



Guidelines for Teachers

Bibletime Levels 3 and 4

B Series
Lessons 1-6

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 3 and Level 4 lessons approximate ages 11-16.

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**.
- **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.
- **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.

- **Review it** - We have suggested wherever possible, quizzes or acting to assist the learning, and as a means of revising the story.
- **Live it-** This section carries the heading, how does the lesson challenge us, and also some suggestions of possible group work and individual responses to the challenge of the lesson.

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.
 - The introduction and telling the story - approximately 15 minutes
 - Teaching the Key Verse – 5-10 minutes
 - Completing the worksheet - 20 minutes
 - 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

	B1 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 1 – Parables Topic – Who is my neighbour?	B1 – LEVEL 4 Study 1 – Parables Topic – The Two Debtors
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Luke 10: 25-37</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Luke 10: 27</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Our neighbours are those who need our help regardless of their race or religion. When we love God we can demonstrate our love by helping our neighbours in their spiritual, physical or material needs. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Luke 7: 36-50</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Romans 5: 1</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> We are all debtors in the sight of the Lord Jesus Christ - we all have sinned so we are in debt to God. If we have been forgiven of our sin, then love and devotion to the Lord Jesus Christ should mark our lives both in holiness and service.
<p>INTRODUCE IT</p>	<p>Discuss the meaning of a neighbour and develop the idea that it is not 'nearness' that makes us good neighbours but that it is the kindness and friendship we show to those who need our help whoever they are.</p>	<p>Set the background to this parable by pointing out it contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three actual persons – the Lord Jesus, the sinful woman and Simon the Pharisee; Three imaginary people – the creditor, the man who owed 500 pence and the man who owed 50 pence; Three questions – verses 42, 44 & 49.
<p>COMPLETE IT</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain: <i>Explain the application of this parable:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The man who fell among thieves (verse 30) was stripped, wounded and left half dead; A Samaritan shows compassion (verse 33) binds up his wounds and ensures he is looked after until he returns again. (verses 33-35) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> As a result of man's fall in the Garden of Eden, God sees us as 'dead' in sins. (Ephesians 2: 1) God showed compassion to us as sinners and sent His Son, Jesus Christ, into this world so that through His death and resurrection we could be healed from our sin and its effect in our lives. Like the Good Samaritan, Jesus came where we were to meet our need. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 1. Show it: FBI- Parable of Good Samaritan (P & I)</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Simon's self-righteousness; the woman's tears of repentance, joy, love and gratitude; and the Lord Jesus who could read Simon's thoughts when he thought Jesus should have shunned this sinful woman. (verses 36-39) This parable is intended to illustrate that Jesus is our Creditor. We are all in debt to God, and when Jesus died on the cross, He paid the debt for us! Jesus knew that Simon saw himself as the 50 pence debtor and the woman as the 500 pence debtor. Jesus intended Simon to learn there are no degrees in sin. Both the 50 pence debtor and the 500 pence debtor were unable to pay their debt but the creditor forgave them both. (verses 40-43) When asked which debtor would love the generous money-lender most, Simon had to admit it was the person who was forgiven most. (verse 42) Jesus drew Simon's attention to 'this woman' and pointed out her love for Him compared to Simon's lack of respect and love for Him. (verse 44) Jesus also points out that He can forgive sins but it was the woman's faith, not what she did, that saved her. (verses 48-50) <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Study 1. Show it: No appropriate FBI</p>
<p>REVIEW IT</p>	<p>Quiz everyone to ensure they understand the application of this parable.</p>	<p>Read Acts 13: 38-39 and discuss how it summarises what the Lord Jesus was teaching in this lesson. Read Ephesians 4: 32 and discuss how those who have been forgiven should behave towards others, and how it must feel to be forgiven by God for all our sins (or debts).</p>
<p>LIVE IT</p>	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Have students experienced conversion? If so, think of ways in which they could be neighbourly, or friendly, to the following people: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Someone who has not experienced conversion; (spiritual) Someone who has a disability; (physical) People who have not enough food to eat in certain parts of the world. (material) 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Simon treated the Lord Jesus with indifference and there is no evidence he ever repented of his sin and experienced forgiveness and peace. (verse 50) What is their attitude to the Lord Jesus and have they repented of their sin and come to Him for forgiveness? If they have been forgiven, do they give the Lord Jesus the best in terms of their time, talents and possessions? Discuss how the woman responded.

	B1 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 2 – Parables Topic – The Rich Farmer	B1 – LEVEL 4 Study 2 – Parables Topic – Who is my neighbour?
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Luke 12: 13-21</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Luke 12: 15</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Rich Farmer was rich with possessions yet spiritually bankrupt, because he left God out of his life. 2. If we put God, and not things first in our lives, then God will use our lives for His glory, whether we have much or little. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Luke 10: 25-37 also Philippians 2: 1-11</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Luke 10: 27</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The person who has need of us, regardless of his race or religion, is our neighbour and it is our responsibility to show kindness. 2. Through His death on the cross, the Lord Jesus can rescue us, just as the Samaritan did. He can put us in a place of safety and provide for our needs. See also Level 3 Lesson 1.
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Talk about favourite possessions. Discuss the sin of 'covetousness' and ensure they understand it is a selfish desire to own and hoard up earthly things, which we cannot take when we die. Refer to the Ten Commandments and explain how the last one says 'Thou shalt not covet'. (Exodus 20: 17)</p>	<p>Talk about who are our neighbours. Discuss with students that neighbourliness is more to do with being kind and friendly to those in need than it has to do with 'nearness'. The Lord expects His children to be kind to all including those who may dislike us – A high standard for Christians!</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jesus called this man a 'fool' indicating his lack of understanding with regard to the importance of spiritual things over natural and temporal things. 2. He was a 'fool' in the following ways: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) A Godless Fool – He lived his life without God. A life may be full of 'many things' but if it is minus God, it is an empty life. He did not understand that all of his possessions came from God. b) A Poor Fool – He was actually a poor, rich man – poor with regard to his eternal future. He set his heart on riches rather than on the God. c) A Self-centred Fool – In verses 17-19, notice six I's, five my's and four I will's. God, who supplied his wealth, was not in all his thoughts. He even called his soul his own – my soul! d) An Ambitious Fool – He was selfish in his ambition for he spoke of security for many years to come, love of ease and satisfying his own desires with eating and drinking. (verse 19) e) A Doomed Fool – The God he forgot said to him "his soul was required of him." (verse 20) It is God who gives new life and can take it from us. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 2. Show it: FBI- Parable of Rich Fool (I)</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When an expert in the Law of Moses asked the Lord Jesus what he would do to inherit eternal life, the Lord directed him to the Law and asked what it demanded. It required total love for God and for his neighbour. Jesus was showing how the purpose of the Law, or the Ten Commandments, was not to save us from sin but to show us what guilty sinners we are. 2. The lawyer should have understood that he fell short of God's standards and asked the Lord to save him. However in his pride he asks the Lord "Who is my neighbour?" In order to answer him, the Lord tells the story of the Good Samaritan. The Jewish priest and Levite were Jews and the Jews hated the Samaritans. They refused to help but the despised Samaritan came to the victim's rescue. The lawyer was forced to admit the Samaritan proved to be a true neighbour to the wounded Jew. 3. We see in the Priest and Levite the powerlessness of the Law to help sinners and the Good Samaritan reminds us of the Lord Jesus who came to where we were, in our need, to save us from the punishment of our sins. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Study 2. Show it: FBI- Parable of Good Samaritan (P & I)</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>The Rich Farmer made three very serious mistakes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. He mistook the purpose of life. <i>Read Philippians 1: 21 and explain Paul's purpose in life.</i> 2. He used his wealth for himself. <i>Read Philippians 4: 19 and explain how God looks after our needs when we look after other's needs.</i> 3. He was cautious with regard to his future and lost his soul. <i>Read Mark 8: 36-37 and discuss how these verses relate to the Rich Farmer.</i> 	<p>Refer to the Bible Reading in Philippians and summarise this lesson by pointing out that verses 1-4 refer to good neighbourly qualities in Christians and verses 5-11 show how the Lord Jesus is the ultimate example of love in that He died for all.</p>
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make a list of ways we can use our possessions to help others. 2. Consider that those who are not Christians should make it a priority to put their faith in Jesus Christ (John 3: 16) and put Him first in their lives. 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us? Everyone is our neighbour:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How might we help those who have physical, spiritual or material needs? 2. What does Luke 6: 35 say about good neighbours? How can this be put into practise?

B1 – LEVEL 3
Lesson 3 – Parables
Topic – The Sower

B1 – LEVEL 4
Study 3 – Parables
Topic – A Foolish Man

Bible Focus: *Mark 4: 1-20*

Key Verse: *Mark 4: 20*

We are learning that:

1. The seed is the Word of God.
2. The various kinds of soil represent human hearts and how receptive they are to the Word of God.

Bible Focus: *Luke 12: 13-21*

Key Verse: *Luke 12: 15*

We are learning that:

1. To be covetous is evil as one's life does not consist of our possessions.
2. To focus on hoarding up riches, at the expense of losing one's soul, is folly with disastrous consequences. See also Level 3 Lesson 2.

INTRODUCE IT

Explain that Jesus often told parables to emphasise some of the truths he was teaching. Generally the parables had a deeper, spiritual meaning. Sometimes He did not explain the meaning, but on this occasion he gave a full explanation. The different places where the seed was sown represented different responses to the Word of God.

Discuss the background to this parable. It is a man asking the Lord to intervene in a dispute about a will. Remind students how the Lord shows him that the purpose of His coming into the world was to save sinful men and women and not to sort out legal issues about wills. These are trivialities compared to the really important spiritual matters that need our attention.

COMPLETE IT

Present the Bible Story

Discuss and Explain:

1. The wayside soil (**verse 15**) is the person who says "No" to the Lord Jesus. Satan is pictured in the birds taking away the Word. This person remains indifferent to the Word of God.
2. The stony ground (**verses 16-17**) is the person who makes a profession of faith, goes on well for a time and when persecution comes or he or she has to take a stand for Christ, he or she decides the cost is too great and abandons the whole thing. When persecution comes the unreality of his or her profession becomes clear.
3. The thorny ground (**verses 18-19**) are people who make a good start and seem to be true Christians. However, they become more interested in business, riches and worldly things and abandon any claim to be Christians; they are 'unfruitful'.
4. The good ground (**verse 20**) are the people who accept the Word – they repent of their sin and put their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ – and follow Him faithfully whatever it costs.

Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it.

Complete Lesson 3.

Show it: FBI- Parable of the Sower (P & I)

Present the Bible Story

Discuss and Explain:

1. This parable illustrates that possessions are not the principal things in life. They are given to us by God and we are meant to use them for God's glory and honour. This man should have understood that he should give of his abundance to those in need.
2. He has planned the future – notice his independence of God by his use of 'I' and 'my' in **verses 17-19**. God had other plans for this man's life and told him he would die that night (**verse 20**). His plans would end at the grave and he was a fool in that he had no preparation made for the eternal world – look up the warning in **Amos 4:12**.
3. Point out how God asks a very solemn question in this parable, namely 'Then whose shall these things be?' (**verse 20**) Point out that we should be using our gifts and talents to further the extension of God's kingdom.

Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it.

Complete Study 3.

Show it: FBI- Parable of Rich Fool (I)

REVIEW IT

Ensure students understand the differences in the four different types of soil. Engage in discussion about the varying degrees of 'fruitfulness' in **verse 20**; thirtyfold, sixty and a hundred and show that the most productive lives are lived by those who willingly obey God's Word and take pleasure in doing so.

Consider how **Proverbs 11: 4 & 29** and **Matthew 6: 19-21** really summarise this lesson. Also look up **Exodus 20: 17** with regard to covetousness.

