Christian Education

Planning Guide

Objectives for every class, Nursery through Adult: a guide for teachers, team teachers, and substitutes.

Guthrie Grove

CHURCH OF GOD OF THE ABRAHAMIC FAITH

Objectives for each class are presented to help teachers incorporate appropriate information into lessons for each age group. This Planning Guide suggests basic Biblical information that teachers may wish to share with their students. It also gives the teacher an overview of the Biblical information that has been covered in previous levels and what will be covered in future levels, making it a helpful tool for team teachers or substitute teachers. Thank you for your participation in Christian Education and giving of your self for others.

> *For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.* ***Romans 15:4***

Nursery Class to Adult Class themes are presented in this planning guide.

Nursery up to 2	**Toddler / Preschool** 2–3	**Beginner** 4–5
Primary 1st–2nd	**3rd & 4th Grade**	**Junior** 5th–6th
Young Teen 7th–8th	**Teen** 9th–12th	**Adult**

A NOTE TO OUR TEACHERS

Thank you for teaching

Teachers,

Thank you for accepting this wonderful opportunity! You want to share the joys of having a personal relationship with God and Christ with students. We are thankful that you have a desire to share your faith with others as a teacher.

Rely on God to enable you to minister to your students while you personally continue to grow spiritually. Each teacher will have their own strategy for sharing the Gospel, but we hope this guide will give you basic biblical points that you can share with your students. We also understand that you will offer opportunities for your class to mature as Christian disciples. After all, a disciple is one who is growing in Christ, modeling what Christ did and teaching others Biblical precepts. Your class members have the opportunity to share their lives as you grow through Bible study, prayer, friendship, Christian living, service, worship, … the wonderful things that make our Christian walk so important. Strong Christian relationships often grow when a teacher is genuine and sincere while showing class members respect and love.

There are also a few practical teaching tips to consider. First, be prepared to share. An effective teacher wants to accurately present the scriptures in ways that hold interest, fit age levels, and encourage students to practice what they learn. This involves preparation before presenting lessons. Select one major theme to emphasis for each class. This theme should be clear and stated plainly. Use techniques to clarify and illustrate your major point and add activities that will increase their understanding. Use the many Christian resources that are available for each age level and use multiple ways of learning to convey your Biblically-based lesson. Video clips, role playing, discussion, work sheets, and music are just a few of the ways to communicate your message to your students. View Group's Ministry Makeover DVD for practical ways to engage class members of all ages. There are also links available through this document making additional information and resources very easy to locate. Just Cltrl + Click on the links.

Second, build relationships with your students. Your effectiveness in sharing your faith will depend on the relationship that you cultivate. We have all heard the saying that students don't care how much you know until they know how much you care. Ask God to increase your care and love for your students. When your class members understand God's love for them it will prepare their hearts to receive the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God.

Third, be persistent. Unfortunately, teachers may face adversity or criticism. From the child that breaks into tears at your classroom door to the adult that walks out because they disagree with your lesson. Take these things with grace and learn from them. Remember to always keep a loving attitude with others. Often, we are ministering to people that are facing struggles and often those struggles will overflow into our classrooms. Lean on God for support and wisdom. He will make you strong. Be encouraged by the scriptures that tell us about the obstacles that God's followers have always faced. Even our Lord Jesus met with constant criticism. Demonstrate that you want what's best for your class members. Again, this shows that you care.

Fourth, enjoy being a teacher. Share your joys of growing spiritually with your class. Remember Ephesians 4:15 and 16, "Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work." How privileged we are. God allows us to carry out His work while we grow stronger in Christ.

May you experience every blessing and joy from being a Teacher.

Some ideas adapted from Ministry Tools Resource Center at http://mintools.com/preview-tt4.htm. Use this resource for more information on the Bible teacher's important role.

OBJECTIVES FOR

Nursery Department

Ages up to 2

Create a friendly, welcoming environment for your students and greet each child as they enter your classroom. Use music, children's Christian DVDs, and religious themed toys help to create an inviting environment. The typical student leaving the Toddler Department should have been exposed to these themes.

