

# **Teacher Guidelines**

Bibletime Levels 3 and 4

B Series Lessons 1-6

#### **Bible Educational Services**

Registered Charity UK (No 1186004)

#### **Mission Statement**

Producing Bible lessons for intermediaries to present the truth of Jesus Christ to the next generation worldwide.

#### **Vision Statement**

To reach the next generation with our full curriculum<sub>3</sub> in their own language by developing and supporting a global network of committed partners.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### What Bible Educational Services does:-

Bible Educational Services (BES UK) publish "Bibletime", "New Life" and "Gleaners" Bible lessons in English and support Postal Bible Schools and similar organizations using BES lessons in the UK and overseas, by visiting, networking, advising and training. BES is also currently working in partnership with groups in other countries who are involved in translation, design, publishing and distribution of lessons. Lessons must be provided free of charge to all students.

Bibletime lessons were first used in Southern Ireland over 60 years ago. Bible Educational Services maintain editorial responsibility for Bibletime Lessons in English and in all foreign languages. Bibletime lessons have been normally published in an A4 format which enables students in some areas, every four weeks, to send the lessons back to a Postal Bible School Centre for marking. More recently, thanks to Every Home Crusade (Revival Movement) in Belfast, lessons for six months have been published in an A5 format, which has made usage in churches and schools overseas much easier, especially where there is no effective postal system.

The BES lessons are unique in that they are prepared with home or group (church/school) study in view, following a planned syllabus which allows students to continue studying for up to 20 years. Five levels of lessons are available for specific age groups, Pre-school (Level 0), 5-7's (Level 1), 8-10's (Level 2), 11-13's (Level 3), 14-16's (Level 4). There is a three-year syllabus for each age group. (See page 4) The age groups can be varied according to ability. The Bibletime Resource gives children the opportunity of studying God's Word, learning Bible Stories and facing the challenge of the relevance of the Gospel in their lives.

Printed copies of the lessons are available in English from the BES website – <a href="www.besweb.com">www.besweb.com</a> or from the International Secretary. They are also available on the website in other languages. BES has documents which may be helpful to those who are considering partnering with BES, and these are also available on the website.

#### **BES Contact Addresses**

International and Northern Ireland Secretary (stockist of all English lessons)

Mr S Balmer, BES Office (UK), 37a Belmore Street, Enniskillen, Northern Ireland. BT74 6AA

Phone: 00 44 286 632 2462 Email: <u>sam@besweb.com</u>

**UK Secretary – Editorial feedback** Email: stephen.gillham@besweb.com

Web address: www.besweb.com Email address: info@besweb.com

#### **TEACHER GUIDELINES**

Originally, Bibletime lessons were produced to be used in a postal system with a Postal Bible School Centre but the lessons are increasingly being used where the postal system is unreliable or non-existent especially in churches and schools in Africa, India and other locations. Teacher Guidelines are produced for those using Bibletime lessons in such situations. The Teacher Guidelines in this booklet are designed for use with Level 3 and 4 lessons approximate ages 11-14+.

Each Guideline follows the same Bible Reference as the Bibletime lesson. The Bibletime lessons and Guidelines are designed to be used on a weekly basis. The April lessons are especially related to Easter and the December lessons to Christmas.

Some locations will be using an A4 monthly edition with 4 lessons and others will be using the A5 booklet with 24 lessons included. Normally the teacher or leader will give out the monthly A4 lesson and each week the lesson will be either filled in, in the church or school or taken home and returned the following week. At the end of the month the teacher or leader will collect the lesson and do the necessary marking, returning the marked lessons as soon as possible to the student.

Ideally, when using the booklets, they are collected and marked at the end of each session. We realise that in many situations this is impossible. In the classroom they may be distributed to other students and the teacher or leader will work through the lessons and the students will mark their friend's lessons and give them a score. At the back of the booklets there is a place for scores for each month's lesson and a place for a comment about progress that the student has made. There is also a certificate that can be detached and given to the student with an indication of the percentage obtained for the six months of lessons.

Feedback on the use of Teacher Guidelines and also for the Bibletime booklets is always appreciated and should be directed to stephen.gillham@besweb.com

### PREPARATION FOR TEACHERS

The Teacher Guidelines are not prescriptive and giving no room for teachers to adapt things in their own way with their own ideas and initiatives. These are suggestions which could help in the use of Bibletime.

- **Be familiar with the story** Teachers should be as familiar as possible with the Bible story and also with the Bibletime lesson that accompanies it. Ideally, the Bibletime lesson should be completed by the teacher before the lesson. The Guidelines for each lesson should also be carefully considered as a planning aid for the lessons.
- Understand the lessons to be learned At the top of each lesson plan are the words "We are learning that", followed by two learning intentions which the children will hopefully have grasped after listening to the teacher's presentation and completing the Bibletime lesson. The first learning intention is to do with knowledge about the story, whereas the second encourages the children to think about the knowledge, apply it and make a response. These learning intentions are a precise statement of the main concepts/truth taught in the lesson and teachers may wish to use them for their personal evaluation of the teaching and learning which has occurred.
- **Introduce it** All lessons start "where the children are" with their own experience of a situation. Various ways have been suggested that might be used to enable the children to be interactive in discussing the starting point of the story.
- **Teach It** The Key Points of the story are given. Hopefully teachers would not have to refer to these when actually telling the story but would be familiar with the story and be able to teach it in an interesting and inspiring way. The teacher will want the children to understand the main lessons from the story and help them to understand the response they can make from the story. As appropriate we have tried to interweave some explanations into the story telling. These are always included in *ITALICS*.
- Learn It There is a Key Verse attached to each story. On some occasions, there are two Key Verses, since we have added another Key Verse which may be easier for children to learn. We hope that the children can learn the Key Verses and will be reminded of it as often as possible so that they begin to build up knowledge of Key Bible Verses.
- **Complete It** In a school situation the teacher will be aware of the abilities of children to complete worksheets and the amount of teacher support required. For some, it will be a requirement that the teacher reads over the text of the lesson as the children follow what is now a familiar narrative. Other children may be

able to read the text independently. In either case, it may be an idea to draw the children's attention to specific instructions relating to the questions. If Bibletime is used in a non-school context, it is important that teachers are available to help so that the lesson is not perceived as a chore or test. It should be enjoyable; encouragement and praise while working on the task are important.

- Remember it Wherever possible, quizzes, acting etc. are suggested to assist the learning, and as a means of revising the story.
- **Show it** In some situations, visuals will be very difficult to obtain but wherever possible it is important to focus on pictures or objects to help in the understanding of the story. Visual aids can be a great help in telling the stories. Where appropriate in each lesson we have given the information about pictures from <a href="https://www.freebibleimages.org">www.freebibleimages.org</a> pictures (FBI) which can be downloaded from their website. At the end of the Teacher Guidelines there are some Appendices with hyperlinks to a variety of different Free Bible Images suitable for each story.
- Where a photocopier is available some Bibletime pictures could be enlarged, coloured, and used in teaching.

#### **Time Plan**

- Order. There is the same order in the Teacher Guidelines for each Lesson, but it may be the teachers will
  want to change this from time to time.
  - o The introduction and telling the story approximately 15 minutes
  - Teaching the Key Verse 5-10 minutes
  - Completing the worksheet 20 minutes
  - Quiz and other activities 5-10 minutes.

Remember the important saying:

"Tell me and I may forget, Show me and I'll remember, Involve me and I'll understand."

## **Bibletime Syllabus**

	LEVEL 0 (Pre-School) LEVEL 1 (Ages 5-7) LEVEL 2 (Ages 8-10)	LEVEL 3 (Ages 11-13)	LEVEL 4 (Ages 14+)
STARTER SERIES	Introduction Starter Lesson in production.	Introduction Starter Lesson in production.	Introduction Starter Lesson in production
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>The 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>Paul</li> <li>Paul</li> <li>Paul</li> <li>The Christmas Story</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>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>Gospel Writers</li> <li>Moses</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>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 Lords 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>

B1 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 1 – Parables Topic – Who is my neighbour? B1 – LEVEL 4 Study 1 – Parables Topic – The two debtors Bible Focus: Luke 10: 25-37 Bible Focus: Luke 7: 36-50 Kev Verse: Luke 10: 27 Kev Verse: Romans 5: 1 We are learning that: We are learning that: Our neighbours are those who need our help 1. We are all debtors in the sight of the Lord Jesus Christ regardless of their race or religion. we all have sinned so we are in debt to God. When we love God we can demonstrate our love 2. If we have been forgiven of our sin, then love and by helping our neighbours in their spiritual, physical devotion to the Lord Jesus Christ should mark our lives both in boliness and service or material needs. **INTRODUCE IT** Discuss the meaning of a neighbour and develop the Set the background to this parable by pointing out it idea that it is not 'nearness' that makes us good contains: neighbours but that it is the kindness and friendship we Three actual persons - the Lord Jesus, the sinful show to those who need our help whoever they are. woman and Simon the Pharisee; Three imaginary people - the creditor, the man who owed 500 pence and the man who owed 50 pence; Three questions - verses 42, 44 & 49. **COMPLETE IT Present the Bible Story Present the Bible Story** Discuss and Explain: Discuss and Explain: 1. Simon's self-righteousness; the woman's tears of repentance, joy, love and gratitude; and the Lord Jesus who could read Simon's thoughts when he thought 1. a) The man who fell among thieves (verse 30) was stripped, wounded and left half dead. Jesus should have shunned this sinful woman. b) A Priest and a Levite pass by. (verses 36-39) c) A Samaritan shows compassion (verse 33) 2. This parable is intended to illustrate that Jesus is our binds up his wounds takes him to an inn and Creditor. We are all in debt to God, and when Jesus ensures he is looked after until he returns again. died on the cross, He paid the debt for us! Jesus knew (verses 33-35) that Simon saw himself as the 50 pence debtor and the woman as the 500 pence debtor. Jesus intended a) As a result of man's disobedience in the Simon to learn there are no degrees in sin. Both the 50 Garden of Eden, God sees us as 'dead' in sins. pence debtor and the 500 pence debtor were unable to (Ephesians 2: 1) pay their debt but the creditor forgave them both. (verses 40-43) b) God showed compassion to us as sinners and 3. When asked which debtor would love the generous sent His Son, Jesus Christ, into this world so that money-lender most, Simon had to admit it was the through His death and resurrection we could be person who was forgiven most. (verse 42) Jesus drew healed from our sin and its effect in our lives. Like Simon's attention to 'this woman' and pointed out her the Good Samaritan, Jesus came where we were love for Him compared to Simon's lack of respect and to meet our need. love for Him. (verse 44) Jesus also points out that He can forgive sins but it was the woman's faith, not what she did, that saved her. (verses 48-50) Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. learn it. Complete Lesson 1. Complete Study 1. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A - Who is my **Show it:** see FBI links in Appendix A – The two debtors. neiahbour? **REVIEW IT** Quiz everyone to ensure they understand the Read Acts 13: 38-39 and discuss how it summarises application of this parable. Loving God is the best thing what the Lord Jesus was teaching in this lesson. Read we can do in our lives, and we demonstrate love for Ephesians 4: 32 and discuss how those who have been God by loving one another, no matter who it is that forgiven should behave towards others, and how it must needs love. feel to be forgiven by God for all our sins (or debts). LIVE IT How does the lesson challenge us: How does the lesson challenge us: Have students experienced conversion? 1. Simon treated the Lord Jesus with indifference and If so, think of ways in which they could be there is no evidence he ever repented of his sin and neighbourly, or friendly, to the following people: experienced forgiveness and peace. (verse 50) 2. Discuss their attitude to the Lord Jesus and ask the a) Someone who has not experienced conversion; (spiritual) students, have they repented of their sin and come to Someone who has a disability; (physical) Him for forgiveness? People who have not enough food to eat in 3. If they have been forgiven, do they give the Lord Jesus certain parts of the world. (material) the best in terms of their time, talents and possessions? Discuss how the woman responded.

