



Teacher Lesson Plans

Bibletime Levels 0-4

C Series

C7 & C8

Bible Educational Services

Registered Charity UK (No 1096157)

Mission Statement: “Serving you to Serve Others”

We seek to produce consecutive Bible lessons for worldwide use, enabling the teaching of the Word of God to the current and next generations.

Vision Statement

We aim 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 organisations using BES lessons in the UK and overseas. We do this 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 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 mind. They follow 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. The age groups may vary according to different levels of ability. The Bibletime Resources allow children the opportunity to study the Bible and reflect on its relevance in the lives of people today.

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

BES Contact Addresses

BES Office (stockist of all English lessons):

37a Belmore Street, Enniskillen, Northern Ireland, BT74 6AA

Phone: 02866 322462

Email: info@besweb.com

website: www.besweb.com

LESSON PLANS FOR TEACHERS

Teacher Lesson Plans are produced to equip Teachers using Bibletime lessons with suggestions and ideas for classroom study. In this booklet they are designed for use with Levels 0-4.

Each lesson plan follows the same Bible reference as the Bibletime lesson and are designed to be used on a weekly basis. The April lessons are specific to the Easter story and the December lessons are based on the birth of Jesus at Christmas.

Normally the classroom Teacher will work through the monthly A4 lesson each week with the class. They are free to allow time for independent study if this is appropriate. At the end of the month the Teacher will collect the lesson and do the necessary marking, returning the marked lessons as soon as possible to the pupils.

PREPARATION FOR TEACHERS

Teachers should feel free to use their own ideas and initiatives when using the Bibletime lessons, adapting them as appropriate to their particular pupils. These are suggestions which may help in the use of this 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 Lesson Plans 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 some learning intentions. The children will hopefully have grasped these points after listening to the Teacher's presentation and completing the Bibletime lesson.
- **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. Teachers should not have to refer to these when actually teaching the story, but they are a useful guide. Aim to teach it in an interesting and inspiring way! Help the children to understand the main points by grasping their attention - use the appropriate tone and ask questions to test their learning.
- **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. In most lessons we have given the information about pictures from www.freebibleimages.org (FBI) which are downloadable from their website.
- **Learn It** - There is a Key Verse attached to each story. Hearing and learning these verses should enable pupils to increase their knowledge of Biblical vocabulary.
- **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. Whatever the approach, try to make the lesson enjoyable, and remember to praise the pupils' efforts.
- **Review it** - We have suggested possible quizzes, games, art and drama to assist learning, and as a means of revising the story.
- **Live it-** This section carries the heading 'How does the lesson challenge Christians today?' and also some suggestions of possible group work and individual responses to the challenge of the lesson.

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 Lord's 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

C7 Story 1
“David on the run”

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jonathan showed that he was a good friend in the way he helped David. The Bible teaches that Jesus can be our friend. <p>Key Verse: 1 Samuel 20: 17 Bible Passage: 1 Samuel 20: 1-42</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>In today’s story, we will learn about how David’s good friend protected him. Level 0-1 pupils - show the children pictures of items which offer protection e.g. helmet, sun-cream, toothpaste and brush, warm gloves, seatbelt, etc. Ask them to select an item and say how it protects them. Explain that there are also people who protect us / keep us safe – parents, guardians, grandparents, teachers, friends, police. Level 2 pupils could think about the qualities that make a good friend and then share their answers with the whole group. Emphasise the qualities which a friend might show if someone was having a hard time e.g. a friend helps, listens, protects, and is always there for you.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remind the pupils that after David had killed Goliath, he went to live in the palace with King Saul and became best friends with Jonathan (Saul’s son). But King Saul was very jealous of David. Ask the pupils why. Reasons might include killing Goliath, winning more battles; God had protected David from harm and one day David was going to be the next king. Ask them to recall how Saul’s jealousy showed itself (Saul tried to kill David, he also sent him into a very dangerous battle hoping he would be killed). For level 2, you may wish to explore how jealousy can affect our behaviour towards each other and that the Bible warns us against being jealous as it can make us think and do bad things. King Saul was holding a great feast that lasted for several days. David was expected to attend but he thought it was safer not to. Jonathan was willing to help David and find out if King Saul was thinking of harming him. He planned to meet up secretly with David in a field later. There, he would use arrows as a sign to show David if he was safe or in danger (1 Samuel 20: 4-23). Explain that God was looking after David by giving him a special friend to protect him. King Saul noticed David was missing on the second day of the feast. Describe his reaction (1 Samuel 20: 27-34). How did Jonathan protect his friend, David? <i>The Bibletime lesson does not include the part about how the arrows were used as a sign to let David know about the danger he was in. You could add these details as they make an interesting story.</i> Next morning Jonathan went out to the field where David was hiding behind a rock. He took a boy with him. The boy shot 3 arrows way beyond the target. David already knew that the sign meant his life was in danger and that he needed to run away to safety (1 Samuel 20: 35-40). After Jonathan told the boy with the arrows to go back to town, it was safe for David and Jonathan to talk to each other. <i>Discuss how David would have felt about having a friend like Jonathan.</i> It was hard to say goodbye, but they promised each other that they would always be friends (1 Samuel 20: 41-42). <i>The Bible tells us that Jesus wants to be our friend, if we ask Him to be. He knows what is best for us and wants to help and protect us every day if we let Him. Link back to the qualities of a friend which were highlighted in “Introduce It” and discuss how Christians believe that their loyalty and greatest friendship is to God, who guides and helps them through difficult choices.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: www.freebibleimages.org Jonathan and David promise friendship. (I)</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - 1 Samuel 20: 17</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Use these questions for a quiz: Where did Saul expect David to be? Where did Jonathan and David meet up? When did Saul miss David? What did they promise each other? How did Saul react about David? What does the Bible teach about Jesus’ friendship?</p>

C7 Story 2
“David spares Saul’s life”

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David did not try to take revenge on King Saul. • The Bible teaches that God wants us to make right choices about how we treat other people. <p>Key Verse: <i>Ephesians 4: 32</i> Bible Passage: <i>1 Samuel 24: 1-22</i></p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>In today’s story, we are going to learn about how David treated King Saul. Discuss situations where children are faced with someone having treated them badly. How do they react? Do they want to get their own back on the person? Explain that the Bible tells us that God will help people to choose the right way to react and to forgive others if we ask Him for help.</p>
TEACH IT	<p><i>Review Saul’s treatment of David in the previous stories (C6 Story 4 and C7 Story 1).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Describe the desert where David was hiding. Talk about caves and how they can be very big and dark! Along with 3000 men, King Saul went looking for David. Then King Saul happened to go into the cave where David was hiding with his men. Build suspense – would Saul find David? King Saul didn’t realise that David was hiding at the back of the cave (1 Samuel 24: 1–3).</i> • <i>David’s men saw this as an opportunity for David to get his own back on Saul and encouraged David to kill King Saul. Help the pupils to explore the choice that David faced. Would it have been right for David to have killed King Saul? Explain that for now, King Saul was God’s anointed king even though he did many bad things. Remind them that God had promised David that he would be king. Could anything or anyone change that promise? God had protected David so far – when he killed Goliath and later when Saul tried to kill him with his spear. Emphasise that David’s life was in God’s hands and no-one could stop God’s promises and plans working out in his life. David would be king in God’s time (2 Samuel 2: 1–4).</i> • <i>David knew it would not be right to get his own back on Saul by killing him and he showed great courage to stand up against his friends and do what he knew was right. Explain how he stealthily moved up to where Saul’s coat was and cut the corner off it! David waited until Saul moved out of the cave (1 Samuel 24: 4–7).</i> • <i>Then David walked to the entrance of the cave and shouted to Saul. Reflect on the surprise he must have got! David showed Saul the corner of his coat which he had cut off. What would Saul realise now? David explained to Saul that he had spared his life. Saul’s heart was touched. He knew that David had been good to him and hadn’t treated him as he deserved. So, Saul gave up chasing after David and trying to harm him (1 Samuel 24: 22).</i> • <i>The Bible tells us that the way David treated King Saul is a picture of how God has treated us. God has shown us His mercy and forgiveness which we didn’t deserve. He has made a way for us to be forgiven through the death of Jesus. The Bible teaches that when people believe in Jesus and ask him for forgiveness of their sins, they should then follow His example and be willing to forgive others.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: www.freebibleimages.org – David spares King Saul’s life. (I)</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - <i>Ephesians 4: 32</i>. The verse divides naturally into three parts so children could practice and perform it in groups of three.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Level 0-1 pupils could make a wall display by decorating large letters to describe key words in today’s story – kind, good, forgiving, loving, sorry, respectful, courage.</p> <p>Level 2 pupils could work together in small groups to make up a drama about forgiving others.</p>

