



Guidelines for Teachers

Bibletime Levels 1 and 2

B 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.

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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

B7 Story 1

Joseph's brothers arrive – This story is about the results of doing wrong.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Joseph's dreams about his brothers became true.• The wrong things we do catch up with us sooner or later. <p>Key Verse: Galatians 6: 7 Bible Passage: Genesis 42: 1-26</p>
INTRODUCE IT	Get the children to discuss in pairs Joseph's story up to this point. Try to identify the bad and the good things that have happened so far. Summarise by saying that things have worked out very well for Joseph despite how his brothers treated him. But how are his brothers doing back in the land of Canaan? Remind the children of the Key Verse from Numbers 32: 23 . 'Be sure your sin will find you out.'
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Back in the land of Canaan people were going hungry. There was a famine and people did not have food to eat. Jacob had heard that there was plenty of food stored up in Egypt. He told Joseph's brothers to go down to Egypt to buy some food for the family. All of the brothers went except Joseph's younger brother, Benjamin. (Genesis 42: 1- 5)• In Egypt, Joseph was in charge of selling the food. When his brothers arrived they all came and bowed down to Joseph, the Governor of Egypt! (Genesis 42: 6-7)• <i>Remind the children of the dreams Joseph had about his brothers before they sold him. Now the dreams were being fulfilled.</i>• Joseph pretended that he didn't know his brothers and they did not recognise him. He treated them like strangers and said, 'You are spies! You have come to spy out the land!' The brothers told him that this was not true. They told Joseph that they were honest men, all sons of one man. They told Joseph that they had a brother who was 'no more' and a younger brother back at home. To test whether or not they were telling the truth, Joseph asked them to go back to Canaan and bring back their younger brother with them. To make sure they came back he kept one of the brothers, Simeon, in prison. (Genesis 42: 8-20).• The brothers were worried and discussed what was happening among themselves. They knew that they had done wrong to Joseph all those years ago. <i>Explain that now they were guilty and their sins had caught up with them.</i>• They were sure that God was punishing them for how they had treated Joseph. Joseph overheard what they were saying. He had to turn away and weep. (Genesis 42: 21-24)• Joseph ordered his men to fill his brothers' sacks with grain. He had their money put back into their sacks and gave them food for the journey. The brothers loaded their donkeys and left to go back to their father. (Genesis 42: 25-26) <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: FBI Joseph's brothers visit Egypt.</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse. Galatians 6: 7 . Remind the children that sin always gets us into trouble. The Bible says it's like sowing seeds and then, one day, gathering a crop of exactly what we sowed.
REMEMBER IT	Ask children the following questions as a means of revising the story. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why did the brothers have to come to Egypt?• Who was selling the grain in Egypt?• Did Joseph's brothers recognise him?• What did Joseph accuse his brothers of being?• Who did Joseph want them to bring to Egypt?• Which brother was kept in prison?• Why did the brothers think all of this was happening to them?

B7 Story 2

Benjamin and Bad News – This story is about how our sins are found out.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Joseph still loved his brothers despite how they had treated him.• God loves each of us and wants to forgive us for the wrong things we have done. <p>Key Verse: <i>Ephesians 4: 32</i> Bible Passage: <i>Genesis 42: 26 – 44: 13</i></p>
INTRODUCE IT	Get the children to imagine they are one of the brothers on the way home to Canaan from Egypt. You have enough food to feed your families now! How are you feeling? Now, imagine opening your sack and finding not only the grain but also the money you used to pay for it! Who put it there? Was it a trap? Would the Governor in Egypt think you had stolen it? How could you ever go back to Egypt for more food? Alternatively, gather some props (sack, food and money) and act this out for the children.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The brothers loaded their donkeys and journeyed home. On the way, one of them discovered that the money they had used to pay for the grain had been put back into their sacks. They were very afraid! (Genesis 42: 26-28)• <i>Ask the children why they think Joseph had put the money back into their sacks. Remind the children that the brothers have realised this has happened because of their sins against Joseph.</i>• When they arrived home they told their father what had happened. They told him that the Governor of Egypt had accused them of being spies. He wanted them to bring Benjamin to him. When Jacob heard this and saw that their money was still in their sacks he was afraid. (Genesis 42: 29-38) <i>Do you think Jacob will let Benjamin go down to Egypt?</i>• As time passed, the famine grew worse. Jacob's family was hungry again. He asked the brothers to go back to Egypt to buy more grain. Judah told him that they couldn't go unless they had Benjamin with them. He told his father that he would take responsibility for keeping Benjamin safe. There was nothing Jacob could do. They needed food to eat. He agreed to let Benjamin go down to Egypt. He told the brothers to take double the amount of money with them and also a present for the Governor. (Genesis 43: 1-14) <i>How do you think the brothers were feeling as they set off to face the Governor of Egypt?</i>• The brothers arrived in Egypt and stood before Joseph. When Joseph saw that Benjamin was with them he asked his servants to prepare a great feast for them in his house. He had Simeon brought out of prison. When Joseph arrived at the feast the brothers bowed down to him again. <i>Remind the children of Joseph's dreams.</i> He asked them how their father was doing and spoke with Benjamin. Joseph was so upset that he had to leave the room. <i>Despite all that had happened to him, he still loved his brothers. Especially Benjamin, who was his full brother.</i> When Joseph came back, the food was served and they ate a meal together. (Genesis 43: 15 – 34). <i>Explain that even when we do wrong, God continues to love us. If we say sorry for our sins he will forgive us.</i>• The next morning the brothers left for Canaan with their sacks full of grain. This time Joseph had arranged for his special silver cup to be put into Benjamin's sack. Joseph sent his men after the brothers to search for the cup. The cup was found in Benjamin's sack! They had to go back to Egypt again! (Genesis 44:1-13) <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: FBI Joseph's brothers return to Egypt with Benjamin.</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse. Ephesians 4: 32. <i>Discuss the word 'forgiveness'. Explain to the children that God loves us and is always ready to forgive us when we say sorry for what we have done wrong.</i>
REMEMBER IT	Ask children the following questions as a means of revising the story. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What did the brothers find in their sacks?• Did Jacob want Benjamin to go to Egypt? Why not?• Who agreed to look after Benjamin?• How did Joseph feel when he saw Benjamin?• Did Joseph still love his brothers?• In whose sack was the cup found?• What does it mean to forgive? Do we need forgiveness from God? Why?

B7 Story 3

Forgiveness and Good News – This story is about how we should forgive one another.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Joseph forgave his brothers for how they had treated him.• God loves each of us and wants to forgive us for the wrong things we have done. <p>Key Verse: <i>Genesis 45: 8</i> Bible Passage: <i>Genesis 44: 14 – 45: 28</i></p>
INTRODUCE IT	Remind the children of the brother's visits to Egypt up to this point. The silver cup, belonging to Joseph has been found in Benjamin's sack. The brothers return to Egypt with heavy hearts. What would the governor do? Would Benjamin be put to death or be forced to stay as a servant? What would happen to their father if they went back to Canaan without Benjamin?
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The brothers arrived back at Joseph's house. He pretended to be very angry with them for taking his silver cup. Judah spoke up. He knew that this terrible situation had happened because they were guilty men. <i>Explain the term 'guilty'</i>. The brothers offered to become Joseph's servants. However, Joseph said that only the man in whose sack the cup had been found would stay behind as his servant. Benjamin would have to stay behind! (<i>Genesis 44: 14-17</i>)• Judah spoke to Joseph again. He told Joseph that if Benjamin did not come home, his father would die of grief. Judah offered to stay behind in Benjamin's place. (<i>Genesis 44: 18-34</i>) <i>Discuss how the brothers had had a change of heart. The very brother whose idea it had been to sell Joseph into slavery was now offering to become a slave himself! Joseph could see that his brothers cared for each other and their father.</i>• Joseph knew the time had come to tell his brothers who he really was. He asked everyone except his brothers to leave the room and then he said, 'I am Joseph.' His brothers at first were worried. Would Joseph want to get revenge? However, Joseph assured them that this had all been part of God's plan from the beginning. God had sent Joseph before them to Egypt so that he would be there to save their lives during the time of famine. (<i>Genesis: 45: 1-8</i>) <i>Discuss the fact that Joseph forgave his brothers. God will forgive us for the wrong things we have done when we are truly sorry. Like Judah in the story, we have to recognise that we are guilty and are prepared to accept responsibility for the wrong things in our lives.</i>• Joseph knew that there were still five more years of famine to come. He wanted to keep his family safe. He told his brothers to go home and tell their father what had happened. Then they were to pack all of their belongings and come to live in Egypt. (<i>Genesis: 45: 9-28</i>) <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: FBI Joseph reunited with his family.</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse. <i>Genesis 45: 8.</i> (Possibly use only the first part of the verse) Remind the children that all that happened in Joseph's life had been part of God's plan to rescue Jacob's family during the time of famine.
REMEMBER IT	Ask children the following questions as a means of revising the story. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What was found in Benjamin's sack?• Who did Joseph want to stay behind as his servant?• Who offered to stay instead of Benjamin?• What would happen to Jacob if Benjamin did not return home?• How did Joseph know that his brothers had had a change of heart?• Did Joseph forgive his brothers?• What must we do to have our sins forgiven by God?

