# **Teacher Lesson Plans**

Bibletime Levels 0-4 B Series B7-B12





# **Meet the Characters**





#### NAME:

## B.E.S.

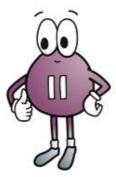
This cloud character is based on *Exodus 13: 21-22* and is a symbol of God's presence. He is a source of wisdom throughout the Bibletime stories, as he guides and teaches the character 'Q' about God. He's a gentle, friendly character who encourages us all to study God's Word, the Bible, in a deep and 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 <u>www.besweb.com</u> or the BES Office in Enniskillen. They are also available on the website in other languages. BES has documents which may be helpful to you if you are considering partnering with us, which are also available on the website.

#### **BES CONTACT ADDRESSES:**

**BES Office** (stockist of all English lessons): 37 Belmore Street Enniskillen Northern Ireland BT74 6AA

Phone: 02866 322462 Email: <u>info@besweb.com</u> 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 <a href="www.freebibleimages.org">www.freebibleimages.org</a> (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)<br>LEVEL 1 (Ages 5-7)<br>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> <li>Creation</li> <li>Noah</li> <li>Peter</li> <li>Peter - The Cross</li> <li>Abraham</li> <li>Abraham</li> <li>Peter</li> <li>Peter</li> <li>Jacob</li> <li>Early Christians</li> <li>Paul</li> <li>The Christmas Story</li> </ol>   | <ol> <li>Creation</li> <li>Noah</li> <li>Peter</li> <li>Peter - The Cross</li> <li>Peter</li> <li>Abraham</li> <li>Jacob</li> <li>Prayer</li> <li>Paul</li> <li>Paul</li> <li>Paul</li> <li>Paul</li> <li>Christmas Story</li> </ol>                         | <ol> <li>Creation &amp; Fall</li> <li>Early developments - Genesis</li> <li>Peter</li> <li>Peter - The Cross</li> <li>Peter</li> <li>Abraham</li> <li>Jacob</li> <li>The Christian Life</li> <li>Paul</li> <li>Pau</li></ol> |
| SERIES B | <ol> <li>Early Life of Christ</li> <li>Miracles</li> <li>Bethany</li> <li>The Cross</li> <li>Parables</li> <li>Joseph</li> <li>Joseph</li> <li>People Jesus met</li> <li>Moses</li> <li>Moses</li> <li>The Christmas Story</li> </ol>      | <ol> <li>Parables</li> <li>Miracles</li> <li>Bethany</li> <li>The Cross</li> <li>Early Christians</li> <li>Joseph</li> <li>Joseph</li> <li>Gospel Writers</li> <li>Moses</li> <li>Moses</li> <li>The Christmas Story</li> </ol>                              | <ol> <li>Parables</li> <li>Miracles</li> <li>Bethany</li> <li>The Cross</li> <li>Early Christians</li> <li>Jacob &amp; his family</li> <li>Joseph</li> <li>Acts 2: 42 - The way ahead</li> <li>Moses</li> <li>Moses</li> <li>The Law</li> <li>The Christmas Story</li> </ol>   |
| SERIES C | <ol> <li>Daniel</li> <li>More Miracles</li> <li>People Jesus met</li> <li>Death of Christ</li> <li>Ruth &amp; Samuel</li> <li>David</li> <li>Joshua</li> <li>Elijah</li> <li>Elisha</li> <li>Jonah</li> <li>The Christmas Story</li> </ol> | <ol> <li>Daniel</li> <li>People Jesus met</li> <li>More Miracles</li> <li>Death of Christ</li> <li>Ruth</li> <li>Samuel</li> <li>David</li> <li>Joshua</li> <li>Elijah</li> <li>Elisha</li> <li>Men used by God - OT</li> <li>The Christmas Story</li> </ol> | <ol> <li>Daniel</li> <li>The sayings of Jesus</li> <li>The Lord's Power</li> <li>Death of Christ</li> <li>Ruth</li> <li>Samuel</li> <li>David</li> <li>Joshua</li> <li>Elijah</li> <li>Elisha</li> <li>More OT Characters</li> <li>The Christmas Story</li> </ol>  |

## B7 Story 1 Joseph's brothers arrive

### We are learning that: Joseph's dreams about his brothers became true. The wrong things we do catch up with us sooner or later. Galatians 6: 7 **Kev Verse:** Bible Passage: Genesis 42: 1-26 **INTRODUCE IT** Ask the pupils to discuss in pairs Joseph's story up to this point. Try to recall the good and the bad things that have happened so far. Summarise by saying that things have worked out very well for Joseph despite how his brothers treated him. But how are his brothers doing back in the land of Canaan? Remind the pupils of the B6 Story 2 Key Verse from Numbers 32: 23, 'Be sure your sin will find you out.' **TEACH IT** Back in the land of Canaan there was a famine and people did not have food to eat. Jacob had heard that there was plenty of food stored up in Egypt. He told Joseph's brothers to go down to Egypt to buy some food for the family. Ten brothers went except Joseph's younger brother, Benjamin (Genesis 42: 1-5). In Egypt, Joseph was in charge of selling the food. When his brothers arrived, they all came and bowed down to Joseph, the Governor of Egypt! (Genesis 42: 6-7) Remind the pupils of the dreams Joseph had about his brothers before they sold him. Now his dreams were being fulfilled. Joseph pretended that he didn't know his brothers and they did not recognise him. He treated them like strangers and said, 'You are spies! You have come to spy out the land!' The brothers told him that this was not true, that they were all honest men. They told him that they had a brother who was 'no more' and a younger brother back at home. To test whether they were telling the truth, Joseph asked them to go back to Canaan and bring back their younger brother with them. To make sure they came back he kept one of the brothers, Simeon, in prison (Genesis 42: 8-20). The brothers were worried and discussed what was happening among themselves. They knew that they had done wrong to Joseph all those years ago. Explain that they were guilty, and their sins had caught up with them. They were sure that God was punishing them for how they had treated Joseph. Joseph overheard what they were saying. He had to turn away and cry (Genesis 42: 21-24). Joseph ordered his men to fill his brothers' sacks with grain. He had their money put back into their sacks and gave them food for the journey. The brothers loaded their donkeys and left to go back to their father (Genesis 42: 25-26). Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A - Joseph's brothers arrive. **LEARN IT** Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse Galatians 6: 7. Remind the pupils that doing wrong leads to trouble. The Bible says it's like sowing seeds and then, one day, gathering a crop of exactly what we sowed. REMEMBER IT Ask pupils the following questions as a means of revising the story. Why did the brothers have to come to Egypt? Who was selling the grain in Egypt? Did Joseph's brothers recognise him? What did Joseph accuse his brothers of being? Who did Joseph want them to bring to Egypt? Which brother was kept in prison? Why did the brothers think all of this was happening to them?

## B7 Story 2 Benjamin and bad news

#### We are learning that:

- Joseph still loved his brothers despite how they had treated him.
- The Bible teaches that God loves each of us and wants to forgive us for the wrong things we have done

Key Verse: Ephesians 4: 32

Bible Passage: Genesis 43-44 (Levels 0 & 1)

Genesis 42: 27-38; 43:1-34; 44: 13 (Level 2)

#### **INTRODUCE IT**

Ask the pupils to imagine the scene: you are one of the brothers on the way home to Canaan from Egypt. You have enough food to feed your families now! How are you feeling? Imagine opening your sack and finding not only the grain but also the money you used to pay for it! Who put it there? Was it a trap? Would the Governor in Egypt think you had stolen it? How could you ever go back to Egypt for more food?

Alternatively, gather some props (sack, food and money) and ask for volunteers to act out the sequence of events.

#### **TEACH IT**

- The brothers loaded their donkeys and journeyed home. On the way, one of them discovered that the money they had used to pay for the grain had been put back into their sacks. They were very afraid! (Genesis 42: 26-28)
- When they arrived home, they told their father what had happened. They told him that the Governor of Egypt had accused them of being spies. He wanted them to bring Benjamin to him. When Jacob heard this and saw that their money was still in their sacks, he was afraid (Genesis 42: 29-38). Do you think Jacob will let Benjamin go down to Egypt?
- As time passed, the famine grew worse. Jacob's family was hungry again. He asked the brothers to go back to Egypt to buy more grain. Judah told him that they couldn't go unless they had Benjamin with them. He told his father that he would take responsibility for keeping Benjamin safe. There was nothing Jacob could do. They needed food to eat. He agreed to let Benjamin go down to Egypt. He told the brothers to take double the amount of money with them and a present for the Governor (Genesis 43: 1-14). How do you think the brothers were feeling?
- The brothers arrived in Egypt and stood before Joseph. When Joseph saw that Benjamin was with them, he asked his servants to prepare a great feast for them in his house. He had Simeon brought out of prison. When Joseph arrived at the feast the brothers bowed down to him again. Remind the pupils of Joseph's dreams. He asked them how their father was doing and spoke with Benjamin. Joseph was so upset that he had to leave the room. Despite all that had happened to him, he still loved his brothers. Explain that even when we do wrong, the Bible tells us that God still loves us. He will forgive us when we ask Him to.
- The next morning the brothers left for Canaan with their sacks full of grain. This time Joseph had arranged for his special silver cup to be put into Benjamin's sack. Joseph sent his men after the brothers to search for the cup. The cup was found in Benjamin's sack! They had to go back to Egypt again! (Genesis 44: 1-13)

Complete the Bibletime lesson.

**Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A** – Benjamin and bad news.

#### **LEARN IT**

Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse **Ephesians 4: 32**. Discuss the word 'forgiveness'. Christians believe that God loves us and is ready to forgive us when we say sorry for what we have done wrong.

#### REMEMBER IT

Ask pupils the following questions as a means of revising the story.

- What did the brothers find in their sacks?
- Why did Jacob not want Benjamin to go to Egypt?
- How did Joseph feel when he saw Benjamin?
- How do we know that Joseph still loved his brothers?
- In whose sack was the cup found?

## B7 Story 3 Forgiveness and good news

### We are learning that: Joseph forgave his brothers for how they had treated him. The Bible teaches that God is ready to forgive those who are truly sorry. Key Verse: Genesis 45: 8 Bible Passage: Genesis 45: 1-28 (Levels 0 & 1) Genesis 44: 14 - 45: 28 (Level 2) **INTRODUCE IT** Remind the pupils of the visits to Egypt up to this point. The silver cup, belonging to Joseph has been found in Benjamin's sack. The brothers return to Egypt with heavy hearts. What would the governor do? Would Benjamin be put to death or be forced to stay as a servant? What would happen to their father if they went back to Canaan without Benjamin? **TEACH IT** The brothers arrived back at Joseph's house. He pretended to be very angry with them for taking his silver cup. Judah spoke up. He knew that this terrible situation had happened because they were guilty men. Explain the term 'guilty'. The brothers offered to become Joseph's servants. However, Joseph said that the man whose sack had contained the cup, would stay behind as his servant. Benjamin would have to stay behind! (Genesis 44: 14-17) Judah spoke to Joseph again. He told Joseph that if Benjamin did not come home, his father would die of grief. Judah offered to stay behind in Benjamin's place (Genesis 44: 18-34). Discuss how the brothers' hearts/attitudes had changed. The brother whose idea it had been to sell Joseph into slavery was now offering to become a slave himself! Joseph could see that his brothers cared for each other and their father. Joseph knew the time had come to tell his brothers who he really was. He asked everyone except his brothers to leave the room and then he said, 'I am Joseph.' His brothers at first were worried. Would Joseph want to get revenge? However, Joseph assured them that this had all been part of God's plan from the beginning. God had sent Joseph before them to Egypt so that he would be there to save their lives during the time of famine (Genesis 45: 1-8). Discuss the fact that Joseph forgave his brothers. Make the point that the Bible teaches that God is ready to forgive. However, like Judah in the story, we have to recognise that we are guilty and show that we are sorry. Joseph knew that there were still five more years of famine to come. He wanted to keep his family safe. He told his brothers to go home and tell their father what had happened. Then they were to pack all their belongings and come to live in Egypt (Genesis: 45: 9-Complete the Bibletime lesson. **Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A** – Forgiveness and good news. **LEARN IT** Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse Genesis 45: 8. (Possibly use only the first part of the verse). Remind the pupils that the events in Joseph's life had been part of God's plan to rescue Jacob's family during the time of famine. REMEMBER IT Ask pupils the following questions as a means of revising the story. What was found in Benjamin's sack? Who did Joseph want to stay behind as his servant? Who offered to stay instead of Benjamin? What would happen to Jacob if Benjamin did not return home? How did Joseph know that his brothers had changed? Did Joseph forgive his brothers? What does the Bible teach about God's forgiveness?

## <u>B7 Story 4</u> Together in Egypt

|              | <ul> <li>We are learning that:</li> <li>Joseph was reunited with his father, Jacob.</li> <li>Christians believe that God can bring good out of bad situations.</li> <li>Key Verse: Genesis 50: 20</li> <li>Bible Passage: Genesis 46: 1-34</li> </ul>   |
|--------------|---|
| INTRODUCE IT | Ask the pupils if any of them have ever moved to a new house. Have any of them had to move to another country? What a busy time it is packing up all your belongings! Ask the pupils how it made them feel. Were they worried/excited? Remind them that in today's story, Jacob and all his family are moving to the land of Goshen, in Egypt.  |
| TEACH IT     | <ul> <li>Jacob (Israel) and all his family packed their belongings. They gathered their livestock and set off on the journey to Egypt. On the way, they came to a place called Beersheba where they stopped to offer sacrifices to God. They were so thankful for how God was looking after them! (Genesis 46: 1)</li> <li>God spoke to Jacob in a dream. He told Jacob not to be afraid about going to live in Egypt. In Egypt, God was going to bless Jacob and make his family a great nation. He promised that He would be with him (Genesis 46: 2-4). Explain to the pupils that the Bible teaches God always keeps His promises.</li> <li>Jacob and his family moved on from Beersheba and came to Egypt. Altogether there were 70 of Jacob's family in Egypt now! (Genesis 46: 5-27)</li> <li>When they all arrived in the land of Goshen, Joseph came to meet them. He was overjoyed to see his father after all these years. He threw his arms around him and cried for a long time. King Pharaoh heard that they had come. He made them welcome and allowed them to live together in the land of Goshen (Genesis 46: 28-34).</li> <li>Discuss this happy ending with the pupils. Explain that Christians try to trust God in the good times and in the bad times, just like Joseph did. The Bible tells us God has a plan for our lives.</li> <li>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</li> </ul> |
|              | Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Together in Egypt.   |
| LEARN IT     | Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse <b>Genesis 50: 20</b> . Use this verse to sum up the whole story. How did the brothers try to hurt Joseph? How did God turn this into a good situation? Explain to the pupils that Christians believe God is in control of our lives.   |
| REMEMBER IT  | <ul> <li>Ask pupils the following questions as a means of revising the story.</li> <li>Where was Jacob's family moving to?</li> <li>Where did they stop to offer sacrifices?</li> <li>What promises did God make to Jacob?</li> <li>Who came to meet them when they arrived in Goshen?</li> <li>How many of Jacob's family were living in Egypt now?</li> <li>This story had a very sad beginning. How did God change it, so it had a happy ending?</li> </ul>  |

## B8 Story 1 People Jesus met: a sick lady

### We are learning that: The Bible teaches that Jesus has the power to heal people. Christians believe that Jesus shows compassion to those who are hurting. **Kev Verse:** Acts 10: 38 Bible Passage: Luke 4: 38-39 (Level 0) Luke 4: 38-44 (Levels 1 & 2) **INTRODUCE IT** Ask the pupils to stand up and do the following physical activities "on the spot" - e.g. jump, jog, sprint, hop, march, use arms to punch the air in front, etc. Be sensitive towards any pupils who would be unable to participate in this introduction. At the end, explain to the pupils that the reason they could enjoy this and take part was because they are fit and well. It isn't fun when we are feeling ill and need to stay in bed. At the time of Jesus, there were many sick people but no doctors or medicines to help. As an alternative, talk about what it would be like to be a doctor today- knowing about lots of illnesses, prescribing medicine, being very busy, sometimes able to help, but sometimes not. Explain that in today's story we are going to learn about the power Jesus had to heal people. **TEACH IT** Jesus had been in the synagogue (the building where the Jews met to learn about God) teaching the people. He had also healed a man. Now it was time to visit Simon's house with some of the other disciples. But there was a problem. Simon's mother in law (explain what this means) was very ill with a high temperature. Explain how this would have made her feel - very hot and sore all over. Simon and the others knew that Jesus would be able to heal her, so they asked Jesus to help (Luke 4: 38). Why did they think Jesus could help? Jesus was willing to help. He instantly healed the woman and she got up and started to serve the food. It was as if there had never been anything wrong with her! Ask the pupils to think of some of the things the people might have said to each other. That evening as the sun was setting, many people brought others who had illnesses and problems to Jesus. Reflect on the kinds of people who might have been there and why they had come. How might Jesus have been feeling at the end of the day? Despite how late it was, Jesus still had time for everyone. He laid His hands on each one. No-one left without being healed. Again, explore the people's reactions (Luke 4: 40). The next morning, Jesus found a quiet place where He could pray to His Father. But still the people came looking for Him! They knew about His wonderful power (Luke 4: 42). Explain to the pupils that Christians today believe that Jesus still cares and wants to help people. Complete the Bibletime lesson. **Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A** – People Jesus met: a sick lady. **LEARN IT** Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse Acts 10: 38. Select as much of this verse as your group can manage. **REMEMBER IT** Ask pupils the following questions as a means of revising the story. What had Jesus been doing in the synagogue? Whose house did Jesus visit? Who had a very high temperature? What two things did Jesus do to heal her? What did she do after she was healed? Why did more and more people keep coming to Jesus? What important thing did Jesus do the next morning?

## B8 Story 2 People Jesus met: a man with leprosy

### We are learning that: Jesus showed His love by healing the man who had leprosy. The Bible teaches that we should be willing to reach out to others in the same way Jesus did. **Key Verse:** Luke 7: 22 Bible Passage: Luke 5: 12-16 **INTRODUCE IT** Ask the pupils about infectious illnesses which they may have experienced, e.g. chicken pox, measles, coronavirus. Talk about having to stay away from others and maybe missing something exciting. Explain that in Jesus' time, leprosy was a common skin disease which spread from one person to another. People who caught it could no longer live with their families or go to work. There was no cure! Encourage the pupils to be grateful for whatever level of healthcare is available - if appropriate they could express this by writing a Christian prayer. **TEACH IT** One day, a man with very bad leprosy came over to Jesus. He fell to his knees in front of Jesus and pleaded for help. He said, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean." This showed that the man knew that Jesus had the power to make him clean if He was willing to do it (Luke 5: 12). Of course, Jesus wanted to help the man. He loved Him very much and knew how much he needed help. Then Jesus did a wonderful thing. He reached out His hand and actually touched the man and said, "I am willing. Be clean!" Jesus didn't get leprosy from touching the man but instead the man was immediately better. Describe how his skin was smooth and healthy; also reflect on the man's amazement and gratitude (Luke 5: 13). This was another miracle. Jesus had once again shown His great power over illness and to change people's lives. The Bible teaches that Jesus loves us despite the wrong things we have done. If we are willing, He can forgive us and make us clean from our sin. After Jesus had healed the man, He told him to go to the priest to show that he was healed. How would his life be different from now on? The man would never forget the day he met Jesus (Luke 5: 14). Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – People Jesus met: a man with leprosy. **LEARN IT** Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse Luke 7: 22. This verse lists six ways in which Jesus changes people's lives. Getting it all in order could be a challenge - try using a simple mime for each phrase e.g. blind = point to the eyes, the lame walk = walk on the spot, those who have leprosy = touch skin on palm of hands. Alternatively, divide it up into phrases for different groups to say if it's too long. Level 2 children could try to give specific examples of people Jesus healed from each category. Use these True/False statements for a quiz. **REMEMBER IT** Leprosy is an infectious disease. The man was only allowed to be with his family. He fell on his knees before Jesus. The man wasn't sure if Jesus could make him better. Jesus touched him. Jesus was able to heal him because He is the Son of God. He got better after a few minutes. He had to go and show himself to the priest.

All of us have a disease called sin.

The Bible teaches that Jesus loves us and is willing to forgive our sin.

## B8 Story 3 People Jesus met: a helpless man

### We are learning that: Jesus had the power to heal a paralysed man and to forgive his sins. Christians have asked God to forgive their sins and are thankful to Jesus for dying on the cross in their place. **Kev Verse:** Luke 5: 24 Bible Passage: Luke 5: 17-26 **INTRODUCE IT** Ask the pupils to suggest things they might do to help a friend in school or at home. In today's story, four friends carried their friend who could not walk to Jesus. If possible, have a mat as a visual aid to explain how they would have done this. Why did they bring him to Jesus? They knew that He had the power to heal their friend. **TEACH IT** Getting to Jesus, however, wasn't as easy as they expected. Lots of people had already crowded into the house to listen to Jesus. Christians believe that it is important for us too to want to listen to Jesus' words. It was impossible to get through the door, so they carried the man up the steps at the side of the house onto the roof. They weren't going to give up easily because they knew that Jesus was the only one who could help! Ask the pupils to imagine what it must have been like for the people standing in the house below as a hole appeared in the roof and the man was carefully lowered down in front of Jesus' feet (Luke 5: 18-19). How would Jesus heal the man? Ask the pupils to recall how He healed in the stories of Simon Peter's mother-in-law and the leper. In today's story, Jesus spoke to the man and said, "Friend your sins are forgiven." Some of the people who were in the house were angry. They did not believe Jesus could forgive sins. They thought that only God could forgive sins and they did not believe that Jesus was God's Son. Jesus knew what they were thinking. The Bible teaches that He knows our thoughts too! (Luke 5: 20-24) Jesus wanted to prove to them that He really had forgiven the man's sins even though they couldn't see into the man's life! He told the helpless man to get up, take his mat and go home. Immediately he did this and off he went, praising God! Everyone was amazed. Jesus' power could not only heal the man's legs, but He could also forgive sins! No one else had power like this! (Luke 5: 24-26) Review the idea of sin – what it is, how the Bible teaches that it spoils our relationship with God and will keep us out of Heaven. Christians believe that Jesus has the power to forgive our sins because He had no sins of His own. He was willing to die on the cross to take the punishment for our sin. Christians have recognised their need to be truly sorry for their sin and continually thank Jesus for providing a way for them to be forgiven. Complete the Bibletime lesson. **Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A** – People Jesus met: a helpless man. **LEARN IT** Teach the Key Verse which is part of the story Luke 5: 24. Explain that the "Son of Man" is another name for Jesus. **REMEMBER IT** Ask pupils the following questions as a means of revising the story. How many friends did the man have? What was wrong with the man? Why was it hard to get their friend to Jesus? How did they get into the house? What did Jesus say to the man first? Why were some of the people angry? How did Jesus show that He had forgiven the man's sins? What do Christians believe is the most important thing Jesus can do for us?