C7 Story 3
“David becomes King”

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God kept His promises to David and made him king. • God gave David another promise about a greater King. <p>Key Verse: 2 Samuel 5: 4 Bible Passage: 1 Samuel 31: 1-6, 2 Samuel 5: 1-11</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Talk about how we sometimes wait a long time for promises to happen when they have been made to us. Ask the pupils for any examples from their own lives.</p> <p>David has a long wait in his life. Review what the children already know about him, by asking questions. Did David come from a royal family? (i.e. was his father a king?) No, David wasn't a prince. He came from an ordinary family. What did he work at? (as a shepherd) Who chose him to be the next king? (God - he was anointed by Samuel the prophet.) Emphasise that David was God's choice for King, but there was another King already in place (King Saul) and so David would have to trust God to make it happen. It took a long time.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One day King Saul and his family were killed in a battle. David was very upset. Jonathan, his best friend, had been killed, and also King Saul, who David had great respect for, even though he had treated David very badly (1 Samuel 31: 1-6). • Soon the people came to David. <i>Why?</i> They reminded David of how he was to be a shepherd to the people of Israel and be their ruler. <i>Relate this statement to David's earlier life as a shepherd.</i> God's promise to David was finally being fulfilled! David waited 20 years for God to keep his promise! During that time David was patient and trusted God's promise. David was 30 years old when he became king. His reign as King lasted for 40 years! (2 Samuel 5: 1-5) • Next, David recaptured the city of Jerusalem which had been taken over by God's enemies. There, David had a beautiful palace built. We are told that David became more and more powerful because God was with him. <i>Explain to the pupils that Christians believe if they put God first in their lives, God will look after them</i> (2 Samuel 5: 9-11). • David was also willing to build a Temple where God could be worshipped. <i>Explain that up until now God had been worshipped in a special tent called the Tabernacle.</i> But one of God's prophets, Nathan, gave David the message that this wasn't part of God's plan for David. Through Nathan, God reminded David of all the wonderful things he had already done for David and gave him another amazing promise that one of David's family would be king forever. <i>Ask the pupils if they can work out who this could be. Give some clues about the baby who was born in Bethlehem or the king that the wise men came looking for. Help them appreciate how much David had to praise God for</i> (2 Samuel 7). <i>You could read some of David's words of praise e.g. verse 22.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: www.freebibleimages.org - King David brings the Ark to Jerusalem (I)</p>
LEARN IT	<p>The Key Verse 2 Samuel 5: 4 is a factual statement about David being king.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Level 0-1 pupils could decorate crowns with different materials (glitter, silver foil, sequins, fabric, wool, paint etc) or draw and colour a picture of King David.</p> <p>Level 2 pupils could produce a collage using different materials of King David in his beautiful palace (sequins, glitter, fabric, paint, wool etc)</p> <p>They could answer these “who” questions which review the story of David so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who promised David he would be king? • Who anointed David at his father's house? • Who did David kill with a sling? • Who tried to kill David with a spear? • Who was David's best friend? • Who hid in a cave? • Who died in battle? • Who did David praise?

C7 Story 4
“David and Mephibosheth”

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David kept his promises to his friend Jonathan in showing kindness to Mephibosheth. • The Bible teaches that God has shown kindness to us. <p>Key Verse: 2 Samuel 9: 7 Bible Passage: 2 Samuel 9: 1-13</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>In today’s story, David wanted to find someone to be kind to. Suggest that looking out for ways of being kind to others is a good thing to do! Ask the pupils to think of ways to be kind to others e.g. how would you be kind to: someone who falls, forgets something, has too much to carry, has too many tasks to do, has no-one to play with....? Ask the children to come up with other examples of kindness they have shown.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remind the pupils of Story 3 where we learned how God kept His promises to David – God protected David, God made David king and there was peace. But David had not forgotten the promises that he and Jonathan had made to each other. <i>Mention that it’s the right thing to keep promises which we may have made to others.</i> David wondered if there was anyone from Jonathan’s family still living that he could show kindness to. He asked Ziba who had been one of King Saul’s servants if he knew of anyone (2 Samuel 9: 1-3). • Ziba immediately thought of Mephibosheth, who was Jonathan’s son. <i>Mephibosheth had fallen when he was 5 years old and he was lame (couldn’t walk).</i> Mephibosheth was now living in a place far away from Jerusalem. <i>Ask the pupils to think about what Mephibosheth might have thought when he received the invitation to the palace (2 Samuel 9: 3-5).</i> Surprised, shocked, afraid? • King David explained to Mephibosheth that he had nothing to be afraid of. Rather he wanted to do him good. He wanted to show him kindness for Jonathan’s sake and because of the special friendship which David and Jonathan shared. David was generous in what he gave Mephibosheth. <i>Ask the pupils to tell you the gifts and privileges he received and write them on the board; (1) the land that had belonged to King Saul (Mephibosheth’s grandfather); (2) lots of servants to farm the land; (3) a place at the king’s table. Explain that eating with the king meant he was being treated as one of the king’s family.</i> Mephibosheth humbly accepted what David gave him, recognising the greatness and kindness of David (2 Samuel 9: 6-13). • <i>This story helps us understand God’s kindness. The Bible teaches that sin keeps people away from God, but God is willing to forgive them, and welcome them into His family through his great love. This is only made possible through the death of God’s son, Jesus. Christians respond to God’s kindness by thanking Him for Jesus and showing kindness to one-another.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: www.freebibleimages.org - David shows kindness to Mephibosheth. (I)</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach the Key Verse 2 Samuel 9: 7.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Level 1 pupils could have a quiz. Questions could be written on the backs of pictures of food on the king’s table with different points allocated to each one.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who was the kind King? • Who had been David’s special friend? • Who told David about Mephibosheth? • What happened to Mephibosheth when he was young? • What two things did David give Mephibosheth? • Where was Mephibosheth to eat his meals from now on? • Who does the Bible say has shown kindness to us? <p>Level 2 pupils could work in groups to create a poster to illustrate ways to show kindness.</p>

C8 Story 1
“Joshua becomes the new leader”

