silas travel to Philippi.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Acts 2: 21. Explain that calling on the Name of the Lord means asking Him to save us from our sin. This is what Lydia did in the story.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Name one of Paul's friends.• Who showed them where God wanted them to go?• What happened in Paul's dream?• How did Paul and his friends travel to Macedonia?• Where did Paul and his friends meet the ladies?• What were they doing?• What was Lydia's job?• What did Lydia do when she heard about Jesus?

A11 Story 4

Paul and Silas in jail – This story is about more people who were saved.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We must believe in the Lord Jesus in order to be saved.• Christians are happy because they have Jesus as their Saviour. <p>Key Verse: Acts 16: 31 Bible Passage: Acts 16: 16-34</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ask the children to tell you what makes them happy.• Tell the children that there are some happy people in today's story. Tell them to listen carefully to find out who is happy....
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One day, when Paul and Silas were in Philippi, they helped a slave girl. This made her owners very angry and they dragged Paul and Silas to the market place and told lies about them. (Acts 16: 16-21)• Paul and Silas were beaten and then they were thrown into jail. The jailer put them in chains and left their feet in heavy wooden blocks called stocks. (Acts 16: 22-24) <i>How would you expect Paul and Silas to be feeling?</i>• At midnight, the other prisoners could hear Paul and Silas praying and singing hymns to God! Even though their backs were sore from the beating they had received, they still were able to praise God. (Acts 16: 25)• Suddenly there was another sound. Everything rattled and shook. Doors opened and chains fell off. It was an earthquake. (Acts 16: 26)• The jailer woke up and noticed that all the prison doors were open. <i>What would his first thoughts have been?</i> Paul told him not to worry because all the prisoners were still there. (Acts 16: 27-28)• The jailer asked Paul what he needed to do to be saved because he knew he was a sinner. Paul replied "Believe on the Lord Jesus and you will be saved." Paul and Silas explained to the jailer and his family that Jesus died on the cross for their sin. The jailer took Paul and Silas home, bathed their wounds and gave them a meal. It was a very happy night for the jailer and his family because they all believed in Jesus. (Acts 16: 29-34)• <i>Who was happy in the story? Why were they happy? (Encourage children to talk about Paul and Silas, also the jailer and his family. Explain to them that these people were happy because Jesus had saved them)</i>• <i>Explain to children that we need to be saved from our sin. We should believe in Jesus because He is God's Son and died for us.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: FBI - Paul and Silas in Prison.</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Acts 16: 31
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who did Paul and Silas help?• What happened to Paul and Silas?• What did Paul and Silas do in the middle of the night?• What happened as they were singing?• Why was the jailer afraid after the earthquake?• What did the jailer ask Paul and Silas?• What did Paul and Silas tell him?• What did the jailer do that night?• What can we learn from this lesson?

A12 Story 1

Zechariah and Elizabeth – This story is about God answering prayer.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• God answers prayer.• Prayers are answered in God's time, not ours. <p>Key Verse: Luke 1: 13 Bible Passage: Luke 1: 5-25</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ask the children about their families. Discuss with them about babies in their families or extended families. Babies make people happy.• Ask the children to think of something they would really like. Can they explain why they would like it? The couple in today's story felt a little bit like that, they wanted a baby!
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Zechariah and Elizabeth really would have loved to have a child. As they grew older many of their friends had little families but they were still alone. <i>How do you think they felt? What would Zechariah and Elizabeth have missed about not having children? Let children make suggestions based on their own context/culture. (Luke 1: 5-7)</i>• They decided to pray to God about it. They knew that God could answer prayer! (Luke 1: 13) <i>Mention that we can pray about any problem we may have.</i>• God heard their prayer and sent an angel to meet with Zechariah when he was working in the Temple. <i>How do you think Zechariah felt when the angel appeared?</i> The angel told him not to be afraid and then shared the good news that Elizabeth was going to have a son and his name had to be John. (Luke 1: 8-11)• Zechariah could not believe the news that had been told him. He thought that he and Elizabeth were far too old to have a baby. The angel told him that because he didn't believe the message from God, he would be unable to speak until their baby son was born. (Luke 1: 18-20)• <i>We can learn an important lesson from Zechariah ... when we pray we must believe that God will answer our prayers.</i>• <i>Consider some matters that could be prayed for today!</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: FBI – Zechariah is promised a son. (P) The birth of John the Baptist (I).</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Luke 1: 13
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who was Zechariah married to?• What did they really want?• Who did Zechariah and Elizabeth pray to?• Who came to meet Zechariah in the Temple?• How did Zechariah feel when the angel appeared to him?• What was the message from the angel?• What happened to Zechariah because he didn't believe the message?• When we pray what important thing should we do?