- **God and Jesus love the student (1 John 4:16)**
- God is the Creator (God created the heavens and earth. Gen. 1:1 / God created humans in His image. Gen. 1:27 / God created the animals Gen. 2:19)
- **The Bible tells of God and Jesus**
- **The Bible is important and precious to us**
- **Church is a happy place**

Have an awareness of/exposure to these Bible characters

- **God**
- **Jesus**

ENCOURAGED TO EXHIBIT THESE DESIRABLE BEHAVIOR PATTERNS

- Tries to sing along, claps or sways when music is played or when the teacher leads songs
- Tries to follow action rhymes
- Is interested in the class Bible/likes to flip through the pages and look at pictures
- Wants to hear short Bible stories
- Likes to be in class
- Feels comfortable or secure when family leaves him at class
- Gets along with other children
- Helps pick up toys
- Follows a simple instruction
- Can identify the Bible
- Bows head when teacher prays

Helpful activities for Toddler and Preschool Department

Music plays an important part of the toddler and preschool department. Many CDs and DVDs are available with action children's songs that encourage kids to sing along and act out the words.

Christian toys also allow students to visualize our Bible thoughts. For instance, a Noah's ark toy can be filled with animals to help the students understand the lessons presented. Many age appropriate toys are available including hand puppets, Bible action figures, etc.

Show students that the Bible is important. For instance, in class you can sing “I Love to Pat the Bible” to the tune of “Did You Ever See a Lassie”. The student learns to gently pat the Bible to demonstrate that the Bible is important and precious.

Help your students discover that God is the Creator with a few simple activities. Allow the student to view himself in a baby mirror as you reinforce that God made the student. Use stuffed animals and pictures of animals to reinforce that God made the animals.

It may also be helpful to have a picture of Jesus that the toddlers can see when we talk about him.

Teachers should offer a lot of verbal praise for good behavior, be expressive and excited about class time with the students at this level.

Decorating the classroom with a theme will make the space more inviting. A few themes might include Noah’s ark with animals and rainbows, lambs of God, Jesus loves the Little Children, or the Garden of Eden.

OBJECTIVES FOR

Toddler/Preschool Department

Ages 2 and 3

Create a friendly, happy environment for your students. Music plays an important part of the preschool department. Many CDs and DVDs are available with action children's songs that encourage kids to sing along and act out the words.

Christian toys also allow students to visualize our Bible thoughts. For instance, a toy of Noah's ark filled with animals will help the students understand the lessons presented. Many age appropriate toys are available including hand puppets, Bible action figures, Bible books, anything from Veggietales, etc.

The typical pupil leaving the Nursery Department should have been exposed to these major themes:

God	• Loves and cares for us • Creator of everything and me • Gives us all good things (blesses us with family, friends, others who help us, food, clothing, home, church, etc.) • Hears us when we pray
Jesus	• Is God's Son • Was a baby, grew into a boy, and grew up to be a man • Helped and obeyed as a boy • Can do miracles as God's Son • Loves us and is our special friend • Died, but God raised him from the dead and he is alive today • Hears us when we pray
Bible	• God gave it to us • It is important and special • Tells about Jesus and God • Its stories are true
Prayer	• Is talking to God • God and Jesus hear us • We can pray anytime, anywhere
Church	• Is a happy place
Service	• It is good to do things for others

MEMORIZE

- Very simple phrases, such as “God is love.”

IS FAMILIAR WITH THESE BIBLE CHARACTERS

- God
- Jesus

Introduction to a few others

- Adam, Eve, Noah, Etc.

ENCOURAGE THESE ATTITUDES

- Love God and Jesus.
- Has a good self-image based on the knowledge that God made him and loves him.
- Feels that Jesus is his friend.
- Senses that the church is a group of God’s people who love him and will help him.
- Feels kindly toward other people.