B1 – LEVEL 3 B1 – LEVEL 4 Lesson 2 – Parables Study 2 - Parables Topic - Who is my neighbour? Topic – The rich farmer Bible Focus: Luke 12: 13-21 Bible Focus: Luke 10: 25-37 also Philippians 2: 1-11 Key Verse: Luke 12: 15 Key Verse: Luke 10: 27 We are learning that: We are learning that: 1. The Rich Farmer was rich with possessions yet 1. The person who has need of us, regardless of his race spiritually bankrupt, because he left God out of his or religion, is our neighbour and it is our responsibility to show kindness. 2. Through His death on the cross, the Lord Jesus can 2. If we put God, and not things first in our lives, then rescue us, just as the Samaritan did. He can put us in God will use our lives for His glory, whether we a place of safety and provide for our needs. have much or little See also Level 3 Lesson 1. **INTRODUCE IT** Talk about favourite possessions. Talk about who are our neighbours. Discuss the sin of 'covetousness' and ensure they Discuss with students that neighbourliness is more to do understand it is a selfish desire to own and hoard up with being kind and friendly to those in need than it has to earthly things, which we cannot take when we die. do with 'nearness'. Jesus expects His children to be kind Refer to the Ten Commandments and explain why the to all including those who may dislike us - A high standard last one says 'Thou shalt not covet'. (Exodus 20: 17) for Christians! COMPLETE IT **Present the Bible Story** Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain: Discuss and Explain: 1. Jesus called this man a 'fool' indicating his lack of 1. When an expert in the Law of Moses asked Jesus understanding with regard to the importance of what he had to do to inherit eternal life, Jesus directed him to the Law and asked what it demanded. spiritual things over natural and temporal things. 2. He was a 'fool' in the following ways: It required total love for God and for his neighbour. a) A Godless Fool - He lived his life without God. Jesus was showing how the purpose of the Law, or A life may be full of 'many things' but if it is the Ten Commandments, was not to save us from sin minus God, it is an empty life. He did not but to show us what guilty sinners we are. (10: 26-28) understand that all of his possessions came 2. The lawyer should have understood that he fell short of God's standards and asked the Lord to save him. from God. b) A Poor Fool – He was actually a poor, rich man However in his pride he asks the Lord "Who is my poor with regard to his eternal future. He set neighbour?" In order to answer him, the Lord tells the story of the Good Samaritan. The Jewish priest and his heart on riches rather than on God. c) A Self-centred Fool - In verses 17-19, notice Levite were Jews and the Jews hated the six I's, five my's and four I will's. God, who Samaritans. They refused to help but the despised supplied his wealth, was not in all his thoughts. Samaritan came to the victim's rescue. The lawyer He even called his soul his own - my soul! was forced to admit the Samaritan proved to be a true d) An Ambitious Fool - He was selfish in his neighbour to the wounded Jew. (10: 29-37) ambition for he spoke of security for many years We see in the Priest and Levite the powerlessness of to come, love of ease and satisfying his own the Law to help sinners and the Good Samaritan reminds us of the Lord Jesus who came to where we desires with eating and drinking. (verse 19) A Doomed Fool - The God he forgot said to him were, in our need, to save us from the punishment of "his soul was required of him." (verse 20) It is our sins. God who gives new life and can take it from us. Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. learn it. Complete Study 2. Complete Lesson 2. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A - Who is my Show It: see FBI links in Appendix A - The rich neighbour? farmer. **REVIEW IT** The Rich Farmer made three very serious mistakes: Refer to the Bible Reading in Philippians and summarise 1. He mistook the purpose of life. Read Philippians 1: this lesson by pointing out that verses 1-4 refer to good 21 and explain Paul's purpose in life. neighbourly qualities in Christians and verses 5-11 show 2. He used his wealth for himself. Read Philippians 4: how the Lord Jesus is the ultimate example of love in that 19 and explain how God looks after our needs when He died for all. we look after other's needs. 3. He was cautious with regard to his future and lost his soul. Read Mark 8: 36-37 and discuss how these verses relate to the Rich Farmer. LIVE IT How does the lesson challenge us: How does the lesson challenge us? 1. Make a list of ways in which we can use our Everyone is our neighbour: possessions to help others. Explore the difference How might we help those who have physical, spiritual between "wants and needs." or material needs? 2. Consider that those who are not Christians should What does Luke 6: 35 say about good neighbours?

make it a priority to put their faith in Jesus Christ

(John 3: 16) and put Him first in their lives.

How can this be put into practice?

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

B1 – LEVEL 4 Study 3 – Parables Topic – A foolish man

	Bible Focus: Mark 4: 1-20  Key Verse: Mark 4: 20  We are learning that:  1. The seed is the Word of God. 2. The various kinds of soil represent human hearts and how receptive they are to the Word of God.	<ul> <li>Bible Focus: Luke 12: 13-21</li> <li>Key Verse: Luke 12: 15</li> <li>We are learning that:</li> <li>1. To be covetous is evil as one's life does not consist of just our possessions.</li> <li>2. To focus on hoarding up riches, at the expense of losing one's soul, is folly with disastrous consequences. See also Level 3 Lesson 2.</li> </ul>
INTRODUCE IT	Explain that Jesus often told parables to emphasise some of the truths He was teaching. Generally the parables had a deeper, spiritual meaning.  Sometimes He did not explain the meaning, but on this occasion he gave a full explanation.  The different places where the seed was sown represented different responses to the Word of God.	Discuss the background to this parable. It is a man asking Jesus to intervene in a dispute about a will. Remind students how Jesus shows him that the purpose of His coming into the world was to save sinful men and women and not to sort out legal issues about wills. These are trivialities compared to the really important spiritual matters that need our attention.
COMPLETE IT	Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:  1. The wayside soil (verse 15) is the person who says "No" to the Lord Jesus. Satan is pictured in the birds taking away the Word. This person remains indifferent to the Word of God.  2. The stony ground (verses 16-17) is the person who makes a profession of faith, goes on well for a time and when persecution comes and he or she has to take a stand for Christ, he or she decides the cost is too great and abandons the whole thing. When persecution comes the unreality of his or her profession becomes clear.  3. The thorny ground (verses 18-19) are people who make a good start and seem to be true Christians. However, they become more interested in business, riches and worldly things and abandon any claim to be Christians; they are 'unfruitful'.  4. The good ground (verse 20) are the people who accept the Word – they repent of their sin and put their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ – and follow Him faithfully whatever it costs.  Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 3.	<ol> <li>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>This parable illustrates that possessions are not the principal things in life. They are given to us by God and we are meant to use them for God's glory and honour. This man should have understood that he should give of his abundance to those in need.</li> <li>He has planned the future – notice his independence of God by his use of 'I' and 'my' in verses 17-19. God had other plans for this man's life and told him he would die that night (verse 20). His plans would end at the grave and he was a fool in that he had no preparation made for the eternal world – look up the warning in Amos 4:12.</li> <li>Point out how God asks a very solemn question in this parable, namely 'Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?' (verse 20)</li> </ol> </li> <li>Point out that we should be using our gifts and talents to further the extension of God's kingdom.</li> </ol> Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Study 3.
REVIEW IT	Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – The sower.  Ensure students understand the differences in the four different types of soil. Engage in discussion about the varying degrees of 'fruitfulness' in verse 20; thirtyfold, sixty and a hundred and show that the most productive lives are lived by those who willingly obey God's Word and take pleasure in doing so.	Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – A foolish man.  Consider how <i>Proverbs 11: 4 &amp; 29</i> and <i>Matthew 6: 19-21</i> really summarise this lesson. Also look up <i>Exodus 20: 17</i> with regard to covetousness.
LIVE IT	How does the lesson challenge us:	How does the lesson challenge us:

- Which type of ground best represents each heart?
- 2. For Christians, what has been the experience of taking a stand for the Lord Jesus at school or elsewhere?
- 3. As a Christian, think of some ways in which life could be fruitful for the Lord Jesus? To which should we all aspire - thirtyfold, sixty or a hundred?
- 4. Daily Bible reading, memorising Key Verses and prayer helps Christians to keep a tender heart for God and be fruitful in their lives.

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

B1 - LEVEL 3 B1 - LEVEL 4 Study 4 – Parables
Topic – The great supper Lesson 4 – Parables Topic – Forgiving others Bible Focus: Matthew 18: 21-35 Bible Focus: Luke 14: 15-24 Key Verse: John 6: 37 Key Verse: Ephesians 4: 32 We are learning that: God has promised a feast in Heaven for all who respond We are learning that: 1. This parable was told to teach Christians how to to His call 'Come unto me'. (Matthew 11: 28) forgive. 2. Those of us who have come to the Lord Jesus for 2. We should be unlimited in our forgiveness of salvation have a responsibility to persuade others to respond to Jesus. Point out how that in the East, people of rank would have sent out two calls to a planned feast. The first call indicated **INTRODUCE IT** Explain the problem that Peter had about forgiveness. (18: 21) Explain that he knew that in the Old Testament a preparation was needed and the second call indicated that person was forgiven three times or four at most the feast was ready. In this case those invited had no (Amos 2: 6). As a disciple of the Lord Jesus, he intention of attending and made up excuses for refusing. feels he should be more generous and suggests seven times (verse 21). However, the Lord, says 'seventy times seven' which really means we should be unlimited in our forgiveness of others. **COMPLETE IT Present the Bible Story Present the Bible Story** Discuss and Explain: Discuss and Explain: 1. This 'Great Supper' reminds us of the fact that the Lord When the lord of the servant realised the debtor was unable to pay his huge debt he was moved Jesus finished the work of salvation by dying on the cross with compassion to him and wiped out the debt. and, as a result, the gospel invitation goes out to all. (verses 25-27) This was an act of mercy, holding 2. The three excuses were not genuine in that, in each case, back the punishment the servant deserved. arrangements could have been made to allow attendance: First Excuse (verse 18); Whilst he apologises, it is difficult 2. As sinners, we can not pay our great debt of sin and need God's mercy to escape His to believe a Jew would buy land without seeing it and punishment. We can obtain salvation through the since the supper was at night he would not be able to see work of Christ, who paid the debt of the world's it anyway. Second Excuse (verse 19); This man is more defiant, gives no apology, and feels his oxen come first. Third Excuse *(verse 20)*; This man made a poor excuse sin on the cross. God gave His Son 'who gave His life a ransom for many." (*Matthew 20: 28*)

3. The forgiving servant should have forgiven his but could have brought his wife to the feast had he not fellow servant who owed a very small debt been so selfish. (approximately £5) in comparison with what he 3. This First Excuse represents those who put more owed himself (approximately £1million). He forgot importance on material possessions, the Second Excuse are those who are too busy in their occupations, and the the mercy shown to him. 4. We should behave towards others as the Lord Third Excuse represents those whose home Jesus behaves towards us. If we claim to belong responsibilities take up their time. 4. The host is displeased and feels insulted at these excuses to Him, we must forgive others, including our enemies. (See the Key Verse) and sends his servant out to the 'highways and hedges' to invite the poor, lame and blind. (verses 21 & 23) Explain the Key Verse and encourage students Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn to learn it. Complete Lesson 4. Complete Study 4. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A - Forgiving Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A -The great supper. others. **REVIEW IT** Discuss how this passage demonstrates both Explain how that the primary application of this parable is that 'mercy' and 'grace'. Study Titus 3: 5. 'Not by works those who rejected the Gospel were the Jews and then it was of righteousness which we have done, but offered to the Gentile nations who were more responsive. according to His mercy He saved us', and explain Ensure students understand its relevance to them in that that mercy provides a righteous way in which we those who persist rejecting the Lord's mercy and grace will can escape God's punishment. Study Ephesians find that one day it is too late and the doors to the gospel 2: 8 'For by grace are ye saved.' Being saved is a feast in Heaven are closed. gift of God by grace - giving us eternal security Think of some of the excuses people may make today when which we did not deserve and cannot earn. they oppose the Gospel of Jesus Christ. LIVE IT How does the lesson challenge us: How does the lesson challenge us: How does this lesson challenge you about None are too bad to sit at the royal table as shown by

should possess as well as 'forgiveness.'

why should we forgive others?

If we have been forgiven by the Lord Jesus,

Refer to Ephesians 4: 32 for other qualities we

'forgiveness'?

those who came from the 'highways and hedges'.

enter God's kingdom.

Loving persuasion is to be used to bring all into the

blessing of salvation. There is still room for people to

B2 – LEVEL 4 Study 1 – Miracles Topic – Water into wine B2 - LEVEL 3 Lesson 1 – Miracles Topic – Water into wine Bible Focus: John 2: 1-11 Bible Focus: John 2: 1-11 Key Verse: John 2: 11 Key Verses: John 15: 14, John 2: 5 We are learning that: We are learning that: The Lord Jesus is the One whom we should If we love the Lord Jesus, then we should listen to Mary's instruction to the servants at the wedding: "Do When we trust in the Lord Jesus, He brings joy whatever he tells you". (John 2: 5) In performing this miracle, the Lord Jesus was revealing into our lives. to all present that He was indeed God in a human body, thereby further strengthening the faith of the believing disciples. **INTRODUCE IT** Introduce the ideas of an Eastern Wedding. Discuss what miracles are, and why they are recorded in the Explain that in this passage Mary is spoken of as Gospels. 'the mother of Jesus' in verse 1. Explain that the The Gospel of John is built around seven miracles, all Lord Jesus was not famous because he was the performed in public, of which the wedding in Cana of Galilee Son of the Virgin Mary but that she was well-known is the first. The students could be asked to look for some of because she was the Lord's mother. Point out that the others. the Bible always gives the highest place to the Lord Also introduce the idea of an Eastern Wedding. Jesus and not to Marv. **COMPLETE IT** Present the Bible Story Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain: Discuss and Explain: The decision to invite the Lord Jesus to the 1. The Lord Jesus, his mother and disciples, were all wedding was a very wise one just as the guests at the wedding where the water was turned into decision to invite him into our hearts, our wine. homes, our social lives and our school lives, is Mary pointed the servants to the Lord Jesus and in her last recorded words tells the servants: "Do whatever he The guests were disappointed when the wine tells you" directing those present to the Lord Jesus as ran out at the start of the wedding, but in that the one to be obeyed rather than any other human situation, they looked to the Lord Jesus for being. (2: 4 & 5) help. (2: 4 & 5) The best wine was served at the end of this wedding, but usual practice was to serve the best wine at the The best wine was kept to the last reminding us the Christian life gets better all the time. start. This miracle showed Christ as the Son of God This miracle showed Christ as the Son of God and and further strengthened the disciples' faith. further strengthened the disciples' faith. (2: 11) (2:11)Explain the Key Verse and encourage students Explain the Key Verses and encourage students to learn to learn it. them. Complete Lesson 1. Complete Study 1. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A - Water into **Show it:** see FBI links in Appendix A – Water into wine. **REVIEW IT** Review this miracle through a quiz that helps pupils Review the lesson by applying each of the points above to the answer the questions in Level 3, B2, Lesson 1. Christian life. Note:-Wine in the Bible speaks of joy. When Mary said: "They have no more wine" (verse 3), she was accurately describing those who have never trusted in the Lord Jesus for unbelievers have no lasting joy. Those who love the Lord Jesus do what He says in His Word - The Bible. Jesus is clearly displayed as the Son of God. LIVE IT How does the lesson challenge us: How does the lesson challenge us: 1. Consider how we trust in the Lord Jesus as our Discuss what it means to invite the Lord Jesus into your heart? Read Proverbs 3: 5-6 to find personal Saviour. out how the Lord will help us to live a life that Discuss the importance of reading the Bible and praying is useful for Him. regularly to know the Lord's will for our lives. Read **Psalm 16: 11** to find out about the joy that awaits those who know the Lord Jesus as their personal Saviour when they reach Heaven.

