International Teacher Lesson Plans Bibletime Levels 0, 1 and 2

A Series A1-A6

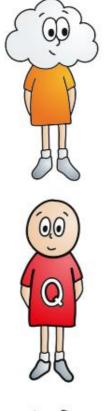




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bibletime Meet the Characters







This cloud character is based on *Exodus 13: 21-22* and is a symbol of God's presence. He is a source of wisdom throughout the Bibletime stories, as he guides and teaches the character 'Q' about God. He's a gentle, friendly character who encourages us all to study God's Word, the Bible, in a deep and meaningful way.

NAME:



Q is an inquisitive and deep thinking character. He has lots of questions and is brave enough to ask them. He looks to his friends B.E.S. and Beam as wise and encouraging mentors, to help him find answers. In so doing, he helps us all to discover an even greater friend, Jesus.



PAUSE

Pause is a happy, cheerful character. He does not speak but his presence indicates a time to pause, so that we can reflect on what has been discovered up to that point. Pause also reminds us to attempt the activity or questions after careful thought.





This lightbulb character is linked to Psalm 119: 105. He is 'shining his light' for Jesus. Alongside B.E.S., he helps Q and us to understand the Bible as God's instruction manual. He shows us how to live in relationship with God, fellowship with others and as witnesses to the truth of the Gospel.

BIBLE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Registered Charity UK (CIO 1186004)

BES MISSION:

We produce Bible lessons for Partners to take the truth of Jesus Christ to the next generation globally.

BES VISION:

Every partner will have our curriculum in their own language and use it effectively to reach the next generation.

GENERAL INFORMATION

What Bible Educational Services does:

Bible Educational Services (BES) publishes Bibletime, Bibletime Going Deeper and Gleaners Bible lessons in English, and supports 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 60 years ago. Bible Educational Services maintains editorial responsibility for Bibletime Lessons in English and 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 Postal Bible School Centre for marking. More recently, lessons for six months have been published in an A4 format, which has made usage in Churches and Schools much easier, especially where there is no effective postal system. Revival Movement Association, print the 6-month booklet in an A5 version to send internationally.

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 <u>www.besweb.com</u> or 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:

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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 information about pictures from <u>www.freebibleimages.org</u> (FBI) which are downloadable from their
 website. These direct links to the story / study are available in Appendix A, B or C at the back of the booklet.
- 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 for 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	Introduction – BES & Friends	Introduction – BES & Friends	Introduction – BES & Friends
SERIES A	 Creation Noah Peter Peter - The Cross Abraham Abraham Abraham Peter Peter Jacob Early Christians Paul The Christmas Story 	 Creation Noah Peter Peter - The Cross Peter Abraham Jacob Prayer Paul Pau Pau Pau Pau	 Creation & Fall Early developments - Genesis Peter Peter - The Cross Peter Abraham Jacob The Christian Life Paul Pau
SERIES B	 Early Life of Christ Miracles Bethany The Cross Parables Joseph Joseph People Jesus met Moses Moses Moses The Christmas Story 	 Parables Miracles Bethany The Cross Early Christians Joseph Joseph Gospel Writers Moses Moses Moses The Christmas Story 	 Parables Miracles Bethany The Cross Early Christians Jacob & his family Joseph Acts 2: 42 - The way ahead Moses Moses The Law The Christmas Story
SERIES C	 Daniel More Miracles People Jesus met Death of Christ Ruth & Samuel David David Joshua Elijah Elisha Jonah The Christmas Story 	 Daniel People Jesus met More Miracles Death of Christ Ruth Samuel David Joshua Elijah Elisha Men used by God - OT The Christmas Story 	 Daniel The sayings of Jesus The Lord's Power Death of Christ Ruth Samuel David Joshua Elijah Elisha More OT Characters The Christmas Story

A1 Story 1 God makes the world

INTRODUCE IT	 We are learning that: God created the world. Christians like to thank God for everything He has made. Key Verse: Genesis 1: 1 Bible Passage: Genesis 1: 1-19, Genesis 2: 1-3 (Level 1) Show a picture of a house or ask children to draw their house.
	 Ask the children questions about the house – How long would it take to build it? What would you need to build it? It takes a lot of materials to build a house, but God was able to create the world out of nothing. The Bible tells us all He had to do was speak!
TEACH IT	 In the beginning God made the heavens and the earth. Before God made the world there was just darkness (Genesis 1: 1-3). What would it be like if it was always dark? (A blindfold could be used to illustrate.) On the first day God said, "Let there be light." Immediately there was light. God called the light day and the darkness night. Instead of darkness all the time, there was darkness followed by light (Genesis 1: 4-5). On the second day God spoke again and created the sky and air which are all around the earth. Night came again, and the second day ended (Genesis 1: 6-8). Ask the children to take deep breaths. Explain how important the air around us is. Up until this point the earth was covered in water but now it was time to create the land. God spoke and made room for the new land. The water around the pieces of land became the sea. Then God spoke again and said, "Let the land be covered with all kinds of plants and trees." God looked at all He had made and said it was good. This was the third day (Genesis 1: 9-13). Ask the children to name some of the plants which grow locally. Talk about the variety of colour, shape and size and how plants are both useful and beautiful. On the fourth day God made special lights to shine in the sky – the sun for the day and the moon and stars for the night. God saw the lights He had created and saw that they were good (Genesis 1: 14-19). Talk about how we need the sun. Think about the number of stars there are! On the sixth day God made all the different living creatures and then the most special of His creation – man and woman. God rested on the seventh day – He set an example for all people to follow.
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Genesis 1: 1
REMEMBER IT	 What was the world like in the beginning? On what day did light appear? On Day 2 God created the sky and the In the beginning, what was the earth covered with? On Day 3, what two growing things did God make? What lights did God make for the day and night? What was God's most special creation?

A1 Story 2 God makes the animals and people

INTRODUCE IT	 We are learning that: The Bible teaches that God made all the different, living creatures. The Bible teaches that we should live in a way that will please God because He made us. Key Verse: Genesis 1: 31 Bible Passage: Genesis 1: 20 - 2: 3 Show the pupils something you have made which didn't work out e.g. a burnt cake. Talk about how disappointing it is when things don't go to plan. Explain to the pupils that God made lots of different creatures and He wasn't disappointed with any of them.
	OR - Pupils could act as different animals in a guessing game.
TEACH IT	 Take time to reflect with the pupils about all the different kinds of living creatures that there are in the world. Consider their design and the intricate details in their make-up. For Christians this evidence all points to a creator God / a designer who cares. Read Genesis 1: 25 again and remind the pupils about how God felt about His creation. How do you feel about something you have made? How does an owner feel about their pet? Consider how much greater God's love for His creation is. Although God had made many wonderful things, He still had something else to make and He made this in a very special way. Show the children a handful of dust and ask them what they think they could make from it. The Bible tells us God took some dust from the ground and made the first man. The man came alive when God breathed into Him. Only man received the breath of God and only man can use the gift of speech to communicate with God through prayer. How special! The name of the first man was Adam (Genesis 1: 26-31). Explain to the children that when God made Adam He used His own image (what He is like) as a pattern. This means that God designed man to be in some ways like Himself. This makes us different from the animals. It also means that we know the difference between right and wrong and can learn to follow God and He rested and admired everything He had made (Genesis 2: 1-3). Talk about why we need to rest when we have been really busy. Make a list of ways we can do this. Complete the Bibletime lesson.
	Teach and evolution where necessary the Key Verse Conscist 1: 21
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Genesis 1: 31
REMEMBER IT	 How did God feel about His creation? What did God make on the sixth day as well as the animals? What did God say after He had created everything? Who was the first man? What did God use to create him? What did God use to create him? What made Adam different from the animals? How many days did it take God to create the world? What did God do on the seventh day?