A12 Story 2

Mary and Gabriel – This story is about Mary believing what God said.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mary accepted the angel's message even though to her it seemed impossible.• God can do things that seem impossible. <p>Key Verse: Luke 1: 37 Bible Passage: Luke 1: 26-38</p>
INTRODUCE IT	Review last week's story about the angel's message that Zechariah and Elizabeth were going to have a baby. Shortly after that, God sent the angel to make another special visit.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Contrast Mary with Elizabeth.</i> Mary was just a young girl, engaged to a man called Joseph and lived in the town of Nazareth. One day she had a visit from an angel called Gabriel. (Luke 1: 26-27) <i>Help the children understand that this was not a usual occurrence and Mary was naturally afraid.</i>• The angel told her not to be afraid. She listened carefully as Gabriel told her that she was going to have a baby son. Mary was a little confused; she didn't have a husband yet. The angel told her that God the Holy Spirit would give her this special baby. She was to call Him Jesus. (Luke 1: 29-34)• Jesus would be greater than any other baby that had been born. He would be the Son of God. It may have been hard to understand but the angel told Mary that nothing is impossible with God. (Luke 1: 35-37)• Mary believed the message that she had been told. Mary was willing to be part of God's great plan to send His Son into the world. The birth of Jesus would be a wonderful miracle. (Luke 1: 38)• <i>Have you ever been promised something that you found hard to believe?</i>• <i>Why do you think Mary believed the angel? God wants each of us to be able to trust Him in the same way as Mary did.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: FBI - An angel visits Mary.</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Luke 1: 37 . Can the children think of some other "impossible" things which God did in the Bible? Praise Him for being such a mighty God!
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Where did Mary live?• Who was Mary engaged to?• What was the name of the angel who visited Mary?• Why was Mary a little confused at the message from the angel?• In what way would the baby be special?• What did Mary do about the message?• How is Mary a good example for us to follow?• What things are impossible with God?

A12 Story 3

The birth of John – This story is about God’s promises coming true.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• God kept his promise to Zechariah and Elizabeth.• God keeps His promises to us as well. <p>Key Verse: Luke 1: 76 Bible Passage: Luke 1: 57-80</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discuss what it would be like not to be able to talk for a number of months. Remind the children that this is what had happened to Zechariah when he hadn’t believed the angel’s message.• What is it like on Christmas morning or on a birthday when you get a present you have been waiting for? This is how Zechariah and Elizabeth must have felt when their little son was born just as the angel had promised. It was such a special time!
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• When the baby arrived the family and their neighbours wanted him to be called Zechariah like his dad. Elizabeth told them that his name was to be John. (Luke 1: 57- 60) <i>Why did Elizabeth say he would be called John?</i>• When Zechariah was asked about the name of the boy he wrote down “His name is John.” (Luke 1: 62-63)• Just at that moment he was able to talk again. Zechariah gave thanks and praised God. <i>Why did Zechariah do this? God had kept his promise, he was full of joy at the birth of his son and he knew that God would soon do even greater things! Everyone was amazed at what they had seen.</i> (Luke 1: 64-66)• John was a special boy. <i>Why? Remind the children that his parents had waited so many years for him but even more importantly He would grow up to prepare the way for the coming of the Lord Jesus.</i>• <i>God will keep His promises to us too. Mention a couple of promises which He makes to us in the Bible.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: FBI - John Baptist.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Luke 1: 76. Explain that this verse is part of what Zechariah said in his song of praise to God.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who was Elizabeth’s husband?• Why was he not able to talk?• What did the neighbours want to call the baby?• Why did Zechariah and Elizabeth call him John?• When was Zechariah able to talk again?• What special job would John do? <p>Make it: Children could make a little birth announcement card for baby John.</p>