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bible tells us that God promises to never leave us. • God helps us with the task He gives us to do. <p>Key Verse: <i>Joshua 1: 9</i> Bible Passage: <i>Joshua 1: 1-18</i></p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Ask the pupils who is in charge of their school, church or their local area. What happens if that person is away? Who takes over, who is then in charge? (maybe a deputy) Talk about how important it is to have someone in charge; to make decisions and be responsible for all those under their care. Being the boss and making up the rules may sound good fun, but it carries lots of responsibility and sometimes stress. Level 2 pupils - Ask the children what qualities / characteristics make a good boss. This story is about a man called Joshua who was an assistant, but when his boss, Moses, died, God put him in charge of His people. Suddenly Joshua had to lead the people into the Promised Land.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God spoke to Joshua and told him Moses had died, and that he was now to lead the people into the Promised Land (<i>1: 1-2</i>). <i>Level 2 - Ask the pupils to give you examples of leadership qualities (strong, courageous, good decision maker, fair, honest, confident, good listener and speaker, gives encouragement to others).</i> • The people were to get ready to cross the River Jordan and God was going to give them the land He had promised many years before. The Israelites had been here 40 years before but had sinned and not believed God, so they had been left to wander in the desert (<i>1: 3</i>). • God told Joshua several times to be strong and courageous. He would need to be brave, but God promised him that whatever happened He would never leave him alone (<i>1: 5-7, 9, 18</i>). <i>Ask the pupils to give you examples of when they have had to be brave and strong.</i> • God also reminded Joshua of the law and commandments that He had given to Moses. Joshua needed to learn them and obey them. If he kept God’s commands, God would bless the people in their new homes (<i>1: 7-8</i>). • Joshua then told all the people to pack their things and be ready to leave. The people promised Joshua, that just as they had obeyed and followed Moses, they would obey and follow him (<i>1: 10-11, 16-18</i>). • <i>The Bible tells us that when people trust Jesus and ask Him into their lives, then He, too, makes the promise to be with them and never to leave them.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: www.freebibleimages.org – Moses dies and Joshua becomes leader. (I)</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – Joshua 1: 9</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Ask children to answer the following questions as a means of revising the story:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who had died? • What was the name of the river they had to cross? • What did God tell Joshua he needed to be? • What was God’s promise to Joshua? • What did Joshua need to read and learn? • What did the people agree to do?

C8 Story 2
“Joshua and the new land”

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bible teaches that God can use all kinds of people to help His plans. • The Bible tells us that God keeps His promises. <p>Key Verse: <i>Joshua 2: 24</i> Bible Passage: <i>Joshua 2: 1-24</i></p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Ask the pupils what they know about spying. What do they think is important about being a spy? What happens to spies if they get caught? What do the children think would happen if you were caught helping a spy who worked for the enemy? This story is about two men sent into Jericho by Joshua to spy and how they were helped by a woman called Rahab who lived in the city.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two men were sent into the land and into Jericho to spy for Joshua so that the people would know how to take over the land. Jericho was a large city surrounded by huge stone walls, a mud embankment (bank / ridge) and strong gates. • The men went to the house of a lady named Rahab. Unfortunately, the spies were seen, and the king of Jericho was told (2: 1-2). • The king sent a message to Rahab to bring out the men, but Rahab took the men and hid them on her roof covered in straw. She told the king’s messengers that they were too late, and the men had already left. The soldiers of the king then went out to try and find the spies outside the city (2: 3-7). • Rahab then went and told the spies that the whole country was afraid of the Israelites. They had heard all that God had done and knew God was going to destroy them. Rahab asked the spies if they could keep her and her family safe (2: 8-13). • The spies promised to keep her safe if she didn’t tell anyone they had been there. They told her to make sure she tied a red cord / rope and to hang it out of her window and everybody in her home would be safe. The spies then climbed down a rope and escaped. Point out that Rahab’s home was built in the wall and she had a window facing out of the city which allowed for a quick escape (2: 14- 21). • When the men got back to Joshua they reported what they had heard, that God was with them and everyone was afraid of them (2: 23-24). • <i>It is not right to tell lies, and under pressure Rahab had to make a choice – she chose to protect these men of God. The Bible does not tell us why she lied, but we can assume that she asked God to forgive her for this sin. Many people would assume Rahab would never be interested in God. Yet, she was willing to risk everything for a God she barely knew. We should not be prejudice against a person because of their interest in God, or judge them on their appearance, lifestyle or background.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: www.freebibleimages.org - The spies and Rahab. (I)</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – Joshua 2: 24</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Ask the pupils to paint a picture of Jericho with its high stone walls, mud embankment and strong gates.</p> <p>Ask them to answer the following questions as a means of revising the story:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many spies did Joshua send? • Whose house did the spies go into? • Where did Rahab hide the spies? • What did she ask the spies to do? • How did the spies get away? • What did they tell Joshua?

C8 Story 3
“Joshua and the River Jordan”

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bible tells us that nothing is too difficult for God. • Like Joshua, Christians need to obey God’s instructions. <p>Key Verse: Joshua 3: 5 Bible Passage: Joshua 3: 1-17, 4: 1-24</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Talk with the pupils about something they may have been asked to do which they thought was impossible. Maybe a piece of homework or school work that they just couldn’t do. How did they get over their problem? Was there someone else who could help them? This story is about Joshua leading the people across the river Jordan. The problem Joshua had was that the river was in flood, a wide flowing river and there were no bridges and no way around it. We’ll see how God helped Joshua to solve this problem.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joshua and all the people packed up their camp and moved out towards Jericho. They stopped at the bank of the River Jordan and set up camp there (3: 1). • After 3 days, Joshua sent a message around the camp for everyone to prepare to move. They were to follow the priests who were carrying the Ark of the Covenant. This was a special, holy box which reminded them that God was with them. Joshua told the people to prepare themselves for the next day; God was going to do amazing things for them (3: 2-5). • Joshua told the priests to go ahead of all the people and they were to walk into the River Jordan. The priests did as Joshua said and as soon as their feet touched the edge of the water, the river stopped flowing and piled up and the priests were standing on dry ground. You can point out that the ground was dry and not wet, despite the fact the water had just been there (3: 6-16). • All the people then crossed over the river on the dry ground and were able to camp on the other side of the river, near to Jericho (3: 17). • 12 large stones were taken from the Jordan and put on the side of the river, as a sign for the future so they would remember what God had done for them that day. • When everything was done, Joshua commanded the priests to come out of the river. As soon as the priests’ feet touched the dry land, the river began to flow as it had before (4: 1-9). • The people then realised that God was with Joshua just as He had been with Moses (4: 14). • <i>The Bible says that when we trust God and obey His Word (the Bible), no matter how difficult it may be, He will help us. Joshua obeyed God when the situation seemed impossible. Nothing is too difficult for God.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: www.freebibleimages.org – Crossing the Jordan. (I)</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Joshua 3: 5</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Ask pupils to answer the following questions as a means of revising the story:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which river did the people have to cross? • Who went first into the river? • What were they carrying? • What happened to the water? • How many people managed to get across? • What did they collect from the river? • What were the stones for? • What did they realise about Joshua?

