

Beginnings Timeline Unit



Outline of Lessons

<i>WEEK #1–Introduction to God's Word</i>	
Sunday	Overview of Timeline Study What We Expect
Wednesday	"Who's Who? and What's What?" God, The Bible, Satan and Man
<i>WEEK #2–"In the Beginning"</i>	
Sunday	"Let Us"–God and Creation "Where Are You?"–Man Sins
Wednesday	Prophecy of Christ–God Makes Atonement Brothers: Cain, Abel and Seth
<i>WEEK #3–God's Judgment and Mercy</i>	
Sunday	The Ark–God's Design The Flood–God's Judgment The Deliverance–God's Mercy
Wednesday	The Rainbow–God's Covenant Noah's Three Sons–Shem, Ham and Japheth Tower of Babel–God Scatters the People

"BEGINNINGS" Essential Knowledge and Skills

<i>Essential Knowledge</i>	
Lesson 1a	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SW become familiar with the TIMELINE UNIT of study: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 TIMELINE sections • BIBLE HISTORY HIGHWAY • TIMELINE TALK 2. SW know how to use their TIMELINE booklet and what is inside. 3. SW learn something about their teachers. 4. SW know what their personal and spiritual responsibilities are in studying the BIBLE TIMELINE.
Lesson 1b	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God is the author of the Bible, and that the Bible is perfect. 2. Satan is real and is the author of sin. 3. Man is free to choose his master.
Lesson 2a	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God had Others with Him during creation. 2. God was pleased with His creation. 3. God is Great and man is small. 4. Man cannot hide from God. 5. Man must choose whom he will obey.
Lesson 2b	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Christ was in existence before man. 2. All who sin suffer consequences and sin separates man from God. 3. Some offerings to God are not respected by God. 4. SW know the definition of "atonement."
Lesson 3a	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noah was a just and righteous man. 2. God gave Noah a specific plan on how to build the ark, and he obeyed. 3. God is in control of the heavens and the earth. 4. God will judge the evil and save the righteous.
Lesson 3b	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God will sustain man and is mindful of man. 2. Obedience to God will result in salvation. 3. God makes a difference between the clean and the unclean. 4. God is a covenant maker and keeper.

<i>SKILL OBJECTIVES IN "BEGINNINGS" Students Can...</i>	
<p>1. Tell what God made on each of the 6 days of creation.</p>	<p><i>Day 1-Light, day and night</i> <i>Day 2-heavens</i> <i>Day 3-dry ground, seas, plants</i> <i>Day 4-Sun, moon and stars;</i> <i>Day 5-birds and fish</i> <i>Day 6-animals and man</i> <i>Day 7-God rested</i></p>
<p>2. Recognize definitions of "sin," "righteousness" and "atonement."</p>	<p><i>See vocabulary pages in student booklet</i></p>



BEGINNINGS Lesson 1A—Overview of Timeline Study

OBJECTIVES:

1. *SW become familiar with the TIMELINE UNIT of study:*
 - 12 TIMELINE sections
 - BIBLE HISTORY HIGHWAY
 - TIMELINE TALK
2. *SW know how to use their TIMELINE booklet and what is inside.*
3. *SW learn something about their teachers.*
4. *SW know what their personal and spiritual responsibilities are in studying the BIBLE TIMELINE.*

INTRODUCTION:

1. The teachers will introduce themselves and give some factual information concerning their years of teaching, families, etc.
2. The students will be encouraged to listen carefully because everything that is said today will show up on a **20 Questions game** at the end of class!
3. The student TIMELINE workbook will be handed out at this time to each student. Teachers will explain:
 - This workbook will stay in the classroom the entire year and will be taken home at the end of May.
 - This workbook is to be carefully treated so that it will continue to look nice.
 - Encourage students to look through the booklet right now and see how it is laid out.
 - You will notice there is a cover page for each of the TIMELINE sections. In each section there are events pages, sometimes maps, key words, etc.
 - Also included in your book is the first section entitled, MY TIMELINE, which has a small version of the TIMELINE HIGHWAY. We will refer to that highway regularly and color in events that we have studied.
 - In the back of your book is a VOCABULARY section. Each of our Timeline sections has words that we need to know the definitions of. We will be referring to these quite often.

LESSON: PART 1-THE TIMELINE

1. The teachers will now take turns explaining each of the components of our study this year:
 - Show the TIMELINE sections
 - Show the BIBLE HISTORY HIGHWAY
 - Show TIMELINE TALK and explain how we memorize these as we go along in our study, not going ahead.
 - Each BIBLE TIMELINE section is studied for 3 weeks, both on Sunday morning and Wednesday night.
 - How important will regular attendance be, and why?