## B8 Story 4 People Jesus met: Matthew

#### We are learning that:

- Jesus knew what Matthew's life was like, but He still wanted him to follow Him.
- Christians believe that following Jesus is the most important decision a person can make.

Key Verse: Luke 5: 32 Bible Passage: Luke 5: 27-32

#### **INTRODUCE IT**

Have a discussion with the pupils about the kinds of jobs they would like to do when they grow up. Evaluate what would be good about doing these jobs.

#### Or

Act out some simple mimes of jobs common in your society for the pupils to guess what they are.

Explain that today's story is about a man called Matthew (Levi) who was a tax collector. He sat at the roadside and collected the taxes from the people to pass on to the Romans who were in charge of the country. You may wish to refer to the fact that we still pay taxes today and what they are used for.

Unfortunately, tax-collectors like Matthew were disliked, not just because they worked for the enemy (the Romans) but also because they sometimes took more money than they should and kept it for themselves.

#### **TEACH IT**

- One day Jesus noticed Matthew doing his job. Discuss what Jesus might have thought about Matthew Did He know the kind of man Matthew was? Christians would say of course! ...He knows everything about each one of us. Would Jesus want to have anything to do with Matthew? Yes! Matthew was exactly the kind of person Jesus came to help He could change Matthew's life! So He stopped beside Matthew and said, "Follow me" (Luke 5: 27). What would Matthew do? Present the choice that Matthew had to make.
- Matthew knew immediately what he wanted to do. He would follow Jesus! How amazing
  that Jesus had invited him! He got up, left everything and went with Jesus (Luke 5: 28).
  Christians believe that Jesus gives each of us an invitation to follow Him and have Him in
  our life. We too need to make a choice.
- Matthew wanted his friends to meet Jesus and let them know how his life had been changed. So he invited them along with Jesus and His disciples, to a dinner in his house. Some people who were there thought that Jesus was wrong to mix with Matthew and his friends. They thought that Jesus should only spend time with good people rather than sinners. They didn't realise that everyone is a sinner. Jesus explained to them why He had come to earth not for people who thought their lives were good enough but for those who knew they had sinned and wanted to be sorry for their sins (Luke 5: 29-32). The Bible teaches that Jesus does not like sin, but He loves sinners like Matthew and us! Following Him means trusting Him for forgiveness and living a life based on the Bible's teaching.
- Later on, God chose Matthew to do a very important job. He wrote the first book of the New Testament. The day he decided to follow Jesus and let Him deal with the wrong things in his life, resulted in an amazing transformation.

Complete the Bibletime lesson.

**Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A** – People Jesus met: Matthew.

#### **LEARN IT**

Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse **Luke 5: 32**. Discuss difficult words such as 'righteous' and 'repentance'.

#### **REMEMBER IT**

Ask pupils to make a collage of the different people Jesus met in these stories. Or you could have a review quiz based on all of B8, using selected questions from the previous notes and a few about Matthew e.g.

- · What was Matthew's job?
- What did Jesus say to Matthew?
- What did Matthew do after he followed Jesus?

#### B9 Story 1 Moses' birth

### We are learning that: The Bible tells us that God cared for Moses and He cares for us too. God had a plan for Moses' life – Christians believe He has a plan for us too. **Key Verse:** Hebrews 11: 23 Bible Passage: Level 0&1: Exodus 2: 1-10 Level 2: Exodus 1&2 INTRODUCE IT Christians believe that the families we are born into and the things that happen to us are not random – rather, God uses them to prepare us to serve Him. In these stories, we are going to learn about Moses. God had a very important job for Moses to do when he grew up. Today we will learn about how God looked after Moses as a child. The story of Moses is found in the second book of the Bible. Ask if anyone knows the name of this book (Exodus) and show them where it is found. Alternatively, if you are introducing this story to Level 1 children, you could talk about new babies and possibly have some items which they need to keep them safe and content. TEACH IT Briefly explain the background to the Israelites (Hebrews) being slaves - (Exodus 1: 1-11). King Pharaoh became so desperate to stop the Israelites increasing in number that he decided to drown all the Israelite baby boys in the River Nile (Exodus 1: 22). How would an Israelite mum and dad have felt if they had just had a new baby boy? In one home, a beautiful healthy baby boy was born. His parents hid him in the house, trusting God to keep him safe. But after three months, they could no longer hide him. Why not? His mother made a waterproof basket from bulrushes / papyrus reeds, put the baby inside and hid the basket in the tall reeds at the edge of the river. Miriam, the baby's sister was left to watch what would happen, but only God could keep the baby safe (Exodus 2: 1-4). Tell the next part of the story dramatically – describe how Miriam notices the princess (Pharaoh's daughter) and her helpers coming along. Will she notice the baby? Will she tell the King? Yes, the princess spotted the basket and asked her helper to bring it to her. Describe her response on seeing the Hebrew baby inside. The princess would not let him be harmed! God was at work in keeping the baby safe! (Exodus 2: 5-6) Then Miriam stepped forward and offered to find a nurse for the baby. Who would she get? The princess agreed and Miriam ran off to find her own mother! So, the baby's mother was able to look after him at home in complete safety because the princess agreed to it. Later on, when the baby had grown into a boy, the princess took him to live in Pharaoh's palace. She adopted him as her own son and called him Moses, which means "taken out of the water" (Exodus 2: 7-10). Now Moses had become a prince of Egypt! Christians believe that God was behind all that happened. According to Pharaoh's law, the baby should have drowned. Moses' parents had faith in God – they trusted God to look after their baby and He did. This was just the beginning of God's plan being worked out. Christians today trust God to work out His plan in their lives too. Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – The birth of Moses. Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse Hebrews 11: 23 (Level 2). Level 1 LEARN IT children could learn the first sentence. REMEMBER IT Which book is the story of Moses found in? What did Pharaoh decide to do to all the baby Hebrew boys? How long was the baby hidden at home? What did the mother make?

Where did she put the baby? Who staved at the river to watch?

Who showed faith in the story? Who kept Moses safe?

Why was Moses' life not in danger from then on?

Who found the baby?

#### B9 Story 2 Moses' big mistake

#### We are learning that:

- Moses made a mistake when he acted too quickly in anger.
- The Bible teaches that God knows about everything we do, say, or think.

Key Verse: Exodus 2: 11-15 Bible Passage: Numbers 32: 23

#### **INTRODUCE IT**

Sometimes we think we know best. Choose an example of something that a child might be shown how to do by an adult, but the child does it his/her own way and it doesn't work out right. Last week we learned about Moses. *Ask some questions to recap.* Where did Moses go to live when he was a boy? (The Palace). What were his own people called? (Israelites/Hebrews). Remind the pupils that they were slaves and how they were treated cruelly by the Egyptians. In today's story Moses is grown up. Listen carefully to learn about a situation where Moses thought he knew best.

#### TEACH IT

- One day Moses went to visit his own people. Suddenly he noticed one of them being beaten by an Egyptian (Exodus 2: 11-12). How would Moses have felt? (angry, wanting to defend his people). Quickly Moses looked around to see no one was watching and killed the man from Egypt. Then he hid the body in the sand. Moses thought he had done the right thing, but had he? Explain to the pupils that Moses' action was very wrong. Do you think he will get away with what he did? If not, why?
- The next day Moses saw two Hebrews fighting. As he asked what was going on, one of the men said, "Who do you think you are to judge us? Are you thinking of killing me, as you did to the Egyptian?" Now Moses knew that he had been seen killing the Egyptian. How would he feel now? (scared that the King would hear!) Soon Pharaoh did hear about what Moses had done and wanted to kill him. Moses had to run for his life to another country called Midian where he worked as a shepherd for a man called Jethro (Exodus 2: 13-15).
- The Bible teaches that God also knew about the wrong thing which Moses had done. Christians believe that God sees everything we do, and we cannot hide our wrong actions from him. Even though Moses was a grown-up, he made a mistake and did not do the right thing. He still had much to learn before he was ready to be a leader. Christians today can learn from Moses' mistake by asking God to help them to act in the right way.

Complete the Bibletime lesson.

Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A - Moses' big mistake.

#### LEARN IT

Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse **Numbers 32: 23**. Relate the verse to Moses' mistake. What was Moses' sin? How was he found out? You could also give a specific example of a situation which is relevant to the pupils' experiences.

#### REMEMBER IT

Use these True or False statements for a quiz:

- Moses killed an Israelite.
- He thought no one saw him.
- Another Hebrew man had seen him.
- God saw what happened.
- Pharaoh put Moses in prison.
- Moses still had lots to learn before he was ready to be a leader.

## B9 Story 3 Moses sees a burning bush

#### We are learning that:

- Moses was a reluctant leader, but God promised to help him.
- God had forgiven Moses and now He had a special job for Him to do.

Key Verse: Exodus 3: 12

Bible Passage: Level 0&1: Exodus 3: 1-10 Level 2: Exodus 3: 1-22

#### **INTRODUCE IT**

Talk about being asked to do something important and exciting – a responsibility relevant to school life, e.g. help a teacher, deliver a message, speak in Assembly. How did you feel when you were asked to do it? (nervous, wishing someone else had been asked?)

Today's story takes place 40 years after Moses' big mistake. Moses had been a shepherd for 40 years in the desert. God had not forgotten him. He was willing to forgive him and now had a very special task for him to do.

#### **TEACH IT**

- Every day was much the same, until one day... Moses noticed a bush on fire! The strange thing was that although there were flames, the leaves and the branches were not being burned up! Moses went closer to have a look and then God said Moses' name. Use the words from the Bible to tell the next part. Explain that "holy ground" meant it was a very special place because God was there. The Bible tells us that God is holy and different from us He has no sin. Moses took off his sandals and hid his face because he understood God's greatness (Exodus 3: 1-6).
- Ask the pupils to recall what life was like for the Israelites in Egypt. God told Moses that He knew all the bad things that had been happening and now He was going to bring them out of Egypt to a new country. God wanted Moses to be their leader and go to speak to King Pharaoh. Explore how Moses might have felt about going back to Pharaoh (Exodus 3: 7-10). Read on to see how Moses felt about being a leader. Then discuss his objections and God's counter-objections as given in the Bible text and in the speech bubbles in the Level 2 lesson.
- I'm not important enough I will be with you (3: 11, 12). I don't know your name My name is I AM (this name shows God is all-powerful). I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham (3: 13-15). They won't believe me I will give you miracles to prove my power (4: 1-9). I won't be able to say the right words I will help you speak and teach you what to say (4: 10-12). Please send someone else (4: 13) Aaron will be your helper and you can tell him what to say.

Was Moses the kind of person you would expect to be a leader? Do you think God was pleased with his excuses? But despite the mistake he had made back in Egypt and all his excuses, he was God's choice. In our next story, we will learn how Moses was finally ready to obey and God was able to continue to work out His plan in his life. Moses would have to rely on God for all that lay ahead.

• Christians try to remember that when God asks them to do things that seem difficult, He is with them and will help them.

#### Complete the Bibletime lesson.

**Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A - Moses sees a burning bush.** 

#### LEARN IT

Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse **Exodus 3: 12a**. This is a short verse after a long story. The pupils might like to use it to create a bookmark. A larger group could make a collage with each child decorating or sticking bits of paper on to a letter.

#### REMEMBER IT

- What was strange about the bush which Moses saw?
- What did Moses do when he was on holy ground?
- What does holy mean?
- What job did God want Moses to do?
- Give an excuse which Moses made about himself.
- What excuse did Moses make about God?
- Who did God allow Moses to take with him?
- · God did not give up on Moses. Why not?

## B9 Story 4 Moses brings God's message

### We are learning that: Moses was finally obedient to what God asked him to do. God worked out His plan in Moses' life by keeping the promises He had made to **Key Verse: Exodus 4: 15** Bible Passage: Level 0&1: Exodus 3: 11-22 & 4: 1-5 Level 2: Exodus 4: 1-20 **INTRODUCE IT** Talk about important changes in our lives – e.g. moving to a new house, moving to secondary school, getting married. Moses had a lot of changes in his life - recall his first months as a baby, then living in Pharaoh's palace until he was 40, followed by his life in the desert for another 40 years. It would be useful to put pictures of these events on a timeline of Moses' life and display this on the classroom wall. Now Moses was facing the biggest challenge in his life. What had God asked him to do? TEACH IT Moses now had a wife and two sons in the land of Midian. He asked his father-in-law, Jethro, if he could go back to Egypt. Jethro agreed and Moses set out along with his wife and his sons who rode on a donkey. Moses also brought with him his special rod that God had told him to use. God told Moses that the men who had wanted to kill him when he was last in Egypt were no longer alive (Exodus 4: 18-20). God was helping Moses not to be afraid. Already God was keeping His promise to Moses. Can you remember the Key Verse from the last lesson? (Exodus 3: 12) Then God kept another promise He had made to Moses. While Moses was still on his journey, his brother Aaron came and met him. Why was Aaron going to be with Moses? Moses told Aaron all that God had told him, including the signs he had been given to do with his rod (Exodus 4: 27, 28). Christians believe that God can always be counted on to keep his promises. When they arrived in Egypt, Moses and Aaron met with the leaders of the Israelites and told them God's plans. Then all the people came together, and Moses showed them the miracles God had given him to do with his rod. Moses threw the rod on the ground and it became a snake and then when he took hold of the snake's tail it became a rod again. After this he put his hand inside his cloak and when he brought it out it was covered with leprosy (an infectious skin disease) but when he put it in a second time it was healed (Exodus 4: 6-9). When the people saw these wonderful things, they could see God's power, and understood that Moses had really been sent by God. How do you think the people felt? (amazed/so happy that God was going to rescue them from being slaves) (Exodus 4: 29-31). Moses must have been excited to see God prepare the way for him as he came back to Egypt. Review those in this story who enabled God's plan to move forward – Jethro, Aaron, the leaders and the people. Who did Moses and Aaron still have to present the plan to? Emphasise that although it wasn't going to be easy, they could still rely on God to work things out. He was in control! Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A - Moses brings God's message. LEARN IT Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse Exodus 4: 15. Make sure the pupils understand the context of this verse which relates to Moses and Aaron working together and God being with them. REMEMBER IT Review this story by asking the following revision questions. Who went back to Egypt with Moses? Who met him on the way? How did the people know that Moses had been sent by God?

Explain one of the miracles Moses did before the people.

## B10 Story 1 Moses and the first plague

### We are learning that: Christians try to listen to God and obey His instructions. Disobeying rules can lead to serious consequences. **Key Verse: Exodus 7: 16** Bible Passage: Exodus 7: 1-24 **INTRODUCE IT** Discuss with the pupils the importance of obeying school rules/rules in society and the consequences of disobedience. It might be useful to review B9 Story 4 with a few questions to link to today's content. **TEACH IT** Now the time had come for Moses and Aaron to ask Pharaoh to let the Israelites leave Egypt so they could worship God in the desert. Ask the pupils to predict his response. Explain his refusal and the outcome which made things worse than before. Help the pupils to see that Pharaoh was disobeying God. What would you have thought about Moses if you'd been an Israelite? (Angry with him for making Pharaoh work them harder - see Exodus 5: 1-21) Moses could not understand why God had allowed this to happen. He asked God about it. God made them a promise that He would show His mighty power and although Pharaoh initially would not obey, he would eventually do what God asked. Remind the pupils that we make promises and forget them, or can't keep them, but Christians believe that God's promises will always be kept by God said to go back to Pharaoh again and demand that he let the Israelite slaves go! (Exodus 5: 22 - 7:5) This time, Pharaoh asked for a miracle and Aaron's stick became a snake. Pharaoh's magicians did the same, but Aaron's snake ate all the magician's snakes. What did this show about God? Still Pharaoh would not obey God (Exodus 7: 6-12). Then God told Moses and Aaron to meet Pharaoh by the River Nile. God's command was given again. If Pharaoh did not obey, the River Nile would be turned into blood, and there would be no clean water and all the fish would die. Pharaoh refused to listen. The Bible says that he turned and went into his house. Discuss Pharaoh's attitude - what words describe it? Explain that the Bible describes him as having a hard heart (Exodus 7: 14-19). So, all the Egyptians dug around the river for water to drink because they could not drink the water of the river. This was the first plague and it lasted for 7 days (Exodus 7: 24-25). Moses and Aaron did exactly what God told them to do, obeying in every detail. The Bible says that God takes delight in our obedience. Pharaoh disobeyed God and refused to listen to Him which ended with trouble and God's punishment. Ask the pupils if they can think of some more of God's commands, written in the Bible. Complete the Bibletime lesson. **Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Moses and the first plague.** LEARN IT Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse Exodus 7: 16. REMEMBER IT Ask the pupils the following questions as a means of revising the story. What was the promise God made to Moses and Aaron? What was the first miracle which Aaron did? What happened to the River Nile in the first plague? What did the Egyptians not have for seven days? Why is it important for Christians to obey God's rules?

### B10 Story 2 Moses and the last plague

| INTRODUCE IT | <ul> <li>We are learning that:         <ul> <li>Pharaoh and the Egyptians' refusal to obey God would have to be punished.</li> <li>The Bible teaches that God cannot overlook sin, but He does provide a way of forgiveness.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Key Verse: Exodus 12: 13         <ul> <li>Bible Passage: Exodus 11: 1-10, 12: 1-13</li> </ul> </li> <li>Discuss how we are protected in certain situations. Choose examples which the pupils can relate to e.g. applying sun-cream protects fair-skinned people from the dangers of the sun. Carrying a passport allows us to pass from one country to another without fear of being arrested. A vaccination prevents us from getting a disease. In today's story, we will learn how God gave the Israelites a special sign to ensure that they were kept safe from His punishment.</li> </ul>  |
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| TEACH IT     | <ul> <li>There had been nine plagues so far, but each time Pharaoh had refused to let the people go. God was hardening Pharaoh's heart until Pharaoh realised how great God was.</li> <li>Pharaoh told Moses that he never wanted to see him again (Exodus 10: 27-29). But God had already explained to Moses what the final plague would be. There was going to be a terrible punishment on every family - the oldest son was going to die (Exodus 11: 4-6). But Pharaoh did not believe that God could or would carry out that terrible punishment (Exodus 11: 10).</li> <li>Christians believe that whatever God speaks or says in the Bible is the truth, and whatever He promises, He will make it happen.</li> <li>God then explains to Moses the preparations that the Israelites are to make to get ready to leave Egypt. Each family had to kill a lamb. Some of the blood was to be put on the door frame of their house which would show that the house belonged to the Israelites. Then they were to have a special meal of roast lamb, bread without yeast and bitter herbs. They were to eat the meal quickly and be dressed ready to leave very soon. God explained that when the oldest sons were killed in the Egyptian homes the Israelites would be safe if they had blood on their doors (Exodus 12: 12-13). Describe the excitement and anticipation of the fact that they were finally about to leave and how the Israelites followed the instructions exactly. Discuss the value and importance of the blood for the Israelites and how it was their only protection.</li> <li>How were the Israelites kept safe? Through the blood of the Israelites, but for the whole world. His blood which was poured out when He died on the cross, saves all people from the punishment of sin, when they choose to put their trust in Him.</li> <li>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</li> <li>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Moses and the last plague.</li> </ul> |
| LEARN IT     | Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse Exodus 12: 13.  |
| REMEMBER IT  | <ul> <li>Ask the pupils the following questions as a means of revising the story.</li> <li>What was the final punishment going to be for Pharaoh?</li> <li>What did the Israelites have to do to make sure they were safe?</li> <li>What did they have to eat and how did they have to eat it?</li> <li>How has Jesus made it possible for people to be saved? (Romans 5: 8)</li> </ul>   |

## B10 Story 3 Moses and the escape from Egypt

### We are learning that: God rescued the Israelites just as He had promised Moses when He spoke to him at the burning bush. This event is an example of God's great power. Exodus 14: 30 **Kev Verse:** Bible Passage: Exodus 12: 31-39, 14: 1-31 **INTRODUCE IT** Think about some of the things it is impossible for us to do e.g. fly without an aircraft, cross a sea without a boat, find our way through a desert with no compass, etc. However, the Bible teaches that what is impossible with humans, is possible with God. God shows in this story one of the greatest displays of His power recorded in the Bible. TEACH IT During the night, when all the Egyptian firstborn sons died, Pharaoh sent for Moses and Aaron. How had Pharaoh reacted after all the previous plagues? Describe how this time was different - He told them to take all the people, with their flocks and to leave Egypt at once (Exodus 12: 31-32). The Egyptians also encouraged them to go because they feared that they would all die if the Israelites stayed. God moved the Egyptians to give presents of silver, gold and clothes as they left (Exodus 12: 35-36). In total, there were over six hundred thousand men as well as women and children. Do some research and compare this number to a population of somewhere familiar to the children. Finally, Pharaoh was choosing to listen to God! He could have avoided so much suffering if he had listened straight away. Emphasise the importance of listening to/following instructions of parents and teachers. Make the point that for Christians, it's important to obey God. The Israelites led by Moses made their way towards the Red Sea. Explore their feelings. But it wasn't the last they saw of Pharaoh! Again, God hardened Pharaoh's heart, as he still had to learn how great God is! Pharaoh suddenly realised he had lost all his builders and decided to chase them with 600 chariots (Exodus 14: 3-7). The Israelites were trapped! Pharaoh was behind them and the Red Sea was in front of them. How do you think they felt now? Describe their panic and how they blamed Moses. But Moses told them to stand firm and they would see how God would look after them! (Exodus 14: 10-14) God told Moses to raise his staff above the Sea. As Moses obeyed, a dry path appeared miraculously through the middle of the Red Sea so all the Israelites could go through on dry land. Explain what happened when the Egyptians tried to follow them. Moses raised his staff again and the waters returned. The Bible says that Pharaoh's entire army were covered by the waters and not one of them survived (Exodus 14: 28). What would you have thought about God if you had been an Israelite? Describe their response to this miracle they 'feared the Lord' (they realised the extent of God's power/who He is) and put their trust in Him and in Moses (Exodus 14: 31). Christians believe that God is always in control and working for the good of those who love Him (Romans 8: 28). Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Moses and the escape from Egypt. LEARN IT Teach and explain, where necessary the Key Verse Exodus 14: 30. REMEMBER IT Ask the pupils the following questions as a means of revising the story. Why did Pharaoh decide to let the Israelites go? What did the Egyptians give them? Why did Pharaoh decide to chase them? Why did the Israelites panic? What did God tell Moses to do which would save them? What happened to the Egyptian army? What did the Israelites do when they saw what had happened?