LIVE IT

How does the lesson challenge us:

1. Which type of ground best represents each heart?
2. For Christians, what has been the experience of taking a stand for the Lord Jesus at school or elsewhere?
3. As a Christian, think of some ways in which life could be fruitful for the Lord Jesus? To which should we all aspire – thirtyfold, sixty or a hundred?

How does the lesson challenge us:

1. The importance of ensuring the real purpose of one's life "For to me to live is Christ". (Paul in **Philippians 1: 21**)
2. The importance of using our possessions for the good of others. Make a list of some ideas to help others.
3. The importance of not pursuing greed at the expense of our salvation.

	B1 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 4 – Parables Topic – Forgiving Others	B1 – LEVEL 4 Study 4 – Parables Topic – The Great Supper
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Matthew 18: 21-35</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Ephesians 4: 32</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This parable was told to teach Christians how to forgive. 2. We should be unlimited in our forgiveness of others. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Luke 14: 15-24</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>John 6: 37</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God has promised a feast in Heaven for all who respond to His call 'Come unto me'. (<i>Matthew 11: 28</i>) 2. Those of us who have come to the Lord Jesus for salvation have a responsibility to persuade others to respond to Jesus.
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Explain the problem that Peter had about forgiveness.</p> <p>Explain that he knew that in the Old Testament a person was forgiven three times or four at most (<i>Amos 2: 6</i>). As a disciple of the Lord Jesus, he feels he should be more generous and suggests seven times (<i>verse 21</i>). However, the Lord, says 'seventy times seven' which really means we should be unlimited in our forgiveness of others.</p>	<p>Point out how that in the East, people of rank would have sent out two calls to a planned feast. The first call indicated preparation was needed and the second call indicated that the feast was ready. In this case those invited had no intention of attending and made up excuses for refusing.</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When the lord of the servant realised the debtor was unable to pay his huge debt he was moved with compassion to him and wiped out the debt. (<i>verses 25-27</i>) This was an act of mercy, holding back the punishment the servant deserved. 2. As sinners, we can not pay our great debt of sin and need God's mercy to escape His punishment. We can obtain salvation through the work of Christ, who paid the debt of the world's sin on the cross. God gave His Son 'who gave His life a ransom for many.' (<i>Matthew 20: 28</i>) 3. The forgiving servant should have forgiven his fellow servant who owed a very small debt (approximately £5) in comparison with what he owed himself (approximately £1million). He forgot the mercy shown to him. 4. We should behave towards others as the Lord Jesus behaves towards us. If we claim to belong to Him, we must forgive others, including our enemies. (<i>See the Key Verse</i>) <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it.</p> <p>Complete Lesson 4.</p> <p>Show it: FBI- Parable of Unforgiving Servant (I)</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This 'Great Supper' reminds us of the fact that the Lord Jesus finished the work of salvation by dying on the cross and, as a result, the gospel invitation goes out to all. 2. The three excuses were not genuine in that, in each case, arrangements could have been made to allow attendance: First Excuse (<i>verse 18</i>); Whilst he apologises, it is difficult to believe a Jew would buy land without seeing it and since the supper was at night he would not be able to see it anyway. Second Excuse (<i>verse 19</i>); This man is more defiant, gives no apology, and feels his oxen comes first. Third Excuse (<i>verse 20</i>); This man made a poor excuse but could have brought his wife to the feast had he not been so selfish. 3. This First Excuse represents those who put more importance on material possessions, the Second Excuse are those who are too busy in their occupations, and the Third Excuse represents those whose home responsibilities take up their time. 4. The host is displeased and feels insulted at these excuses and sends his servant out to the 'highways and hedges' to invite the poor, lame and blind. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it.</p> <p>Complete Study 4.</p> <p>Show it: FBI- Parable of Great Feast (P)</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>Discuss how this passage demonstrates both 'mercy' and 'grace'. Study <i>Titus 3: 5</i>. 'Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us', and explain that mercy provides a righteous way in which we can escape God's punishment. Study <i>Ephesians 2: 8</i> 'For by grace are ye saved.' Being saved is a gift of God by grace – giving us eternal security which we did not deserve and cannot earn.</p>	<p>Explain how that the primary application of this parable is that those who rejected the Gospel were the Jews and then it was offered to the Gentile nations who were more responsive. Ensure students understand its relevance to them in that those who persist rejecting the Lord's mercy and grace will find that one day it is too late and the doors to the gospel feast in Heaven are closed.</p> <p>Think of some of the excuses people may make today when they oppose the Gospel of Jesus Christ.</p>
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How does this lesson challenge you about 'forgiveness'? 2. If we have been forgiven by the Lord Jesus, why should we forgive others? 3. Refer to <i>Ephesians 4: 32</i> for other qualities we should possess as well as 'forgiveness.' 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. None are too bad to sit at the royal table as shown by those who came from the 'highways and hedges'. 2. Loving persuasion is to be used to bring all into the blessing of salvation. There is still room for people to enter God's kingdom.

	B2 - LEVEL 3 Lesson 1 – Miracles Topic – Water into wine	B2 – LEVEL 4 Study 1 – Miracles Topic – Water into Wine
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>John 2: 1-11</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>John 2: 11</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Lord Jesus is the One whom we should obey. 2. When we trust in the Lord Jesus, He brings joy into our lives. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>John 2: 1-11</i></p> <p>Key Verses: <i>John 15: 14, John 2: 5</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If we love the Lord Jesus then we should listen to Mary's instruction to the servants at the wedding: "Whatsoever He saith unto you, do it". (<i>John 2: 5</i>) 2. In performing this miracle, the Lord Jesus was revealing to all present that He was indeed God in a human body, thereby further strengthening the faith of the believing disciples.
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Introduce the ideas of an Eastern Wedding. Explain that in this passage Mary is spoken of as 'the mother of Jesus' in verse 1. Explain that the Lord Jesus was not famous because he was the Son of the Virgin Mary but that she was well-known because she was the Lord's mother. Point out that the Bible always gives the highest place to the Lord Jesus and not to Mary.</p>	<p>Discuss what miracles are, and why they are recorded in the Gospels. The Gospel of John is built around seven miracles, all performed in public, of which the wedding in Cana of Galilee is the first. The others were: the healing of the nobleman's son; the healing of the crippled man at the pool of Bethesda; the feeding of the five thousand; Jesus walking on the sea; the healing of the blind man; and the raising of Lazarus from the dead. There was an eighth miracle performed in private for the disciples, after the resurrection, in the miraculous catch of 153 fishes.</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The decision to invite the Lord Jesus to the wedding was a very wise one just as the decision to invite him into our hearts, our homes, our social lives and our school lives, is very wise. 2. The guests were disappointed when the wine ran out at the start of the wedding, but in that situation they looked to the Lord Jesus for help. 3. The best wine was kept to the last reminding us the Christian life gets better all the time. 4. This miracle showed Christ as the Son of God and further strengthened the disciples' faith. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 1. Show it: FBI- Jesus at a wedding (I & P)</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Lord Jesus, his mother and disciples, were all guests at the wedding where the water was turned into wine. 2. Mary pointed the servants to the Lord Jesus and in her last recorded words tells the servants: "Whatever He says to you, do it!" directing those present to the Lord Jesus as the one to be obeyed rather than any other human being. 3. The best wine was served at the end of this wedding but usual practise was to serve the best wine at the start. <p>Explain the Key Verses and encourage students to learn them. Complete Study 1. Show it: FBI- Jesus at a wedding (I & P)</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>Review this miracle through a quiz that helps pupils answer the questions in Level 3, B2, Lesson 1.</p>	<p>Review the lesson by applying each of the point's above to the Christian life. Note:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wine in the Bible speaks of joy. When Mary said: "They have no wine" (verse 3), she was accurately describing those who have never trusted in the Lord Jesus for unbelievers have no lasting joy. 2. Those who love the Lord Jesus do what He says in His Word – The Bible.
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss what it means to invite the Lord Jesus into your heart? Read Proverbs 3: 5-6 to find out how the Lord will help us to live a life that is useful for Him. 2. Read Psalms 16: 11 to find out about the joy that awaits those who know the Lord Jesus as their personal Saviour when they reach Heaven. 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consider how we trust in the Lord Jesus as our personal Saviour. 2. Discuss the importance of reading the Bible and praying regularly to know the Lord's will for our lives.

	B2 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 2 – Miracles Topic – A Boy Healed	B2 – LEVEL 4 Study 2 – Miracles Topic – The Boy Healed
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>John 4: 43-54</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>John 4: 50</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The nobleman's son was very sick, at the point of death, and at a distance from Jesus, but was made well again by Jesus. 2. We are all born sinners and at a distance from the Lord Jesus but when we repent and turn to Him for forgiveness, He can give us new life. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>John 4: 43-54</i></p> <p>Key Verses: <i>Acts 16: 31; Romans 10: 9</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The nobleman's son was near to physical death and only the Lord Jesus had the power to restore him back to life again. 2. Our sin is a disease, in the spiritual sense, that will cause spiritual death and it is only the Lord Jesus who can give us everlasting life.
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Remind students that the Lord Jesus, on his first visit to Cana, turned the water into wine and that the people were to see another mighty miracle carried out in Cana – the healing of the nobleman's son.</p> <p>Use the map on the lesson to show that although Jesus was in Cana, the boy was in Capernaum and point out Jesus' power was felt there, even though He was not physically present.</p>	<p>Remind students that it was in Cana the Lord Jesus Christ performed His first miracle and His fame had spread, so much that the boy's father, an official in Herod's palace, humbly asked him to heal his son.</p> <p>This nobleman thought the Lord Jesus would have to be physically present at the boy's bedside to heal him.</p> <p>The Lord Jesus did not rebuke him for this lack of faith but rewarded him for the faith he did show and gave him more. Point out that the Lord Jesus was not as pleased with faith that was based on miracles as with faith based on His words alone – believe first and then see!</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This boy's father was a Jew and an officer of King Herod. He seems to have had a greater trust in the Lord Jesus than the rest of the Jewish countrymen and pleaded with the Lord to come and heal his son for he was critically ill. 2. The boy's father thought the Lord Jesus would have needed to be at the boy's bedside to heal him but the Lord told him his son was healed and the nobleman believed the Lord's Word and started travelling home. When he asked the servants what time the boy was cured their answer assured him that it was at the exact same time the Lord Jesus had told him the boy was healed. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 2. Show it: No appropriate FBI</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The sick son and the fathers request. Sickness and death come to us all, rich or poor, but all need the Lord Jesus to meet their spiritual need. The Lord Jesus likens sin to sickness – refer to <i>Matthew 9: 12-13</i>. The Bible also teaches that those who know the Lord Jesus have eternal life and those who do not know Him do not possess eternal life. (<i>1 John 5: 10-14</i>) 2. The Lord's reply. The Lord Jesus was testing the nobleman's faith when He told him 'Thy son liveth' (<i>verse 50</i>). People then, just like people now, wanted to see signs and wonders (<i>verse 48</i>) instead of accepting God's Word at face value: faith first then sight! 3. The Result. God's Word is living and through it we can not only come to know the Lord Jesus personally but can be strengthened by it, because behind God's Word is all the power of God. The nobleman believed, his son was healed and his whole family believed as a result. <p>Explain the Key Verses and encourage students to learn them. Complete Study 2. Show it: No appropriate FBI</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>Learn the Key Verse, <i>John 4: 50</i>, and discuss how it summarises this lesson in that the power of the Lord Jesus Christ had not only healed the nobleman's son but that the nobleman's whole family (<i>John 4: 53</i>) now believed in Jesus.</p>	<p>Reflect on this statement from <i>Hebrews 11: 6</i>; 'Without faith it is impossible to please God', and discuss how this refers to what the students have just learned.</p>
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We all need to trust and obey the Lord Jesus with all our hearts for eternal life. 2. As a young Christian, we should appreciate that the Lord Jesus does not need to be physically present to work a miracle or answer prayer as He can work out His purposes anywhere at any time. This should encourage us in our prayer lives. 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The nobleman believed the Lord Jesus and started for home – he was putting his faith in action. Think of ways in which our faith can be put in action at home and at school. 2. How does placing our faith in the Lord Jesus challenge the culture we live in today? (Refer to people who want to see first and then believe, as opposed to faith first and then seeing the Lord's will for our lives from His Word)