C8 Story 4
“Joshua and Jericho”

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faith in God helped Joshua’s army defeat their enemies. • Christians should obey God, whatever He asks them to do. <p>Key Verse: <i>Hebrews 11: 30</i> Bible Passage: <i>Joshua 6: 1-25</i></p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>This story is about how God told Joshua and the people what to do to defeat the mighty city of Jericho. All they had to do was obey the simple instructions that God gave and see God work for them.</p> <p>Talk to the pupils about what they may be afraid of. How does fear make them act? If you told them to do something that seemed silly but then they wouldn’t be afraid anymore would they do it or would they think you were a little crazy?</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God told Joshua that Jericho was ready for them to invade. Joshua didn’t think it appeared to be ready but he trusted God! Jericho had shut all its gates and no one was allowed in or out of the city. The people inside felt safe because of the huge, thick wall that surrounded the city (6: 1). • Joshua then gave the people the instructions he had received from God. They were to march around the city wall once every day for 6 days. In front was to be the armed guard, then 7 priests carrying trumpets made from rams’ horns, then the priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant, followed by the rear guard. The people were to walk around in silence with just the trumpets blowing (6: 2-11). • Every day the people got up early and walked once around the city. This would have taken a good deal of time - it was a big city. Also point out that men, women and children inside Jericho would have been watching out of their windows at this strange sight of people marching around the city walls in silence, with only the sound of trumpets blowing (6: 12-14). • On the seventh day, the people got up and marched around the city 7 times. On the seventh time, when the priests blew the trumpets Joshua ordered the people to shout. When the people shouted the walls of Jericho collapsed and the soldiers ran in, killing all the people inside (6: 15-21). • Joshua ordered the spies to find Rahab (the lady who had helped them) and to bring her and her family out of the city and put them in a safe place. Her and her whole family were saved and lived with the Israelites from that time (6: 22- 23). • Joshua ordered the soldiers not to keep any of the gold or silver or other valuable items for themselves, but to bring them to the House of God and dedicate them to God (6: 24-25). • The soldiers and the people knew that it was not themselves who had defeated the enemy but God. The city was destroyed and burnt to the ground. Point out that Jericho had been a very wicked place with terrible things happening in it. • <i>So, God helped Joshua and the Israelites conquer the wicked city of Jericho. The Bible teaches that when we trust Him He helps us overcome all that is wrong in our lives, but this is not easy, and it sometimes takes a long time.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: www.freebibleimages.org – Joshua and Jericho. (I)</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Hebrews 11: 30</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Ask pupils to answer the following questions as a means of revising the story:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was carried around the city? • What did the priests blow? • How many times did the people walk around every day? • How many days did they do this for? • What did they do on the seventh day? • What made the walls collapse? • Who was saved? • What happened to Jericho?

Level 3-4	C7 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 1 – The Life of David Topic – Choosing the King	C7– LEVEL 4 Study 1 – The Life of David Topic – Choosing the King
	<p>Bible Focus: 1 Samuel 16: 1-13</p> <p>Key Verse: 1 Samuel 16: 7</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Saul had failed as the King of Israel, so a new king was needed. 2. The Bible teaches that God is more concerned about the state of our 'hearts' than about our looks and it is only God who really knows our 'hearts'. 	<p>Bible Focus: 1 Samuel 16: 1-13</p> <p>Key Verse: Acts 13: 22</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Saul was rejected by God from being King of Israel because of his disobedience to Him. 2. The Bible says that God does not judge by outward appearance. (Appearance doesn't reveal what someone is really like or what their true values are).
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Saul was Israel's first king but was more concerned about appearances than obeying God's commands. God rejected him as King of Israel but allowed him to serve as king as long as he lived. He was not, however, allowed to pass his crown on to his sons when he died. Unlike Saul, the next king, King David would be chosen for the quality of his 'heart' and not for his appearance. Most people spend hours maintaining their outward appearance; the Bible teaches that they should be developing their inner character instead!</p>	<p>Saul had been told by God to destroy the Amalekites and their possessions – this nation had ambushed some of the Israelites when they left Egypt for Canaan. God knew the Israelites would never have peace as long as the Amalekites existed. Saul disobeyed God's command and, as a result, God rejected him as king by not allowing any of his family to be King of Israel. He did allow Saul to remain king until his death.</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Samuel, the prophet, was sent by God, to Bethlehem to anoint one of Jesse's sons as the future King of Israel. Saul had become very arrogant and rebellious and so God rejected him as king (16: 1). 2. Samuel looked at the seven sons of Jesse who were present at the feast, confident that one of them was the future king of Israel, but God told Samuel He had not chosen any of them (16: 10). 3. Samuel asked if there were any more sons. Young David was brought in from looking after sheep. God directs Samuel to anoint David, for He knew David's 'heart' was right on the inside (16: 11-12). 4. The anointing oil was poured over David's head and this showed that he was set apart for God's service (16: 13). <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - 1 Samuel 16: 7</p> <p>Complete Lesson 1.</p> <p>Show it: www.freebibleimages.org – Samuel anoints David to be King (I)</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God sent Samuel to Bethlehem to anoint one of Jesse's sons to be the future king of Israel. This was because Saul had been rejected as king due to his rebellious and arrogant nature (16: 1). 2. Samuel invited Jesse and his seven sons to the sacrificial feast, looking to find the next King of Israel, but God told him: 'The Lord has not chosen these' (16: 10). 3. Samuel enquired if he had any more sons. David, the youngest, known for his shepherding skills and bravery was brought before Samuel and God told him, David was to be the future king (16: 11-12). 4. David was anointed king, but it was done in secret; David was not publically anointed until much later. Saul was still the king, but God was preparing David for his future responsibilities (16: 13). <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - Acts 13: 22</p> <p>Complete Study 1.</p> <p>Show it: www.freebibleimages.org – Samuel anoints David to be King (I)</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>Reflect on this story with the pupils and emphasise the importance of not judging people by outward things such as looks, dress and riches. Advise them that the mass media encourage this misguided outlook by using glamorous people in advertisements, television and magazines. In contrast, The Bible teaches God judges by faith and character and only He can see on the inside. Therefore, only He can accurately judge people.</p>	<p>Ask pupils to review this study by giving answers to the following questions in their own words:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) What was Samuel commissioned by God to do in verses 1-3? (ii) Why did Samuel come to a false conclusion about Eliab in verses 6 and 7? (iii) Who was God's choice for King of Israel and what did Samuel do that confirmed the right choice in verses 11-13?
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What steps could we take to improve our 'hearts' attitude? 2. It would be years before David was king, but God was preparing him for future service. Sometimes plans, even the ones Christians think God has approved, must be put on hold. How can this waiting time be used profitably? 	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. David was different from Saul and the rest of his brothers, in that he obeyed and loved God and God blessed him. How does God bless people today? 2. The Bible says that God is more concerned about our inward appearance - our hearts, than our outward appearance, which is often what society admires. Ask the question - How do you judge others?

