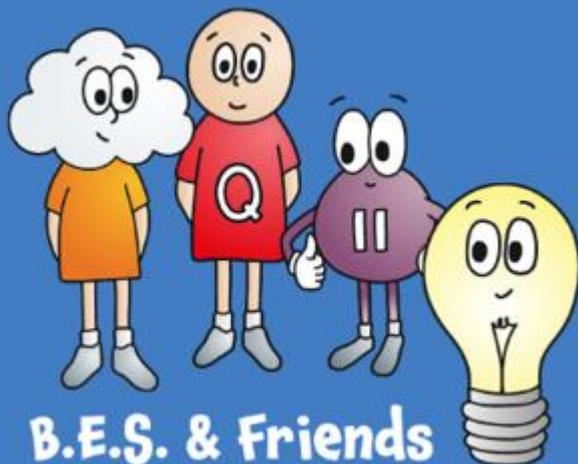


International Teacher Lesson Plans

Bibletime Levels 0, 1 and 2

C Series
C7-C12



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NAME:

B.E.S.

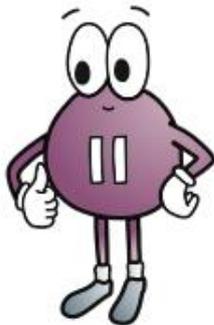
This cloud character is based on **Exodus 13: 21-22** and is a symbol of God's presence. He is a source of wisdom throughout the Bibletime stories, as he guides and teaches the character 'Q' about God. He's a gentle, friendly character who encourages us all to study God's Word, the Bible, in a deep and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



NAME:

Q

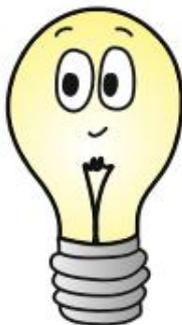
Q is an inquisitive and deep thinking character. He has lots of questions and is brave enough to ask them. He looks to his friends B.E.S. and Beam as wise and encouraging mentors, to help him find answers. In so doing, he helps us all to discover an even greater friend, Jesus.



NAME:

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.



NAME:

BEAM

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 www.besweb.com 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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Enniskillen
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BT74 6AA

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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 information about pictures from www.freebibleimages.org (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	<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 and Jonathan / 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 18: 1-11 (Level 0) 1 Samuel 20: 1-42 (Levels 1&2)</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>In today's story, we will learn about how David's good friend protected him.</p> <p>Level 0-1 pupils - show the children pictures of items which offer protection e.g. helmet, sunscreen, 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.</p> <p>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 is having a difficult 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 protecting 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, and 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. Later he planned to meet up secretly with David in a field. 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? 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. The 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. Discuss how David would have felt about having a friend like Jonathan. It was hard to say goodbye, but they promised each other that they would always be friends (1 Samuel 20: 41-42). 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. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – David on the run.</p>
LEARN IT	Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - 1 Samuel 20: 17
REMEMBER IT	<p>Use these questions for a quiz:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where did Saul expect David to be? Where did Jonathan and David meet up? When did Saul miss David? What did David and Jonathan promise each other? How did Saul react about David? What does the Bible teach about Jesus' friendship?

C7 Story 2
Level 0: David the King (use Story 3 lesson plan)
Levels 1&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 the right choices about how we treat other people. <p>Key Verse: Ephesians 4: 32 Bible Passage: 1 Samuel 31: 1-6, 2 Samuel 5: 1-5 (Level 0) 1 Samuel 24: 1-22 (Levels 1&2)</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 us to choose the right way to react and to forgive others if we ask Him for help.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Saul's treatment of David in the previous stories (C6 Story 4 and C7 Story 1). • Describe the desert where David was hiding. Talk about caves and how they can be very big and dark! Along with 3,000 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). • 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 from working out in his life. David would be king in God's time (2 Samuel 2: 1–4). • 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 carefully crept 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). • Then David walked to the entrance of the cave and shouted to Saul. Reflect on the surprise Saul must have got! David showed him 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). • 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. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – David spares Saul's life.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Ephesians 4: 32. The verse divides naturally into three parts so children can practise 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 keywords in today's story – kind, good, forgiving, loving, sorry, respectful, and courageous.</p> <p>Level 2 pupils could work together in small groups to make up a drama about forgiving others.</p>

C7 Story 3
David praises God/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: Galatians 2: 20 Bible Passage: 2 Samuel 7 : 1-29 (Level 0) 1 Samuel 31: 1-6, 2 Samuel 5: 1-5 (Levels 1&2)</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. Why? They reminded David of how he was to be a shepherd to the people of Israel and be their ruler. Relate this statement to David's earlier life as a shepherd. 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. Explain to the pupils that Christians believe if they put God first in their lives, God will look after them (2 Samuel 5: 9-11). • David was also willing to build a Temple where God could be worshipped. Explain that up until now God had been worshipped in a special tent called the Tabernacle. 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. 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 (2 Samuel 7). You could read some of David's words of praise e.g. verse 22. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – David becomes King.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse - Galatians 2: 20.</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 promise to his friend Jonathan by showing kindness to Mephibosheth. • The Bible teaches that God shows 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!</p> <p>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. David had not forgotten the promises that he and Jonathan had made to each other. Mention that it's the right thing to keep promises which we have made to others. 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. Mephibosheth had fallen when he was 5 years old and he was lame (couldn't walk properly). Mephibosheth was now living in a place far away from Jerusalem. Ask the pupils to think about what Mephibosheth might have thought when he received the invitation to the palace (2 Samuel 9: 3-5). 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 because of his father Jonathan, and because of the special friendship which David and Jonathan had shared. David was generous in what he gave Mephibosheth. 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. Mephibosheth humbly accepted what David gave him, recognising the greatness and kindness of David (2 Samuel 9: 6-13). • 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. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – David and Mephibosheth.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach the Key Verse 2 Samuel 9: 7, emphasising the point that David kept his promise.</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? • Name one thing David gave 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 a 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 tasks He gives us to do. <p>Key Verse: Joshua 1: 9 Bible Passage: Joshua 1: 1-9 (Levels 0&1) Joshua 1: 1-18 (Level 2)</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, and 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. 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 that because Moses had died, he was now to lead the people into the Promised Land (1: 1-2). Level 2 - Ask the pupils to give you examples of leadership qualities (strong, courageous, good decision maker, fair, honest, confident, good listener and speaker, encourages others). • 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 (1: 3). • 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 (1: 5-7, 9, 18). Ask the pupils to give you examples of when they have had to be brave and strong. • 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 (1: 7-8). • 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 (1: 10-11, 16-18). • The Bible tells us that when we trust Jesus and ask Him to be the leader of our lives, then He, too, makes the promise to be with us and never to leave us. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Joshua becomes the new leader.</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: Joshua 2: 24 Bible Passage: Joshua 2: 1-24</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). • 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 prejudiced against a person because of their interest in God, or judge them on their appearance, lifestyle or background. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Joshua and the new land.</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 (Levels 0&1) Joshua 4: 1-24 (Level 2)</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 wide flowing and there were no bridges and no way around it. Let's 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. The water piled up and the priests were left 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). • 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. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Joshua and the River Jordan.</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: Hebrews 11: 30 Bible Passage: Joshua 6: 1-25</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. • 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. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Joshua and Jericho.</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?

