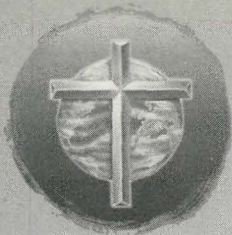


Study Guide





LifeLight Expands

LifeLight

Available NOW!

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| * The Bible: An Overview | Isaiah, Pt. 1 | Acts, Pt. 1 | **Ephesians/1 & 2 Thessa-
lonians |
| Genesis, Pt. 1 | Isaiah, Pt. 2 | Acts, Pt. 2 | Hebrews |
| Genesis, Pt. 2 | **Minor Prophets | Romans, Pt. 1 | * James/Jude |
| Exodus, Pt. 1 | **Daniel | Romans, Pt. 2 | * 1 & 2 Peter |
| Exodus, Pt. 2 | Matthew, Pt. 1 | **1 Corinthians | 1 John |
| * Joshua | Matthew, Pt. 2 | **2 Corinthians | * Revelation |
| **Life of David | **Luke, Pt. 1 | * Timothy/Titus/Philemon | |
| **Selected Psalms | **Luke, Pt. 2 | **Galatians/Philippians/
Colossians | |
| * Proverbs | John, Pt. 1 | | |
| | John, Pt. 2 | | |

LifeLight Foundations

- * Prophecy * Bible Feasts * Miracles * Law & Gospel * Baptism

* all-new LifeLight material ** does not include the Enrichment Magazine

LifeLight Release Schedule

2007 RELEASES

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| LifeLight—1 Corinthians | January |
| LifeLight—2 Corinthians | April |
| * LifeLight—Judges | July |
| * LifeLight Foundations—Worship | October |

2008 RELEASES

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| LifeLight—Luke, Pt. 1 | January |
| LifeLight—Luke, Pt. 2 | April |
| * LifeLight—Ruth/Esther | July |
| * LifeLight Foundations—Triune God | October |

2009 RELEASES

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| LifeLight—Minor Prophets | January |
| LifeLight—Daniel | April |
| * LifeLight—Mark | July |
| * LifeLight Foundations—Ministry | October |

2010 RELEASES

- | | |
|---|---------|
| LifeLight—Life of David | January |
| LifeLight—Selected Psalms | April |
| * LifeLight—Ecclesiastes/Song of Songs | July |
| * LifeLight Foundations—Creation/
New Creation | October |

Other Future Studies:

- 1, 2 & 3 John
Job
Wilderness Wanderings (Lev., Num. & Deut.)
Ezra, Nehemiah

This helpful resource is also available:

Intro Kit

God at Work

Distribute before session 1 for use in session 1.

Use enrichment magazine pp. 2-4.

Genesis 1:1-10; 6:1-9:17; 17:1-21

Resources for Worship

Use these resources for your daily study at home and at the week's assembly.

Hymn

Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;

At Thy speaking it was done.

For created light we thank Thee,

While Thine ordered seasons run.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise to Thee who light dost send!

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia without end!

Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;

Bright with Thine own holiness,

Glorious now, we press toward glory,

And our lives our hopes confess.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise to Thee who light dost send!

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia without end!

From the cross Thy wisdom shining

Breaketh forth in conqu'ring might;

From the cross forever beameth

All Thy bright redeeming light.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise to Thee who light dost send!

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia without end!

God the Father, light-creator,

To Thee laud and honor be.

To Thee, Light of Light begotten,

Praise be sung eternally.

Holy Spirit, light-revealer,

Glory, glory be to Thee.

Mortals, angels, now and ever

Praise the holy Trinity!

Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76

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Prayer

Heavenly Father, through Your Word, You brought all things into being. Through Your Word joined to the water of Holy Baptism, You have drowned my sinful old Adam and brought me to new life in Jesus Christ. Now, through Your Word, strengthen my faith through this study of Your saving gift of Holy Baptism. Amen.

Digging Deep

My Personal Study for Week 1

Day 1 • Read Genesis 1:1-10; 6:1-21

Some Christians view Baptism as something they must do to demonstrate their commitment to Jesus. For this reason, they often deny their children this precious gift until they are able to make their own decisions. In Holy Baptism, we see neither our work nor our decisions, but God at work bringing His fallen creatures back to life. This week, we will see God at work in the beginning as He created the heavens and the earth by His Word. We will also see how He used the water He had created to kill and to make alive, and how He uses signs to assure His people of His promise.

1. In the beginning, when God called all matter into existence from nothing, the Spirit hovered over the chaotic, dark waters (v. 2). A similar image is described in Deuteronomy 32:10-12 and Isaiah 31:5. Why does the Spirit hover over the waters?

2. The Spirit inspired St. John to shed more light on the beginning. According to John 1:1-3, how or through Whom did God create all He had created?

3. On the second day, God separated the waters below from the waters above (1:6-8). On the third day, He

separated the water from the dry ground (1:9–10). Each day when God completed His work, He called it “good.” Indeed, without water all life would cease to exist. God called these waters good, yet every day people drown. The water in “natural” disasters (floods, hurricanes, tsunamis) inflicts much pain and suffering upon humanity. God’s good gift of water sustains life, but it can also kill; therefore, God set limits (boundaries) to protect His creation from the destructive forces of His good creation (1:6–7).

a. What caused God to consider using His “good” water to kill (Genesis 3:1–6)?

b. How corrupt had God’s creation, and specifically humanity, become (6:5, 11)?

c. How did God react to this corruption (6:6–7)?