Level 3-4	C7 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 2 – The Life of David Topic – Battling with Goliath	C7 – LEVEL 4 Study 2 - The Life of David Topic – Conquering the Giant!
	<p>Bible Focus: 1 Samuel 17: 12-52</p> <p>Key Verse: 1 Samuel 17: 47</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. David volunteers to go and fight Goliath. 2. Just as David was spiritually equipped to meet Goliath, so Christians believe they can be spiritually equipped to resist the devil by reading God's Word and applying it to their lives. 	<p>Bible Focus: 1 Samuel 16: 14-19; 17: 12-52</p> <p>Key Verse: 1 Samuel 17: 47</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. David had faith to believe that God would give him the victory when he went out to fight Goliath. 2. Christians believe that they too can know victory over Satan in their lives through Jesus' death on the cross.
INTRODUCE IT	Remind the pupils that David had been anointed the next King of Israel. The killing of Goliath clearly illustrated why he was God's choice. When this Philistine giant threatened the army of Israel, Saul and his army cowered in fear. However, David trusted in God and was successful, showing that his power came not from size and strength, but from dependence on God.	When the children of Israel first approached the Promised Land, most of them were afraid to enter because of the giants living there (Numbers 13: 32-33). In Deuteronomy 3: 11 , the Bible tells us King of Bashan needed a bed over thirteen feet long! Now Goliath, over nine feet tall, taunted Israel's soldiers on one side of the valley of Elah.
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. David brings supplies to his three brothers at the battlefield and sees the fear on the faces of the Israelite soldiers as the giant Goliath (over 3 metres tall) taunts them (17: 20-24). 2. Read the full description of the weapons and armour of Goliath (17: 4-7). 3. David asks what the reward would be for the person who killed Goliath, but his brother Eliab is very critical of him for coming to the battlefield (17: 26-29). 4. David says he will go and fight Goliath. Saul doubts David's ability to kill Goliath but knew the power of God working in his life when he defended his sheep from a lion and a bear. David knew he could rely on God to deliver him (17: 34-37). 5. As David moves towards Goliath and slings the first stone, he hits him on the forehead and he falls to the ground. David uses the giant's own sword to kill him and the Philistines flee with the Israelites in pursuit of them! (17: 40-51). 6. God showed His mighty power by giving young David the victory. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - 1 Samuel 17: 47</p> <p>Complete Lesson 2.</p> <p>Show it: www.freebibleimages.org - David and Goliath (I)</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Philistine armies and the armies of Israel gather on opposite sides of the Valley of Elah for battle. Goliath was heavily armed and for forty days defied the armies of Israel to send someone to fight him (17: 1-10). Read the full description of the weapons and armour of Goliath (17: 4-7). 2. David saw this situation and the fear of the Israelites when he brought food to his brothers at the battlefield. David knew that God had been with him in the past and offered to fight Goliath, knowing God would ensure he was victorious (17: 26-29). 3. Saul is doubtful, but seeing David's courage, gives him his own armour, which David discarded as it was only a hindrance to him (17: 34-39). 4. With five smooth stones, a sling and a staff, he goes to meet Goliath who was very cross that someone as insignificant and small as David was sent to fight him (17: 40-44). 5. David, known for his shepherding skills, bravery and marksmanship brought Goliath down when he slung the first stone and hit him in the forehead. Goliath fell on his face and David uses his own sword to kill him resulting in the Philistines fleeing and the armies of Israel pursuing after them (17: 40-52). <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - 1 Samuel 17: 47</p> <p>Complete Study 2. Show it: www.freebibleimages.org - David and Goliath</p>
REVIEW IT	Read Ephesians 6: 10-17 and explain to the pupils what the 'spiritual armour' was that David was equipped with when he went to fight Goliath. Also explain how Christians need to wear this 'spiritual armour' to fight the battles which they face every day in their Christian lives.	Read 1 Corinthians 15: 57 and ask how David's victory over Goliath can be compared to Jesus' victory over Satan. Read Ephesians 6: 1-18 and ask pupils to discuss the types of 'armour' a Christian needs to put on to defeat Satan.
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What a difference perspective can make. Most on-lookers saw only a giant. David saw a mortal man defying God. David knew God would be with him. What or who are the "giants" you are facing and how do you deal with it? How would these 'giants' look from God's point of view? 	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Criticism didn't stop David. While the rest of the army stood around, David knew the importance of taking action. With God to fight for him, there was no reason to wait. The people around you may be negative and discouraging. How should you respond? 2. Remember to look at everything in perspective and objectively. How does it help you deal with the situation more effectively? Can you think of an example?

Level 3-4

	C7 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 3 – The Life of David Topic – Living with Saul	C7 – LEVEL 4 Study 3 – The Life of David Topic – Coping with problems
	<p>Bible Focus: 1 Samuel 18: 1-17; 19: 1-18</p> <p>Key Verse: 1 Samuel 18: 14</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> David was God's chosen king but he had to rely on God to help him overcome many difficulties before this would come about. Just as God protected David in life-threatening situations, so the Bible says that God is always with those who trust Him in the most difficult and dangerous situations. 	<p>Bible Focus: 1 Samuel 18: 1-23; 19: 1-18</p> <p>Key Verses: Hebrews 13: 5 & 6</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Even though young David was God's chosen king, there were difficulties in his life he would have to face before becoming King of Israel, but David relied on God to help him overcome them. When Christians face trials and difficulties, their faith in Jesus helps them to be over-comers and gives them the strength to carry on living for Him.
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Revise the story so far. When David came to live with King Saul, a close friendship developed between Saul's son Jonathan and David. Jonathan was the natural heir to the throne but was willing to forego this right to see David crowned king. David was very successful when fighting the Philistines and this won him great popularity with the people, but Saul became very jealous of him and sought ways to kill him.</p>	<p>Revise the story so far. Despite Saul's jealousy of David, Saul's son Jonathan developed a close friendship with David, even though Jonathan knew David would eventually be King of Israel. Although Saul tried to kill David on a number of occasions, Jonathan was used by God to advise and protect David against Saul's evil intentions.</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> David came to live with Saul, and Jonathan and David become great friends. Saul didn't know that David was God's anointed king, but it gave David a real opportunity to learn information about leading a nation. Saul gave David high rank but became jealous of David because the women sang: 'Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands' (1 Samuel 18: 1-7). On one occasion Saul threw a spear at David and also tried other ways of having him killed in battle (18: 10-27). Jonathan advised David to hide but also reminds his father, Saul, of David's loyalty and success against Israel's enemies (19: 1-7). Saul only relents for a short period of time and hatches a plot to have David killed but his plans are thwarted by God, and David flees to Samuel in Ramah, for support and security (19: 9-18). God was allowing David to go through difficult times to strengthen his character and his faith. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - 1 Samuel 18: 14</p> <p>Complete Lesson 3.</p> <p>Show it: www.freebibleimages.org – Jonathan and David promise friendship (I)</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> David came to live with Saul, and Jonathan and David become great friends. Saul's appreciation of David turned to jealousy as people began to applaud David's exploits and growing popularity (18: 1-7). On one occasion Saul attempted to murder David by hurling his spear at him, and then tried other ways of having him killed in battle (18: 10-27). David behaves wisely (18: 5; 15) and God protects him as a result. Saul's youngest daughter, Michal, was given to David as his wife because he killed Goliath, but Saul's hatred of him still grew (18: 20-28). War breaks out again with the Philistines, and even though Jonathan tried to advise Saul not to kill David, his rage overcomes him and he tries a third time to kill him. David escapes for his life to Ramah to see Samuel (19: 1-18). God was allowing David to go through difficult times to strengthen his character and his faith. <p>Explain the Key Verses and encourage pupils to learn them - Hebrews 13: 5 & 6</p> <p>Complete Study 3.</p> <p>Show it: www.freebibleimages.org – Jonathan and David promise friendship (I)</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>In Psalm 59, David describes the behaviour of his enemies, especially the men sent by Saul to his house to kill him. Draw the pupils' attention to David's trust in God and to how he gives God the praise and thanks for being his 'defence' in such a dangerous situation in verses 9, 16 & 17.</p>	<p>Read Psalm 139: 7-12 and discuss how it relates to David's circumstances as highlighted in this lesson. Read Psalm 140: 1-8 and discuss who (Saul?) may be on David's mind as he writes this Psalm. Read Romans 12: 17-21 and discuss the qualities that should characterise a Christian e.g. honesty of life, living peacefully, being kind and forgiving, showing goodness.</p>
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jealousy is seen as a sin in the Bible and can lead to people seeking to harm one-another through words or action. What can we do to deal with jealousy? While Saul's popularity made him proud and arrogant, David remained humble, even when the entire nation praised him. Which do you think is the wiser response? 	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> David and Jonathan became close friends. Their friendship was based on commitment to God, nothing came between them (not even family or career issues) & sticking together when their friendship was tested. What do you base your friendships on? Your friends may be jealous of your strengths and abilities. How should you respond to them? (Matthew 5: 44)

Level 3-4

C7- LEVEL 3
Lesson 4 – The Life of David
Topic – Friends with Jonathan

C7- LEVEL 4
Study 4 –The Life of David
Topic – Caring for Others

Bible Focus: 1 Samuel 20: 1-42

Key Verse: 1 Samuel 20: 17

We are learning that:

1. David continues to face problems with Saul, but Jonathan is loyal to David.
2. Loyalty is a precious quality and we should keep our promises and be true to our friends.