	B2 LEVEL 3 Lesson 3 – Miracles Topic – Blind Eyes Opened	B2 – LEVEL 4 Study 3 – Miracles Topic – Blind Bartimaeus
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Mark 10: 46-52</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Mark 10: 52</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bartimaeus had a desperate need, he knew his need and he was determined to have the Lord Jesus meet his need. 2. The Lord Jesus answered the prayer of Bartimaeus and Bartimaeus showed his thanks by following the Lord Jesus on his last trip to Jerusalem. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Mark 10: 46-52</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Mark 10: 52</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Just as Bartimaeus was called (verse 49) so the Lord Jesus is calling those who are spiritually blind, through the preaching of the Gospel. 2. When we trust in the Lord Jesus for salvation we should leave our sinful lives behind and follow Him.
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Ask the students if they know of anyone who is blind and talk about the difficulties such a person faces in life. Discuss how blind people may be helped but physical blindness cannot be cured.</p>	<p>Explain how there would have been very little, if any, support for blind people in the time of the Lord Jesus and that many were reduced to begging in order to survive. Contrast the situation today.</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Blind Bartimaeus, a Jew, believed that Jesus was the Messiah, the Son of David. The Jews generally did not believe this to be the case. 2. Bartimaeus persisted in calling for help that his sight be restored and Jesus, the maker of Heaven and earth and the sustainer of the universe, 'stood still' (verse 49) at the cry of the beggar, and gave him back his sight! 3. Bartimaeus showed his thanks by being a faithful follower of Jesus, on His last trip to Jerusalem, before His crucifixion. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 3. Show it: FBI - Jesus heals blind Bartimaeus (I)</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bartimaeus was both blind and poor, reminding us that we are blind to spiritual things and because of that we don't know where we are going. 2. This may have been Bartimaeus' last chance to meet the Lord Jesus and so he earnestly asked the Lord to: 'have mercy on me' (verse 47). Salvation is a personal thing as illustrated by the use of the word 'me'. 3. Bartimaeus threw away everything that would hinder his coming to the Lord Jesus and on asking for his sight was granted this request immediately. It was a case of 'love at first sight' for he followed the Lord Jesus immediately. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Study 3. Show it: FBI - Jesus heals blind Bartimaeus (I)</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>Draw their attention to the short prayer of Bartimaeus in verse 51 and the quick response to it by Jesus in verse 52. Just as Jesus asked Bartimaeus what he wanted from Him, we can learn about the urgency of trusting in the Lord Jesus and then following Him, for the opportunity to do so will not always be available to us. If Bartimaeus had missed this opportunity he may never have met the Lord Jesus again.</p>	<p>Look up Matthew 4: 18-22 and find others who immediately left what they were doing and followed the Lord Jesus. Look up Ephesians 6: 10-18 and/or Colossians 3: 8-17 to find out what qualities the Lord Jesus expects in those who follow Him. From these Bible Readings make a list of six main things that should characterise a Christian's Life.</p>
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It must have cheered the Lord Jesus to find that a blind Jew had true spiritual sight and was prepared to follow Him. Everybody has to trust in the Lord Jesus and try to bring Him pleasure by following Him. 2. Our prayers do not have to be long. We can tell the Lord Jesus that we love Him and ask Him what He wants us to do for Him. 3. Ask everybody to make some short, relevant prayers about their own individual needs. 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The importance of seeking the Lord Jesus for salvation, whilst He still calls and there is still time. 2. When we are followers of the Lord Jesus, His power works in our lives and we can be used to please Him by doing His will. We have finished with our old sinful lives, and have started a new life with the Lord Jesus. 3. Read John 8: 12 and consider what it means to leave the darkness of the past and to "Walk in the Light."

	B2 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 4 – Miracles Topic - Ten Men with Leprosy Healed	B2 – LEVEL 4 Study 4 – Miracles Topic – Ten Men with Leprosy
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Luke 17: 11-19</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Psalms 107: 8</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Lord Jesus is the only one who can cleanse us from sin. 2. Those who are cleansed should show their thankfulness by serving the Lord Jesus with love and devotion. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Luke 17: 11-19</i></p> <p>Key Verses: <i>Ephesians 2: 8-9</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We all were born as sinners and the disease of sin can only be cured by the Lord Jesus. 2. When we are healed from the disease of sin through faith in the Lord Jesus, we should continually thank Him for the blessing of salvation and for all the good things we receive from Him each day.
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Explain that leprosy is a disease of the skin that still affects a large number of people in the world.</p> <p>Refer to <i>Leviticus 13: 45-46</i> and explain that lepers were regarded as unclean in the time of Moses and had to live alone.</p>	<p>Explain that leprosy is a very infectious skin disease which still exists in the world today. It is estimated that 20 million people have this disease. Some may have heard of 'The Leprosy Mission' – an organisation that exists to help those who have this disease.</p> <p>Refer to other Bible characters who suffered from leprosy. See also <i>Leviticus 13: 45-46</i>.</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story: Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The lepers were not allowed to mix with people so they cried to the Lord Jesus for mercy, from a distance. 2. In obedience to the Lord Jesus, the lepers started out towards the priests' house and when they reached the house they were healed from their leprosy. 3. It was the priests who gave them permission to return to their families. 4. Only one leper, a Samaritan, returned to give the Lord Jesus thanks for healing him. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 4. Show it: FBI-Jesus heals 10 men with leprosy (I)</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The lepers were unable to cure themselves but came to the right person, the Lord Jesus for mercy. (<i>verse 13</i>) 2. When the Lord said 'Go' (<i>verse 14</i>), the lepers obeyed His word and were cleansed on their way to the priests' house. Obedience and simple faith in the Lord's spoken Word brought cleansing. 3. One leper only, a Samaritan, humbly returned to thank and worship (<i>verse 16</i>) the Lord Jesus for the gift of cleansing. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Study 4. Show it: FBI- Jesus heals 10 men with leprosy (I)</p>
REVIEW IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the lesson by pointing out how leprosy is a picture of the sinner at a distance from the Lord Jesus. Remind everyone that sin can only be cleansed when they call on the Lord Jesus to forgive their sin and obey the Gospel. The Gospel tells of the death of Christ and His resurrection. • The lesson teaches that once we are cleansed from sin we should continually thank the Lord Jesus for our salvation. Thankfulness is a mark of those who love the Lord Jesus. 	<p>Quiz the students on this lesson as a means of reviewing it, and preparing for answering the Bibletime study.</p>
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consider <i>1 John 1: 7</i> and its relevance. 2. Christians should thank the Lord Jesus for dying for them. 3. Group work – make a list of things we should be thankful for and write appropriate prayers. 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consider whether students are like the nine or the one. 2. Discuss what thanksgiving really means and how it should affect our lives - <i>Psalms 40: 3</i> 3. Group work – make a list of things we should be thankful for, and write appropriate prayers.

	B3 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 1 – Bethany Topic – Two sisters	B3 – LEVEL 4 Study 1 – Bethany Topic – In the Home
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Luke 10: 38-42</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Luke 10: 42</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Lord Jesus values our affection for Him above our service. 2. The duties of our home life, or school life, should not be allowed to interfere with prayer life and time spent in reading God's Word. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Luke 10: 38-42</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Mark 6: 31</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In order to mature as Christians we must take time out of busy lives to read God's Word so we can hear what God is saying to us. 2. We must also take time out of busy lives to pray so that we can talk to God and thank Him for all His goodness and ask Him for His direction in life.
<p>INTRODUCE IT</p>	<p>Ask students to imagine how special it would be to have in our homes somebody important. Mary and Martha's home was only one of the homes Jesus visited. Everyone should be encouraged to think of some other homes Jesus visited: Luke 4: 38, Luke 7: 37, Luke 8: 51, Luke 19: 5. Our homes should be places where the Lord is honoured and obeyed.</p>	<p>Explain that Mary and Martha both loved Jesus. On this occasion they were both involved in serving Him. Martha didn't realise that in being so busy she was actually neglecting her guest – the Lord Jesus – she hadn't time to listen to Him and learn from Him. Ask students what the priorities are in their lives. Try and ensure they understand 'busyness' is not a substitute for prayer and Bible Study.</p>
<p>COMPLETE IT</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Whilst Martha was the 'worker' and Mary was the 'worshipper', work and worship should go hand in hand. <i>Discuss the meaning of worship.</i> 2. Although Martha wished to honour the Lord Jesus with a variety of dishes he said: 'One thing is needful', meaning one dish was enough. He was more interested in their fellowship for He spoke of Mary as having 'chosen that good part'. (verse 42) The food for our spiritual life is much more important than that of the body and the Lord Jesus wanted both Mary and Martha to understand how important it is to hear His Word. (1 Peter 2: 2) <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 1. Show It: No appropriate FBI</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Lord centred His attention on Prayer and Bible Study as being the two great fundamentals to blessing in our lives. 2. Jesus did not blame Martha for being concerned about housework but gently corrected her for not having her priorities right. 3. The Lord Jesus points out in verse 42 that concentration on Himself is the one thing that is needful. He prizes our love for Him above our service. The Lord wants us to move from being 'Martha's' to being 'Marys.' <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Study 1. Show It: No appropriate FBI</p>
<p>REVIEW IT</p>	<p>It is interesting to note that Mary 'sat at Jesus' feet'. (verse 39) Discuss how that by taking this lowly and humble position Mary was giving the Lord Jesus the honour and respect He deserves.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask about the ways in which we too can honour and respect the Lord Jesus in our lives. 2. The people in the following references were all found to be at Jesus' feet: For example - Matthew 28: 9, Mark 5: 22, Luke 7: 38, Luke 8: 35. Look up these verses and find out who all these people were and discuss the significance of them all being found at Jesus' feet. 	<p>Use the Key Verse to help review this Study by showing that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a proper time to listen to the Lord Jesus. (Mark 6: 31) 2. There is a proper time to work for the Lord Jesus. (Mark 6: 7-13) (Romans 12: 1) 3. The Lord has promised to bless those whose service is accompanied by a consistent prayer life. (Isaiah 40: 31)
<p>LIVE IT</p>	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To balance our worship and work in our daily lives? 2. To live in a way that brings Him honour and pleasure? 3. To be more concerned about 'serving well' than 'serving much'? 4. To make sure that work does not come before reading our Bibles and prayer times? 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To ensure we balance our time by making our prayer times and Bible Study the daily priorities? 2. To ensure our service for the Lord Jesus does not degenerate into mere business, void of devotion to Him?