A1 Story 3 The first man and woman

	 We are learning that: God created a wife for Adam, to help him care for God's creation. God made humans in His image, with special qualities. Key Verse: Either Genesis 2: 18 or Psalm 24: 1 Bible Passage: Genesis 2: 4-25
INTRODUCE IT	 If the children have experience of gardens, talk about what they have seen growing, or show some flowers / fruit / foliage which grow locally. If a garden is a new concept, explain simply that it is a place where people grow things and try to describe what it might be like. Explain that The Garden of Eden was more beautiful than anything we could ever draw or even imagine. Discuss the Garden of Eden – Would you have liked to have lived in the Garden of Eden? What do you think you would have enjoyed most? Do you think it would have been lonely for Adam?
TEACH IT	 Adam lived in a beautiful garden called Eden. Here, God gave Adam everything he needed – food and water. God also told Adam to look after the garden (Genesis 2: 15). God showed Adam all the creatures He had made. Adam gave a name to every living creature (Genesis 2: 19-20). Adam was surrounded by beautiful animals, birds, trees and plants but God decided to create someone special to share his life in the garden. God put Adam into a deep sleep and while he was asleep, He made the first woman from Adam's rib. Adam was no longer alone. He now had a wife called Eve who would be his companion as he looked after the garden God had given him (Genesis 2: 20-24). God made humans in His image and gave them special qualities / gifts / talents to use in their service to Him. Spend time emphasising this to the pupils so that they can reflect on how uniquely special they are. What talents do they have? How can they develop these / use them to help others?
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Either Genesis 2: 18 or Psalm 24: 1
REMEMBER IT	 Where did Adam live? What was Adam to do in the garden? How did the animals get their names? Finish the sentence: God decided to make Adam a What did God use to make Adam's wife? What was Adam's wife called? What makes humans unique? How does God feel about His creation?

<u>A1 Story 4</u> God's world is spoiled

	 We are learning that: Adam and Eve disobeyed God and spoiled His perfect creation. The Bible teaches that we disobey God too. We need to be sorry for our sins and ask for God's forgiveness. Key Verse: Either Romans 5: 12 or Romans 5: 1 Bible Passage: Genesis 3: 1-24
INTRODUCE IT	 Show the pupils a beautiful picture and then destroy it by writing over it or ripping it. Discuss - What happened to the picture? How does it look now? Explain that in today's Bible story we will learn that God created a perfect world but then it was spoiled.
TEACH IT	 In the garden were many trees. God told Adam and Eve that they could eat from any tree in the garden except for "The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil" (Genesis 2: 16-17). Refer to rules which the pupils have at home or school. Why do we need to have rules? (To keep us safe and happy.) Check that the children understand the rule which God asked Adam and Eve to obey. Explain that God created the world and rules over it, so He is the best One to decide how people should behave in it. The Bible says that we too need to obey His rules. When the world was first made, everything was perfect but one day God's enemy Satan, disguised as a serpent, came into the garden. The serpent spoke to Eve and told her that if she ate the fruit of "The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil", she would be as clever as God (Genesis 3: 1-5). Eve listened to God's enemy. She then disobeyed God and took some of the fruit. She gave some to Adam and they both ate it (Genesis 3: 6). That evening God wanted to talk to Adam and Eve could not hide from God and the Bible teaches that neither can we. God called "Where are you?" He knew they had disobeyed Him and although He still loved them, they had to be punished for their disobedience. God sent Adam and Eve out of the garden. Their sin had spoiled God's creation and ruined their friendship with God. Because of Adam and Eve's sins, thorns and thistles began to grow. Animals and people became ill and worst of all, death entered the world (Genesis 3: 9-24). The Bible teaches that God is also disappointed when we do wrong things. Consider together some of the things that people do which displease God. Despite this He loves us very much. So much that in His Word, the Bible, we read that God sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross so that we could be forgiven. When we say sorry for our sin and put our trust in Jesus, our friendship with God is fixed.
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Either Romans 5: 12 or Romans 5: 1
REMEMBER IT	 Who tempted Eve to take the fruit? How did Satan persuade Eve to eat it? Who did Eve give the fruit to? What did Adam and Eve do when God called them? How did God feel about what Adam and Eve had done? What happened to Adam and Eve? How does God feel when we do things that are wrong? What does the Bible say we need to do to be forgiven?

<u>A2 Story 1</u> Noah obeys God

INTRODUCE IT	 We are learning that: Noah, his family and the animals were kept safe in the Ark. The Bible teaches that God sent Jesus to save us from sin. Key Verse: Acts 16: 31 Bible Passage: Genesis 6: 5-22 Ask the pupils to tell you what their favourite animals are. Discuss what it would be like if all those animals were in one place! What kind of place would they fit in? What would it sound like? What would it smell like? Explain that they are going to learn a story from the Bible about a time when some people and lots of animals got onto a big boat.
TEACH IT	 When God first made the world, everything was good and beautiful. Before long, Adam and Eve disobeyed Him. Their children became selfish and wicked and God was sorry that He had ever made them (Genesis 6: 5-6). The whole world was very sinful but there was one man who really pleased God. His name was Noah. This man, and his wife, along with their three sons and their wives, tried to do the things God wanted, while all the families around, pleased only themselves and forgot all about God (Genesis 6: 8-10). God decided that the world was so bad that He must punish it. He told Noah to build a big boat called the Ark. When it was ready God would send a great flood upon the earth. Everything living would die, but Noah and his family would be kept safe in the Ark (Genesis 6: 13-18). Noah did everything, just as God had told him. It probably took him up to 100 years to build the very large boat called the Ark. <i>Talk about the size - as big as a football pitch and three storeys high.</i> At last, after a lot of hard work, the Ark was finished (Genesis 6: 22). God told Noah to bring animals and birds of every kind into the Ark. Name some of the animals which the pupils mentioned in the introduction. These were to be kept safe with Noah and his family. Count with the pupils the eight members of Noah's family who entered the Ark. When all were inside, God shut the door. His plan to save them had begun (Genesis 7: 13-16). The Bible teaches that we too have done lots of wrong things. We need to be saved from the punishment our sin deserves. The Good News is that God has provided a way for us to be safe when we put our trust in His Son, Jesus. He is like an Ark that God has provided for us.
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Acts 16: 31
REMEMBER IT	 What was the problem in the world? What did God decide to do? Who pleased God? What did God ask Noah to do? Who went into the Ark? Who shut the door of the Ark? Why were the people inside the Ark kept safe? Who does the Bible say God sent to take the punishment for our sin?

A2 Story 2 Safe in the Ark

	 We are learning that: Noah and his family were kept safe because they trusted and obeyed God. God has promised to keep us safe if we trust Him. Key Verse: Proverbs 29: 25 Bible Passage: Genesis 7: 1-16
INTRODUCE IT	 Ask the pupils to talk about something they built or made – What did you use to make it? Was it difficult to make? Did anybody help you? Review the previous story - What did Noah use to build the Ark? Do you think it was difficult to build? Why did he build it? Emphasise that although it was a very difficult job, Noah built the Ark because God asked Him to. He obeyed God's instructions completely.
TEACH IT	 Now Noah and his family were safe in the Ark (Genesis 7: 6-7). After seven days it began to rain. It rained and rained, day after day after day! All the grass and flowers were covered with water. The rivers and seas became great floods (Genesis 7: 17-20). Explain that now it was too late for the people who were outside the Ark. They had chosen to disobey God's rules and live sinful lives. Still the waters rose higher and higher. It covered houses, trees and even the highest mountains (Genesis 7: 20 -21). Try to imagine how Noah and his family might have been feeling inside the Ark. What would have happened if Noah had not obeyed God? Inside the Ark, Noah, his family and all the animals were safe. Because Noah had trusted and obeyed God, He was protecting them all (Genesis 7: 23). The Bible says that God has promised to keep us safe too if we trust and obey Him like Noah did. Even though we may face difficult 'storms' here on Earth, God promises to never leave us and to bring us safely home to Heaven. Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Safe in the Ark. Also, free Power Point at <u>www.bibleforchildren.org</u>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Proverbs 29: 25
REMEMBER IT	 How did Noah show that he believed God? Who went into the Ark with Noah? How long were they in the Ark before it began to rain? How high did the waters rise? Who was kept safe? Why was Noah kept safe? Who will keep us safe if we trust in Him?