LESSON: PART 2–RESPONSIBILITIES

1. My responsibility from God as a teacher.
 - Read James 3:1–*“My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment.”*
 - A teacher of God’s word has to be very careful, “rightly dividing the word of truth.”
 - I will be held responsible for every word I teach you out of God’s book.
 - Is it my responsibility to help you be entertained? No. It is my job to teach you the truth in God’s word!
2. Christian parent’s responsibility for his child:
 - Your parents will have to answer to God on Judgment Day about how they raised you with regard to God and the Church. God has given you to them as gifts.
 - God has asked them to raise you in the best possible way and to teach you all that you should know.
 - Please don’t make their job harder by refusing to grow as a Christian!
3. Your responsibility as a student:
 - To listen, learn, study, pray, grow spiritually, apply Biblical concepts to your life, and grow to be more like Jesus each day.
 - Respond to God’s call of salvation.
4. Discipline.
 - We expect no discipline problems in the classroom! There is too much to learn and we are too busy to get into trouble.
 - However, if there is difficulty, we don’t have any problem contacting your parents or even one of the elders to come to a resolution of the difficulty!

ASSESSMENT:

At the end of class, get out the 20 Questions board and quiz the students individually on what they have learned about the BIBLE TIMELINE Unit, their teachers, and their responsibilities today. Hand out candy to each right answer, go around the room, answering one question apiece until all 20 questions have been asked and answered correctly.

- *Note to those of you outside of Katy. I did not include our 20 Questions for this day because it is highly individual, depending on how you are going to use the material and who is teaching the class, etc. If you choose to use this method, you will have to come up with your own questions!*



BEGINNINGS Lesson 1B–The Bible, God, Satan and Man

Objectives:

1. SW know that God is the author of the Bible, and that the Bible is perfect.
2. SW know that Satan is real and is the author of sin.
3. SW know that man is free to choose his master.

Essential Skills:

1. Tell what God made on each of the 6 days of creation.
2. Recognize definitions of "sin," "righteousness" and "atonement."

Introduction:

1. Have you ever watched **part of a movie** and understood the whole thing? NO!!
2. Have you ever read the **middle chapters of a book** and got the entire idea of what the book is all about? NO!!
2. The same is true of the **Bible**. You can't fully understand God's book or its meaning until you look at it from **beginning to end**.
3. This year you will be here to watch as the Bible is unfolded right before your eyes. Some of the stories you have heard. Some you have not. But as important as the stories are, the meanings behind the stories are just as important. You are old enough to grasp those meanings.
4. **"Who's Who and What's What? Activity.**
 - Begin by telling the students that the following activity is for the purpose of setting the stage for the events that we will be studying this year.
 - Tell the students that the main characters of the Bible are **God, Satan and Man**. In each story, these are always present. And so, we must spend a little time getting to know them.
 - Have the overhead on as the class works together through each section. *(Note to non-Katy users—make an overhead of the worksheet, "Who's Who and What's What" and work together with the class filling it out as you teach)*

LESSON: PART 1—THE BIBLE

1. The **Bible** has been given to us by God for the purpose of one day saving our lives. Within it are the keys to our salvation. Its words are perfect and pure although the people who wrote it were not.
2. The **Bible** is one book, one history, one story---God's story...His plan for man.
3. With the help of the **Holy Spirit** who gave the Bible writers their words, over 10,000 events are recorded and they all point to Christ. They span many years and centuries and have valuable lessons for each of us to learn. Each of our lessons from the Timeline unit will come straight from the HOLY BIBLE.
4. Complete the section entitled **"The Bible"** on the worksheet provided.

LESSON: PART 2--GOD

1. Our Father and Creator, He has provided a way to save each of us from ourselves. He is the beginning and the end. He is forever. He has carefully provided and protected the lessons of life found in the Bible so that we will know how to please Him. He will one day be our Judge.
2. Complete the section entitled "**God**" on the worksheet provided.

LESSON: PART 3--SATAN

1. **Satan** is invisible to us but his works are able to be seen. From disease to destruction, the presence of **Satan** is evident. He is vicious and malicious and a friend to those who have no future. He is well familiar with God and His plan, and is constantly trying to destroy it.
2. Complete the section entitled "**Satan**" on the worksheet provided.

LESSON: PART 4--MAN

1. **Man** is the created one. Man is God's greatest creation. God loves man so much that He gave His only Son to save man. It will be man's job to please and obey the Creator--**God**. It will be **man's** job to listen well to the words of God. Through the Timeline, you will see that **man** is small compared to **God**, and yet God's love for man is great.
2. Complete the section entitled "**Man**" on the worksheet provided.