B2 – LEVEL 3 B2 – LEVEL 4 Study 2 – Miracles Topic – The boy healed Lesson 2 – Miracles Topic – A boy healed Bible Focus: John 4: 43-54 Bible Focus: John 4: 43-54 Key Verse: John 4: 50 Key Verses: Acts 16: 31; Romans 10: 9 We are learning that: We are learning that: 1. The nobleman's son was very sick, at the point The nobleman's son was near to physical death and only of death, and at a distance from Jesus, but was the Lord Jesus had the power to restore him back to life made well again by Jesus. again. 2. We are all born sinners and at a distance from 2. Our sin is a disease, in the spiritual sense, that will cause the Lord Jesus but when we repent and turn to spiritual death and it is only the Lord Jesus who can give Him for forgiveness, He can give us new life. us everlasting life. **INTRODUCE IT** Remind students that the Lord Jesus, on his first Remind students that it was in Cana the Lord Jesus Christ visit to Cana, turned the water into wine and that performed His first miracle and His fame had spread, so much the people were to see another mighty miracle that the boy's father, an official in Herod's palace, humbly carried out in Cana - the healing of the nobleman's asked him to heal his son. This nobleman thought the Lord Jesus would have to be physically present at the boy's beside to heal him. Use the map on the lesson to show that although The Lord Jesus did not rebuke him for this lack of faith but Jesus was in Cana, the boy was in Capernaum rewarded him for the faith he did show and gave him more. and point out Jesus' power was felt there, even Point out that the Lord Jesus was not as pleased with faith that though He was not physically present. was based on miracles as with faith based on His words alone - believe first and then see! **COMPLETE IT Present the Bible Story** Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain: Discuss and Explain: This boy's father was a Jew and an officer of The sick son and the father's request. Sickness and King Herod. He seems to have had a greater death come to us all, rich or poor, but all need the Lord Jesus to meet their spiritual need. The Lord Jesus likens trust in the Lord Jesus than the rest of the Jewish countrymen and pleaded with the Lord sin to sickness - refer to Matthew 9: 12-13. The Bible also to come and heal his son for he was critically ill. teaches that those who know the Lord Jesus have eternal (4:47)life and those who do not know Him do not possess eternal 2. The boy's father thought the Lord Jesus would life. (1 John 5: 10-14) 2. The Lord's reply. The Lord Jesus was testing the have needed to be at the boy's bedside to heal nobleman's faith when He told him 'Your son will live him, but the Lord told him his son was healed and the nobleman believed the Lord's Word and (verse 50). People then, just like people now, wanted to started travelling home. (4: 50) see signs and wonders (verse 48) instead of accepting 3. When he asked the servants what time the boy God's Word at face value: faith first then sight! was cured their answer assured him that it was 3. The Result. God's Word is living and through it we can not only come to know the Lord Jesus personally but can be at the exact time the Lord Jesus had told him the boy was healed. (4: 52-53) strengthened by it, because behind God's Word is all the power of God. The nobleman believed, his son was healed and his whole family believed as a result. Explain the Key Verse and encourage students Explain the Key Verses and encourage students to learn to learn it. them Complete Lesson 2. Complete Study 2. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A - A boy Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – A boy healed. healed. **REVIEW IT** Learn the Key Verse, John 4: 50, and discuss how Reflect on this statement from Hebrews 11: 6; 'Without faith it it summarises this lesson in that the power of the is impossible to please God', and discuss how this refers to Lord Jesus Christ had not only healed the what the students have just learned. nobleman's son but that the nobleman's whole family (John 4: 53) now believed in Jesus. LIVE IT How does the lesson challenge us: How does the lesson challenge us: 1. We all need to trust and obey the Lord Jesus The nobleman believed the Lord Jesus and started for with all our hearts for eternal life. home - he was putting his faith in action. Think of ways in 2. As a young Christian, we should appreciate that which our faith can be put in action at home and at school. the Lord Jesus does not need to be physically 2. How does placing our faith in the Lord Jesus challenge the present to work a miracle or answer prayer as culture we live in today? (Refer to people who want to see first and then believe, as opposed to faith first and then He can work out His purposes anywhere at any time. This should encourage us in our prayer seeing the Lord's will for their lives from His Word). lives.

B2 LEVEL 3 Lesson 3 – Miracles Topic – Blind eyes opened B2 – LEVEL 4 Study 3 – Miracles Topic – Blind Bartimaeus Bible Focus: Mark 10: 46-52 Bible Focus: Mark 10: 46-52 Key Verse: Mark 10: 52 Key Verse: Mark 10: 52 We are learning that: We are learning that: Bartimaeus had a desperate need, he knew 1. Just as Bartimaeus was called (verse 49) so the Lord his need and he was determined to have the Jesus is calling those who are spiritually blind, through Lord Jesus meet his need. the preaching of the Gospel. The Lord Jesus answered the prayer of 2. When we trust in the Lord Jesus for salvation we should Bartimaeus and Bartimaeus showed his leave our sinful lives behind and follow Him. thanks by following the Lord Jesus on his last trip to Jerusalem. **INTRODUCE IT** Ask the students if they know of anyone who is Explain how there would have been very little, if any, blind and talk about the difficulties such a person support for blind people in the time of the Lord Jesus and faces in life. Discuss how blind people may be that many were reduced to begging in order to survive. helped but physical blindness cannot be cured. Contrast the situation today. **COMPLETE IT** Present the Bible Story Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain: Discuss and Explain: Blind Bartimaeus, a Jew, believed that Jesus Bartimaeus was both blind and poor, reminding us that was the Messiah, the Son of David. The Jews we are blind to spiritual things and because of that we generally did not believe this to be the case. don't know where we are going. This may have been Bartimaeus' last chance to meet (11:47)Bartimaeus persisted in calling for help that his the Lord Jesus and so he earnestly asked the Lord to: 'have mercy on me' (verse 47). Salvation is a personal thing as illustrated by the use of the word 'me'. sight be restored, despite those who told him to be quiet. The Lord Jesus, the maker of Heaven and earth and the sustainer of the Bartimaeus threw away everything that would hinder universe, 'stood still' (11: 49) at the cry of the his coming to the Lord Jesus and on asking for his beggar and gave him back his sight! sight was granted this request immediately. It was a Bartimaeus showed his thanks by being a case of 'love at first sight' for he followed the Lord faithful follower of Jesus, on His last trip to Jesus immediately. (verses 50-52) Jerusalem, before His crucifixion. (11: 52) Explain the Key Verse and encourage students Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn Complete Lesson 3. Complete Study 3. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A - Blind eyes **Show it:** see FBI links in Appendix A – Blind Bartimaeus. **REVIEW IT** Draw their attention to the short prayer of Look up Matthew 4: 18-22 and find others who immediately Bartimaeus in verse 51 and the quick response to it left what they were doing and followed the Lord Jesus. by Jesus in verse 52. Just as Jesus asked Look up Ephesians 6: 10-18 and/or Colossians 3: 8-17 to Bartimaeus what he wanted from Him, we can learn find out what qualities the Lord Jesus expects in those who about the urgency of trusting in the Lord Jesus and follow Him. then following Him, for the opportunity to do so will From these Bible Readings make a list of six main things not always be available to us. If Bartimaeus had that should characterise a Christian's Life. missed this opportunity he may never have met the Lord Jesus again. (Look at John 8: 12) LIVE IT How does the lesson challenge us: How does the lesson challenge us: It must have cheered the Lord Jesus to find The importance of seeking the Lord Jesus for that a blind Jew had true spiritual sight and salvation, whilst He still calls and there is still time. was prepared to follow Him. Everybody has to When we are followers of the Lord Jesus, His power trust in the Lord Jesus and try to bring Him works in our lives and we can be used to please Him pleasure by following Him. by doing His will. We have finished with our old sinful Our prayers do not have to be long. We can lives, and have started a new life with the Lord Jesus. tell the Lord Jesus that we love Him and ask Read John 8: 12 and consider what it means to leave

Him what He wants us to do for Him.

Ask everybody to make some short, relevant prayers about their own individual needs.

the darkness of the past and to "Walk in the Light."

B2 – LEVEL 4 Study 4 – Miracles Topic – Ten men with leprosy B2 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 4 – Miracles Topic - Ten men with leprosy healed Bible Focus: Luke 17: 11-19 Bible Focus: Luke 17: 11-19 Key Verse: Psalm 107: 8 Key Verses: Ephesians 2: 8-9 We are learning that: We are learning that: 1. The Lord Jesus is the only one who can 1. We all were born as sinners and the disease of sin can cleanse us from sin. only be cured by the Lord Jesus. Those who are cleansed should show their When we are healed from the disease of sin through thankfulness by serving the Lord Jesus with faith in the Lord Jesus, we should continually thank Him love and devotion. for the blessing of salvation and for all the good things we receive from Him each day. **INTRODUCE IT** Explain that leprosy is a disease of the skin that still Explain that leprosy is a very infectious skin disease which affects a large number of people in the world. still exists in the world today. It is estimated that 20 million people have this disease. Some may have heard of 'The Leprosy Mission' - an organisation that exists to help those Refer to Leviticus 13: 45-46 and explain that lepers were regarded as unclean in the time of who have this disease. Moses and had to live alone. This was still the case in the days of Jesus. Refer to other Bible characters who suffered from leprosy. See also Leviticus 13: 45-46. **COMPLETE IT** Present the Bible Story Present the Bible Story: Discuss and Explain: Discuss and Explain: 1. The lepers were not allowed to mix with 1. The lepers were unable to cure themselves but came to people, so they cried to the Lord Jesus for the right person, the Lord Jesus for mercy. (verse 13) mercy, from a distance. (17: 12-13) 2. When the Lord said 'Go' (verse 14), the lepers obeyed 2. In obedience to the Lord Jesus, the lepers His word and were cleansed on their way to the priests' started out towards the priests' house and house. Obedience and simple faith in the Lord's spoken when they reached the house they were Word brought cleansing. healed from their leprosy. (17: 14) 3. One leper only, a Samaritan, humbly returned to thank 3. It was the priests who gave them permission and worship (verse 16) the Lord Jesus for the gift of to return to their families. cleansing. 4. Only one leper, a Samaritan, returned to give the Lord Jesus thanks for healing him. (17: 15-19) Explain the Key Verse and encourage students Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn to learn it. Complete Lesson 4. Complete Study 4. **Show it:** see FBI links in Appendix A – Ten men Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A - Ten men with with leprosy healed. leprosy. **REVIEW IT** Review the lesson by pointing out how leprosy Quiz the students on this lesson as a means of reviewing it, is a picture of the sinner at a distance from the and preparing for answering the Bibletime study. Lord Jesus. Remind everyone that sin can only be cleansed when they call on the Lord Jesus to forgive their sin and obey the Gospel. The Gospel tells of the death of Christ and His resurrection. The lesson teaches that once we are cleansed from sin we should continually thank the Lord Jesus for our salvation. Thankfulness is a mark of those who love the Lord Jesus. LIVE IT How does the lesson challenge us: How does the lesson challenge us: Consider 1 John 1: 9 and its relevance. Consider whether students are like the nine or the one. Christians should thank the Lord Jesus for Discuss what thanksgiving really means and how it 2. dying for them. should affect our lives - Psalm 40: 3 Group work - make a list of things we Group work - make a list of things we should be should be thankful for and write appropriate thankful for, and write appropriate prayers. prayers.

B3 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 1 – Bethany Topic – Two sisters B3 – LEVEL 4 Study 1 – Bethany Topic – In the home

Bible Focus: Luke 10: 38-42

Key Verse: Luke 10: 42

#### We are learning that:

- 1. The Lord Jesus values our affection for Him above our service.
- The duties of our home life, or school life, should not be allowed to interfere with prayer life and time spent in reading God's Word.

Bible Focus: Luke 10: 38-42

Key Verse: Mark 6: 31

#### We are learning that:

- In order to mature as Christians, we must take time out of our busy lives to read God's Word so we can hear what God is saying to us.
- We must also take time out of our busy lives to pray so that we can talk to God and thank Him for all His goodness and ask Him for His direction in our lives.

#### **INTRODUCE IT**

Ask students to imagine how special it would be to have in our homes somebody important.

Mary and Martha's home was only one of the homes Jesus visited. Everyone should be encouraged to think of some other homes Jesus visited:

Luke 4: 38, Luke 7: 37, Luke 8: 51, Luke 19: 5. Our homes should be places where the Lord is honoured and obeyed.

Explain that Mary and Martha both loved Jesus. On this occasion they were both involved in serving Him. Martha didn't realise that in being so busy she was actually neglecting her guest – the Lord Jesus – she hadn't time to listen to Him and learn from Him.

Ask students what the priorities are in their lives. Try and ensure they understand 'busyness' is not a substitute for prayer and Bible Study.

#### **COMPLETE IT**

## Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:

- Whilst Martha was the 'worker' and Mary was the 'worshipper', work and worship should go hand in hand. Discuss the meaning of worship.
- Although Martha wished to honour the Lord Jesus with a variety of dishes he said: 'One thing is needful', meaning one dish was enough. He was more interested in their fellowship for He spoke of Mary as having 'chosen that good part'. (verse 42) The food for our spiritual life is much more important than that of the body and the Lord Jesus wanted both Mary and Martha to understand how important it is to hear His Word. (1 Peter 2: 2)

Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it.