B7 Story 4

Together in Egypt – This story is about God’s plan for our lives.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Joseph was reunited with his father, Jacob.• God can bring good out of bad situations if we trust him fully. <p>Key Verse: <i>Genesis 50: 20</i> Bible Passage: <i>Genesis 46: 1-34</i></p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Ask the children if any of them have ever moved house. Have any of them had to move to another country? What a busy time it is! Packing up all your belongings. Ask the children how it made them feel. Were they worried/excited? Remind the children that Jacob and all of his family are moving to the land of Goshen, in Egypt.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jacob (Israel) and all of his family packed their belongings. They gathered their livestock and set off on the journey to Egypt. On the way they came to a place called Beersheba where they stopped to offer sacrifices to God. <i>They were so thankful for how God was looking after them! (Genesis 46: 1)</i>• God spoke to Jacob in a dream. He told Jacob not to be afraid about going to live in Egypt. In Egypt, God was going to bless Jacob and make his family a great nation. He promised that He would be with Jacob. <i>(Genesis 46: 2-4) Discuss with children that God always keeps his promises.</i>• Jacob and his family moved on from Beersheba and came to Egypt. There were quite a crowd of them! Altogether there were 70 of Jacob’s family in Egypt now! <i>(Genesis 46: 5-27)</i>• When they all arrived in the land of Goshen, Joseph came to meet them. He was overjoyed to see his father after all these years. He threw his arms around his father and cried for a long time. King Pharaoh heard that they had come. He made them welcome and allowed them to live together in the land of Goshen. <i>(Genesis 46: 28- 34)</i>• <i>Discuss this happy ending with the children. Explain that we should trust God in the good times and in the bad times just like Joseph did. We can rely on God to bring good out of bad situations if we trust him fully.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: FBI Joseph is reunited with Jacob.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse. Genesis 50: 20. Use this verse to sum up the whole story. How did the brothers try to hurt Joseph? How did God turn this into a good situation? Make sure that the children understand that God is in control of each of our lives.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Ask children the following questions as a means of revising the story.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Where was Jacob’s family moving to?• Where did they stop to offer sacrifices?• What promises did God make to Jacob?• Who came to meet them when they arrived in Goshen?• How many of Jacob’s family were living in Egypt now?• This story had a very sad beginning. How did God change it so it had a happy ending?

B8 Story 1

People Jesus met: A sick lady - This story is about the power of the Lord Jesus.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus healed people because He is the Son of God. • The Lord Jesus can do good things in our lives. <p>Key Verse: Acts 10: 38 Bible Passage: Luke 4: 38 - 44</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Ask the children to stand up and do the following physical activities “on the spot” - e.g. jump, jog, sprint, hop, march, use arms to punch the air in front <u>or</u> if space allows, they could play the traffic lights game. When you call a colour, children obey the instructions - Red = stay still, Orange = jog on the spot, Green = move around. Children who fail to obey the traffic lights are out of the game.</p> <p>At the end explain that they could enjoy this because they were fit and well. It isn't fun when we are feeling ill and have to be in bed. At the time of Jesus, there were many sick people but no doctors or medicines to help.</p> <p>Be sensitive towards any children who would be unable to participate in this introduction. As an alternative, talk about what it would be like to be a doctor today— knowing about lots of illness, prescribing medicine, being very busy, sometimes able to help, but sometimes not. Explain that in today's story we are going to learn about the most wonderful doctor of all – the Lord Jesus!</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus had been in the synagogue (<i>the building where the Jews met to learn about God</i>) teaching the people. He had also healed a man. Now it was time to visit at Simon's house with some of the other disciples. But there was a problem. Simon's mother in law (<i>explain what this means</i>) was very ill with a fever. <i>Explain how the fever would have made her feel – very hot and sore all over.</i> Simon and the others knew that Jesus would be able to heal her so they asked Jesus to help. <i>Why did they think Jesus could help? (Luke 4: 38)</i> • Jesus was willing to help. He touched the lady's hand and spoke to the fever and then helped her up. Suddenly she was better and started to serve the food. It was as if there had never been anything wrong with her! <i>Ask the children to think of some of the things the people might have said to each other. (Luke 4: 39)</i> • That evening as the sun was setting; many people brought others who had illnesses and problems to Jesus. <i>Reflect on the kinds of people who might have been there and why they had come. How might Jesus have been feeling at the end of the day? Despite how late it was, Jesus still had time for everyone.</i> He laid His hands on each one. No-one left without being healed. <i>Again explore the people's reactions. (Luke 4: 40)</i> • The next morning, Jesus found a quiet place where He could pray to His Father. But still the people came looking for Him! They knew about His wonderful power. (Luke 4: 42) • <i>Today the Lord Jesus still cares and wants to help people. He can do good things in our lives when we are willing to trust in Him.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: FBI Jesus delivers and heals in Capernaum. (slides 7-11)</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse. Acts 10: 38. Select as much of this verse as your group is able to manage.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Ask children the following questions as a means of revising the story.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What had Jesus been doing in the synagogue? • Whose house did Jesus visit? • Who had a fever? • What two things did Jesus do to heal her? • What did she do after she was healed? • Why did more and more people keep coming to Jesus? • What important thing did Jesus do the next morning? • Fill in the missing word, “Jesus went around doing.”

B8 Story 2

People Jesus met: A man with leprosy – This story is about how the Lord Jesus loves us.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jesus showed His love by healing the man with leprosy.• Jesus loves us and wants to change our lives. <p>Key Verse: <i>Luke 7: 22</i> Bible Passage: <i>Luke 5: 12 - 16</i></p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Ask the children about infectious illnesses which they may have experienced, e.g. chicken pox, measles. Talk about having to stay away from others and maybe missing something exciting. Explain that in Jesus' time, leprosy was a common skin disease which spread from one person to another. People who caught it could no longer live with their families, or go to work. There was no cure!</p> <p>Encourage the group to be grateful for whatever level of health-care is available – you could perhaps express this in a prayer.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One day, a man with very bad leprosy came over to Jesus. He fell down on his knees in front of Jesus and pleaded for help. He said, "Lord, if you are willing, You can make me clean." This showed that the man knew that Jesus had the power to make him clean if He was willing to do it. <i>Speculate on whether Jesus would be willing to make the man better. Would Jesus want to have anything to do with a man who had an infectious disease? (Luke 5: 12)</i>• Of course, Jesus wanted to help the man. He loved Him very much and knew how much he needed help. Then Jesus did a wonderful thing. He reached out His hand and actually touched the man and said, "I <u>am</u> willing. Be clean!" Jesus didn't get leprosy from touching the man but instead the man was immediately better. <i>Describe how his skin was smooth and healthy; also reflect on the man's amazement and gratitude. (Luke 5: 13)</i> This was another miracle. Jesus had once again shown His great power over illness and to change people's lives.• The Bible compares our sin to leprosy. <i>Talk about what sin is and how it spoils our lives. The Lord Jesus loves us in spite of the wrong things we have done. If we are willing, He can forgive us and make us clean from our sin. Our lives can be changed on the inside.</i>• After Jesus had healed the man, He told him to go to the priest to show that he was healed. <i>How would his life be different from now on? The man would never forget the day he met Jesus. (Luke 5: 14)</i> If we ask the Lord Jesus to forgive our sins, it will be the best day of our lives too. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: No suitable FBI.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse. Luke 7: 22. This verse lists six ways in which the Lord Jesus changes people's lives. Getting it all in order could be a challenge – try using a simple mime for each phrase e.g. blind= point to the eyes, the lame walk= walk on the spot, those who have leprosy = touch skin on palm of hands. Alternatively, divide it up into phrases for different groups to say if it's too long. Level 2 children with a good Bible knowledge could try to give specific examples of people whom Jesus healed from each category.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Use these false/true statements for a quiz.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leprosy is an infectious disease.• The man was only allowed to be with his family.• He fell on his knees before Jesus.• The man wasn't sure if Jesus could make him better.• Jesus touched him.• Jesus was able to heal him because He is the Son of God.• He got better after a few minutes.• He had to go and show himself to the priest.• All of us have a disease called sin.• The Lord Jesus loves us and is willing to forgive our sin.