## B10 Story 4 Songs of thanks to God

## We are learning that: The Israelites were thankful for all that God had done to give them freedom and Christians try to take time to look back and thank God for what He has done in their **Key Verse:** Psalm 106: 1 Bible Passage: Exodus 15: 1-22 Use clues to recall some of the amazing things which happened in Bible days, e.g. Daniel **INTRODUCE IT** saved in the lions' den, David killing Goliath, including the crossing of the Red Sea as in last week's story. Locate events on a Bible Timeline if you have one. Explain that in each of these, the Bible characters had no alternative but to rely on God's mighty power. We will find out about what the Israelites did after God rescued them and also think about how Christians have responded to God for what He has done for them. TEACH IT The Israelites were at last free from being slaves and their enemies had all been drowned. Explain how they would have felt. They knew it was God who had saved them, and they were so thankful that they wanted to praise God for what He had done (Exodus 15: 1). They knew there was no other God who had such power (Exodus 15: 11). They sang in great detail about all He had done for them. Explain to the pupils that Christians realise how great God is by looking at creation, appreciating God's provision for all their needs each day and also remembering God's gift of His Son to die on the cross for their sin. The Israelites did not just sing about God, they had a closer relationship with Him, so they called Him "my God", "my Strength", "my Salvation" (Exodus 15: 2). The Israelites did not just think about the present, they knew that they could trust Him for future battles with other enemies as they made their way towards the Promised Land (Canaan). Christians believe that God never changes, and they can trust Him not only today, but also in the future. Miriam, Moses' and Aaron's sister, led some of the women in singing and dancing. They were so excited as they celebrated what God had done. Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Moses and Israel thank God. LEARN IT Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse Psalm 106: 1. Using this verse as a basis, the pupils could be encouraged to write a prayer of thankfulness for all the good things they enjoy. REMEMBER IT Ask the pupils the following questions as a means of revising the story. What did the Israelites do when they saw they were free? How did they describe God in their song? How do you know the Israelites trusted God for the future? Who led the women in singing in dancing? Why do you think the Israelites changed from being frightened to singing and praising God?

### B11 Story 1 God gives food

|              | <ul> <li>We are learning that:</li> <li>God provided food for the Israelites for forty years in the desert.</li> <li>For Christians, Jesus is the "Bread of Life" who meets their needs.</li> <li>Key Verse: John 6: 35</li> <li>Bible Passage: Exodus 16: 1-32</li> </ul>   |
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| INTRODUCE IT | Briefly remind the pupils about what happened in B9 and B10. God had shown the Israelites His power in rescuing them from Egypt and now He promised to lead them to a new country. They weren't long on the way until the people started to grumble and complain to Moses about being hungry! Their food supplies were finished and they were thinking about being back in Egypt and all the food they had enjoyed there (Exodus 16: 2-3). Already they had forgotten that God was in control and that He knew all their needs for their journey.  |
| TEACH IT     | <ul> <li>Even though the people failed to trust God, He showed that He still cared for them. God had a plan to ensure that they would always have food. He would send bread from Heaven and they were to gather it each morning. On the sixth day of the week they were to gather twice as much to last them for the Sabbath Day (God's special day). Each evening they would receive meat (Exodus 16: 4-12).</li> <li>Imagine the Israelites coming out of their tents in the morning and their reaction to what they found. Moses explained that this was the bread that God had given them. Everyone was to gather enough for the people living in their tent. No one was to keep any for the next day. Some people, however, did try to keep it but by the next day it had gone bad (Exodus 16: 15-20).</li> <li>The people called the bread from Heaven "Manna". It tasted like honey! God sent the manna to the Israelites for as long as their journey lasted. God had given them even more proof that He was their God and would look after them (Exodus 16: 31).</li> <li>In our story, the Israelites had to gather and eat the manna before it could satisfy their hunger and keep them alive each day.</li> <li>The Bible teaches that many years later, Jesus came down from Heaven to die for our sins. He called Himself the "Bread of Life". Just as bread is necessary to satisfy physical hunger, Jesus was making the point that faith in Him is the only thing that brings true satisfaction, contentment in life and Eternal Life in Heaven.</li> <li>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</li> <li>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – God gives food.</li> </ul> |
| LEARN IT     | Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse <b>John 6: 35</b> . Reinforce the point that food is essential for life. In the same way, the Bible makes it clear that Jesus is essential for Eternal Life.   |
| REMEMBER IT  | <ul> <li>Use these questions in a quiz.</li> <li>Why did the people grumble?</li> <li>Who did they complain to?</li> <li>What should they have done instead of complaining?</li> <li>How many days each week did manna appear on the ground?</li> <li>What did they find each evening?</li> <li>How long did they gather manna?</li> <li>What name did Jesus use for Himself?</li> <li>How is Jesus greater than manna?</li> </ul>   |

#### B11 Story 2 God gives victory

### We are learning that: God helped the Israelites when they depended on Him. Christians can pray to God to ask for help in times of need. Key Verse: Exodus 17: 15 Bible Passage: Exodus 17: 8-15 **INTRODUCE IT** Soon the Israelites faced another problem. An enemy army called the Amalekites started attacking them (Exodus 17: 8). Use the questions below to engage the pupils in thinking about the situation: What would the Israelites have to do? (fight back) Were they used to fighting? Remind the children that in Egypt they had been slaves, not soldiers. How would they have felt? Could they count on God's help? Remind the children that God had brought them out of Egypt to bring them to a new land. Would He keep His promise? TEACH IT Moses was a wise leader and knew what to do. He asked his helper Joshua to choose an army. Moses knew that the army would need God's help so he went with Aaron and Hur to the top of a hill overlooking the battlefield. Moses held up his staff (long stick which he used when he was a shepherd) above his head using both hands. Explain that this was a way of showing that the Israelites were trusting God to help them win (Exodus 17: 9). As long as Moses did this, the Israelites were winning. Ask the pupils to hold their hands above their heads. What do you think would happen to your arms if you had to keep them up like that for a long time? Soon Moses' arms got tired and he put them down for a rest. Then the enemy started to win. Ask the pupils to suggest how Aaron and Hur might have helped Moses and then clarify exactly what they did. Moses was then able to hold up his arms until sunset and by that time the Israelites had won. Moses wanted to thank God for the victory so he built a stone altar and called it "The Lord is my Banner." Explain that Moses wanted God to have all the honour for the victory (Exodus 17: 10-13, 15). Who do you think had the most important part in winning the battle? Joshua and the soldiers couldn't have won this battle if Moses hadn't lifted his hands to God and depended on Him. Today, Christians depend on God to help them defeat their enemy -Satan. The Bible says that he wants to cause fear and take away the joy in their lives. The good news is that Jesus is more powerful than Satan. Christians need to depend on Him all the time. Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A - God gives victory. LEARN IT Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse Exodus 17: 15. REMEMBER IT The pupils could make a large, decorated banner with the words, "The Lord is my Banner." Alternatively, these questions could be used in a quiz: Who was the leader of the Israelite army? Where did Moses go? Who went with Moses? What happened in the battle when Moses held up his arms? When Moses got tired, who helped him?

Who gave the victory?

# B11 Story 3 God gives commandments

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

## B11 Story 4 God saves the people's lives/God gives salvation

### We are learning that: God provided a way for the Israelites to be saved from the punishment they deserved. The Bible teaches that God has provided a way for us to be saved. Key Verse: John 3: 14 Bible Passage: Numbers 21: 4-9 Sometimes we repeat the same mistake! Can you remember what the Israelites did when the **INTRODUCE IT** food they had brought from Egypt was used up? Yes, they grumbled and complained! In today's story they are grumbling again! Let's find out why. Talk about the danger of being bitten by a snake, the need to go to hospital and get antivenom. In today's story, God had a very different cure for those who had snakebites. TEACH IT Sadly, the Israelites spoke against Moses and against God saying that things had been better in Egypt and that they hated the manna that God provided. How ungrateful they were! (Numbers 21: 5) This time God was angry with the people and decided to punish them. Soon the camp was invaded by poisonous snakes. What would happen to the people? Yes, the people got bitten and many of them died. Straight away the people knew it was their fault. They came to Moses and said that they had sinned and asked him to pray to God to take the snakes away (Numbers 21: 6-7). The Bible teaches that this is the right attitude when we have done wrong - admit our sin, say sorry and ask God to help us. After Moses had prayed to God, God told Moses to do a strange thing. He had to make a snake from bronze and put it high on a pole in the camp. The shining bronze snake was in everyone's view. God promised that anyone who had been bitten would not die if he looked at the snake on the pole. Everyone who believed this and did as God said, lived. What an easy way to escape death! (Numbers 21: 8-9) (If you used the second idea in the introduction, you could make a comparison). Do you think the Israelites obeyed God's instruction? Why? Emphasise that this was the only way for them to live - it was no use trying anything else! Years later, the Bible tells us that when Jesus was on earth, He used this story to teach everyone an important lesson. We are like the Israelites because we have sinned against God and our sins will be punished. But God has provided a way for us to escape the punishment for our sins. Jesus explained that He too was to be "lifted up" when He died for our sins. When we put our trust in what Jesus has done for us, God saves us and gives us eternal life. Emphasise that the Bible makes it clear that it is only through Jesus that we can be saved. Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A - God provides a way. LEARN IT Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse John 3: 14. Mention that these are the words of Jesus. He explained how He would be able to save us when He would be lifted up on the cross. **REMEMBER IT** A small group of pupils could make a collage of the bronze snake on the pole and another group could make the cross. The verse could also be displayed on the finished artwork. Or you could have a quiz based on all the stories in B11. Additional questions on B11 could include: What did the Israelites complain about this time? How did God punish them? What did the people have to do to be healed from the snakebites? What does the Bible teach about the forgiveness of sins?

### B12 Story 1 Joseph and the angel

|              | We are learning that:  • The name 'Jesus' means 'Saviour'.  • Christians try to listen to God and obey Him.  Key Verse: Matthew 1: 21  Bible Passage: Matthew 1: 18-25  |
|--------------|---|
| INTRODUCE IT | Talk about names – Ask the pupils if they know what their names mean or why they were given their name.  Explain that in today's lesson we will be learning about a very special baby in the Bible who was given a very special name. Allow the pupils to guess who the story will be about.  |
| TEACH IT     | <ul> <li>Joseph and Mary were planning to get married, but one day Mary told Joseph that she was expecting a baby. Joseph knew he was not the father of the baby, so he decided not to marry Mary (Matthew 1: 18-19).</li> <li>One night Joseph had a dream. An angel appeared in the dream and spoke to Joseph. The angel said, "Don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because the baby is from the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 1: 20) Explain to the pupils that this means that the baby would be God's Son.</li> <li>The angel told Joseph that he should call the baby 'Jesus' because He would save the people from their sins (Matthew 1: 21). Explain that Jesus means "Saviour". Discuss what a saviour is in everyday life, e.g. a person in danger of drowning needs a saviour or rescuer. Explain to the pupils that the Bible teaches that we need a Saviour because we have sinned against God by breaking His laws.</li> <li>When Joseph woke up from his dream, he did as he had been told and married Mary. Sometime later the baby was born, and Joseph named Him 'Jesus' (Matthew 1: 24-25). Ask the pupils about the instructions Joseph had been given and discuss how he followed them. Explain how important it is for Christians to listen to God's instructions in the Bible and follow them. Try to make a list of some of the instructions that God has given Christians to follow.</li> <li>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</li> <li>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Joseph and the angel.</li> </ul> |
| LEARN IT     | Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse Matthew 1: 21.  |
| REMEMBER IT  | <ul> <li>Ask pupils the following questions as a means of revising the story.</li> <li>Who was Joseph going to marry?</li> <li>What news did Mary tell Joseph?</li> <li>How did God speak to Joseph?</li> <li>Who was the baby's father?</li> <li>What was the baby to be called?</li> <li>What does the name 'Jesus' mean?</li> <li>What did Joseph do after he woke up from the dream?</li> <li>Think of an instruction that God has given Christians to follow (e.g. be kind to one another, obey parents, do not lie).</li> </ul>   |

## B12 Story 2 Herod and the Wise Men

### We are learning that: Christians believe that Jesus is the King of kings. The Bible teaches that Jesus deserves to be worshipped. Matthew 2: 2 Key Verse: Bible Passage: Matthew 2: 1-8 **INTRODUCE IT** Ask the pupils to make a list of people who are considered important in society. Discuss - Would you like to meet any of those people? If you did, who would you choose? What would you do? How would you treat them? Explain to the pupils that today we will be learning about some men who went on a journey to find the most important person, the Bible teaches, ever lived. TEACH IT A new star appeared in the sky. Wise men in the East knew that this was a sign of the birth of a new King. They travelled to Jerusalem to search for the new King. They went to Herod the King and asked "Where is the one who has been born King of the Jews? We saw His star when it appeared in the sky and we have come to worship Him" (Matthew 2: 1-2). Explain to the pupils that the new King who was to be born was Jesus, God's Son and that He would be greater than any other King who ever lived. The Bible teaches that Jesus is the King of kings. Ask the children if they can remember what Jesus' name means from the previous lesson. Discuss what the Wise Men meant when they said they wanted to 'worship' the King? Why did Jesus deserve to be worshipped? When Herod heard about a new King he was worried. He didn't want anyone else taking his place as King. He called some of his advisors and asked them where the new King was supposed to be born. They searched through the Scriptures and discovered that the child was to be born in a town called Bethlehem (Matthew 2: 3-Herod called the Wise Men to him and said, "Go and find the child and when you have found Him, come back and tell me where He is so that I can go and worship Him too." (Matthew 2: 7-8) Explain that Herod didn't really want to worship the new King; he actually wanted to kill Him. Ask the pupils to think of reasons why Herod wanted to kill the new King. Explain that many people today still don't treat Jesus as King. The Bible teaches that God wants people to worship Jesus and show Him the same love and respect that the Wise Men displayed towards Him. Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Herod and the Wise Men. Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse Matthew 2: 2. LEARN IT Ask pupils the following questions as a means of revising the story. REMEMBER IT What appeared in the sky? What direction did the Wise Men come from? Where did they go to, to look for the new King? What was the name of the King they spoke to? How did King Herod feel when he heard about a new King? What town did they discover the King was to be born in? What did Herod tell the Wise Men to do? Who does the Bible say is greater than any other King?

# B12 Story 3 The Wise Men and Jesus

|              | <ul> <li>We are learning that:</li> <li>The Wise Men worshipped Jesus and gave Him very special gifts because they knew He was a new King.</li> <li>Christians worship Jesus today by thanking Him for all He has done and doing things that please Him.</li> <li>Key Verse: Matthew 2: 11</li> <li>Bible Passage: Matthew 2: 9-12</li> </ul>   |
|--------------|---|
| INTRODUCE IT | Discuss – What is the best gift you have ever been given? (You could ask the pupils to draw a picture of it). If you were going to visit a new baby what gift would you bring them?  Explain to the pupils that today we will be learning about the gifts the Wise Men gave. Ask them if they can recall what they learned about the Wise Men in the previous lesson.   |
| TEACH IT     | <ul> <li>The Wise Men left Herod and went on their way. They saw the star again and it led them to the place where Jesus was. The Wise Men were very happy and excited when they saw the star (Matthew 2: 9-10). Discuss - Why do you think the Wise Men were so excited when they saw the star?</li> <li>The Wise Men arrived at the house in Bethlehem where Joseph, Mary and Jesus were staying. They went inside and when they saw Jesus they fell down and worshipped Him. They gave Him three gifts: gold, frankincense and myrrh (Matthew 2: 11). Ask the pupils if these gifts are similar to the ones they would have given to a young child. Explain that these gifts were very expensive and the sort only usually given to a King. Discuss – why do you think the Wise Men chose to give these gifts to Jesus? Explain that although Christians today can't give gifts like the Wise Men, they can still worship God by thanking Him for all He has done and doing things that please Him.</li> <li>After a while, it was time for the Wise Men to go home. Herod had asked them to come back and tell him where they had found the new king. However, God warned them in a dream not to go back to Herod, so they went home a different way (Matthew 2: 12). Discuss – How do you think the Wise Men felt on their way home? What do you think they told people when they reached home?</li> <li>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</li> <li>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – The Wise Men and Jesus.</li> </ul> |
| LEARN IT     | Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse Matthew 2: 11.  |
| REMEMBER IT  | <ul> <li>Ask pupils the following questions as a means of revising the story.</li> <li>What did the Wise Men see again in the sky?</li> <li>How did they feel when they saw the star?</li> <li>Where did the star lead them to?</li> <li>Who was in the house?</li> <li>What did the Wise Men do when they saw Jesus?</li> <li>How many gifts did they give Him?</li> <li>Name one of the gifts.</li> <li>How did the Wise Men know to go home a different way?</li> </ul>  |

## B12 Story 4 The Escape to Egypt

### We are learning that: God protected His Son Jesus. Christians try to please God by following His instructions. Key Verse: Matthew 2: 15 Bible Passage: Matthew 2: 13-23 **INTRODUCE IT** Ask the pupils to tell you about any dreams they have had. Remind them that in Bible times dreams often had special meanings. Ask them to tell you about the dreams they have learned about so far in the story (Joseph's dream, the Wise Men's dream). Today we are going to learn about another dream. TEACH IT After the Wise Men left, Joseph had another dream. In the dream God told Joseph that Herod had got so angry that he was going to try and kill Jesus. God told Joseph that he needed to take Jesus and Mary and escape to Egypt so that they would be safe (Matthew 2: 13). Discuss - How do you think Joseph felt when he had this dream? Again, Joseph did what he was told and took his family to Egypt. They stayed there for some time until they heard that King Herod had died (Matthew 2: 14-15). Discuss - What do you think would have happened if Joseph hadn't done as God told him in the dream? It was so important that Joseph did as God had told him to do. Tell the pupils that the Bible had foretold Jesus' birth hundreds of years before He was born. Explain how the Key Verse talks about Jesus being in Egypt – God knew what Herod would try to do long before it ever happened. In everything that happened God was protecting His Son. When Herod died, Joseph, Mary and Jesus returned and went to live in a city called Nazareth (Matthew 2: 19-23). While Jesus was growing up in Nazareth He lived a sinless life, always pleasing His Father God. When we love God we will want to please Him, just like Jesus did. The Bible teaches that God wants us to thank Him for sending Jesus to be our Saviour and to ask Him for forgiveness from our sins. Complete the Bibletime lesson. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A - The escape into Egypt. LEARN IT Teach and explain, where necessary, the Key Verse Matthew 2: 15. Ask pupils the following questions as a means of revising the story. REMEMBER IT What happened to Joseph after the Wise Men left? Where did God tell Joseph to go? Why did he have to go there? Who did Joseph take with him to Egypt? When did they return home? What city did they go to live in? What was Jesus like when He was growing up in Nazareth? Why do Christians want to please God?