Enrichment:

Please read Genesis 1 through 3 before we meet again on Sunday. As you read, ask yourself:

1. What came first...the chicken or the egg?
2. What about dinosaurs?
3. Where was the Garden of Eden?
4. In Genesis 1:26 who is "US?"
5. Who named the animals?
6. Who named Adam?
7. Who named Eve?



Timeline

BEGINNINGS

Read Genesis 1—3,
then try to think of
these answers:

Enrichment:

- 1. What came first...the chicken or the egg?***
- 2. What about dinosaurs?***
- 3. Where was the Garden of Eden located?***
- 4. In Genesis 1:26, who is "Us"?***
- 5. Who named the animals?***
- 6. Who named Adam?***
- 7. Who named Eve?***



BEGINNINGS Lesson 2A—"In the Beginning"

Objectives:

1. SW know that God had others with Him during creation
2. SW know that God was pleased with His creation.
3. SW know that God is great and man is small.
4. SW know that man cannot hide from God.
5. SW know that man must choose whom he will obey.

Essential Skills:

1. Tell what God made on each of the 6 days of creation.
2. Recognize definitions of "sin," "righteousness" and "atonement."

Introduction:

1. SW read **Beginnings** title page out loud.
2. SW read **Beginnings** key words and key verse page.
3. Have students glance over the **Beginnings** events pages.
4. Mention that in the **Beginnings Timeline Unit**, they will discover many "firsts" and to be watching for them! At the end of the lesson, they will be brainstorming any "firsts" that they see during today's lesson.

LESSON: PART 1—THE CREATION

1. Ask students to turn to the first book of the Bible, **Genesis**. Define "Genesis" as: "origin" or "beginnings" or "generation."
2. **The Creation.** (Note to teacher: one of the "essential skills" in this unit is what was created on each of the 6 days of creation. As you teach this part of the lesson, be sure to write on the board those things that were created in their appropriate day.)
 - **Genesis 1:1 - 2. "In the beginning...God."** The creation involves **God**, the **Holy Spirit** (hovering) and **Christ** (see John 1:1)
 - They, together, are busy preparing a beautiful residence for their greatest creation (man).
 - **Read 1:3, 6, 9—"Let there be"---**speaking creation into being shows the wonderful power of God at work. Creation obeys God's voice. **Can you speak anything into existence? "Let there be candy!"—try it!**
 - **Read 1:5—"So the evening and the morning were the first day."** "Evening then morning" shows the use of the Jewish clock which began its day at sunset.
 - **Read 1:11 - 12—**God is careful, thoughtful and methodical in His creation. It has pattern and order from a God of **order**, not **confusion**.
 - **Experiment.** Have students watch as you tear up a piece of paper and try to create something. This dispels the "it just happened" argument and shows the power of God to be able to take nothing and make something!
 - **Read 1:26—"Let Us" shows** us that **God** is not alone (He was creating with **Christ** and the **Holy Spirit**) and that God desired a creation with the likeness of Himself.
 - Man has authority over all animals but resides compatibly with them (at this time). **Go to John 1:1 - 3.** This tells us that Jesus is the **Word**, that He was present at creation and that all things were made through Him and for Him. **See also Colossians 1:16.** This also confirms that Christ was present and active in the creation!
 - **Read 1:30.** God gave man the green herbs for man to eat. God is ever mindful and always sustaining mankind. He will provide man's physical and spiritual needs forever! Take note that **God did not give man the meat of the animals to eat at this time.** Tell the students to be paying attention in our lessons to find out when God gave man animals to eat!

- **Read 1:31 - 2:3.** God saw that everything He had made was very good! He rested on the seventh day and blessed that day because of His resting. This will be an important thing to remember as we learn about God's people and their laws and customs later on.