B8 Story 3

People Jesus met: A helpless man – This story is about how the Lord Jesus forgives.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jesus had the power to not only heal a paralysed man but also to forgive his sins.• Jesus has the power to forgive our sins. <p>Key Verse: <i>Luke 5: 24</i> Bible Passage: <i>Luke 5: 17 – 26</i></p>
INTRODUCE IT	Ask the children to suggest things they might do to help a friend in school or at home. Commend their helpfulness. In today's story, four friends carried their friend who could not walk, to the Lord Jesus. If possible have a mat as a visual aid to explain how they would have done this. Why did they bring him to Jesus? Yes, they knew that Jesus had the power to heal their friend.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Getting to Jesus, however, wasn't as easy as they expected. Lots of people had already crowded into the house to listen to Jesus. <i>It is important for us too to want to listen to Jesus' words.</i> It was impossible to get through the door so they carried the man up the stairs at the side of the house onto the roof. They weren't going to give up easily because they knew that Jesus was the only one who could help! <i>Ask the children to imagine what it must have been like for the people standing in the house below as a hole appeared in the roof and the man was carefully lowered down in front of Jesus' feet. (Luke 5: 18 -19)</i>• <i>How would Jesus heal the man? Ask children to recall how He healed in the stories of Peter's mother-in-law and the leper.</i> But today's story, Jesus spoke to the man and said, "Friend your sins are forgiven." Some of the people who were in the house were angry. They did not believe Jesus could forgive sins. They thought that only God could forgive sins and they did not believe that Jesus was God's Son. Jesus knew what they were thinking. <i>He knows our thoughts too! (Luke 5: 20 – 24)</i>• Jesus wanted to prove to them that He really had forgiven the man's sins even though they couldn't see into the man's life! So He told the helpless man to get up, take his mat and go home. Immediately the man did this and off he went, praising God! Everyone was amazed. Jesus' power could not only heal the man's legs but He could also forgive sins! No-one else had power like this! <i>(Luke 5: 24 – 26)</i>• Our greatest need is to have our sins forgiven. <i>Review what the children learned in Story 2 – what sin is, how it spoils our relationship with God and will keep us out of Heaven.</i> The Lord Jesus has the power to forgive our sins because He had no sins of His own. He was willing to die on the cross to take the punishment for our sin. We need to be truly sorry for our sin and thank the Lord Jesus for providing a way for us to be forgiven. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: FBI Paralysed man lowered through the roof.</p>
LEARN IT	Teach the Key Verse which is part of the story. Luke 5: 24. Explain that the "Son of Man" is another name for the Lord Jesus.
REMEMBER IT	Ask children the following questions as a means of revising the story. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How many friends did the man have?• What was wrong with the man?• Why was it hard to get their friend to Jesus?• How did they get into the house?• What did Jesus say to the man first?• Why were some of the people angry?• How did Jesus show that He had forgiven the man's sins?• What is the most important thing the Lord Jesus can do for us?

B8 Story 4

People Jesus met: Matthew – This story is about following the Lord Jesus.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jesus knew what Matthew's life was like but He still wanted him to follow Him.• Jesus wants us to follow Him. <p>Key Verse: <i>Luke 5: 32</i> Bible Passage: <i>Luke 5: 27 - 32</i></p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Have a discussion with the children about the kinds of jobs they would like to do when they grow up. Evaluate what would be good about doing these jobs.</p> <p>Or Do some simple mimes of jobs common in your society for the children to guess what they are.</p> <p>Explain that today's story is about a man called Matthew (Levi) who was a tax collector. He sat at the road-side and collected the taxes from the people to pass on to the Romans who were in charge of the country. You may wish to refer to the fact that we still pay taxes today and what they are used for.</p> <p>Unfortunately nobody really liked Matthew. Tax-collectors were disliked not just because they worked for the enemy (the Romans) but also because they sometimes took more money than they should and kept it for themselves.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One day Jesus noticed Matthew doing his job. <i>Speculate on what Jesus thought about Matthew - Did He know the kind of man Matthew was? Yes of course ...He knows everything about each one of us. Would Jesus want to have anything to do with Matthew? Yes! Matthew was exactly the kind of person Jesus came to help - He could change Matthew's life! So He stopped beside Matthew and said, "Follow me." (Luke 5: 27) What would Matthew do? Present the choice that Matthew had to make.</i>• Matthew knew immediately what he wanted to do. He would follow Jesus! How amazing that Jesus had invited him! He got up, left everything and went with Jesus. (Luke 5: 28) <i>Explain that the Lord Jesus gives each of us an invitation to follow Him and have Him in our life. We too need to make a choice.</i> Matthew wanted his friends to meet Jesus and let them know how his life had been changed. So he invited them, along with Jesus and His disciples, to a dinner in his house. Some people who were there thought that Jesus was wrong to mix with Matthew and his friends. They thought that Jesus should only spend time with good people rather than sinners. They didn't realise that everyone is a sinner. Jesus explained to them why He had come to earth – not for people who thought their lives were good enough but for those who knew they had sinned and wanted to be sorry for their sins. (Luke 5: 29 – 32) Jesus does not like sin but He loves sinners like Matthew and us! We too need to follow Him and trust Him for forgiveness.• Later on, God chose Matthew to do a very important job. He wrote the first book of the New Testament. What a wonderful day it was when he decided to follow Jesus and let Jesus deal with the wrong things in his life. From then on his life was transformed. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: FBI Jesus invites Matthew the tax-collector to be His disciple.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse. Luke 5: 32. Explaining any difficult words – e.g. righteous and repentance.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>In a classroom setting, the children could make a collage made up of pictures of the different people whom Jesus met in these stories. <u>Or</u> you could have a review quiz based on all of B8, using selected questions from the previous notes and a few about Matthew e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What was Matthew's job?• What did Jesus say to Matthew?• What did Matthew do after he followed Jesus?