A2 Story 3 A brand new start

	 We are learning that: God gave Noah and his family a new, clean world to live in. The Bible says that God can make our lives new and clean if we ask Him to forgive us. Key Verse: 2 Corinthians 5: 17 Bible Passage: Genesis 8: 1-19
INTRODUCE IT	 Tell the pupils that Noah and his family had to spend a long time in the Ark (over a year). Allow the pupils to imagine what it would have been like in the Ark - What would you have done all day? How do you think you would have felt?
TEACH IT	 After 40 long days the rain finally stopped. But the floods still hid the mountains from sight (Genesis 8: 1-4). One day, Noah sent a raven from the Ark, to see if the water had gone down but the raven kept flying back and forth. Later, Noah sent out a dove which soon returned. A week later he sent it out again and it returned with an olive leaf in its beak. Explain that this meant that the tops of the trees were now above the water (Genesis 8: 6-11). Seven days later, Noah sent out the dove again. This time it did not return. Noah knew that the water had gone down further, and the dove had found a new home. At last, the Ark came to rest on a high mountain called Mount Ararat (Genesis 8: 12). When the ground was dry again, God told Noah to come out of the Ark along with the animals. What great news this must have been for everyone! They had been shut up in the Ark for a very long time! How do you think Noah and his family felt when they finally got to leave the Ark? Explore with the pupils what the new world would have looked like (Genesis 8: 15-19). Noah and his family had been given a new, clean world to live in. The Bible says that God can take away the wrong things in our lives too and give us new, clean hearts. We need to ask God for forgiveness and trust in Jesus, who took the punishment we deserve when He died on the cross.
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - 2 Corinthians 5: 17
REMEMBER IT	 Which bird did Noah send out of the Ark first? What did the dove bring back in its mouth the second time? Where did the Ark come to rest? Who told Noah to come out of the Ark? Who was saved from the flood? Who does the Bible say was punished for our sins? What does the Bible say we have to do to have a clean heart? Fill in the missing word: "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new"

A2 Story 4 God's promise

	 We are learning that: The Bible teaches God always keeps His promises. Just as God looked after Noah and his family, God has promised to never leave those who trust and follow Him. Key Verse: Hebrews 13: 5 Bible Passage: Genesis 8: 20-22 and 9: 8-17
INTRODUCE IT	 Give the pupils an example of a time when somebody made you a promise. Allow them the opportunity to tell a partner about a time when somebody made them a promise. Ask the children if anyone has ever broken a promise that was made to them. Explain that the Bible is full of promises from God and that Christians believe He never breaks His promises. The Bible teaches that if we choose to trust and follow God, He has promised never to leave us.
TEACH IT	 Noah and His family were safe! They had been in the Ark for a long time, but now God said that Noah, his family and the animals could leave the Ark (Genesis 8: 15-19). The first thing that Noah wanted to do was to say "Thank you" to God for keeping him and his family safe through the flood. He did this by collecting some big stones and piling them on top of each other to build an altar. In Noah's day people made sacrifices on an altar to thank God for all He had done for them (Genesis 8: 20-21). What sort of things do people who love God thank Him for today? Make a list. God was very pleased that Noah and his family remembered to thank Him. He then gave them a wonderful promise, "I will never flood the whole earth again." (Genesis 8: 21-22) Then God showed them something which was to be a reminder of His promise. It was a rainbow. Every time Noah and His family saw a rainbow it reminded them of God's promise (Genesis 9: 12-13). Talk about rainbows and their beautiful colours. Encourage the pupils to think about God and His promises next time they see one. Did God keep His promise which He made to Noah? The Bible teaches that God still keeps His promise to be with us when we trust Him. (See 2nd Key Verse) Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – God's Promise.
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Hebrews 13: 5
REMEMBER IT	 Choose a selection of questions from the previous lessons on Noah to see how much the pupils can remember about the story. Revise the Key Verses that the pupils have learned while studying the story of Noah. Pupils could draw a picture of their favourite part of the story and / or write a sentence about something they learned. A group or class could make a collage of the people and animals leaving the Ark, including the altar and rainbow.

A3 Story 1 Jesus calls Peter

	 We are learning that: Jesus needed helpers to work with Him and to carry on His work in the future. The Bible teaches that to be His helpers, Christians must follow Jesus and obey Him. Key Verse: Matthew 4: 19 Bible Passage: Matthew 4: 18-20
INTRODUCE IT	 Talk to the pupils about friends. Where did they first meet their friends? Why is it a good thing to have friends? What sort of friends are good to have? (Suggestions might include kind, helpful, reliable, truthful, trustworthy, dependable.) Explain that Jesus had good friends too and today we are going to learn about some of them. Set the scene – a big lake called the Sea of Galilee surrounded by hills. Fishermen worked here catching fish. Describe how they would have done this - out in their boats very early in the morning, all weather conditions, paper charts/maps, throwing out their nets, mending their nets when they were broken - everything was done by hand, no machines to help them. It was hard work!
TEACH IT	 Jesus calls Peter and his brother Andrew (Matthew 4: 18-19). Peter and John had met Jesus before and knew how important He was. Now Jesus wanted them to leave their fishing and come with Him and help Him in His work. Use the actual words Jesus used and explain that their new job would be "fishers of men" - to bring other people to know Jesus. What a special job Jesus had invited them to do! Peter and Andrew's response (Matthew 4: 20). They knew straight away that this was the right thing to do. They showed their willingness by going with Jesus immediately. Ask the children for an example of when they have been asked to do something and have obeyed immediately! Explore how Peter and Andrew would have been feeling - excited, happy and special because Jesus had chosen them. Explain that now they were Jesus' disciples. This means that they were prepared to follow Him wherever He went, learn from Him and obey Him. Jesus calls James and John (Matthew 4: 21, 22). Later on that day, Jesus called two more fishermen and they too followed Him (Level 2). The Bible tells us that Jesus wants each of us to be His followers. If we become His followers He can use us in His work. Like the fishermen in the Bible story, Christians need to obey His words. Where do we find His words? - written in the Bible! Perhaps show a Bible with Jesus' words written in red to the class.
LEARN IT	Teach the Key Verse, Matthew 4: 19 checking that the children understand "fishers of men". The Bible verse teaches us that Jesus told Peter and Andrew to leave their fishing business and "fish for people" instead – this means to help others to believe in God and become Christians.
REMEMBER IT	 How many fishermen did Jesus call altogether? Where did they work? Who was Andrew's brother? What did Jesus promise they would become? What did Peter and Andrew leave behind when they went with Jesus? How did Peter and Andrew show that they wanted to be Jesus' disciples? Name the second pair of brothers who followed Jesus? What were James and John doing when Jesus came along? Who was in the boat with them? Where do we read Jesus' words?

<u>A3 Story 2</u> Jesus helps Peter

	 We are learning that: Jesus' power made an impact in Peter's life. The Bible tells us that Jesus is God's Son and He wants us to follow Him, as Peter did. Key Verse: Luke 5: 10 Bible Passage: Luke 5: 1-11
INTRODUCE IT	 Ask the pupils to think of things they are good at doing. Remind them that we all have different skills and abilities. Peter was good at fishing. He had been a fisherman for a long time. But in today's story, Peter learned that he needed to obey Jesus' instructions to be successful! (You may need to explain that Peter is sometimes called Simon or Simon Peter.)
TEACH IT	 Remind the children of the setting from the previous lesson. In today's story, Jesus used Peter's boat and taught the people God's Word (Luke 5: 1-3). Jesus' command to Peter - Jesus told Peter to go out into the deeper water, let down the nets and catch some fish (Luke 5: 4-5). Explore Peter's feelings about this. The big catch (Luke 5: 6, 7) - Convey the contrast with the night before and the extent of the catch. This was a miracle! The Bible teaches that the creator of the fish (God) was there with Peter in the boat and it was His power that brought the fish to Peter's net. Peter's reaction (Luke 5: 8, 9) - Peter was astonished. Explain that Peter realised in a new way who Jesus was. He was not an ordinary man like Peter. He was all-powerful. Compared to Jesus, Peter knew just how sinful he was. Peter's new job (Luke 5: 10) - Jesus told Peter that from now on he would be fishing for people! Check that the pupils understand this concept which was in last week's story. Now Peter knew that Jesus had something far more important for him to do so he left everything and followed Jesus (Luke 5: 11). The Bible teaches that Jesus wants us to recognise His greatness and power. Christians believe that when they choose to obey and follow Jesus, He is with them, guiding them in their lives.
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Luke 5: 10 In this verse we learn not to be afraid. Jesus cared about Peter's day to day routine and called him away from fishing for fish, to fishing for people – teaching people about God. The Bible teaches that Jesus calls us to follow Him – it is our choice whether to follow Him or not. Peter chose to follow Jesus.
REMEMBER IT	 What did Jesus use that belonged to Peter? What did Jesus ask Peter to do after He had finished speaking to the crowd? When had Peter last been fishing? How did Peter cope with the big catch of fish? What is the name for a special act which Jesus can do because He is the Son of God? Why did Peter fall down on his knees before Jesus? Who else was amazed by the big catch of fish? What did Jesus tell Peter he would do from now on? What did Peter and his friends do at the end of the story? Display it: Ask each child to draw one fish and cut it out. All the fish could then be displayed together and a caption added to remind the children of the story e.g. Jesus helped Peter catch lots of fish.