Complete Lesson 1.

Show It: see FBI links in Appendix B – Two sisters.

## Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:

- The Lord centred His attention on Prayer and Bible Study as being the two great fundamentals to blessing in our lives.
- Jesus did not blame Martha for being concerned about housework but gently corrected her for not having her priorities right.
- The Lord Jesus points out in verse 42 that concentration on Himself is the one thing that is needful. He prizes our love for Him above our service. The Lord wants us to move from being 'Marthas' to being 'Marys.'

Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it.

Complete Study 1.

**Show It:** see FBI links in Appendix B – In the home.

#### **REVIEW IT**

It is interesting to note that Mary 'sat at Jesus' feet'. (*verse 39*) Discuss how that by taking this lowly and humble position Mary was giving the Lord Jesus the honour and respect He deserves.

- Ask about the ways in which we too can honour and respect the Lord Jesus in our lives.
- The people in the following references were all found to be at Jesus' feet: For example Matthew 28: 9, Mark 5: 22, Luke 7: 38, Luke 8: 35. Look up these verses and find out who all these people were and discuss the significance of them all being found at Jesus' feet.

Use the Key Verse to help review this Study by showing that:

- There is a proper time to listen to the Lord Jesus. (Mark 6: 31)
- 2. There is a proper time to work for the Lord Jesus. (Mark 6: 7-13) (Romans 12: 1)
- The Lord has promised to bless those whose service is accompanied by a consistent prayer life. (John 15: 5)

#### LIVE IT

#### How does the lesson challenge us:

- To balance our worship and work in our daily lives?
- 2. To live in a way that brings Him honour and pleasure?
- 3. To be more concerned about 'serving well' than 'serving much'?
- 4. To make sure that work does not come before reading our Bibles and prayer times?
- 5. Think about the place and priority Jesus should have in our lives

- To ensure we balance our time by making our prayer times and Bible Study the daily priorities.
- To ensure our service for the Lord Jesus does not degenerate into mere business, void of devotion to Him.

B3 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 2 – Bethany Topic – Sorrow turned to joy!

B3 – LEVEL 4 Study 2 – Bethany Topic – At the tomb

Bible Focus: John 11: 1-7 and 17-44

Key Verse: John 11: 25

#### We are learning that:

- The Lord Jesus is the only one who could bring the dead back to life again.
- The Lord Jesus is the only one who can give eternal life to sinners, who are described by the apostle Paul as: 'dead in trespasses and in sins'. (Ephesians 2: 1)

Bible Focus: John 11: 1-44 Key Verses: John 11: 25-26

#### We are learning that:

- The raising of Lazarus from the dead by the Lord Jesus was an essential display of His power over death and the resurrection is a crucial belief of the Christian faith. Jesus had not only the power to raise Himself (John 10: 18) but to raise others.
- Jesus wept openly (verse 35) showing that He cares enough to weep with us in our trials and sorrows.

#### **INTRODUCE IT**

Ask students to remember some of the miracles which Jesus did, and discuss which of the miracles might be considered the greatest.

This was the last miracle in the public ministry of the Lord Jesus. Some of the Jews questioned why the Lord Jesus allowed Lazarus to die, since He was able to heal the blind man. (*verse 37*) He could have done so, but by raising Lazarus from the dead, He was showing the truth and power of His words in *verse 25*: 'I am the resurrection and the life.'

Introduce this study by explaining that the raising of Lazarus from the dead, the last of seven miracles in John's Gospel, convinced many of the Jews present of the fact that He was the Son of God and they believed in Him. (11: 45) However, some of the Jews present who also witnessed this miracle would not believe and reported back to the Pharisees what had happened in Bethany. They were probably seeking to put the Lord Jesus to death. (11: 46) Advise students that it is still the same today – There are those who accept that the Lord Jesus was God and could do miracles and there are those who deny this and dispute the fact that He did miracles.

#### **COMPLETE IT**

## Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:

- The home of Mary, Martha and Lazarus in Bethany was one of the homes Jesus loved to be in. Students could be asked if the Lord Jesus is in their homes/hearts/lives Revelation 3: 20.
- Just as the Lord Jesus raised Lazarus from death to life, He can give those, who are dead spiritually, new spiritual life which will last forever.
- This story shows us that the Lord Jesus is a sympathetic Saviour; 'Jesus wept' (verse 35) and the Jewish people around that day could see how much Jesus loved Lazarus. (verse 36) He also loved them but many of them did not understand this.
- When Jesus called Lazarus from the grave, he had new life; he was 'loosed' from the grave-clothes (verse 44) and was a living witness to the power of the Lord Jesus in his life.

## Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it.

Complete Lesson 2.

**Show it:** see FBI links in Appendix B – Sorrow turned to joy!

## Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:

- Mary and Martha turned to Jesus for help when their brother died because they had seen His miracles. (11: 1-3)
- Jesus loved this family but did not respond to their request immediately. Lazarus died so that Jesus' power over death could be shown to His disciples and the other Jews present. (11: 5-6)
- 3. Jesus wept because He felt the loss of Lazarus (11: 35)
- 4. Jesus spoke to a dead man and he heard and responded! (11: 43-44)

## Explain the Key Verses and encourage students to learn them.

Complete Study 2.

**Show it:** see FBI links in Appendix B – At the tomb.

#### **REVIEW IT**

- Just as Lazarus was given new life (verses 44-45) so those who trust in the Lord Jesus are given new life. Look at Colossians 2: 13 and 2 Timothy 1: 10, to find out how the Lord Jesus can give 'dead' sinners 'new life.'
- Just as Lazarus' new life was proof of the power of the Lord Jesus at work in his life, so the Lord Jesus gives those who trust in Him the power to live for Him. (Ephesians 2: 10)

Review the Study by drawing a parallel with trials in our own lives and show how the Lord Jesus can bring good out of a bad situation. Refer to *Romans 8: 28.* The Lord's delays may make us think He does not care and is not answering but we must learn to be patient and always trust Him because He never lets us down.

#### LIVE IT

#### How does the lesson challenge us:

- About personal repentance and turning to the Lord Jesus 'to walk in newness of life'? (Romans 6: 4)
- 2. About being obedient to God's Word by sharing the Gospel with others, by being a conscientious student at school, by being obedient to parents and perhaps by getting baptised?

- Christians have a spiritual life that death cannot conquer or diminish. This assurance should make us want to live a life committed to the Lord Jesus. *Philippians 1: 21-23*.
- 2. In this miracle the Lord Jesus shows He cares enough to weep with us in our sorrows.

B3 – LEVEL 3 B3- LEVEL 4 Lesson 3 – Bethany Topic – Another visit Study 3 – Bethany Topic – At the table Bible Focus: John 12: 1-11 Key Verse: 1 John 4: 19 Bible Focus: John 11: 55-57; 12:1-11 Key Verse: Psalm 95: 6 We are learning that: We are learning that: There is nothing too valuable to give to the Lord When we really love the Lord Jesus, we find Jesus Christ. He is worthy of our very best! ways of expressing our thanks to Him. We should never delay in doing what we can for If we love the Lord Jesus we will walk in obedience the Lord Jesus for we do not know how long or to the instructions He has given us, as set down in how short a time we will have to serve Him. the New Testament. **INTRODUCE IT** This incident in *John 12: 1-11* is generally thought to be the same one as in *Mark 14: 3-9*. The Lord Jesus Explain how Bethany was a place of special memories to the Lord Jesus. Remind students that in the home of Mary and Martha, praised Mary for her unselfish act of worship in anointing His feet with this very expensive perfume. the Lord Jesus taught the importance of worship. In Lesson 2 Jesus showed he was 'the Resurrection' Perfumes and spices played an important role in the when He brought Lazarus back from the dead. burial of the dead - read Genesis 50: 2-3. In this lesson the Lord Jesus is present at a meal in Jesus replies to Mary's act of devotion in verse 7 by this Bethany home. indicating that it was a preparation for His burial. **COMPLETE IT Present the Bible Story Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain: Discuss and Explain:** 1. The privilege that was granted to Mary, Martha and The Home - Review the facts that the home at Bethany (verse 1) was a place of (i) service and Lazarus of being in the company of the Lord Jesus, having a meal and enjoying friendship with Him. instruction; (ii) worship and communion; and (iii) (verse 2) death and resurrection. 2. The privilege granted to Mary of anointing the feet 2. The Feast (verse 2) was 'for Him.' Mary, Martha of the Lord Jesus with costly oil and wiping them and Lazarus had every reason to meet with Him as with her hair (verse 3), showing us that there is their chief guest. 3. The Anointing (verse 3) showed Mary loved the nothing too valuable to give to Him and that He is worthy of our very best. Lord Jesus for love is measured by sacrifice. 3. When Judas complained that the ointment should 4. The Commendation (verses 7-8) was the highest have been sold and the money given to the poor ever given and Jesus indicated this act of worship (verse 5), the Lord Jesus reminded him that there would go down in history - Read Matthew 26: 13. would always be poor people in the world to whom others could show kindness. However, the opportunity to use this oil on the Lord Jesus would be very limited as He was on His way to the cross to die for sinners. 4. The chief priests wanted to put Lazarus to death. (verse 10) Suggest this may have been because they denied the resurrection themselves and wanted to get rid of Lazarus because he was the evidence that the Lord Jesus was the resurrection and the life. Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. learn it. Complete Study 3. Complete Lesson 3. **Show it:** see FBI links in Appendix B – Another visit. **Show it:** see FBI links in Appendix B – At the table. **REVIEW IT** This same story is told in Mark 14: 3-9. Read verse 8 Ask the students questions when reviewing this Study to find out what the Lord said about this woman who that will help them give knowledgeable answers to the anointed his feet. questions asked in Study 3. Read Matthew's account of this story, Matthew 26: 6-13, and see how the Lord Jesus not only forecasted the preaching of the gospel after His death, but also that this woman's act of devotion would be told in memory of her.

#### LIVE IT

#### How does the lesson challenge us:

- 1. How might your love to the Lord Jesus influence others?
- 2. Many of the Jews believed in the Lord Jesus (verse 11) because they could see the evidence of His power in the new life of Lazarus. How might you influence others to believe in the Lord Jesus by your life, if you love Him?

- The Home Is the Lord Jesus in our homes in any of the ways referred to in No1 above?
- The Feast For a Christian is the Lord Jesus the first person in our lives?
- 3. **The Anointing** How much do we love the Lord Jesus? Do we give Him the best?
- The Commendation The Lord said of Mary that she did what she could. (Mark 14: 8)

B3 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 4 – Bethany Topic – On to Jerusalem B3 – LEVEL 4 Study 4 – Bethany Topic – On the way to Jerusalem

Bible Focus: Luke 19: 28-44 Key Verse: John 1: 12

#### We are learning that:

- As Jesus enters Jerusalem, His followers burst out in song, praising Him for all the mighty works He did amongst them.
- Jesus weeps over the city of Jerusalem because the people rejected Him and had no room for Him.

Bible Focus: Luke 19: 28-44 Key Verse: John 1: 12

#### We are learning that:

- It is vitally important to welcome the Lord Jesus into our hearts and lives now for one day it will be too late to avail of this opportunity.
- The Lord Jesus is pleased to use our faith, love, worship, service and possessions, for His honour and glory if we belong to Him.

#### INTRODUCE IT

Introduce the idea that "Palm Sunday" did not happen by chance. It had been prophesied years before.

Refer to **Zechariah 9: 9** where the triumphal entry of the Lord Jesus was predicted about 500 years before it actually took place.

Introduce this Study by pointing out that the Lord Jesus wept over Jerusalem (*verses 41-42*) for they had missed their opportunity to receive Him as their Messiah which would have meant peace for them. Now it was too late and the Lord Jesus warns of disastrous consequences in the years ahead for the Jewish nation.

As the Lord Jesus predicted in 30AD, (*Luke 19: 43-44*) the Roman General, Titus, laid siege to Jerusalem (AD70) and destroyed the Temple and massacred its inhabitants. The Lord Jesus visited Jerusalem with the offer of salvation but they had no room for Him and so disaster would come.

#### **COMPLETE IT**

## Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:

- The triumphal entry (verses 28-40) of the Lord Jesus at the beginning of the week of His crucifixion
- The disciples burst out in praise. (verse 37)
   Note they cried "peace in Heaven" and not "peace on earth" because the death of the Lord Jesus and His ascension would bring "peace in Heaven." There would be no "peace on earth" for they were about to kill the Lord Jesus the Prince of Peace.
- Jesus weeps over Jerusalem because of its people's rejection of Him and now it was too late – they had missed their opportunity. (verse 42)
- 4. Jesus indicates that in AD 70, under Titus, a Roman General, Jerusalem and its people would be destroyed because they did not know 'the time of their visitation' (verse 44), meaning the Lord had offered them salvation but they did not want it.

# Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 4.

**Show it:** see FBI links in Appendix B – On to Jerusalem.

### Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:

- The Entry into Jerusalem The Lord Jesus entered Jerusalem on a borrowed donkey's colt, just as predicted in Zechariah 9: 9. Those who witnessed Jesus' victory parade into Jerusalem correctly saw Jesus as the fulfilment of this prophecy predicted more than 500 years before it happened. (Luke 19: 35-36)
- The Time of the Entry into Jerusalem Jesus chose a time when all Israel would be gathered at Jerusalem for the Passover Feast.
- The Hopes of the People The people were praising God for giving them a king whom they expected to be a national leader. However, when they realised He was establishing an eternal kingdom they turned against Him. (Luke 19: 38)
- The Response of the Pharisees the Pharisees objected to Jesus being publicly honoured and asked him to keep His people quiet and Jesus rebukes them for being harder than stones! (Luke 19; 39-40)

## Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it.