	B3 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 2 – Bethany Topic – Sorrow turned to Joy!	B3 – LEVEL 4 Study 2 – Bethany Topic – At the Tomb
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>John 11: 1-7 and 17-44</i> Key Verse: <i>John 11: 25</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Lord Jesus is the only one who could bring the dead back to life again. 2. The Lord Jesus is the only one who can give eternal life to sinners, who are described by the apostle Paul as: 'dead in trespasses and in sins'. (<i>Ephesians 2: 1</i>) 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>John 11: 1-44</i> Key Verses: <i>John 11: 25-26</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The raising of Lazarus from the dead by the Lord Jesus was an essential display of His power over death and the resurrection is a crucial belief of the Christian faith. Jesus had not only the power to raise Himself (<i>John 10: 18</i>) but to raise others. 2. Jesus wept openly (<i>verse 35</i>) showing that He cares enough to weep with us in our trials and sorrows.
<p>INTRODUCE IT</p>	<p>Ask students to remember some of the miracles which Jesus did, and discuss which of the miracles might be considered the greatest. This was the last miracle in the public ministry of the Lord Jesus. Some of the Jews questioned why the Lord Jesus allowed Lazarus to die, since He was able to heal the blind man. (<i>verse 37</i>) He could have done so, but by raising Lazarus from the dead, He was showing the truth and power of His words in <i>verse 25</i>: 'I am the resurrection.'</p>	<p>Introduce this study by explaining that the raising of Lazarus from the dead, the last of seven miracles in John's Gospel, convinced many of the Jews present of the fact that He was the Son of God and they believed in Him. However, some of the Jews present who also witnessed this miracle would not believe and reported back to the Pharisees what had happened in Bethany. They were probably seeking to put the Lord Jesus to death. Advise students that it is still the same today – There are those who accept that the Lord Jesus was God and could do miracles and there are those who deny this and dispute the fact that He did miracles.</p>
<p>COMPLETE IT</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The home of Mary, Martha and Lazarus in Bethany was one of the homes Jesus loved to be in. Students could be asked if the Lord Jesus is in their homes/hearts/lives <i>Revelation 3: 20</i>. 2. Just as the Lord Jesus raised Lazarus from death to life, He can give those, who are dead spiritually, new spiritual life which will last forever. 3. This story shows us that the Lord Jesus is a sympathetic Saviour; 'Jesus wept' (<i>verse 35</i>) and the Jewish people around that day could see how much Jesus loved Lazarus. (<i>verse 36</i>) He also loved them but many of them did not understand this. 4. When Jesus called Lazarus from the grave, he had new life; he was 'loosed' from the grave-clothes (<i>verse 44</i>) and was a living witness to the power of the Lord Jesus in his life. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 2. Show it: FBI - Jesus raises Lazarus to life (I)</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mary and Martha turned to Jesus for help when their brother died because they had seen His miracles. 2. Jesus loved this family but did not respond to their request immediately. Lazarus died so that Jesus' power over death could be shown to His disciples and the other Jews present. 3. Jesus wept because He felt the loss of Lazarus. 4. Jesus spoke to a dead man and he heard and responded! <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Study 2. Show it: FBI - Jesus raises Lazarus to life (I)</p>
<p>REVIEW IT</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Just as Lazarus was given new life (<i>verses 44-45</i>) so those who trust in the Lord Jesus are given new life. Look at <i>Colossians 2: 13 and 2 Timothy 1: 10</i>, to find out how the Lord Jesus can give 'dead' sinners 'new life.' 2. Just as Lazarus' new life was proof of the power of the Lord Jesus at work in his life, so the Lord Jesus gives those who trust in Him the power to live for Him. (<i>Ephesians 2: 10</i>) 	<p>Review the Study by drawing a parallel with trials in our own lives and show how the Lord Jesus can bring good out of a bad situation. Refer to <i>Romans 8: 28</i>. The Lord's delays may make us think He does not care and is not answering but we must learn to be patient.</p>
<p>LIVE IT</p>	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. About personal repentance and turning to the Lord Jesus 'to walk in newness of life'? (<i>Romans 6: 4</i>) 2. About being obedient to God's Word by sharing the Gospel with others, by being a conscientious student at school, by being obedient to parents and perhaps by getting baptised? 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Believers have a spiritual life that death cannot conquer or diminish. This assurance should make us want to live a life committed to the Lord Jesus. <i>Philippians 1: 21-23</i>. 2. In this miracle the Lord Jesus shows He cares enough to weep with us in our sorrows.

	B3 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 3 – Bethany Topic – Another Visit	B3– LEVEL 4 Study 3 – Bethany Topic – At the Table
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>John 12: 1-11</i> Key Verse: <i>1 John 4: 19</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> When we really love the Lord Jesus, we find ways of expressing our thanks to Him. We should never delay in doing what we can for the Lord Jesus for we do not know how long or how short a time we will have to serve Him. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>John 11: 55-57; 12 :1-11</i> Key Verse: <i>Psalms 95: 6</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> There is nothing too valuable to give to the Lord Jesus Christ. He is worthy of our very best! If we love the Lord Jesus we will walk in obedience to the instructions He has given us as set down in the New Testament.
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Explain how Bethany was a place of special memories to the Lord Jesus. Remind students that in the home of Mary and Martha, the Lord Jesus taught the importance of worship. In Lesson 2 Jesus showed he was 'the Resurrection' when He brought Lazarus back from the dead. In this lesson the Lord Jesus is present at a meal in this Bethany home.</p>	<p>This incident in <i>John 12: 1-11</i> is generally thought to be the same one as in <i>Mark 14: 3-9</i>. The Lord Jesus praised Mary for her unselfish act of worship in anointing His feet with this very expensive perfume. Perfumes and spices played an important role in the burial of the dead – read <i>Genesis 50: 2-3</i>. Jesus replies to Mary's act of devotion in <i>verse 7</i> by indicating that it was a preparation for His burial.</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The privilege that was granted to Mary, Martha and Lazarus of being in the company of the Lord Jesus, having a meal and enjoying friendship with Him. (<i>verse 2</i>) The privilege granted to Mary of anointing the feet of the Lord Jesus with costly oil and washing them with her hair (<i>verse 3</i>), showing us that there is nothing too valuable to give to Him and that He is worthy of our very best. When Judas complained that the ointment should have been sold and the money given to the poor (<i>verse 5</i>), the Lord Jesus reminded him that there would always be poor people in the world to whom others could show kindness. However, the opportunity to use this oil on the Lord Jesus would be very limited as He was on His way to the cross to die for sinners. The chief priests wanted to put Lazarus to death. (<i>verse 10</i>) Suggest this may have been because they denied the resurrection themselves and wanted to get rid of Lazarus because he was the evidence that the Lord Jesus was the resurrection. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 3. Show it: FBI – Mary anoints Jesus (I)</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Home - Review the facts that the home at Bethany (<i>verse 1</i>) was a place of (i) service and instruction; (ii) worship and communion; and (iii) death and resurrection. The Feast (<i>verse 2</i>) was 'for Him.' Mary, Martha and Lazarus had every reason to meet with Him as their chief guest. The Anointing (<i>verse 3</i>) showed Mary loved the Lord Jesus for love is measured by sacrifice. The Commendation (<i>verse 7-9</i>) was the highest ever given and Jesus indicated this act of worship would go down in history – Read <i>Matthew 26: 13</i>. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Study 3. Show it: FBI – Mary anoints Jesus (I)</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>This same story is told in <i>Mark 14: 3-9</i>. Read <i>verse 8</i> to find out what the Lord said about this woman who anointed his feet. Read Matthew's account of this story, <i>Matthew 26: 6-13</i>, and see how the Lord Jesus not only forecasted the preaching of the gospel after His death, but also that this woman's act of devotion would be told in memory of her.</p>	<p>Ask the students questions when reviewing this Study that will help them give knowledgeable answers to the questions asked in Study 3.</p>
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> How might your love to the Lord Jesus influence others? Many of the Jews believed in the Lord Jesus (<i>verse 11</i>) because they could see the evidence of His power in the new life of Lazarus. How might you influence others to believe in the Lord Jesus by your life, if you love Him? 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Home – Is the Lord Jesus in our homes in any of the ways referred to in No1 above? The Feast – For a believer is the Lord Jesus the pre-eminent person in life? The Anointing – how much do we love the Lord Jesus? Do we give Him the best? The Commendation – The Lord said of Mary that she did what she could. (<i>Mark 14: 8</i>)

	B3 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 4 – Bethany Topic – On to Jerusalem	B3 – LEVEL 4 Study 4 – Bethany Topic – On the Way to Jerusalem
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Luke 19: 28-44</i> Key Verse: <i>John 1: 12</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> As Jesus enters Jerusalem, His followers burst out in song, praising Him for all the mighty works He did amongst them. Jesus weeps over the city of Jerusalem because the people rejected Him and had no room for Him. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Luke 19: 28-41</i> Key Verse: <i>John 1: 12</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Lord Jesus is pleased to use our faith, love, worship, service and possessions, for His honour and glory if we belong to Him. It is vitally important to welcome the Lord Jesus into our hearts and lives now for one day it will be too late to avail of this opportunity.
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Introduce the idea that “Palm Sunday” did not happen by chance. It had been prophesied years before. Refer to Zechariah 9: 9 where the triumphal entry of the Lord Jesus was predicted about 500 years before it actually took place.</p>	<p>Introduce this Study by pointing out that the Lord Jesus wept over Jerusalem (verse 41-42) for they had missed their opportunity to receive Him as their Messiah which would have meant peace for them. Now it was too late and the Lord Jesus warns of disastrous consequences in the years ahead for the Jewish nation. As the Lord Jesus predicted in 30AD, (Luke 19: 43-44) the Roman General, Titus, laid siege to Jerusalem (AD70) and destroyed the Temple and massacred its inhabitants. The Lord Jesus visited Jerusalem with the offer of salvation but they had no room for Him and so disaster would come.</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The triumphal entry (verses 28-40) of the Lord Jesus at the beginning of the week of His crucifixion. The disciples burst out in praise. (verse 37) Note they cried “Peace in Heaven” and not “Peace on earth” because the death of the Lord Jesus and His ascension would bring “peace in Heaven.” There would be no “peace on earth” for they were about to kill the Lord Jesus – the Prince of Peace. Jesus weeps over Jerusalem because of its people’s rejection of Him and now it was too late – they had missed their opportunity. (verse 42) Jesus indicates that in AD 70, under Titus, a Roman General, Jerusalem and its people would be destroyed because they did not know ‘the time of their visitation’ (verse 44), meaning the Lord had offered them salvation but they did not want it. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 4. Show it: FBI – Triumphant Entry (P) Jesus rides into Jerusalem (I)</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Entry into Jerusalem – the Lord Jesus entered Jerusalem on a borrowed donkey’s colt, just as predicted in Zechariah 9: 9. Those who witnessed Jesus’ victory parade into Jerusalem correctly saw Jesus as the fulfilment of this prophecy predicted more than 500 years before it happened. The Time of the Entry into Jerusalem – Jesus chose a time when all Israel would be gathered at Jerusalem for the Passover Feast. The Hopes of the People – the people were praising God for giving them a king whom they expected to be a national leader. However, when they realised He was establishing an eternal kingdom they turned against Him. The Response of the Pharisees – the Pharisees objected to Jesus being publicly honoured and asked him to keep His people quiet and Jesus rebukes them for being harder than stones! <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Study 4. Show it: FBI – Triumphant Entry (P) Jesus rides into Jerusalem (I)</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>Reflect on the story and discuss the importance of trusting in the Lord Jesus as personal Saviour now. Refer to 2 Corinthians 6: 2, as tomorrow could be too late. Also consider how that judgement will also fall on this world, as under Titus in AD 70, and those who have no time for the Lord Jesus now will be lost.</p>	<p>Review this Study by setting it in the context of Jesus’ life. Jerusalem was the centre of religious and political power and home to the Jews and Roman Governor. Many of the most important events of Jesus’ life happened here including the crucifixion and resurrection. His last week was all spent here.</p>
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Consider what it means to turn from sin and trust in the Lord Jesus for salvation. The Key Verse refers to those who have received the Lord Jesus as: ‘sons of God.’ Think of other phrases by which some who have received the Lord Jesus are known. (e.g. Christian, etc.) 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Eternal life is still available for those who accept it while the opportunity is still offered. Think of ways in which the Lord could have need of our lives Just as the prophecy in Zechariah 9 :9 came true, so the prophecies about the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus will come true.

