



The Story of God and His People

Lesson Aim: To understand the Bible is the story of God and His people.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The God of Peace

THE WORD

Bible Story: Jeremiah 24:7

What He has done: God gave us the Bible to tell the story of God and His people.

Key Verse: Jeremiah 24:7

THE WAY

Christ Connection: John 3:16; Matthew 22:37-39

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulders: and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6 (KJV)

Unit 10: The Promised One			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
48	Advent 1: Isaiah and the Prince of Peace, Isaiah 9:2, 6-7	God gave Isaiah the prophecy about the coming Prince of Peace.	To understand Jesus is the Prince of Peace.
49	Advent 2: God's Promise to Mary, Luke 1:26-33, 37-38	God promised Mary she would give birth to His Son Jesus.	To know we can trust God to keep His promises because nothing is impossible with God.
50	Advent 3: John the Baptist, Luke 1:16-17, 41; John 1:29	God sent John the Baptist to point others to the promised Savior.	To challenge children to point others to Jesus.
51	Advent 4: Shepherds See the Promised One, Luke 2:4-18	God sent His Son to bring peace.	To know Jesus brought peace just as God promised.
52	The Story of God and His People, Jeremiah 24:7	God gave us the Bible to tell the story of God and His people.	To understand the Bible is the story of God and His people.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 70:4. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for the stories and promises You have given us throughout the Bible. Give us passion and wisdom to look for the fulfillment of Your promises. Amen."

WHAT ABOUT SANTA? Many cultures incorporate the story of Saint Nicholas (Santa Claus) into their family traditions at Christmas. Young children get very excited about this tradition. To honor all parents, our role as Bible teachers is not to address (validate or invalidate) their family traditions, but to redirect their focus to celebrate the gift of God's Son.

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**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Meet & Greet	None
		Game: Bible Story Charades	Poster board
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org	Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song: "For Unto Us" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "I Bring You Good News" "For God So Loved the World" "King of Kings" "At the Name of Jesus" "You Will Seek Me" Additional Hymn Suggestions: "Joy to the World" "Away in a Manger" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Worship Jamz Christmas by Worship Jamz Shout Praises Kids Christmas by Integrity Media
		Worship Scripture Reading: 1 Peter 2:9	Bible
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	Lesson 52 The Love Sub script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Read the Word: Jeremiah 24:7	Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster
THE WAY	Up to 25	Discuss the Word Christ Connection: John 3:16; Matthew 22:37-39	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster
		Golden Bowl	
	Final 5	Final Five Minutes	Treasure Treats—Books of the Bible Bookmark, Daily Ways, basket, paper, pencils, crayons or markers, prayer notebook, Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song "For Unto Us," CD player
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Snack: Fish Stories	Fish-shaped crackers, water
	Up to 20	Game: Ultimate Bible Challenge	Ultimate Bible Challenge Questions and Answer Key for Ages 6-7 (available at ResourceWell.org), tape, two table bells or squares of cloth, table, poster board or white board, marker
	Up to 10	Game: I Opened My Bible	Bible
	Up to 15	Craft: Bible Treasure Box	Boxes, crayons or markers, glue, scissors, assorted craft supplies
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Appearing Angel	Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse poster, dry erase or poster board, marker
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Toss-A-Verse	Large ball (inflatable beach ball, rubber ball, etc.), permanent marker
	Up to 5	Bible Timeline Review	Date with story title or name printed on card

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

THE WELCOME

To spark anticipation, encourage arriving children to meet and greet one another with today's question.

Meet & Greet Question: What is your favorite Bible story?

GAME: BIBLE STORY CHARADES

Purpose: Review of favorite Bible stories.

Supplies: Poster board

Prepare: List some favorite Bible stories on the poster board. (Many familiar stories are listed below or see the Bible Timeline Review in the GOT TIME? segment of this lesson for a more complete list.) Hang the poster board where the children can see it.

Teacher Tips: For younger children or non-readers, the teacher may whisper the name of a familiar Bible story to children and offer suggestions on how to act it out.

Let's take turns acting out some of our favorite Bible stories without speaking. When it is your turn, choose one of the Bible stories on our poster board. You may choose a partner to help you.