C9 Story 1
Elijah obeys God

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elijah obeyed God when he told King Ahab God's message. • Christians try to obey what God says in the Bible. <p>Key Verse: 1 Kings 17: 5 Bible Passage: 1 Kings 17: 1-7</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Ask the pupils to list their needs and wants and discuss the difference between the two. Explain that in today's story God provides Elijah with his needs.</p> <p>Ask the children if they've ever played 'Hide and Seek'. How did they feel when someone was hunting for them?</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elijah had to tell wicked King Ahab some bad news. King Ahab didn't love God and he was the worst king Israel had ever had (1 Kings 16: 30). He worshipped gods who were not real and made the people of Israel do the same. He was married to wicked Queen Jezebel. God was angry with all the evil in the land and was going to punish King Ahab. God chose Elijah, a man who loved God, to be his messenger. He was to tell Ahab there would not be any rain or dew in Israel for a long time. Relate 1 Kings 17: 1. Elijah obeyed God by telling King Ahab the bad news. • How do you think the king felt about this news? Angry. Discuss what it would mean – crops and vegetables would not grow; animals and people would not have water to drink and food to eat. King Ahab was so angry because of Elijah's message that he wanted to kill him! But God had a plan to keep Elijah safe. He told him to go and hide! Elijah was to go on a journey to a hot, steep-sided valley called Cherith (NIV Kerith). There was a stream there and Elijah could drink the water. God also said he would provide him with food in a wonderful way. Each morning and evening, ravens (large, black birds) would bring Elijah bread and meat in their beaks (1 Kings 17: 2-4). God was looking after Elijah. Elijah obeyed and set off for the valley at Cherith. • Day after day, God provided for Elijah's needs. Elijah drank water from the stream and the ravens provided him with food. As time passed, Elijah noticed the water in the stream was drying up. Why? There had been no rain, as God had said. The water became less and less until one day there was only a dried-up river bed. What was Elijah to do now? God already had a plan for Elijah! All he had to do was obey! (1 Kings 17: 5-7) • Elijah obeyed God even though he knew that telling King Ahab bad news would be dangerous for him. He went to Cherith where God provided him with food and water. Elijah had the courage to do what God told him to do and he trusted God to look after him. • Christians believe that God speaks to us today through the Bible. He tells us how to live and how to become a member of His family. We need to listen to what God says in the Bible and obey Him. God looks after and cares for those who love Him. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Elijah obeys God.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach the Key Verse and explain where necessary: 1 Kings 17: 5. Choose the first part of the verse for younger children.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Draw the outline of a raven on a card and use tissue / crepe paper to decorate, or quiz.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was the name of the wicked king and queen? • What was God going to do to punish King Ahab? • Who did God choose to tell the king God's plan? • How did King Ahab respond? • Where did God send Elijah? • How did God look after Elijah when he was there? • What eventually happened to the stream? • What do we learn about Elijah from this story? • How can Christians obey God?

C9 Story 2
Elijah trusts God

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elijah and the widow trusted in God to provide their needs. • Christians believe that God provides for our daily needs. <p>Key Verse: 1 Kings 17: 14 Bible Passage: 1 Kings 17: 8-16 (Levels 0&1), 1 Kings 17: 8-24 (Level 2)</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Use visual aids from last week and let the pupils retell the story. We are going to find out what happens next.</p> <p>Show flour and oil. What can we make? (bread) What do we need? (fire). Show a bundle of sticks and a small loaf or bread roll.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God told Elijah to leave Cherith and go to a town called Zarephath. Relate what God also told Elijah – that a widow would supply him with food. Ask the pupils to define a widow. Elijah obeyed and set off on a long, hot walk. He trusted God would look after him. When he arrived at the entrance to the town, he saw a woman bending down and picking up sticks which had fallen from the branches of trees and bushes. Read the conversation in verses 10-12. Why were the widow and her son so short of food? There had been no rain and the crops for making flour had not grown. People were going to die due to lack of food (1 Kings 17: 8-12). • Relate what Elijah said to the woman, and what God promised (verses 13-16). What do you think the woman did? The woman trusted, she believed God would keep His promise. She went away and made a small loaf of bread for Elijah and then she made some for herself and her son. Something amazing happened! When she looked in the jar of flour, there was still flour left and there was oil in the jug. The flour and oil should have been used up. But day after day, the jar had flour in it and the jug of oil never ran dry. It was just as God had said! There was food every day for Elijah, the woman and her son. God had kept his promise. He provided for their needs (1 Kings 17: 13-16). • The last section of the Bible passage (1 Kings 17: 17-24) is only mentioned in Level 2 Bibletime. Sadly, one day the woman's little boy became very ill and died. She carried the boy in her arms to Elijah. He took the boy upstairs to his room and put him on the bed. Elijah prayed three times: "O Lord, my God, restore this child to life." God heard Elijah's prayer and the boy started to breathe again! He carried the boy downstairs and gave him to his mother. God had not only provided their daily food, but he had brought the widow's son back to life. The woman knew that Elijah's God was the true God. • Christians believe that God provides for our needs today – food, families and friends. He cares about every detail of our lives. The Bible teaches that God cares about us so much that He sent His son, Jesus, to die so we can have our sins forgiven. If we ask, God will forgive our sin, and we will have eternal life with Him in Heaven. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Elijah trusts God.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – 1 Kings 17: 14.</p> <p>Explain that God kept His promise. He keeps all His promises in the Bible.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Using the flour, oil and a bundle of sticks, act out the story, or quiz: Share the loaf with the children. (Check for allergies.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where did God tell Elijah to go when the stream at Cherith dried up? • Who did he see when he got there, and what was she doing? • What did he ask for? What was the woman's reply? • What was God's promise to the woman? Did He keep it? • What happened to the widow's son? • How many times did Elijah pray? • Whose power brought the boy back to life?