<u>A3 Story 3</u> Jesus calms the storm

	 We are learning that: Jesus was able to calm the storm because the Bible says He is the Son of God. Christians believe that the Bible is the Word of God. Key Verse: Matthew 8: 27 Bible Passages: Matthew 8: 23-27 / Mark 4: 35-41
INTRODUCE IT	 Talk about the weather. Ask the pupils if they have ever seen it change very quickly; have they ever got caught in heavy rain? Talk about how weather affects sailing and the impact of high winds. In today's story Jesus and His disciples were sailing across the Sea of Galilee.
TEACH IT	 A calm start - describe the peaceful scene, soon Jesus was asleep (Matthew 8: 23, 24). The storm - suddenly a terrible storm started, and the disciples panicked (Matthew 8: 24). Describe the scene vividly - the noise, the waves coming into the boat, the attempts to bail out the water. The disciples' fear - explain that they were very frightened because they thought they were going to drown. Quickly they wakened Jesus and asked Him to save them. Use their actual words (Matthew 8: 25). Jesus was disappointed that the disciples had not been able to have faith in Him. Explain that having faith means trusting in Him (Matthew 8: 26a). Jesus' power - Then Jesus stopped the storm (Matthew 8: 26b and Mark 4: 39). Emphasise that the storm stopped instantly and completely! The disciples' amazement (Matthew 8: 27) - Explain that when they saw Jesus' power over the wind and waves, they realised that He was different from them. Ensure that the pupils understand why Jesus was able to calm the storm. The Bible teaches that Jesus has power over everything in our world, including the weather. Encourage the children to think of situations when Christians need to trust in Jesus and realise that He is in control. Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Jesus calms the storm.
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Matthew 8: 27 . The Bible teaches that Jesus can control the forces of nature – the wind and the rain and the seas. Jesus had the power to calm the storm; in the same way He has the power to help Christians deal with their problems if they ask Him.
REMEMBER IT	 Where does this story take place? Who got into the boat first? What did the waves do when the storm came? What was Jesus doing when the storm started? Why did the disciples waken Jesus? Why was Jesus disappointed with them? Which two things did Jesus stop? Where is the Key Verse found? Why could Jesus calm the storm, but none of His disciples could? Who can Christians today rely on in times of trouble? Act it: This narrative lends itself well to drama with 12 disciples sitting in a boat formation; others can make the sound effects of the storm. An adult leader can read the narrative as the children improvise with the various actions and speak the appropriate words.

<u>A3 Story 4</u> Jesus saves Peter

	 We are learning that: Jesus saved Peter in response to his cry for help. The Bible teaches that Christians need to trust in Jesus in order to be saved. Key Verse: Matthew 14: 33 Bible Passage: Matthew 14: 22-33
INTRODUCE IT	 Explain that as you spend time with a person you get to know them better. You could help the pupils recall what Peter has learned about Jesus so far. Record the pupils ideas on the board e.g. The Bible says Jesus is the Son of God, He can do miracles, He has power over the sea. In today's story Peter learned more about Jesus.
TEACH IT	 The disciples set off in a boat while Jesus went to pray on his own (Matthew 14: 22-23). Explain the importance of prayer in Jesus' life – He was speaking to His Father, God. The storm (Matthew 14: 24). Recall the storm in last week's story and describe this one. Jesus could see that the disciples were in trouble, so he walked out on the water to them in the middle of the night (Matthew 14: 25 – 27). Describe what the disciples thought and felt. Note Jesus' words of encouragement. Peter's request. Peter wanted to be sure it really was Jesus, so he asked Jesus to invite him to walk on the water too! Jesus said "Come" so Peter got out of the boat and started to walk towards Him (Matthew 14: 28 – 29). All went well until Peter took his eyes off Jesus and noticed the size of the waves. He started to sink! Jesus saves Peter. Use Peter's words to tell how he immediately called out to Jesus to save him (Matthew 14: 30 – 32). Then they both got into the boat and the storm stopped. Describe the disciples' reaction at what had happened (Matthew 14: 35). Peter needed to be saved from drowning. Christians believe they need to be saved from the sin in their lives, and only Jesus can do that. The Bible tells us that Jesus took the punishment for sin when He died on the cross.
LEARN IT	Teach and explain the Key Verse - Matthew 14: 33 Explain what worshipped means. The disciples were amazed and filled with joy at what they had learned about Jesus. Explain that for people everywhere who love Jesus, this is a wonderful statement which they can say from their hearts.
REMEMBER IT	 The quiz could be based on all the stories in A3. If you have some card you could draw some different sized fish. On answering a question, children select or catch a fish from a display at the front. Each fish has a number of points written on it. Have two teams and add up the points for each one. Where did all these stories take place? Finish the verse: "Come follow me and I" To whom did Jesus say these words? What did Peter do when he saw the large catch of fish? What new job did Jesus give to Peter? Why did Jesus go up into the hills? What did Peter learn about Jesus in this story?

A4 Story 1 Peter falls asleep

	 We are learning that: Jesus made prayer (talking to His Father) a priority. The Bible says that it is important for Christians to pray. Key Verse: John 15: 14 Bible Passage: Matthew 26: 36-46
INTRODUCE IT	 Talk about things which children find difficult, e.g. running the last part of a long race, listening and concentrating for a long time, staying awake for some special event when it gets late. In today's story, Jesus needs some special support from His friend Peter. Let's find out if Peter was able to do what Jesus asked him to do!
TEACH IT	 Explain the background to this story. Jesus knew that it would soon be time for Him to die on the cross. Already He had eaten supper with His disciples for the last time. Jesus often prayed to His Father and knew how important it was to pray on this occasion about what lay ahead. He brought His disciples to a garden where He often prayed. Tonight, He wanted His three special friends, Peter, James and John to be watching and praying close to Him. Jesus gave instructions to Peter, James and John to stay awake and pray (Matthew 26: 36-37). Jesus then went a little further and prayed to his Father. Explain how Jesus was feeling. His prayer showed that He wanted to please His Father in everything (Matthew 26: 38-39). After an hour, Jesus found Peter and the others sleeping. Talk about how disappointed He was (Matthew 26: 40-41). Jesus prayed for a second time and again found His friends asleep (Matthew 26: 42-43). Jesus prayed for a third time and came back to find them asleep again. Discuss how Peter and the others had let Jesus down. They had also failed to pray for themselves at this difficult time when they needed to pray (Matthew 26: 44-45). At that moment Jesus' enemies arrived to arrest Him (Matthew 26: 45b-46). The Bible tells Christians that it is very important for them to pray to God as it helps them draw strength from Him and enable them to overcome temptation. Peter and the others failed to obey Jesus' command to "watch and pray" but the Bible says that Jesus wants Christians to obey His commands. The Bible tells Christians that is usery important for them to go to the cross and give His life for us.
LEARN IT	Teach and explain the Key Verse - John 15: 14 . The Bible tells us in this verse that Jesus calls Christians His friends, rather than servants. Sometimes Christians can be disliked in the world, but the Bible says that Jesus will love, support and be their friend.
REMEMBER IT	 Where did Jesus pray? Which disciples did He want to pray with Him? What was Jesus praying about? How was Jesus feeling as He prayed? How long did Jesus pray for the first time? Why could the disciples not pray? How many times did Jesus ask them to pray? What happened after Jesus finished praying? Where is the Key Verse found? What does Jesus call us if we obey Him?