Directions:

1. Choose a child to go first.
2. Child whispers the name of the Bible story he or she has chosen to you. If the child has a partner, give them time to plan how they will act out the story.
3. Child acts out the Bible story without speaking.
4. The remaining children guess the name of the Bible story until someone guesses correctly.
5. Repeat the game until each child has a turn choosing a story to act out.

Familiar Bible Stories

Creation

Adam and Eve

Noah's Ark

Joseph and His Coat

The Red Sea Parts

The Ten Commandments

David and Goliath

Daniel and the Lion's Den

The Angel Visits Mary

Jesus is Born

Shepherds Hear Good News

Jesus Walks on Water

Jesus Feeds 5,000

Jesus Heals People

Jesus and Zacchaeus

Jesus is Risen

Jesus Goes up to Heaven

Jesus Appears to Thomas

Saul Sees a Bright Light

Peter Escapes from Prison

Paul and Silas Sing in Prison



The God of Peace

THE WORSHIP

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play music as children move to the designated area.



Today, we worship the God of Peace. Worship is showing God we love Him. The story of God and His people shows us God has always loved us. He has kept His promise to be our God. He promised to be with us if we seek Him and He has made a way for us to be with Him forever. Sing: "You Will Seek Me" as the offering is collected.



God has told us what He wants us to do as His people: to love Him and to love our neighbors as ourselves. One of the ways we can show our love to God is to declare His praises. Read 1 Peter 2:9.



Anyone who believes in Jesus as the Lord has been chosen by God to be one of His people and part of His forever family. God gave His Son Jesus to the world so that whoever believes in Him would have life forever close with God.

Sing the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song: "For Unto Us."

You may also choose to sing songs that focus on God's love.



Perform The Love Sub script or read storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 10, Lesson 52.



God and His people

THE WORD

Teacher Tip: As you move from worship to instruction, change rooms or locations within a room to help redirect the children's focus to the Bible story. During this transition time, have each child write his or her name on a card and place it in the Golden Bowl.

Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Class Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Class Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my teacher, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word—knowing God is my goal."

Last time, we learned what happened when the angel announced the birth of Jesus to the shepherds. Who knows what the shepherds heard and saw? (Children respond.) If a Bible Timeline is available, point to The Birth of Jesus (Circa 1 A.D.). For a Bible Timeline Review activity, see the GOT TIME? segment of this lesson.

Today, we will think about the whole Bible as one big story: the story of God and His people. It began when God created the earth, all living things, and Adam and Eve, the first people. God loves all the people He has made. He has always wanted us to be close with Him. He showed this when He gave Moses the Law, which is also known as the Ten Commandments. The first four teach us how to love God. The last six teach us how to love one another. Along the way, God sent prophets with the promise that if we seek God, we will find Him. Check out the message God gave to Moses, Jeremiah, and many others throughout the Bible.



If you brought your Bible, open it now and share it with others. Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's Scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals the Bible Story Scripture reference: Jeremiah 24:7.

Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts, and minds to His Word today. Who would like to pray that for us? Child prays aloud. **Be seated.**

Read Jeremiah 24:7.



Knowing the story

THE WAY

In the story of God and His people, God has always wanted the people He made to be close to Him. How can you show God you love Him? (Children respond.)



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament, and Us

CHRIST CONNECTION

We show God we love Him by obeying Him and walking in His ways. But throughout the story of God and His people, we see everyone disobeys. Disobeying God is called sin. The bad news is we cannot earn His forgiveness. The good news is He made a way for us to be forgiven and be close with Him forever. Who did God send to be the way for us to be close with Him? (Jesus.)



Everyone, place your Bible on your lap. Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection
Scripture reference: John 3:16; Matthew 22:37-39. **First, let's find John 3:16.** Read John 3:16.

What must one do to be part of God's people and to be close with Him forever? (Believe in His Son Jesus.) **Who are God's people today?** (Children respond.) **God's people include all who believe in His Son Jesus. God's people are men, women, and children of all races and all faith backgrounds who come to Him through believing in Jesus as their Lord. God wants His people to obey His greatest commandments. We can find them in the book of Matthew.** Read Matthew 22:37-39.