C9 Story 3
Elijah serves God

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God gave Elijah the victory at the contest on Mount Carmel. • Christians believe that the God of the Bible is the one, true God. <p>Key Verse: 1 Kings 18: 39 Bible Passage: 1 Kings 18: 1-2, 16-39 (Level 0), 16-46 (Levels 1&2)</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Explain what a contest is by using examples, such as games between two teams. Talk about everyday choices – favourite colours, food, music. People in our story are asked to make a very important choice.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No rain had fallen for three whole years in Israel. Describe what this would mean – no crops, grass, vegetables, plus animals and people would die. Remind the pupils why God had punished the people of Israel in this way – the wickedness of King Ahab and the worship of false gods. God told Elijah to go back to King Ahab and tell him that very soon God would send rain. Elijah obeyed (1 Kings 18:1-2). • King Ahab was still angry with Elijah. What had he threatened to do to him? (Kill him). This time he called Elijah a trouble-maker. Relate Elijah’s reply in verse 18. Elijah decided it was time to show King Ahab and the people of Israel who was the real God. He set up a contest which was to be held on Mount Carmel overlooking the sea. Describe what happened in verses 19 and 20 and the challenge of Elijah to the people in verse 21. (1 Kings 18: 16-21) • The contest would be between the false god Baal and the true God. Describe how two altars would be built and a sacrifice placed on each. Those who believed in Baal, and Elijah who believed in the true God, would each pray for fire to come down and burn up the sacrifice on their altar. Wherever the fire fell, that would prove who was the true God (1 Kings 18: 22-26). • Those who believed in Baal prayed first. They prayed all morning, but there was no answer from their god, no fire came. They shouted out even louder, but there was no response, no one answered, no one paid attention. Why? They were praying to a stone god that could not hear (verses 25-29). • Now it was Elijah’s turn. When the sacrifice was placed on the altar, Elijah poured 12 barrels of water over it. Why? It would make it harder for the fire to burn it up. Elijah prayed quietly to the God of Israel. Relate his prayer in verses 36 and 37. Immediately, fire from God fell and burnt up the sacrifice, the stones of the altar and dried up the water. God was alive, had heard Elijah’s prayer and shown His great power. When the people saw what had happened, they fell down on the ground and cried: “The Lord, He is God” (verses 38-39). Elijah ordered the prophets of Baal to be killed (verse 40). • What a victory for Elijah and his God! What had Elijah promised Ahab at the start of our story? It would rain! The day ended with God sending rain. The sky grew black with clouds, the wind blew, and heavy rain fell down (1 Kings 18: 41-46). • The people of Israel saw that day that God was the only true God. Remind the pupils what Elijah said in verse 21. They gave up worshipping false gods and turned back to worshipping the true God. Can you think of any ‘false gods’ people worship today? Christians believe that the God of the Bible is the one, true God. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Elijah serves God.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – 1 Kings 18:39.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Ask the pupils to retell the story using the visual aids, or quiz:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What message from God did Elijah have to give to King Ahab? • What did King Ahab call Elijah? • What was Elijah’s reply? • What choice were the people given? (Verse 21) • What happened when the people who believed in Baal prayed? • What happened when Elijah prayed? What did the people do and say?

C9 Story 4
Level 0: Elijah prays again (use Story 3 lesson plan)
Levels 1&2: Elijah forgets God

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When Elijah was afraid, he forgot to trust God to take care of him. • Christians believe that they can trust God at all times. <p>Key Verse: Psalm 62: 8 Bible Passage: 1 Kings 19: 1-16 (Levels 1&2)</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>What situations make you afraid or sad? The Bible says that God is with you! Using visual aids, recap the story of Mount Carmel (Story 3).</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • King Ahab's wife, wicked Queen Jezebel, was furious when she heard what had happened on Mount Carmel and that the prophets of Baal had been killed on Elijah's instructions. What had the people of Israel learned? The God of Elijah was the true God. In her temper, Queen Jezebel sent a message to Elijah to say she would have him killed within the day for what he had done. When Elijah heard this, he was afraid and ran for his life! • Elijah felt alone and sad and forgot to trust in God (1 Kings 19: 3). Talk to the pupils about times when they feel sad and alone, when they are teased at school or get into arguments. The Bible says that God knows all that happens and what makes us sad and afraid. • Elijah ran into the hot, dusty desert and sat down under a tree. He asked God to let him die and then fell asleep. Tell the pupils about the provision given by the angel, showing God's care for Elijah. After eating and sleeping, Elijah was strong enough to walk for 40 days and nights to Mount Horeb (also called Mount Sinai). Ask the children if they can remember anything that happened there – Moses was given the 10 commandments by God. Elijah spent the night in a cave (1 Kings 19: 3-9). • Relate the question which God asked Elijah and his reply. Elijah was able to tell God how he felt and why he was so sad. The Bible teaches that God will always listen. You can tell him how you feel and why you are sad or afraid. Introduce the Key Verse - Psalm 62: 8. • God told Elijah to go and stand on the mountain. God was going to meet with Elijah. There came a strong wind, an earthquake and fire, but God was not talking to Elijah in any of these. Then Elijah heard a gentle whisper. It was God speaking. He told Elijah to go back the way he had come. Relate what God said and the new jobs he had for Elijah. One of the jobs God had for Elijah was to find a young man called Elisha who was going to be God's next prophet or messenger. Elijah was old, and his life was almost at an end. He had served God well. God had taken care of him. Recap how God had provided for him at Cherith, Zarephath and on Mount Carmel (1 Kings 19: 11-16). • God had spoken to Elijah throughout his life and told him what to do. Christians believe that God speaks to us today through what we read in the Bible. If we are sad or afraid, we can ask God to be with us and to help us. We can trust God at all times. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Elijah forgets God.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – Psalm 62: 8. God never changes. He is always there.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Pupils could draw or create a timeline for the story, or quiz:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who threatened to kill Elijah? • How did Elijah react? • What did he ask God to allow him to do? • What meals did the angel provide? • How long did it take for Elijah to get to Mount Horeb? • What question did God ask and what was Elijah's reply? • Name three things which were not God talking to Elijah? • How did God speak to Elijah? • What job did he give him to do? • Who can Christians call on when they are sad or afraid?