LESSON: PART 2—LIFE IN THE GARDEN

1. **Read 2:5 - 6, 10.** The earth was watered at this time by a mist that went up from the earth. Also 4 rivers came from one river in the **Garden of Eden** that also watered the ground.
2. **Read verse 7.** Notice that God took special care when He formed man, His last creation. Instead of speaking him into existence, He took dust to form the man, and then blew His own breath into the nostrils of man! ***Man is God's greatest creation!***
3. **Read 2:8 - 9.** God made a garden for man to live in called Eden. The exact location has not been revealed to us by God, but we know that the general area is near the Persian Gulf region. There were two special trees in the garden called the **Tree of Life** and the **Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil**.
4. **Read 2:15 - 17.** God gives the man ("Adam") his *first set of instructions or rules* and a *job* to do—he was not to eat the fruit of the **Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil**, and he was to tend and keep the garden. So Adam has his first set of **choices** as well—to eat or not eat. To obey or not to obey! Also, God knew that the man had a complex mind and needed to work and accomplish things. Tending the garden was a big job, but think of what it would be like to work in such a beautiful setting!
5. **Read 2:18 - 20.** God was thinking about Adam, His creation. And He realized that he needed a helper that was comparable to him.
 - What do you think "comparable to him" means? *Suitable or equal to or like.* So God brought all the animals to Adam to present them to him and to see what he would name them. Can you imagine getting to sit and come up with a name to aptly fit every animal on the earth?!
 - This also dispels the *"cave man/non-verbal"* theory. Man was intelligent and could communicate in language from the beginning! However, none of the animals proved to be man's equal or suitable as a helper, companion or mate.
6. **Read 2:21 - 22.** The first surgery! Man is put to sleep and God forms woman from a rib taken from Adam's side.
7. **Read 2:23.** Look at what Adam had to say about his new companion: "bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh"! Also, Adam gives her a name—"Woman" which is "Eve."
8. **2:24 - 25.** God lays down a basic principle for us about marriage: ***that the man and woman will leave their fathers and mothers and live together as one person and be one flesh.***
 - Remember, that Moses was the author of this great book of Genesis and he inserts a little commentary right here in the text to help the readers understand what God had in mind for the husband and wife: **One man/one woman; for life!**
 - Notice that God did not say anything about man and man being one flesh or together; He did not say anything about woman and woman being together and one flesh! God's design dictates that a male and a female are to be a couple and nothing else.
 - *Also notice that the two people did not wear any clothes and they weren't embarrassed about it. Why were they not embarrassed? Because they had no **sin** in their lives as of yet. But that is about to change!*

LESSON: PART 3—MAN IS TEMPTED AND SIN COMES INTO THE WORLD

1. **Turn to Genesis 3.** At this point in Adam and Eve's life they are "at one" with God. This will end in **chapter 3**. Adam and Eve made a choice that severed this beautiful relationship with God.
2. Now, for the first time, **Satan** enters the picture. In this story, he appears as a **serpent**. Satan and his angels sinned at one point and were thrown out of Heaven (**Luke 10:18, 2 Peter 2:4 and Jude 6**). He has one purpose...to destroy the "at-one" relationship between man and God. He uses sin to achieve this.
3. **Read 3:1 - 3.** Satan, the serpent talks to the woman asking her a question that he already knew the answer to.

- Isn't it interesting that the serpent was talking and did not surprise or alarm Eve? Notice how he starts off his conversation, "did God really say...?"
- Eve answers that God had indeed given them instructions not to eat of the tree's fruit.
- 4. **Read 3:4 - 5.** Now Satan *misquotes* and *misrepresents* God. He is trying to deceive the innocent woman into doing something against God.
- 5. **Read 3:6 - 7.** Now Eve takes a better look at the fruit and sees that it looks really good! Maybe it was really **pretty** or smelled really good. And then she thought about how **wise** she might be if she ate some of it. So she did! Then she shared some with Adam, and without even thinking he ate it also!
 - *Do you remember who the instructions about the tree were given to in the first place? Only to Adam, because Eve was not created yet! This was Adam's responsibility to see that these instructions were carried out and yet he was so willingly talked into disobeying God!*
- 6. **Read verse 7.** Their eyes were opened and they realized that they were naked! The first clothing is made—fig leaves! They were ashamed! Sin makes us feel ashamed.
- 7. Let's look up **sin** in the **vocabulary section** of your binder. Read together. **Sin** separates us from God.
 - Before Adam and Eve sinned, they were "at one" with God. Their **sin** has now separated them from God. How sad!
 - There will be consequences for Adam, Eve and the serpent. We will learn about those on Wednesday night.

Points to Ponder:

1. God made a world that was perfect at first and He spoke it into being.
2. God's greatest creation: Man!
3. God gave man freedom of choice.
4. God made rules for man to live by. They were easily understood so that man was not confused.
5. Satan is a deceiver of man.
6. Eve was easily deceived.
7. **Sin** always looks for companions to share with.



BEGINNINGS Lesson 2B—"The Promise of Christ"

OBJECTIVES:

1. Christ was in existence before man.
2. All who sin suffer consequences and sin separates man from God.
3. Some offerings to God are not respected by God.
4. SW know the definition of "atonement."

Essential Skills:

1. Tell what God made on each of the 6 days of creation.
2. Recognize definitions of "sin," "righteousness" and "atonement."