ENCOURAGE STUDENT TO EXHIBIT THESE DESIRABLE BEHAVIOR PATTERNS

- Obey realistic requests and directions of parents and teachers.
- Share equipment and materials most of the time.
- Can recognize and/or is interested in an age appropriate Bible.
- Helpful to parents and teachers.
- Thanks God for food before eating and shows appreciation for other things.
- Says “please” sometimes when making a request.
- Refrains from hurting other children.
- Is learning to be a “happy giver”.
- Is learning to say “his own” simple prayers.
- Understands that prayer is good and helps us.
- Repeat simple, short prayers
- Shows interest and places importance on the Bible.
- Likes to hear short Bible stories.
- Begins to distinguish his acceptable and unacceptable behavior.
- Participates in class activities such as singing songs, rhythm band, action rhymes, etc.

Teachers Note: Some children may experience separation anxiety when they are brought to class. This is normal, but it is important that the student has the opportunity to participate in an age appropriate class that encourages him to learn and grow in faith. The child will also benefit as he learns coping skills and experiences a little independence in a caring environment. You can help the child learn to trust and connect with you while reassuring parents that class time will be beneficial for the student.

If a student is experiencing separation anxiety, try to distract the child with an activity, toy, song, game, or anything else that's fun. You may have to keep trying different things until something just clicks with the child. Also, try not to mention the child's mother or father, but do answer the child's questions about his or her parents in a simple and straightforward way. You might say: "Mommy and Daddy are learning about God right now. They will be back soon. We get to learn some wonderful things about God too and we are going to…" (involve the child in an activity).

OBJECTIVES FOR

Beginner Department

Ages 4 and 5

The typical student leaving the Beginner Department should have been exposed to these major themes.

God

- Is Powerful
- Is the Creator
- Is good
- Can help him do right and expects him to show good behavior
- Loves and cares for him, always (even when he makes mistakes)
- Wants his love
- Keeps His promises
- Wants him to tell others about Jesus
- Gives us all good things

Jesus

- Is God's son
- Was a baby, grew into a boy, and grew up to be a man
- Loves him and is a special friend
- Has power from God to do great things
- Is kind, helpful, and forgiving
- Died on the cross, rose from the dead, now lives in heaven with God his Father
- Is happy when he obeys

Bible

- Is God's word
- Tells about God and Jesus
- Its stories are true

Church

- Is a happy place

Prayer

- Is talking to God and Jesus
- God and Jesus hear us
- We can pray anytime, anywhere
- Repeat simple prayers

Service

- Doing things for others

HAVE MEMORIZED

- Simplified Bible verses

BE ABLE TO RECOGNIZE THESE BIBLE CHARACTERS

- God, Jesus, Adam, Eve, Noah, Moses, etc.

ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO MANIFEST THESE ATTITUDES

- Loves God and Jesus and is appreciative of all they have done for him.
- Wants to know more about God and the world He has created.
- Desires to do simple tasks to show love for God, for Jesus, and for others.
- Trusts that God is everywhere and will always be with him.
- Wants to come to class.
- Wants to help others learn about God and Jesus.
- Wants to hear Bible stories.
- Wants to do right and have the approval of God and Jesus.
- Should occasionally rise above self-interest to give something he values to someone he loves.
- Shows a simple sense of fair play expressed in such things as willingness to take turns and share.
- A defined sense of obedience/disobedience coupled with a desire to obey God, Jesus, and parents.
- Feels remorse after doing something wrong.
- Thinks of Jesus as a friend.
- Understands that God forgives us when we do wrong, when we feel sorry and ask forgiveness.
- Has developed a sense of trust in God's care that will help him overcome unrealistic fears.

ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO EXHIBIT THESE DESIRABLE BEHAVIOR PATTERNS

- Talk to God expressing thanks and praise as well as asking for help or for things.
- Thank God for giving us Jesus.
- Ask questions about God, Jesus, and the Bible.
- Invite others to come to church.
- Enjoys looking at age appropriate Bible.
- Share Bible stories and/or songs with family and friends.
- Be kind and helpful to family and others.
- Offer thanksgiving and prayer before each meal and other times.
- Says "Please" when asking for something.
- Says "Thank you" when someone does something for him.
- Sing songs about God, Jesus, and the Bible.
- Participates in class activities such as singing songs, rhythm band, action rhymes, etc.

OBJECTIVES FOR

Primary Department

1st and 2nd Grade

The typical student leaving the Primary Department should have been exposed to these major themes.

God

- Keeps His Promises
- Knows all about us, loves us
- Expects obedience
- He is just and therefore disapproves of all wrongdoing
- He is perfect
- He is truthful

Jesus

- God is Jesus' Father so Jesus Christ is called the Son of God and the Son of Man
- Is our Savoir
- Is our Lord and the coming King
- He is our example of how to live, highlights of his life are recorded in the Gospels
- Performed miracles that proved he was/is God's Son
- He was tempted to do wrong, but he did not sin (Heb.4:15)
- Died so God could forgive us, He was the perfect sacrifice
- Jesus completed or fulfilled what was written about him in the Old Testament-"Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." (Luke 24:44b)

Holy Spirit

- Power of God
- God's power can help us do what is right. We want God to give us His Spirit. The fruit of the spirit is a result of allowing God to work through us. The fruit of the spirit are characteristics we should show to everyone like love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Gal. 5:22-23).

Nature of Humans

- God created human beings in His image and likeness (therefore we respect others)
- Humans are mortal/we can die now, but Christ's followers will be changed to immortal beings and receive eternal life at the second coming of Christ (Rom. 2:7).
- Created by God from dust (Gen. 2:7)
- Sinful from birth (Rom.8:28), but can be brought into a relationship with God through Jesus Christ (2 Cor. 5:17-21)
- God loves humans. God gave Jesus so humans can believe in Jesus and receive eternal life- live forever (John 3:16)

Prayer

- God hears us anytime, anywhere

Kingdom

- On earth, everlasting, future for those who love and follow God and Jesus (Dan.6:26, 7:27) God and Jesus will be there (Rev.21:23) along with all their followers (Rev. 21:3)
- There will be no more curse, mourning, death, crying or pain (Rev.21:4 and 22:3)

Bible

- It contains God's message to human beings/contains His Plan/ God's purpose for our lives It is the Inspired Word of God (God used His power to put the Bible together and provided the words to the people who wrote it)
- Tells us about God and Jesus
- Tells us how to live right and be happy

Meanings

- Communion-Eating the bread and drinking the cup to remember Christ's sacrifice. Gives us hope that we will celebrate with him at the feast in the Kingdom of God. (Mt. 26:26-30) Christmas-Celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ the Son of God and the Biblical story of his birth from portions of Matthew 1&2 and Luke 1&2.
- Easter-Celebration of Jesus Christ's Resurrection and the Biblical story of his resurrection. The resurrection of Jesus shows us what Christ's followers will be like after the first resurrection. (1 Cor. 15:20-26, and v.42-57)
- Church- The church body is a special group of people, not just a building. The church is made up of people who want to follow and act like Jesus. The church helps and encourages each other. The church uses our talents to benefit our world and this pleases God.

Sin-Doing something that is wrong, neglecting to do something right, missing the mark. Service-Doing something for God or others because we love God and in appreciation to God and His Son.

THESE IDEAS FROM SCRIPTURE SHOULD BE INTRODUCED

- The Bible is divided into two parts, the Old Testament and New Testament.
- New Testament books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, John are the Gospels. The Gospels and a portion of the first chapter of Acts contain information of Jesus Christ's life. Many Bibles print the words of Jesus in red ink.