A4 Story 2 Peter has a fight

	 We are learning that: The Bible tells us that Jesus allowed Himself to be captured and put to death for us. Christians can rely on God to help them deal with anger in difficult situations in their lives. Key Verse: Ephesians 4: 26 Bible Passage: Matthew 26: 47-56
INTRODUCE IT	Review the previous story about what happened in the garden. Peter and his friends hadn't prayed as Jesus had asked them to. Now there were more difficult times to face. What would they do next?
TEACH IT	 Set the scene for this incident. It was dark and quiet but suddenly there were heavy footsteps of armed soldiers. What would Peter and his friends be feeling now? Suddenly Judas stepped out of the crowd of enemies and came over and kissed Jesus. Explain who Judas was and that this was his way of letting the soldiers know which man Jesus was. Explain what "betrayed" means - breaking of trust, be disloyal, hand over, let down or inform on (Matthew 26: 47-50). When Peter realised that Jesus was being captured, he became very angry and tried to defend Jesus by attacking one of the men in the crowd (Matthew 26: 51). It is easy for us to lose our temper and get angry as Peter did. Immediately Jesus told Peter to put away his sword. Explain that Jesus did not need Peter to defend Him. Jesus knew that what was happening was all part of God's plan and He was willing to allow His enemies to arrest Him and put Him to death. Convey the contrast between Jesus' and Peter's reaction. Jesus was calm, having prayed to His Father. Peter, who failed to pray, was not behaving as Jesus would have wanted Him to and became angry (Matthew 26: 52-56). The terrified disciples deserted Jesus and ran away. Discuss why they did this (Matthew 26: 56b). Only Peter tried to follow Jesus, but at a safe distance in case he got arrested tool Help the pupils to visualise how Peter would do this without being discovered (Matthew 26: 58). Explain that Christians can pray to God and ask Him to help them not to show anger but to be self-controlled. The Holy Spirit who lives in the life of a Christian can give power to behave in the right way. Talk about how the outcome to a specific scenario would be different if we didn't react by becoming angry or fighting.
LEARN IT	Teach and explain the Key Verse - Ephesians 4: 26 . Explain that the Bible doesn't tell us that we shouldn't feel angry, but it points out that it is important to handle our anger properly. Anger can hurt others, destroy friendships and cause us to become sad. So talk to the person who has hurt you, and sort it out. Christians also talk to God about their feelings in prayer.
REMEMBER IT	 Who came to the garden with Jesus' enemies? How did Judas show them who Jesus was? What did Peter reach for when Jesus was captured? Which part of the man's body did Peter cut off? What did Jesus tell Peter to do? How can a Christian overcome anger? What did the disciples do when Jesus was arrested? Who tried to follow Jesus at a distance? Act it: The children could act out one or two situations where someone becomes angry. Discuss as a class how the situations should be dealt with.

<u>A4 Story 3</u> Peter lies about Jesus

	 We are learning that: Sometimes we are not very brave and let our friends down. The Bible teaches that when Christians let Jesus down, He is willing to forgive us. Key Verse: Psalm 51: 7 Bible Passage: Matthew 26: 69-75
INTRODUCE IT	 Talk about how we recognise people by their voices. If the pupils have experience of using a phone, they may know who is speaking without being told. Talk about how accents make voices sound different – you may be able to give a few examples from the country you are in. Connect with last week's story – remind the children about Jesus being arrested and how the disciples had run away. Peter, however, wanted to know what would happen to Jesus.
TEACH IT	 Peter went as far as the courtyard of the High Priest's house (Matthew 26: 69a). Explain that the courtyard was outside the actual house. If possible, use an example of a courtyard in any building familiar to the children. Set the scene – a cold night, the fire, the guards and servants who would also have been there. A servant girl recognised Peter and told the others that Peter had been with Jesus. Peter said that he didn't know what the girl was talking about (Matthew 26: 69b - 70). Enable the children to see that Peter had told a lie. Of course, he had been with Jesus! Explore the reasons why Peter had not told the truth. After Peter moved out to the gateway, he was noticed by another girl. Again, Peter said he didn't know Jesus (Matthew 26: 71 - 72). Level 2: explain the word "denied" – Peter rejected or refused knowing Jesus or that they were friends. A little later, someone else commented that Peter spoke like one of Jesus' followers. Peter was from Galilee, as was Jesus and His other followers. Link this information with what you talked about in 'Introduce It'. Describe how annoyed and frightened Peter was and how he denied Jesus for a third time. The rooster crowed, and Peter remembered what Jesus had said earlier (Matthew 26: 34). Explain that Peter had made a mistake. He hadn't been brave enough to say he was a follower of Jesus and had told lies instead. All of us make mistakes. There are times when we let Jesus down by what we say and do. The Bible says that Jesus is willing to forgive us for the wrong we have done. He is able to do that because He died on the cross for our sins.
LEARN IT	Teach and explain the Key Verse - Psalm 51: 7 . Explain that this is a prayer – when people say a prayer they talk to God. The Key Verse tells us that when Christians ask Jesus to forgive their sin, it is as if He is washing them and making them completely clean – whiter than snow! If necessary, explain what snow is. God can and will forgive a Christian any sin, no matter how bad they think it is.
REMEMBER IT	 Where was Peter waiting? Who was the first person to speak to Peter? How many times did Peter say that he didn't know Jesus? Why did Peter tell these lies? How many times did Peter hear the rooster crowing? What did he remember when he heard the rooster crowing? Why did Peter cry? What should Christians do when they let Jesus down?

<u>A4 Story 4</u> Peter talks with Jesus

	 We are learning that: Peter was given another chance to express his love to Jesus after his denial. The Bible tells us that Jesus wants us to love Him. Key Verse: 1 John 4: 19 Bible Passage: John 21: 1-19
INTRODUCE IT	 Ask the pupils to think back to the first stories they heard about Peter. What was Peter's job when Jesus first called him? Explain that so much had taken place since then. Peter had been one of Jesus' special friends, but then Peter had let Jesus down (recall last three stories). Shortly afterwards, Jesus died on the cross and rose again. On two different occasions, Jesus met His disciples and showed them He was alive! One day after this happened, Peter decided to go out fishing again.
TEACH IT	 The disciples had fished all night but caught nothing! (John 21: 3). Explore how they would have been feeling – tired, hungry, disappointed. Picture the scene - the early morning sun, someone standing on the shore. Recount the dialogue between the disciples and the stranger (John 21: 4-6a). When they obeyed the stranger's instructions, they got a huge catch of fish (153). Suddenly John realised that the person must be Jesus. Peter was so excited that he jumped into the water and went off to meet Him (John 21: 7-8). Jesus organised breakfast for them (John 21: 9-14). Try to imagine what it would be like to have breakfast on the beach and convey how special and unexpected it was for Jesus to be with them. After breakfast, Jesus talked with Peter. Three times He asked Peter if He loved Him (John 21: 15-19). Explain how important this was for Peter. Jesus showed that He had forgiven Peter and had a special job for him to do. For Level 2 children, you could mention how Peter was now expressing His love to Jesus to bries in contrast to his earlier three denials. Ask the pupils how they would feel if a good friend denied knowing them? Would they be able to forgive their friend as easily as Jesus forgave Peter? The Bible tells us that God loves us and showed His love by sending His Son to save us. The Christian's response should be to love Jesus in return.
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - 1 John 4: 19 The Bible teaches that God's love is the source of all human love. It is easy for Christians to say they love God when it doesn't cost them anything, but the real test of their love is how they treat others – family, friends, strangers and even enemies. Being part of God's family means loving others as He loves us.
REMEMBER IT	 How long had Peter and his friends been out fishing? On what side were they told to cast their net? How many fish did they catch? Who was the first to realise it was Jesus? Who wanted to be the first to get to Jesus? What did Peter do before he jumped into the water? Who made breakfast? What did they have to eat for breakfast? What was the question Jesus asked Peter three times? Where is the Key Verse found? Act It: Parts of this narrative may lend themselves to actions (e.g. fishing, noticing stranger on shore, jumping into the water, pulling in catch of fish, counting fish) and facial expressions (e.g. disappointment, amazement, delight). It might be effective to read the Bible text to the children and ask them to put in some simple actions at appropriate places.

A5 Story 1 Abram leaves home *Note: Abram and Sarai's names change to Abraham and Sarah in Genesis 17.