Bible Focus: 1 Samuel 20: 12-17, 42; 2 Samuel 9: 1-13

Key Verse: 2 Samuel 9: 1

We are learning that:

1. David was keen to keep his promises to show kindness to Jonathan's family.
2. Just as David showed kindness to Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the Bible teaches that Jesus showed kindness to us when He died for our sin on the cross.

INTRODUCE IT

Revise the story so far. David returns from Ramah and comes to Jonathan to try to find out why his father is so intent on killing him. A test was proposed that would make it plain as to whether David was in danger or not. Instead of coming to the monthly feast, David would stay away. If Saul asked about his absence, Jonathan was to say he was in Bethlehem for the yearly sacrifice. If Saul was happy with this reason, David was safe. But if he became angry that David had slipped out of his hands, David's life was in great danger.

Revise the story so far. David came to Jonathan and tried to find out why Saul was so intent on killing him, but Jonathan was unaware of his father's attempts on David's life. David knew Saul would not share his plans with Jonathan because he and David were so friendly. A test was devised to show if David was in danger or not. Instead of attending the monthly feast in the royal court, David would remain absent. If Saul did not object to this, David was safe. But if he became angry, then David was in danger.

COMPLETE IT

Present the Bible Story

Discuss and Explain:

1. David makes Jonathan aware that he fears for his safety at the hands of Saul (20: 1-3).
2. Jonathan promises to let David know how Saul reacts to his absence from the feast, by means of a prearranged sign.
3. When Jonathan had discovered what the situation was he would come to an arranged spot and shoot three arrows. The directions he called to the boy, who would fetch the arrows near to where David was hiding, would tell David to flee for his life or return to the court for safety (20: 18-23).
4. Saul quizzes Jonathan as to David's whereabouts and flies into a rage and throws a spear at his own son! (20: 28-33)
5. The planned sign is given to David and his fears are confirmed. Both men weep in each other's arms and go their separate ways – David into hiding and Jonathan into the royal court (20: 41-42).

Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - 1 Samuel 20: 17

Complete Lesson 4. Show it: No suitable illustration.

Present the Bible Story

Discuss and Explain:

1. Jonathan warned David by a sign that his life was in danger. Before David went into hiding, both men wept in each other's arms, knowing they could no longer enjoy each other's company (20: 35-42).
2. David knew he may never see Jonathan again, so he made a promise to look after Jonathan's family when he eventually became king (20: 42).
3. When David was king he remembered the promise he made to Jonathan, that he would show love to Jonathan and his family (2 Samuel 9: 1).
4. It was reported by Gibeon, a servant of the late King Saul, that Jonathan had a disabled son, called Mephibosheth who was lame since he was five years old through a fall, and he was living in Lo-Debar (2 Samuel 9: 2-4).
5. David had him brought to Jerusalem, ordered the family property be returned to him, and arranged for him to eat every meal at the royal table. Gibeon and his sons were to attend to Mephibosheth, thus fulfilling David's promise to Jonathan many years earlier (2 Samuel 9: 5-11).
6. Remind pupils of Proverbs 18: 24 and discuss its significance in connection with David and Jonathan.

Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - 2 Samuel 9: 1

Complete Study 4. Show it: No suitable FBI illustrations.

REVIEW IT

Review and summarise this lesson by asking pupils to explain in their own words the following, with the help of the verses indicated:

- (i) What was David's worry? (verses 1-3)
- (ii) What was Jonathan's response? (verse 4)
- (iii) What was the plan that Jonathan and David agreed? (verses 5-23)
- (iv) What was the message David received? (verses 24-40)
- (v) How did Jonathan and David part? (verses 41-42)

Read 2 Samuel 4: 4 - discuss with pupils the events surrounding the cause of Mephibosheth's lameness.
 Read Ephesians 2: 1-10 - discuss with pupils that just as Mephibosheth came into blessing as a result of David's love and kindness, so Christians have inherited much greater blessings as a result of God's love and kindness.

LIVE IT

How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.

1. Is it ever right to disobey your father, mother or guardian, as Jonathan did here? What should a Christian child do if a parent disobeys God's laws?
2. Jonathan was very loyal to David and was willing to suffer for him. What can we learn from their loyalty and friendship to help us understand true friendship?

How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.

1. Years later David fulfilled his promise to Jonathan by taking care of Jonathan's son. Can you think of an example of when you have kept a promise?
2. As we consider David's life, we see his heart was right, and his faith in God was strong. How did this affect his attitude towards others? What can we learn from this?

Level 3-4

C8 – LEVEL 3
Lesson 1 – Joshua
Topic – Leading the people

C8 – LEVEL 4
Study 1 – Joshua
Topic – The New Leader

Bible Focus: *Joshua 1: 1-11*

Key Verse: *Joshua 1: 9*

We are learning that:

1. After Moses' death, Joshua succeeded him as Israel's leader. His task was to bring Israel into the Promised land of Canaan.
2. Like Joshua, Christians need faith and trust in God to begin and continue living the Christian life.

Bible Focus: *Joshua 1: 1-9; 16-18*

Key Verse: *Joshua 1: 9*

We are learning that:

1. After Moses' death, Joshua succeeded him as Israel's leader. His task was to bring Israel into the Promised Land of Canaan.
2. Christians grow by obeying God's Word, the Bible, and claiming its promises, especially in the difficult days of their lives.

INTRODUCE IT

Introduce Joshua. The Israelites had encamped on the plains of Moab, east of the River Jordan. As commander in chief, Joshua would lead the Israelites over the River Jordan into the Promised Land. Although Joshua had great military skills, it was his faith in God that equipped him to replace Moses as the head of the nation of Israel. It was Moses who trained him and, at ninety years of age, it was God who gave him the authority to be Israel's leader.

Introduce Joshua. After Moses died, God told Joshua to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land (also called Canaan) and conquer it. Earlier, God had promised the land of Canaan to Abraham and his descendants and He had also promised to help them drive out the wicked Canaanites. The Israelites were to destroy the Canaanite altars so that nothing would distract them from worshipping the one and only true God.

COMPLETE IT

Present the Bible Story

Discuss and Explain:

1. After the death of Moses, God spoke to Joshua and told him to lead the Israelites, more than two million people, into a strange new land which He had promised to them. Remind the pupils that the nation had been wandering for 40 years around the desert since they had left Egypt (*1: 1-3*).
2. Three times (*verses 6, 7 & 9*) Joshua is told by God to be strong and very courageous because the task ahead of him would not be easy. God also promised that as He had been with Moses, so He would be with Joshua.
3. Joshua was also told that, in order to be successful, he must also obey God's law and constantly read and study God's Word (*1: 7-8*).
4. Joshua obeyed God's instruction and ordered the people to get ready to move in three days (*1: 10-11*).
5. Discuss how Joshua knew what it was to listen to God's voice and to act obediently, doing God's will.

Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - *Joshua 1: 9*

Complete Lesson 1.

Show it: www.freebibleimages.org – Moses dies, and Joshua becomes leader (I)

Present the Bible Story

Discuss and Explain:

1. Joshua was called of God to be Israel's new leader. He had been a personal assistant to Moses for 40 years and was well prepared for the challenge of leading more than two million people into a strange land to conquer it. Remind the pupils that the nation had been wandering for 40 years around the desert since they had left Egypt (*1: 1-3*).
2. God not only promised Joshua He would give the Israelites the land of Canaan (*verses 3 & 4*) but He promised His presence would be with them to strengthen and encourage them (*verses 5 & 6*).
3. God explains to Joshua (*verses 7-9*) that the secret of true success is the place that God's Word has in a Christian's life. It should be read and meditated upon, memorised, obeyed and acted upon.
4. Joshua obeyed God's commands and the people, in turn, recognised Joshua's authority as their chosen leader and obeyed his instructions (*verses 16-18*).
5. Discuss how God had not only prepared Joshua for the great task that lay ahead, but He had also prepared the people too.

Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - *Joshua 1: 9*

Complete Study 1.

Show it: www.freebibleimages.org – Moses dies, and Joshua becomes leader (I)

REVIEW IT

Review this lesson by discussing with pupils the three good reasons for Joshua to be strong:

- (i) God's promise to Joshua of a victory – *verses 5 & 6*;
- (ii) God's Word as his safe guide – *verses 7 & 8*; and
- (iii) God's presence as a sustaining power – *verse 9*.

Discuss with the pupils the similarities between God's instructions to Joshua, in *verses 8 & 9*, about the importance of 'the book of the Law' in his life and God's instructions to Christians in the readings below.

- (i) What does *Psalms 1* say about the importance of God's Word in our lives?
- (ii) How are we to 'walk' from day to day according to *Proverbs 3: 5-6*?
- (iii) According to *James 1: 22-25* our obedience to God's Word is seen in the things we do.

LIVE IT

How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.

Joshua's new job consisted of leading millions of people into a new land and conquering it! What a challenge! Every day, we face new challenges, tough situations, difficult people, family and friends, and temptations. How do you deal with difficult situations?

How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.

Many people think that prosperity and success come from having power, influential friends and a relentless desire to get ahead. How was God's strategy towards Joshua different?

Level 3-4

C8- LEVEL 3
Lesson 2 – Joshua
Topic – Spying the land

C8 – LEVEL 4
Study 2 – Joshua
Topic – Sends out the spies

Bible Focus: *Joshua 2: 1-24*

Key Verse: *Hebrews 11: 31*

We are learning that:

1. Joshua sent spies to Jericho who were hidden by Rahab from the king.
2. Just as Rahab was saved from certain death when she put her faith in God, Christians believe they can be saved by putting their faith in Jesus.

Bible Focus: *Joshua 2: 1-24*

Key Verse: *Hebrews 11: 31*

We are learning that:

1. Joshua sent spies to Jericho who are hidden by Rahab from the king.
2. Just as Rahab was saved from certain death when she put her faith in God, the Bible teaches that those who have trusted Jesus and put their faith in Him today are also saved.

INTRODUCE IT

Now that Israel had reached the Jordan, the next obstacle they faced would be the city of Jericho. Joshua sent two men to spy out the city of Jericho which was a heavily fortified city. He needed information about the city before he and his men would move into battle against it.

Jericho was the first major city in the land of Canaan that the Israelites set out to conquer. Joshua sent two spies across the River Jordan to spy out the city and bring him back information for the forthcoming battle.

COMPLETE IT

Present the Bible Story

Discuss and Explain:

1. The spies arrived in Jericho. God had directed them to Rahab's house. It was in an ideal place for a quick escape. In Joshua's day, it was common to build houses on city walls. Many cities had two walls 12-15 feet apart. Houses were built on wooden logs laid across the tops of the two walls. Rahab may have lived in such a house with a window that looked out over the outside wall (*verses 1-2*).
2. Rahab had heard of the great victories God had given the people of Israel and concluded their God must be the true God. So, she put her faith and trust in Him (*verses 8-11*).
3. Rahab's house would have had a flat roof upon which flax was piled high to dry, making a good hiding place for the spies. The spies hid from the King of Jericho in the flax on Rahab's roof. They promised to spare Rahab and her family if she hung a scarlet (brilliant red) cord in the window of her home and if her family members remained indoors during the attack on Jericho (*verses 15-21*).
4. The spies escaped down a rope from Rahab's window. After hiding in the mountains for three days, they went across the River Jordan and brought back a helpful report to Joshua (*verses 22-24*).
5. Ensure the pupils understand Rahab risked her life to save the lives of the spies because she had placed her faith in their God – the God of Israel.

Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - Hebrews 11: 31

Complete Lesson 2.

Show it: www.freebibleimages.org – The spies and Rahab (I)

Present the Bible Story

Discuss and Explain:

1. The spies arrived in Jericho. God had directed them to Rahab's house. It was in an ideal place for a quick escape. Many cities had two walls 12-15 feet apart. It was common for houses to be built on wooden logs laid across the tops of the two walls. Rahab may have lived in such a house with a window that looked out over the outside wall (*verses 1-2*).
2. Rahab recognised there is a God in Heaven who is all-powerful, and she believed in Him. She knew the false gods of the Canaanites could not save her, or the city from the fate about to befall them (*verses 8-11*).
3. Rahab's new-found faith gave her the courage to hide the spies. The spies hid from the King of Jericho in the flax on Rahab's roof; but she took the risk because she realised the God of the Israelites was worth trusting.
4. Rahab was concerned about her family's safety when the Israelites attacked and the spies worked out a plan for their safety. She was to tie a scarlet (red) cord in the window of her home and all the family members had to stay inside (*verses 17-20*).
5. Because of her faith, her family were kept safe and later on became ancestors of Jesus (**Matthew 1: 5**). Explain how God was working His purposes out through Rahab, a foreign lady!

Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - Hebrews 11: 31

Complete Study 2.

Show it: www.freebibleimages.org – The spies and Rahab (I)

REVIEW IT

Review the lesson using the following verses:

- (i) **Hebrews 11: 31** (Key Verse) – Why was Rahab saved from death when the Battle of Jericho took place?
- (ii) **James 2: 25** – How did Rahab prove her faith in God?
- (iii) **Hebrews 11: 6** – What does this verse tell us about faith?

Review the study using the following verses:

- (i) **Romans 5: 5-8** – Rahab's life was 'ungodly' until she put her faith in God. What does the Bible teach about our lives?
- (ii) **Ephesians 2: 6-8** – These verses emphasise that salvation comes through faith and not works. Rahab's deliverance also came through faith.

LIVE IT

How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.

Rehab didn't allow her past or appearance to keep her from the new role God had for her. Do we dislike, prejudice or gauge a person's interest in God by his or her background, lifestyle or appearance?

How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.

It is not right to tell lies, and under pressure Rahab had to make a choice – she chose to protect these men of God. Did she do the right thing? Are there situations today when a Christian might have to do the same thing?