John 3

- 16 - For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (NIV) For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (KJV)

- Psalm 23 - A psalm of David. 1 The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, 3 he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. 4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. 6 Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. NIV
- The Lord's Prayer- Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses (debts), as we forgive them that trespass against us (our debtors). And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. [For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.] Amen. (This is the traditional version from 1662, you may wish to use a later version.)

- Simplified Ten Commandments-THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

1. Do not worship other gods.	2. Do not make or worship idols.	3. Do not misuse God's name.
4. Keep the Sabbath holy.	5. Honor your father & mother.	6. Do not murder.
7. Do not commit adultery.	8. Do not steal.	9. Do not lie.
10. Do not covet.		

- **The Greatest Commandment-Jesus replied: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'(OT reference Deut. 6:5) This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'(OT reference Lev. 19:18) All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." Matthew 22:37-40**

MEMORIZE

- Complete verses keyed to each lesson

BE ABLE TO RECOGNIZE THESE BIBLE CHARACTERS

- God, Jesus, Adam, Eve, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Job, Moses, Joseph, Ruth, Hannah, Samuel, David, Jonathan, Elijah, Jeremiah, Daniel, Mary, Peter, Paul, Aquila, Priscilla, Timothy – 24 total

HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO THESE GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES

- Israel, Egypt and the Mediterranean Sea

HAVE LEARNED ABOUT THESE STUDY HELPS

- Bible
- Simple Bible Dictionary

ENCOURAGE STUDENT TO MANIFEST THESE ATTITUDES

- Love God and Jesus
- Want to please God and Jesus
- Desire to do his best in school work, home chores, play, and church activities
- Trust that God is everywhere and will always be with him
- Feel sympathy for those who hurt
- Feel joy at the good fortune of others
- Consider the motives behind his own behavior
- Feels cheating on school work is wrong
- Feels sorrow for doing wrong and wants to do better
- Desires to serve God by helping others

ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO EXHIBIT THESE DESIRABLE BEHAVIOR PATTERNS

- Attend Church activities as often as possible
- Is cooperative and willingly participates in class activities
- Listen as verses or stories are read from the Bible

- Be friendly toward others
- Help with household chores
- Offer thanks for meals and offer other spontaneous prayers
- Bring Bible to church
- Work and play well with others
- Refrain from interrupting when others are talking
- Resolve conflicts with his peers peaceably
- Be kind to those that are less fortunate
- Show respect for parents and teachers
- Spontaneously share with parents his experiences from church and school
- Begin reasoning out his own decisions on the basis of Bible truth he has learned
- Pray aloud in class sometimes
- Learn to share what they know about the Bible with others
- Enjoys friends, laughter and Christian activities

Please review previous levels for other material that should be included in your lesson plans.

This will ensure that all themes have been covered with your students.

OBJECTIVES FOR

3rd and 4th Grade

The typical student leaving the 3rd and 4th Grade division should have been exposed to these major themes

God

- Is the Creator of heaven and earth (Gen. 14:19, Isa. 45:18), human beings (Gen. 1:27), etc. Loves the student and sent his Son to die for him (John 3:16-18)
- Is one (Deuteronomy 6:4, 1 Corinthians 8:6, Galatians 3:20, Isaiah 45:18)

Jesus

- The Son of God (John 3:18, 1 John 4:9) and Son of Man (Mt. 8:20, Mt. 13:41)
- Our Savior (1 John 4:14)
- The coming King (Matthew 26:64, Luke 19:38)
- The Messiah, chosen one of God-"The Christ" (Greek) and "the Messiah" (Hebrew) both mean "the Anointed One."

Holy Spirit

- God's Power, God's Holy Spirit-He poured/pours out His spirit on people and people receive the Holy Spirit (Isaiah 32:15, 44:3; Joel 2:28, Acts 10:45, Titus 3:4-8, John 20:22). Individuals are described as being filled with the Holy Spirit throughout scriptures.
- God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit (Acts 10:38)
- Living by God's Spirit results in positive characteristics and actions for Jesus' followers called the fruit of the Spirit. The fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Gal. 5:22-23).