	 We are learning that: Abram obeyed God when he left Ur and moved to a new land. Christians show their trust in God by obeying Him. Key Verse: Proverbs 3: 5 Bible Passage: Genesis 12: 1-9
INTRODUCE IT	 Talk about moving to a new house if this is within the pupils' experience. How would they feel about going to live in another country far from home? - excited? worried? sad? happy? Give reasons. Introduce Abram and explain what his life in the city of Ur was like – family, friends, house, animals, wealthHe had a good life!
TEACH IT	 One day God said to Abram, "Leave your home and go to a land which I will show you" (Genesis 12: 1). What was hard about what God was asking Abram? (Leaving his good life at home / not knowing where he was going.) God made promises to Abram (Genesis 12: 2-3). Explain that God's promises were all good things – e.g. a great nation and a great name. He wanted to bless Abram. When God blesses someone, He is showing them His goodness. Abram obeyed God (Genesis 12: 4). Why do you think Abram obeyed? (He believed God's promises / trusted God.) Explain who was with Abram – Sarai his wife, Lot his nephew, his servants and God was also there to show the way. Describe how they would have travelled on camels and stayed in tents during this long journey through a desert. Finally, Abram arrived in Canaan (Genesis 12: 6–9). How would Abram feel now? Explain that building an altar was Abram's way of being thankful to God. Talk about situations where Christians have to trust God today, e.g. during an illness / difficult situation. The Bible teaches that trusting God completely means counting on Him to work things out rather than depending on our own way or ability.
LEARN IT	Teach and explain the Key Verse - Proverbs 3: 5 . Explain that this verse describes what Abram did – he trusted in God with all His heart rather than working out things in his own way.
REMEMBER IT	 Revise the story by asking the pupils to answer Yes / No to the following statements: God spoke to Abram. Abram left home because of a famine. God promised to bless Abram. Abram was 70 when he left home. Abram knew where he was going. Abram had a son called Lot. God led Abram to Canaan. Abram lived in a house in the new land. Abram trusted God by obeying God. The Bible teaches that God wants everyone to trust and obey Him.

A5 Story 2 Abram and Lot *Note: Abram and Sarai's names change to Abraham and Sarah in Genesis 17.

	 We are learning that: Lot made a selfish choice which turned out to be a bad choice. It is important that our choices do not have negative consequences for others. Key Verse: Either Genesis 13: 15 or Philippians 4: 19 Bible Passage: Genesis 13: 1-18
INTRODUCE IT	 Talk about choices which the pupils make and about letting others choose first. Talk about quarrelling / arguing and how it spoils our friendships.
TEACH IT	 Abram's servants and Lot's servants were quarrelling about which land their animals would graze on (Genesis 13: 5–7). Abram knew that the quarrelling was not good, so he kindly gave Lot first choice of the land for his animals (Genesis 13: 8–9). Describe the landscape pictorially, showing the contrast between the choices open to Lot – the flat well-watered land of the Jordan valley where there was plenty of green grass compared with the not-so-good, hilly land surrounding it. What do you think Lot will choose? Lot's choice (Genesis 13: 10–13). Why did Lot make the choice he did? (He saw what looked good and wanted it for himself). Lot was being greedy and selfish as we can be. Explain that Lot's choice did not turn out to be as good as he thought because the people who lived there did not please God. Abram and Lot separated from each other, but God promised that one day in the future, He would give Abram and his family all the land he could see in every direction (Genesis 13: 14–18). How would you have felt if you had been Abram? Would you have felt cheated? (Reinforce that Abram had God's promises which were better than what Lot had chosen). Lot made a bad choice. It's important to make wise choices as often our choices can affect the people around us. The Bible teaches that God knows what is best for us and He is able to meet our needs perfectly, just as He was going to give Abram all he needed. God can be counted on to keep His promises.
LEARN IT	Teach and explain one of the Key Verses – Genesis 13: 15 (God reminds Abram of His promises) or Philippians 4: 19 (God promises to bless those who use what He has given them for His glory.)
REMEMBER IT	 The story ends with Abram building an altar. The person who answers the question correctly in the team could throw some dice to collect a number of stones (Genesis 13: 1–6). Real stones or drawings of stones would do. The winning team has the altar with the most stones. How do we know Abram was a wealthy man? Who decided that the quarrelling needed to stop? Who had first choice? Which river could Lot see? What direction did Lot go in? What was not good about the place Lot chose? Where did God tell Abram to look? What did God promise Abram? (Land and family) What did Abram do at the altar he built? What does the Bible say about God's promises?

<u>A5 Story 3</u> God's promises to Abram *Note: Abram and Sarai's names change to Abraham and Sarah in Genesis 17.

	 We are learning that: The Bible teaches that God knows the future and can make promises about what is going to happen. The Bible teaches that God wants us to trust His promises. Key Verse: Either Genesis 15: 6 or 1 Corinthians 10: 13 Bible Passage: Genesis 15: 1-7, Genesis 17: 1-16
INTRODUCE IT	 Give an illustration of a promise which might be made to children (E.g. a treat after tidying their room.) Emphasise the trust they have to show during the time of waiting and the excitement of looking forward to the actual fulfilment of the promise. As people we may fail to keep our promises, but the Bible says that God always keeps His!
TEACH IT	 God spoke to Abram in a dream and promised him a son (Genesis 15: 1, 4). Link this to God's previous promises to Abram (Genesis 12:2-3). Try to convey how amazing this news was for Abram who was by now 90+ years old. God showed Abram the stars and told him his family would be as many as the number of stars! (Genesis 15: 5) Imagine the impossibility of trying to count the stars! Involve the pupils in the wonder of the stars – how were they created? Abram believed God's promise (Genesis 15: 6). Explore the reasons why Abram believed God. God gave Abram and Sarai new names (Genesis 17: 5, 15). Abraham's new name means "father of many" so he would always remember God's promises. Christians believe that God has promises for us in His Word, the Bible. Give some examples of God's promises to us when we trust Him. (E.g. to give us strength, to never leave us, to take away fear, to give us wisdom.) The Bible teaches that God is pleased when we believe what He says. Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – God's promise to Abram.
LEARN IT	Teach and explain one of the Key Verses – Genesis 15: 6 (Explain that God was pleased when Abram believed Him) or 1 Corinthians 10: 13 (God is faithful) – Explain that faithful means that God can be depended on to keep His promises.
REMEMBER IT	 What had God already promised Abram he would be head of? What did God promise Abram in the dream or vision? Who was Abram's wife? What did God show Abram? What did God compare the stars to? What did Abram do when God gave him this promise? What was Abram's new name? What was Sarai's new name? What does the Bible teach about God's promises? What does the word "believe" mean?

<u>A5 Story 4</u> Abraham and the visitors *Note: Abram and Sarah in Genesis 17.

	 We are learning that: Before the Bible was written, God sent His messages in different ways. In today's reading, three important messengers brought a message from God to Abraham. The Bible teaches that God is faithful to His promises - nothing is too hard for Him to do. Key Verse: Genesis 18: 14 Bible Passage: Genesis 18: 1-15, Genesis 21:1-7
INTRODUCE IT	 Talk about what happens in your culture when unexpected visitors arrive. You could use some objects to illustrate this or do a short role-play about welcoming a guest. Set the scene for Abraham's visitors to arrive – Abraham was resting at the entrance of his tent in the middle of the day when he noticed some men approaching. Who could this be?
TEACH IT	 Abraham welcomed his visitors and organised water and food for them (Genesis 18: 2– 8). Explain Sarah's part. Appeal to the senses when telling this story – the bright sun, the cool water on hot feet, the different smells of the food After eating the meal, the three visitors gave Abraham the news that Sarah would have a son next year (Genesis 18: 9, 10). How did the visitors know this? Explain who the visitors were – God's messengers from Heaven – one was Jesus and the others were angels. Discuss how Abraham felt about hearing this news. God's promises were very close to being fulfilled! Sarah laughed because she thought it seemed impossible, but God promised to do the impossible! (Genesis 18: 11–15). Discuss how God may have felt when Sarah laughed. After a year, Sarah's baby was born (Genesis 21: 1–7). Try to capture the joy they must have felt. Had God kept His promise? With Level 2 children you could explain the meaning of Isaac's name (laughter). The Bible teaches that God can be relied on to keep all His promises to us. Nothing is too hard for Him – He is still like this today! Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Abram and the visitors.
LEARN IT	Teach and explain the Key Verse - Genesis 18: 14 Make the point that for Christians, reminding themselves of God's power encourages them to look to Him for help in every situation.
REMEMBER IT	 These quiz questions relate to this story. You may wish to use these or base your quiz on an assortment of questions from all four stories in A5. What time of day was it when the visitors came? Where was Abraham at the time? What did Abraham ask Sarah to do? What else did they have to eat? Where was Sarah while the messengers were telling their news? Why did Sarah laugh? How long was it until Sarah would have a son? What age was Abraham when Isaac was born? Think of two reasons why Abraham and Sarah were happy. (They had a son, God had kept His promise to them.) Act It: Children would enjoy the first part of this narrative being acted out. Make all the actions very deliberate. Adult helpers could play the part of Abraham, Sarah, the servant, the 3 visitors. Alternatively, with a small group, the children could mime / take spoken parts.