STORIES TO BE HIGHLIGHTED:

The Fall of Man
The Curses Given By God
Man Driven from the Garden
Cain and Abel

INTRODUCTION:

1. When man **sins**, he is never alone either in participation of effect because Satan is always involved.
2. In the next 2 stories, "The Fall of Man" and "Cain and Abel," we'll see what havoc **sin** reaps for mankind. And this is only the beginning!
3. But God is a God of mercy. In Genesis 3, we will see His plan to save man from eternal death begin to unfold. We will also see His justice and judgment as man is thrown out of the garden and Satan's defeat is announced!

LESSON: PART 1—THE CURSES

1. Have students turn to Genesis chapter 3. Review what happened with Adam, Eve and the serpent from Sunday morning.
2. Adam and Eve are hiding in shame and in nakedness. Guilty, guilty, guilty. And God, of course knows it.
3. **Chapter 3:11 - 13.** God asks a simple question and Adam and woman stumble and fumble around the true answer blaming each other for the trespass. "He made me do it." "She gave it to me."
 - *Sin is a choice made by the person or persons involved and can't be blamed on anyone else.*
 - *I've often wondered what God's reaction would have been if they had answered truthfully and sorrowfully. We know there would have been consequences. But...*
4. **Chapter 3:14 - 15.** This is one of the most important verses in the Bible. Highlight this in your Bible if you think it's okay with your parents.
 - *This verse is God's plan for mankind.*
 - *It tells the end of the devil.*

- *It is also the end of man's relationship with God (as it has been), and the end of life in the Garden of Eden.*
- *God will hand down 3 curses to all involved in destroying this "oneness" between man and God—the woman, the man and the serpent. It is the punishment phase of the crime.*
- *Anyone who thinks that spiritual crime goes unpunished needs to think again!*

5. Read 3:1 - 15—The Serpent's curse.

- "On your belly"—apparently the serpent was the most desirable of all creation. Now it would be the most loathsome. "There will be enmity between you and woman and between her **Seed** and your seed. You will bruise (crush) **His** heel." Whose heel do you think God is talking about? Whose "seed"?
- *This is Christ revealed to man for the first time! Jesus is the "Seed" of woman. Satan may have won this battle but Jesus will win the war by His death on the cross and resurrection. Jesus' heel will be bruised at His crucifixion, but Satan's head will be bruised when Jesus rises from the dead! Satan's bruise will be "life-threatening"!*
- *It is here where man again can have oneness with God. Satan will continue to try to break and separate that oneness. This is his goal in life.*

6. Read 3:16. The Woman's Curse.

- Because of her sin she will have pain in childbirth, her ability to have children will multiply (can have children more often) ...
- And Man shall rule over woman. Now there will be someone to have accountability—the man.

7. Read 3:17 - 19. Adam's Curse.

- Man will have to work for his living by tilling the soil, but the soil will also be cursed and will bring forth thistles.
- Man will have to toil hard all the days of his life and then return to the dust when he dies.
- *Curses for everyone involved! No one escaped punishment did they?*

8. Read 3:21—In sin there is always blood to be shed. What did God make the tunics out of? Skins

- What did that involve? Death to an animal (bloodshed)
- *In the Old Testament, God's people had to offer a blood sacrifice for their sins. What has been sacrificed for our sins?*

9. Read 3:22. God speaks to the Holy Spirit and His Son about His concern for Adam and Eve eating of the other tree...the Tree of Life...and living forever. This can't happen because life must be through Jesus and not by man's hand.

10. Vs. 23. The decision is made to drive them out of the Garden.

11. **Vs. 24.** God's mind is made up. He drives man out and places cherubim at the east of the Garden of Eden and a flaming sword, which turns every way to guard the Tree of Life. Pretty awesome to imagine!

➡ **Vocabulary: "Atonement"**

Man and Adam are no longer in the "oneness" relationship because of his sin. However, oneness can be found again through Christ, and only Christ. We call this "atonement." **Atonement** is that which covers over an offense. In the Old Testament it was the blood of animals that provided **atonement** for God's people, but in the New Testament, Christ steps up to the cross as our **atonement** and brings us "**at-one-ment**" with God. Therefore we are "at one" with our Creator again.