A12 Story 4

The birth of Jesus – This story is about God giving His Son.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jesus is the Son of God who came to be our Saviour.• We should thank God for his great love in sending the Lord Jesus. <p>Key Verse: Luke 2: 7 Bible Passage: Luke 2: 1-7</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Talk about how plans can change at the last minute. Give an example which is relevant to the context you are in, either from the children's experience or your own experience.• Explain that it was coming close to the time when Mary's baby would be born. It would have been easier if the baby could have been born in Nazareth, where Joseph and Mary lived, but
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Roman Emperor gave an order for all the people to return to the places where they had been born to have their names added to a list. Joseph and Mary had to travel to Bethlehem. (Luke 2: 1-5) Give some idea of the distance involved – approx 80 miles/4 days journey. What would it have been like to have made this long journey? (For Level 2 children you may wish to add that it had always been God's plan for the baby to be born in Bethlehem!)• When they arrived, the town was full and they could not find anywhere to stay. It was very near to the time when the baby they had been promised was going to arrive. They had to take rest in a place where animals live. (Luke 2: 6-7)• When baby Jesus was born, He was wrapped in bands of cloth sometimes called swaddling clothes and was put into an animal's feeding container or manger. (Luke 2: 6-7) Why was Jesus wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a feeding container? Help the children appreciate the greatness of the child born in such a lowly place. You could contrast a baby's arrival into the culture in which you live.• There has never been another Baby like Jesus. He is the Son of God. He was willing to leave Heaven and be born here on earth to save us from our sin. (Matthew 1: 21)• We should remember that this is what Christmas is all about and we should thank God for His love in sending the Saviour. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: FBI - The birth of Jesus, also PowerPoint www.bibleforchildren/the birth of Jesus.</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Luke 2: 7
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who was married to Joseph?• Where did Mary and Joseph live?• Where did Joseph and Mary travel to?• Why were Joseph and Mary in Bethlehem?• Why were they taking rest in a place where animals were kept?• What did the Baby Jesus lie in?• What made Jesus special?• Why do we need a Saviour?

Guidance for Teachers Marking Lessons

LEVEL 1 LESSONS:

- One page (or two in the booklets) for each week which mainly involves colouring and filling in a few words.
- Ten marks are allocated for each week with a maximum of 40 for the month.
- Children who receive Level 1 lessons are not expected to be able to read very well and we expect parents / guardians / leaders to help them.
- We allocate 2 marks per answer and the balance for colouring = 10 marks for each lesson.

LEVEL 2 LESSONS:

- Two pages per week.(4 in the booklets)
- The story is contained within the lesson. The students have to find out various words from the lesson, do some colouring, complete key verses, etc.
- Twenty marks are allocated for each week with a maximum of 80 for the month, when the lessons are completely correct.

BIBLETIME MARKING

MARKING HINTS

The teachers are asked, first to:

- Check through each lesson and mark the answers correct or incorrect.
- Award the necessary points as instructed.
- Always mark in a contrasting colour, and TICK each correct answer.
- Put in the correct answer, where necessary and correct any spelling errors, though NO marks are deducted for these.
- Give less marks for partially correct answers.
- Add the total for the month and write this on the back page in the space provided.

It is necessary to be fairly generous and to do everything possible to encourage the students with their Bible Study. It is helpful, where possible each month for the teacher to write a word of encouragement to the student and there is a space provided on the lesson sheet for this to be done. Comments can be made about good colouring, neatness, marks attained, the student's understanding of the lesson, etc.

We try to keep comments as varied as possible. Questions, statements, observations, encouragements etc. can all be used to maintain variety. It requires thought, but it is important to keep the interest of the student alive. If the same statement or question is being repeated every month, it loses its impact.

LEVEL 1

General comments

"Amy – I am delighted you have started these lessons and I hope you enjoy them. I love your colourings. Do you go to school? Tell me about it. Looking forward to hearing from you soon."

"Well done, Andrew. What super colouring! Was it difficult to stay inside the lines? You just missed a small bit of colouring on the last lesson."

Spiritual comments

"Well done, Sarah. What a happy man Jairus was when Jesus helped him."

"Very good answers! The story of Jesus dying is sad, but the happy bit is that He rose again."

LEVEL 2

General comments

"Good answers again, Joanna – I'm sure that your teacher is very pleased with your work at school!"

"I see that it will soon be your birthday, Connor. Are you doing anything special? Whatever you do, have a great day!"

"You have tried really hard. There are just a few little mistakes. Don't forget to check your answers each time."

Spiritual comments

"I like the way you coloured Baby Jesus in the manger. Wasn't it good of God to send Him into the world for us?"

"I really like your colours! Zechariah had to pay a price for not believing in what God said. He never doubted God's Word again."

"Excellent answers. The man who met Phillip in the desert went away really happy. He had heard and believed the good news about Jesus."



© Bible Educational Services 2015

www.besweb.com

Registered Charity UK 1096157