	B4 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 1 – The Lord Jesus Topic – ‘Dying’	B4 – LEVEL 4 Study 1 – The Lord Jesus Topic – His Death
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Luke 23: 1-26 and 32-46</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Luke 23: 33</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jesus died so our sins could be forgiven. 2. In order to get to Heaven we must turn from our sins and trust in the Lord Jesus. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Luke 23: 32-56</i></p> <p>Key Verses: <i>John 15: 13,14</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In order to get to Heaven we need to admit we are sinners, deserving God’s punishment. 2. We then need to believe the Lord Jesus was sinless and took the punishment in our place.
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Introduce this lesson by asking students what they understand as the significance of Easter. Explain that this lesson tells the story of the first Easter. Discuss how this lesson shows us that all people are not going to Heaven. From the side of the Lord Jesus one thief went to Heaven and the other did not.</p>	<p>Briefly describe the events leading up to the cross, including the arrest, trials, and walk to Calvary. Discuss how this study shows salvation is based upon repentance and faith and how that the repentant thief went to Heaven and the unrepentant thief did not.</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pilate could find no fault in Jesus but condemned Him to death to please the people. (<i>verses 1-7, 13-25</i>) 2. Although Pilate and Herod were enemies they became friends and were both on the same side, against the Lord Jesus. (<i>verse 12</i>) 3. The six hours of crucifixion (9am-3pm) – Jesus in the middle and a thief on either side is a fulfilment of <i>Isaiah 53: 12</i>. 4. There were two thieves (<i>verses 39-43</i>) but only one went to Heaven. Draw attention to <i>verse 43</i>: ‘today’ – what speed! ‘with me’ – what company! ‘in paradise’ – what happiness! 5. Three hours of darkness (<i>verses 44-46</i>) and the veil of the Temple torn in two showing that the Lord Jesus is the way to God <i>Hebrews 10: 19-20</i>. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 1. Show it: FBI - Jesus before Pilate and Herod Antipas (P & I), Jesus is Crucified (P & I), Jesus dies (P & I).</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The six hours of crucifixion in fulfilment of <i>Isaiah 53: 12</i> - (9am-3pm). 2. The story of the repentant thief (<i>23: 43</i>) shows salvation is based on repentance and faith alone. This man went to Heaven but was never baptised nor had he partaken of the sacraments. 3. The two thieves are representative of people – those who love the Lord Jesus and those who are His enemies. 4. During the three hours of darkness, (<i>verses 44-46</i>) Jesus bore the penalty of our sins and through His death a way of approach has been opened to God for all who come in faith. 5. The story shows (<i>verses 50-56</i>) that Joseph, although a secret disciple, was a true friend of the Lord Jesus as were the faithful women mentioned, as demonstrated by the dignified burial given to the Lord Jesus. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Study 1. Show it: FBI - Jesus is Crucified (P & I), Jesus dies (P & I).</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>Review the lesson by asking students to read <i>Isaiah 53: 12</i> which was written over 100 years before the death of the Lord Jesus and refer to the inspiration of the Bible. In groups write some newspaper headlines to describe the scene at the cross.</p>	<p>Review the lesson by asking students to read <i>Isaiah 53</i> which was written over 100 years before the death of the Lord Jesus and discuss how it mirrors <i>Luke 23: 32-56</i>. The inspiration of the Bible should be reinforced. In groups make a list of some of the prophecies mentioned in <i>Isaiah 53</i> which were fulfilled at the cross.</p>
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How can we be sure our sins are forgiven? 2. We all face the challenge of which side we are on – the side of those who love the Lord Jesus or those who are his enemies. 3. How would you answer someone who says everybody will be in Heaven? 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We all face the challenge as to whether we are a friend or an enemy of Jesus. 2. If we love the Lord Jesus, like Joseph, we will find ways of demonstrating it. How can we show it? 3. How would you answer someone who says we are all going to Heaven?

	B4 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 2 – The Lord Jesus Topic – Rising	B4- LEVEL 4 Study 2 – The Lord Jesus Topic – His Resurrection
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>John 20: 1-18</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Romans 10: 9</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. After three days in the tomb the Lord Jesus rose from the dead. 2. Mary Magdalene showed her love for the Lord Jesus Christ. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Luke 8: 1-3, John 20: 1-18</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Romans 10: 9</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Lord Jesus conquered death when He rose again. 2. Mary Magdalene was a very devoted follower of the Lord Jesus Christ.
INTRODUCE IT	Discuss the meaning of 'resurrection' and ask students to identify any individuals whom the Lord Jesus brought back from the dead (Lazarus – <i>John 11: 44</i> , Jarius' daughter – <i>Luke 8: 55</i>). Consider that the power of resurrection belongs to Jesus.	Discuss how the power of resurrection belongs to the Lord Jesus and identify any individuals whom He raised from the dead. (Lazarus – <i>John 11: 44</i> , Jarius' daughter <i>Luke 8: 55</i>). Also, highlight how those who have died believing in the Lord Jesus will be resurrected.
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mary Magdalene, Peter and John saw evidence of the resurrection – an empty tomb. 2. Peter and John went home but Mary Magdalene keeps a lonely vigil outside the tomb. 3. The Lord Jesus rewards her devotion by appearing to her in person and explaining that when He goes back to Heaven, He will send His Holy Spirit to indwell believers' hearts. 4. He sends her to go and tell the disciples that He is alive and that they must meet Him in Galilee. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 2. Show it: FBI – Jesus rises from the dead (P & I).</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mary Magdalene ministered to the Lord Jesus in His lifetime and proved her devotion by being first at the empty tomb. 2. Mary Magdalene, Peter and John saw the evidence of the resurrection and also saw the neat and tidy arrangement of the grave-clothes showing the Lord's departure was orderly and unhurried, so refuting the argument the body was stolen. 3. The Lord Jesus rewarded Mary's devotion by appearing to her in person and explaining that when He goes back to Heaven, He will send down the Holy Spirit to indwell believers' hearts. 4. He sends her to go and tell the disciples that He is alive and that they must meet Him in Galilee. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Study 2. Show it: FBI - Jesus rises from the dead (P & I).</p>
REVIEW IT	Connect this lesson with the following references in the New Testament where the Lord Jesus foretold His resurrection. Discuss the importance and the significance of the resurrection. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Matthew 16: 21, 17:23, 20:19</i> • <i>Luke 18: 33, 24: 7</i> • <i>1 Corinthians 15: 3-4</i> 	Connect this lesson with <i>1 Corinthians 15: 3-8, 12-20</i> and show how <i>verse 4</i> refers to <i>Isaiah 53: 9</i> and <i>Psalms 16: 9-10</i> . Discuss the various people who saw the Lord after his resurrection (<i>verses 5-8</i>) and why the resurrection is so important. (<i>verse 20</i>)
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The importance of students saying they love the Lord Jesus as their personal Saviour. 2. Consider how our love for Him should affect our lives. 3. It is also important to learn from this lesson the certainty of the resurrection. 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consider the importance of a personal relationship and love for the Lord Jesus. 2. The resurrection is vital to the Christian faith for had Christ not risen from the dead, His death would have been in vain and we could never have had the hope of being in Heaven forever.

	B4 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 3 – The Lord Jesus Topic – ‘Leaving’	B4 – LEVEL 4 Study 3 – The Lord Jesus Topic – His Ascension
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>John 20: 19-29; Luke 24: 50-53</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Luke 24: 51</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When the Lord Jesus says something to us through the Bible, we please Him by simply believing it. 2. The purpose of John’s Gospel is that those who read it might believe and have eternal life. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Luke 24: 45-53; Acts 1: 1-12</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Luke 24: 51</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Lord Jesus wants those who belong to Him to be witnesses for Him on this earth. 2. One day the Lord Jesus is coming back to earth to take those who belong to Him to Heaven.
INTRODUCE IT	Discuss, with relevant examples, how that we believe many things we can neither see nor touch. Explain how Christian faith is not based on seeing but trusting in the Word of God, and the Lord Jesus.	Discuss how we tend to treasure the last words spoken by those we love, especially, before they die. Consider some of the dying words of the great men of history. Relate this to the Lord Jesus’ last words. (<i>Acts 1: 8-9</i>)
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss Jesus’ appearance to the disciples and note His words to them: “Peace be unto you”. (<i>verse 21</i>) Explain that as a result of Jesus’ death those who have believed by faith have true peace. 2. Jesus dealt gently with the faithless Thomas and convinced him He was the resurrected Lord Jesus Christ. 3. Thomas responded with words of faith and commitment. 4. The Lord Jesus left for Heaven forty days after the resurrection from the Mount of Olives after which the disciples returned to the Temple to praise and thank God for His resurrection and the prospect of His coming again. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 3. Show it: FBI – Jesus appears to His disciples (P & I), Jesus appears to Thomas (P & 1).</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Lord commanded His disciples to be witnesses (<i>Acts 1: 8</i>) for Him in Jerusalem, in the land of Palestine and throughout the whole world. 2. The Lord Jesus ascended to Heaven from the Mount of Olives (<i>verse 12</i>) and will return again to the Mount of Olives. (<i>Zechariah 14: 4</i>) 3. He ascended in person and visibly. One day He will return personally again (<i>Malachi 3: 1</i>) and visibly. (<i>Matthew 24: 30</i>) 4. He was received up in a cloud with power and glory and will come back on the clouds of Heaven with power and glory. (<i>Matthew 24: 30</i>) <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Study 3. Show it: FBI - Jesus ascends to Heaven (I).</p>
REVIEW IT	Learn the Key Verse and discuss how it summarises the lesson. Remind students that the disciples were also looking for the fulfilment of the promise made concerning the coming of the Holy Spirit. (<i>Luke 24: 49</i>)	Look up the Bible References in Points 1-4 above and compare and contrast the Lord’s return to Heaven after His resurrection, with His Second Coming again to earth.
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How can we believe in the Lord Jesus for salvation even though we have not seen Him? 2. The Lord Jesus encouraged His disciples to work for Him after He had ascended. What work can we do for Him now? 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How can believers in the Lord Jesus witness for Him at home, at school, or amongst friends? 2. Think about people who have left their own homeland to be Missionaries in other parts of the world. 3. Consider the resurrection as a fact for which there is much evidence in the Bible.