LESSON: PART 2–THE BROTHERS: CAIN, ABEL AND SETH

1. It is only the 4th chapter of Genesis and look to see what evil is about to take place! We've seen a lot of firsts but this chapter will yield a terrible first—*the first murder*. Satan is alive and well outside the Garden of Eden.
2. In chapter 4 we have the first brothers, **Cain** and **Abel**. Both are making offerings to the LORD. This is their worship.
 - *One offering is accepted and one is not. It is obvious that God had instructed the first family how to offer to Him and in what spirit. God would leave nothing to guesswork.*
 - *But one brother, Cain, did not offer in the way that made God pleased. God made this known and Cain became angry towards his brother. You know the story...murder.*
3. **Read 4:7.** Satan is alive and well. The choice is Cain's. Sin or sin not. The choice is also ours. Sin or not.
4. **Read 4:8 - 10.** Cain murders Abel.
5. **Read 4:11 - 13.** Curse: no yield from the ground and a vagabond. Like father like son!
6. **Read 4:14 - 15.** God's mercy is never ceasing...a characteristic of the LORD.
7. **Read 4:16 - 22.** Cain's family.
8. **Read 4:25.** A new son for Adam and Eve—**Seth** (appointed) "a new seed and man began to call on the name of the LORD.

POINTS TO REMEMBER:

1. *We must worship in spirit and truth.*
2. *Sin separates us from God.*
3. *It is man's choice to obey or disobey.*
4. *We cannot hide from God.*
5. *There are consequences for sin.*
6. *God is merciful but His judgment is fair.*



BEGINNINGS Lesson 3A—"The Ark, the Flood and Deliverance"

OBJECTIVES:

1. SW know that Noah was a just and righteous man.
2. SW know that God gave Noah a specific plan on how to build the ark and he obeyed.
3. SW will know that God is in control of the heavens and the earth.
4. SW will know that God will judge the evil and save the righteous.

Essential Skills:

1. Tell what God made on each of the 6 days of creation.
2. Recognize definitions of "sin," "righteousness" and "atonement."

INTRODUCTION:

1. Much time has passed and there is now a mix of those who obey or "walk with God" and those who do not. Take note of the longevity of the descendants of Adam. Discuss how things were different on the earth in those days because of the water canopy above the earth's atmosphere.
2. **Genesis 5:32** tells us that **Noah** is the son of Lamech, the son of Methuselah. He is 500 years old when we first learn about him.

LESSON: PART 1—NOAH, A RIGHTEOUS MAN

1. **Genesis 6:1 - 4.** "Sons of God" (those who were faithful to God—Seth's descendants) married the "daughters of men" (those who did not follow God—Cain's descendants). This was a bad mix.
 - *God Said His Spirit would not strive with man forever, so he shortened man's days to one hundred twenty years.*
2. **Read Gen. 6:5**—God saw into men's hearts and found that their thoughts were evil continually.
3. **Read Gen. 6:6 - 7.** God was sorry and grieved that He had made man! He said He would destroy man and beast, creeping things and birds of the air.
4. **Verse 8-9**—But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. He walked with God. Noah was a "righteous" man.

➡ VOCABULARY—"Righteous"

To be "Righteous" means to live according to God's laws; to be free from guilt or sin; to be morally right. Apparently, Noah was the only person alive who was righteous at this time!

5. **6:13**—God tells Noah of His plan to destroy the earth. The earth was filled with violence.
6. **Genesis 6:14 - 16.** God gives Noah specific instructions on how to make an ark:
 - Gopher wood
 - Rooms
 - Pitch
 - 300 cubits long, 50 cubits wide, 30 cubits tall—in our measuring terms it was 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high. Scholars have calculated that a vessel of this size would hold more than 43,000 tons!
 - a window
 - A door on its side.
 - Lower, second and third deck
 - *Why do you think God was so specific in His instructions? What would have happened if Noah had changed God's instructions?*
7. In the New Testament, Jesus spoke of the Flood and of Noah and the ark, comparing “the days of Noah” with the time of “the coming of the Son of Man” (**Matthew 24:37,38; Luke 17:26, 27**)
 - Jesus said that people were eating, drinking, and marrying when the floodwaters came and destroyed them all.
 - These people were unaware of God and not ready for the flood. They were destroyed.
 - *The same is true for us when Jesus comes again. If we are living our lives “unaware of God” and not ready for judgment, then we will be punished forever.*
 - *God showed Himself to be concerned with small details in the story of the flood (type of wood, exact measurements, etc.). Do you think God is still concerned with small details today in the Church?*
 - *Is it necessary for us to follow all of God's instructions carefully? Yes!!*
 - *How is the ark like the church?*
 - ▶ Outside of the ark there was no salvation from the flood; outside the church there is no salvation from sin.
 - ▶ God planned (designed) the ark; God planned (designed) the church.
 - ▶ Inside the ark only a few were saved—8 people; inside the church are only a few that will be saved.

LESSON: PART 2—INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT A WELL-KNOWN STORY

1. **Read 7:1 - 3.** 2 (1 pair) of each *unclean* animal and 14 (7 pairs) of each *clean* animal are chosen to go on the Ark. Also **seven pairs** each of birds of the air.
2. **Read 7:4-5**—God again tells Noah what he is about to do and Noah did everything God commanded him to do.
3. **Read 7:6**—Noah was **600 years old** when the flood came. He built on the Ark for at least 100 years!