| Levels 3 & 4 | B7 – LEVEL 3<br>Lesson 1 – The life of Joseph<br>Topic – Spies in Egypt  | B7– LEVEL 4<br>Study 1 – The life of Joseph<br>Topic – His teenage testing  |
|--------------|--|---|
|              | Bible Focus: Genesis 41: 46-57 and 42: 1-26  Key Verse: Numbers 32: 23  We are learning that:  1. The Bible teaches that 'sin' is disobeying God. 2. Christians believe that only God can forgive sin.   | Bible Focus: Genesis 39: 1-23 and 40: 1-23  Key Verse: Genesis 39: 21  We are learning that: 1. Joseph did not give in to temptation. 2. Joseph trusted God and obeyed Him during times of slavery, temptation and imprisonment.  |
| INTRODUCE IT | Explain to pupils that the Egyptians relied on their own crops for food and seven years of famine was a very serious situation for the people. Corn was valuable in those days as it was used in everything for food and could be stored for a long time. It was even used as money. Explain that Egypt was usually much better off in times of famine than the neighbouring countries because of the River Nile.  | Potiphar was the captain of Pharaoh's royal guard. He bought Joseph from some Midianite slave traders to work in his home. This was the best decision Potiphar ever made as Joseph was a very talented young man. Potiphar's wife falsely accused Joseph and had him thrown into prison. When in prison, the subject of dreams came up; Joseph focused everyone's attention on God: 'Do not interpretations belong to God?' (Genesis 40: 8)   |
| COMPLETE IT  | <ol> <li>Present the Bible Story</li> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>The famine lasts for seven years (verse 54) and Joseph is the only one who can supply the need (verse 55) out of the abundant supplies of corn in Pharaoh's storehouses.</li> <li>Joseph's brothers had to come down to Egypt for corn because of the famine (42: 1-3).</li> <li>Joseph recognised his brothers, but they did not know him (42: 7 – over 20 years had passed). He put them in prison for three days.</li> <li>Joseph dealt with his brothers in such a way to make them realise how badly they had treated him (42: 21). Only then would he know that their hearts had changed and forgive them.</li> <li>Their memories and consciences convince them of their guilt, and they understand the reason for the distress they are experiencing.</li> <li>In spite of their treatment of him, Joseph weeps for them (verse 24) and gives them food for their return journey to their father Jacob. However, he keeps Simeon in prison and demands that Benjamin, the youngest son should be brought down to Egypt.</li> <li>Jacob is very upset when they tell him all that has happened and says he will never let Benjamin go down to Egypt (42: 38).</li> </ol> </li> <li>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.         <ol> <li>Complete Lesson 1.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Spies in Egypt.</li> </ol> | <ol> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>Joseph made the best of his situation as a slave in Egypt and soon earned Pharaoh's trust (39: 2).</li> <li>Potiphar's wife falsely accused Joseph of assaulting her and had him put in prison (39: 11-20). However, Joseph was a young man of integrity who continued to rely on and trust in God no matter the situation. God was with him and turned this situation around, making Joseph the prison administrator (39: 21-23).</li> <li>Two of the inmates in the prison had dreams and Joseph was able to interpret them (40: 8).</li> </ol> </li> <li>The interpretation by Joseph of the chief butler's dream was a message of life - he was freed from prison. However, the interpretation of the baker's dream was a message of death - he was executed.</li> <li>Joseph asked the cupbearer to remember him and seek Pharaoh's help when he was released but he forgot all about Joseph (40: 14 &amp; 23).</li> </ol> Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Study 1. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – His teenage |
| REVIEW IT    | Read the Key Verse with the pupils and ask them to identify how it summarises the lesson.  | Discuss with pupils how the Key Verse summarises the lesson with regard to:  1. Joseph's life in Potiphar's household.  2. Joseph's life in prison.   |
| LIVE IT      | <ul> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>1. Why is it important to ask for forgiveness when we do something wrong against others/against God?</li> <li>2. Discuss 1 John 1: 9: 'If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.' What does this teach us about God?</li> </ul>   | <ol> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>Joseph pointed the prisoners to God's power working within him. How often do Christians look for human approval/admiration and fail to recognise where their help comes from?</li> <li>Read Ephesians 6: 13-17 and James 1: 12-18 and consider how these verses encourage Christians facing difficult times.</li> </ol>   |

| Levels 3 & 4 | B7 – LEVEL 3<br>Lesson 2 – The life of Joseph<br>Topic – Benjamin and bad news!   | B7 – LEVEL 4<br>Study 2 - The life of Joseph<br>Topic – His palace promotion  |
|--------------|---|---|
|              | Bible Focus: Genesis 42: 35-38; 43: 11-14, 24-31; 44: 1-17  Key Verse: Ephesians 4: 32  We are learning that:  1. Judah, who joined his brothers in selling Joseph into slavery, now offers to become a slave himself to save Benjamin (44: 33).  2. Christians believe that God can cause a complete change in people's lives.   | Bible Focus: Genesis 41: 1-45  Key Verse: Genesis 41: 38  We are learning that:  1. Just as Pharaoh recognised Joseph as 'a man in whom the Spirit of God is' (41: 38), so Christians today should be recognised by their kind acts and Godly lifestyle.  2. Joseph rose quickly to the top – from a slave to the Prime Minister of Egypt. Whatever situations Christians find themselves in, they should consider these as part of a training programme which God has for their lives.   |
| INTRODUCE IT | Discuss with pupils how the actions of Joseph's brothers not only brought distress upon themselves but brought great heartbreak to their father Jacob. Think of some examples of how our actions can have a serious impact on our family and friends, as well as ourselves.   | Joseph was called from the prison to appear before Pharaoh. Joseph's God-given ability to tell Pharaoh all about his dream impressed Pharaoh so much that he gave Joseph the high office of 'Prime Minister' (Genesis 41: 41). Joseph was faithful to God through the difficult circumstances (Study 1) and God was faithful to him.  |
| COMPLETE IT  | <ol> <li>Present the Bible Story</li> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>The famine continues and the brothers return again to Egypt for food. Jacob is very reluctant to let Benjamin go to Egypt (43: 11). However, only Joseph could satisfy their needs and remove their distress.</li> <li>The brothers are all invited to Joseph's house for a meal, and still they do not recognise him (43: 16).</li> <li>The fearful brothers enjoy the feast provided by Joseph at his palace. Joseph cries privately when he sees his younger brother Benjamin (43: 30).</li> </ol> </li> <li>He orders his silver cup to be put in Benjamin's sack and claims that Benjamin has stolen it and he must be punished (44: 17).</li> <li>All this time, Joseph is testing and assessing if his brothers are ready for the forgiveness he is about to show them.</li> <li>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.         <ol> <li>Complete Lesson 2.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Benjamin and bad news!</li> </ol> | <ol> <li>Present the Bible Story</li> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>The magicians and wise men were unable to interpret Pharaoh's dreams, but God revealed the knowledge to Joseph (41: 8).</li> <li>Joseph's relationship with God helped him interpret the dream and again he gives the credit to God (41: 16).</li> <li>Joseph gave Pharaoh a survival plan for the seven years of famine which saved many lives in Egypt and those of his own family many miles away (41: 33-36).</li> <li>Joseph is exalted and made ruler over the land of Egypt. He was given a new name and also given a daughter of a prominent Egyptian official for his wife, to show how highly he was honoured (41: 41-45).</li> </ol> </li> <li>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.         <ol> <li>Complete Study 2.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – His palace promotion.</li> </ol> |
| REVIEW IT    | Explain to the pupils that Judah's offer to substitute his life for Benjamin's is a picture of Jesus' work on the cross.  | Ask pupils questions about the dream, its interpretation, and Joseph's promotion which will help them to answer the questions correctly in Study 2.   |
| LIVE IT      | <ol> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>Consider how wrong actions towards others can cause distress.</li> <li>The Bible teaches that Jesus forgives us so we should forgive those who sin against us (Ephesians 4: 32). Discuss some circumstances where this is particularly difficult. How can God's Word provide assurance?</li> </ol>  | <ol> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>Joseph was ready to face trials because of his right relationship with God. Christians believe prayer and Bible Study are vital to finding God's will and direction for their lives.</li> <li>Joseph was always careful to give God the credit. Why did he do this?</li> <li>Find out what the Psalmist David &amp; Apostle Paul said about Joseph many years after his death and apply these readings to today (Psalm 105: 16-22 and Acts 7: 9-10).</li> </ol>   |

| Levels 3 & 4 | B7 – LEVEL 3<br>Lesson 3 – The life of Joseph<br>Topic – Forgiveness and good news!   | B7 – LEVEL 4<br>Study 3 – The life of Joseph<br>Topic – His caring conduct   |
|--------------|---|--|
| INTRODUCE IT | Bible Focus: Genesis 44: 18-34; 45: 1-14, 25-28  Key Verse: Genesis 45: 9  We are learning that:  1. Although Joseph's brothers wanted to get rid of him, God used their evil actions to preserve their lives, save Egypt and prepare the way for the beginning of the nation of Israel.  2. Just as Joseph was rejected but later forgave his brothers, Christians believe that God forgives us and blesses us even though we have rejected Him.  When Joseph saw that his brothers were truly sorry, he revealed who he was to them and said, "I am Joseph" (Genesis 45: 4). For further study, use this as an opportunity        | Bible Focus: Genesis 41: 47-57; 42 and 43  Key Verses: Romans 14: 11-12  We are learning that:  1. Joseph wanted his brothers to admit the wrong things they had done to him before they could be forgiven.  2. Just as Joseph's brothers bowed down in submission to him, so Christians believe that everyone will bow down before Jesus Christ and acknowledge him as Lord when He comes again.  The last time Joseph saw his brothers, about twenty years earlier, they sold him to the Midianite slave traders for twenty pieces of silver. Joseph must have   |
|              | to discuss the verses where Jesus referred to Himself as the 'l am' (John 6: 35 - Bread of Life; John 8: 12 - Light of the World; John 10: 7 - Door; John 10: 11 - Good Shepherd; John 11: 25 - Resurrection and the Life; John 14: 6 - the Way; John 15: 1 - the Vine).  | been wondering if they were still as evil and treacherous or had they changed over the years. He decided to put them through a few tests to find out!  |
| COMPLETE IT  | Present the Bible Story  Discuss and Explain:  1. The silver cup was a symbol of Joseph's authority and to steal it would be a serious crime. Now the brothers were worried that Benjamin might be harmed so on their return to Joseph's palace, Judah steps forward to take Benjamin's punishment (44: 33).  2. Instead of facing punishment the brothers receive forgiveness (45: 5) and Joseph explains to them how God was working out His purposes in his own life, despite what they had done.  3. The brothers return to Jacob with the good news that Joseph is alive and show him the presents sent by Joseph (45: 26-27). | <ol> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>Joseph's brothers come to Egypt in their need to buy corn. Joseph speaks 'harshly' to them which indicates he is going to bring them to acknowledge their sinful actions before they can be forgiven (42: 6-7).</li> <li>Joseph put them in prison for three days. In their consciences, they knew they had treated Joseph wickedly and so they admitted their guilt (42: 21).</li> <li>Although Joseph disciplines his brothers, he does so in love as we read in Genesis 42: 24 that he wept. Here we see true grace in action as Joseph goes on to show love to his brothers that they did not deserve.</li> </ol> </li> <li>On their second visit to Joseph, bringing Benjamin with them, the brothers bow in reverence before him and acknowledge his authority (43: 26-28). Here we see Joseph's dream, in Genesis 37: 7 becoming a reality. Christians believe that this shows that the Bible is God's Word.</li> <li>Joseph is very moved when at last he sees his brother Benjamin and goes into a private room and cries (43: 30).</li> </ol> |
|              | Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.  Complete Lesson 3.  Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Forgiveness and good news!  | Explain the Key Verses and encourage learning. Complete Study 3.  Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – His caring conduct.   |
| REVIEW IT    | Connect this lesson with the Key Verse: "God has made me lord of all Egypt!" and "Come down to me; don't delay." Discuss with pupils Jacob's reaction when he heard this news.  | Learn the two Key Verses and discuss with pupils how they are a summary of this lesson.  |
| LIVE IT      | How does the lesson challenge Christians today?  1. Discuss the significance of knowing and believing that Jesus is alive in Heaven, and is Lord of all, just as Joseph was alive in Egypt and ruler over all.  2. Joseph forgave his brothers and gave generously to them. How does this compare to the relationship between a Christian and God?  3. Discuss Jesus' teaching regarding forgiveness in The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6: 12).  | <ol> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>What do we learn about the grace that Jesus gives in Romans 5: 21?</li> <li>Just as Joseph showed love to his brothers who wronged him, so Christians see a far greater love displayed by Jesus when He died on the cross. Read and discuss Luke 23: 34 and think it over.</li> <li>Joseph's dream in Genesis 37: 7-8 became reality in Genesis 43: 26. Read Psalm 51 and Philippians 2: 9-11 and think about what these verses mean for a) Christians b) non-Christians.</li> </ol>   |

#### B7-IFVFI 3 R7\_ I FVFI 4 Levels 3 & 4 Lesson 4 - The life of Joseph Study 4 -The life of Joseph Topic – His full forgiveness Topic - Together in Egypt Bible Focus: Genesis 46: 1-7; 26-34 Bible Focus: Genesis 44 and 45 Key Verse: **Genesis 50: 20** Key Verse: Romans 5: 10 We are learning that: We are learning that: Joseph's faithfulness affected his entire family and 1. When Joseph's brothers confessed their sin their brought them into many blessings. relationship with Joseph was restored. Christians Joseph is a real example of God's promise in 1 believe that when a person confesses their sin before God they can enter into a real and meaningful Samuel 2: 30 which says: "those who honour me I will relationship with Him. honour" Just as Joseph provided richly for his brothers in Egypt, so Christians recognise God as the giver of all things good. **INTRODUCE IT** Explain to pupils how God is working out a plan in the life of In the previous study, we learned how Joseph skilfully Joseph. His entire family came from Canaan to live with him acted to help his brothers to confess their sins. The way is in Goshen, in Egypt. However, Canaan was promised to now open for Joseph to forgive them and for his brothers Abraham and his descendants, but God was in the meantime to be truly reconciled and their broken relationship taking Joseph's family away from the evil influence of the restored. Canaanites who had turned their backs on God. However, just as God had promised, the nation of Israel did return to Canaan. **COMPLETE IT** Present the Bible Story Present the Bible Story **Discuss and Explain:** Discuss and Explain: God tells Jacob to leave his home and travel to a Before the brothers left to return to their father Jacob, strange and faraway land and assures him that He will in Canaan, Judah offers to stay in Egypt and serve take care of him (46: 2-3). as a slave instead of Benjamin. This was such a 2. The whole family with all their possessions leave for change from the time they sold Joseph into slavery Egypt (46: 5-7). causing Jacob many years of heartache! God's grace 3. Jacob's family arrives in Goshen and a tearful reunion was now at work in Judah's heart (44: 33). takes place between Joseph and Jacob (46: 29). Joseph reveals himself to his brothers and tells them After Jacob's death, the brothers feared revenge from God has overruled for good (45: 4-5). Joseph but to their surprise he not only forgave them Joseph weeps, embraces Benjamin, and kisses all but offered to care for them and their families (50: 15his brothers (45: 14). Pharaoh told Joseph's brothers to bring their father and families to Egypt and he would provide for them (45: 17-19). The brothers tell Jacob that Joseph is alive and when he saw the wagons sent to bring them all to Egypt, Jacob knew he would meet him again! (45: 25-28) Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn Complete Lesson 4. Complete Study 4. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B - Together in Egypt. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C - His full forgiveness. **REVIEW IT** Consider how Jacob must have felt at the prospect of moving Draw attention to how the 'Good News' in this story about Joseph is like the 'Good News' Christians believe about his entire family to a new place. How would this have tested Jesus: his faith in God? 1. Just as Joseph was alive, Jesus is alive today. Remind the pupils of the grace that Joseph showed towards Just as Joseph was ruler in Egypt so Jesus is King of 2. his brothers even after Jacob's death. His human nature Kings and Lord of Lords. could have caused him to hold a grudge, but he relied on Just as Joseph provided for his family, Jesus has God to give him a forgiving heart. provided everything needed for a relationship with God. Just as Joseph brought his family to Egypt, Jesus offers Eternal Life in Heaven to those who accept LIVE IT How does the lesson challenge Christians today? How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Just as Joseph must have often wondered what the What effect can poor decisions have on ourselves future held for him, we may not always know what is and others? going to happen. Christians can be sure that God will We read that God was with Joseph and this was also honour their faithfulness. acknowledged years later in the New Testament by

intended results.

Discuss whether God intervenes with the wrong

intentions of governments today to bring about His

Stephen before he was martyred (Acts 7: 12-15).

What comfort does this bring today?

| Levels 3 & 4 | B8- LEVEL 3<br>Lesson 1 - The Gospel writers<br>Topic - Matthew   | B8 – LEVEL 4<br>Study 1 – The way ahead<br>Topic – Christians together  |
|--------------|---|---|
|              | Bible Focus: Matthew 9: 9-13; and 27: 37-42   | Bible Focus: Acts 2: 41-44, Acts 4: 32-35   |
|              | Key Verse: Matthew 16: 16   | Key Verse: Acts 2: 42   |
|              | We are learning that:     When Jesus called Matthew, he responded immediately and followed Jesus.     Most of the Jews, however, refused to accept Jesus and, as a result, He was crucified.  | <ol> <li>We are learning that:</li> <li>When the people became Christians, they realised the importance of spending time together in communities, seeking to grow in their faith.</li> <li>They also sought to help each other out in whatever way possible and shared with each other.</li> </ol>  |
| INTRODUCE IT | Explain to pupils that Matthew was a Jewish customs officer/tax collector. These people were often disliked by Jews because of their crookedness, the high taxes they collected from people and because they served the interests of the Roman Empire who ruled over the Jews at that time.   | Explain to pupils that Peter had been one of Jesus' disciples and had denied Jesus at His crucifixion. Yet Jesus had forgiven him and now he was boldly telling people about Jesus. His mistakes were not so bad that he could not be forgiven and now he could be used mightily for God.   |
| COMPLETE IT  | Present the Bible Story   | Present the Bible Story   |
|              | <ol> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>Matthew responded immediately to Jesus' call.</li> <li>Matthew left a dishonest job to become an instant disciple of Jesus. He was one of the twelve disciples (9: 9).</li> <li>He wrote the Gospel of Matthew which shows how Jesus is the long-expected King whom the Jews call the Messiah.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Briefly describe Matthew's account of the coming of Jesus. Emphasise how Matthew explains that many of the Old Testament prophecies about Jesus were fulfilled when He came to earth (Matthew 1 &amp; 2).</li> <li>Matthew records the genealogy of Jesus, His public ministry and closes with His trial, death, burial, and resurrection – the foundation of a Christian's salvation, resulting in his book being called a 'Gospel'.</li> </ol> | <ol> <li>Peter, one of Jesus' disciples, preached the Good News to many explaining that they needed to repent of their sins and trust in the living Christ. Many became Christians and trusted in Jesus Christ for salvation – 3,000 were added to the 120 already in the Church! Consider with pupils how it would have been amazing to see so many people become Christians so quickly! (2: 38-41)</li> <li>These new Christians began to work together in a community – the church was forming. They were united with the other Christians, listened to the teaching of the apostles, and took part in meeting together for fellowship, remembrance of Jesus' death and in prayer. Explain to pupils how they needed to be with people who would help them learn God's Word, pray, and mature in their faith.</li> <li>The Christians all met together and shared with each other. This did not necessarily mean that they shared everything, but they would share with those in need, like a family. They realised the importance of being brothers and sisters in Christ (Acts 2: 42-47).</li> </ol> |
|              | Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Lesson 1.  | Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Study 1.   |
|              | Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Matthew.   | Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – Christians together.   |
| REVIEW IT    | Review the lesson by reminding pupils of Matthew's calling, his character traits and how God eventually used him to write a Gospel book in the Bible.   | In pairs, make a list of practical ways in which Christians today grow and mature in their faith, as a community.   |
| LIVE IT      | Matthew responded immediately to God's call.     How obedient are people today to follow God's instructions?     Jesus' birth was predicted long before it happened. How does this encourage Christians in relation to other prophecies in the Bible?   | <ol> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>If we are Christians, are we making sure that we spend time with other Christians in fellowship and learning from one another? Getting to know God better involves studying the Bible and praying.</li> <li>The Bible teaches that Christians have a responsibility to help one another in every way possible, as brothers and sisters in Christ. God's family works best when its members work together.</li> <li>People who have made many mistakes may feel unworthy to be used by God. Peter denied Jesus, yet he was used to reach thousands of people with the Gospel message.</li> </ol>   |

| Levels 3 & 4 | B8 – LEVEL 3<br>Lesson 2 – The Gospel writers<br>Topic – Mark  | B8 – LEVEL 4<br>Study 2 – The way ahead<br>Topic – Christian baptism  |
|--------------|--|---|
|              | Bible Focus: Acts 12: 5-12; Mark 1: 29-42  | Bible Focus: Matthew 28: 16-20, Acts 8: 34-39, 18: 8  |
|              | Key Verse: Mark 10: 45   | Key Verse: Acts 2: 41   |
|              | We are learning that:  1. Mark in his gospel concentrates on Jesus as the 'Perfect Servant' and writes about what He did more than what He said.  2. Mark shows how Jesus chooses others to serve Him.   | <ol> <li>We are learning that:</li> <li>Christians believe that baptism is an act of obedience to Christ.</li> <li>Many people in the Bible became Christians and were baptised in response to their faith.</li> <li>Baptism is a public display of following Christ.</li> </ol>  |
| INTRODUCE IT | In Mark's Gospel, we have the story of Jesus coming from Heaven to Earth not to be served, but to serve, and to give His life on the cross as a ransom for many (see Key Verse). While on Earth, Jesus was perfectly obedient to God's will and His mighty works were carried out in the power of God's Holy Spirit. It is also interesting to note that Mark, the author, started well. He fades out of service for a while but is finally restored to useful service (2 Timothy 4: 11) for God.  | Ask pupils if they have ever been to a baptism or been baptised. Ask them to share their experiences; what was it like? What happened? What did they think it symbolised?   |
| COMPLETE IT  | Present the Bible Story  | Present the Bible Story   |
|              | <ol> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>Mark was from a family whose home was used by the Christians in Jerusalem to pray for Peter's safe release from Herod who had killed James (Acts 12: 5-12).</li> <li>Mark wanted to serve God in the spread of the Gospel and although he set out with Paul and his party on their first missionary journey, he left them and returned to Jerusalem (Acts 12: 25, &amp; 13: 13).</li> <li>Paul considered Mark's withdrawal a defect in service and would not allow Mark to accompany him on his second missionary journey (Acts 15: 37-39). However, Mark eventually got restored. He regained Paul's confidence and continued to serve Jesus.</li> <li>Mark's Gospel talks about what Jesus did while here on Earth, especially His miracles. This included the curing of Simon Peter's mother-inlaw, the cleansing of the leper and the calming of the storm when the disciples were in a boat on the Sea of Galilee.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> | <ol> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>Before Jesus left earth, He gave the disciples the Great Commission. This is when He told them to go out into all the world and make disciples and to baptise them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Jesus promised to be with them as they did this. He also gave them the authority to do this (Matthew 28: 18-20).</li> <li>Baptism unites believers with Jesus Christ in their death to sin and their resurrection to new life. They have a new life when they become Christians. They put away their old lives and start afresh. Baptism shows this publicly to everybody (Romans 6: 3-7).</li> </ol> </li> <li>Baptism also symbolises submission to Christ, a willingness to live God's way, and identification with God's people.</li> <li>In the story in Acts 8, Philip tells the Ethiopian eunuch the Good News of Jesus Christ. He becomes a Christian and immediately is baptised.</li> <li>In Acts 18: 8, Paul, the apostle, leads many people to Jesus Christ. Baptism appears to follow closely after their profession of faith.</li> </ol> |
|              | Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Lesson 2.  Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Mark.   | Explain the Key Verse and encourage learning. Complete Study 2.   |
|              |  | <b>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C</b> – Christian baptism.  |
| REVIEW IT    | Review the lesson using the following questions:  1. How does Mark present Jesus throughout the Gospel?  2. What kind of family did Mark come from?  3. What did Mark want to do with his life?  4. Although Mark disappointed Paul on the first missionary journey, how do we know he was fully restored to service again?  5. Name an act of service Jesus performed when on Earth.  | <ul> <li>Study 'The Great Commission' (Matthew 28: 16-20)</li> <li>1. How can Jesus command these things? (Verse 18)</li> <li>2. What were the four instructions that the disciples were given?</li> <li>3. What does being a disciple mean? Is it an ongoing process?</li> <li>4. What does Jesus promise the disciples if they follow His commands?</li> </ul>  |
| LIVE IT      | <ol> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>Name an act of service a Christian could do today.</li> <li>How can a Christian move forward in service even though they may have failed in the past? How can they trust Jesus in the trials and storms of life?</li> </ol>  | <ol> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>Why is it important to be baptised?</li> <li>What did Jesus mean when He said 'Go and make disciples of all nations'?</li> </ol>  |

B8 - LEVEL 3 Lesson 3 - The Gospel writers Topic – Luke

B8 - LEVEL 4 Study 3 – The way ahead Topic – The Lord's Supper

Bible Focus: Luke 1: 1-4; Luke 4: 1-12

Key Verse: Luke 19: 10

#### We are learning that:

- Luke emphasises that as well as being the Son of God, Jesus was 'the Perfect Man'.
- The temptations prove that Jesus could not sin and because He was a holy, sinless man, He could be the Saviour of sinners.