	B4 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 4 – The Lord Jesus Topic – ‘Returning’	B4 – LEVEL 4 Study 4 – The Lord Jesus Topic – His Second Coming
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Acts 1: 4; 8-12</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Acts 1: 11</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The power of the Holy Spirit is needed when witnessing or preaching the Gospel. 2. The Lord Jesus, who ascended to Heaven, is going to return to earth again to take those who are ready to be with Him in Heaven. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>John 14: 1-6; Acts 1: 9-11</i></p> <p>Key Verses: <i>1 Thessalonians 4: 16-17</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Lord’s Second Coming to earth is an event which is certain to happen although the date or time is unknown. 2. At the Second Coming, the dead in Christ will be raised and taken up to Heaven with those Christians alive at the time.
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Talk about a witness, maybe to an accident, who has to have actually seen and heard exactly what happened. The disciples would speak from their own personal experience of the Lord Jesus. Consider also that that the power the disciples received to make them the witnesses for the Lord Jesus is the same power we receive when we turn from our sin and trust in what the Lord Jesus did for us on the cross to take away our sin. We too can and should be witnesses.</p>	<p>Remind the students that all the prophecies from the Old Testament concerning the Lord’s coming to the earth as a man were fulfilled, and so will all the prophecies concerning His Second Coming. Discuss with the students how that when someone we love goes away we long for his/her return and how those who are trusting in the Lord Jesus should be looking for His return. Look up Titus 2: 13.</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Study Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Lord commanded His disciples to be witnesses for Him firstly in Jerusalem, then in the land of Palestine and lastly throughout the whole world. (Acts 1: 8) 2. The ‘two men in shining garments’ whom the women who came to the tomb met, (Luke 24: 4) told them it was empty and the Lord Jesus had risen from the dead. It was possibly the same angelic beings in the form of men who were now telling the disciples about the Second Coming. (Acts 1: 10-11) 3. His return will be very similar to His Ascension. 4. The time of the Second Coming is unknown so it is vital to be ready. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 4. Show it: FBI Jesus ascends to Heaven (I).</p>	<p>Present the Bible Study Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The ‘two men in white apparel’ (Acts 1: 10-11) told the disciples about the Lord’s Second Coming to earth. Make the link that it was possibly the same angelic beings in Luke 24: 4 who told the women at the tomb about the resurrection. 2. Compare the Lord’s promise in John 14: 3 with Acts 1: 11 and explain both the accuracy and inspiration of the Scriptures. 3. Read 1 Thessalonians 4: 16-17 and explain the very special insight Paul had to the Second Coming. Explain as follows: There is a sound to hear – shout and trumpet; A sight to see – the Lord Himself; A miracle to feel – caught up; A meeting to enjoy – ‘meet the Lord in the air’; And a comfort to experience – ‘with the Lord’ for ever. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Study 4. Show it: No appropriate FBI</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>Turn to the following verses and show how the Lord spoke of His coming as ‘a thief in the night’ because nobody knows when a thief will come. Hence the need to have faith in Him for our salvation and to be ready and waiting for His return. Matthew 24: 44, Luke 12: 20.</p>	<p>The Second Coming holds no fear for those who are saved and ready to meet Him. The Bible teaches that Christians should look forward to His appearing and live in a manner that pleases Him. Refer to Titus 2: 11-14, and 1 John 3: 2-3.</p>
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everybody needs to consider whether they are ready to go to Heaven, if the Lord was to return now. 2. What would be the answer to someone who says there is plenty of time in which to get ready for Heaven, in the light of what you have learned about the Second Coming? 3. When is the best time to get ready for Heaven? Refer to 2 Corinthians 6: 2. 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Believers should be living righteous lives in light of the nearness of the Lord’s Second Coming and be found faithful to Him at His coming. What does this mean? 2. Unbelievers will be left behind at the Second Coming. How should this sad reality challenge us, as Christians, with regard to witnessing to them?

	B5 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 1 – The Lord’s Servants Topic – Prepared by God	B5 – LEVEL 4 Study 1 – Early Christians Topic – Stephen
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Acts 1: 7-9; Acts 2: 1-13</i> Key Verses: <i>John 14: 16-17</i> We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> In the early days of the Christian Church, the Lord commanded the apostles to go and preach the Gospel locally and world-wide. Just as the Holy Spirit lived in the hearts of the apostles so those who trust the Lord Jesus will have His presence and power to help them in their Christian lives. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Acts 6: 1-15; 7: 54-60</i> Key Verse: <i>Acts 6: 8</i> We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> It is people of the calibre of Stephen who change the world for God. It is only true believers, like Stephen, who are determined to proclaim the truth of the Gospel and are more concerned about what God thinks than with what men have to say or even do to them.
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Ask the students to imagine what it must have been like for the disciples, after Jesus had ascended, and when the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost. Explain how the Acts of the Apostles contains two main themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Lord Jesus, now ascended, is working through those on this earth who have trusted Him through His Holy Spirit. The resurrection and exaltation of the Lord Jesus in Heaven still formed the core of the message when this book was written. 60-67 AD. 	<p>Discuss what is meant by persecution and think about modern day examples. Explain that in the early days of Christianity the religious leaders had considerable influence in government and the Christians were prepared for their opposition but always reacted with dignity. The Christians respected and obeyed the government of the day unless men’s laws contradicted the laws of God.</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Key Verse in this book is <i>Acts 1: 8</i> and the whole of the Acts is modelled on it with regard to the geographical progress of the Gospel: Witnesses in Jerusalem – <i>Chapters 1-7</i> Witnesses in Judea – <i>Chapter 8: 1-4</i> Witnesses in Samaria – <i>Chapter 8: 5-25</i> Witnesses in the World – <i>Chapter 8: 26</i> The Day of Pentecost (<i>2: 1</i>) was the day on which the Holy Spirit came to indwell believers permanently – He came to stay. They were also filled with the Holy Spirit (<i>2: 4</i>). When we trust the Lord Jesus we are indwelt by the Holy Spirit but to be filled by the Holy Spirit, we must read our Bibles, spend time in prayer and live in obedience to the Lord. The Lord Jesus laid the perfect foundation in the finished work of the cross and now was empowering believers, through His Holy Spirit, to be witnesses and helpers in spreading the Good News of His death, the resurrection and the message of salvation for all. The Holy Spirit is referred to as the ‘Comforter’ in the Key Verse <i>John 14: 16</i> showing the Lord Jesus is also our advocate or helper. <p>Explain the Key Verses and encourage students to learn them. Complete Lesson 1. Show it: FBI - The day of Pentecost (I)</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Stephen possessed those qualities that should be evident in a Christian’s life: honesty, full of the Holy Spirit, full of faith and power, wisdom and service for the Lord Jesus. (<i>See Acts 6: 3,5 & 8</i>) Opposition to Stephen’s powerful ministry arose from communities of Jews who had synagogues in or near Jerusalem. However, when Stephen appeared before the Sanhedrin, a Jewish court, they heard the false charges against him; they saw the glory of Jesus reflected in Stephen’s face. (<i>Acts 6: 15</i>) Stephen gave a very masterful defence (<i>Acts 7: 1-53</i>) and delivers a scathing attack on the Jewish leaders, charging them with resisting the Holy Spirit and eventually the crucifixion of the Lord Jesus. Stephen must have known his life was at stake but would rather die than betray his Lord. As soon as he testified to seeing ‘the heavens opened’ (<i>Acts 7: 56</i>) the mob dragged him outside the city and stoned him to death. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Study 1. Show it: FBI – Stephen is martyred (I)</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>Dr Luke, the writer of Acts, opens by referring to ‘all that Jesus began to do and teach’ in <i>Acts 1: 1</i>. In <i>Acts 28: 31</i> Paul is still preaching the good news of the Gospel. Consider that ‘The book of Acts still continues - the work of evangelism is incomplete until the Lord returns for those who are trusting in Him.’</p>	<p>Discuss how these verses summarise this lesson:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>2 Timothy 2: 3</i> – ‘Endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ’; <i>1 Peter 4: 14</i> – ‘If you are insulted because of the name of Christ.’
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> As a believer we are indwelt by the Holy Spirit. It is our responsibility to ‘be filled with the Spirit’. Read <i>Ephesians 5: 18</i> Doing the Bibletime lessons should encourage you to: - Read the Bible and Pray. Put what you read and the guidance the Lord gives you into your daily life. 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Just as Stephen was martyred for his beliefs in the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus, so many Christians are being persecuted, even killed, in Muslim countries today for the same beliefs. We should ask the Lord Jesus, in our prayers, to keep us loyal and faithful to Him, regardless of what the circumstances might be in our lives.

	B5 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 2 – The Lord’s Servants Topic – Prepared to Die!	B5 – LEVEL 4 Study 2 – Early Christians Topic – Philip
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Acts 6: 1-5, 8-15; 7: 54-60</i> Key Verse: <i>Matthew 5: 44</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stephen was faithful in the little things before being used by God, as illustrated in the serving of tables (Acts 6: 2), before doing great wonders and miracles. (Acts 6: 8) 2. Stephen is like the Lord Jesus in that he was a faithful and blameless man who was prepared to lay down his life for the sake of the Gospel. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Acts 6: 5; 8: 4-17; 8: 26-40.</i> Key Verse: <i>Acts 8: 35</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Philip was a successful preacher of the Gospel who was willing to leave a revival in Samaria to go to Gaza to preach the Gospel to one needy person. 2. Once he believed in the Lord Jesus as his own Saviour, the Ethiopian was eager to obey the Lord in baptism and had great joy in his heart as he travelled home.
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Think about what persecution for your faith means and give modern examples. Explain how that as the early Christians moved forward with the Gospel they ran into opposition from the government and religious leaders of the day. Whilst they respected and obeyed their rulers, they were prepared to disobey men’s laws when they contradicted God’s laws, even to the point of being martyrs.</p>	<p>Philip was one of the seven men chosen in Acts 6: 5 to look after church business. He later became an evangelist and brought the Gospel to Samaria. Whilst he was in the midst of a revival in Samaria, the Lord called him to go into Gaza, desert country, to meet a needy stranger from Ethiopia, with a view to using Philip in both this man’s conversion and baptism. Once this was achieved Philip was miraculously removed and resumed the preaching of the Gospel in other places.</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stephen’s character is described as a Christian who was full of the Holy Spirit, with a good and honest life, (Acts 6: 3) full of faith, power (Acts 6: 8) and wisdom (Acts 6: 10) and who was active in the Lord’s work. (Acts 6: 8) 2. When arrested wrongly by the Jewish leaders, Stephen defended himself by reminding his accusers that not only had the Jewish nation continually rejected the Lord Jesus but their ultimate crime was their crucifixion of the ‘Just One’. (Acts 7: 52) 3. Although surrounded by an enraged mob who stoned him to death, Stephen like the Lord Jesus commends his spirit to the Lord. (Acts 7: 59) and prays for his murderers and ‘falls asleep’. (Acts 7: 60) The word ‘sleep’ here refers to his body which is ‘sleeping’ until the Lord returns for His Church. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 2. Show it: FBI – Stephen is martyred (I)</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Philip was obedient to God’s Command to go and preach to the Ethiopian. 2. The Ethiopian had come from Africa to Jerusalem to worship but left without any real understanding of the Gospel. He turns to the Bible to find help. 3. Philip, directed by the Lord, arrives at the appropriate time and explains Isaiah 53 to him. He showed him how the chapter is all about the life and death of the Lord Jesus. 4. The Ethiopian believed in the Lord Jesus and was immediately baptised by immersion and went back home rejoicing. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Study 2. Show it: FBI – Philip and the Ethiopian official (I)</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>Ensure the students learn the Key Verse and discuss with them how it summarises this lesson and how it is related to both the Lord Jesus and Stephen in that both prayed for their murderers (Luke 23: 34 and Acts 7: 60) and both committed their spirits to God. (Luke 23: 46 and Acts 7: 60)</p>	<p>Connect this study with Isaiah 53. Point out how this chapter was written between 740-680 BC and how Isaiah’s prophesy so accurately foretells the death, burial, resurrection and exaltation of the Lord Jesus Christ.</p>
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In times of being faithful to the Lord Jesus? 2. How should Stephen’s devotion to the Lord challenge our devotion to Him today, when some of the laws made by Governments are in complete opposition to the Holy Scriptures? 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When the Lord calls us to do a work for Him do we obey without question? 2. How are we living up to our responsibilities as a Christian in trying to be a good witness for the Lord Jesus in seeing others coming to Him?