Nature of Humans

- God created human beings in His image and likeness (Gen.1:27), therefore we respect others and respect human life.
- Humans are mortal now, but Christ's followers will be changed to immortal beings and receive eternal life at the second coming of Christ (Rom.2:7, 1 Cor.15).
- Created by God from dust (Gen. 2:7)
- Sinful from birth (Rom.8:28), but can be reconciled to God (2 Cor. 5:17-21)
- Christians want to act like Jesus and follow God's rules giving them a "new identity" in Christ ("New Self" Eph. 4:20-24)
- Encourage students to have healthy and drug-free lifestyles. Include a Drug prevention program into your lesson plans throughout the year. Our bodies are the temple of God and God's Holy Spirit lives in us. (1 Cor. 3:16-17, 1 Cor.6:19)

Kingdom

- On earth, future for those who love and follow God and Jesus (Rev. 5:10, 1 Cor.15:24) Nations will live in peace (Isa. 2:4, Micah 4:3)
- The Kingdom of God will last forever (Daniel 2:44)
- Jesus taught many parables about the Kingdom. The Kingdom of God was important to Jesus because he said, "I must preach the good news of the Kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent." (Luke 4:43)

Bible

- God's inspired Word (Rom. 15:4), referred to as the Scriptures
- The Scriptures communicate God's message to human beings and we should share this message with others (2 Cor. 5:17-21, 2 Thes.3:1, Heb. 4:2, Mt. 28:19)
- Our guide book for daily living (2 Tim. 3:14-17). Encourage the daily practice of the study of the scriptures (Acts 17:11). Provide Daily Bible Reading Checklists.
- The Bible is divided into the Old Testament and the New Testament. It can then be subdivided into ten sections-
- OLD TESTAMENT – 1.LAW Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy 2.HISTORY Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1&2 Samuel, 1&2 Kings, 1&2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther 3.POETRY Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs 4.MAJOR PROPHETS Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel 5.MINOR PROPHETS Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi NEW TESTAMENT - 1.GOSPELS Matthew, Mark, Luke, John 2.HISTORY Acts 3.PAUL'S LETTERS Romans, 1&2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1&2 Thessalonians, 1&2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon 4.GENERAL LETTERS Hebrews, James, 1&2 Peter, 1,2&3 John, Jude 5.PROPHECY Revelation How to locate book, chapter, and verse. Review the abbreviations of the Books of the Bible.

Prayer

- Prayer is directed to God through our mediator Jesus Christ (1 Tim. 2:5, Gal.3:20)

We pray for God's will to be done (1 Jn. 5:14) and God answers as is best

We can pray at anyplace and anytime

Jesus taught us how to pray through the Lord's Prayer (see below) and he showed us that we should make prayer a part of our lives through his example (Lk. 5:16, Jn. 17)

- Explore the

Meanings of: Baptism-Immersion of the believer in water shows that he has entered into a personal relationship with Christ and desires to follow his example. Jesus was baptized as our example (Mk.1:9). When we experience water Baptism we are identifying with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection. Through the act of baptism, we put to death our old sinful nature and rise from the water in newness of life. We begin to live a new life in Christ to glorify our Heavenly Father. (Romans 6:4).

Communion- Communion is sometimes referred to as the Last Supper or the Lord's Supper. Explore the

meanings	Christ celebrated this Passover meal with his twelve disciples. We remember Christ's sacrifice

of the

by eating the bread and drinking the cup. At the first communion, Jesus took the bread, gave words in

thanks and broke it. He said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." bold. Add

In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my Biblical

blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread stories that

support	and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes (1 Cor. 11:23-26). Communion

your

also reminds us of our hope that someday we will celebrate a feast with our Lord Jesus in the definitions.