Bible Focus: Luke 22: 14-20, 1 Corinthians 11: 23-31

Key Verse: 1 Corinthians 11: 26

#### We are learning that:

- Jesus commanded Christians to remember Him in a special way.
- Christians take this remembrance seriously, referring to it as the Lord's Supper, Holy Communion, the Eucharist, the Breaking of Bread.

#### **INTRODUCE IT**

Although Luke and Acts were written to Theophilus, we know little about him. His title 'most excellent' (Luke 1: 3) suggests he was a government official. His name means 'a friend of God'. He was probably a Christian with a responsible job in the Roman Empire. Luke gave him a written account of the life of Jesus to stop inaccuracies when it was passed on by word of mouth.

Ask the pupils to think of ways in which they remember someone who is no longer with them, perhaps by photographs, or special memories. Jesus left the disciples with a special way to remember Him when He would no longer be with them.

#### **COMPLETE IT**

#### Present the Bible Story

#### Discuss and Explain:

- Luke was a gentile Christian doctor who was a very close friend of the apostle Paul.
- Luke refers to Jesus at His birth as being 'a Saviour which is Christ the Lord' (Luke 2: 11). He was God who became flesh.
- Luke records that Jesus was absolutely perfect in His normal growth (Luke 2: 52). His increase in wisdom speaks of His mental growth, His increase in stature speaks of His physical growth, His growth 'in favour with God' speaks of His spiritual growth and 'in favour with man' speaks of His social growth.
- Briefly explain the temptations of Jesus (Luke 4: 1-13). Explain how Jesus was perfect and would not give in to temptation.
- In Luke 23, we have the account of Jesus' death. Note the comments made about Him by Pilate, one of the thieves and the centurion, that all showed His perfection (Luke 23: 14, 41 and 47). Explain that for Christians, it is vital that Jesus was sinless; otherwise He could not have died for sins.

Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Lesson 3.

Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Luke.

#### Present the Bible Story

#### Discuss and Explain:

- The last night the disciples and Jesus were together, Jesus took some bread and wine and gave thanks for them. He said that the bread was His body broken for them and the wine was His blood, poured out for them. Then He told them to eat the bread and drink the wine to remember Him (Luke 22: 14-20).
- The disciples did not understand fully as only Jesus knew what would soon take place. But the disciples would remember this command.
- This is a special way for Christians to think about and meditate on the death and suffering of Jesus, by taking bread and wine (1 Corinthians 11: 23-26).
- Just as Passover was a celebration of the delivery from slavery in Egypt, so taking the bread and wine was a celebration of the delivery from sin through Christ.
- Jesus tells His disciples to only take the bread and wine until He comes back. This was not just a remembrance of Jesus' life and death but also a reminder of His promised Second Coming.
- Jesus wanted to have this Passover meal with His disciples as He was to become the true Passover Lamb, sacrificed for the sins of the people. It would symbolise the giving of His body and blood for the

Explain the Key Verse and encourage learning. Complete Study 3.

Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C - The Lord's Supper.

#### **REVIEW IT**

Review the lesson using the following questions:

- 1. What is the theme of Luke's Gospel?
- 2. What was Luke's job?
- 3. Why did he write to Theophilus?
- 4. What is the significance of the names 'a Saviour which is Christ the Lord' given to Jesus at His birth?
- 5. Why does Luke record the temptations?
- 6. Look up Luke 23: 14, 41 and 47 and discuss what these men said about Jesus.

In 1 Corinthians 11: 27-31 it says that we should examine ourselves before we take these symbols in remembrance. Discuss what you think this means.

Make the point that in the "new covenant" Christians believe that we do not have to go through priests and sacrifices, but we can go directly to God because of Jesus.

#### LIVE IT

#### How does the lesson challenge Christians today?

- 1. What can we learn from the example Jesus set during His temptations?
- 2. Humans cannot achieve a perfect life but in what ways can they strive to be like Jesus?

#### How does the lesson challenge Christians today?

Do we take the bread and wine whilst seriously considering what they represent?

| Levels 3 & 4 | B8– LEVEL 3<br>Lesson 4 – The Gospel writers<br>Topic – John   | B8 – LEVEL 4<br>Study 4 – The way ahead<br>Topic – Growing as a Christian  |
|--------------|--|--|
| INTRODUCE IT | Bible Focus: John 20: 26-31  Key Verse: John 20: 31  We are learning that:  1. John is emphasising that Jesus is 'the Son of God'.  2. Jesus used the expression 'I am' many times and in so doing was claiming His equality with God. God called Himself the 'I am' in the Old Testament (Exodus 3: 14-15).  John begins his Gospel by referring to Jesus as 'the Word'. Words are what we use to explain or express  | Bible Focus: 1 Peter 2: 1-3, 2 Peter 3: 18,  |
|              | ourselves to others. Christians believe that God has fully expressed Himself to this world in the person of His Son, Jesus. When the Son of God became Son of Man and was born to the virgin Mary in Bethlehem over 2000 years ago, He showed how much God loves us.   | What happens if they do not receive what they need?  |
| COMPLETE IT  | Present the Bible Story  | Present the Bible Story  |
|              | Discuss and Explain:  1. John refers to Jesus as 'the Word' (John 1: 1) 2. John refers to himself as the 'disciple whom Jesus loved' (John 20: 2). 3. In John's Gospel, 'I am' is a title for God and Jesus referred to the characteristics or virtues of God in seven different ways:  The Bread of Life (John 6: 35, 41, 48, 51).  The Light of the World (John 8: 12, 9: 5).  The Good Shepherd (John 10: 11, 14).  The Resurrection and the Life (John 11: 25-26).  The Way, the Truth, and the Life (John 14: 6).  The Vine (John 15: 1, 5). 4. John wrote his Gospel so that people might believe in Jesus and have everlasting life (John 20: 30-31). | <ol> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>A Christian should reflect the character of Christ in behaviour and actions. There are many Bible verses which make this clear – see if pupils can research some.</li> <li>In 1 Peter 2: 1, it tells us that we should not be deceitful, hypocritical, and jealous or say mean things.</li> <li>1 Peter talks about the new Christian being like a new-born baby. In order to grow, they must drink milk. This milk is the Word of God. This growth never stops and as a baby gets older, it still needs food. In the same way, there is never a point in a Christian's life when they no longer need food (the Bible) to help them grow.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2 Peter 3: 18 teaches us to grow in grace and knowledge of Jesus. Discuss with pupils how a Christian can get to know Jesus better.</li> <li>When Paul and Silas were preaching the Gospel, in Berea, the people were so interested and excited about what they were saying. In Acts 17, it says that they were open-minded, they listened eagerly, and they searched the Scriptures daily. What zeal they had to learn more about God!</li> </ol> |
|              | Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Lesson 4.   | Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Study 4.  |
|              | Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – John.   | No suitable FBI links available for this topic.  |
| REVIEW IT    | Take each of the seven 'I am' characteristics listed above and discuss how each one shows that Jesus is the Son of God. If possible work in groups and report back to the rest of the class. Findings could then be displayed in a class mural.  | The people in Berea who Paul and Silas spoke to (Acts 17: 10-12) were eager to learn and searched the Scriptures to see if Paul and Silas were telling the truth. A Christian must be careful not to assume something is right just because the preacher or leader says so. They should seek to find out answers for themselves from the Bible.  |
| LIVE IT      | <ol> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>What does the Bible say about those who have trusted God? (John 1: 12-13, 5: 24)</li> <li>How does a Christian determine God's will for their life? Discuss the importance of prayer and regular Bible study.</li> </ol>   | <ol> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>The Bible teaches that it is only through studying God's Word and by being guided by the Holy Spirit that a Christian will grow.</li> <li>How do we compare with the people in Berea? Do we listen intently to those teaching us? Do we search the Scriptures daily for answers?</li> <li>Discuss how we can be sure that the Bible is the Word of God.</li> </ol>   |

# Levels 3 & 4 **INTRODUCE IT**

**B9 - LEVEL 3** Lesson 1 – Moses Topic – The baby in the basket

B9 - LEVEL 4 Study 1 - Moses Topic - The Prince

Bible Focus: Exodus 1: 6-14, 22, 2: 1-10

Key Verse: Hebrews 11: 23

#### We are learning that:

- The Israelites had increased so much in power and numbers in Egypt that Pharaoh thought they would pose a threat to him in a time of war. He ordered that all baby boys be destroyed.
- God was going to use Moses to overthrow Pharaoh and free the Israelites from slavery and so He preserved Moses as a little baby from drowning in the River Nile.

Bible Focus: Exodus 1: 5-22; 2: 1-25

Key Verse: **Hebrews 11: 23** 

#### We are learning that:

- The increased size and strength of the Israelites concerned Pharaoh, so he cruelly ordered that all newborn baby boys be destroyed.
- God had a plan for Moses' life he was going to deliver the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt.

Review Lessons B7 & B8 and explain to the pupils that 300 years after Joseph and his brothers arrived in Egypt the Israelites had increased in numbers. A new Pharaoh was in charge, and he had made them slaves. In the meantime, God was working out His plans for them in preserving Moses' life. It was Moses who would lead them into the land of Canaan.

Review Studies B7 & B8. Explain to the pupils that when Joseph died, the children of Israel were like a big extended family. They became a large nation, which concerned a new Pharaoh (1: 9) so he decided to make them into slaves. However, later in the story we see how God planned to rescue the nation of Israel.

#### COMPLETE IT

#### **Present the Bible Story**

#### Discuss and Explain:

- 1. Pharaoh came to power and the prosperity of the Israelites (1: 7) turns to persecution (1: 8-11) but God had His eye upon them and preserved them (1:
- 2. Pharaoh made an order that all new-born boys should be killed to try and stop the numbers increasing anymore (1: 15-20).
- 3. Moses is born to Amram and Jochebed and after caring for him for three months, they placed him in a little basket which was left at the side of the River Nile (2: 1-3).
- 4. God kept baby Moses safe and used his sister Miriam, his mother and Pharaoh's daughter to do so (2: 4-9).
- 5. Moses received a high standard of education as a result of being 'the son of Pharaoh's daughter' (Acts 7: 22) and was also heir to the throne of Egypt.

Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Lesson 1.

Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B - The baby in the basket.

#### **Present the Bible Story**

#### Discuss and Explain:

- Pharaoh was afraid the Israelites would threaten his kingdom, so he made them slaves to try to stop their growth (1: 8-11).
- The Israelites grew stronger and stronger, so Pharaoh ordered the midwives to kill all the new-born baby boys. However, the midwives 'feared God' and saved their lives, disobeying Pharaoh (1: 15-20).
- When Moses was born, his mother placed him in a basket made from papyrus reeds at the side of the River Nile (2: 1-3).
- Pharaoh's daughter rescued Moses and eventually his mother became his nurse (2: 4-9).
- Moses was brought up in the palace. When he got older he went to visit the Israelite slaves and saw how hard they were forced to work.
- He killed an Egyptian who was beating a slave and had to flee to the land of Midian (2: 11-15).

Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Study 1.

Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C - The Prince.

#### **REVIEW IT**

Ask pupils to summarise, in a few sentences, what they have learned about:

- The background to the birth of Moses
- His preservation
- His care
- His education
- The position he could have achieved in Egypt

Think about how the midwives and Moses' parents did not obey the law of the land. Have a group discussion as to whether or not Christians should always obey those in authority and if there are any situations when it might be difficult to do so.

#### LIVE IT

#### How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.

- This Bible story teaches that God controlled and guided Moses' life - He had a plan for him. Why should Christians take comfort from knowing
- The Hebrew midwives feared God (1: 17) and let the baby boys live. God blessed them for their faithfulness. Are there occasions when Christians should stand up against rulers today?

#### How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.

- Moses' parents and the midwives stood up for what is right because they trusted in God and feared Him, even though the situation seemed hopeless. Do Christians stand up for what is right today?
- Moses thought he had not been seen when he killed the Egyptian. Others often notice and comment on obvious wrongdoing. How careful should Christians be about their behaviour and why?

| Levels 3 & 4 | B9 - LEVEL 3<br>Lesson 2 – Moses<br>Topic – His big mistake  | B9 - LEVEL 4<br>Study 2 – Moses<br>Topic – The shepherd   |
|--------------|--|---|
|              | Bible Focus: Exodus 2: 11-22  Key Verse: Numbers 32: 23  We are learning that:  1. Moses wants to start helping his people. 2. Christians believe that God sees everything. 3. Christians have said sorry to God and have been forgiven by Him (1 John 1: 9).  | Bible Focus: Exodus 3: 1-16; 4: 1-17  Key Verse: Acts 7: 35  We are learning that:  1. God appears to Moses and tells him to go back to rescue His people.  2. God promises to be with Moses in what He has called him to do.   |
| INTRODUCE IT | Remind pupils that at the end of Lesson 1, Moses had become 'the son of Pharaoh's daughter' and had grown up in the palace. In this lesson, he is now forty years of age (Acts 7: 23) and very concerned about how the children of Israel were being treated in Egypt. His killing of the Egyptian (Exodus 2: 14) was done out of compassion, but he was wrong to commit the sin of murder. Later we will learn that God was going to use Moses to deliver His people, but he would have to wait another forty years before he was ready to do God's work!   | Explain to pupils that Mount Horeb in <b>Exodus 3: 1</b> is Mount Sinai and is a very important place in the life of Moses. In <b>Exodus 3: 12</b> , God tells Moses 'You will worship God on this mountain.' It was on this mountain that God spoke to Moses and gave him 'The Ten Commandments' <b>(19: 1-20)</b> .   |
| COMPLETE IT  | <ol> <li>Present the Bible Story</li> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>Moses was very sympathetic towards the Israelites, but God was not pleased with his rash killing of the Egyptian.</li> <li>Moses thought that he could rescue the Israelites in his own strength, but he was soon to realise that he needed God.</li> <li>When his sin became known, Moses fled to the land of Midian (2: 15).</li> <li>At a well in Midian he met his future wife Zipporah (2: 21) and they had two sons. One son was called Gershom meaning 'a stranger.' This name expressed Moses' feelings of loneliness when he was in the land of Midian. He also had another son called Eliezer meaning 'God is my help'. Moses was thankful to God for saving him from Pharaoh who wanted to kill him because he had killed the Egyptian.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Lesson 2.</li> <li>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – His big mistake.</li> </ol> | <ol> <li>Present the Bible Story</li> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>Moses ran away from Egypt and went to live in the land of Midian.</li> <li>God spoke to Moses from a burning bush and Moses removed his shoes in reverence. When God told him that He wanted him to go to Pharaoh to bring the Israelites out of Egypt, Moses declared his inadequacy for the job (3: 10-11).</li> </ol> </li> <li>The Egyptians had many gods by many different names. Moses was told by God to tell the Israelites 'I AM has sent me to you' (3: 14).</li> <li>God turned Moses' staff into a snake to show Moses His power. In turn Moses would show the people this same power so that they would know who God really is.</li> <li>God finally agreed to let Aaron speak for Moses and Moses would tell Aaron what to say as God told him (Exodus 4: 16).</li> <li>As Moses leaves for Egypt to approach Pharaoh about releasing the Israelites, this may have been the greatest challenge of his life.</li> <li>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Study 2.</li> <li>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – The shepherd.</li> </ol> |
| REVIEW IT    | Review this lesson by reading <b>Acts 7: 23-29</b> as a summary of events.   | Draw a poster of Moses with some speech bubbles, showing how he would have felt about God sending him back to Egypt to free the people of Israel.   |
| LIVE IT      | <ul> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>Discuss.</li> <li>1. How important is it to ask God for guidance before acting on impulse?</li> <li>2. If God sees everything, how should this influence a Christian's behaviour?</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>Discuss.</li> <li>1. The Bible teaches that the God who appeared to Moses is the same God today. What should this mean to Christians?</li> <li>2. Should a Christian worry about tasks they are called by God to fulfil? Why not?</li> </ul>  |

| Levels 3 & 4 | B9 - LEVEL 3<br>Lesson 3 – Moses<br>Topic – The burning bush   | B9 - LEVEL 4<br>Study 3 – Moses<br>Topic – The leader   |
|--------------|--|---|
|              | Bible Focus: Exodus 2: 23-25; 3: 1-10  Key Verse: Exodus 15: 11  We are learning that:  1. God knew the Israelites were being treated as slaves by the new king of Egypt. He planned to rescue them and bring them back to the land of Canaan.  2. God called Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt into Canaan.   | <ul> <li>Bible Focus: Exodus 7: 1-25</li> <li>Key Verse: Proverbs 29: 1</li> <li>We are learning that: <ol> <li>Christians believe that God's power is greater than that of any human being or organisation – He is 'all-powerful' – He is omnipotent.</li> <li>Some people only call on God when they're in trouble and forget about Him when things are going well.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>  |
| INTRODUCE IT | Discuss with the pupils the current situation; Moses has left Egypt and is settled in his new life in Midian. He has no intention of returning to Egypt, especially as Pharaoh wants to kill him. The Israelites are still suffering greatly in Egypt and crying out to God for help. God begins to answer them, through Moses.  | Consider with the pupils how Moses must have been feeling at this point, not knowing what he would face in Egypt. When we are nervous about something, sometimes we need to be reassured about what is happening, or why it is happening, and who is there to help us. God did this for Moses in <b>Exodus 7: 1-5</b> .   |
| COMPLETE IT  | <ol> <li>Present the Bible Story</li> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>God knew how the Israelites were feeling (2: 23-25).</li> <li>God hears their cries and reveals Himself to Moses at Mount Sinai, in the form of a burning bush.</li> <li>God tells Moses of His care for the Israelites (verse 7), how He is going to deliver them from Pharaoh (verse 8) and that He is going to use Moses to lead them out of Egypt (verse 10).</li> </ol> </li> <li>Remind pupils that the first reference in the Bible to the word 'holy' occurs in Exodus 3: 5 and by removing his sandals Moses acknowledged the place on which he stood was 'holy'. Christians believe God deserves reverence and respect.</li> <li>Moses learnt about God's holiness and power during His meeting at the burning bush.</li> </ol> <li>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.         <ol> <li>Complete Lesson 3.</li> <li>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – The burning bush.</li> </ol> </li> | <ol> <li>Present the Bible Story</li> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>God made Moses into a powerful person ('I have made you as god to Pharaoh' Exodus 7: 1) — someone who deserved to be listened to, but Pharaoh refused to give in to him.</li> <li>Moses and Aaron did as God commanded them and when Aaron threw down his rod before Pharaoh, it became a serpent. When Pharaoh's magicians threw down their rods they also became serpents, but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods, showing God's power at work (7: 8-12).</li> <li>Moses &amp; Aaron stretched the rod over the River Nile and it was turned to blood. The fish died, the water could not be used for drinking, farming, bathing or fishing (7: 20-21).</li> </ol> </li> <li>Pharaoh resisted Moses' demands to let the people go.</li> <li>Read chapters 8-10, to see more plagues that God sent to make Pharaoh listen. But his heart was hardened and so he still refused. His stubbornness to acknowledge God's authority would mean terrible consequences to come.</li> <li>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.</li> <li>Complete Study 3.</li> <li>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – The leader.</li> </ol> |
| REVIEW IT    | Review the lesson by referring pupils to <b>Acts 7: 30-35</b> . Show them how Stephen spoke about the life of Moses and also mentioned the incident of the burning bush in his speech before the Sanhedrin.  | Look up the Key Verse and ask pupils to discuss how it relates to the actions of Pharaoh in this study.   |
| LIVE IT      | <ul> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>Discuss.</li> <li>1. God showed His care for the Israelites when He heard their cries. How can this encourage Christians today?</li> <li>2. In what ways can Christians today show reverence and respect to God?</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</li> <li>1. The turning of the river into blood was a miraculous event. Does God perform miracles today?</li> <li>2. Look at Psalm 105: 23-29 and consider how these verses teach that God is in control of everything. What are the implications of this for today?</li> </ul>   |