#### Complete Study 4.

**Show it:** see FBI links in Appendix B – On the way to Jerusalem.

### REVIEW IT

Reflect on the story and discuss the importance of trusting in the Lord Jesus as personal Saviour now. Refer to **2 Corinthians 6: 2**, as tomorrow could be too late. Also consider how that judgement will also fall on this world, as under Titus in AD 70, and those who have no time for the Lord Jesus now will be lost.

Review this Study by setting it in the context of Jesus' life. Jerusalem was the centre of religious and political power and home to the Jews and Roman Governor. Many of the most important events of Jesus' life happened here including the crucifixion and resurrection. His last week was all spent here.

#### LIVE IT

#### How does the lesson challenge us:

- Consider what it means to turn from sin and trust in the Lord Jesus for salvation.
- The Key Verse refers to those who have received the Lord Jesus as: 'sons of God.' Think of other phrases by which some who have received the Lord Jesus are known. (e.g. Christian, etc.)

- Eternal life is still available for those who accept it while the opportunity is still offered.
- 2. Think of ways in which the Lord could have need of our lives as *Luke 19: 31.*
- Just as the prophecy in Zechariah 9:9 came true, so the prophecies about the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus will come true.

B4 – LEVEL 3 B4 – LEVEL 4 Study 1 – The Lord Jesus Topic – His Death Lesson 1 – The Lord Jesus Topic – 'Dying' Bible Focus: Luke 23: 1-26 and 32-46 Bible Focus: Luke 23: 32-56 Key Verse: Luke 23: 33 Key Verses: John 15: 13,14 We are learning that: We are learning that: 1. In order to get to Heaven we need to admit we are 1. Jesus died so our sins could be forgiven. In order to get to Heaven we must turn from sinners, deserving God's punishment. our sins and trust in the Lord Jesus. We then need to believe the Lord Jesus was sinless and took the punishment in our place. **INTRODUCE IT** Introduce this lesson by asking students what they Briefly describe the events leading up to the cross, understand as the significance of Easter. Explain including the arrest, trials, and walk to Calvary. that this lesson tells the story of the first Easter. Discuss how this study shows salvation is based upon repentance and faith and how that the repentant thief Discuss how this lesson shows us that all people are not going to Heaven. Two thieves were also went to Heaven and the unrepentant thief did not. crucified with the Lord Jesus one went to Heaven and the other did not. **COMPLETE IT** Present the Bible Story Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain: Discuss and Explain: Pilate could find no fault in Jesus but 1. The six hours of crucifixion in fulfilment of condemned Him to death to please the people. Isaiah 53: 12 - (9am-3pm). (verses 1-7, 13-25) The story of the repentant thief (23:42-43) shows Although Pilate and Herod were enemies they salvation is based on repentance and faith alone. became friends and were both on the same This man went to Heaven but was never baptised side, against the Lord Jesus. (verse 12) nor had he partaken of the sacraments. The six hours of crucifixion (9am-3pm) - Jesus 3. The two thieves are representative of people – those on the cross in the middle and a thief on either who love the Lord Jesus and those who are His side is a fulfilment of Isaiah 53: 12. enemies. There were two thieves (verses 39-43) but 4. During the three hours of darkness, (verses 44-46) only one went to Heaven. Draw attention to Jesus bore the penalty of our sins and through His verse 43: 'today' - what speed! -'with me' death a way of approach has been opened to God what company! 'in paradise' - what happiness! for all who come to Him in faith. The story shows (verses 50-56) that Joseph, Three hours of darkness (verses 44-46) and the veil of the Temple torn in two showing that although a secret disciple, was a true friend of the the Lord Jesus is the way to God. Lord Jesus as were the faithful women mentioned, (Hebrews 10: 19-20) as demonstrated by the dignified burial given to the Lord Jesus. Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. This verse summarises the Lesson but Explain the Key Verses and encourage students to 1Peter 3: 18a might be a better Memory Verse learn them. Complete Lesson 1. Complete Study 1. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B - Dying. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B -His death. **REVIEW IT** Review the lesson by asking students to read Review the lesson by asking students to read Isaiah 53 Isaiah 53: 12 which was written over 100 years which was written over 700 years before the death of the before the death of the Lord Jesus and refer to the Lord Jesus and discuss how it mirrors Luke 23: 32-56. inspiration of the Bible. The inspiration of the Bible should be reinforced. In groups write some newspaper headlines to In groups make a list of some of the prophecies describe the scene at the cross. mentioned in Isaiah 53 which were fulfilled at the cross.

#### LIVE IT

#### How does the lesson challenge us:

- 1. How can we be sure our sins are forgiven?
- We all face the challenge of which side we are on – the side of those who love the Lord Jesus or those who are His enemies.
- How would you answer someone who says everybody will be in Heaven?

- We all face the challenge as to whether we are a friend or an enemy of Jesus.
- If we love the Lord Jesus, like Joseph, we will find ways of demonstrating it. How can we show it?
- 3. How would you answer someone who says we are all going to Heaven?

	B4 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 2 – The Lord Jesus Topic – Rising	B4- LEVEL 4 Study 2 – The Lord Jesus Topic – His Resurrection
	Bible Focus: John 20: 1-18  Key Verse: Romans 10: 9  We are learning that:  1. After three days in the tomb the Lord Jesus rose from the dead.  2. Mary Magdalene showed her love for the Lord Jesus Christ.	<ul> <li>Bible Focus: Luke 8: 1-3, John 20: 1-18</li> <li>Key Verse: Romans 10: 9</li> <li>We are learning that: <ol> <li>The Lord Jesus conquered death when He rose again.</li> <li>Mary Magdalene was a very devoted follower of the Lord Jesus Christ.</li> <li>Consider the resurrection as a fact for which there is much evidence in the Bible.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
INTRODUCE IT	Discuss the meaning of 'resurrection' and ask students to identify any individuals whom the Lord Jesus brought back from the dead (Lazarus – <i>John 11: 44</i> , Jarius' daughter – <i>Luke 8: 55</i> ). Consider that the power of resurrection belongs to the Lord Jesus.	Discuss how the power of resurrection belongs to the Lord Jesus and identify any individuals whom He raised from the dead. (Lazarus – <i>John 11: 44</i> , Jairus' daughter <i>Luke 8: 55</i> ). Also, highlight how those who have died believing in the Lord Jesus will be resurrected in the future.
COMPLETE IT	<ol> <li>Present the Bible Story</li> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>Mary Magdalene, Peter and John saw evidence of the resurrection – an empty tomb. (John 20:1-8)</li> <li>Peter and John went home but Mary Magdalene keeps a lonely vigil outside the tomb. (John 20: 10-18)</li> <li>The Lord Jesus rewards her devotion by appearing to her in person and explaining that when He goes back to Heaven, He will send His Holy Spirit to indwell believers' hearts.</li> <li>He sends her to go and tell the disciples that He is alive and that they must meet Him in Galilee. (Matthew 28: 10)</li> </ol> </li> <li>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it.         <ol> <li>Complete Lesson 2.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Rising.</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Present the Bible Story</li> <li>Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>Mary Magdalene ministered to the Lord Jesus in His lifetime and proved her devotion by being first at the empty tomb. (Luke 8: 1-3)</li> <li>Mary Magdalene, Peter and John saw the evidence of the resurrection, and also saw the neat and tidy arrangement of the grave clothes showing the Lord's departure was orderly and unhurried, so refuting the argument the body was stolen. (John 20: 3-9)</li> <li>The Lord Jesus rewarded Mary's devotion by appearing to her in person and explaining that when He goes back to Heaven, He will send down the Holy Spirit to indwell believers' hearts. (John 20: 10-18)</li> <li>He tells her to go and tell the disciples that He is alive and that they must meet Him in Galilee. (Matthew 28: 10)</li> </ol> </li> <li>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it.         <ol> <li>Complete Study 2.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – His Resurrection.</li> </ol>
REVIEW IT	Connect this lesson with the following references in the New Testament where the Lord Jesus foretold His resurrection. Discuss the importance and the significance of the resurrection.  • Matthew 16: 21, 17: 22-23, 20:18-19  • Luke 18: 31-33, 24: 7  • 1 Corinthians 15: 3-4	Connect this lesson with 1 Corinthians 15: 3-8, 12-20 and show how verse 4 refers to Isaiah 53: 9 and Psalm 16: 9-10.  Discuss the various people who saw the Lord after his resurrection (1 Corinthians 15: 5-8) and why the resurrection is so important. (1 Corinthians 15: 17)
LIVE IT	<ol> <li>How does the lesson challenge us:</li> <li>The importance of students saying they love the Lord Jesus as their personal Saviour.</li> <li>Consider how our love for Him should affect our lives.</li> <li>It is also important to learn from this lesson the certainty and the significance of the resurrection.</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Consider the importance of a personal relationship and love for the Lord Jesus.</li> <li>The resurrection is vital to the Christian faith for had Christ not risen from the dead, His death would have been in vain and we could never have had the hope of being in Heaven forever.</li> </ol>

	B4 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 3 – The Lord Jesus Topic – 'Leaving'	B4 – LEVEL 4 Study 3 – The Lord Jesus Topic – His Ascension
	Bible Focus: John 20: 19-31; Luke 24: 45-53  Key Verse: Luke 24: 51  We are learning that:  1. When the Lord Jesus says something to us through the Bible, we please Him by simply believing it.  2. The purpose of John's Gospel is that those who read it might believe and have eternal life.	Bible Focus: Luke 24: 45-53; Acts 1: 1-12  Key Verse: Luke 24: 51  We are learning that:  1. The Lord Jesus wants those who belong to Him to be witnesses for Him on this earth.  2. One day the Lord Jesus is coming back to earth to take those who belong to Him to Heaven.
INTRODUCE IT	Discuss, with relevant examples, how that we believe many things we can neither see nor touch. Explain how the Christian faith is not based on seeing but trusting in the Word of God, and the Lord Jesus.	Discuss how we tend to treasure the last words spoken by those we love, especially, before they die. Consider some of the dying words of the great men of history. Relate this to the Lord Jesus' last words. (Acts 1: 8-9)
COMPLETE IT	<ol> <li>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>Discuss Jesus' appearance to the disciples and note His words to them: "Peace be with you". (verse 21) Explain that as a result of Jesus' death those who have believed by faith have true peace. (Romans 5: 1)</li> <li>Jesus dealt gently with the faithless Thomas and convinced him He was the resurrected Christ. (John 20: 27-28)</li> </ol> </li> <li>Thomas responded with words of faith and commitment.</li> <li>The Lord Jesus left for Heaven forty days after the resurrection from the Mount of Olives after which the disciples returned to the Temple to praise and thank God for His resurrection and the prospect of His coming again. (Luke 24: 50-53)</li> <li>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:         <ol> <li>The Lord Jesus commanded His disciples to be witnesses (Acts 1: 8) for Him in Jerusalem, in the land of Palestine and throughout the whole world.</li> <li>The Lord Jesus ascended to Heaven from the Mount of Olives (Acts 1: 12) and will return again to the Mount of Olives. (Zechariah 14: 4)</li> </ol> </li> <li>He ascended in person and visibly. One day He will return personally again (Malachi 3: 1) and visibly. (Matthew 24: 30)</li> <li>He was received up in a cloud with power and glory and will come back on the clouds of Heaven with power and glory. (Matthew 24: 30)</li> <li>Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to</li> </ol>
	to learn it.  Complete Lesson 3.  Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Leaving.	learn it. Complete Study 3.  Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – His Ascension.
REVIEW IT	Learn the Key Verse and discuss how it summarises the lesson. Remind students that the disciples were also looking for the fulfilment of the promise made concerning the coming of the Holy Spirit. (Luke 24: 49)	Look up the Bible References in Points 1-4 above and compare and contrast the Lord's return to Heaven after His resurrection, with His Second Coming again to earth.
LIVE IT	<ol> <li>How does the lesson challenge us:</li> <li>How can we believe in the Lord Jesus for salvation even though we have not seen Him?</li> <li>The Lord Jesus encouraged His disciples to work for Him after He had ascended. What work can we do for Him now?</li> <li>Look at <i>Acts 1: 8</i></li> </ol>	<ol> <li>How does the lesson challenge us:</li> <li>How can believers in the Lord Jesus witness for Him at home, at school, or amongst friends?</li> <li>Think about people who have left their own homeland to be Missionaries in other parts of the world.</li> <li>Students could share their personal testimony as to how they trusted Jesus as their Saviour and Lord.</li> </ol>