The Bible is the story of God and His people. We are all included in this story. Below are five important parts of this story we learn from the Bible:

1. **God made us and He loves everyone He has made.**
2. **He wants us to be close with Him. He promised we would be His people.**
3. **Our sin separates us from God, so He gave His Son Jesus to pay for our sins so all who believe in Jesus can be close with God forever.**
4. **Most of all, God wants His people to love Him and love others.**
5. **One day, Jesus will gather up all of God's people and take them to heaven.**

What is your favorite part of the story of God and His people? (Children respond.) **What are some ways you can love God with all your heart, soul, and mind?** (Children respond.) **What can you do to love your neighbor?** (Children respond.)

Each story in the Bible shows us something about God and His people and teaches us something about ourselves. Let's play Ultimate Bible Challenge to see how many Bible stories we can remember! See GOT TIME? for ULTIMATE BIBLE CHALLENGE.

THE WAY *continued...*



Revelation 5:8

GOLDEN BOWL

Teacher Tip: Write the names of classmates, local church leaders, and children in other nations or others who need prayer on small pieces of paper. Place the papers in a golden bowl.

Revelation 5:8 says our prayers are like sweet smelling incense in the golden bowls at God's throne. I'm going to lift each one of your names to God's throne as you pray for each person silently. Then, we will pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) aloud together. Let's pray.

Lord God, we lift up to Your throne the name of each child here. We trust You to watch over us and our needs, the ones we say aloud and the ones hidden in our hearts. First, we lift up to You ____, ____, ____. Read names in Golden Bowl.

Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

TREASURE TREAT: Today, your Treasure Treat is a Bible Bookmark with all the books of the Bible listed in order to help you find your favorite Bible stories. Tell your family the story of God and His people.

DAILY WAY CHALLENGE: Did anyone bring in a completed Daily Way from last time? Praise or reward those who return a Daily Way. Distribute Lesson 52 Daily Way 5-day Bible study. **Complete this week's Daily Way at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible. Join the Daily Way Challenge by returning your completed Daily Way.**

Teacher Tip: Collect Daily Ways in a basket or other container and periodically reward children as a group for completing the challenge.

OFFERING OF ART: Until it is time to be dismissed, make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of your favorite Bible story.

PRAYER REQUESTS: As children work on their Offering of Art, ask how you can pray for them this week. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG: Play the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song, "For Unto Us," in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SNACK: FISH STORIES

Purpose: Children will eat a snack and share Bible stories with a fish or water theme.

Snack Suggestion: Fish-shaped crackers, water

Each story in the Bible is part of the story of God and His people. Many of the stories happen near water or include fish. Can you think of one of those stories? (Children respond.) **Let's enjoy a snack of fish-shaped crackers and water as we try to remember.**

Directions:

1. Distribute the snack and drink.
2. Child prays to thank God for the snack.
3. Ask the Snack Discussion Question: **"What is one Bible story that involved fish or happened on or near water?"**

GAME: ULTIMATE BIBLE CHALLENGE

Purpose: To help children recognize the story of God and His people by reviewing Bible story facts.

Supplies: Ultimate Bible Challenge Questions and Answer Key for Ages 6-7 (available at ResourceWell.org), tape, two table bells or squares of cloth, table, poster board or white board, marker

Prepare: Fold the Ultimate Bible Challenge Question sheets in half, including the titles. Tape them to a wall or lay them on the floor in the order shown on the Answer Key. Make sure the point numbers are facing forward and the questions are hidden. The end result should resemble the answer board in the television game show "Jeopardy."

Directions:

1. Form two teams. Let each team choose a team name.
2. Call the first child from each team to stand on opposite sides of the Ultimate Bible Challenge Questions, facing each other with their hands behind their backs. Place a table bell (or square of cloth) on the table in front of each child.
3. Choose one of the children to choose a category. Read the 100 point question aloud. The first child to ring their bell (or wave their cloth) gets the first chance to answer the question. Encourage the child to discuss the question with his or her team before answering.
 - If the child answers correctly, give the points to the child's team. Record the points on poster board or white board.
 - If the child answers incorrectly, the other child may earn the points by answering correctly. If neither answer correctly, no one gets the points. Read the correct answer.
4. Call up the second child on each team. Repeat steps 2-3. The child from the team who won the last points chooses which question card to read.
5. Play until all of the question cards have been answered or until every child has played.
6. The team with the most points wins.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: I OPENED MY BIBLE

Purpose: Children will play a memory game with various Bible stories.