C10 Story 1
Elisha, God's new helper / The call to follow

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God gave Elisha power to do His work. • The Bible says that God will help all those who love Him to serve Him. <p>Key Verse: 2 Kings 2: 14 Bible Passage: 1 Kings 19: 19-21, 2 Kings 2: 1-15</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Discuss ways in which people work specifically for God – missionaries, church workers, Christian charities, telling others about Jesus. Explain that a Christian's work should always glorify God, no matter what he/she is employed to do.</p> <p>Talk to the pupils about things they find hard to do – their school work, saving their pocket money, not getting angry, etc. Sometimes we need help from other people. A man in our story needed God's help to do the work God had given him.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who had God chosen to take over from Elijah to be His new messenger? Recap on God's instructions to Elijah in 1 Kings 19: 15-16. Elijah knew his work for God was coming to an end, so he set off from Mount Horeb to find Elisha, a younger man to carry on God's work. Elijah found Elisha ploughing in a field (show images of how ploughing was done in Bible times), he took off his cloak and threw it around him. Elisha knew this was a sign he had been chosen by God to leave his work as a farmer and to serve God. He said goodbye to his family and went with Elijah. Elisha started his new job (1 Kings 19: 19-21). • Elijah and Elisha went everywhere together as they worked for God. After a while, the time came for God to take Elijah to Heaven. One day, the two men came to the edge of the River Jordan. Explain what happened in verse 8. Elijah was able to do this because God was with him and gave him the power. Elijah asked Elisha what he wanted him to do for him before he was taken by God. Elisha knew he would need the same God-given power that Elijah had to help him to do God's work. Relate the conversation in 2 Kings 2: 7-10. • Suddenly an amazing thing happened as they were talking together. A chariot and horses of fire appeared between the two men. Elijah was lifted up towards Heaven in a big swirl of wind. Elisha could no longer see Elijah, only his cloak that had fallen to the ground. How do you think Elisha felt? (Alone, amazed, sad) (2 Kings 2: 11-12) • Elisha picked up the cloak and went back to the river. Elisha wondered if God was with him. Relate the Key Verse. Elisha now knew that Elijah's God was with him and would give him the power he needed to do his work for God. He would help him as he had helped Elijah (2 Kings 2: 13-15). • Christians believe that God uses people today to do His work. It may mean going to another country or staying in your own country. Christians serve God by living lives that please Him. Whatever is done for Him, God promises to help – just like he helped Elijah and Elisha. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Elisha: a call to follow.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – 2 Kings 2: 14. Focus in on Elisha's words and explain the context.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Draw the outline of a chariot and ask the pupils to decorate with the flames – paint, crayon, coloured paper, or quiz:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who did Elijah have to find to take over his work for God? • What was Elisha doing when Elijah found him? • What did Elisha do? • Who caused the River Jordan to part, so the men could cross over? • What did Elisha ask for? • What came between Elijah and Elisha when Elijah was lifted up to Heaven? • What item did Elisha pick up and use? • Was God now with Elisha? How did Elisha know? • How does God help those who work for Him?

C10 Story 2

Elisha helps a poor widow / Comfort for a friend

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elisha shows kindness to the poor widow and the rich woman. • Christians believe that they can pray to God about difficult things in their lives. <p>Key Verse: 2 Kings 4: 33 Bible Passage: 2 Kings 4: 1-7 (Levels 0-1) 2 Kings 4: 8-37 (Level 2)</p>
<p>INTRODUCE IT</p>	<p>Have you ever helped a friend? Discuss. In today's story a poor widow cries out to Elisha for help. (Level 0-1) Level 2 children will also study the story of the boy being raised back to life.</p>
<p>TEACH IT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elisha travelled around the country doing God's work. Recap how Elisha had taken on the work from Elijah and had been given God's power to do so. He met a poor widow who needed some help. She couldn't pay her dead husband's debts and she was worried that her sons would be taken as slaves by the creditor. • Elisha had compassion on the woman. She didn't have much in her house (2 Kings 4: 2) but God was able to use the 'little' to bring about a lot! • God then uses Elisha to perform a miracle with oil. This oil was probably used for cooking, lamps and for fuel. The widow was able to sell it in order to pay her debts and provide for her family. • The widow's faith and willingness to obey Elisha's instructions led to blessing. • LEVEL 2 Elisha often visited a place called Shunem where a rich woman lived with her husband. They loved having Elisha in their home for a meal, and after a while decided to build him his own room at the top of their house where he could stay for the night. Describe what they put in the bedroom – bed, chair, table and lamp. The couple showed kindness to their friend. We should do the same for our friends (2 Kings 4: 8-10). • Elisha wanted to do something in return for their kindness. He heard that the woman was sad because she didn't have any children. Elisha told her that God would give her a baby boy! Soon the woman had a baby boy of her own. How do you think she felt? One day, when the boy was older and helping his father on the farm, he became very ill. He was carried into the house but soon died. Who do you think his mother thought could help? Elisha. She knew Elisha was a man of God and could help her with God's power. When you are in difficulty who do you turn to for help? (Family, teacher, pastor, friend?) (2 Kings 4: 11-25) • For this age group, the following events have been simplified. Elisha returned with the woman and went to his bedroom where the body of the boy lay. He shut the door and prayed to God. He breathed into the boy's body and the boy started to come back to life. Suddenly, he sneezed seven times and opened his eyes. God had answered Elisha's prayer! He gave the boy back to his mother. How thrilled she must have been to see her son alive! Elisha trusted God to help and God answered his prayer. The woman, her husband and the boy learned about the power of God that day (2 Kings 4: 26-37). • The Bible teaches that God wants us to trust Him and pray about difficult things in our lives. Discuss some difficulties – a friend moves away, a pet dies, someone is horrible to you at school. God listens to our prayers and is able to help. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Elisha: comfort a friend.</p>
<p>LEARN IT</p>	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – 2 Kings 4: 33</p>
<p>REMEMBER IT</p>	<p>Level 0-1 Using props e.g. jars, oil, money, act out the poor widow's story, or have a quiz. Level 2 – Create two feelings trees to illustrate how the rich woman felt after her son died, and when he was raised to life again, or try writing a prayer for help in a difficult situation.</p>