| Levels 3 & 4 | B9 - LEVEL 3<br>Lesson 4 – Moses<br>Topic – Bringing God's message  | B9 - LEVEL 4<br>Study 4 – Moses<br>Topic – The deliverer   |
|--------------|---|--|
|              | Bible Focus: Exodus 5: 1-9; 22-23; 6: 1-9  Key Verse: Hebrews 10: 31  We are learning that:  1. Moses and Aaron approach Pharaoh to ask him to let the Israelites go but Pharaoh refuses.  2. God assures Moses that Pharaoh will let the Israelites go because He will compel him to do so.  | <ul> <li>Bible Focus: Exodus 11: 1-10; 12: 1-13 &amp; 21-42</li> <li>Key Verses: John 1: 29; 1 Corinthians 5: 7</li> <li>We are learning that:</li> <li>1. God showed His judgment to the Egyptians for their disobedience but showed His mercy to the Israelites for their obedience.</li> <li>2. The Passover Lamb pointed towards the death and resurrection of Jesus who took the punishment for our sins when He died on the cross.</li> </ul>  |
| INTRODUCE IT | Explain to the pupils that although God had commanded Moses to go back to Egypt, Moses was scared about what lay ahead. God promised to be with him but Moses had no idea how Pharaoh would react to seeing him again. So, God told Moses to bring his brother Aaron to help him.   | The powerful nation of Egypt could not keep God from fulfilling His promises to Abraham and the Israelite people. This last plague resulted in the end of slavery in Egypt and in the leading of the Israelites through the Red Sea into the wilderness.  The Israelites had to obey the words of Moses and then they would be safe from God's judgment.   |
| COMPLETE IT  | <ol> <li>Present the Bible Story</li> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>Pharaoh defiantly refuses to obey God's request brought to him by Moses and Aaron (5: 4).</li> <li>Pharaoh increased the workload of the Israelites by making them also gather straw to make the bricks (5: 6-7).</li> <li>Moses talked to God about the matter and He assured him that He would free the Israelites from Egypt (5: 22-23, and 6: 1).</li> </ol> </li> <li>In Exodus 6: 6-8, God said 'I will' 7 times and in Exodus 6: 2 He said, 'I am the Lord'. He wanted Moses and Aaron to believe in His power and His promises. God also made sure that Pharaoh would see His power when he sent the 10 plagues on the land of Egypt.</li> <li>Moses passes this on to the people of Israel but they are too discouraged and too broken by their slavery and persecution to believe it (6: 9).</li> </ol> | <ol> <li>Present the Bible Story</li> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>Moses and Aaron had warned Pharaoh what God would do if he continued to ignore God's miraculous power, as seen in the nine plagues that had already taken place (see Psalm 105: 26-36). The final warning is given (11: 4-6).</li> <li>The Passover instructions are given; the Israelites are told to sprinkle the blood of a perfect lamb on the two sides and the top of the door-frames of their homes.</li> <li>Explain the significance of the lamb; how it was a sacrifice, a substitute for the firstborn in the household dying. The animal had to die so that the firstborn wouldn't die (12: 1-7).</li> </ol> </li> <li>At midnight, every firstborn child of the Egyptians died but the Israelite children were spared because the blood of the lamb was sprinkled on the doorframes (12: 29-30).</li> <li>Pharaoh finally agreed to let the people of Israel go. Now the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt begins after 430 years in Egypt. God's promise to Abraham in Genesis 15: 13-14 was fulfilled!</li> </ol> |
|              | Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.  Complete Lesson 4.  Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Bringing God's message.   | Explain the Key Verses and how they relate to this Study. Encourage pupils to learn them. Complete Study 4. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – The Deliverer.  |
| REVIEW IT    | Consider what God has already told Moses – His plans would succeed. Yet Moses doubts God when Pharaoh says no straight away. As the Israelites look to Moses and Aaron and blame them, Moses in turn, looks to God and blames Him for what is happening. God patiently explains His purpose and His promise to them again, "I am the Lord".   | Encourage the pupils to think about what the Passover represents: the sacrifice of innocent blood in the Israelites' place. Consider also how it is a symbol of an even greater sacrifice to come – Jesus' death on the cross.   |
| LIVE IT      | <ul> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>Discuss.</li> <li>1. Is God's power the same today?</li> <li>2. How serious is it to ignore God's instructions?</li> <li>3. During difficult times, why is it important for Christians to continue to trust God?</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>Discuss.</li> <li>1. How important is it for Christians to trust in God's promises even when it seems illogical/they don't know the reason?</li> <li>2. When Christians are tempted to doubt God's goodness, how does this study remind them of His love for them?</li> </ul>  |

**B10 - LEVEL 3** Lesson 1 - Moses Topic – The Passover Lamb

**B10 - LEVEL 4** Study 1 – Moses Topic – Through the Red Sea

## Bible Focus: Exodus 12: 1-14, 29-36 & 50-51

Key Verse: Exodus 12: 13

#### We are learning that:

- 1. The Egyptians' disobedience towards God resulted in judgment. The Israelites obeyed God's instructions and were shown His
- Christians believe that Jesus' death was the final sacrifice for sins; through this they have been forgiven.

**Bible Focus:** Exodus 13: 17-22, 14: 1-31

Key Verse: Exodus 14: 13-14

#### We are learning that:

- The Israelites doubted God's protection and help.
- God proved His power and love for His people by rescuing them from the Egyptians once again.

#### **INTRODUCE IT**

Talk about holidays - time off school/work. Discuss the reasons why taking time out to rest/reflect/spend time with people is important. Ask the pupils if they have ever heard of the holiday celebrated in the Jewish faith - the Passover. In today's story, we will learn about the Passover.

Ask the pupils to imagine that they are going on a long journey to somewhere that they have never been before. They would need something (a map/Sat Nav) or someone to show them the way. This is what the Israelites needed for their long journey to the Promised Land. The Bible tells us that God guided them along their journey in a very special way.

#### **COMPLETE IT**

#### **Present the Bible Story**

#### Discuss and Explain:

- 1. Review with the pupils the previous plagues and explain that this final one was the worst and most devastating. God was going to show that He was more powerful than Pharaoh.
- 2. God gave very specific instructions to Moses and Aaron about what to do (verses 1-14).
- 3. The Israelites had to kill a lamb with no defects and place its blood on the doorposts to be spared from death.
- 4. Explain the significance of the lamb; how it was a sacrifice, a substitute in the place of the firstborn in the household dying.
- 5. Explain that Passover is a Jewish holiday in honour of the night that God "passed over" the homes of those who had sacrificed an animal. The firstborn of each household that did not have the blood on the door were killed.
- 6. Explain that in the Old Testament, we read that God accepted offerings of animals as a means of forgiveness for the sinner. The Bible teaches that when Jesus came, animal sacrifices were no longer necessary as His death was a perfect sacrifice before God.
- 7. Pharaoh finally agreed to let the Israelites go -God had kept His promise to them! (12: 31-32)

Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.

Complete Lesson 1.

Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B - The Passover Lamb.

#### **Present the Bible Story**

#### Discuss and Explain:

- God led the Israelites away from Egypt. He led them by a pillar of cloud during the day and a pillar of fire at night-time. Then they knew He was with them guiding and helping them (13: 21-22). The Bible teaches that God still guides Christians today as they read the Bible, pray and trust in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Think about the relief the Israelites must have been feeling to be free from Egypt. Yet think about how this relief would have turned to fear when they heard that Pharaoh's army was chasing after them to bring them back! (14: 10)
- The Israelites started to panic and blame God. But Moses reminded them to stay calm. God would fight for them. Moses was learning to trust God (14: 13).
- God told the people to keep moving before miraculously providing an escape for them through the Red Sea. Then God caused the Egyptian army to drown. The Israelites were rescued and they had witnessed first-hand God's power and love for them (14: 21-22).
- The Israelites were in awe of God and trusted in Him and in Moses that day (14: 31).

Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Study 1.

Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C - Through the Red Sea.

#### **REVIEW IT**

After years of slavery, crying out to God, many plagues and Pharaoh's refusal to listen to God, the people of Israel were finally free! Discuss as a group how they might have been feeling as they left Egypt.

Ask pupils to read 2 Corinthians 12: 9 and summarise how this verse is relevant to the situation the Israelites found themselves in.

#### LIVE IT

#### How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.

- 1. What does Jesus' sacrifice for sins show us about the character of God?
- What does this lesson teach about perseverance in the Christian life?

#### How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.

- 1. When things don't go our way or how we expect them to go, how do we react?
- 2. Consider from this study that God is the God of the impossible. (See Isaiah 43: 2-3) How comforting is this for Christians?

**B10 - LEVEL 3** Lesson 2 - Moses Topic - The Red Sea **B10 - LEVEL 4** Study 2 - Moses Topic – Up Mount Sinai

Bible Focus: Exodus 13: 20-22, 14: 5-14, 19-31 Key Verse: Exodus 14: 14

#### We are learning that:

- 1. God saved His chosen people from Egypt.
- 2. The Israelites began to doubt God and His care for them.
- 3. God proved He was with them, guiding and protecting them.

Bible Focus: Exodus 19: 1-13, 16-25, 20: 1-21

Exodus 19: 5 & 20: 20 Key Verses:

#### We are learning that:

- This lesson shows God's holiness and power. 1.
- Christians today can approach God easily, which the 2. Israelites could not do.
- 3. God gave the Israelites instructions as to how to live.

#### **INTRODUCE IT**

Consider how the Israelites would have been feeling, after having spent 430 years in Egypt in slavery and now to be free. Ask pupils what they think the Israelites would have been thinking at this point.

Think about everyday situations when we have rules and guidelines e.g. a manual on how to use equipment, a recipe to cook something. These guidelines are usually there to help us. The Ten Commandments that Moses received from God for the people of Israel were given for their benefit to guide them in their lives.

#### **COMPLETE IT**

#### Present the Bible Story

#### Discuss and Explain:

- 1. At last the Israelites were free and on their way to the Promised Land away from Egypt! Think about how excited they would have been to be free from slavery!
- God guided the Israelites by a pillar of cloud in the day and a pillar of fire at night (13: 21-22). This showed them that He was always with them and was guiding them. The Bible teaches that God still guides Christians today as they read the Bible, pray and trust in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- 3. When Pharaoh's army started chasing the Israelites, the Israelites panicked and complained that God wasn't looking after them. They didn't trust Him (14: 10). They had completely forgotten how God had already helped them and had brought them so far. Does our attitude change when things go wrong in our lives?
- Moses remained calm and positive in the situation, reminding the people that God would fight for them (14: 14).
- 5. God demonstrated His power in parting the Red Sea so that the Israelites could pass through safely, and then destroying the Egyptian army in the sea once the Israelites had reached the other side (14: 21-22, 26-28).
- The Israelites "feared the Lord and put their trust in Him" and trusted Moses too as their leader (14: 31).

Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.

Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B - The Red Sea.

#### Present the Bible Story

#### Discuss and Explain:

- 1. It has been two months since God brought the Israelites out of Egypt. He now prepares them for what is to come.
- God tells Moses to explain to the people that He has chosen them; they will be His treasured possession (19: 5-6). He tells them to consecrate themselves be set apart from sin and daily routine, becoming physically and spiritually ready to meet God.
- The Israelites could not even touch the mountain because it was holy. God's power and holiness were so strong that the people could not come near Him (19: 10-13). Consider how Christians today can now approach this holy, powerful God with freedom because of all that Jesus has done.
- God allows only Moses to approach Him and gives Him the Ten Commandments (20: 1-17). These laws outline the people of Israel's responsibilities to God and also to each other. They were given to point them to a life of practical holiness, to discover the nature of God and show them how to live.
- The people were afraid, so Moses acted as the mediator between them and God. Consider how Jesus becomes the sole mediator between God and mankind (1 Timothy 2: 5).
- Moses tells them not to be afraid but that the fear of God will be with them. Their fear was terror. Moses wanted to replace this with trust and obedience to God (20: 20).

Complete Lesson 2.

Explain the Key Verses and encourage pupils to learn them.

Complete Study 2.

Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C - Up Mount Sinai.

#### **REVIEW IT**

Create a comic strip of this story: God guiding the Israelites, the Israelites realising the Egyptians are chasing them and then how God saves them.

Review the lesson by asking the pupils to list the Ten Commandments and discuss each one. How can the Commandments be lived out practically?

#### LIVE IT

#### How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.

When bad things happen in our lives, how do we react? Who do we blame? Do we question the existence/authority/methods of God?

#### How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.

The Israelites were afraid and unfit to enter God's presence. They needed rules for holy living. How does this compare with peoples' attitudes towards God today?

| Levels 3 & 4 | B10 - LEVEL 3<br>Lesson 3 – Moses<br>Topic –The difficult journey   | B10 - LEVEL 4<br>Study 3 – Moses<br>Topic – Out of the fire  |
|--------------|---|--|
|              | Bible Focus: Exodus 17: 1-16  Key Verse: 1 Peter 5: 7  We are learning that:  1. The Israelites continue to doubt God. 2. God never fails them. He provides and fights for them.  | Bible Focus: Exodus 32: 1-35  Key Verses: Exodus 32: 26 & 33  We are learning that:  1. The people of Israel soon forgot God's Commandments.  2. God showed mercy to those who followed Him and punished those who did not follow Him.   |
| INTRODUCE IT | Look back at how far the Israelites have come and how God has provided for them: the plagues in Egypt, the parting of the Red Sea. Ask pupils to think about how the Israelites should have felt towards God at this point.   | Ask pupils to think about a time when they knew they were doing something wrong. Discuss reasons why we often say yes and follow the crowd in these situations. In this story, we learn that doing wrong leads to serious consequences.  |
| COMPLETE IT  | <ol> <li>Present the Bible Story</li> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>The Israelites were moving on again, following God's commands. But there is nowhere for them to drink on their journey. So they begin to complain again (17: 2-3). They complain to Moses instead of praying to God and trusting Him.</li> <li>God acts graciously, despite their complaining, and supplies them with water from a rock – He doesn't fail them but performs a miracle! (17: 5-6)</li> <li>Their problems are not over as the Amalekites attack them (17: 8). This group were known as evil, dangerous people who killed for pleasure. Imagine how the Israelites must have been feeling after having left Egypt and all its problems to now face being killed by Amalekites!</li> </ol> </li> <li>But God helps them. Moses stands at the top of a hill and holds the staff of God above his head. When it was above his head, they were winning, but when it was below his head, they were losing! Soon Moses' hands were tired so Aaron and Hur helped him keep his hands above his head (17: 11-13).</li> <li>The Israelites won the battle that day – God was clearly with them helping them defeat this enemy. This also showed that God would lead the people of Israel through Moses.</li> <li>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.</li> <li>Complete Lesson 3.</li> <li>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – The difficult journey.</li> </ol> | <ol> <li>Present the Bible Story</li> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>The people of Israel got impatient waiting for Moses to come back down from Mount Sinai. They took matters into their own hands and made their own god. They replaced God's leadership with a false idol that they could control. Think about how this was breaking the first two Commandments (32: 1-4).</li> <li>When God saw what was happening, He was ready to destroy the whole nation because of their disobedience (32: 10) but Moses pleaded with God not to do this. God shows mercy here (32: 11-14). Explain the definition of mercy - being spared from the punishment that is deserved.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Moses went back down the mountain and was so angry with the people that he broke the stone Ten Commandments in front of them, to show them that they had broken God's laws (32: 19). Yet God was even angrier with the people.</li> <li>Moses was disappointed in Aaron for leading the people of Israel astray. He should have known that what the people of Israel were doing was wrong but instead he listened to their complaints and helped them build the golden calf to worship (32: 21-22).</li> <li>Moses asked the Israelites "Who is on the Lord's side?" Whoever did not respond and follow God, was killed that day (32: 26-29). God demanded their full loyalty.</li> <li>Explain the Key Verses and encourage pupils to learn them.</li> <li>Complete Study 3.</li> <li>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – Out of the fire.</li> </ol> |
| REVIEW IT    | Learn the Key Verse and discuss with the pupils how God proved His care for the Israelites.  Illustrate by drawing a timeline of events with the verse as the heading.  | Look up <b>1 John 5: 21</b> and think about the kind of "idols" people substitute God for today. Use this verse and these "idols" to make a wall poster.   |
| LIVE IT      | <ul> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</li> <li>1. When we find ourselves in difficult situations, who do we turn to for help?</li> <li>2. Think about how Aaron and Hur helped Moses to keep his hands above his head – they encouraged and supported him. How can we help others today?</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>Discuss.</li> <li>1. When we make mistakes how can we show we are sorry?</li> <li>2. Aaron did not stand up for what he knew was right. Can we think of times in our lives when we do this and just follow the crowd? What can a Christian do to try and prevent this from happening?</li> </ul>   |

B10 - LEVEL 3 Lesson 4 - Moses Topic - The bronze snake B10 - LEVEL 4 Study 4 - Moses Topic - In the desert

Bible Focus:

cus: Numbers 21: 4-9, John 3: 1-2 &

14-16

Key Verse: John 3: 14

#### We are learning that:

- 1. The Israelites complained to God again.
- God had to punish them because their complaining and unbelief were wrong – but He made a way for them to be spared.
- The snake being lifted up on the pole as a means of being saved from death, mirrors Jesus' death on the cross.

Bible Focus: Numbers 21: 1-9

Key Verses: John 3: 14 & 15

#### We are learning that:

- The Israelites forgot very quickly how God had cared and provided for them so far.
- God had to show the people of Israel how they were sinning and not trusting Him.
- 3. God provided a way of escape out of their punishment.

#### **INTRODUCE IT**

Ask the pupils to think about a time when they were impatient waiting on something or waiting on a promise from someone. Explain that God had already promised the Israelites the Promised Land but they were getting impatient about arriving there.

Think about travelling on a long journey. Quite often, people can get impatient and fed up with the journey, especially children. Sometimes, they just want to get there now! This is how the Israelites felt about reaching the Promised Land that God had told them about.

#### **COMPLETE IT**

#### Present the Bible Story

#### Discuss and Explain:

- The Israelites have been in the desert now for almost 40 years and were getting frustrated.
   They begin to complain again to God – "Why have you taken us out of Egypt to die here?!" (Numbers 21: 4)
- God gets angry with their lack of trust in Him. He sends poisonous snakes among them and many die. But Moses prays to God on behalf of the people for forgiveness (21: 7).
- God tells Moses to make a bronze snake on a
  pole and anyone who looks at this snake is
  healed. The bronze snake made it possible for
  the Israelites to be cured. By looking at it, the
  Israelites were recognising that this judgment
  was from God and that only God could deliver
  them from it (21: 9).
- 4. The Israelites did not know this yet but the snake on the pole had a bigger meaning. In John 3, Jesus explains that just as the Israelites were healed by looking at the snake, so too, people can be healed from sin by looking to Jesus' death on the cross. It wasn't the snake that healed the Israelites, but their faith in God.

Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.

Complete Lesson 4.

Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – The bronze snake

#### **Present the Bible Story**

#### Discuss and Explain:

- The Israelites had been wandering in the desert for almost 40 years and were getting impatient. God had promised them this Promised Land but it was nowhere to be seen yet. They complained to God about their situation, instead of remembering how far He had brought them (Numbers 21: 4-6).
- Before this, they had been in many situations of danger but God had provided for them and was there for them, despite their lack of faith and constant complaining.
- God had heard enough complaining. He sent poisonous snakes, which bit the people and many died (21: 6).
- The people soon realised their sin and asked Moses to pray to God to take away the snakes (21: 7).
- God instructed the bronze snake to be put up on a
  pole and those who looked at it would live. By
  looking at this snake, they acknowledged that God
  had sent this judgment and only He could take it
  away and save them (21: 9).
- 6. The people of Israel did not realise it, but this was a symbol of Jesus on the cross. Those who looked to the snake were freed from their pain and did not die. In the same way, the Bible teaches that those who look to Jesus on the cross and trust in Him will not die but will have eternal life. (See the Key Verses)

Explain the Key Verses and encourage pupils to learn them.

Complete Study 4.

Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C - In the desert.

#### REVIEW IT

Ask the pupils to look at the verse, **John 3: 16** and to consider the meaning of eternal life. Many people do not like the idea of eternal life because they don't like their earthly lives. However, the eternal life that Jesus offers has no sickness, death, evil or sin! How should this change a Christian's outlook?

In small groups, look up and study **Psalm 78: 10-38** and list all of the amazing miracles that God performed for His people and their attitude to these.

#### LIVE IT

## How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.

The Israelites complained to God because they were not trusting Him, they didn't obey His law and they forgot all that He had already done for them. What things do people complain about today? Are they a result of poor attitude/actions?