Supplies: Bible

Where do we find the stories of God and His people? (In the Bible.) **Each Bible story tells us something about who God is and what He has done for us. Let's play a game to help us remember some of those stories.**

Directions:

1. Sit with the children in a circle.
2. Hold up the Bible.
3. Say, **"I opened my Bible and in it I found name of a Bible story."**
4. Give the Bible to the child on your left. That child repeats what you said and then adds a new Bible story: **"I opened my Bible and in it I found teacher's Bible story, child's Bible story."**
5. Children continue passing the Bible, repeating the previous stories mentioned, and adding their own to the end of the list.
6. Play until each child has a turn. As the list gets longer and longer, children may struggle with remembering the previous stories. You may consider giving hints or children to assist each other.
7. Optional: Challenge children to remember some of the Bible Memory Verses they have learned.

CRAFT: BIBLE TREASURE BOX

Purpose: To create a box in which children can hold their favorite Bible treasures.

Supplies: Boxes, crayons or markers, glue, scissors, assorted craft supplies (buttons, glitter, sequins, ribbon, yarn, shells, etc.)

Optional: Decoupage the box with gold tissue paper. Tear paper into 1-inch pieces. Dilute glue with a little water and spread a thin layer on the box with a brush or sponge. Layer paper pieces onto the box. Spread another thin layer of glue over the paper and let it dry. Draw and color favorite Bible stories onto the box. Cut out and glue on magazine pictures showing things God has done for His people.

Who are God's people? (All who believe in Jesus as their Lord.) **We are all a part of the story of God and His people. God wants us to remember His stories every day of the week, not just when we meet together. Every day, He wants you to read the Bible and think about how much He loves you. Let's each make a Bible Treasure Box to help us keep as treasures the stories, verses, and memories we find as we read the Bible.**

Directions:

1. Decorate your box using the assorted craft supplies. (A few other suggestions are listed below.)
2. Write your name on your box.

Each time you remember a favorite Bible story or learn a Bible verse that is special to you, write it on a piece of paper and place it in your Bible Treasure Box. You can add questions you have for God, your thoughts or feelings about the meaning of Bible stories or verses, or any other Bible treasures you would like to keep safe.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulders: and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6 (KJV)

GAME: APPEARING ANGEL

Purpose: Children learn the meaning of the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse: Isaiah 9:6.

Supplies: Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse poster, dry erase or poster board, marker

Prepare: Display the Bible Memory Verse poster.

Directions:

1. Choose one of the phrases below. On a dry erase or poster board, draw one line for each letter in the phrase. Include a blank space between each word.
2. Choose a child to guess a letter. If the letter is found in the phrase, write it on every blank where it belongs. If the letter is not in the phrase, draw one part of an angel (Robe, head, hands, feet, smile, eyes, nose, hair, etc.) on another part of the dry erase or poster board.
3. Choose another child to guess a letter.
4. Continue playing until the children have guessed the phrase or until the angel drawing is complete. The goal is to complete the phrase before the angel drawing is completed.
5. After the phrase is revealed, read its meaning below to explain that part of the verse.
6. If time allows, play again using another phrase. Use different phrases each time you play.

Phrase and meaning

“For unto us a child is born” (Jesus was born as a baby.)

“Unto us a Son is given” (God gave His Son to be our Savior.)

“And the government shall be on His shoulders” (Jesus will one day rule the world.)

“And His name will be called” (There are many names for God.)

“Wonderful Counselor” (The Holy Spirit guides us to do things God’s way.)

“Mighty God” (God is so strong that He can do anything.)

“The Everlasting Father” (God is our heavenly Father forever.)

“The Prince of Peace” (Jesus gives us peace with God, and peace in our hearts.)

GAME: TOSS-A-VERSE

Purpose: Children memorize the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse: Isaiah 9:6.

Supplies: Large ball (inflatable beach ball, soccer ball, etc.), permanent marker

Prepare: Write the Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse on the ball.

Directions:

1. Children stand in a circle.
2. One child holds the ball and quickly says the first word of the verse. The child then tosses the ball to another child who says the next word.
3. Continue tossing the ball until the verse is completed.
4. Children may use the verse written on the ball to help them remember the words, but encourage them to learn the verse as they play.