Kingdom of God. (Mt. 26:26-30)

Sin- Doing something that is against the commandments of God or neglecting to do something right. It can be thought of as missing the mark. We are offered the opportunity to be forgiven of our sins through the acceptance of Jesus Christ (Acts 13:38). For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23

Science

- Science and the Bible do not conflict.
- Science activities and projects for this class age are suggested in Christian Education materials. The subject of Intelligent Design and Creation are presented in many DVD's, books and computer software programs. Materials are available in the youth library, can be ordered online or purchased at Christian Bookstores.
- The Answers in Genesis organization provides many resources looking at creation research. Visit www.answersingenesis.org.
- Teachers Note: Preview all resources before presenting to the class.

Service

- Doing something for God or others because we love God and in appreciation to God and His Son. Often referred to as ministry. Each person of the church should serve or minister to others by using the gifts and talents that God has given them.

HAVE MEMORIZED

- The Golden Rule-Do to others as you would have them do to you. Luke 6:31(NIV) & Mt.7:12
- Books of the Bible in order
- Ten Commandments –Exodus 20 & Deut. 5
- Chronological sequence of major Bible events

John 3

- 16 - For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (NIV) For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (KJV)

- Psalm 23 - A psalm of David. 1 The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. 2 He makes me lie down in green

pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, 3 he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. 4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. 6 Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. NIV

- The Lord's Prayer- Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be

done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses (debts), as we forgive them that trespass against us (our debtors). And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

[For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.] Amen. (This is the traditional version from 1662, you may wish to use a later version.)

BE ABLE TO RECOGNIZE THESE BIBLE CHARACTERS

- God, Jesus, Adam, Eve, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Job, Moses, Joseph, Ruth, Hannah, Samuel, David, Jonathan, Elijah, Jeremiah, Daniel, Mary, Peter, Paul, Aquilla, Priscilla, Timothy, and the 12 Apostles- Simon Peter and his brother Andrew, James and John the sons of Zebedee, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew the tax collector, James son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him. Mt.10:2-4 Matthias replaced Judas Iscariot. Acts 1:26

HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO THESE GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES

- Some key points on a Bible-land map. Examples: The Mediterranean Sea or The Great Sea (Num. 34:6, 7; Josh. 1:4), Canaan-The homeland of Israel (Ex. 6:4), Jerusalem (Mt.23:37, Rom. 15:31-32), the Sea of Galilee (Mt. 4:18), the Jordan River (Mk.1:9), etc.

HAVE LEARNED ABOUT THESE STUDY HELPS

- Bible dictionary
- Bible encyclopedia
- Systematic Theology by Dr. Alva G. Huffer is available in book and worksheet forms in the Youth Library. There are 29 lessons with explanations and key verses on major Biblical subjects including the Bible, the Attributes of God and the Kingdom of God. Online version is available at

https://mncogconference.org/introduction-orig. (Teachers are encouraged to complete this study for a better understanding of the major Biblical topics.)

ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO MANIFEST THESE ATTITUDES

- Love for God and Jesus
- Desire to worship God
- Aware of the need for salvation
- Willing to share and help others
- Aware of the mission of the church including the Great Commission (Mt. 28:18-20)
- Feel the need to resist and redirect peer pressures that are dangerous or unwise
- Accept persons of other races and nationalities as people whom God loves
- Feel a sense of responsibility and loyalty to the church exhibited by regular attendance and participation in planned activities.
- Feel responsibility to promote Christian attitudes in his family, school and community
- Feel a strong sense of fair play
- Care and respect for the physical body God has given him
- Overcome fear of darkness, death, bad dreams, and other threats through trust in God

EXHIBIT THESE DESIRABLE BEHAVIOR PATTERNS

- Prays regularly and frequently
- Prays for the needs of others as well as for his own needs.
- Willing to pray in class sometimes
- Reads the Bible regularly and frequently
- Obeys rules of games he plays
- Invites others to attend church with him
- Tells the truth even when doing so may bring unpleasant consequences
- Exercises self-control by avoiding internet sites, TV shows, books, movies and computer/video games that contain material that is not decent and "is not good for him." Understands that he should avoid material with sex, nudity, violence, gore, profanity, etc. Students should ask if entertainment passes the Philippians 4:8 test. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure,

> *whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.Phil.4:8*

- Shows respect for parents, teachers, and others in authority.
- Puts the Lord first in his plans and activities
- Enjoys friends, laughter and Christian activities

Please review previous levels for other material that should be included in your lesson plans.