<u>A6 Story 1</u> Abraham loves God / listens to God

	 We are learning that: Abraham loved God more than anyone or anything else. The Bible teaches that we should also love God with our whole hearts. Key Verse: Either Genesis 22: 8 or Deuteronomy 6: 5 Bible Passage: Genesis 22: 1-14 (L0), 1-19 (L1), 1-9 (L2)
INTRODUCE IT	 Ask the pupils to tell you about some of the things that are really important to them. What is the most important thing in your life? Why is it important? Then ask them how they would feel if they had to give these things up. Would they like to give that thing away? How would they feel if it was taken away? Explain that today's story is about Abraham giving up something that was really important to him.
TEACH IT	 God kept his promise to Abraham and Sarah and gave them a son. His name was Isaac. They loved him very much (Genesis 21: 1-3). One day God asked Abraham to take Isaac to a mountain called Moriah. Isaac was probably a teenager. God wanted Abraham to give his son Isaac as an offering to Him. God was testing Abraham to see if he really loved Him. Even though this made Abraham very sad, he trusted God and did what God had asked him to do (Genesis 22: 1-2). Abraham loved God with his whole heart. Now he listened to God and was willing to obey Him even when God was asking such a difficult thing. Early in the morning, Abraham got everything ready for the journey. He chopped up the wood for the sacrifice and took two servants and a donkey with him (Genesis 22: 3). After three days, they came to the mountain that God had chosen. Abraham told the two servants to wait for them, with the donkey. Isaac then carried the wood while his father carried the knife and the fire (Genesis 22: 4-6). As they started to climb, Isaac asked his father, "Where is the lamb to put on the altar for the sacrifice? Abraham replied, "My son, God will provide Himself a lamb." (Genesis 22: 7-8) Abraham obeyed God because he loved Him. The Bible teaches that God wants us to love Him with all of our hearts and also to do everything He asks us to do.
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Either Genesis 22: 8 (trusting God to provide) or Deuteronomy 6: 5 (loving God above all).
REMEMBER IT	 What was Abraham's son called? What was the name of the mountain God wanted Abraham to go to? How many servants did Abraham take with him? What animal did Abraham take with him? How long did it take them to reach the mountain? Who did Abraham say would "provide Himself a lamb"? Who did Abraham love more than anyone or anything else? Who does the Bible say we should love with our whole hearts?

Levels 0-2

<u>A6 Story 2</u> God's care Level 0-1 Abraham obeys God Level 2

	A6 - LEVEL 0-1 Story 2 – God's Care	A6 – LEVEL 2 Story 2 – Abraham obeys God
	 Bible Focus: Genesis 21: 8-20 Key Verse: 1 Peter 5: 7 We are learning that: God cared for Hagar and Ishmael. The Bible teaches that God knows what we need and cares for us too. 	 Bible Focus: Genesis 22: 9-14 Key Verse: Galatians 2: 20 We are learning that: Abraham was willing to kill his only son to obey God. God provided a ram to take Isaac's place on the altar; the Bible teaches that He provided Jesus to take our place on the cross.
INTRODUCE IT	 Ask the pupils if they have ever visited a very hot country. How did the sun make them feel? Explain to the pupils that in today's story, Hagar and Ishmael are out in the hot sun with no food or water left. 	 Ask the pupils if they have ever had to do something really difficult. Invite them to share their experiences. How did they feel? In today's story God asked Abraham to do something unthinkable! – to kill his only son, Isaac. Abraham had to trust God.
TEACH IT	 Relationships between Sarah, Hagar, Ishmael and Isaac were strained. Ishmael was Abraham's first born son and it distressed Abraham greatly to send him and his mother (Hagar) away (Genesis 21: 11). God reassured Abraham and told him that He had plans to make Ishmael's descendants into a nation. Early one morning Abraham gave Hagar some food and a skin of water and sent her and Ishmael on their way. Soon Hagar and Ishmael found themselves in a hot, dry place with no food or water left. Hagar put Ishmael under the shade of a bush to shield him from the hot sun. She then sobbed at the thought of having to watch him die. God heard Ishmael crying and knew how worried Hagar was. He told Hagar to lift Ishmael up and He reassured her that Ishmael's descendants would be a great nation. God opened Hagar's eyes and showed her a well of water. Hagar gave Ishmael a drink and as the boy grew up God was with Him. The Bible teaches that God knows what we need and cares for us too. 	 Abraham travelled for three days to reach the mountain God had asked him to go to. Abraham was completely obedient to God. He was ready to give up everything for God and sacrifice his precious son. He bound Isaac and laid him on the altar. Just as Abraham took the knife to slay his son, an angel of the Lord called out to Abraham and told him not to harm Isaac (Genesis 22: 12). Abraham had shown how much he loved God by obeying His instructions. Just then Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in the bushes; God provided a sacrifice to take Isaac's place (Genesis 22: 13). The Bible teaches that God sent His only son, Jesus into the world to be a sacrifice. He willingly took our place on the cross so that though faith in Him, we can stand forgiven before God.
	Complete the Bibletime lesson.	Complete the Bibletime lesson.
	Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – God's care.	Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Abraham obeys God.
LEARN IT	Teach and explain the Key Verse – 1 Peter 5: 7	Teach and explain the Key Verse – Galatians 2: 20
REMEMBER IT	 What was the name of Hagar's son? Where did Hagar put Ishmael to shield him from the sun? How did Hagar feel at this point? Who heard Ishmael crying? What did God reveal to Hagar when He opened her eyes? What does the Bible say about God's care? 	 How long did Abraham and Isaac's journey take? Abraham was 'obedient' to God – what does this mean? How do you think Abraham felt when he bound Isaac and put him on the altar? What happened as soon as Abraham raised the knife? What did Abraham find to use as a sacrifice on the altar instead? What does the Bible say about Jesus as a sacrifice?

<u>A6 Story 3</u> God's help

	 We are learning that: The servant asked God for help and God helped him. God will help us too if we ask Him. Key Verse: Either Genesis 24: 27 or Isaiah 41:10 Bible Passage: Genesis 24: 1-21 (L0), 1-28 (L1,L2)
INTRODUCE IT	 Ask the pupils to think about people who help them. Who helps you? What kind of things do they help you with? How does it make you feel when they help you? Allow pupils to tell stories about times that they helped someone. Explain to them that today's story is about God helping someone.
TEACH IT	 Abraham was a very old man, but before he died he wanted to be sure that Isaac was happily married. So, he gave his chief servant instructions about finding a wife for his son. He told him to trust in God to guide him to the right woman (Genesis 24: 1-9). How do you think the servant felt when Abraham asked him to find a wife for Isaac? The servant took ten of Abraham's camels and set out on his journey. After travelling for many days, he stopped at a well near the city of Nahor. It was evening and all the young women were coming out to get water from the well (Genesis 24: 10-11). The servant then prayed to God and asked Him to show him if onese women was to be Isaac's wife. He would ask for a drink and if a woman gave him a drink and then offered water for his ten camels, he would know she was God's choice for Isaac (Genesis 24: 12-14). Soon he saw a very pretty woman coming towards the well. Her name was Rebekah. When he asked for a drink she gladly gave him one and also enough water for his camels. What would the servant be thinking? How would he be feeling? (Genesis 24: 15-21) After giving her presents from his master Abraham, he asked her if they had any room in their house for him to stay the night. When she said they had plenty of room, the servant bowed his head and thanked God for answering his prayers and helping him to find the right woman (Genesis 24: 22-27). Have you ever been given a difficult task to do? Suggest relevant examples. Who did the servant ask for help? The Bible teaches that God wants to help and lead us when we have choices and decisions to make. He will help us make the right choices.
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Either Genesis 24: 27 (the servant's praise to God) or Isaiah 41:10 (God's promise of strength).
REMEMBER IT	 Who went to look for a wife for Isaac? How many camels did the servant take with him? Where did the servant stop? What time of the day was it? Who did the servant ask to help him find the right woman? What was the name of the woman at the well? What did she do to help the servant? What did the servant do when he knew God had helped him?