### How does the lesson challenge Christians today?

The people of Israel complained to God about their current situation, even though He had never failed them. They questioned His timing. Does being reminded of someone's faithfulness/loyalty cause us to trust them more? How can a Christian learn to trust God more?

| Levels 3 & 4 | B11 - LEVEL 3<br>Lesson 1 – Moses<br>Topic – Meeting God  | B11 - LEVEL 4<br>Study 1 – The Law<br>Topic – One God  |
|--------------|---|--|
|              | Bible Focus: Exodus 19: 1-14  Key Verse: 1 Peter 1: 16  We are learning that: 1. The Bible teaches that God is holy and perfect. 2. Christians believe that obedience is very important in their relationship with God. 3. The Bible makes it clear that God's laws expose the sinfulness of His people.  | Bible Focus: Exodus 19: 16-25, & 20: 1-7, Matthew 22: 34-40  Key Verse: Matthew 22: 37  We are learning that:  1. God is a holy God. 2. God is a powerful God. 3. God is a jealous God. 4. God is a loving God.  |
| INTRODUCE IT | Ask pupils to think about what they do if they are going to a wedding i.e. wash their clothes, have a shower or bath and make sure they look very clean and well-dressed for the big day! Explain how the people of Israel had to do this to prepare to meet God, because He is perfect and without sin. They, however, were often sinful.  | In this study, we will be considering how God commanded the people of Israel to have no other gods or idols but Him. Anything that comes between a Christian and God is an idol. Think of examples of idols or gods in today's society and discuss with the pupils how they can take the place of God, e.g. money, clothes, car, house, sport, hobbies.  |
| COMPLETE IT  | <ol> <li>Present the Bible Story</li> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>Only Moses was able to go up the mountain to meet God. God's presence was too powerful and holy so the people of Israel could not go up to Him.</li> <li>God had a reason for rescuing the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and now He told them. He wanted them to obey Him and follow Him. God wanted Israel to become a holy nation, His special chosen people (verses 5-6).</li> </ol> </li> <li>When they heard the commands of the Lord the people responded by saying that they would do everything the Lord had said (verse 8).</li> <li>God told Moses to consecrate the people of Israel for worship (verse 10). This was to get them ready to meet God. They had to wash and prepare their hearts and minds to meet God. Explain to the pupils how physically cleaning themselves would have also helped them to try to be mentally clean for worshipping God.</li> <li>Look up the Key Verse to see why they had to prepare to meet God.</li> </ol> Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Lesson 1. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Meeting God | <ol> <li>Present the Bible Story</li> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>The Israelites had been brought to Mount Sinai and were being prepared and made ready to go and meet with God. God was so holy that they had to try to make themselves outwardly as pure as possible (19: 14).</li> </ol> </li> <li>God descended from Heaven in the form of fire – the people of Israel trembled with fear under his power (19: 16-18).</li> </ol> <li>God told the people that they should have no other gods but Him (20: 3). He also told them not to worship other gods or idols, something that would take the place of Him. Money, fame, work, or pleasure can become gods today if they are allowed to dominate a person's thoughts and time. God promises unfailing love to those who love Him and keep His commands (20: 5-6).</li> <li>When God says He is jealous, this is not like human jealousy which is sinful. God's jealousy always expresses genuine love and concern – He knows that true contentment is only to be found in Him.</li> <li>They were also not to misuse the name of the Lord. The Bible makes it clear that the way we use His name shows how we feel about Him. We should use His holy name in praise and worship, not in bad-mouthing or swearing.</li> <li>When Jesus was on earth the rulers of the Law tried to trick Him. Ask the pupils to look up Matthew 22: 34-40. What is the greatest commandment according to Jesus?</li> <li>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Study 1.</li> <li>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – One God.</li> |

**REVIEW IT** 

Consider with the pupils how Mount Sinai is a holy place. Here He spoke to Moses in a burning bush (Exodus 3: 1-12). God also spoke to Elijah in a small whisper when he had run away, afraid for his life (1 Kings 19: 1-13).

Learn the Key Verse and discuss with the group how this verse summarises today's study.

LIVE IT

#### How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.

1. The Bible teaches that God is holy and perfect, and that people cannot come to Him as they are – they need forgiveness of sins and faith in Jesus. What does this teach us about the character of God?

#### How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.

- 1. How easy/difficult is it to put God first?
- How important is it to control our speech/consider the type of words which come out of our mouths?

| Levels 3 & 4 | B11 - LEVEL 3<br>Lesson 2 – Moses<br>Topic – Knowing God   | B11 - LEVEL 4<br>Study 2 – The Law<br>Topic – God's way  |
|--------------|--|--|
|              | Bible Focus: Exodus 20: 1-12  Key Verse: Matthew 22: 37  | Bible Focus: Exodus 20: 8-11, Luke 13: 10-17  Key Verse: Exodus 20: 8  |
|              | We are learning that: 1. The Bible teaches that God is the one true God. 2. God's name is special and should be respected. 3. Sundays should be kept as a special day of rest. 4. It is important to honour our mothers and fathers.   | We are learning that: 1. The Bible teaches that God wants us to keep the Sabbath as holy. 2. Keeping laws should not replace compassion for others.  |
| INTRODUCE IT | Think about everyday situations where rules are a good thing e.g. in playing games, parents stopping children from touching something hot, traffic light signals, bedtimes, going to school, etc. Discuss with pupils how God gave the people of Israel rules to make them into His holy nation -The Ten Commandments. They needed God's guidelines to live the way that God wanted them to.   | Think about everyday situations where rules are necessary and consider the reasons why this is the case. Discuss with pupils how God gave the people of Israel Ten Commandments to make them into His holy nation and to show them the best way to live under His protection.  |
| COMPLETE IT  | Present the Bible Story  | Present the Bible Story  |
|              | <ol> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>The first commandment (verses 1-3) that God gave was to not have any other gods or idols but Him. The Bible teaches that an idol is anything that takes the place of God in our lives. This was very important to God; this is why it is the first commandment. Jesus Himself confirmed this in Matthew 4: 10.</li> <li>The second commandment (verse 4) was not to make any other idols. This may seem easy, but the people of Israel have just come from Egypt, a place where there would have been many idols and gods. Jesus emphasises this commandment in Luke 16: 13.</li> </ol> </li> <li>The third commandment (verse 7) was not to misuse God's name. The Bible teaches that God's name is special and it must not be used wrongly. The way we use His name shows how we feel about Him. We should use His name in praise and worship, not in bad-mouthing or swearing.</li> <li>The fourth commandment (verses 8-11) was to keep the Sabbath as a holy day, different to the other six days in the week. God made the heavens and earth in six days and then rested on the Sabbath. Christians want to follow His example by setting aside a day to rest and worship Him.</li> </ol> <li>The fifth commandment (verse 12) was to honour their father and mother. Discuss what honour means and how we can honour our parents.</li> | <ol> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>One of the Ten Commandments to the Israelites was to observe the Sabbath day and to keep it holy, dedicated to God (Exodus 20: 8-11).</li> <li>God made the heavens and earth in six days and rested on the seventh. Christians will want to follow His example by having one day a week different to the others, dedicated to rest and to worshipping Him and His creation.</li> <li>God had even already begun to form this pattern with the Israelites through their instructions for collecting the manna (Exodus 16: 22-26).</li> </ol> </li> <li>When Jesus was on earth, people were not happy with his "observance" of this commandment. They accused him of breaking this commandment when He healed people on the Sabbath. This happened on many occasions. One of them is found in Luke 13: 10-17.</li> <li>Jesus pointed out their hypocrisy - they would care for their animals on a Sunday, yet Jesus could not care for a human? They had got so caught up in the Law and keeping the Law so strictly that they had forgotten to show love and compassion to those around them.</li> </ol> |
|              | Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Lesson 2.   | Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Study 2.  |
|              | Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Knowing God   | Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – God's Way.  |
| REVIEW IT    | Look up <b>Matthew 22: 37-40</b> and discuss how these verses summarise the Ten Commandments.  | Have a group debate about keeping the Sabbath holy and separate from the other days with two sides: "For" and "Against".   |
| LIVE IT      | How does the lesson challenge Christians today?  Discuss.  1. How can a Christian try to prevent people and things from taking the place of God?   | How does the lesson challenge Christians today?  Discuss.  1. If no one is capable of keeping the commandments fully, why should Christians still strive to be holy?   |

| Levels 3 & 4 | B11 - LEVEL 3<br>Lesson 3 – Moses<br>Topic – Obeying God   | B11 - LEVEL 4<br>Study 3 – The Law<br>Topic – God First   |
|--------------|--|---|
|              | Bible Focus: Exodus 20: 13-21, Matthew 19: 16-30  Key Verse: Matthew 19: 21  We are learning that: 1. God gave the commandments to be obeyed. 2. Obeying rules does not result in a relationship with God. 3. The Bible teaches that God should have first place in a Christian's life.  | Bible Focus: Exodus 20: 12-21, Mark 10: 17-31 Key Verse: Matthew 6: 24 We are learning that:  1. The Bible teaches that commandments and laws are important and should be obeyed. 2. Keeping commandments and laws alone will not result in a relationship with God or eternal life. 3. Idols can easily replace God.   |
| INTRODUCE IT | Think about how we try to obey the rules at school but sometimes we forget and break them. Discuss some examples – copying homework, arriving late to class. The Bible explains that because we are human and sinful, we cannot be perfect like God.   | The commandments listed in the Bible are important guidelines for living. However, the Bible makes it clear that because we are human and sinful we cannot be perfect like God. We cannot earn our way into Heaven by the things we do.   |
| COMPLETE IT  | <ol> <li>Present the Bible Story</li> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>The sixth commandment was not to murder. Look up Matthew 5: 21-22 to see Jesus' new definition of murder. Consider how this affects how we treat people today.</li> <li>The seventh commandment was not to commit adultery. Jesus was making the point that people should not want/desire another person's husband/wife.</li> <li>The eighth commandment was not to steal. In the New Testament Jesus redefines this and says that if someone steals your shirt, then give them your coat too! (Matthew 5: 40)</li> </ol> </li> <li>The ninth commandment was not to testify wrongly against your neighbour. Explain to the pupils that this means to lie about what someone else did or not tell the whole story. Look up Matthew 12: 36 to see what Jesus had to say on this matter.</li> <li>The tenth commandment was not to covet/be jealous of/want what other people have. To covet portrays a lack of trust in God as our provider.</li> <li>Read Matthew 19: 16-30 with the pupils. Discuss how Jesus shows that keeping all these commandments does not mean that you inherit eternal life. The Bible states clearly that salvation (forgiveness of sins resulting in eternal life in Heaven) does not come from good deeds alone but there needs to be a love for God, and a willingness to give up everything and trust fully in Jesus.</li> </ol> | <ol> <li>Present the Bible Story</li> <li>Discuss and Explain:</li> <li>When Jesus came to earth, He was the fulfilment of the Law and revolutionised some of the commandments.</li> <li>The fifth commandment - honour your father and mother - Matthew 10: 37 shows us Jesus' new view on this.</li> <li>The sixth commandment - do not murder. Look up Matthew 5: 21-22 to see Jesus' definition of murder. Consider how this affects how we treat people today.</li> <li>The seventh commandment - do not commit adultery. Matthew 5: 28 shows us Jesus' explanation.</li> <li>The eighth commandment - do not steal. Jesus redefines this too (Matthew 5: 40).</li> <li>The ninth commandment - do not testify wrongly against your neighbour. Explain to the pupils that this means to lie about what someone else did or leave out part of the whole story. Look up Matthew 12: 36 to see what Jesus had to say on this matter.</li> <li>Read Mark 10: 17-31. Discuss how Jesus shows that salvation does not come from good deeds alone but there needs to be a love for God, a willingness to give up material possessions and faith entirely in Jesus.</li> </ol> |
|              | Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.  Complete Lesson 3.  Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Obeying God.   | Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.  Complete Study 3.  Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – God First.   |
| REVIEW IT    | In small groups, think of things that people value of more importance than God. How can reading the Bible, praying, spending time with Christian friends, joining Christian groups/clubs help Christians to put God first in their lives?  | When Jesus came to earth, He was revolutionary. Discuss how Jesus was the fulfilment of the Law. He taught that good works and obeying the commandments were not enough – faith in Him was the only way to God.   |
| LIVE IT      | <ul> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>Discuss.</li> <li>1. Look at Ephesians 2: 8-9 – What do these verses say about works?</li> <li>2. How much of a sacrifice is it to give things up for God?</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>Discuss.</li> <li>1. How easy is it to get caught up in the trap of keeping rules and thinking you are earning God's favour? Refer to John 14: 6.</li> </ul>  |

God?

| Levels 3 & 4 | B11 - LEVEL 3<br>Lesson 4 – Moses<br>Topic – Failing God   | B11 - LEVEL 4<br>Study 4 – The Law<br>Topic – God's Word   |
|--------------|--|--|
|              | Bible Focus: Exodus 32: 1-26  Key Verse: Exodus 32: 26  We are learning that:  1. The people of Israel went back to disobeying God. 2. God showed mercy to those who followed Him and punished those who did not follow.   | Bible Focus: Mark 7: 1-23  Key Verses: 1 Timothy 1: 15, Romans 5: 8  We are learning that:  1. The Pharisees were hypocritical. 2. The Bible emphasises the importance of putting God's Word first. 3. Jesus challenged His followers on the purity of their hearts.   |
| INTRODUCE IT | Ask pupils to think about a time when they were asked not to do something but ended up doing it anyway! Explain that this is what happened in today's reading. The people of Israel had forgotten God and went back to worshipping false gods.   | Think of traditions that we have, perhaps in our families or in church. Some of these may be good and some may be bad. Good traditions shine a spotlight on God's Word and move Christians to serve and obey Him. But they should never be more important than God's Word.   |
| COMPLETE IT  | <ol> <li>Present the Bible Story</li> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>The people of Israel got impatient waiting for Moses to come back down from Mount Sinai. So they made false gods to worship (32: 1-4). They wanted to make their own idol which they could make and control themselves. They had already forgotten the first two Commandments (Exodus 20: 1-5).</li> <li>God was ready to destroy the whole nation because of their disobedience and sin (32: 10) but Moses pleaded with God not to do this. God shows His love and mercy here in not destroying them all. Explain the definition of mercy (being spared from the punishment that is deserved).</li> <li>God showed mercy to those who were willing to follow the Lord (32: 26) but to the others, they were killed for their disobedience.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Moses was disappointed in Aaron for leading the people of Israel astray. He should have known that what the people of Israel were doing was wrong but instead he listened to their complaints and helped them build this golden calf to worship (32: 22-24). Do we sometimes do things that we know are not right, just because everyone else is doing it?</li> <li>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.</li></ol> | <ol> <li>Present the Bible Story</li> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>At the time when Jesus was on earth, the Laws which Moses and the people of Israel had been given were still being used. However, many extra laws and rules had been added by tradition, not from God, about how to live.</li> <li>The Pharisees were very judgmental and so had come to check up on Jesus. They criticised Jesus' disciples for what they did, claiming that they were breaking God's Laws (Mark 7: 5).</li> <li>The Pharisees were hypocritical people. Their actions were external, for all to see and did not come from their hearts, which were far from God. They worshipped for the wrong reasons; because they wanted to appear holy and to increase their status.</li> <li>Jesus accused the Pharisees of not obeying God's Laws, due to their own laws which they had made e.g. not caring for their mother and father anymore. He scolded them for keeping the laws and traditions to appear holy instead of honouring God.</li> <li>Jesus taught the disciples the importance of a pure heart, and how evil, sinful characteristics can come out of our lives if we do not seek to have a pure heart (Mark 13: 17-19).</li> </ol> </li> <li>Explain the Key Verses and encourage pupils to learn them.         <ol> <li>Complete Study 4.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – God's Word.</li> </ol> |
| REVIEW IT    | Quiz the pupils on today's story as a means of reviewing the lesson. Discuss reasons why the people of Israel became impatient/forgot what God had already done for them/made unwise decisions. Does this still happen today?  | Ask pupils to look at <b>Mark 7: 21-22</b> and compare this with <b>Philippians 4: 8</b> . Which characteristics should Christians have in their lives and how can they go about this?   |
| LIVE IT      | <ul> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>Discuss.</li> <li>1. Just like God showed mercy to the Israelites despite their sin, He has shown mercy to Christians too. They have asked for forgiveness for the wrong that they have done. Does this mean that they can live how they please, knowing they can always ask for forgiveness?</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</li> <li>1. Are we quick to judge and accuse people without looking at the state of our own hearts and our own motives?</li> <li>2. Like the Pharisees, we must not get caught up in our own rules and traditions and see them as the only way to live. This can stop us from honouring and loving God. Can you think of examples?</li> </ul>  |

| Levels 3 & 4 | B12- LEVEL 3<br>Lesson 1 - Christmas joy!<br>Topic - God's promises   | B12 – LEVEL 4<br>Study 1– A Son is born<br>Topic – The angel Gabriel visits Mary  |
|--------------|---|---|
|              | Bible Focus: Isaiah 9: 1-7; Micah 5: 2  Key Verse: Isaiah 9: 6  We are learning that:  1. The Bible teaches that the birth of Jesus was predicted hundreds of years before He was born.  2. Many people were waiting expectantly for the birth of Jesus.  3. Christians believe that Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah, the Light of the world.   | <ul> <li>Bible Focus: Luke 1: 26-38; Luke 2: 1-7</li> <li>Key Verse: Luke 1: 35</li> <li>We are learning that: <ol> <li>Jesus' birth fulfilled prophecies written hundreds of years ago.</li> <li>Mary and Joseph were willing to be used by God as part of His plan for the world.</li> <li>Jesus' birth was almost unnoticed in Bethlehem.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>   |
| INTRODUCE IT | Ask pupils if they have ever known of anyone who was pregnant. Explain to them how long 9 months can seem for the parents, waiting for the baby to come. In Bible times, prophets had told the people of Israel about Jesus coming but they had to wait hundreds of years before He was born.   | Discuss with the pupils how we can make plans e.g. holidays, birthday parties, weddings, to visit friends. Consider how we react when these plans go wrong or do not go how we think they should. Discuss how Mary had a plan to marry Joseph but God had an even greater plan for her and Joseph.  |
| COMPLETE IT  | Present the Bible Story  Discuss and Explain:  1. Discuss with the pupils how we do not know what the score of a football match will be before it starts, or what we will be doing in 40 years from now. We cannot predict that. Yet Isaiah and Micah had predicted Jesus' coming to earth hundreds of years before the events took place.  2. The prophet Isaiah talks about how the people who are in darkness will see a great light that will shine even to those in deep darkness. Ask the pupils to look up John 8:  12 to see who this great light is.  3. Ask the pupils to look up Matthew 4: 14-16 to see how, for Christians, these prophecies in Isaiah came true, hundreds of years later.  4. Discuss with the pupils how God's great plan of salvation for the world was amazing and how the Jews had waited hundreds of years for this plan to be fulfilled. Many of them did not live to see Him born. Consider how God's timing can be difficult for Christians to accept/ understand even today. Refer to 2 Peter 3: 8.  Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.  Complete Lesson 1.  Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – God's Promises. | <ol> <li>Present the Bible Story</li> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>God sends the angel Gabriel to tell Mary that she will have a baby. Mary is scared as she is a virgin and does not understand how this will happen. But the angel reassures her and tells her she has found favour with God (Luke 1: 26-34).</li> <li>Mary may not have fully understood what was happening, but she knew she had to trust God (1: 38). Discuss how we would react to news that would completely change our lives forever.</li> <li>When she is heavily pregnant, Mary and Joseph have to travel to Bethlehem from Nazareth for a census. This census was ordered by Augustus (Luke 2: 1-5). Discuss how Augustus may have thought he was in control, but the Bible makes it clear that God was. This was part of His timing and plan that Jesus should be born in Bethlehem.</li> <li>Jesus was born in Bethlehem to fulfil Micah's prophecy (Micah 5: 2). Consider why Jesus fulfilling the prophecies was so important.</li> <li>When Jesus is born, Mary wraps him in cloths and lays Him in a manger (2: 7).</li> <li>Discuss how the Jews would have been waiting for their long-awaited King to arrive in royal surroundings, yet Jesus was born with the animals. God's ways may have seemed strange, but this was His plan for Jesus. He was guiding Mary and Joseph and providing them with all that they needed. Read 2 Corinthians 8: 9.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Study 1.</li> <li>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C - A Son is born.</li> </ol> |
| REVIEW IT    | Read <b>Isaiah 9: 6 &amp; 7</b> with the pupils and discuss each of the titles listed that Isaiah prophesied would describe Jesus. Explore with them how Jesus fulfilled these names.   | Ask the pupils to imagine that they are Mary and Joseph. Ask them to write a diary entry from either Mary or Joseph's point of view, based on the events from this study.   |
| LIVE IT      | How does the lesson challenge Christians today?  Discuss.  1. Ask the pupils to think about the characteristics of light. Discuss what it means for Christians, that Jesus is called the light of the world (John 8: 12).   | <ul> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>Discuss.</li> <li>1. Consider whether Christians today are as ready as Mary to accept God's plans for their lives, even when they may not understand them.</li> <li>2. How do people react to Jesus today? Do they just see him as a baby in a manger at Christmas time? Or is He really the Saviour of the world?</li> </ul>   |