C10 Story 3**God uses Elisha to heal a sick man / Cleansing for a leper**

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naaman had a disease which could only be cured by God. • The Bible teaches that God has made a way for us to have the problem of sin forgiven. <p>Key Verse: 2 Kings 5: 15 Bible Passage: 2 Kings 5: 1-19</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Who do you go to see to make you better when you are ill? Discuss. A man in our story was ill and no one could help him. Talk about instructions, written and verbal. A man in our story had to obey instructions given by Elisha, even though he didn't want to.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naaman, the commander of King Aram's army, was a very important man. He was a brave soldier, had won many battles and the king was very pleased with him. He lived in a big house with his wife and servants. But he was an enemy of God's people, the Israelites. One day, a terrible thing happened. He looked at his skin and saw there was something wrong. He had leprosy – a disease which in those days couldn't be healed by doctors. Soon, other people would see he had the disease. He would lose his job and be sent away from his family (2 Kings 5: 1). • Living in his house was a young girl who served and helped his wife. She had been captured from the land of Israel and brought to the house as a servant. She heard the terrible news about Naaman and knew of someone who could help. Who? (Relate verse 3) Naaman agreed to go to see Elisha. • Leprosy was a problem Naaman could not solve. The Bible teaches that we have a problem that we cannot solve – sin, which makes us do wrong things. • King Aram allowed Naaman to go to see Elisha and gave him gold, silver and clothing to take as presents (2 Kings 5: 2-7). • When Naaman arrived, Elisha sent a messenger to tell him to wash seven times in the River Jordan and he would be healed of his leprosy. Naaman was furious – he was angry that Elisha had not come out himself to see him and he didn't want to wash in the muddy River Jordan. Relate verses 13 and 14 - get the children to count the seven times Naaman had to dip down into the water. How amazing! Naaman was healed! His skin looked perfect. Relate what Naaman said to Elisha. Naaman now knew the God of Israel was the true God. Naaman offered Elisha the presents of gold, silver and fine clothing, but Elisha would not take them. It was God who had healed Naaman, not Elisha (2 Kings 5: 8-19). • Naaman had to obey what Elisha said to be healed of his leprosy. There was no other way for him to be made better. The Bible teaches that sin separates us from God. However, God loved us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for our sin. When we believe this and say sorry to God, we are forgiven and become part of God's family. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Elisha: cleansing / healing a leper.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – 2 Kings 5: 15.</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Use a circle of cardboard or paper plate for each child to draw a sad face with spots on one side and a happy face without spots on the other side. Get them to retell the story, or quiz:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What job did Naaman do? • What illness did he have? Was there anyone who could help? • Who knew Elisha, God's messenger, could help? • Who let Naaman go to see Elisha? What presents did Naaman take? • How many times did Naaman have to wash in the River Jordan? • Was he happy to do so? Who told him to obey Elisha's instructions? • What happened when Naaman came out of the water for the seventh time? • What did he say to Elisha? • Did Elisha accept his presents? Why? • What problem does the Bible say we have that only God can solve?

C10 Story 4
Elisha and his greedy servant / Cheating is punished

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God punished Gehazi for being greedy and telling lies. • The Bible says that Jesus took the punishment for our sin when He died on the cross. <p>Key Verse: Numbers 32: 23 Bible Passage: 2 Kings 5: 19-27</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Discuss what it means to be greedy; or is it right to tell lies? When we do these things, we hope that no one will know or find out just like someone in our story. Show images and / or quiz to recap the story of Naaman. This is what happened next.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naaman the army commander, his men and servants set off for home. Naaman was happy he had been cured of his leprosy and he now knew that Elisha's God was the true God. But there was someone who was not happy. Gehazi, Elisha's servant was cross that his master had not accepted the gifts of silver and fine clothes from Naaman. Can you remember why Elisha had not taken the presents? (It was God who had healed Naaman and not Elisha.) Gehazi thought it was silly of Elisha not to take anything from Naaman and planned to get some of the gifts for himself. Gehazi was being greedy. We can be greedy sometimes and want what other people have got. God has said we should not be like this. Refer to Exodus 20: 17 and 2 Kings 5: 19-20. • Gehazi ran after Naaman even though he had gone some way on his journey. When Naaman saw Gehazi running up behind, he got off his horse and asked Gehazi if everything was all right. Relate Gehazi's reply in verse 22. Gehazi had made up a story that was not true in order to get some silver and fine clothing for himself. God has said we should not tell lies. Refer to Exodus 20: 16. Gehazi cheated Naaman into giving him the presents meant for Elisha. Naaman gave Gehazi even more than he had asked for! He sent two of his servants to help carry the gifts back home for Gehazi. We can sometimes tell lies to get out of trouble or to get something which is not ours (2 Kings 5: 21-23). • The servants gave Gehazi the gifts and Gehazi hid them in his house. He thought nobody would know what he had done. Do you think he was right? Who would know what he had done? God! God knows when we do wrong things. He knows everything. He is not happy when we cheat or lie (2 Kings 5: 24). • Gehazi went to Elisha and stood in front of him. Relate the conversation in verses 25-26. Explain that God had told Elisha what his servant had done. God punished Gehazi for what he had done wrong. He couldn't be allowed to get away with it. His sins had been found out by God. Suddenly Gehazi was covered in leprosy (2 Kings 5: 25-27). • The Bible says we all do wrong things. We have all sinned. God knows everything we have done. We can ask God to forgive our sins because His Son, Jesus, took the punishment for sin when He died on the cross. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Elisha: cheating is punished.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – Numbers 32: 23. Explain that some people think that no one will find out about their sin, but the Bible says that God knows everything.</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"> • Why did Gehazi think his master, Elisha, was silly? • What did Gehazi do? What did he say to Naaman? • How would you describe Gehazi? • Who helped Gehazi back to his home with the gifts from Naaman? • What did Gehazi do with the gifts? • Did he think he had got away with it? Who knew? • What happened to Gehazi? • What does the Bible teach about sin?

C11 Story 1
Jonah in the ship

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christians try to do what God asks them to do. • The Bible teaches that we cannot hide from God. <p>Key Verse: Jonah 1: 3 Bible Passage: Jonah 1: 1-4 (Level 0) Jonah 1: 1-9 (Levels 1&2)</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Ask the pupils for examples of how we communicate with one another today e.g. email, social media, text, phone calls, letters. We have many ways of contacting people. Ask the children if they know how God communicates to us today. Christians believe that the Bible is God's Word and that He speaks through it.</p> <p>Explain to the children that in Old Testament times God often spoke through men, called Prophets. These men were sent by God to different places to pass on God's message to that place.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God spoke to a man called Jonah; he was a prophet and God wanted him to go to a city called Nineveh. God had seen all the wrong behaviour that the people in the city had done. Now Jonah was to tell them that God was going to punish them for it. Nineveh was a foreign city for Jonah and a very scary place. He didn't want to tell the people there what God had said, so he decided to run away from God. Jonah went to the dock and boarded a ship going to Tarshish (in the opposite direction to Nineveh!), to escape from God (Jonah 1: 1-3). • But God sent a storm on the sea and the ship was tossed around so much the sailors thought the ship would break up and they would all die. All the sailors cried out to their own gods and threw all the cargo overboard to help lighten the ship, but the storm continued. Jonah was unaware of the storm, he was fast asleep down inside the ship. The captain went to wake Jonah and asked him to call on his God too, to help save the ship (Jonah 1: 4-6). • The sailors decided to cast lots (this was a way things were decided in those days, like drawing straws or throwing dice) to see whose fault the storm was, and the lot fell to Jonah. They asked Jonah who he was and where he had come from. Jonah explained that he was a Hebrew who served the God of Heaven, who made the sea and the earth and everything in it. He told them the storm was all his fault because he was running away from God (Jonah 1: 10). • When Christians read the Bible, they try and put into practice what it says. This can be difficult, but God promises to help. Disobeying God's Word, as Jonah found out, does not please God. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Jonah in the ship.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – Jonah 1: 3</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Ask the pupils to answer the following questions as a means of revising the story:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What job did Jonah have? • Where did God want Jonah to go? • Why didn't Jonah want to go there? • What did Jonah try to do? • What happened when the ship set sail? • What was Jonah doing during the storm? • How did the sailors discover it was Jonah's fault? • Who did Jonah say he served?