B9 Story 1

The Birth of Moses – This story is about how God cares.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• God cared for Moses and He cares for us too. (Level 1)• God had a plan for Moses' life, as He has for us too. (Level 2) <p>Key Verse: <i>Hebrews 11: 23</i> Bible Passage: <i>Exodus 2: 1 - 10</i></p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Explain that God has a plan for each of our lives. The families we are born into and the things that happen to us are not random – rather, God uses them to prepare us to serve Him. In these stories we are going to learn about Moses. God had a very important job for Moses to do when he grew up. Today we will learn about how God looked after Moses as a child. The story of Moses is found in the second book of the Bible. <i>Ask if anyone knows the name of this book and show them where it is.</i></p> <p>Alternatively, if you are introducing this story to Level 1 children, you could talk about new babies and possibly have some items which they need to keep them safe and content.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Briefly explain the background to the Israelites (Hebrews) being slaves – see introduction to Level 2 lesson. (Exodus 1: 1-11) King Pharaoh became so desperate to stop the Israelites increasing in number that he decided to drown all the Israelite baby boys in the River Nile. (Exodus 1: 22) <i>How would an Israelite mum and dad have felt if they had just had a new baby boy?</i>• In one home, a beautiful healthy baby boy was born. His parents hid him in the house, trusting God to keep him safe. But after three months, they could no longer hide him. <i>Why not?</i> His mother made a waterproof basket from bulrushes (<i>explain</i>), put the baby inside and hid the basket in the tall reeds at the edge of the river. Miriam, the baby's sister was left to watch what would happen, but only God could keep the baby safe. (Exodus 2: 1 - 4)• Tell the next part of the story dramatically – describe how Miriam notices the princess (Pharaoh's daughter) and her helpers coming along. Will she notice the baby? Will she tell the King? Yes, the princess spotted the basket and asked her helper to bring it to her. Describe her response on seeing the Hebrew baby inside. The princess would not let him be harmed! God was at work in keeping the baby safe! (Exodus 2: 5 – 6)• Then Miriam stepped forward and offered to find a nurse for the baby. <i>Who would she get?</i> The princess agreed and Miriam ran off to find her own mother! So the baby's mother was able to look after him at home in complete safety because the princess agreed to it. Later on, when the baby had grown into a boy, the princess took him to live in Pharaoh's palace. She adopted him and called him Moses, which means "taken out of the water". (Exodus 2: 7-10) Now Moses had become a prince of Egypt!• <i>Help the children understand that God was behind all that happened. According to Pharaoh's law, the baby should have drowned. Moses' parents had faith in God – they trusted God to look after their baby and He did. This was just the beginning of God's plan being worked out. God wants us to trust Him to work out His plan in our lives.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: FBI: Baby Moses.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse. Hebrews 11: 23 (Level 2). Level 1 children could learn the first sentence.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Which book is the story of Moses found in?• What did Pharaoh decide to do to all the baby Hebrew boys?• How long was the baby hidden at home?• What did the mother make?• Where did she put the baby?• Who stayed at the river to watch?• Who found the baby?• Why was Moses' life not in danger from then on?• Who showed faith in the story?• Who kept Moses safe?

B9 Story 2

Moses' big mistake – This story is about doing what we think is best

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moses made a mistake when he acted too quickly in anger.• We cannot escape the consequences of doing wrong things. <p>Key Verse: <i>Exodus 2: 11 - 15</i> Bible Passage: <i>Numbers 32: 23</i></p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Sometimes we think we know best. Choose an example of something that a child might be shown how to do by an adult but the child does it his own way and it doesn't work out right! Last week we learned about Moses. <i>Ask some questions to recap.</i> Where did Moses go to live when he was a boy? What were his own people called? (Israelites/Hebrews). Remind the children that they were slaves and how they were treated cruelly by the Egyptians. In today's story Moses is grown-up. Listen carefully to learn about a situation where Moses thought he knew best.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One day Moses went to visit his own people. Suddenly he noticed one of them being beaten by an Egyptian. <i>How would Moses have felt? (angry, wanting to defend his people).</i> Quickly Moses looked around to see no-one was watching and killed the man from Egypt. Then he hid the body in the sand. Moses thought he had done the right thing but had he? <i>Enable the children to see that Moses' action was very wrong. (Level 2: You may also want to suggest how God viewed the Egyptian's wrong-doing and refer to how God will deal with all wrong in the future.) Do you think Moses will get away with what he did? If not why not? (Exodus 2: 11 – 12)</i>• The next day Moses saw two Hebrews fighting. As he asked what was going on, one of the men said, "Who do you think you are to judge us? Are you thinking of killing me, as you did to the Egyptian?" Now Moses knew that he had been seen killing the Egyptian. <i>How would he feel now? (scared that the King would hear)</i> Soon Pharaoh did hear about what Moses had done and wanted to kill him. Moses had to run for his life to another country called Midian where he worked as a shepherd for a man called Jethro. <i>(Exodus 2: 13 – 15)</i>• God also knew about the wrong thing which Moses had done. <i>Talk about how God sees everything we do and we cannot hide our wrong-doing from him.</i> Even though Moses was a grown-up, he made a mistake and did not do the right thing. He still had much to learn before he was ready to be a leader. We need to learn from Moses' mistake and rely on God to help us act in the right way which is pleasing to Him. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: FBI: Moses as the Prince of Egypt.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse. Numbers 32: 23 Relate the verse to Moses' mistake. What was Moses' sin? How was he found out? You could also give a specific example of a situation which is relevant to the children's experience.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Use these True/False statements for a quiz:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moses killed an Israelite.• He thought no-one saw him.• Another Hebrew man had seen him.• God saw what happened.• Pharaoh put Moses in prison.• Moses still had lots to learn before he was ready to be a leader.

B9 Story 3

Moses sees a burning bush: This story is about being ready to work for God.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God is holy and we always need to remember this. • Moses was a reluctant leader but God promised to help him. <p>Key Verse: <i>Exodus 3: 12</i> Bible Passage: <i>Exodus 3 – 4: 17</i></p>
<p>INTRODUCE IT</p>	<p>Talk about being asked to do something important and exciting, e.g. a responsibility relevant to the children in your group. How did you feel when you were asked to do it? (<i>nervous / wishing someone else had been asked?</i>)</p> <p>Today's story takes place 40 years after Moses' big mistake. Moses had been a shepherd for 40 years in the desert. God had not forgotten him. He was willing to forgive him and now had a very special task for him to do.</p>
<p>TEACH IT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every day was much the same, until one day... Moses noticed a bush on fire. The strange thing was that although there were flames, the leaves and the branches were not being burned up! Moses went closer to have a look and then God said Moses' name. <i>Use the words from the Bible to tell the next part. Explain that "holy ground" meant it was a very special place because God was there. We need to understand that God is holy and different from us. Unlike us, God has no sin.</i> Moses took off his sandals and hid his face because he understood God's greatness. (Exodus 3 : 1 – 6) • <i>We need to have respect for God's holiness. Help the children recall what life was like for the Israelites in Egypt. God told Moses that He knew all the bad things that had been happening and now He was going to bring them out of Egypt to a new country. God wanted Moses to be their leader and go to speak to King Pharaoh. Explore how Moses might have felt about going back to Pharaoh.</i> (Exodus 3 : 7 – 10) • <i>Make a connection between the children's personal responses in the introduction and any correct predictions which they made relating to how Moses felt about being a leader. Then relate Moses' objections and God's counter-objections as given in the Bible text and in the speech bubbles in the Level 2 lesson.</i> • I'm not important enough – I will be with you. (3: 11, 12) - I don't know your name – My name is I AM (this name shows God is all-powerful). I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham (3: 13 – 15) They won't believe me – I will give you miracles to prove my power. (4: 1 – 9) I won't be able to say the right words – I will help you speak and teach you what to say. (4: 10 – 12) Please send someone else. (4: 13) – Aaron will be your helper and you can tell him what to say. <i>Was Moses the kind of person you would expect to be a leader? Do you think God was pleased with his excuses? No! But despite the mistake he had made back in Egypt and all his excuses, he was God's choice. In our next story we will learn how Moses was finally ready to obey and God was able to continue to work out His plan in his life. Moses would have to rely on God for all that lay ahead.</i> • Sometimes God asks us to do things for Him that seem difficult. We need to remember that He is with us and will help us. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: FBI: Moses and the burning bush</p>
<p>LEARN IT</p>	<p>Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse. Exodus 3: 12a. This is a short verse after a long story. Children might like to put it on to an individual book-mark or make a group collage with each child decorating or sticking bits of paper on to a letter.</p>
<p>REMEMBER IT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was strange about the bush which Moses saw? • What did Moses do when he was on holy ground? • What does holy mean? • What job did God want Moses to do? • Give an excuse which Moses made about himself. • What excuse did Moses make about God? • Who did God allow Moses to take with him? • God did not give up on Moses. Why not?