4. Noah is described as a “righteous” man (6:9). a. Certainly, Noah was righteous when compared to the notorious sinners surrounding him, but was Noah without sin (Romans 3:23; 5:12)?

b. Why is he called “righteous” (Hebrews 11:7)?

5. While God sought to “blot out” (6:7) His creation by destroying all people and animals by means of His good water, He also had a plan to save and restore. What was God’s plan (6:11–21)?

Day 2 • Read Genesis 6:22–8:5

6. When people exceeded the boundaries God had placed upon them, God removed the boundaries He had placed on a part of His creation. “The fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened” (7:11). In the flood, we see God’s righteous judgment as well as His undeserved mercy.

a. How did water kill (7:21–22)?

b. How did water save (7:17–18)?

7. How is Holy Baptism similar to the flood (1 Peter 3:21)?

8. Having destroyed the earth, God “remembered” Noah (8:1). Had God forgotten about Noah and his family for the 150 days the waters covered the earth (7:24)? What does it mean that “God remembered Noah” (see 8:2)?

9. What does God promise not to remember (Isaiah 43:25)?

10. With what flood has God remembered you?

Out of Egypt

Distribute before session 2 for use in session 2.

Use enrichment magazine pp. 5–8.

Exodus 2:1–10; 3:1–15; 14:1–15:3; 24:1–11

Resources for Worship

Use these resources for your daily study at home and at the week's assembly.

Hymn

Baptized into Your name most holy,
 O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
 I claim a place, though weak and lowly,
 Among Your seed, Your chosen host.
 Buried with Christ and dead to sin,
 I have Your Spirit now within.

My loving Father, here You take me
 Henceforth to be Your child and heir;
 My faithful Savior, here You make me
 The fruit of all Your sorrows share;
 O Holy Ghost, You comfort me
 Though threat'ning clouds around I see.

O faithful God, You never fail me;
 Your cov'nant surely will abide.
 Let not eternal death assail me
 Should I transgress it on my side!
 Have mercy when I come defiled;
 Forgive, lift up, restore Your child.

All that I am and love most dearly,
 Receive it all, O Lord, from me.
 Oh, let me make my vows sincerely,
 And help me Your own child to be!
 Let nothing that I am or own
 Serve any will but Yours alone.

Johann J. Rambach, 1693–1735;
 tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829–78, alt.

Learn by Heart

What is Baptism?

Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's Word.

Prayer

Gracious Heavenly Father, in Your mercy, You have sent Your Son to deliver us from our Egypt, our slavery to sin. Having delivered us, You have baptized us

into Your holy name. Help us to keep Your name holy among us by protecting us from those who teach and live contrary to Your Word. Amen.

Digging Deep

My Personal Study for Week 2

Day 1 • Read Exodus 2:1–10

God was faithful to His promise to Abraham. He caused Abraham's descendants to grow into a large nation while in Egypt. Years passed. A new pharaoh arose to power who did not remember Joseph. As a consequence, this pharaoh was threatened by the Hebrew people and sought to oppress them in bitter slavery. Under God's continued blessing, they thrived. Pharaoh responded by ordering the Hebrew midwives to kill all Hebrew boys as they entered the world. The God-fearing midwives refused. God used the seemingly powerless Hebrew women to defy the powerful ruler of Egypt to accomplish His purpose. Pharaoh responded with an order that all male Hebrew infants were to be drowned in the River Nile (Exodus 1:22).

1. Read Jeremiah 9:23–24 and 1 Corinthians 1:26–29. Does God use worldly wisdom and power to save? Why or why not?

2. As you read Exodus 2:1–10, note the irony and how God uses what is apparently weak, low, and despised to shame the strong. How many examples can you find?

3. In what did Moses' mother lovingly place him to protect him from the destructive power of the Nile (v. 3)? What is significant about this object?

4. Read Luke 23:32–44. Did this appear to be an “hour of power” for the Son? Cloaked with darkness and apparent weakness, what was really happening (Genesis 3:15)?

5. God often uses common, ordinary, humble means to accomplish His mighty acts. What is significant about the substance God uses in Holy Baptism?

c. What is the significance of the naming of the Canaanite people in v. 8 (see Genesis 15:18–21)?

9. a. God reveals His name to Moses and in so doing reveals something about Himself (vv. 14–15). What is His name?

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Day 2 • Read Exodus 3:1–15

6. Who appeared to Moses in the burning bush (v. 2, 4)?

b. Who does Jesus say He is (Mark 14:62; Luke 22:70; John 8:57–59)?

7. Once again, God uses someone weak to do His work. What does God do in verse 4?

10. Who gave God His name (v. 15)? Why is this significant?

8. a. God has seen the suffering of His people and heard their supplication. Now He sends His called servant, Moses, to Pharaoh. But Moses would not be alone. What does God promise to Moses? (v. 12)?

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Day 3 • Read Exodus 14:1–18

11. a. The time had come for the Lord to reveal His power. What would the Egyptians learn about this God (v. 4)?

b. What was to be the sign that God had sent His prophet (v. 12)?