	B5 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 3 – The Lord’s Servants Topic – Prepared to Listen!	B5 – LEVEL 4 Study 3 – Early Christians Topic – Cornelius
	<p>Bible Focus: Acts 8: 5; 26-40 Key Verse: Acts 16: 31</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Philip’s prompt and unquestioning obedience resulted in the Lord using him to bring the Ethiopian to the Lord. The Ethiopian went on his way rejoicing as a result of his obedience to the Lord. 	<p>Bible Focus: Acts 10: 1-8; 23-48 Key Verse: Acts 10: 43</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Gospel is for all, Jesus and Gentiles alike. Cornelius and his household were amongst the first Gentiles to become believers in the Lord Jesus.
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Explain that sometimes God wants us to do something that is completely different to what we would expect to do.</p> <p>Explain that Philip was seeing a great work being done for the Lord in Samaria. However, he was directed by the Lord to leave the place where many were being converted, and go to the desert area of Gaza to be of help spiritually to only one man, namely the Ethiopian.</p>	<p>Simply explain the situation between Jews and Gentiles, and how normally a Jew would have little contact, and certainly not go in the house of a Gentile.</p> <p>Cornelius was a Roman officer (a Gentile), a centurion, who lived in the town of Caesarea and was a prominent man in terms of his military career. Although he lived an upright life he did not know the Lord Jesus. However, he was earnestly searching for forgiveness of his sins and God saw to it that he came into contact with Peter who preached the Gospel unto him and his family.</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> When Philip meets the Ethiopian, he is reading Isaiah 53: 7-8 and Philip gets the opportunity to talk to him about the life and death of the Lord Jesus. The Ethiopian learnt from Philip that the One of whom Isaiah wrote was the Lord Jesus who died on the cross to be his Saviour and the Ethiopian realised he was a sinner and received the Lord Jesus Christ as his Saviour through believing in Him. Philip explained the privilege of being baptised to the Ethiopian and when they came near water, Philip baptises him. The servants travelling with the Ethiopian not only witnessed his baptism but they would have seen how joyful the Ethiopian was now because he was a follower of the One known as Jesus of Nazareth in those days. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 3. Show it: FBI – Philip and the Ethiopian official (!)</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Cornelius had a clear vision one day, around 3pm, in which an angel of God appeared to him and told him to send men to Joppa for Peter. When Peter came to the house of Cornelius there were others present as well to hear him preach. Peter addressed the company by telling them at the outset that God did not respect persons – salvation was for both Jews and Gentiles. Peter preached to those present about the life, death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ and finished by telling them if they believed in Him they would receive forgiveness of sins. This is what those Gentiles present did and they were amongst the first Gentiles to become believers in the Lord Jesus and to be baptised. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Study 3. Show it: FBI – Peter tells Cornelius about Jesus (!)</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>Connect this lesson with Isaiah 53 and discuss verses 7 and 8 in particular. Like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, the Lord Jesus endured the cross. He was not given a fair trial and was cut off in the prime of His life and crucified for our sins.</p>	<p>Consider Peter’s position as a Jew entering a Gentiles’ house. Look at Acts 10: 9-17 to see how Peter was given guidance about what he should do, and how he should think about bringing the Gospel to the Gentiles.</p>
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To understand that obedient Christians can bring real blessing into the lives of others – both those who are Christians and those who are not. Personal faith in the Lord Jesus should be followed up by being baptised. 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To understand that the forgiveness of sins is available to all, regardless of race, culture or religion? To understand that there is no need of visions now as we have the Bible to instruct us what to do in our lives and how our sins can be forgiven?

	B5 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 4 – The Lord’s Servants Topic – Prepared to Go!	B5 – LEVEL 4 Study 4 – Early Christians Topic – Barnabas
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Acts 10: 1-20; 24-29; 33-43</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Acts 10: 43</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Whilst Cornelius was a very good man, he needed someone to tell him how he could become a Christian. 2. Peter learned, as a result of his vision that the Gospel is for all, not just for the Jews. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Acts 4: 32-37; 9: 26-31; 11: 19-30</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Acts 11: 24</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We cannot become Christians by doing good. 2. Christians do good because ‘goodness’ is one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit in a Christian’s life. (<i>Galatians 5: 22</i>)
INTRODUCE IT	<p>This lesson is set in Caesarea, a coastal town. Cornelius was a Roman military officer there and as a centurion was in charge of one hundred men. He was actually attached to one of the Italian regiments there. However, he was a man who was seeking after God. He was a Gentile, but up to this point Peter had only brought the Gospel to his fellow Jews.</p>	<p>We are first introduced to Barnabas in Acts 4: 36. The meaning of his name is “the son of encouragement”. He came from the island of Cyprus and the Bible tells us he sold land and brought the money and gave it to the Apostles. He was living up to his name in that his generosity would have been a great encouragement to the Apostles.</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The angel told Cornelius, in the vision, to send men to Joppa, a town south of Caesarea, for Simon Peter. 2. The day after, Peter had a vision on the flat roof of Simon Peter’s house, where he had gone to pray. God revealed to Peter that the Gospel was not limited to the Jews only but was for the Gentiles as well. God only sees two classes of people – those who are His and those who are not! 3. When Peter arrived at the home of Cornelius he admitted he believed God’s favour was limited to the nation of Israel, the Jews but had learned: God is no respecter of persons. (<i>Acts 10: 34</i>) 4. Peter preached the Gospel to those present and emphasised salvation was for ‘whosoever believeth’. (<i>Acts 10: 43</i>) Those present believed and were baptised and this marked the beginning of the entrance of the Gentiles into the Church. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 4. Show it: FBI – Peter tells Cornelius about Jesus (I)</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Barnabas was a devoted servant of the Lord in that he was unselfish. He used his time and possessions so that others would be helped. He wanted to see people coming to know the Lord Jesus and he wanted to help those who were in need of the basic necessities of life. As a result he is referred to as ‘a good man’. (<i>Acts 11: 24</i>) 2. Barnabas showed kindness to Paul. (<i>Acts 9: 27</i>) He vouched for Paul when the Christians at Jerusalem were afraid to receive him. 3. Barnabas was sent by the Church in Jerusalem to encourage the new Church in Antioch and whilst he was there many turned to the Lord. He encouraged the new Christians at Antioch to ‘be true to the Lord.’ (<i>Acts 11: 23</i>) Perhaps there never were wiser words spoken to new converts! <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Study 4. Show it: No appropriate FBI</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>Learn the Key Verse and discuss how it summarises today’s lesson. Also refer pupils to the phrase ‘whosoever believeth’ in <i>John 3: 15-16</i>.</p>	<p>Review the study by asking questions that will enable students to answer the questions in Study 4 correctly.</p>
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To share the Gospel with young people from other nationalities? 2. Explain <i>Acts 10: 34</i> in your own words. 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To demonstrate ‘goodness’ in our lives as Christians? 2. To be true to the Lord as Christians?

	B6 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 1 – The Life of Joseph Topic – The Young Dreamer	B6 – LEVEL 4 Study 1 – Jacob and His Family Topic – At Haran
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Genesis 37: 1-11</i> Key Verse: <i>Genesis 37: 8</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> When Joseph was only a teenager, seventeen years of age, God spoke to him in dreams and revealed to him that He had a plan for his life. The sin of jealousy is displeasing to God and can develop into more serious sin and therefore should be avoided. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Genesis 29: 1-30</i> Key Verse: <i>Galatians 6: 7</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> God is in full control of everything and His timing is perfect. If we sow sinful acts in our lives, we can expect to reap the consequences.
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Remind the students of Joseph's predecessors, Abraham, Isaac, and now we come to Jacob and his family.</p> <p>Joseph was one of Jacob's sons and his mother's name was Rachel. He was a shepherd by occupation. He had a younger brother, called Benjamin, and it was at Benjamin's birth that Joseph's mother, Rachel, died.</p>	<p>Remind the students of Jacob's predecessors. Jacob was the son of Isaac and Rebekah and Esau was his brother. He lived in Beersheba and fled to Haran in Mesopotamia because Esau had planned to kill him, for robbing him of the birthright. (Summarise the story) Jacob was 77 years old when he left Beersheba; he spent 20 years serving his uncle Laban, 33 years back in Canaan and the last 7 years of his life in Egypt. The journey from Beersheba to Haran was about 500 miles.</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Joseph was hated by his brothers because he had told Jacob about their wrong doings and Jacob loved him because he was Rachel's son, and had been born when Jacob was old. The coat of many colours was really a long robe with sleeves which showed Jacob's special affection for Joseph but stirred up jealousy, hatred and envy in his brother's hearts. In Joseph's first dream, the eleven sheaves bowing down to the twelfth was a prophecy that one day his brothers would bow down to him. The second dream was also prophetic of his brothers bowing down to him along with Jacob (the sun) and Leah (his step mother) (the moon) as Rachel had died. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 1. Show it: FBI - Joseph the dreamer (P & I)</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> God's timing was perfect in that Jacob was guided to the very field where some shepherds from Haran were tending their flocks and to which Rachel was arriving with her flock. Jacob wanted to marry Rachel but Laban deceived him into marrying Leah, her older sister first. He had to serve Laban for another 7 years before marrying Rachel. He then had to serve 7 more years. Jacob had sown deceit and now he was reaping it! <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Study 1. Show it: FBI - Jacob is deceived at his wedding (I)</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>Review the lesson with a quiz asking questions which will help students to answer the questions asked in Lesson 1.</p>	<p>Use a map to help students visualize in their minds the journey Jacob made from Beersheba (on the West Bank) to Haran (on the Euphrates River) in today's Syria. You may wish to draw their attention to the ongoing conflict today in the Middle East in places such as Syria, Jordan and Iraq all because people prefer to pursue the power of their own wills instead of seeking the power of God's will in their lives. Jacob's self-will is still at work in people's lives today – all because of the fact we were born sinners!</p>
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> God has a plan for everybody's life. When we have believed in the Lord Jesus as our Saviour, He will work out His plan when we put into action what He teaches us from the Bible and pray daily that He will guide in ways pleasing to Him. The sin of jealousy is to be avoided in our lives; The Bible refers to it as: 'cruel as the grave'. (<i>Song of Solomon 8: 6</i>) 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The need to grasp that if we do not repent of our sin and trust the Saviour for salvation we will reap the consequences of our sinful lives. The need to ensure that if we are Christians and have sinned that we quickly confess it to the Lord Jesus and have his forgiveness (<i>1 John 1: 9</i>), and turn away from it before it brings circumstances into our lives that will only cause us distress.