B9 Story 4

Moses brings God's message: This story is about Moses returning to Egypt.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moses was finally obedient to what God asked him to do.• God worked out His plan in Moses' life by keeping the promises He had made to him. <p>Key Verse: <i>Exodus 4: 15</i> Bible Passage: <i>Exodus 4: 1-31</i></p>
INTRODUCE IT	Talk about important changes in our lives – e.g. moving house, moving to high school, getting married. Moses had a lot of changes in his life – recall his first months as a baby, then living in Pharaoh's palace until he was 40, followed by his life in the desert for another 40 years. (In a classroom situation it would be useful to put pictures of these events on a timeline of Moses' life.) Now Moses was facing the biggest challenge in his life. What had God asked him to do?
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moses now had a wife and two sons in the land of Midian. He asked his father-in-law, Jethro, if he could go back to Egypt. Jethro agreed and Moses set out along with his wife and his sons who rode on a donkey. Moses also brought with him his special rod that God had told him to use. God told Moses that the men who had wanted to kill him when he was last in Egypt were no longer alive. God was helping Moses not to be afraid. Already God was keeping His promise to Moses. <i>Can you remember the key verse from last week? (Exodus 4: 18 – 20)</i>• Then God kept another promise He had made to Moses. While Moses was still on his journey, his brother Aaron came and met him. <i>Why was Aaron going to be with Moses?</i> Moses told Aaron all that God had told him, including the signs he had been given to do with his rod. <i>God can always be counted on to keep his promises. If we belong to Him He will do the same for us. (Exodus 4: 27, 28)</i>• When they arrived in Egypt, Moses and Aaron met with the leaders of the Israelites and told them God's plans. Then all the people came together and Moses showed them the miracles God had given him to do with his rod. Moses threw the rod on the ground and it became a snake and then when he took hold of the snake's tail it became a rod again. Next he put his hand inside his cloak and when he brought it out it was covered with leprosy (<i>explain</i>) but when he put it in a second time it was healed. (Exodus 4: 6 – 9) When the people saw these wonderful things they could see God's power, and understood that Moses had really been sent by God. <i>How do you think the people felt? (amazed / so happy that God was going to rescue them from being slaves.) (Exodus 4 : 29 – 31)</i>• Moses must have been excited to see God prepare the way for him as he came back to Egypt. Review those in this story who enabled God's plan to move forward – Jethro, Aaron, the leaders and the people. <i>Who did Moses and Aaron still have to present the plan to?</i> Emphasise that although it wasn't going to be easy, they could still rely on God to work things out. He was in control! <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: FBI: Moses and the burning bush – Slides 21-24</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse. Exodus 4: 15 Make sure the children understand the context of this verse which relates to Moses and Aaron working together and God being with them.
REMEMBER IT	Review the life of Moses so far, by using questions from previous stories and these ones for Story 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who went back to Egypt with Moses?• Who met him on the way?• How did the people know that Moses had been sent by God?• Explain one of the miracles Moses did before the people.

B10 Story 1

Moses and the first plague – This story is about obeying God.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• God's commands have to be listened to and obeyed.• To refuse to listen and disobey God will always end in punishment. <p>Key Verse: Exodus 7: 16 Bible Passage: Exodus 7: 1-24</p>
INTRODUCE IT	Talk with the children about rules to be obeyed and the consequences of disobedience, maybe in school situation or in wider society. It might be useful to review B9 story 4 with a few questions to link to today's content.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Now the time had come for Moses and Aaron to ask Pharaoh to let the Israelites leave Egypt so they could worship God in the desert. <i>Ask children to predict his response. Explain his refusal and the outcome which made things worse than before. Help children see that Pharaoh was disobeying God. What would you have thought about Moses if you'd been an Israelite? (Exodus 5: 1 – 21)</i> Moses could not understand why God had allowed this to happen. He asked God about it. God made them a promise that He would show His mighty power and although Pharaoh initially would not obey, eventually God would make him do what He asked. <i>Remind the children that we make promises and forget them, or can't keep them, but God's promises will always happen.</i>• God said to go back to Pharaoh again and demand that he let the Israelite slaves go! (Exodus 5: 22 – 7:5)• This time, Pharaoh asked for a miracle and Aaron's stick became a snake. Pharaoh's magicians did the same but Aaron's snake ate all the magician's snakes. <i>What did this show about God? Still Pharaoh would not obey God. (Exodus 7: 6-12)</i>• Then God told Moses and Aaron to meet Pharaoh by the River Nile. God's command was given again. If Pharaoh did not obey, the River Nile would be turned into blood, and there would be no clean water and all the fish would die. Pharaoh refused to listen. The Bible says that he turned and went into his house. <i>Discuss Pharaoh's attitude – what words describe it? Explain that the Bible describes him as having a hard heart. (Exodus 7: 14-19)</i>• So all the Egyptians dug all around the river for water to drink, because they could not drink the water of the river. This was the first plague and it lasted for 7 days. (Exodus 7: 24-25)• <i>Moses and Aaron did exactly what God told them to do, obeying in every detail. This is what we should always try and do. The Bible says that God takes delight in our obedience! Pharaoh disobeyed God and refused to listen to Him and that always ends with trouble and God's punishment. Discuss the sort of things God commands us to do in our daily lives.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: FBI - Moses goes to Pharaoh, Moses and the Plagues Part 1</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse - Exodus 7: 16
REMEMBER IT	Ask children the following questions as a means of revising the story. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What was the promise God made to Moses and Aaron?• What was the first miracle which Aaron did?• What happened to the River Nile in the first plague?• What did the Egyptians not have for seven days?• What sort of things does God command us to do in our daily lives?

B10 Story 2

Moses and the last plague – This story is about God’s plan for saving the Hebrews.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pharaoh and the Egyptians refusal to obey God would have to be punished.• God cannot overlook sin but He does provide a way of salvation. <p>Key Verse: <i>Exodus 12: 13</i> Bible Passage: <i>Exodus 11: 1-10, 12: 1-13</i></p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Discuss how we are protected in certain situations. Choose examples which children can relate to. E.g. applying sun-cream protects fair-skinned people from the danger of the sun. Carrying a passport allows us to pass from one country to another without fear of being arrested. A vaccination prevents us from getting a disease. In today’s story, we will learn how God gave the Israelites a special sign to ensure that they were kept safe from His punishment.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There had been nine plagues so far but each time Pharaoh had refused to let them go. God was hardening Pharaoh’s heart until Pharaoh realised how great God was.• Pharaoh had now told Moses that he never wanted to see him again. (Exodus 10: 27-29) But God had explained to Moses what the final plague is going to be. There was going to be a terrible punishment on every family, the oldest son in every family was going to die. (Exodus 11: 4-6) But Pharaoh did not believe that God could or would bring that terrible punishment. (Exodus 11: 10)• <i>We have to learn that whatever God speaks or says in the Bible is the truth, and whatever He promises, He will make it happen.</i>• The Lord then explains to Moses the preparations that the Israelites are to make to get ready to leave Egypt. Each family had to kill a lamb. Some of the blood was to be put on the door frame of their house which would show that the house belonged to the Israelites. Then they were to have a special meal of roast lamb, bread and bitter herbs. They were to eat the meal quickly, and be dressed ready to leave very soon. The Lord explained that when the oldest sons were killed in the Egyptian homes the Israelites would be safe if they had blood on their doors. (Exodus 12: 12-13) <i>Describe the excitement and anticipation of the fact that they were finally about to leave and how the Israelites followed the instructions exactly. Discuss the value and importance of the blood for the Israelites and how it was their only protection.</i>• <i>It’s not always easy for us to understand the ways in which God works, but we can be sure He always knows best. How were the Israelites kept safe? In the same way, anybody who believes that the Lord Jesus died on the cross is saved from the punishment that we face because of our sin. The Bible explains that the Lord Jesus is the Lamb of God, not just for the Israelites, but for the whole world, including us. When we trust in His blood which was shed when He died on the cross, then we will be saved from the punishment for our sins.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: FBI- Moses and the Plagues Part 2</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse - Exodus 12: 13</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Ask children the following questions as a means of revising the story.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is another word which could be used for God’s Punishment?• What was the final punishment going to be for Pharaoh?• What did the Israelites have to do to make sure they were safe?• What did they have to eat and how did they have to eat it?• How has the Lord Jesus made it possible for us to be saved? (Romans 5: 8)