C11 Story 2
Jonah in the sea

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christians believe we can pray to God wherever we are, and He will hear us. • The Bible teaches that even when we do things against God, He is still willing to forgive us. <p>Key Verse: Jonah 2: 9 Bible Passage: Jonah 1: 5-17a (Level 0) Jonah 1 : 10-17 & 2 : 1-10 (Levels 1&2)</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Ask the pupils if they have ever been on a boat, maybe a small sailing boat or a large ferry going across the sea. Talk about how it feels on a boat, but then ask how they think it would feel if that boat was in the middle of a huge storm. How scared would they be? This is how Jonah felt in today's story! His actions had put others in danger because he had turned away from God.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When the sailors found out who Jonah was and who he served they were very frightened. The men asked Jonah what they should do to stop the storm from destroying them. Jonah told them it was his fault, that he was trying to run away from God, and that they should throw him overboard into the sea. However, the men didn't want to kill Jonah so they tried to row back to shore, but the storm grew worse. Then the sailors cried out to God and asked that they would not be punished for killing Jonah. They picked Jonah up and threw him into the sea. Immediately the storm stopped, and the sea grew calm. The men on the boat realised who God was and offered their praise and worship to Him (Jonah 1: 10-15). • As Jonah sank, God sent a great fish that came and swallowed him whole. Jonah spent three days and three nights in the belly of the fish (Jonah 1: 17). • As Jonah sat in the belly of the fish he prayed to God, he remembered how he thought he was going to die as he sank to the bottom of the ocean. He remembered how he had cried to God as he thought he was dying, how God had heard that prayer and saved his life. He thanked God for hearing him and acknowledged God was the only true God and that the people who prayed to idols would never be saved by their gods. Jonah praised God for being the only God who can save (Jonah 2: 1-9). • After 3 days and nights in the belly of the fish God ordered the fish to vomit Jonah out on to dry land (Jonah 2: 10). • God punished Jonah for His disobedience, but He also provided a way of saving him when he was really sorry and owned up to his sin. The Bible teaches that we deserve to be punished for our sins, but God will forgive us if we are truly sorry, because He sent Jesus to die for us. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Jonah in the sea.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – Jonah 2: 9</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Ask the pupils to answer the following questions as a means of revising the story:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What did the sailors first do when Jonah told them to throw him overboard? • Why didn't they want to throw Jonah overboard? • What happened when they threw Jonah into the sea? • What did the sailors then do? • What did God send to rescue Jonah? • How long was Jonah in the belly of the fish? • What did Jonah do while he was in the fish?

C11 Story 3
Jonah preaches in Nineveh
(Level 0 Jonah in the fish – use Story 2 Lesson Plan)

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If we are sorry for what we have done, no matter how bad, the Bible says God will forgive us. • Christians believe that God can work through ordinary people. <p>Key Verse: Jonah 3: 5 Bible Passage: Jonah 2: 10, Jonah 3: 1-10 (Level 1) Jonah 3: 1-10 (Level 2)</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Talk to the pupils about times they may have had to say sorry; how sometimes they may have been forced to but didn't really mean it. Talk about times when they know they've made a big mistake and wanted to say sorry; how guilty they may have felt and how they felt after saying sorry.</p> <p>Today we are going to look at how the people of Nineveh felt when Jonah told them how angry God was with them.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sooner had Jonah come out of the fish than God spoke to him again, telling him to go to Nineveh to deliver God's message. This time Jonah left immediately and went to the great city. Nineveh was such a great city that it took 3 days to walk across it. Jonah began to travel across Nineveh telling the people that God was going to destroy them for their wicked ways (Jonah 3: 1-4). • Surprisingly the people believed Jonah's message and were very upset for what they had done. They wanted to show God how sorry they were. The people in the city called for a fast; they didn't eat anything at all and put on sackcloth to show how they viewed themselves as worthless and how sorry they were (Jonah 3: 5). • When word reached the king, he got down from his throne, removed his royal robes and put on sackcloth too. He issued a decree that everyone in the city, including all the animals, should eat nothing and be covered in sackcloth. He also commanded that each person turn from his evil ways and call out to God. The king hoped that God would see and hear the people and not carry out His plan to destroy them (Jonah 3: 6-9). • When God saw how sorry the people were and how they were prepared to change, He changed His mind. He forgave them and decided not to destroy them. God also saw that the people really meant what they said, and they weren't just putting on a show in order to save their own lives. • The Bible teaches that God is still kind and forgiving today. If like the people of Nineveh we turn back to Him, say sorry for our sin and believe His message, we will be forgiven. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Jonah preaches in Nineveh.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – Jonah 3: 5</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Ask the pupils to answer the following questions as a means of revising the story:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What did God now want Jonah to do? • How long did it take to walk across the city of Nineveh? • What happened when the people heard his message? • What did the king do? • What did the king command the people to do? • What did God decide to do?

C11 Story 4
Jonah prays to God
 (Level 0 Jonah in the city – use Story 3 Lesson Plan)

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the New Testament, Jesus refers to the story of Jonah when talking about His death. The Bible teaches that God cares for all people. <p>Key Verse: Matthew 12: 41 Bible Passage: Jonah 4: 1-11 (Levels 1&2)</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Talk with the pupils about how we like to see wrongdoers punished. We might tell a parent or a teacher when we see someone doing something wrong. Isn't it true we can get cross when we don't think they have been punished properly? This is how Jonah felt towards God in today's story. He was angry because God didn't punish the people of Nineveh in the way He had said He would.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jonah was very unhappy when he realised God was not going to destroy Nineveh and told him that this was why he had run away in the first place. He knew that God was merciful, slow in becoming angry and full of love. He told God that he was so upset that God had not punished the people that he wanted to die! (Jonah 4: 1-3) Jonah went out of the city and sat down to watch if God was going to do anything. It was a very hot day and Jonah sat there, miserable. But God felt sorry for Jonah and caused a plant to grow near him to give Jonah shade from the heat of the sun. Jonah was grateful for the plant and went to sleep in its shade (Jonah 4: 5-6). At dawn the next day God sent a worm to attack the plant, and the plant withered and died. Then God sent a scorching wind and the hot sun beat down upon Jonah. Jonah was feeling faint and told God he would rather die than live any longer. Jonah was angry with God that He had killed the plant. God asked Jonah why he was so upset about a plant that he hadn't cared for or looked after, and which had only been there for one night. He should not be angry that God had spared a city full of 120,000 people who hadn't even known about God (Jonah 4: 7-11). Explain that when Jesus was on earth he spoke to the people about Jonah. He told them that He would be buried for 3 days and 3 nights, the same amount of time that Jonah had been in the fish. He also told them that the people of Nineveh would be angry with those who heard about Jesus but didn't believe in Him. This is because they had heard the message from Jonah, listened and repented. Now Jesus declared that He was a much greater person than Jonah (Matthew 12: 40-41). <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Jonah prays to God.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – Matthew 12: 41</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Ask the pupils to answer the following questions as a means of revising the story:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why was Jonah angry with God? What did Jonah want to happen to him? Where did Jonah go? What did God send to help Jonah? What happened to the plant? Why did Jonah get upset? How does the story of Jonah compare with what happened to Jesus?