Option: Divide into two or more teams. Have teams race against each other to complete the game first.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW

Below is a comprehensive list of the Bible stories studied in THE WORSHIP, THE WORD & THE WAY children's Bible curriculum. This list may be a useful aid in the games for this lesson as you review the story of God and His people.

Genesis – Malachi (Before Circa 400 B.C.)

Creation > Adam and Eve > Cain and Abel > Noah (Circa 2350 B.C.) > Babel > Abram and Lot (Circa 2100 B.C.) > Hagar and Ishmael > Abraham and Isaac (Circa 2050 B.C.) > Isaac and Rebekah > Jacob and Esau (Circa 1900 B.C.) > Joseph (Circa 1850 B.C.) > Moses (Circa 1500 B.C.) > Joshua (Circa 1450 B.C.) > Deborah (Circa 1350 B.C.) > Gideon (Circa 1250 B.C.) > Samson (Circa 1150 B.C.) > Ruth > Samuel (Circa 1100 B.C.) > Saul (Circa 1050 B.C.) > David (Circa 1020 B.C.) > Solomon (Circa 970 B.C.) > Elijah (Circa 870-845 B.C.) > Elisha (Circa 845-800 B.C.) > Joel (Circa 830 B.C.) > Jonah (Circa 781 B.C.) > Amos (Circa 760 B.C.) > Isaiah (Circa 710 B.C.) > Micah (Circa 700 B.C.) > Zephaniah (Circa 630 B.C.) > Jeremiah (Circa 626 B.C.) > Habakkuk (Circa 603 B.C.) > Ezekiel (Circa 593 B.C.) > Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (Circa 580 B.C.) > Daniel (Circa 580 B.C.) > Haggai and Zechariah (Circa 530 B.C.) > Malachi (Circa 430 B.C.) > 400 Years of Silence (Circa 400-1 B.C.)

Gospels: The Life of Jesus (Circa 1-33 A.D.)

John the Baptist > The Birth of Jesus > Jesus and His Father's House > Jesus is Baptized > Jesus is Tempted > Jesus Calls His Disciples > Jesus with Nicodemus > Jesus with Mary, Martha, and Lazarus > Jesus with Woman at the Well > Jesus with Zacchaeus > Jesus Clears the Temple

Gospels: The Miracles of Jesus (Circa 30-33 A.D.)

Changing Water into Wine > Filling the Nets > Calming the Storm > Healing Jairus' Daughter > Feeding the 5000 > Healing the Centurion's Servant > Healing the Paralyzed Friend > Healing the Sick Woman > Healing the Deaf Mute > Healing the 10 Lepers > Banishing Demons > Calling Forth Lazarus > Raising the Nobleman's Son > Walking on Water > Giving Sight to Man Born Blind > Jesus and the Transfiguration

Gospels: Jesus' Death, Resurrection, Ascension to Heaven (Circa 33 A.D.)

Jesus is Anointed > The Triumphal Entry > Jesus Washes Peter's Feet > Jesus and The Last Supper > Jesus Prays to His Father > Jesus Suffers > Peter Denies Jesus > Jesus is Risen > Jesus Appears to Cleopas > Jesus Appears to Thomas and Disciples > Jesus Appears on the Shore > The Great Commission

Acts - Revelation (Circa 33-63 A.D.)

God Sent His Spirit (Circa 33 A.D.) > Peter and the Man Who Could Not Walk > Stephen, the First Martyr > Philip and the Ethiopian > God Changes Saul's Heart > Saul Escapes from Damascus > Peter and Tabitha > Peter Visits Cornelius > Peter Escapes from Prison > Barnabas and Paul (Circa 46-48 A.D.) > The Man from Macedonia (Circa 50 A.D.) > Paul and Lydia (Circa 51-53 A.D.) > Paul and Silas in Prison (Circa 51-53 A.D.) > Paul Visits Corinth (Circa 51-53 A.D.) > Priscilla and Aquila (Circa 51-53 A.D.) > Paul's Third Journey (Circa 54-58 A.D.) > Paul's Arrest in Jerusalem (Circa 58 A.D.) > Paul and King Agrippa (Circa 60 A.D.) > Paul and the Shipwreck (Circa 60 A.D.) > Paul Imprisoned in Rome (Circa 61-63 A.D.) > John Writes Revelation

Teacher Tip: For a comprehensive list of stories for Genesis through Revelation in timeline form, see ResourceWell.org.