| Levels 3 & 4 | B12- LEVEL 3<br>Lesson 2 - Christmas joy!<br>Topic - Mary's surprise!   | B12 – LEVEL 4<br>Study 2 – A Saviour is announced<br>Topic – The shepherds receive Good News!   |
|--------------|---|---|
|              | Bible Focus: Luke 1: 26-38  | Bible Focus: Luke 2: 8-20   |
|              | Key Verses: Luke 1: 32-33   | Key Verse: Luke 2: 11   |
|              | <ol> <li>We are learning that:</li> <li>The Biblical prophecies about Jesus came true, showing that this was an important part of God's sovereign plan.</li> <li>Mary and Joseph had made their own plans, but God's plan overruled. Christians today look to God to fulfil His plan in their lives too.</li> </ol>   | <ol> <li>We are learning that:</li> <li>The angels in Heaven were excited about the coming of the Messiah, the Christ.</li> <li>The shepherds were excited to meet baby Jesus after what they had heard from the angels.</li> <li>Christians today excitedly celebrate the birth of Jesus too.</li> </ol>   |
| INTRODUCE IT | Discuss with the pupils how we can make plans e.g. holidays, birthday parties, weddings, to visit friends. Consider how we react when these plans go wrong or don't go how we think they should go. Discuss how Mary had a plan to marry Joseph but God had an even greater plan for her and Joseph.  | Think about how the birth of a baby is normally announced, perhaps by parents, a card, or pictures on social media. There is such happiness and joy. The Bible makes it clear that Jesus was no ordinary baby so His birth would not be announced in an ordinary way! Remember that He came to ordinary people, so the shepherds were the first to hear of His birth.   |
| COMPLETE IT  | Present the Bible Story   | Present the Bible Story   |
|              | <ol> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>God sends the angel Gabriel to Mary to tell her that she will have a baby (verse 31).</li> <li>Mary is troubled and does not understand how this will happen, yet the angel reassures her that she has found favour with God and that nothing is impossible with God (verses 34-37). Discuss these verses with the pupils.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Point out the important facts that Mary was from Galilee and Joseph was a descendant of David. Discuss with the pupils why this is so important; the prophets said that the coming Messiah would come from Galilee (Isaiah 9: 1) and would be a descendant of David (Isaiah 9: 7). These facts were part of the bigger picture fulfilling all the prophecies.</li> <li>Mary may not have fully understood what was happening, but she knew to trust God (verse 38). Discuss how we would react to news like this - news that would completely change our lives forever!</li> </ol> | <ol> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>The night that Jesus was born, shepherds were in the fields watching their sheep. Point out that normally at night watching sheep would be quiet and probably quite dull for the shepherds (verse 8).</li> <li>But this night, something amazing happened! An angel appeared to them and they were all terrified! Ask the pupils how they would have felt (verse 9).</li> <li>The angel had come to tell them that Jesus, the Saviour, had been born (verse 11).</li> </ol> </li> <li>Then even more angels appeared, and they sang praises to God, celebrating the arrival of Jesus to earth. Explain how magnificent this sight would have been for the shepherds in the darkness with the sheep (verses 13-14).</li> <li>Once the angels left, the shepherds hurried to go and see this baby themselves. Consider how they might have been feeling at this point; perhaps they thought they had imagined it, or that the angel was wrong.</li> <li>They found the baby just as the angel had described! (verse 16) They praised and glorified God and began to tell everyone about the Saviour who had been born (verses 17 and 20).</li> </ol> <li>Think about how excited the shepherds were to see this baby and how they straight away started telling people about Him and wanted to share the Good News with others.</li> |
|              | Explain the Key Verses and encourage pupils to learn them. Complete Lesson 2.   | Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Study 2.   |
|              | Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Mary's Surprise!   | Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C- A Saviour is Announced!   |
| REVIEW IT    | List all the promises that the angel Gabriel makes in<br>the Key Verse. What do we learn from this verse<br>about the coming King and what He came to do?   | Create a poster or a wall display of how you imagine this birth announcement to have looked. Include what the angel said (the Key Verse) in your display.   |
| LIVE IT      | How does the lesson challenge Christians today?  Discuss.  1. Are there circumstances which make it difficult to accept that God has a plan for our lives?  2. Jesus' birth fulfilled Biblical prophecies. How should a Christian feel about those prophecies still to be fulfilled, e.g. Jesus' Second Coming?   | <ul> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>Discuss.</li> <li>1. Does the excitement associated with Jesus' birth still exist today?</li> <li>2. To what extent do the celebrations during Christmas reflect the true reason for the season?</li> </ul>   |

| Levels 3 & 4 | B12– LEVEL 3<br>Lesson 3 – Christmas joy!<br>Topic – Jesus' birth   | B12 – LEVEL 4<br>Study 3 – A Sovereign worshipped<br>Topic – The Wise Men visit Jesus  |
|--------------|---|--|
|              | Bible Focus: Luke 2: 1-7  | Bible Focus: Matthew 2: 1-12   |
|              | Key Verse: 2 Corinthians 8: 9   | Key Verse: Matthew 2: 11   |
|              | <ol> <li>We are learning that:         <ol> <li>Jesus' birth was almost unnoticed in Bethlehem.</li> <li>The Bible teaches that Jesus was God's Son and truly human.</li> </ol> </li> <li>His birth fulfilled prophecies written hundreds of years before.</li> </ol>   | <ol> <li>We are learning that:         <ol> <li>When Jesus was born, some welcomed Him while others did not.</li> <li>God was looking after Jesus, Mary &amp; Joseph and keeping them safe.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>   |
| INTRODUCE IT | Discuss with the pupils how they would react if a king or queen were coming to visit their hometown; people would probably be very excited and would make lots of grand celebrations! But when Jesus was born, no one knew. It was almost unnoticed. There wasn't even room for him in the inn and His bed was a manger.  | Ask the pupils to think about what we do when a baby is born. Consider how we buy them presents, go and visit, hold the baby. Explain that it is a joyous time of celebration!   |
| COMPLETE IT  | Present the Bible Story   | Present the Bible Story  |
|              | <ol> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>Mary and Joseph have to travel to Bethlehem from Nazareth for a census; to be counted and registered. Consider how tiring this long journey would be for a pregnant lady, especially in those days (verses 1-4).</li> <li>This census was ordered by Augustus. Discuss how Augustus may have thought he was in control, but the Bible teaches that God was; this was part of His timing and His plan.</li> <li>While they were there, Jesus was born, wrapped in cloths, and laid in a manger (verse 7).</li> <li>Jesus was born in Bethlehem to fulfil the prophecy that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5: 2). Consider why Jesus fulfilling the prophecies was so important.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Discuss how this was not a normal scene for a King to be born, but that this was part of God's plan for Jesus. He was guiding Mary and Joseph and providing them with all that they needed.</li> <li>Discuss how the Jews would have been waiting for their long-awaited King to arrive in royal surroundings, yet Jesus had a humble birth.</li> </ol> Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. | <ol> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>Herod was king when Jesus was born.</li> <li>Wise men had travelled from the East and had seen the star that told them that a new king was to be born. They asked King Herod who this king was (verse 1-2).</li> <li>King Herod was disturbed at the news, that there could be another king who could take his place on the throne. This is because he was not a legitimate king of Israel by birth, as Jesus was. He was therefore suspicious of this "king" (verse 3).</li> </ol> </li> <li>He told the Wise Men to go and find this king so that he could go and worship him too. But Herod was really planning to kill the child (verses 7-8).</li> <li>The Wise Men followed the star and found Jesus in his home. He was probably one or two years old when they arrived. When they saw Him, they were so very happy! They worshipped Him and gave Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh (verses 10-11).</li> <li>God had told the Wise Men in a dream to travel home a different way to avoid King Herod as he wanted to kill Jesus. They obeyed God and changed their route to protect Him (verse 12).</li> <li>Contrast the Wise Men's reaction to the birth of Jesus with Herod's. They recognised Jesus as the Messiah, the Saviour of the world, whereas Herod viewed Jesus as a threat to his throne.</li> <li>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Study 3.</li> </ol> |
|              | Complete Lesson 3.  Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Jesus' Birth   | Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – A Sovereign Worshipped.   |
| REVIEW IT    | In small groups, write an article for the local Bethlehem newspaper to announce Jesus' birth.   | Recap the lesson by contrasting the actions of Herod with the actions of the Wise Men. Consider the commitment of the Wise Men, who travelled a long time to meet Jesus.   |
| LIVE IT      | <ul> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>Discuss.</li> <li>1. People didn't notice Jesus when He was born because they did not know about Him. The Bible makes it clear who He is – do people notice Him today?</li> <li>2. Jesus became human in order to go to the cross to die for sins. What does this actually mean for Christians?</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</li> <li>1. The Wise Men looked for Jesus so that they could worship Him and give Him gifts. Do Christians today have the same attitude?</li> <li>2. The Wise Men listened to God and obeyed His warnings. In what ways can a Christian today follow this example?</li> </ul>  |

| Levels 3 & 4 | B12– LEVEL 3<br>Lesson 4 – Christmas joy!<br>Topic – The angel's message  | B12 – LEVEL 4<br>Study 4 – The wonder of Christmas<br>Topic – The Messiah has come!  |
|--------------|---|--|
|              | Bible Focus: Luke 2: 8-20   | Bible Focus: Luke 2: 25-40   |
|              | Key Verse: Luke 2: 11   | Key Verse: Isaiah 7: 14  |
|              | <ol> <li>We are learning that:</li> <li>The angels in Heaven were excited about the coming of Jesus, God's Son.</li> <li>The shepherds were excited to meet baby Jesus after what they had heard from the angels.</li> <li>Christians today excitedly celebrate the birth of Jesus too.</li> </ol>  | <ol> <li>We are learning that:         <ol> <li>People were thrilled at the arrival of the baby Jesus.</li> <li>There would be mixed reactions to Jesus. People were either going to joyfully accept Jesus or they would totally reject Him.</li> </ol> </li> <li>The Bible teaches that Jesus is God's salvation, sent to be a light in the world.</li> </ol>   |
| INTRODUCE IT | Think about how the birth of a baby is normally announced - perhaps by parents, a card or pictures on social media. There is such happiness and joy. Explain how Jesus was no ordinary baby so His birth would not be announced in an ordinary way!   | When a baby is born, there is much excitement as people have been waiting for him/her to arrive for nine months. Explain that the people we are going to learn about in this Study had waited their whole lives to meet this baby who had been born – they must have been thrilled that He was finally here!   |
| COMPLETE IT  | Present the Bible Story   | Present the Bible Story  |
|              | <ol> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>The night that Jesus was born, shepherds were in the fields watching their sheep. Point out that a night like this would normally be quiet and probably quite dull (verse 8).</li> <li>But this night, an angel appeared to them and they were all terrified! Ask the pupils how they would have felt (verse 9).</li> <li>The angel had come to tell them about Jesus, the Saviour, being born (verse 11).</li> </ol> </li> <li>Then even more angels appeared, and they sang praises to God, celebrating the arrival of Jesus to earth (verses 13-14). Explain how magnificent this sight would have been for the shepherds.</li> <li>Once the angels left, the shepherds hurried to go and see the baby themselves. Consider how they might have been feeling at this point; perhaps they thought they had imagined it, or that the angel was wrong.</li> <li>They found the baby just as the angel had described! They praised and glorified God and began to tell everyone about this Saviour who had been born (verses 16-17).</li> <li>Think about how excited the shepherds were to see this baby boy and how they started telling people about Him, straight away.</li> <li>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it.</li> <li>Complete Lesson 4.</li> </ol> | <ol> <li>Simeon was a man who obeyed and trusted God devoutly (verse 25).</li> <li>The Holy Spirit had promised Simeon that he would see the long-awaited Messiah before he died (verse 26). Discuss how Simeon must have felt in his old age, wondering if this was going to come true or not.</li> <li>One day, Simeon was at the Temple when Mary and Joseph arrived with baby Jesus.</li> <li>Simeon was overjoyed, praised God, and blessed the baby.</li> <li>In Luke 2: 34, Simeon says that He will be a joy to many people but that many will oppose Him. Explore what Simeon meant by this.</li> <li>Anna, a prophet, was also there at the Temple at the same time. She was always at the Temple, praying and fasting (verses 36-37).</li> <li>When she saw the baby Jesus, she praised God and began to tell everyone about Him (verse 38).</li> <li>Jesus went home with His parents, and as He grew, became wise. God was pleased with Him. Explain how Jesus would have been different to the other children the same age as Him.</li> <li>Consider how Mary and Joseph must have felt about Simeon and Anna's reaction to their baby.</li> </ol> Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it. Complete Study 4. |
|              | Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – The Angel's Message.   | Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – Salvation!  |
| REVIEW IT    | Create a poster or a wall display announcing the birth of Jesus. Include what the angel said (see the Key Verse) in your display.   | Mary & Joseph must have felt overwhelmed at all this excitement over their baby boy.  Learn the Key Verse and discuss with the group how the verse summarises today's Study.   |
| LIVE IT      | How does the lesson challenge Christians today?     Discuss.     1. Does the excitement associated with Jesus' birth still exist today?     2. To what extent do the celebrations during Christmas reflect the true reason for the season?  | <ul> <li>How does the lesson challenge Christians today?</li> <li>Discuss.</li> <li>1. Simeon and Anna were devout people of God. What characteristics do devout people of God possess today?</li> <li>2. In the Key Verse, it says Jesus is to be called "Immanuel" which means "God with us." How should this teaching impact Christians today?</li> </ul>   |

|    | Title            | Story Images  |  |
|----|------------------|---|--|
| B7 | Joseph           | Joseph's brothers arrive  |  |
|    |                  | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/preschool-joseph-brothers/    |  |
|    |                  | Benjamin and bad news!  |  |
|    |                  | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/preschool-joseph-reunion/     |  |
|    |                  | Forgiveness and good news!  |  |
|    |                  | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/preschool-joseph-reunion/     |  |
|    |                  | Together in Egypt   |  |
|    |                  | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/preschool-joseph-reunion/     |  |
|    |                  |   |  |
| B8 | People Jesus Met | People Jesus met - A sick lady  |  |
|    |                  | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-024-peter-mother-in-law/ |  |
|    |                  | People Jesus met - A man with leprosy                                       |  |
|    |                  | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-025-jesus-leper/         |  |
|    |                  | People Jesus met - A helpless man   |  |
|    |                  | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-jesus-lame-man/            |  |
|    |                  | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/btbm-lame-man/                |  |
|    |                  | People Jesus met - Matthew  |  |
|    |                  | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-027-matthew/             |  |
|    |                  | https://www.neebibleinlages.org/illustrations/ghph-027-matthew/             |  |

|     | Title | Story Images  |
|-----|-------|---|
| 39  | Moses | The birth of Moses  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/sb-baby-moses/    |
|     |       | Moses' big mistake  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/sb-baby-moses/    |
|     |       | Moses sees a burning bush                                       |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/sb-burning-bush/  |
|     |       | Moses brings God's message                                      |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/sb-burning-bush/  |
| B10 | Moses | Moses and the first plague                                      |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/sb-moses-plagues/ |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/fl-moses-plagues/ |
|     |       | Moses and the last plague                                       |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/fl-moses-plagues/ |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/sb-passover/      |
|     |       | Moses and the escape from Egypt                                 |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/sb-passover/      |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/sb-red-sea/       |
|     |       | Moses thanks God  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/sb-red-sea/       |

|     | Title               | Story Images  |
|-----|---------------------|---|
| 11  | Moses               | God gives food  |
| ,   | III.0000            | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-moses-manna/           |
|     |                     | God answers prayer / God gives victory                                  |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-amalekites/         |
|     |                     | God gives commandments  |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-moses-10-commandments/ |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-moses-commandments/    |
|     |                     | God saves the people's lives / God gives salvation                      |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-serpent/            |
|     |                     |   |
| B12 | The Christmas Story | Joseph and the angel  |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/birth-jesus-preschool/    |
|     |                     | Herod and the wise men  |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/bpa-christmas/            |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/dm-wise-men/              |
|     |                     | The wise men and Jesus  |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/bpa-christmas/            |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/lgr-birth-jesus/          |
|     |                     | The escape into Egypt   |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-wise-men/              |

| Apı | pendix A - Level | 2 Free Bible Images   |
|-----|------------------|---|
|     | Title            | Story Images  |
| В7  | Joseph           | Joseph's brothers arrive  |
|     |                  | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-brothers-1/            |
|     |                  | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-joseph-brothers/           |
|     |                  | Benjamin and bad news!  |
|     |                  | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-joseph-reunion/            |
|     |                  | Forgiveness and good news!  |
|     |                  | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-joseph-reunion/            |
|     |                  | Together in Egypt   |
|     |                  | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-reunion/               |
|     |                  | https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/joseph-jacob/                        |
|     |                  |   |
| B8  | People Jesus Met | People Jesus met - A sick lady  |
|     |                  | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-024-peter-mother-in-law/ |
|     |                  | People Jesus met - A man with leprosy                                       |
|     |                  | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-025-jesus-leper/         |
|     |                  | People Jesus met - A helpless man   |
|     |                  | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-jesus-lame-man/            |
|     |                  | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-026-jesus-paralytic/     |
|     |                  | People Jesus met - Matthew  |
|     |                  | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-027-matthew/             |
|     |                  | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jesus-matthew/                |

|     | Title | Story Images  |  |
|-----|-------|---|--|
| 39  | Moses | Moses' birth  |  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-moses1/        |  |
|     |       | Moses' big mistake  |  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-prince/     |  |
|     |       | Moses sees a burning bush                                       |  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/sb-burning-bush/  |  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-moses2/        |  |
|     |       | Moses brings God's message                                      |  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/sb-burning-bush/  |  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-moses2/        |  |
| B10 | Moses | Moses and the first plague                                      |  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/sb-moses-plagues/ |  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-plagues-1/  |  |
|     |       | Moses and the last plague                                       |  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-plagues-2/  |  |
|     |       | Moses and the escape from Egypt                                 |  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-moses2/        |  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-red-sea/    |  |
|     |       | Moses and Israel thank God                                      |  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-food-water/ |  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-moses3/        |  |

|     | Title               | Story Images   |
|-----|---------------------|--|
| 11  | Moses               | God gives food to the Israelites                                     |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-food-water/      |
|     |                     | God gives the victory  |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-amalekites/      |
|     |                     | God gives commandments   |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-sinai/           |
|     |                     | God gives salvation  |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-serpent/         |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-017-nicodemus/    |
| B12 | The Christmas Story | Joseph and the angel   |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/joseph-angel/                 |
|     |                     | Herod and the wise men   |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-wise-men/           |
|     |                     | The wise men and Jesus   |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-wise-men/           |
|     |                     | The escape into Egypt  |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-wise-men/           |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-009-flight-egypt/ |

|    | Tial -         | Champion  |
|----|----------------|---|
|    | Title          | Story Images  |
| B7 | Joseph         | Spies in Egypt  |
|    |                | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-ruler/               |
|    |                | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-brothers-1/          |
|    |                | Benjamin and Bad News!  |
|    |                | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-brothers-1/          |
|    |                | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-reunion/             |
|    |                | Forgiveness & Good News!  |
|    |                | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-reunion/             |
|    |                | Together in Egypt   |
|    |                | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-reunion/             |
|    |                |   |
| B8 | Gospel Writers | Matthew   |
|    |                | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-027-matthew/           |
|    |                | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-096-jesus-crucifixion/ |
|    |                | Mark  |
|    |                | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/peter-prison/               |
|    |                | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jesus-capernaum/            |
|    |                | Luke  |
|    |                | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jesus-tempted/              |
|    |                | John  |
|    |                | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-104-appearance-thomas/ |

|     | Title | Story Images  |
|-----|-------|---|
| В9  | Moses | The baby in the basket  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-moses1/          |
|     |       | His big mistake   |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-moses1/          |
|     |       | The burning bush  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-moses2/          |
|     |       | Bringing God's message  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-moses2/          |
|     |       |   |
| B10 | Moses | The Passover Lamb   |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-moses2/          |
|     |       | The Red Sea   |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-moses3/          |
|     |       | The difficult journey   |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-food-water/   |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-amalekites/   |
|     |       | The bronze snake  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-serpent/      |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-017-nicodemus/ |

|     | Title               | Story Images   |
|-----|---------------------|--|
| 11  | Moses               | Meeting God  |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-sinai/                 |
|     |                     | Knowing God  |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-sinai/                 |
|     |                     | Obeying God  |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-golden-calf/           |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-074-rich-ruler/         |
|     |                     | Failing God  |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-golden-calf/           |
|     |                     |  |
| B12 | The Christmas Story | God's promises   |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/prophecies-birth-jesus/             |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-names-jesus/              |
|     |                     | Mary's surprise  |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-003-birth-announcement/ |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/christmas-jesus-birth/       |
|     |                     | Jesus' birth   |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ed-jesus-birth/              |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-007-birth-jesus/        |
|     |                     | The Angel's message  |
|     |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-christmas-story/          |
|     |                     |  |

| Apı | pendix C - Level 4 | 4 Free Bible Images  |
|-----|--------------------|--|
|     | Title              | Story Images   |
| В7  | Joseph             | His Teenage Testing  |
|     |                    | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-prison/             |
|     |                    | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-prison-dreams/      |
|     |                    | His Palace Promotion   |
|     |                    | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-pharaoh-dreams/     |
|     |                    | His Caring Conduct   |
|     |                    | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-ruler/              |
|     |                    | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-brothers-1/         |
|     |                    | His Full Forgiveness   |
|     |                    | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-reunion/            |
|     |                    | https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/joseph-jacob/                     |
| В8  | The Way Ahead      | Christians Together  |
|     |                    | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/pentecost/                 |
|     |                    | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/peter-john-arrested/       |
|     |                    | Christian Baptism  |
|     |                    | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-106-great-commission/ |
|     |                    | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-013-jesus-baptism/    |
|     |                    | The Lord's Supper  |
|     |                    | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/last-supper-jesus/         |
|     |                    | The Way Ahead  |
|     |                    | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/paul-last-days/            |
|     |                    | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/redemption-story/          |

|     | Title | Story Images  |
|-----|-------|---|
| В9  | Moses | The prince  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/baby-moses/         |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-prince/       |
|     |       | The shepherd  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-burning-bush/ |
|     |       | The leader  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-pharaoh/      |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-plagues-1/    |
|     |       | The deliverer   |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-plagues-2/    |
| B10 | Moses | Through the Red Sea   |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-red-sea/      |
|     |       | Up Mount Sinai  |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-sinai/        |
|     |       | Out of the fire   |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-golden-calf/  |
|     |       | In the desert   |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-serpent/      |
|     |       | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-017-nicodemus/ |

| Appendix C - Level 4 Free Bible Images |                     |   |
|--|---------------------|---|
|  | Title               | Story Images  |
| B11                                    | The Law             | One God   |
|  |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-sinai/              |
|  |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moses-golden-calf/        |
|  |                     | God's way   |
|  |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moody-moses-commandments/ |
|  |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-066-stooped-woman/   |
|  |                     | God first   |
|  |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/moody-moses-commandments/ |
|  |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jesus-rich-man/           |
|  |                     | God's Word  |
|  |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/feeding-5000/             |
|  |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jesus-withered-hand/      |
| B12                                    | The Christmas Story | A Son is born   |
|  |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/christmas-jesus-birth/    |
|  |                     | A Saviour is announced  |
|  |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/christmas-shepherds/      |
|  |                     | A Sovereign worshipped  |
|  |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/christmas-wisemen/        |
|  |                     | The wonder of Christmas   |
|  |                     | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/simeon-anna/              |



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