4. **Read 7:7–8** people went on the Ark—Noah, his wife, his sons and their wives. (See 1 Peter 3:20 - 22).
5. **Read 7:9-10**—all go onto the Ark.
6. **Read 7:11**—they went on the Ark on the *17th day of the second month*. The fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. Apparently the layer of water that had been above the earth (see **Genesis 1:6 - 7**) now rained down on the earth. Also, water from underneath the earth came up.
7. **Read 7:16**—God shut Noah and his family inside the Ark.
8. **Read 7:17-20**—the water was so great that it covered up the mountain tops!
9. **Read 7:21-24**—all flesh died; all who breathed air. The waters stayed that way for 150 days.

LESSON: PART 3—AFTER THE FLOOD

1. **Read 8:1**—God remembered Noah and all the animals. He made a wind to dry up the waters.
2. **Read 8:4**—the waters receded enough that the Ark rested on the top of **Mt. Ararat**. This was in the 7th month on the 17th day. **Read 8:5**—by the 10th month the tops of the mountains could be seen.
3. **Read 8:7**—Noah sent a Raven out to check on the progress of the water.
4. **Read 8:8-9**—he sent a dove, but it came back because there was no place to rest.
5. **Read 8:10-11**—he sent the dove again who brought him back an olive leaf.
6. **Read 8:12**—the dove was sent out again and did not return.

■ **8:14**—on the 27th day of the 2nd month (a year and 10 days later!!) the earth was dry!

■ **How is the ark that saved Noah, his family and all the animals like baptism?**

- ▶ God determined that this would be the method by which he would save Noah. God determined that baptism would be the method by which He would save man from his sins after Jesus came to earth, by way of the shed blood of Jesus. Baptism is how we come in contact with the **blood** of the Lamb of God.
- ▶ The ark “transported” Noah and his family through the water and saved them from death. Baptism “transports” us from death to life.
- ▶ **1 Peter 3:20 - 22**—“...*eight souls were saved through water, ...an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.*”



BEGINNINGS Lesson 3B–The Rainbow–God’s Covenant Noah’s Three Sons–Shem, Ham and Japheth Tower of Babel–God Scatters the People

OBJECTIVES:

1. God will sustain man and is mindful of man.
2. Obedience to God will result in salvation.
3. God makes a difference between the clean and the unclean.
4. God is a covenant maker and keeper.

Essential Skills:

1. Tell what God made on each of the 6 days of creation.
2. Recognize definitions of “sin,” “righteousness” and “atonement.”

INTRODUCTION:

1. *The Ark is built according to God’s plan. Noah has obeyed and built it. Never seeing rain before (the ground was watered with a mist–Gen 2:6); Noah is trusting and faithful to God. He has also made sure that his family is safe. Only 8 people are safe–Gen 6:18. Even though God is grieved with man’s evil ways He provides a way for man to be saved. Man is given another chance.*
2. *Noah, his family and the animals spent 1 year and 10 days on the ark! God is now ready for them to come out of the ark. The waters have dried all dried up and the earth is ready for its new beginning!*

LESSON: PART 1–THE RAINBOW, GOD’S COVENANT

1. **Read 8:17**–God told Noah and his family to come out of the Ark and to be fruitful and multiply.
2. **Read 8:20**–Noah’s first act was to build an altar to the LORD and he sacrificed some of all the clean animals.
3. **Read 8:21**–When God smelled the soothing aroma, He said in His heart, *“I will never again curse the ground for man’s sake”* [remember the curse on the ground in Adam’s time? God has now lifted it!] He also said He would never again destroy every living thing again.
4. **Read 9:1**–“be fruitful, multiply and fill the earth” --or spread out in the earth. This will be important in the next story!
5. **Read 9:2-7**–Animals will now fear man; man will now use animals for food as well as green herbs; God will demand a reckoning for every living thing that murders another!
6. **Read 9:8-11**–God’s covenant with man and all the animals to never destroy the earth again with water.
7. **Read 9:12-17**–the sign of the covenant (**a rainbow**); God calls it “My rainbow” in vs. 13.