	B6 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 2 – The Life of Joseph Topic – The Hated Brother	B6 – LEVEL 4 Study 2 – Jacob and His Family Topic – At Peniel
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Genesis 37: 12-36</i> Key Verse: <i>Romans 6: 12</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Sin starts in a small way in our lives and unless we ask the Lord Jesus for forgiveness it will grow and take over in our lives. When we feel guilty about our sin it is very important we confess it at once to the Lord Jesus. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Genesis 32: 1-32</i> Key Verse: <i>Genesis 32: 11</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jacob prayed to God out of a desperate sense of need for divine protection. Jacob finally yields his life to God and after he confessed to God his name was Jacob, meaning a “con man”. God changes his name to Israel, meaning ‘a prince of God.’
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Revise the story of Joseph so far and remind the students of the tensions in Jacob’s family and the reasons for them.</p> <p>In <i>Genesis 27</i>, Jacob tricked his father Isaac into blessing him ahead of Esau with a goat’s skin. In this lesson Jacob’s sons deceive him with a goat’s blood. It is reasonable to assume Jacob would have remembered this when his sons tricked him. The pain of deception is felt once again in Jacob’s life!</p>	<p>Discuss any meetings students may have had with important people. Explain that in this study we are thinking about meeting with God and the affect this had on Jacob. The man who wrestled with Jacob (<i>verse 24</i>) was none other than the Lord himself. Read <i>Hosea 12: 4</i>. Also refer to where the Lord (i) appears to Moses out of the burning bush; (<i>Exodus 3: 1-22</i>) (ii) appears to Moses in the two incidents when the rod becomes a serpent and his hand is covered in leprosy; (<i>Exodus 4: 1-17</i>) (iii) appears to Isaiah with a request and Isaiah’s response; (<i>Isaiah 6</i>) (iv) appears to Saul on the road to Damascus. (<i>Acts 9: 1-19</i>) Emphasize that all of these people had very important meetings with the Lord and very memorable experiences as a result.</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The hatred of his brothers towards Joseph to the extent that they throw him into a pit. Joseph’s brothers sell him for twenty pieces of silver to the Ishmaelite’s, (also called Midianites) who were making their way to Egypt. Joseph’s father, Jacob, is broken-hearted as his brothers tell him a lie. They show him the tunic that was dipped in a goat’s blood and Jacob assumes his son is dead. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 2. Show it: FBI – Joseph sold as a slave (P & I)</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jacob was making his way back from Haran to Canaan and feared Esau would kill him as he said he would some twenty years earlier. (<i>Genesis 27: 41</i>) Jacob heard Esau was coming with 400 men so he divided his family into two companies so that if the first was destroyed the second could flee. Jacob sends three successive herds of animals, 580 in total, to appease Esau. Jacob spends the night alone at Peniel (the face of God) – the greatest experience of his life. The Lord puts the socket of his hip out of joint and changes his name from Jacob to Israel. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Study 2. Show it: FBI Jacob returns to Canaan (I)</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>Discuss how that God was in control in this story for the Ishmaelite’s, although they were unaware, were providing free transport for Joseph to Egypt to sell him to Potiphar, one of Pharaohs officers. It was in Egypt that God was going to richly bless Joseph and he would become second in command of all Egypt. Explain that <i>Psalms 76: 10</i> shows God can make the wrath of man to praise Him and what doesn’t please Him He restrains.</p>	<p>Review this Study by asking questions which will help students fill in the answers to the questions asked in Study 2.</p> <p>Draw their attention to the meanings of the following: Mahanaim (<i>verse 2</i>) – two hosts or double camp. Jacob (<i>verse 27</i>) – supplanter or ‘con man’. Israel (<i>verse 28</i>) – one who strives with God or a prince of God. Peniel (<i>verse 30</i>) – the face of God.</p>
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss whether students have felt hatred or jealousy in their hearts towards others? If so, all need to confess their sin to the Lord Jesus and ask Him to give them the power to live free of both evils. Learn the Key Verse <i>Romans 6: 12</i>, and encourage the students to make it a guiding principle in their lives. 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jacob was left alone with God. (<i>verse 24</i>) As sinners we must have personal dealings with God in order to obtain salvation. Everybody needs to meet with God to have their sins forgiven! The angel wrestled with Jacob (<i>verse 24</i>) and stripped him of his pride and hypocrisy. Only God can do that for any of us. Jacob had his name changed. We all need our names to be changed to Christian? Believer? Then we shall have a changed attitude, a changed standing before God, a changed relationship with God, and a changed walk before God.

	B6 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 3 – The Life of Joseph Topic – The Faithful Prisoner	B6 – LEVEL 4 Study 3 – Jacob and His Family Topic – At Bethel
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Genesis 39: 1-6; 19-23</i> Key Verse: <i>Genesis 39: 21</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Although Joseph was far away from home in Egypt, he remained faithful to God even in the most difficult of situations. God had His eye on Joseph and had a great future in store for him. (Romans 8: 28) 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Genesis 35: 1-15</i> Key Verse: <i>Psalm 37: 7</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> As Christians we may wander and stray from God's path for our lives but He never leaves us nor forsakes us. As Christians, we need help to deal with our failures in the past and the difficulties and trials we may face in the future.
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Discuss the injustice which puts people behind bars when they are innocent. Explain that happened to Joseph.</p> <p>Explain that in some countries, today, believers are in prison. They are not in prison because of anything they have done wrong but because they are prepared to be faithful to God, in trusting and obeying what they have learned from the Bible, as to how they should behave as Christians.</p>	<p>Introduce the Study by drawing attention to the fact that those who trust in the Lord are sure of His protection – there is safety in the Lord.</p> <p>Psalm 91 and Romans 8, illustrate this protection. The following verses are worth referring to by way of introduction and background: Psalm 91: 2, 15; and Romans 8: 31.</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Joseph was sold by the Ishmaelite's as a slave to Potiphar, an official in Pharaoh's palace. Potiphar's wife told lies about him, he was falsely accused and he was thrown into jail. Joseph behaved so well in prison that the jailer put him in charge of the prison. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 3. Show it: FBI – Joseph and Potiphar's Wife (P & I)</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> God commands Jacob to fulfil the vow he made about thirty years earlier, in Genesis 28: 20-22, and returns to Bethel. Jacob orders his family to put away the foreign gods and clean their clothes and when they did so they became a terror to their heathen neighbours. He builds an altar at 'El Bethel', and worships God who protected him from Esau. God meets with Jacob at Bethel again and renews the covenant he made with Abraham and Isaac. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Study 3. Show it: FBI - Joseph and Esau are re-united. (I)</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>Review the lesson by asking students to explain how God defeats the purpose of Satan for Joseph's life and how that Joseph comes out on top as a blameless, trustworthy and responsible believer.</p>	<p>Rachel had named her child Ben-oni which means 'son of my sorrow' but Jacob named him Benjamin, meaning 'son of my right hand'. Discuss how that this Study pre-pictured another birth, namely that of the Lord Jesus Christ in that He would endure the sorrow of the cross and then be exalted to God's right hand in Heaven. Just as Bethel was a memorable experience for Jacob so Calvary is a memorable experience for the Lord Jesus Christ and those who are trusting in Him.</p>
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Consider what this lesson has taught us about how the Lord Jesus Christ can take care of us, even in the most difficult of circumstances if we trust and obey Him? As a Christian, we are not immune from trials or difficulties. How should we react when they come our way? Think of other people in the Bible who were imprisoned for their faith. 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> We should seek the Lord's blessing on our lives by reading the Bible and praying for the Lord's daily guidance. Discuss what has been the most important 'Bethel experience' in our lives. As a Christian, when we are in difficulties we should make sure we hold on to the latter part of Hebrews 13: 5, - 'I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

	B6 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 4 – The Life of Joseph Topic – The New Leader	B6 – LEVEL 4 Study 4 – Jacob and His Family Topic – In Canaan
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Genesis 41: 14-49</i> Key Verse: <i>Genesis 41: 32</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Joseph gave God the credit for his ability to interpret the two dreams and because of this humility God entrusted him with responsibility. 2. Joseph was faithful to God and God looked after him. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Genesis 37: 1-36</i> Key Verses: <i>Ephesians 4: 31-32</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Favouritism can lead to jealousy and jealousy can lead to very serious sin and consequences in people's lives – both on the part of the jealous person and the victim. 2. Although his brothers had to live with their sin for many years eventually Joseph reveals himself to them before his father's death and there is forgiveness and reconciliation. (<i>Genesis 50: 20</i>)
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Recall the story so far, and explain that God was working His purposes out in Joseph's Life. Point out that because of Joseph's good testimony, (<i>verse 39</i>) he was promoted as second in command.</p> <p>In <i>verse 42</i> the ring shows he has been taken from the position of a slave to the position of a king's son; given the clothes of fine linen instead of a torn robe; given a gold chain signifying his rise to authority; and he's given a chariot in <i>verse 43</i> showing he is no longer a captive but enjoying liberty in Pharaoh's kingdom.</p> <p>He has moved from a place of degradation in the pit, when he was 17 years old, to a place of exaltation, when he was 30 years old. He was a very young man in a very responsible job!</p>	<p>Introduce Jacob's family and their present situation. Set the background to this Study by referring to other Bible readings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) <i>Psalms 56</i> – Discuss that for Christians, God is looking after them regardless of how the devil may be using others to attack. (ii) <i>Matthew 5: 43-48; Ephesians 4: 22-32</i> – Encourage students to adopt the Christ-like attitude referred to in both of these readings in times of persecution or difficulty from those who do not love the Lord or His followers, even though it may be very difficult.
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pharaoh has dreams and Joseph is brought from the prison to interpret the dream. 2. Joseph interprets Pharaoh's two dreams – seven years of plenty and seven years of famine. Pharaoh makes Joseph the second in command and Joseph administers the corn programme. 3. The abundance of corn was so great in the fruitful years that it was impossible to keep a record of it. When the seven years of famine came, there was extra corn available for the starving people of Egypt and further afield. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 4. Show it: FBI - Joseph, the baker and the cupbearer and Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dreams. (P & I)</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Joseph had dreams and was despised by his brothers. 2. Joseph was given a coat, or tunic, of many colours by Jacob as a sign of his affection for him but this provoked more hatred from his brothers. 3. Joseph's dreams indicated that his eleven brothers and Leah and Jacob (Rachel was dead) would all bow down to him in a future day. 4. Joseph's brothers were angry and conspired to kill him and sold him to the Ishmaelite's (Midianites). Unconsciously they were carrying out God's plan for Joseph's future promotion. 5. His brothers callously returned Joseph's coat, dipped in blood to Jacob who assumed Joseph was dead and mourned for the son he so loved. Jacob 'the deceiver' is now 'the deceived.' <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Study 4. Show it: FBI - Joseph the dreamer (P & I)</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>Ask students to imagine they are Joseph and they are writing back to his father Jacob, telling him about his new job! What might he put in the letter?</p>	<p>Review this Study by asking questions that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Ensure students understand that God is in control of all circumstances in their lives and how He does not want them to return 'evil for evil'. (ii) Ensure they are helped in answering the questions in Study 4.
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How does this story encourage us? 2. What have you learned about being obedient and faithful in your daily life? What can you expect by way of blessing? 	<p>How does the lesson challenge us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Question whether <i>Ephesians 4: 32</i> is a guiding principle in life. 2. Since the Lord Jesus shows no partiality to those who are good or evil, as a Christian do we aim to treat everybody fairly and graciously? (<i>Matthew 5: 45</i>)

Guidance for Teachers Marking Lessons

Level 3 lessons

- The students cannot complete these lessons without referring to the Bible and may have to refer to one or more Bible Readings.
- Questions are in various forms including cross words and word grids, missing words, etc.
- They have been particularly designed to be answered by the NIV, Good News, RSV New King James, Authorised Version and Common English Bible versions.
- Our aim is that all students, whatever Bible they possess, will be able to answer the questions.
- Twenty marks are allocated for each week with a maximum of 80 for the month, when the lessons are completely correct.
- Level 3 - Usually 1 mark per answer required, as indicated.

Level 4 Studies

- These are a harder edition to Level 3 lessons.
- More complex questions and answers required.
- Twenty marks per week and 80 for the month, when the lessons are completely correct and the questions have a full answer.

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 fewer 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 3

General comments

"Great work! You obviously read the questions very carefully. I especially liked your answer to the last question which was very well worded."

"Hi Jonathan. Thank you for all your hard work. It was great that you managed nearly all the answers. I have filled in the missing ones for you."

Spiritual comments

"Moses had some difficult times with the children of Israel, but God didn't leave him to sort out all the problems by himself."

"Joseph never forgot that his father had taught him to love God. He remembered this even when he was far away from home."

"Bartimaeus was determined to get to the Lord Jesus. He wasn't disappointed for he was now able to see and he now knew the Lord Jesus was someone really special."

LEVEL 4

General comments

"Another excellent set of lessons. You seem to have a good grasp of these Bible stories and I really hope you have enjoyed them. Thank you for taking the time to do the lessons carefully. It would be easy to rush through them, so I appreciate all your effort."

"A very good try, Rachel. I think by your answers, you may not fully have understood the story. Perhaps you could try reading it through again."

Spiritual comments

"Parables are sometimes called earthly stories with heavenly, or deeper, meaning. Can you think what the deeper meaning is in the parable in study 3?"

"Stephen died a cruel death, and yet he was not afraid to die, for he knew that God was still in control, and he knew he would be with the Lord Jesus in Heaven."



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