B10 Story 3

Moses and the Escape from Egypt – This story is about God’s wonderful power.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• God rescued the Israelites as He had promised when He spoke to Moses at the burning bush.• The Bible often refers to this event as one of the greatest examples of God’s power. <p>Key Verse: <i>Exodus 14: 30</i> Bible Passage: <i>Exodus 12: 31-39, 14: 1-31</i></p>
INTRODUCE IT	Think about some of the things it is impossible for us to do. Fly without an aircraft, cross a sea without a boat, find our way through a desert with no compass etc. However what is impossible with men is possible with God. He was going to show in this story one of the greatest displays of His power which is recorded in the Bible.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• During the night, when all the Egyptian first born sons died, Pharaoh sent for Moses and Aaron. <i>How had Pharaoh reacted after all the previous plagues? Describe how this time was different</i> - He told them to take all the people, with their flocks and to leave Egypt at once. (Exodus 12: 31-32) The Egyptians also encouraged them to go because they feared that they would all die if the Israelites stayed. The Lord moved the Egyptians to give presents of silver, gold and clothes as they left. (Exodus 12: 35-36) In all, there were over six hundred thousand men as well as women and children. <i>With older children you could try to compare this number to a similar population of somewhere familiar.</i>• At last Pharaoh was obeying God! He could have avoided so much suffering if he had done so at the first. <i>Again emphasise the importance of obedience to parents, teachers, and most importantly, to God!</i>• The Israelites, led by Moses made their way towards the Red Sea. <i>Explore their feelings.</i> But it wasn’t the last they saw of Pharaoh! Again the Lord hardened Pharaoh’s heart, as he still had to learn how great God is! Pharaoh suddenly realised he had lost all his builders, and decided to chase them with 600 chariots. (Exodus 14: 3-7)• The Israelites were trapped! Pharaoh was behind them and the Red Sea was in front of them. <i>How do you think they felt now? Describe their panic and how they blamed Moses.</i> But Moses told them to stand firm and they would see the deliverance the Lord would bring to them! (Exodus 14: 10-14)• The Lord told Moses to raise his staff above the Sea. As Moses obeyed, a dry path appeared miraculously through the middle of the Red Sea so all the Israelites could go through on dry land.• <i>Explain what happened when the Egyptians tried to follow them.</i> Moses raised his staff again and the waters returned. The Bible says that the entire army of Pharaoh were covered by the waters and not one of them survived. (Exodus 14: 28) <i>What would you have thought about God if you had been an Israelite? Describe their response to God’s great power - they feared the Lord (explain) and put their trust in Him and in Moses. (Exodus 14: 31)</i>• We can learn that we can always trust the Lord because of His great power. Like the Israelites, we must trust Him and then we can say, “The Lord saved ME!” <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: FBI- Moses and the Plagues Part 2, and Moses: Red Sea Crossing</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse - Exodus 14: 30
REMEMBER IT	Ask children the following questions as a means of revising the story. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why did Pharaoh decide to let the Israelites go?• What did the Egyptians give them?• Why did Pharaoh decide to chase them?• Why did the Israelites panic?• What did God tell Moses to do which would save them?• What happened to the Egyptian army?• What did the Israelites do when they saw what had happened?

B10 Story 4

Moses and Israel thank God – This story is about praising God

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Israelites were thankful for all that God had done to give them freedom and safety.• All of us need to stop, look back and thank God for what He has done in our lives. <p>Key Verse: <i>Psalm 106: 1</i> Bible Passage: <i>Exodus 15: 1-22</i></p>
INTRODUCE IT	Use clues to recall some of the amazing things which happened in Bible days. E.g. Daniel saved in the lions den, David killing Goliath etc, including the crossing of the Red Sea as in last week's story. Locate events on a Bible Timeline if you have one. Explain that in each of these, the Bible characters had no alternative but to rely on God's mighty power. We will find out about what the Israelites did after God rescued them and also think about how we should respond to God for what He has done for us.
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Israelites were at last free from being slaves and their enemies had all been drowned. <i>Explain how they would have felt.</i> They knew it was God who had saved them, and they were so thankful that they wanted to praise God for what He has done. (Exodus 15: 1) They realised how great God was and they sang of His Majesty because they knew there was no other God who had such power. (Exodus 15: 11) They sang in great detail about all He had done for them.• <i>Children should realise how great God is and how we see that in creation all around, in His provision for all our needs each day and also in His love for us in sending His Son to die on the cross for us.</i>• The Israelites did not just sing about God, they had a closer relationship with Him so they called him "my God", "my Strength", "my Salvation". (Exodus 15: 2)• <i>The children can be challenged as to whether they just know about God, or whether they know the Lord as their own personal Saviour.</i>• The Israelites did not just think about the present, they knew that they could trust Him for future battles with other enemies as they made their way towards the Promised Land. <i>We can learn that the Lord never changes and we can trust Him not only today, but always in the future.</i>• Miriam, Aaron's sister, led some of the women in singing and dancing. They were so excited as they celebrated what God had done. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: FBI- Moses: Red Sea Crossing</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse - Psalm 106: 1 - This verse reminds us about giving thanks to the Lord so the children could be encouraged to make up some prayers of thanksgiving for what the Lord has done for them.
REMEMBER IT	Ask children the following questions as a means of revising the story or base a quiz on all of B10. What did the Israelites do when they saw they were free? How did they describe the Lord in their song? How do you know the Israelites trusted God for the future? Who led the women in singing in dancing? Why do you think the Israelites changed from being scared and panicking to singing and praising God?

B11 Story 1

God gives food – This story is about God providing food for the Israelites.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• God provided food for the Israelites for forty years in the desert.• The Lord Jesus is the “Bread of Life” and He meets our needs. <p>Key Verse: John 6: 35 Bible Passage: Exodus 16: 1 – 32</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Briefly remind the children about what happened in B9 and B10. God had shown the Israelites His power in rescuing them from Egypt and now He promised to lead them to a new country. They weren't long on the way until the people started to grumble and complain to Moses about being hungry! Their food supplies were finished and they were thinking about being back in Egypt and all the food they had enjoyed there. (Exodus 16: 2 -3) Already they had forgotten that God was in control and that He knew all their needs for their journey. <i>If applicable, you could remind the children that this is a wrong attitude. God wants us to be grateful to Him.</i></p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Even though the people failed to trust God, He showed that He still cared for them. God had a plan to ensure that they would always have food. He would send bread from Heaven and they were to gather it each morning. On the sixth day of the week they were to gather twice as much to last them for the Sabbath Day (God's special day). Each evening they would receive meat. (Exodus 16: 4 – 12)• <i>Imagine the Israelites coming out of their tents in the morning and describe their reaction to what they found.</i> Moses explained that this was the bread the Lord had given them. Everyone was to gather enough for the people living in their tent. No-one was to keep any for the next day. Some people, however, did try to keep it but by the next day it had gone bad. (Exodus 16: 15 – 20) <i>Point out the importance of doing exactly as God says rather than doing our own thing.</i>• The people called the bread from Heaven “Manna”. It tasted like honey! God sent the manna to the Israelites for as long as their journey lasted. God had given them even more proof that He was their God and would look after them. (Exodus 16: 31)• In our story, the Israelites had to gather and eat the manna before it could satisfy their hunger. It kept them alive each day in the desert but they always needed more manna. Eventually they died.• <i>Many years later, Jesus came down from Heaven to die for our sins. He called Himself the “Bread of Life”. If we receive the Lord Jesus, (the Bread of Life) into our lives, He gives us eternal life – life which we enjoy here and also in Heaven. The manna from Heaven was a wonderful miracle for the Israelites but by receiving the Lord Jesus we can have something much greater. (You may wish to make this teaching clearer by putting the information about the manna and the Bread of Life in two columns on a board or chart.)</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: FBI Moses and how God provided food in the desert.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse. John 6: 35. Reinforce what is stated above.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Use these questions in a quiz.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why did the people grumble?• Who did they complain to?• What should they have done instead of complaining?• How many days each week did manna appear on the ground?• What did they find each evening?• How long did they gather manna?• What name did Jesus use for Himself?• In what way is Jesus greater than the manna?

