

**God Works through
Prophets and Kings**

OLD TESTAMENT 4

ENGAGE



Opening Leader Outlines



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Welcome to Cross Explorations



Cross Explorations is a rotation model for Sunday School or Midweek School from Concordia Publishing House.

Basic course resources provide an hour-long program for children ages 5 to 12 in three main sites: **Engage** (opening), **Explore** (Bible lesson), and **Express** (crafts, music, skits, and activities).

You can easily extend the time to two or more hours with the many activities in the *Express Craft Booklet* and on the *Express Skits CD*, *Activities & More CD*, and *Music CD*.

Large-group Engage Openings are planned for fifteen minutes, but you can cut or extend this time as needed.

Engage Children in Openings

Engage Openings teach children how to worship. And because education flows out of worship, where God offers Word and Sacrament to His people, openings help children recognize things used in both places, such as the Lord's Prayer and the Apostles' Creed. This plants the seeds for active and meaningful worship for years to come.

And since children learn by doing, invite participation and capture attention with responsive reading, praying, singing, sharing ideas during discussions, participating in mission projects, lighting or snuffing candles, and collecting offerings.

Choose resources that best fit your needs.

Bible challenge questions encourage students and teachers to talk about a lesson topic as others arrive. Use the PowerPoint slide, and click to give the answer before starting the opening. Or read the question from the *Bible Challenge Question* PDF file.

Opening sentences and prayers change weekly. Add local needs as well as praying the Lord's Prayer, Luther's Morning Prayer, or a thematic prayer. Consider using some time to pray in small groups.

Songs and hymns fit the themes and Bible stories for this quarter, but CD resources give you the flexibility to change them. See the music list on the back inside cover. Track numbers refer to the *Engage CD*. Hymn numbers refer to *Lutheran Service Book* from CPH.

Bible lesson introductions don't tell the Bible narrative; instead, they engage students so that they want to learn more in the Explore and Express sites.

The Apostles' Creed professes our faith in the triune God.

Special days, such as birthdays and Baptism anniversaries, are important recognitions. Get these days from your church office, or ask adults to provide them so that you can recognize all children on these days.

Offerings and mission projects help children learn to share God's love in Christ and to help others. They learn that all we have belongs to God and that we are merely stewards of His gifts.

You Need

- *Engage Leader Outlines*
- *Engage CD* (with music, PowerPoint slides & materials to print & copy, such as *Lesson Handouts*, *Lyrics*, *Posters & Melody-Line Scores*)
- Projection & audio system or CD player, pianist, or guitarist

Leader Tips

- See the quarter overview on the back cover.
- See Music Information and CD contents on the back inside cover.

Using Engage Resources

Pull apart the *Engage Leader Outlines* in this booklet for each week. Read the week's *Preparing the Lesson* on the *Engage CD* to understand the Bible background and lesson focus. Prepare to use one of these options for participants' resources.

1. Show PowerPoint slides from the *Engage CD*. Choose presentations with or without linked music.
2. Or print and copy PDF resources from the *Engage CD: Lesson Handouts, Lyrics, Bible Intro Posters, Song Scores, and Bible Challenge Questions*. (*Lesson Handouts* have student parts in bold, whereas these *Leader Outlines* have the leader sections in bold.)

For both options, play music on a computer or with a CD player, or get a pianist or guitarist.

You can adapt PowerPoint presentations to change order and add or subtract activities or songs. To help you do this more easily, see *PowerPoint Tips*, a PDF file on the CD.

Recruit someone to operate PowerPoint slides so you can focus on leading. You may want to recruit someone to lead singing. **Recorded music is not reproducible.** To make copies for your students or for any other purpose, call 1-800-325-0191 or email copyrights@cph.org for permission.

A Word about Lessons

This group of lessons provides a chronological study of a section of the Old Testament. It is part of a set of nine such units covering the basic events in the Bible.

Set Up Your Space

If you do not already have an altar in your space, set one up with a small table. Use a white cloth to cover the table. Add a standing cross and a Bible. You might also add traditional candles or electric candle lights and paraments that correlate with the Church Year.

Church Year Connections

To better meet the stated needs of customers, Concordia Publishing now offers two separate Church Year resources.

1. **Church Year Connections** are available for Series A, B, or C Scripture readings. These include recordings, melody-line scores, and PowerPoint slides for hymns and songs related to each season and Sunday; weekly object lessons; collects; an order of opening worship; and teaching points for young children and older students.
2. **Church Year Worship Kit** teaches the Church Year in child-friendly, age-appropriate ways for young children in preschool through early elementary grades.

The kit includes four 22 × 34-inch posters of an altar with seasonal paraments, candle flames, flowers, a Bible, Communionware, a baptismal font, Advent wreath, and corpus; the Lord's Prayer; Luther's Morning Prayer; a baptismal banner with space to add children's names; and a picture of Jesus the Good Shepherd.

The Leader Guide has teaching directions and blackline patterns.