C12 Story 1
God sends His Son, Jesus

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bible teaches that Jesus was God’s Son sent to earth to be born as a baby. • Mary and Joseph travelled from Nazareth to Bethlehem to be counted. <p>Key Verse: 1 John 4: 14 Bible Passage: Luke 2: 1-7</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Show the pupils some pictures of babies. (If possible, bring a photo of yourself as a baby or get the children to bring in photos of themselves as babies.) Discuss where babies are usually born i.e. in hospitals and the way they are cared for when they are born e.g. how you dress them, where you put them to sleep. Explain that today they will be learning a story about a baby being born.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Roman rulers wanted to know how many people were in their empire. They ordered everyone to return to the place of their birth so that they could be counted (Luke 2: 1-3). • Joseph and Mary lived in Nazareth. They were engaged to be married. Mary was going to have a baby soon. Explain that this would be a very special baby because Mary had been told He was the Son of God. They had to leave Nazareth and go to Bethlehem to be counted (Luke 2: 4-5). • While they were in Bethlehem, the baby was born. Mary wrapped her baby in cloths and she placed Him in a manger because there was no room for them in the inn. • Explain that a manger was where the animals would have eaten and then discuss if this was a good place to put a new baby (relate back to introduction discussion) (Luke 2: 6-7). • Explain that even though this baby was the Son of God He was born into a difficult situation and grew up in a poor family. The Bible teaches that God showed how much He loves us by sending His Son into the world. One day this little baby would grow up to die on a cross as the Saviour of the world (See the Key Verse). <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – God sends his Son, Jesus.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – 1 John 4: 14</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Ask the pupils to answer the following questions as a means of revising the story:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who was ruling the land at that time? • What did the Romans make everybody do? • Who was Joseph going to be married to? • Where did Joseph and Mary live? • Where did they have to travel to, to be counted? • What was special about the baby that was born? • What did Mary wrap Him in? • Where did Mary place Him?

C12 Story 2
God sends Jesus, the Saviour

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The shepherds were the first people to be told Jesus was born. • Christians believe that Jesus is the Saviour of the world. <p>Key Verse: Luke 2: 11 Bible Passage: Luke 2: 8-15</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Talk to the pupils about names. Ask them if they know why their name was chosen (if any children have recently had a new baby in their family, you could also ask why their name was chosen). Ask the pupils if they are ever called by any other names except their given ones i.e. nicknames. Remind them of the previous story about God’s Son being born. Explain that the baby was given the name Jesus but that He was also given some other very special names.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Near Bethlehem there were some shepherds out in the fields, watching their sheep at night (Luke 2: 8). Explain why it was necessary for shepherds to watch over their sheep at night. Explain also that they were probably the only people awake who could hear this good news. • The sky lit up and an angel appeared. The shepherds were terrified. The angel said to them “Don’t be afraid, I am giving you good news that will bring joy to all people. Today, in Bethlehem a Saviour has been born and He is Christ, the Lord. The baby is wrapped in cloths and is lying in a manger.” • Ask the pupils to identify the other names (from the angel’s message) that Jesus was called i.e. Christ, Lord and Saviour. Focus on the fact that Jesus was called Saviour because He would save the world from their sins. Explain to the children that in the Bible we read that when Jesus grew up, He died on the cross and took the punishment for our sin so that He could be our Saviour (Luke 2: 9-12). • Suddenly, a great crowd of angels filled the sky and they sang praises to God saying, “Glory to God in the Highest and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!” Remind the pupils that God sending Jesus to earth to be the Saviour was a really amazing thing and that, just as the angels praised God, so Christians want to praise and thank Him too for what He has done (Luke 2: 13-14). • When the angels left, the shepherds spoke to each other and said, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that God has told us about.” (Luke 2: 15) • Help the children to understand that for Christians, Jesus was the greatest Christmas present that God could possibly give. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – God sends Jesus, The Saviour.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – Luke 2: 11</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Ask the pupils to create a piece of artwork of the field where the shepherds watched their sheep. Use different materials – cotton wool, silver paper, card, fabric, wool, paint, etc.</p> <p>Or ask the children to answer the following questions as a means of revising the story:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who was out in the fields? • What time of the day was it? • What appeared in the sky? • How did the shepherds feel? • Who did the angel say had been born? • What filled the sky? • What did they sing? • What did the shepherds decide to do?

C12 Story 3
The shepherds find Jesus

INTRODUCE IT	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The shepherds' lives were changed when they met Jesus. • For Christians, Jesus, the Son of God, coming to earth as a baby was an amazing event. <p>Key Verse: Luke 2: 20 Bible Passage: Luke 2: 16-20</p>
TEACH IT	<p>Talk to the pupils about a time when they heard really good news. Give some personal examples e.g. hearing about a new baby being born or hearing about someone coming to visit. Ask them how they felt when they heard the news and if they shared the news with anyone else. Tell the children that today's story will be about the good news that the shepherds heard, and how they told everybody about it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When the shepherds heard the good news about Jesus, they couldn't wait to go and see the baby for themselves. They hurried off and found Mary, Joseph and the baby lying in a manger, just as the angel had told them (Luke 2: 16). • When they had seen Jesus, they couldn't keep the good news to themselves. They told everyone they met about what had happened. The people they told were amazed and wondered about the things they had heard. Remind pupils that Christians today want to share this amazing news, just like the shepherds wanted to tell people they met about Jesus (Luke 2: 17-18). • Mary remembered all the things that had happened, and she thought a lot about them. The shepherds went back to their fields, but they never forgot the things they had heard either. They continued to give glory to God and praise Him for all the great things that they had seen (Luke 2: 19-20). • Explain to the pupils that when the shepherds met Jesus, their lives were changed. Christians believe that when we get to know Jesus and He becomes our Saviour, then He can change our lives too. • We give thanks for presents we receive at Christmas time. Just like the shepherds praised God, Christians thank God for sending Jesus. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – The Shepherds find Jesus.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – Luke 2: 20</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Ask the pupils to answer the following questions as a means of revising the story:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who had told the news of the new baby to the shepherds? • What did they do when they heard the good news? • Who did the shepherds find when they got to Bethlehem? • Where was the baby Jesus lying? • Who did the shepherds tell about the things they had seen? • Who remembered the things that had happened and kept thinking about them? • Where did the shepherds go after they left Bethlehem? • Who did they give praise to?