- *Why had there been no rainbow up to this time? Because there hadn't been any rain! Remember, God previously watered the earth with a mist that came up from the ground. Now there would be rain.*
- *Whenever we see a rainbow today, it reminds us that God is a promise-keeper—not only of this promise, but all the others as well!*

LESSON: PART 2—HAM'S SIN AND THE CURSE ON CANAAN

1. **Read 9:20-23**—Noah planted a vineyard, got drunk and was naked. Ham sees and tells his brothers about it—this was highly disrespectful of Ham. The other brothers respectfully covered their father's nakedness without looking.
2. **9:24-27**—Noah pronounces a curse on **Canaan**, Ham's son and says that Canaan will be Shem's servant. Ask the kids if they have ever heard of the name "**Canaan**." Tell how this curse will have lasting effects: the descendants of **Shem** and **Canaan** will always be at odds with each other throughout time. Japheth is also blessed.
 - *Canaan's descendants will inhabit the land for many hundreds of years that God will eventually promise to Abraham and his descendants. We will find out in FATHERS that Abraham is a descendant of Shem!*

LESSON: PART 3—THE TOWER OF BABEL

1. **Read 11:1 - 4**—the people all stayed together instead of "filling the earth" as God had directed. They had **one speech** and language. They decided to build for themselves a huge tower so that they could have a name for themselves, and so that they would not scatter as God had told them to.
 - *The people rebelled against God by deciding to remain together.*
 - *They were also filled with pride, thinking they could build a tower all the way to the heavens where God resides.*
2. **Read 11:5-9**—"Come, let US (*who is "US"?*) go down and confuse their language..." God uses a unique way to scatter the people throughout the whole earth!
 - *The language barrier is still one reason why there is so much tension between nations of the earth. We cannot fully communicate with each other, so we will continually have troubles between us!*

BEGINNINGS CONCLUSIONS:

- *Man must follow all of God's commands. Man is not at liberty to choose which laws he will follow.*
- *Man was created by God with the ability to choose whom he will obey.*
- *Those who obey (who are **righteous**) will be rewarded. Those who disobey (**sin**) will be punished.*
- ***Sin** separates a man from God. **Atonement** is needed for man to be "at one" with God again. As we saw in Genesis 3, God already had a plan to provide **atonement** for man through His own Son!*
- *Already, we have been given pictures in BEGINNINGS of **Christ**—the one door (one door in the ark), the **church**—the ark (only those who were in the ark were saved), and **baptism** ("eight souls were saved through water").*



Who's Who and What's What

Answer Key

THE BIBLE	GOD	SATAN	MAN
<p>■ <u>God-breathed</u> 2 Timothy 3:16</p> <p>■ <u>Living/Powerful</u> Hebrews 4:12</p> <p>■ <u>Forever</u> 1 Peter 1:23b</p> <p>■ <u>Light</u> Psalm 119:105</p> <p>■ <u>Perfect/Pure</u> Psalm 12:6</p> <p>“Biblia”: Greek for books “testament”: covenant/will</p> <p>OT—39 books NT—27 books</p> <p>15 centuries to write 30 identifiable authors</p> <p>Paul called it: “sacred writing” “Holy Scriptures”</p> <p>Happy Ending!</p>	<p>■ <u>All knowing</u> Acts 15:8</p> <p>■ <u>All Seeing</u> Hebrews 4:13</p> <p>■ <u>Forever</u> Revelation 1:8</p> <p>■ <u>Truth</u> Psalm 119:142</p> <p>■ <u>Impartial</u> Romans 2:11 Deut. 10:17,18</p> <p>■ <u>Patient</u> 2 Peter 3:9</p> <p>■ <u>Mindful of Man</u> Exodus 2:24 Heb. 6:10</p> <p>■ <u>Giver</u> Eph. 2:8 Rev. 2:10</p> <p>■ <u>Jealous</u> Exodus 20:5 Deut. 4:24</p> <p>■ <u>Judge</u> Romans 2:6</p>	<p>■ <u>Real</u> Job 1:6-7</p> <p>■ <u>Past Heaven Resident</u> Rev. 12:7</p> <p>■ <u>Prince of Disobedience</u> Eph. 2:2</p> <p>■ <u>Enticer/Tempter</u> Matt. 4:3 Eph. 6:11</p> <p>■ <u>Enemy</u> 1 Peter 5:8</p> <p>■ <u>Liar/Father of lies</u> John 8:44</p> <p>■ <u>Created/Accuser</u> Rev. 12:9-10</p> <p><u>The Loser!!!</u> Matt. 16:23 1 John 3:8</p>	<p>■ <u>Created in God's Image</u> Genesis 1:26-27, 2:7</p> <p>■ <u>Superior to Animals</u> Matthew 10:31</p> <p>■ <u>Free to Choose</u> Romans 12:2</p> <p>■ <u>Dominion over Animals</u> Genesis 1:28</p> <p>■ <u>Sinful</u> Romans 3:23</p>