The CD features hymns and songs for the Church Year, baptismal birthday celebrations, reproducible parent connections to send home, and PDF copies of information from the printed booklet.

Lesson 1 Leader Outline

The Wisdom of Solomon

1 Kings 3



Bible Challenge Question

Show the *Bible Challenge Question Slide* for people to chat about as others arrive. When ready to start, click to show the answer.

Invocation

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Song

Sing "Without a Doubt," Track 1.

You Need

- Lesson 1 Engage Leader Outline
- Engage CD
- Lesson 1 slides, projection & audio system; or print/copy Lesson 1 Handouts, Lyrics, Bible Intro Posters from the CD
- CD player

Opening Sentences

Wisdom and Knowledge

Leader: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. (Psalm 111:10)

People: We praise You, God our Father!

Leader: All those who practice it have a good understanding. (Psalm 111:10)

People: His praise endures forever! (Psalm 111:10)

Leader: In [Christ] are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. (Colossians 2:2)

People: We praise You, Christ Jesus!

Leader: Teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom. (Psalm 90:12)

People: We praise You, Holy Spirit!

Leader: [Christ] we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. (Colossians 1:28)

People: Thank You for giving us faith in Jesus, our Savior.

Leader: Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. (Colossians 3:16)

People: We praise You—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! Amen.

Song

Sing "Take My Life and Let It Be," Track 2.

Introduce the Bible Lesson

Show the *Wisdom Slide* or *Bible Intro Poster 1*.

Ask Can you find the word *wisdom* on this poster? Let someone point it out on the slide or poster.

Say Wisdom is sometimes hard to find. It's also an important word in today's lesson. Listen for it in the activities you do today.

Recognition

Recognize birthdays and Baptism anniversaries. Sing a birthday song, or give each person a small gift.

Offering and Mission Minute

If your Express Leader chose a mission project for the month, or if you designated offerings for a specified mission, talk about it with the students.

Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

Pray for specific needs, if you like. Pray together the Lord's Prayer, or sing "The Lord's Prayer," Track 3. (Delete the *Lord's Prayer Slides* you do not use.)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Song

Sing "Built on Christ," Track 4.

Last Words

Dismiss students to Explore areas.

Say May you grow in faith in Christ Jesus, "in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." (Colossians 2:3)

Lesson 2 Leader Outline

Solomon Builds the Temple

1 Kings 5–6



Bible Challenge Question

Show the *Bible Challenge Question Slide* for people to chat about as others arrive. When ready to start, click to show the answer.

Say We'll talk about one of these temples in our lesson today.

Song

Sing "Built on Christ," Track 4.

Opening Sentences

Litany of Praise

Leader: In the name of God the Father:

People: Praise to our creating God!

Leader: In the name of His Son, Jesus:

People: Praise to our redeeming God!

Leader: In the name of God the Spirit:

People: Praise to our renewing God!

Leader: Let us join with thankful voices:

People: Amen! Amen! Praise the Lord!

Speak or sing the next section (LSB 816, st. 1–2).

Leader: From all that dwell below the skies
Let the Creator's praise arise;

People: Alleluia, alleluia!

Leader: Let the Redeemer's name be sung
Through ev'ry land, by ev'ry
tongue.

People: Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Leader: Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord;
Eternal truth attends Thy Word;

People: Alleluia, alleluia!

Leader: Thy praise shall sound from shore
to shore
Till suns shall rise and set no more.

People: Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Song

Sing "Praise Him, Praise Him," Track 5.

You Need

- Lesson 2 Engage Leader Outline
- Engage CD
- Lesson 2 slides, projection & audio system; or print/copy Lesson 2 Handouts, Lyrics, Bible Intro Posters from the CD
- CD player

Introduce the Bible Lesson

Show the *Whose House Slide* or the three *Bible Intro Posters 2a, 2b, 2c*.

Say I'm going to show you some house pictures.
You tell me who lives in each house.

Show *Poster 2a* or click to show the doghouse.

Say Who lives here? A dog

Show *Poster 2b* or click to show the birdhouse.

Say Who lives here? Birds

Show *Poster 2c* or click to show the church.

Say Who lives here? God. Today, we're going to find out about a special house of worship that a king made for God.

Recognition

Recognize birthdays and Baptism anniversaries. Sing a birthday song, or give each person a small gift.

Offering and Mission Minute

If your Express Leader chose a mission project for the month, or if you designated offerings for a specified mission, talk about it with the students.

Prayers

Praise Prayer

After each petition, pause briefly for reflection and personal prayer. (Note: the first letters of each petition spell "praise.")

Leader:

Praise to You, O Lord, for Your daily goodness and mercy.

Redeem us from our sins, from death and the devil.

Alert us to the needs of others around us.

Inspire us to worship You in spirit and in truth.

Satisfy our needs and fill our hearts with thankfulness to You.

Energize us for service and for witness.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Song

If time permits, sing "Take My Life and Let It Be," Track 2.

Last Words

Dismiss students to Explore areas.

Say May you grow in your love for God and His house every day.