B11 Story 2

God gives victory – This story is about God helping those who trust in Him.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• God helped the Israelites when they depended on Him.• God wants us to pray to Him so that we can have victory in our lives. <p>Key Verse: Exodus 17: 15 Bible Passage: Exodus 17: 8 - 15</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Soon the Israelites faced another problem. An enemy army called the Amalekites started attacking them. (Exodus 17: 8) <i>Use the questions below to engage the children in thinking about the situation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>What would the Israelites have to do? (fight back)</i>• <i>Were they used to fighting? Remind the children that in Egypt they had been slaves, not soldiers.</i>• <i>How would they have felt?</i>• <i>Could they count on God's help? Remind the children that God had brought them out of Egypt to bring them to a new land. He would keep His promise.</i>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moses was a wise leader and knew what to do. He asked his helper Joshua to choose an army. Moses knew that the army would need God's help so he went with Aaron and Hur to the top of a hill overlooking the battle-field. Moses held up his staff (long stick which he used when he was a shepherd) above his head using both hands. <i>Explain that this was a way of showing that the Israelites were trusting God to help them win.</i> (Exodus 17: 9)• As long as Moses did this, the Israelites were winning. <i>Ask the children to hold their hands above their heads. What do you think would happen to your arms if you had to keep them up like that for a long time?</i> Soon Moses' arms got tired and he put them down for a rest. Then the enemy started to win. <i>Ask the children to suggest how Aaron and Hur might have helped Moses and then clarify exactly what they did.</i> Moses was then able to hold up his arms until sunset and by that time the Israelites had won. Moses wanted to thank God for the victory so he built a stone altar and called it "The Lord is my Banner." <i>Explain that Moses wanted God to have all the honour for the victory.</i> (Exodus 17: 10 – 13, 15)• <i>Who do you think had the most important part in winning the battle? Joshua and the soldiers couldn't have won this battle if Moses hadn't lifted his hands to God and depended on Him. If we have believed in the Lord Jesus as our Saviour, we have an enemy too – Satan. He wants to make us afraid and take away the joy in our lives. Who is more powerful the Lord Jesus or Satan? Because Jesus is stronger, we can have the victory. We need to depend on Him all the time.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: FBI The Israelites struggle against the Amalekites as Moses prays.</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse. Exodus 17: 15.
REMEMBER IT	<p>The children could make a large decorated banner saying "The Lord is my Banner." Alternatively these questions could be used in a quiz:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who was the leader of the Israelite army?• Where did Moses go?• Who went with Moses?• What happened in the battle when Moses held up his arms?• How long did Moses lift up his arms?• Who gave the victory?

B11 Story 3

God gives commandments – This story is about: God's rules.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• God is Holy.• We are unable to keep God's commandments. <p>Key Verse: <i>Exodus 20: 1 or Romans 3: 23</i> Bible Passage: <i>Exodus 19 – 20</i></p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Talk about rules which you have in the school or home context. What are they? Why do we have rules? Is it always easy to keep rules? In today's lesson we will learn about how God gave His rules to the Israelites.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Israelites arrived at a large mountain called Sinai where they set up camp. God explained to Moses that He would come down in a thick cloud to the top of the mountain. He was to put marker stones around the bottom of the mountain so that none of the people would try to climb up. Even though the people had washed and prepared themselves, their sin meant they could not come close to God. (Exodus 19: 1 – 14)• Three days later the people stood at the foot of the mountain. Smoke poured out of the mountain and it shook. <i>Explain that this showed the people how powerful God was. Reflect on how the people would have felt.</i> Then God called for Moses to come up and for a second time, He told Moses to warn the people to stay at the bottom. (Exodus 19: 16 – 22) <i>Explain that the people could not approach God because He is Holy (without any sin) but they had sin in their lives. Today, sin still separates us from God unless our sins have been forgiven.</i>• Later, Moses received the Ten Commandments from God, written on two big stones. The Commandments were God's rules or laws and they made it clear to the people how God expected them to behave. They were to love God more than anyone else and they were also to love each other. <i>With Level 2 children it would be appropriate to read through these and explain each one briefly. Help them to understand that we have failed to obey them!</i> (Exodus 20)• <i>Sadly the Israelites could not keep God's laws and neither can we. All of us fall short of what God expects. We are sinners. The Lord Jesus is the only person who lived a perfect life on earth. This is why He is able to be our Saviour. He died to take the punishment for our sins so that God can forgive us. Then we can be in God's family and not have to stay away from Him as the Israelites did.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: FBI Moses on Mount Sinai receiving the 10 commandments.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse. Exodus 20: 1 or Romans 3: 23.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>For the quiz you could focus on the actual commandments themselves as written out in the Level 2 lesson. If possible have them written out on a board/chart so that children can both see and hear them. After you have read them all over, remove the list. Leave out a key word in each commandment. e.g. Have no other _____ before me. Do not make any _____. If a child knows the missing word, they can earn a point for their team.</p>

B11 Story 4

God gives salvation – This story is about God's way of saving people from death.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• God provided a way for the Israelites to escape the punishment they deserved.• God has provided a way for us to be saved. <p>Key Verse: <i>John 3: 14</i> Bible Passage: <i>Numbers 21: 4 – 9</i></p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Sometimes we repeat the same mistake! Can you remember what the Israelites did when the food they had brought from Egypt was used up? Yes, they grumbled and complained! And in today's story they are grumbling again! Let's find out why.</p> <p><u>Or</u> Talk about the danger of being bitten by a snake, the need to go to hospital and get anti-venom. In today's story God had a very different cure for those who had snake-bites.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sadly, the Israelites spoke against Moses and against God saying that things had been better in Egypt and that they hated the manna that God provided. How ungrateful they were! (Numbers 21: 5)• This time God was angry with the people and decided to punish them. Soon the camp was invaded by poisonous snakes. <i>What would happen to the people?</i> Yes, the people got bitten and many of them died. Straight away the people knew it was their fault. They came to Moses and said that they had sinned and asked him to pray to God to take the snakes away. (Numbers 21: 6 - 7) <i>Help the children to recognise that this is the right attitude when we have done wrong. We need to admit our sin and ask God to help us.</i>• After Moses had prayed to God, God told Moses to do a strange thing. He had to make a snake from bronze and put it high on a pole in the camp. The shining bronze snake was in everyone's view. God promised that anyone who had been bitten would not die if he looked at the snake on the pole. Everyone who believed this and did as God said, lived. <i>What an easy way to escape death! (Numbers 21: 8 – 9) (If you used the second idea in the introduction, you could make a comparison.) Do you think the Israelites obeyed God's instruction? Why? Emphasise that this was the only way for them to live – it was no use trying anything else!</i>• Years later, when Jesus was on earth He used this story to teach everyone an important lesson. We are like the Israelites because we have sinned against God and our sins will be punished. But God has provided a way for us to escape the punishment for our sins. Jesus explained that He too was to be "lifted up" when He died for our sins. When we put our trust in what Jesus has done for us, God saves us and gives us eternal life. <i>Emphasise that it is only through Jesus that we can be saved, and challenge the children about their need to respond.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: FBI Moses and the serpent of brass.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse. John 3: 14. Mention that these are the words of Jesus. He explained how He would be able to save us when He would be lifted up on the cross.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>A small group of children could make a collage of the bronze snake on the pole and another group could make the cross. The verse could also be displayed on the finished art-work.</p> <p><u>Or</u> you could have a quiz based on all the stories in B11.</p> <p>Additional questions on B11 could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What did the Israelites complain about this time?• How did God punish them?• What did the people have to do to be healed from the snake-bites?• How can we be saved from the punishment for our sins?