Level 3-4	C8 - LEVEL 3 Lesson 3 – Joshua Topic – Crossing the river	C8 – LEVEL 4 Study 3 – Joshua Topic – Crossing the Jordan
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Joshua 3: 1-17</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Joshua 3: 5</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God commanded Joshua to take the Israelites over the River Jordan and enabled him to do so. 2. Humanly it would have been impossible for such a large crowd of people to cross the River Jordan when it was in flood. God did a great miracle. 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Joshua 3: 1-17; 4: 1-24</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Joshua 4: 24</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God commanded Joshua to take the Israelites over the River Jordan and enabled him to do so. God commanded and then aided. 2. The Bible teaches that God is all-powerful and wants to show His power in the lives of Christians as He works in and through them.
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Israel needed to be reminded that God was with them in crossing the Jordan. They could not see God but the Ark of the Covenant which went before them was a symbol of God's presence and power. In this special case the priests were to carry it (verse 3).</p>	<p>Explain that the River Jordan was a major obstacle in taking the Israelites into the Promised Land. Israel had faced the Red Sea when they had left Egypt. Under the leadership of Moses, God had given them a passage on dry land in a miraculous way. So, under Joshua, God does another miracle and the people pass over the river in safety.</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Joshua gathered the Israelites together to tell them what God had commanded and how He had promised to do wonders amongst them (verses 1-5). 2. The people of Canaan were wicked, and God wanted them driven out as He did not want the Israelites following their wicked ways and practices. 3. The Israelites were anxious to cross the River Jordan, but God gave them specific instructions as to how to cross. 4. When the priests' feet touched the River Jordan a miracle occurred. The River stopped at the city of Adam (ten miles north of it) and the waters piled up in a heap and whatever water was left drained into the Dead Sea, letting the Israelites cross over on dry ground (verses 14-17). 5. Explain to the pupils that Israel had obeyed God's instructions and the obstacle which could have been such a problem was removed. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - <i>Joshua 3: 5</i></p> <p>Complete Lesson 3.</p> <p>Show it: www.freebibleimages.org – Crossing the Jordan (I)</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The time had come to cross the River Jordan which was now in flood stage. The priests were instructed to go ahead carrying the Ark. This was a symbol of God's presence and power, and the people were to follow at a distance (3: 1-4). 2. When the priests' feet touched the Jordan, a miracle occurred, and the water was stopped upstream at the city of Adam and the remainder drained into the Dead Sea. The priests walked to the middle of the river bed and stayed there until all the people crossed over on dry ground (3: 14-17). 3. God directed that a man from each of the twelve tribes should carry a stone from the riverbed and that a memorial be set up, using the 12 stones, at a place called Gilgal. This would be in remembrance of God stopping the waters of the River Jordan (4: 1-9). 4. When the people had crossed, Joshua also set up a memorial of 12 stones in the middle of the riverbed where the priests were standing and when they crossed to the west bank with the Ark, the waters of the River Jordan began to flow again (4: 9). <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - <i>Joshua 4: 24</i></p> <p>Complete Study 3.</p> <p>Show it: www.freebibleimages.org – Crossing the Jordan (I)</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>Remind pupils that just as God parted the waters of the Red Sea to let the Israelites out of Egypt (Exodus 14), so He parted the River Jordan to let them enter the Promised Land of Canaan. God's presence and faithfulness to the Israelites made the journey from Egypt to Canaan possible. God chose the time when the river was highest to show His supernatural power. This gave them a great reputation amongst their enemies (verse 10) who greatly outnumbered them.</p>	<p>Review this study by referring to – Psalm 114. Discuss verse 3 particularly and explain that the writer is referring to both: (i) the parting of the waters at the Red Sea when Moses and the Children of Israel passed through safely and the Egyptians were drowned; and (ii) the stopping of the waters of the River Jordan in this study. Explain to pupils how there was almost 40 years between these events. What can we learn about God from these two events?</p>
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <p>Joshua made the people stop and listen. We live in a fast-paced age where everyone rushes and it's easy to get caught up in tasks and make errors. Think of the 'rivers' or difficulties in your life. How do you slow down and deal with them?</p>	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <p>The 12 stones were a sign of victory, and a reminder that God had done great things for the Israelites. What signs do you have or use to slow down, and remember great things that have happened in your life?</p>

Level 3-4

	C8– LEVEL 3 Lesson 4 – Joshua Topic – Obeying God	C8 – LEVEL 4 Study 4 – Joshua Topic –Victory and Defeat
	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Joshua 6: 1-25</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Hebrews 11: 30</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Joshua obeyed the instructions God gave him exactly, which resulted in victory at Jericho. 2. Christians trust God to give them victory in their lives, even if it isn't the result they wanted! 	<p>Bible Focus: <i>Joshua 6: 1-27; 7: 1-26</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Hebrews 11: 30</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Joshua obeyed the instructions God gave him exactly, which resulted in victory at Jericho. However, disobedience by Achan resulted in defeat at Ai. 2. Christians believe that faith and obedience to God bring peace, joy and happiness in life. But, sin and disobedience to God bring serious consequences.
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Joshua now had to lead the people in an attack of Jericho which was a heavily fortified city, with gates and high walls. God had a plan to deliver Jericho into the hands of the Israelites, and therefore these heavy fortifications could not keep the Israelites out.</p>	<p>Now the Israelites were in the Promised Land they faced two challenges. The cities of Jericho and Ai both served as valuable lessons to the Israelites as they began to take possession of the land of Canaan. When they trusted God and obeyed Him completely, they were assured of victory. However, when they disobeyed God and relied on themselves, they suffered defeat.</p>
COMPLETE IT	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fear of the Jews caused Jericho to be barricaded before Joshua and his army arrived (6: 1). 2. The Israelites marched around Jericho once a day for six days. First there was an armed guard, then seven priests blowing trumpets followed by the Ark. The people followed behind, but they had to be quiet (6: 3- 14). 3. On the seventh day, they marched around it seven times. When the priests blew a loud blast on their trumpets, the Israelites let out a great shout and the walls fell flat. They were now able to enter the city (6: 20). 4. The inhabitants and their livestock were destroyed and only Rahab and her family were saved! They were kept alive, because she had protected the spies and also obeyed their instructions (6: 22-23). 5. In the Key Verse, we are taught it was 'faith' in God that brought the walls down and in Hebrews 11: 31 we are also taught it was that same faith that brought Rahab out alive. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it- Hebrews 11: 30</p> <p>Complete Lesson 4.</p> <p>Show it: www.freebibleimages.org – Walls of Jericho (I)</p>	<p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Although God had told Joshua that Jericho was already delivered into his hands, He gave him instructions for the battle, reminding him victory would come from God alone. Jericho was a wicked city and had to be destroyed (6: 2-5). 2. The Israelites marched around Jericho once a day for six days. First there was an armed guard, followed by seven priests blowing trumpets; then the Ark. The people followed behind, silently (6: 3- 14). 3. Rahab and her household were saved from destruction because she had faith in God and because she hid the spies sent to spy in Jericho (6: 22-23). 4. After their spectacular victory over Jericho, Joshua and his army were confused by their defeat at the small city of Ai. Joshua later learned that it was caused by sin in the camp (7: 6-12). 5. Achan disobeyed God by taking some of the enemy's belongings. God had commanded that everything connected with Jericho was to be destroyed (6: 18-19 & 7: 11-12). 6. Achan confessed his sin and he and his entire family were stoned to death in order that no trace of his sin would remain in the land of Canaan (7: 20-26). <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - Hebrews 11: 30</p> <p>Complete Study 4.</p> <p>Show it: www.freebibleimages.org – Walls of Jericho (I) also Achan disobeys and brings defeat (i)</p>
REVIEW IT	<p>Review the lesson by engaging pupils in discussion about the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was God's revealed plan to Joshua in verses 3-5? 2. What happened when the priests obeyed the plan He had revealed to Joshua in verse 20? 3. Discuss how that victory followed obedience to God's plan for the Israelites. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Read James 1: 12-16 and discuss how (i) verse 12 can be applied to Rahab; (ii) verses 13-15 can be applied to Achan; and (iii) verses 12-16 can be applied to people today. 2. Discuss how Achan's sin had serious consequences for his family and some of his fellow soldiers, pointing out how one wrong step leads to another.
LIVE IT	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What does 1 John 5: 5 say about belief in Jesus? 2. This lesson teaches that Joshua's faith in God gave the Israelites the victory and Rahab's faith in God resulted in her being saved from death. How important is faith in God today? 	<p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <p>When Joshua first went against Ai, he did not consult God. What would be the consequences if Christians continually relied on their own strength? What lessons can we learn from this today?</p>



© Bible Educational Services 2018

www.besweb.com

Registered Charity UK 1096157

Bible Educational Services is registered as a charity in the UK & Ireland.
UK - 1096157. Eire - 5880