C12 Story 4
John baptises Jesus

	<p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John baptised Jesus in the River Jordan. • Jesus was about to start His work on earth as the Saviour. <p>Key Verse: Mark 1: 7 Bible Passage: Mark 1: 1-11</p>
INTRODUCE IT	<p>Ask the pupils if they have ever experienced anyone important coming to visit their home, their school or their town (if not, you could imagine someone important was coming). Discuss the preparations that would need to be done for that person coming. Tell them that today's story is about someone who prepared the way for Jesus.</p>
TEACH IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After Jesus was born, the Bible doesn't tell us much about His life until He was 30 years old. He probably grew up in Nazareth with His family and He might have worked as a carpenter like Joseph did. • Jesus had a relation called John. We often call him John the Baptist. John had been living in the desert where he wore camel skins and his food was locusts and wild honey (Mark 1: 6). • John the Baptist became a preacher. His special job was to get people ready for the coming of Jesus Christ. Lots of people came out to hear the message that John was preaching. He baptised people and told them that someone far better and more powerful than him was coming. When he talked about Jesus he said, "I am not worthy to undo His sandals". He also said that one day Jesus would bring the Holy Spirit to the people (Mark 1: 4-5, 7-8). • When Jesus was about 30 years old the time came for Him to start calling people to God and to preach the Good News that the angel had spoken about on the day that He was born. Jesus went out to the River Jordan to where John was preaching and baptising people. John baptised Jesus in the River Jordan (Mark 1: 9). • Explain to the pupils that Jesus didn't need to be baptised. He didn't need to publicly show that he was sorry for His sin as He had never done anything wrong. Instead, He was coming alongside sinful people, setting an example for them to follow, identifying with John's ministry and marking the start of His mission to the world. <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – John baptises Jesus.</p>
LEARN IT	<p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – Mark 1: 7</p>
REMEMBER IT	<p>Ask the pupils to answer the following questions as a means of revising the story:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where did Jesus grow up? • What was Jesus' relation called? • What did John eat in the desert? • Who did John the Baptist say was coming? • John the Baptist said that Jesus was much more ____ than him? • What age was Jesus when He came to see John? • What did John do for Jesus? • Did Jesus need to have His sins forgiven?

Appendix A - Level 0 & 1 Free Bible Images

	Title	Story Images
C7	David	David and Jonathan/ David on the run
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-david-saul/
		David the King/David spares Saul's life
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-david-cave/
		David becomes king
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/fn-david-mephibosheth/
C8	Joshua	David and Mephibosheth
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-mephibosheth/
		Joshua becomes the new leader
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-joshua-commander/
		Joshua and the new land
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/sb-rahab-spies/
C8	Joshua	https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-joshua-commander/
		Joshua and the River Jordan
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/sb-joshua-jordan/
		Joshua and Jericho
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-joshua-commander/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-joshua-commander/

Appendix A - Level 2 Free Bible Images

	Title	Story Images
C7	David	David on the run
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/david-jonathan/
		David spares Saul's life
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/david-saul-cave/
		David becomes king
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/saul-last-days/
C8	Joshua	https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/david-ark/
		David and Mephibosheth
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/david-mephibosheth/
		Joshua becomes the new leader
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-joshua/
		Joshua and the new land
C8	Joshua	https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-joshua-commander/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joshua-rahab-spies/
		Joshua and the River Jordan
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joshua-jordan/
		Joshua and Jericho
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joshua-ericho/

Appendix A - Level 0 & 1 Free Bible Images

	Title	Story Images
C9	Elijah	Elijah obeys God
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/sb-elijah-food/
		Elijah trusts God
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/sb-elijah-food/
		Elijah serves God
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-prophet-elijah/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-elijah-baal/
C10	Elisha	Elijah prays again/forgets God
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-elijah-baal/
		Elisha, God's new helper
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-elijah-elisha/
		Elisha helps a poor widow
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-elisha-oil/
		God uses Elisha to heal a sick man
https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-elisha-naaman-1/		
https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-elisha-naaman-2/		
		Elisha and his greedy servant
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-elisha-naaman-2/

Appendix A - Level 2 Free Bible Images

	Title	Story Images
C9	Elijah	Elijah obeys God
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/sb-elijah-food/
		Elijah trusts God
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/sb-elijah-food/
		Elijah serves God
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-prophet-elijah/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elijah-prophets-baal/
C10	Elisha	Elijah forgets God
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/elijah-horeb/
		Elisha - The call to follow
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elijah-elisha/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elijah-chariot/
		Elisha - Comfort for a friend
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elisha-boy/
Elisha - Cleansing for a leper		
https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elisha-naaman/		
		Elisha - Cheating is punished
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elisha-naaman/

Appendix A - Level 0 & 1 Free Bible Images

	Title	Story Images
C11	Jonah	Jonah in the ship
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jonah-preschool/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/bpa-jonah/
		Jonah in the sea
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jonah-preschool/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/mk-jonah/
C12	The Christmas Story	Jonah preaches in Nineveh
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/bpa-jonah/
		Jonah prays to God
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/mk-jonah/
		God sends His Son, Jesus
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/birth-jesus-preschool/
C12	The Christmas Story	God sends Jesus, The Saviour
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-christmas-story/
		The shepherds find Jesus
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-christmas-story/
		John baptises Jesus
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/preschool-jesus-baptised/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/mk-john-baptist/

Appendix A - Level 2 Free Bible Images

	Title	Story Images
C11	Jonah	Jonah in the ship
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/mk-jonah/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/bpa-jonah/
		Jonah in the sea
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/bpa-jonah/
		Jonah preaches in Nineveh
C12	The Christmas Story	https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/mk-jonah/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/bpa-jonah/
		Jonah prays to God
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/mk-jonah/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jonah-disobeys/
		God sends His Son, Jesus
C12	The Christmas Story	https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ed-jesus-birth/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/bpa-christmas/
		God sends Jesus, The Saviour
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/christmas-shepherds/
		The shepherds find Jesus
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/christmas-shepherds/
C12	The Christmas Story	John baptises Jesus
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/lgr-john-baptist/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/wdv-john-baptist/

Guidance for Teachers Marking Lessons

LEVEL 0 and 1 LESSONS:

- These Booklets mainly involve colouring for level 0, in addition to 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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