B4 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 4 – The Lord Jesus Topic – 'Returning' B4 – LEVEL 4 Study 4 – The Lord Jesus Topic – His Second Coming Bible Focus: Acts 1: 4; 8-12 Bible Focus: John 14: 1-6; Acts 1: 9-11 Key Verse: Acts 1: 11 Key Verses: 1 Thessalonians 4: 16-17 We are learning that: We are learning that: The Lord's Second Coming to earth is an event 1. The power of the Holy Spirit is needed when witnessing or preaching the Gospel. which is certain to happen although the date or The Lord Jesus, who ascended to Heaven, is time is unknown. At the Second Coming, the dead in Christ will be going to return to earth again to take those raised and taken up to Heaven with those who are ready to be with Him to Heaven. Christians alive at the time. **INTRODUCE IT** Talk about a witness, maybe to an accident, who Remind the students that all the prophecies from the Old has to have actually seen and heard exactly what Testament concerning the Lord's coming to the earth as a happened. The disciples would speak from their man were fulfilled, and so will all the prophecies own personal experience of the Lord Jesus. concerning His Second Coming. Discuss with the students how that when someone we Consider also that the power the disciples received to make them the witnesses for the Lord Jesus is love goes away we long for his/her return and how those the same power we receive when we turn from our who are trusting in the Lord Jesus should be looking for sin and trust in what the Lord Jesus did for us on the His return. Look up Titus 2: 13. cross to take away our sin. We too can and should be witnesses. **COMPLETE IT** Present the Bible Study Present the Bible Study Discuss and Explain: **Discuss and Explain:** The Lord commanded His disciples to be The 'two men in white apparel' (Acts 1: 10-11) told the witnesses for Him firstly in Jerusalem, then in disciples about the Lord's Second Coming to earth. Make the link that it was possibly the same angelic beings in *Luke 24: 4* who told the women at the tomb the land of Palestine and lastly throughout the whole world. (Acts 1: 8) The 'two men in shining garments' whom the about the resurrection. women who came to the tomb met, 2. Compare the Lord's promise in John 14: 3 with Acts (Luke 24: 4) told them it was empty and the 1: 11 and explain both the accuracy and inspiration of Lord Jesus had risen from the dead. It was the Scriptures. possibly the same angelic beings, in the form Read 1 Thessalonians 4: 16-17 and explain the very of men, who were now telling the disciples special insight Paul had to the Second Coming. about the Second Coming. (Acts 1: 10-11) Explain as follows: His return will be very similar to His There is a sound to hear – shout and trumpet; Ascension. A sight to see - the Lord Himself; The time of the Second Coming is unknown, A miracle to feel - caught up; so it is vital to be ready. (Acts 1: 7) A meeting to enjoy – 'meet the Lord in the air'; And a comfort to experience – 'with the Lord' for ever. Explain the Key Verse and encourage students Explain the Key Verses and encourage students to to learn it. learn them. Complete Lesson 4. Complete Study 4. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B - Returning. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B - His Second Comina. **REVIEW IT** Turn to the following verses and show how the Lord The Second Coming holds no fear for those who are spoke of His coming as 'a thief in the night' because saved and ready to meet Him. The Bible teaches that nobody knows when a thief will come. Hence the Christians should look forward to His appearing and live in need to have faith in Him for our salvation and to be a manner that pleases Him. Refer to Titus 2: 11-14, and ready and waiting for His return. 1 John 3: 2-3. Matthew 24: 44, Luke 12: 20. LIVE IT How does the lesson challenge us: How does the lesson challenge us: Everybody needs to consider whether they are 1. Christians should be living righteous lives in the light of ready to go to Heaven, if the Lord was to return the nearness of the Lord's Second Coming and be

Refer to 2 Corinthians 6: 2.

What would be the answer to someone who

When is the best time to get ready for Heaven?

says there is plenty of time in which to get ready for Heaven, in the light of what you have

learned about the Second Coming?

now.

3.

found faithful to Him at His coming. What does this

2. Unbelievers will be left behind at the Second Coming.

with regard to witnessing to them?

How should this sad reality challenge us, as Christians,

mean?

B5 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 1 – The Lord's servants Topic – Prepared by God B5 – LEVEL 4 Study 1 – Early Christians Topic – Stephen

Bible Focus: Acts 1: 7-9; Acts 2: 1-13 Key Verses: John 14: 16-17 We are learning that:

- In the early days of the Christian Church, the Lord commanded the apostles to go and preach the Gospel locally and world-wide.
- Just as the Holy Spirit came and lived in the hearts of the apostles so those who trust the Lord Jesus will have the Holy Spirit's presence and power to help them in their Christian lives.

Bible Focus: Acts 6: 1-15; 7: 54-60

Key Verse: Acts 6: 8
We are learning that:

- It is people of the calibre of Stephen who change the world for God.
- It is only true believers, like Stephen, who are determined to proclaim the truth of the Gospel and are more concerned about what pleases God than with what men have to say or even do to them.

#### INTRODUCE IT

Ask the students to imagine what it must have been like for the disciples, after Jesus had ascended, and when the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost.

Explain how the Acts of the Apostles contains two main themes:

- The Lord Jesus, now ascended, is working through those on this earth who have trusted Him by His Holy Spirit.
- The resurrection and exaltation of the Lord Jesus in Heaven still formed the core of the message when this book was written. 60-67 AD.

Discuss what is meant by persecution and think about modern day examples.

Explain that in the early days of Christianity the religious leaders had considerable influence in government and the Christians were prepared for their opposition but always reacted with dignity. The Christians respected and obeyed the government of the day unless men's laws contradicted the laws of God.

#### COMPLETE IT

## Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:

- The Key Verse in this book is Acts 1: 8 and the whole of the Acts is modelled on it with regard to the geographical spread of the Gospel:
   Witnesses in Jerusalem Chapters 1-7 Witnesses in Judea Chapter 8: 1-4
   Witnesses in Samaria Chapter 8: 5-25
   Witnesses in the World Chapter 8: 26
- 2. The Day of Pentecost (2: 1) was the day on which the Holy Spirit came to indwell believers permanently – He came to stay. They were filled with the Holy Spirit (2: 4). When we trust the Lord Jesus we are indwelt by the Holy Spirit but to be filled by the Holy Spirit, we must read our Bibles, spend time in prayer and live in obedience to the Lord.
- 3. The Lord Jesus laid the perfect foundation in the finished work of the cross and now was empowering believers, through His Holy Spirit, to be witnesses and helpers in spreading the Good News of His death, the resurrection and the message of salvation for all. The Holy Spirit is referred to as the 'Comforter or Counsellor' in the Key Verse John 14: 16 showing the Lord Jesus is also our advocate or helper.

## Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:

 Stephen possessed those qualities that should be evident in a Christian's life - honesty, being full of the Holy Spirit, full of faith and power, wisdom and a desire to serve the Lord Jesus.

(See Acts 6: 3,5 & 8)

- 2. Opposition to Stephen's powerful ministry arose from communities of Jews who had synagogues in or near Jerusalem. However, when Stephen appeared before the Sanhedrin, a Jewish court, they heard the false charges against him; and they saw the glory of the Lord Jesus reflected in Stephen's face. (Acts 6: 15) Stephen gave a very masterful defence (Acts 7: 1-53) and delivered a scathing attack on the Jewish leaders, charging them with resisting the Holy Spirit and eventually being responsible for the crucifixion of the Lord Jesus.
- Stephen must have known his life was at stake but would rather die than betray his Lord. As soon as he testified to seeing 'the heavens opened' (Acts 7: 56) the mob dragged him outside the city and stoned him to death. (Acts 7: 57-58)

## Explain the Key Verses and encourage students to learn them.

Complete Lesson 1.

**Show it:** see FBI links in Appendix C – Prepared by God.

Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it.

Complete Study 1.

Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C - Stephen.

#### **REVIEW IT**

Dr Luke, the writer of Acts, opens by referring to 'all that Jesus began to do and to teach' in *Acts 1: 1.* In *Acts 28: 31* Paul is still preaching the good news of the Gospel. Consider that 'The book of Acts still continues - the work of evangelism is incomplete until the Lord returns for those who are trusting in Him.'

Discuss how these verses summarise this lesson:

- 2 Timothy 2: 3 'Endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ';
- 1 Peter 4: 14 "If you are insulted because of the name of Christ you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you"

### LIVE IT

#### How does the lesson challenge us:

- As a believer we are indwelt by the Holy Spirit. It is our responsibility to 'be filled with the Spirit'. Read Ephesians 5: 18
- Doing the Bibletime lessons should encourage you to:

   Read the Bible and Pray. Put what you read and the guidance the Lord gives you into practice in your daily life.

- Just as Stephen was martyred for his beliefs in the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus, so many Christians are being persecuted, even killed, in some countries today for the same beliefs.
- We should ask the Lord Jesus, in our prayers, to keep us loyal and faithful to Him, regardless of what the circumstances might be in our lives.

B5 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 2 – The Lord's servants Topic – Prepared to die! B5 – LEVEL 4 Study 2 – Early Christians Topic – Philip

Bible Focus: Acts 6: 1-5, 8-15; 7: 54-60 Key Verse: Matthew 5: 44

Key Verse: Matthew 5: 44

#### We are learning that:

- Stephen was faithful in the little things before being used by God, as illustrated in the serving of tables (Acts 6: 2), before doing great wonders and miracles. (Acts 6: 8)
- Stephen is like the Lord Jesus in that he was a faithful and blameless man who was prepared to lay down his life for the sake of the Gospel.

Bible Focus: Acts 6: 5; 8: 4-17; 8: 26-40.

Key Verse: Acts 8: 35

#### We are learning that:

- Philip was a successful preacher of the Gospel who was willing to leave a revival in Samaria to go in the desert to Gaza to preach the Gospel to one needy person.
- Once he believed in the Lord Jesus as his own Saviour, the Ethiopian was eager to obey the Lord in baptism and had great joy in his heart as he travelled home.

#### **INTRODUCE IT**

Think about what persecution for your faith means and give modern examples.

Explain how that as the early Christians moved forward with the Gospel they ran into opposition from the government and religious leaders of the day. Whilst they respected and obeyed their rulers, they were prepared to disobey men's laws when they contradicted God's laws, even to the point of being martyrs.

Philip was one of the seven men chosen in *Acts 6: 5* to look after church business. He later became an evangelist and brought the Gospel to Samaria. Whilst he was in the midst of a revival in Samaria, the Lord called him to go into Gaza, desert country, to meet a needy stranger from Ethiopia, with a view to using Philip in both this man's conversion and baptism. Once this was achieved Philip was miraculously removed and resumed the preaching of the Gospel in other places.

#### **COMPLETE IT**

## Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:

- Stephen's character is described as a Christian who was full of the Holy Spirit, with a good and honest life, (Acts 6: 3) full of faith, power (Acts 6: 8) and wisdom (Acts 6: 10) and who was active in the Lord's work. (Acts 6: 8)
- When arrested wrongly by the Jewish leaders, Stephen defended himself by reminding his accusers that not only had the Jewish nation continually rejected the Lord Jesus but their ultimate crime was their crucifixion of the 'Just or Righteous One'. (Acts 7: 52)
- Although surrounded by an enraged mob who stoned him to death, Stephen like the Lord Jesus commends his spirit to the Lord. (Acts 7: 59) and prays for his murderers and 'falls asleep'. (Acts 7: 60) The word 'sleep' here refers to his body which is 'sleeping' until the Lord returns for His Church.

Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it.
Complete Lesson 2.

**Show it:** see FBI links in Appendix C – Prepared to

### Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:

- Philip was obedient to God's Command to go and preach to the Ethiopian.
- The Ethiopian had come from Africa to Jerusalem to worship but left without any real understanding of the Gospel. He turned to the Bible to find help. (8: 27-28)
- Philip, directed by the Lord, arrived at the appropriate time and explains Isaiah 53 to him. He showed him how the chapter is all about the life and death of the Lord Jesus. (8: 34-35)
- 4. The Ethiopian believed in the Lord Jesus and was immediately baptised by immersion and went back home rejoicing. (8: 36-38)

Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it.

Complete Study 2.

Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C - Philip.

#### **REVIEW IT**

Ensure the students learn the Key Verse and discuss with them how it summarises this lesson and how it is related to both the Lord Jesus and Stephen in that both prayed for their murderers (Luke 23: 34 and Acts 7: 60) and both committed their spirits to God. (Luke 23: 46 and Acts 7: 59)

Connect this study with *Isaiah 53*. Point out how this chapter was written between 740-680 BC and how Isaiah's prophecy so accurately foretells the death, burial, resurrection and exaltation of the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### LIVE IT

#### How does the lesson challenge us:

- In times of difficulty, being faithful to the Lord Jesus?
- How should Stephen's devotion to the Lord challenge our devotion to Him today, when some of the laws made by Governments are in complete opposition to the Holy Scriptures?

- When the Lord calls us to do a work for Him do we obey without question as Philip did?
- 2. How are we living up to our responsibilities as a Christian in trying to be a good witness for the Lord Jesus in seeing others coming to Him?
- 3. Have students considered baptism as a way of showing publicly their faith?

B5 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 3 – The Lord's servants Topic – Prepared to listen!

B5 – LEVEL 4 Study 3 – Early Christians Topic – Cornelius

Bible Focus: Acts 8: 1-5; 26-40 Key Verse: Acts 16: 31

#### We are learning that:

- Philip's prompt and unquestioning obedience resulted in the Lord using him to bring the Ethiopian to the Lord.
- The Ethiopian went on his way rejoicing as a result of his obedience to the Lord.

Bible Focus: Acts 10: 1-8; 23-48 Key Verse: Acts 10: 43

#### We are learning that:

- 1. The Gospel is for all, Jews and Gentiles alike.
- 2. Cornelius and his household were amongst the first Gentiles to become believers in the Lord Jesus.

#### **INTRODUCE IT**

Explain that sometimes God wants us to do something that is completely different to what we would expect to do.

Explain that Philip was seeing a great work being done for the Lord in Samaria. However, he was directed by the Lord to leave the place where many were being converted and go to the desert area of Gaza to be of help spiritually to only one man, namely the man from Ethiopia.

Simply explain the situation between Jews and Gentiles, and how normally a Jew would have little contact, and certainly not go in the house of a Gentile.