B12 Story 1

Joseph and the angel – This story is about Joseph obeying God, even when it was difficult.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The name 'Jesus' means 'Saviour'.• Like Joseph, we should always listen to and obey God. <p>Key Verse: <i>Matthew 1: 21</i> Bible Passage: <i>Matthew 1: 18-25</i></p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Talk about names – Ask children if they know what their names mean or why they were given their name.</p> <p>Explain that today children will be learning about a very special baby in the Bible who was given a very special name. Allow children to guess who the story will be about.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Joseph and Mary were planning to get married, but one day Mary told Joseph that she was expecting a baby. Joseph knew he wasn't the father of the baby so he decided not to marry Mary. (<i>Matthew 1: 18-19</i>)• One night Joseph had a dream. An angel appeared in the dream and spoke to Joseph. The angel said "Don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because the Baby is from the Holy Spirit." (<i>Matthew 1: 20</i>) <i>Explain to children that this means that the baby would be God's Son.</i>• The angel told Joseph that he should call the baby 'Jesus' because He would save the people from their sins. (<i>Matthew 1: 21</i>) <i>Explain that Jesus means "Saviour" Discuss what a saviour is (in every day life, e.g. a person in danger of drowning needs a saviour or rescuer. Ask children why we need a Saviour (i.e. because we have sinned). Ask children what Jesus did to make Him able to be our Saviour. (i.e. He came from Heaven and died on the cross for us)</i>• When Joseph woke up from his dream, he did as he had been told and married Mary. Sometime later the baby was born and Joseph named Him 'Jesus'. (<i>Matthew 1: 24-25</i>) <i>Ask children about the instructions Joseph had been given and discuss how he followed them. Explain how important it is that we listen to God's instructions in the Bible and follow them. Together, think of and make a list of some of the instructions that God has given for us to follow.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: FBI An angel visits Joseph.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse. <i>Matthew 1: 21.</i></p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Ask children the following questions as a means of revising the story.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who was Joseph going to marry?• What news did Mary tell Joseph?• How did God speak to Joseph?• Who was the baby's Father?• What was the baby to be called?• What does the name 'Jesus' mean?• What did Joseph do after he woke up from the dream?• Think of an instruction that God has given for us to follow.

B12 Story 2

Herod and the Wise Men – This story is about the Wise Men trying to find Jesus.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jesus is the King of kings.• Jesus deserves to be worshipped. <p>Key Verse: <i>Matthew 2: 2</i> Bible Passage: <i>Matthew 2: 1-8</i></p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Ask children to think of important people. Make a list of them. Discuss – Would you like to meet any of those people? If you did what would you say? What would you do? How would you treat them? Tell children that today we will be learning about some men who went on a journey to find the most important person who ever lived.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A new star appeared in the sky. Wise men in the East knew that this was a sign of the birth of a new King. They travelled to Jerusalem to search for the new King. They went to Herod the King and asked “Where is the one who has been born King of the Jews? We saw His star when it appeared in the sky and we have come to worship Him”. (<i>Matthew 2: 1-2</i>) Explain to the children that the new King who was to be born was Jesus, God’s Son and that He would be greater than any other King who ever lived. Jesus is the King of kings. Ask the children if they can remember what Jesus’ name means from the previous lesson. Discuss what the Wise Men meant when they said they wanted to ‘worship’ the King? Why did Jesus deserve to be worshipped?• When Herod heard about a new King he was worried. He didn’t want anyone else taking his place as King. He called some of his advisors and asked them where the new King was supposed to be born. They searched through the Scriptures and discovered that the child was to be born in a town called Bethlehem. (<i>Matthew 2: 3-6</i>)• Herod called the Wise Men to him and said, “Go and find the Child and when you have found Him, come back and tell me where He is so that I can go and worship Him too.” (<i>Matthew 2: 7-8</i>) Explain that Herod didn’t really want to worship the new King; he actually wanted to kill Him. Ask the children why they think Herod wanted to kill the new King. Explain that many people today still don’t treat Jesus the way they should, but that God wants us to love and worship Jesus like the Wise Men did. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: FBI Wise Men worship Jesus.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse. <i>Matthew 2: 2.</i></p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Ask children the following questions as a means of revising the story.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What appeared in the sky?• What direction did the Wise Men come from?• Where did they go to, to look for the new King?• What was the name of the King they spoke to?• How did King Herod feel when he heard about a new King?• What town did they discover the King was to be born in?• What did Herod tell the Wise Men to do?• Who is greater than any other King?

B12 Story 3

The Wise Men and Jesus – This story is about the Wise Men following the star and finding Jesus.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Wise Men worshipped Jesus and gave Him very special gifts because He was the most important baby ever born.• We can still worship Jesus today by thanking Him for all He has done and doing things that please Him. <p>Key Verse: <i>Matthew 2: 11</i> Bible Passage: <i>Matthew 2: 9-12</i></p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Discuss – What is the best gift you have ever been given? (You could get children to draw a picture of it). If you were going to visit a new baby what gift would you bring them?</p> <p>Explain to the children that today we will be learning about gifts the Wise Men gave. Ask the children to retell to you what they learned about the Wise Men in the previous lesson.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Wise Men left Herod and went on their way. They saw the star again and it led them to the place where Jesus was. The Wise Men were very happy and excited when they saw the star. (<i>Matthew 2: 9-10</i>) <i>Discuss - Why do you think the Wise Men were so excited when they saw the star?</i>• The Wise Men arrived at the house in Bethlehem where Joseph, Mary and the baby Jesus were staying. They went inside and when they saw Jesus they fell down and worshipped Him. They gave Him three gifts: gold, frankincense and myrrh. (<i>Matthew 2: 11</i>) <i>Ask the children if these gifts are similar to the ones they would have given to a baby. Explain that these gifts were very expensive and the sort only usually given to a King. Discuss – why do you think the Wise Men chose to give these gifts to the baby Jesus? Explain that although we can't give gifts like the Wise Men, we can still worship God by thanking Him for all He has done and doing things that please Him.</i>• After a while, it was time for the Wise Men to go home. Herod had asked them to come back and tell him where they had found the baby but God warned them in a dream not to go back to Herod, so they went home a different way. (<i>Matthew 2:12</i>) <i>Discuss – How do you think the Wise Men felt on their way home? What do you think they told people when they reached home?</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: FBI Wise Men worship Jesus.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse. <i>Matthew 2: 11.</i></p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Ask children the following questions as a means of revising the story.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What did the Wise Men see again in the sky?• How did they feel when they saw the star?• Where did the star lead them to?• Who was in the house?• What did the Wise Men do when they saw Jesus?• How many gifts did they give Him?• Name one of the gifts.• How did the Wise Men know to go home a different way?

B12 Story 4

The Escape into Egypt – This story is about God looking after His Son.

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• God protected His Son Jesus.• We should please God like Jesus, Mary and Joseph did. <p>Key Verse: Matthew 2: 15 Bible Passage: Matthew 2: 13-23</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Ask the children to tell you about any dreams they have had. Remind children that in Bible times dreams often had special meanings. Ask them to tell you about the dreams they have learned about so far in the story (Joseph's dream, the Wise Men's dream). Today we are going to learn about another dream.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• After the Wise Men left, Joseph had another dream. In the dream God told Joseph that Herod had got so angry that he was going to try and kill Jesus. God told Joseph that he needed to take Jesus and Mary and escape to Egypt so that they would be safe. (Matthew 2: 13) <i>Discuss - How do you think Joseph felt when he had this dream?</i>• Again, Joseph did what he was told and took his family to Egypt. They stayed there for some time until they heard that King Herod had died. (Matthew 2: 14-15) <i>Discuss - What do you think would have happened if Joseph hadn't done as God told him in the dream? It was so important that Joseph did as God had told him to do. Tell the children about how the Bible had foretold Jesus birth hundreds of years before He was born. Explain how the memory verse talks about Jesus being in Egypt – God knew what Herod would try to do long before it ever happened. In everything that happened God was protecting His Son.</i>• When Herod died, Joseph, Mary and Jesus returned and went to live in a city called Nazareth. (Matthew 2: 19-23) <i>Tell children that while Jesus was growing up in Nazareth He always pleased His family, His neighbours and most importantly His Father God. Remind children that God wants us to do the things that please Him too. The best thing we can do to please Him is to thank Him for sending Jesus to be our Saviour and by asking Him for forgiveness from our sins.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: FBI An angel visits Joseph.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse. Matthew 2: 15.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Ask children the following questions as a means of revising the story.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What happened to Joseph after the Wise Men left?• Where did God tell Joseph to go?• Why did he have to go there?• Who did Joseph take with him to Egypt?• When did they return home?• What city did they go to live in?• What was Jesus like when He was growing up in Nazareth?• What can we do to please God?

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."



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