A6 Story 4 God's choice

	 We are learning that: Rebekah and Isaac followed God's plan and they were very happy. The Bible teaches that those who trust God have real happiness. Key Verse: Psalm 144: 15 Bible Passage: Genesis 24: 22-67 (L0), 28-67 (L1,L2)
INTRODUCE IT	 Ask the pupils if they have ever been to a wedding. Who was getting married? What did they wear? What happened at the wedding? Were the bride and groom happy? Tell the pupils that today's story is about a wedding that happened in Bible times. This is probably different to the way weddings are planned in other countries.
TEACH IT	 Remind the pupils of the story so far. Rebekah ran home to tell her family what had happened. Her brother Laban ran to the well, brought the servant to their home and made him welcome. But before the servant would even eat his supper, he told Rebekah's family why he had come (Genesis 24: 28-49). Her father and Laban both agreed that it was God who had led Isaac's servant to Rebekah. Without any delay they gave the servant permission to take Rebekah back with him so that she could become Isaac's wife. The servant thanked God for answering his prayer. Then he gave lots of gifts to Rebekah and her family (Genesis 24: 50-53). In the morning, they asked Rebekah if she would return with the servant and marry Isaac. Rebekah agreed to go (Genesis 24: 54-61). How would Rebekah be feeling? (a bit nervous because she didn't know Isaac and his family but excited because this was obviously God's plan for her!) Back at Abraham's home, Isaac was waiting and wondering what was happening. One evening, while out for a walk, he saw the camels coming. Soon he welcomed Rebekah to her new home and took her into his mother's tent. Isaac loved Rebekah very much and she became his wife (Genesis 24: 61-67). How do you think Isaac felt when he saw his new wife? (Probably very excited and maybe a bit nervous too as he had never met Rebekah before, but he trusted God's plan and was happy to take Rebekah as his wife). Both Isaac and Rebekah were very happy because they had trusted God and followed His plan. The Bible teaches that God wants us to trust Him too and follow His plan. When we do, we will be filled with real joy and happiness.
LEARN IT	Teach and explain the Key Verse - Psalm 144: 15 . This verse teaches that true happiness comes when God is carrying out His plan for our lives.
REMEMBER IT	 What was Rebekah's brother's name? What did the servant do before he ate his supper? Why did Rebekah's family agree to let her become Isaac's wife? What did the servant give Rebekah and her family? Who did they say had led the servant to Rebekah? When did Rebekah leave with the servant? Who was out walking in the fields when the servant and Rebekah got home? Why were Isaac and Rebekah happy together? What does the Bible say about true happiness?

Ар	pendix A - Lev	vel 0 & 1 Free Bible Images
	Title	Story Images
A1	Creation	God makes the world
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/preschool-creation/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-creation-days/
		God makes the animals and man
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/dm-creation/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-creation-days/
		The first man and woman
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/fl-adam-eve/
		God's world is spoiled
		httpss://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/fl-adam-eve/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/preschool-fall/
A2	Noah	Noah obeys God
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-noah-ark/
		Safe in the Ark
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-noah-ark/
		A brand new start
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-noah-ark/
		God's promise
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-noah-ark/

Арр	Appendix A - Level 2 Free Bible Images	
	Title	Story Images
A1	Creation	God makes the world
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/creation/
		God makes the animals and man
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/dm-creation/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-creation-days/
		The first man and woman
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/preschool-fall/
		God's world is spoiled
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/adam-eve-fall/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-fall/
A2	Noah	Noah obeys God
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/fn-noah-2/
		Safe in the Ark
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/bpa-noah/
		A brand new start
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/bpa-noah/
		God's promise
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/bpa-noah/

p	oendix A - Level 0	& 1 Free Bible Images
	Title	Story Images
A3	Peter	Jesus calls Peter
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-jesus-fishermen/
		Jesus helps Peter
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-jesus-fishermen/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-peter-fishing/
		Jesus calms the storm
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-jesus-storm/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-043-jesus-storm/
		Jesus saves Peter
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/sb-walking-water/
A4	Peter / The Cross	Peter falls asleep
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/preschool-jesus-arrested/
		Peter has a fight
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/lgr-jesus-passover-1/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-judas/
		Peter lies about Jesus
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/lgr-jesus-passover-1/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/preschool-jesus-trial/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-peter-rooster/
		Peter talks with Jesus
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/sb-resurrection-breakfast/

Арр	Appendix A - Level 2 Free Bible Images	
	Title	Story Images
A3	Peter	Jesus calls Peter
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/andrew-philip-nathanael/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-015-first-disciples/
		Jesus helps Peter
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-jesus-fishermen/
		Jesus calms the storm
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/lumo-jesus-storm/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jesus-storm/
		Jesus saves Peter
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-054-walking-water/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jesus-water/
A4	Peter / The Cross	Peter falls asleep
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-089-prayer-garden/
		Peter has a fight
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gethsemane-peter/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/jesus-gethsemane/
		Peter lies about Jesus
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-091-peter-denials/
		Peter talks with Jesus
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-105-peter-restored/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/peter-reinstated/

	Title	Story Images
\ 5	Abraham	Abram leaves home / God calls Abram
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/abraham-ur-preschool/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/fn-abram-sarai/
		Abram and Lot
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/fn-abram-lot/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/abraham-lot-preschool/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/fn-abram-canaan/
		God's promises to Abram
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-abram/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/fn-abram-stars/
		Abraham and the visitors
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-abraham-sarah/
5	Abraham	Abraham listens to God
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-abraham-isaac/
		God's care
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/abram-hagar-preschool/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-hagar-ishmael/
		God's help
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-isaac-bride/
		God's choice
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-isaac-wife/

https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/abraham-canaan/ https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-abram-promise/ Abram and Lot https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-abram-promise/ https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-abram-promise/ https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/abraham-lot/ God's promises to Abram https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/abraham-promise/ Abraham and the visitors https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-abraham-faith/ https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/abraham-strangers/ https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/abraham-strangers/		Title	Story Images
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Guidance for Teachers Marking Lessons

LEVEL 0 and 1 LESSONS:

- These Booklets mainly involve colouring and filling in a few words and puzzles for level 1.
- The story and answers are all contained within the lesson.
- Marks are allocated for each week with a maximum of 40 marks for level 0 and 80 marks for level 1 for 4 weeks (one month).
- Children who receive Level 0 and 1 lessons are not expected to be able to read very well and we expect parents / guardians / leaders / teachers to help them.

LEVEL 2 LESSONS:

- The story and answers are contained within the lesson. The students have to find out various words from the lesson, do some colouring, and complete puzzles and the Key Verses, etc.
- Marks are allocated for each week with a maximum of 80 for 4 weeks (one month), when the lessons are completely correct.

BIBLETIME MARKING

MARKING HINTS

The teachers are asked, first to:

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

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

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

LEVEL 0 and 1

General comments

"I am delighted you have started these lessons and I hope you enjoy them. I love your colouring in." "Well done. What super colouring! Was it difficult to stay inside the lines? You just missed a small bit of colouring on the last lesson."

Spiritual comments

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

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

LEVEL 2

General comments

"Good answers again. I am very pleased with your work at school!"

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

Spiritual comments

"I like the way you coloured Baby Jesus in the manger. Wasn't it good of God to send Him into the world for us?" "I really like your colours! Zechariah had to pay a price for not believing in what God said. He never doubted God's Word again."

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



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