Cornelius was a Roman officer (a Gentile), a centurion, who lived in the town of Caesarea and was a prominent man in terms of his military career. Although he lived an upright life he did not know the Lord Jesus. However, he was earnestly searching for forgiveness of his sins and God saw to it that he came into contact with Peter who preached the Gospel unto him and his family.

#### **COMPLETE IT**

#### **Present the Bible Story** Discuss and Explain:

- 1. When Philip meets the Ethiopian, he is reading Isaiah 53: 7-8 and Philip gets the opportunity to talk to him about the life and death of the Lord Jesus.
- 2. The Ethiopian learnt from Philip that the One of whom Isaiah wrote was the Lord Jesus who died on the cross to be his Saviour and the Ethiopian realised he was a sinner and received the Lord Jesus Christ as his Saviour through believing in Him. (Acts 8: 34-38)
- 3. Philip explained the privilege of being baptised to the Ethiopian and when they came near water, Philip baptises him. The servants travelling with the Ethiopian not only witnessed his baptism but they would have seen how joyful the Ethiopian was now because he was a follower of the One known as Jesus of Nazareth in those days.

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

Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C - Prepared to listen!

#### Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:

- 1. Cornelius had a clear vision one day, around 3pm, in which an angel of God appeared to him and told him to send men to Joppa for Peter. (10: 3-6)
- 2. When Peter came to the house of Cornelius there were others present as well to hear him preach.
- 3. Peter addressed the company by telling them at the outset that God did not respect persons – salvation was for both Jews and Gentiles. (Acts 10: 34-35)
- 4. Peter preached to those present about the life, death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ and finished by telling them if they believed in Him, they would receive forgiveness of sins. (10: 38-44)
- 5. This is what those Gentiles present did, and they were amongst the first Gentiles to become believers in the Lord Jesus and to be baptised. (Acts 10: 47-48)

#### Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it.

Complete Study 3.

Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C - Cornelius.

### **REVIEW IT**

Connect this lesson with Isaiah 53 and discuss verses 7 and 8 in particular. Like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, the Lord Jesus endured the cross. He was not given a fair trial and was cut off in the prime of His life and crucified for our sins.

Consider Peter's position as a Jew entering a Gentile's house. Look at Acts 10: 9-17 to see how Peter was given guidance about what he should do, and how he should think about bringing the Gospel to the Gentiles.

#### LIVE IT

#### How does the lesson challenge us:

- To understand that obedient Christians can bring real blessing into the lives of others both those who are Christians and those who are not.
- 2. Personal faith in the Lord Jesus should be followed up by being baptised.

- To understand that the forgiveness of sins is available to all, regardless of race, culture or religion.
- Discuss the fact that now as we have the Bible to instruct us what to do in our lives and how our sins can be forgiven?

B5 – LEVEL 4 Study 4 – Early Christians Topic –Barnabas B5 - LEVEL 3 Lesson 4 – The Lord's servants
Topic – Prepared to go! Bible Focus: Acts 10: 1-20; 24-29; 33-43 Bible Focus: Acts 4: 32-37; 9: 26-31; 11: 19-30 Key Verse: Acts 10: 43 Key Verse: Acts 11: 24 We are learning that: We are learning that: Whilst Cornelius was a very good man, he 1. We cannot become Christians just by doing good. needed someone to tell him how he could 2. Christians do good because 'goodness' is one of the become a Christian. fruits of the Holy Spirit in a Christian's life. Peter learned, as a result of his vision that the (Galatians 5: 22) Gospel is not just for the Jews but that it is for everyone. **INTRODUCE IT** This lesson is set in Caesarea, a coastal town. We are first introduced to Barnabas in Acts 4: 36. The Cornelius was a Roman military officer there and as meaning of his name is "the son of encouragement". He came from the island of Cyprus and the Bible tells us he a centurion was in charge of one hundred men. He was actually attached to one of the Italian sold land and brought the money and gave it to the regiments there. However, he was a man who was Apostles. He was living up to his name in that his seeking after God. He was a Gentile, but up to this generosity would have been a great encouragement to the point Peter had only brought the Gospel to his Apostles. fellow Jews. **COMPLETE IT Present the Bible Story** Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain: Discuss and Explain: The angel told Cornelius, in the vision, to send 1. Barnabas was a devoted servant of the Lord in that men to Joppa, a town south of Caesarea, for he was unselfish. He used his time and possessions Simon Peter. (Acts 10: 3-6) so that others would be helped. He wanted to see The day after, Peter had a vision on the flat people coming to know the Lord Jesus and he wanted to help those who were in need of the basic roof of Simon's house, where he had gone to pray. God revealed to Peter that the Gospel necessities of life. As a result he is referred to as 'a was not limited to the Jews only but was for good man'. (Acts 11: 24) the Gentiles as well. God only sees two 2. Barnabas showed kindness to Paul. (Acts 9: 27) He vouched for Paul when the Christians at classes of people - those who are His and those who are not! (Acts 10: 9-16) Jerusalem were afraid to receive him. When Peter arrived at the home of Cornelius, 3. Barnabas was sent by the Church in Jerusalem to he admitted he believed God's favour was encourage the new Church in Antioch and whilst he limited to the nation of Israel, the Jews but had was there many turned to the Lord. He encouraged learned: God is no respecter of persons. the new Christians at Antioch to 'be true to the (Acts 10: 34-35) Lord.' (Acts 11: 23) Perhaps there never were wiser 4. Peter preached the Gospel to those present words spoken to new converts! and emphasised salvation was for 'everyone When Barnabas came to Antioch and saw all that who believes in Him'. (Acts 10: 43) was happening, he knew he needed a helper so he went to Tarsus and found Saul who could then help Those present believed and were baptised and this marked the beginning of the entrance him. (Acts 11: 25-26) of the Gentiles into the Church. Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. learn it. Complete Lesson 4. Complete Study 4. Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C - Prepared to Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C - Barnabas. Learn the Key Verse and discuss how it **REVIEW IT** Review the study by asking questions that will enable summarises today's lesson. Also refer students to students to answer the questions in Study 4 correctly. the phrase 'whoever believes in Him-John 3: 15-16. LIVE IT How does the lesson challenge us: How does the lesson challenge us:

#### BES - Teacher Guidelines - Levels 3&4 B Series Lessons1-6 - 01/2020 (FBI links 2023)

other nationalities?

To share the Gospel with young people from

Explain Acts 10: 34-35 in your own words.

To demonstrate 'goodness' in our lives as

To be true to the Lord Jesus as Christians?

To encourage other Christians who may be

passing through hard times.

1.

Christians?

B6 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 1 – The life of Joseph Topic – The young dreamer B6 – LEVEL 4 Study 1 – Jacob and his family Topic – At Haran

Bible Focus: Genesis 37: 1-11 Key Verse: Genesis 37: 8

#### We are learning that:

- When Joseph was only a teenager, seventeen years of age, God spoke to him in dreams and revealed to him that He had a plan for his life.
- The sin of jealousy is displeasing to God and can develop into more serious sin and therefore should be avoided.

Bible Focus: *Genesis 29: 1-30* Key Verse: *Galatians 6: 7* 

#### We are learning that:

- Jacob has deceived his father and brother and had to flee for his life to his uncle in Haran.
- God is in full control of everything and His timing is perfect.
- 3. If we sow sinful acts in our lives, we can expect to reap the consequences.

#### **INTRODUCE IT**

Remind the students of Joseph's predecessors, Abraham, Isaac, and now we come to Jacob and his family.

Joseph was one of Jacob's sons and his mother's name was Rachel. He was a shepherd by occupation. He had a younger brother, called Benjamin, and it was at Benjamin's birth that Joseph's mother, Rachel, died. Jacob had had four wives, but Rachel was his favourite, and therefore her two sons, Joseph and Benjamin, were also his favourite sons.

Remind the students of Jacob's predecessors. Jacob was the son of Isaac and Rebekah and Esau was his brother. He lived in Beersheba and fled to Haran in Mesopotamia because Esau had planned to kill him, for robbing him of the birthright. (Summarise the story) Jacob was 77 years old when he left Beersheba; he spent 20 years serving his uncle Laban, 33 years back in Canaan and the last 7 years of his life in Egypt. The journey from Beersheba to Haran was about 500 miles.

#### **COMPLETE IT**

#### Present the Bible Story

#### **Discuss and Explain:**

- Joseph was hated by his brothers because he had told Jacob about their wrong doings and Jacob loved him because he was Rachel's son, and had been born when Jacob was old. (37: 2)
- The coat of many colours was really a long robe with sleeves which showed Jacob's special affection for Joseph but stirred up jealousy, hatred and envy in his brother's hearts. (37: 3 & 4)
- 3. In Joseph's first dream, the eleven sheaves bowing down to the twelfth was a prophecy that one day his brothers would bow down to him. The second dream was also prophetic of his brothers bowing down to him along with Jacob (the sun) and Leah (his step mother) (the moon) as Rachel had died. (37: 5-11)

## Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it.

Complete Lesson 1.

**Show it:** see FBI links in Appendix C – The young dreamer.

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

#### **Discuss and Explain:**

- God's timing was perfect in that Jacob was guided to the very place where some shepherds from Haran were tending their flocks and where Rachel had arrived with her flock.
- Jacob worked for his uncle, he wanted to marry Rachel, but Laban deceived him into marrying Leah, her older sister first. He had to serve Laban for another 7 years before marrying Rachel. He then had to serve 7 more years. (Genesis 29: 15-30)
- Jacob had cheated his father and brother and now he was cheated by his uncle. Jacob had sown deceit and now he was reaping it!

## Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it.

Complete Study 1.

**Show it:** see FBI links in Appendix C – At Haran.

#### **REVIEW IT**

Review the lesson with a quiz asking questions which will help students to answer the questions asked in Bibletime Lesson 1.

Use a map to help students visualize in their minds the journey Jacob made from Beersheba (on the West Bank) to Haran (on the Euphrates River) in today's Syria. You may wish to draw their attention to the ongoing conflict today in the Middle East in places such as Syria, Jordan and Iraq all because people prefer to pursue the power of their own wills instead of seeking the power of God's will in their lives. Jacob's self-will is still at work in people's lives today – all because of the fact we were born sinners!

#### LIVE IT

#### How does the lesson challenge us:

- God has a plan for everybody's life. When we believe in the Lord Jesus as our Saviour, He will work out His plan for us. We put this into action from what He teaches us from the Bible and need to pray daily that He will guide us in ways pleasing to Him.
- The sin of jealousy is to be avoided in our lives; The Bible refers to it as: 'cruel as the grave'. (Song of Solomon 8: 6)

- The need to grasp that if we do not repent of our sin and trust the Saviour for salvation we will reap the consequences of our sinful lives.
- The need to ensure that if we are Christians and have sinned that we quickly confess it to the Lord Jesus and have His forgiveness (1 John 1: 9), and turn away from it before it brings circumstances into our lives that will only cause us distress.

B6 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 2 – The life of Joseph Topic – The hated brother B6 – LEVEL 4
Study 2 – Jacob and His family
Topic – At Peniel

Bible Focus: Genesis 37: 12-36 Key Verse: Romans 6: 12

#### We are learning that:

- Sin starts in a small way in our lives and unless we ask the Lord Jesus for forgiveness it will grow and take over our lives.
- When we feel guilty about our sin it is very important we confess it at once to the Lord Jesus.

Bible Focus: Genesis 32: 1-32 Key Verse: Genesis 32: 11

#### We are learning that:

- Jacob prayed to God out of a desperate sense of need for divine protection.
- Jacob finally yields his life to God and after he confessed to God his name was Jacob, meaning a "con man". God changes his name to Israel, meaning 'a prince of God.'

#### **INTRODUCE IT**

Revise the story of Joseph so far and remind the students of the tensions in Jacob's family and the reasons for them.

In *Genesis 27*, Jacob tricked his father Isaac into blessing him ahead of Esau. In this lesson Jacob's sons deceive him with a goat's blood. It is reasonable to assume Jacob would have remembered this when his sons now tricked him. The pain of deception is felt once again in Jacob's life!

Discuss any meetings students may have had with important people. Explain that in this study we are thinking about meeting with God and the affect this had on Jacob. The man who wrestled with Jacob (verse 24) was none other than the Lord himself. Read Hosea 12: 4. Also refer to where the Lord (i) appears to Moses out of the burning bush; (Exodus 3: 1-22) (ii) appears to Moses in the two incidents when the rod becomes a serpent and his hand is covered in leprosy; (Exodus 4: 1-17) (iii) appears to Isaiah with a request and Isaiah's response; (Isaiah 6) ((iv) appears to Saul on the road to Damascus. (Acts 9: 1-19) Emphasize that all of these people had very important meetings with the Lord and very memorable experiences as a result.

#### **COMPLETE IT**

## Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:

- The hatred of his brothers towards Joseph to the extent that they throw him into a pit. (37: 12-18)
- Joseph's brothers sell him for twenty pieces of silver to the Ishmaelite's, (also called Midianites) who were making their way to Egypt. (37: 25-28)
- Joseph's father, Jacob, is broken-hearted as his brothers tell him a lie. They show him the tunic that was dipped in a goat's blood and Jacob assumes his son is dead. (37: 31-35)

Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it.

Complete Lesson 2.

**Show it:** see FBI links in Appendix C – The hated brother.

## Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:

- Jacob was making his way back from Haran to Canaan and feared Esau would kill him as he said he would some twenty years earlier. (Genesis 27: 41)
- Jacob sent three successive herds of animals, 580 in total, to appease Esau. (32: 13-21)
- Jacob spent the night alone at Peniel (the face of God) – the greatest experience of his life. God puts the socket of his hip out of joint and changed his name from Jacob to Israel. (32: 22- 32)
- Jacob heard Esau was coming with 400 men so he divided his family into two companies so that if the first was destroyed the second could flee. (33: 1-2)

Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it

Complete Study 2.

Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – At Peniel.

#### **REVIEW IT**

Discuss how that God was in control in this story, for the Ishmaelite's, although they were unaware, were providing free transport for Joseph to Egypt to sell him to Potiphar, one of Pharaohs officers.

It was in Egypt that God was going to richly bless Joseph and he would become second in command of all Egypt.

Explain that **Psalm 76: 10** shows God can make the wrath of man to praise Him and what doesn't please Him He restrains.

Review this Study by asking questions which will help students fill in the answers to the questions asked in Study 2

Draw their attention to the meanings of the following: Mahanaim (verse 2) – two hosts or double camp. Jacob (verse 27) – supplanter or 'con man'. Israel (verse 28) – one who strives with God or a prince of God.

Peniel (verse 30) - the face of God.

#### LIVE IT

#### How does the lesson challenge us:

- Discuss whether students have felt hatred or jealousy in their hearts towards others? If so, all need to confess their sin to the Lord Jesus and ask Him to give them the power to live free of evil. See 1 John 1: 7
- Learn the Key Verse Romans 6: 12, and encourage the students to make it a guiding principle in their lives.

- Jacob was left alone with God. (verse 24) As sinners we must have personal dealings with God in order to obtain salvation. Everybody needs to meet with God to have their sins forgiven!
- The angel wrestled with Jacob (verse 24) and stripped him of his pride and hypocrisy. Only God can do that for any of us.
- Jacob had his name changed. We all need our names to be changed to Christian? Believer? Then we shall have a changed attitude, a changed standing before God, a changed relationship with God, and a changed walk before God.

B6 – LEVEL 3
Lesson 3 – The life of Joseph
Topic – The faithful prisoner

Bible Focus: Genesis 39: 1-6; 19-23
Key Verse: Genesis 39: 21

We are learning that:

1. Although Joseph was far away from home in
Egypt, he remained faithful to God even in the

most difficult of situations.

B6 – LEVEL 4 Study 3 – Jacob and his family Topic – At Bethel

### Bible Focus: Genesis 35: 1-15 Key Verse: Psalm 37: 7

We are learning that:

- As Jacob prepares to meet Esau, he needs God's constant help.
- As Christians we may wander and stray from God's path for our lives, but He never leaves us nor forsakes us.
- As Christians, we need God's help to deal with our failures in the past and the difficulties and trials we may face in the future.

#### INTRODUCE IT

Discuss the injustice which puts people behind bars when they are innocent. Explain how that happened to Joseph.

God had His eye on Joseph and had a great

future in store for him. (Romans 8: 28)

Explain that in some countries, today, believers are in prison. They are not in prison because of anything they have done wrong but because they are prepared to be faithful to God, in trusting and obeying what they have learned from the Bible, as to how they should behave as Christians.

Introduce the Study by drawing attention to the fact that those who trust in the Lord are sure of His protection – there is safety in the Lord.

**Psalm 91** and **Romans 8**, illustrate this protection. The following verses are worth referring to by way of introduction and background: **Psalm 91: 2, 15**; and **Romans 8: 31.** 

#### **COMPLETE IT**

#### Present the Bible Story

#### Discuss and Explain:

- Joseph was sold by the Ishmaelite's as a slave to Potiphar, an official in Pharaoh's palace. (30.1)
- Potiphar's wife told lies about him, he was falsely accused, and he was thrown into jail. ((39: 7-20)
- Joseph behaved so well in prison that the jailer put him in charge of the prison. (39: 21-23)

## Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it.

Complete Lesson 3.

**Show it:** see FBI links in Appendix C – The faithful prisoner.

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

#### Discuss and Explain:

- God commands Jacob to fulfil the vow he made about thirty years earlier, in *Genesis 28: 20-22*, and returns to Bethel.
- Jacob orders his family to put away the foreign gods and clean their clothes and when they did so they became a terror to their heathen neighbours. (Genesis 35: 2-5)
- He builds an altar at 'El Bethel', and worships God who protected him from Esau. (Genesis 35: 6-7)
- God meets with Jacob at Bethel again and renews the covenant He made with Abraham and Isaac. (Genesis 35: 11-13)

# Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Study 3.

**Show it:** see FBI links in Appendix C – At Bethel.

#### **REVIEW IT**

Review the lesson by asking students to explain how God defeats the purpose of Satan for Joseph's life and how that Joseph comes out on top as a blameless, trustworthy and responsible believer. Rachel had named her child Ben-oni which means 'son of my sorrow' but Jacob named him Benjamin, meaning 'son of my right hand'. Discuss how that this Study pre-pictured another birth, namely that of the Lord Jesus Christ in that He would endure the sorrow of the cross and then be exalted to God's right hand in Heaven. Just as Bethel was a memorable experience for Jacob so Calvary is a memorable experience for the Lord Jesus Christ and those who are trusting in Him.

#### LIVE IT

#### How does the lesson challenge us:

- Consider what this lesson has taught us about how the Lord Jesus Christ can take care of us, even in the most difficult of circumstances if we trust and obey Him?
- As a Christian, we are not immune from trials or difficulties. How should we react when they come our way?
- Think of other people in the Bible who were imprisoned for their faith.

- We should seek God's blessing on our lives by reading the Bible and praying for God's daily guidance.
- 2. Ask students to discuss what has been the most important 'Bethel experience' in their lives.
- As a Christian, when we are in difficulties, we should make sure we hold on to the latter part of *Hebrews 13: 5*, - 'I will never leave you, nor forsake you.

B6 – LEVEL 3 Lesson 4 – The life of Joseph Topic – The new leader B6 – LEVEL 4 Study 4 – Jacob and his family Topic – In Canaan

Bible Focus: Genesis 41: 14-49 Key Verse: Genesis 41: 32

#### We are learning that:

- Joseph gave God the credit for his ability to interpret the two dreams and because of this humility God entrusted him with responsibility.
- Joseph was faithful to God, not only in the prison but also in the palace, and God looked offer him.

Bible Focus: Genesis 37: 1-36 Key Verses: Ephesians 4: 31-32

#### We are learning that:

- Favouritism can lead to jealousy and jealousy can lead to very serious sin and consequences in people's lives – both on the part of the jealous person and the victim.
- Although his brothers had to live with their sin for many years, eventually Joseph reveals himself to them before his father's death and there is forgiveness and reconciliation. (Genesis 50: 20)

#### **INTRODUCE IT**

Recall the story so far, and explain that God was working His purposes out in Joseph's Life. Point out that because of Joseph's good testimony, *(verse 39)* he was promoted as second in command of the country.

In *verse 42* the ring shows he has been taken from the position of a slave to the position of a king's son; given the clothes of fine linen instead of a torn robe; given a gold chain signifying his rise to authority; and he's given a chariot in *verse 43* showing he is no longer a captive but enjoying liberty in Pharaoh's kingdom.

He has moved from a place of degradation in the pit, when he was 17 years old, to a place of exaltation, when he was 30 years old. He was a very young man in a very responsible job!

Introduce Jacob's family and their present situation. Set the background to this Study by referring to other Bible readings:

- (i) Psalm 56 Discuss that for Christians, God is looking after them regardless of how the devil may be using others to attack.
- (ii) Matthew 5: 43-48; Ephesians 4: 22-32 Encourage students to adopt the Christ-like attitude referred to in both of these readings in times of persecution or opposition from those who do not love the Lord or His followers, even though it may be very difficult.

#### **COMPLETE IT**

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

#### Discuss and Explain:

- Pharaoh has dreams and Joseph is brought from the prison to interpret the dream. (41: 14-16)
- Joseph interprets Pharaohs two dreams seven years of plenty and seven years of famine. Pharaoh makes Joseph the second in command and Joseph administers the corn programme. (41: 17-40)
- The abundance of corn was so great in the fruitful years that it was impossible to keep a record of it. When the seven years of famine came, there was extra corn available for the starving people of Egypt and further afield. (41: 46-49, 53-55)

# Explain the Key Verse and encourage students to learn it. Complete Lesson 4.

**Show it:** see FBI links in Appendix C – The new leader

## Present the Bible Story Discuss and Explain:

- Joseph had dreams and was despised by his brothers. (37: 5-11)
- 2. Joseph was given a coat, or tunic, of many colours by Jacob as a sign of his affection for him but this provoked more hatred from his brothers. (37: 3-4)
- Joseph's dreams indicated that his eleven brothers and Leah and Jacob (Rachel was dead) would all bow down to him in a future day.
- Joseph's brothers were angry and conspired to kill him and sold him to the Ishmaelite's (Midianites). Unconsciously they were carrying out God's plan for Joseph's future promotion. (37: 19-28)
- 5. His brothers callously returned Joseph's coat, dipped in blood to Jacob who assumed Joseph was dead and mourned for the son he so loved. Jacob 'the deceiver' is now 'the deceived. (37: 31-

## Explain the Key Verses and encourage students to learn them.

Complete Study 4.

**Show it:** see FBI links in Appendix C –In Canaan.

#### **REVIEW IT**

Ask students to imagine they are Joseph and they are writing back to his father Jacob, telling him about his new job! What might he put in the letter?

Review this Study by asking questions that:

- Ensure students understand that God is in control of all circumstances in their lives and how He does not want them to return 'evil for evil'.
- (ii) Ensure they are helped in answering the questions in Study 4.

#### LIVE IT

#### How does the lesson challenge us:

- 1. How does this story encourage us?
- 2. What have you learned about being obedient and faithful to God, in your daily life?
- 3. What can you expect by way of blessing?

- Discuss whether *Ephesians 4: 32* is a guiding principle in life.
- Since the Lord Jesus shows no partiality to those who are good or evil, as Christians do we aim to treat everybody fairly and graciously? (Matthew 5: 44-45)

#### **Guidance for Teachers Marking Lessons**

#### Level 3 lessons

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

#### **Level 4 Studies**

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

#### **MARKING HINTS**

The teachers are asked, first to:

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

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

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

#### LEVEL 3

#### **General comments**

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

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

#### **Spiritual comments**

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

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

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

#### **LEVEL 4**

#### **General comments**

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

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

#### **Spiritual comments**

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

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

Apı	pendix A - Lev	el 3 Free Bible Images
	Title	Story Images
В1	Parables	Who is my neighbour?
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-064-good-samaritan/
		The rich farmer
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rich-fool/
		The sower
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/parable-sower-seed/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-049-parable-sower/
		Forgiving others
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/unforgiving-servant/
B2	Miracles	Water into wine
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/wedding-cana/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-016-wedding-cana/
		A boy healed
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-020-officials-son/
		Blind eyes opened
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-076-blind-beggar/
		Ten men with leprosy healed
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-072-ten-leprosy/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jesus-ten-leprosy/

	Title	Story Images		
31	Parables	The two debtors		
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-041-jesus-anointed/		
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/lumo-woman-anointing/		
		Who is my neighbour?		
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/parable-good-samaritan/		
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/good-samaritan/		
		A foolish man		
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/lumo-rich-fool/		
		The great supper		
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/great-feast/		
32	Miracles	Water into wine		
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/wedding-cana/		
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jesus-wedding/		
		The boy healed		
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jesus-centurion/		
		Blind Bartimaeus		
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jesus-blind-man/		
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/lumo-blindman-jericho/		
		Ten men with leprosy		
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/lumo-ten-leprosy/		

	Title	Story Images
В3	Bethany	Two sisters
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/lumo-mary-martha/
		Sorrow turned to joy!
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-070-lazarus-dies/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-071-lazarus-resurrection/
		Another visit
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-084-jesus-anointed/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/mary-anoints-jesus/
		On to Jerusalem
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jesus-jerusalem/
B4	The Cross	Dying
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-093-mocking-jesus/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-096-jesus-crucifixion/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-098-jesus-dies/
		Rising
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-101-jesus-resurrection/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-102-appearance-mary/
		Leaving
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-104-appearance-thomas/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-107-jesus-ascension/
		Returning

	Title	Story Images
3	Bethany	In the home
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/lumo-mary-martha/
		At the tomb
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jesus-lazarus/
		At the table
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/jesus-anointed/
		On the way to Jerusalem
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/triumphant-entry/
4	The Cross	His Death
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/jesus-crucified/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/jesus-dies/
		His Resurrection
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/jesus-alive/
		His Ascension
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/lumo-ascension/
		His Second Coming
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/lumo-ascension/

Apı	oendix C - Level 🤅	3 Free Bible Images
	Title	Story Images
В5	Early Christians	Prepared by God!
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jesus-ascension/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/pentecost/
		Prepared to Die!
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/stephen-martyred/
		Prepared to Listen!
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/philip-ethiopian/
		Prepared to Go!
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/peter-cornelius/
В6	Joseph	The Young Dreamer
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-dreams/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-joseph-dreams/
		The Hated Brother
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-pit/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/joseph-slave/
		The Faithful Prisoner
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/yo-joseph-prison/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-prison/
		The New Leader
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-pharaoh-dreams/

	Title	Story Images
5	Early Christians	Stephen
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/stephen-martyred/
		Philip
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/philip-simon/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/philip-ethiopian/
		Cornelius
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/peter-cornelius/
		Barnabas
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/peter-john-arrested/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/paul-conversion/
6	Jacob & his family	At Haran
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jacob-wedding/
		At Peniel
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jacob-esau-reunited/
		At Bethel
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jacob-esau-reunited/
		In Canaan
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/josephs-dreams/
		https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/joseph-pit/



© Bible Educational Services 2020
www.besweb.com
Registered Charity CIO 1186004