This will ensure that all themes have been covered with your students.

OBJECTIVES FOR

Junior Department

5th and 6th grade

The typical student leaving the Junior Department should have been exposed to these major themes.

God

- The Creator of the heavens and earth, therefore nature testifies to His existence (Rom. 1:20) The LORD God is the Creator of human beings. The LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being. (Gen. 2:7)
- Perfect Heavenly Father (Matthew 5:48)
- Judge-God is a righteous judge (Psa. 7:11), has entrusted all judgment to the Son (Jn. 5:22) Oneness (1 Sam.2:2, Deut. 6:4, 1 Cor. 8:6, Gal. 3:20, Isa. 45:18)
- Is Everlasting, does not become tired or weary, and His understanding we cannot comprehend (Isa. 40:28).
- Blesses us with “every good and perfect gift” (Jas. 1:17-18)
- The LORD is described as the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished. (Ex. 34:6-7a)
- God wants all people to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. (1 Tim. 2:4)

Jesus

- God’s Son, promised Savior, and friend
- We need Jesus Christ as our personal Savior and we build a lifelong relationship with Him Relationship to animal sacrifices-God required animal sacrifices to provide temporary forgiveness of sins and to foreshadow the perfect and complete sacrifice of Jesus Christ (Leviticus 4:35, 5:10, Heb. 9:22. Animal sacrifices have ended because Jesus Christ was the ultimate and perfect sacrifice. [S]ince the animals did no wrong, they died in place of the one performing the sacrifice. Jesus Christ also did no wrong but willingly gave Himself to die for the sins of mankind (1 Tim. 2:6). Jesus Christ took our sin upon Him self and died in our place. As 2 Corinthians 5:21 says, “God made him [Jesus] who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” Through faith in what Jesus Christ accomplished on the cross, we can receive forgiveness.
- [A]nimal sacrifices were commanded by God so that the individual could experience forgiveness of sin. The animal served as a substitute—that is, the animal died in place of the sinner, but only temporarily, which is why the sacrifices needed to be offered over and over. Animal sacrifices have stopped with Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ was the ultimate sacrificial substitute once for all time (Heb. 7:27). This information adapted from http://www.gotquestions.org/animal-sacrifices.html. The only mediator between God and humanity (1 Tim. 2:5, Gal.3:20, Heb.8:6 & 9:15) His miracles and parables recorded in the Gospels
- Was foretold by the prophets. Examples include Isa. 42:1-9 and Isa. 9:6 & 7
- His name Jesus Christ-Jesus is the Greek form of the Hebrew name Joshua, which means the LORD saves. “The Christ” (Greek) and “the Messiah” (Hebrew) both mean “the Anointed One.” Our Great High Priest (Hebrews 4:14-16)

- He was tempted in every way, yet did not sin (Hebrews 4:14-15)

Holy Spirit

- Spiritual Gifts-The Spirit of God is given to believers and is manifested (or shown) for the common good (1 Cor.12)
- God gives the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him. (Luke 11:13) God performs His mighty works through His Power. Through His Spirit He created the universe (Gen. 1:1-2, Heb.11:3), gave strength to Samson (Judges 14:6; 15:14), wisdom to Solomon, inspiration to the writers of scripture (2 Pet.1:20-21),etc.
- Believers have life through the Spirit of God (Romans 8)
- The Spirit of the LORD rested on Christ (Isa.11:1-5) and the Holy Spirit is offered as a gift to those that God calls (Acts 2:38-39 Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy

> *Spirit. 39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”)*

The Holy Spirit lives in us (2 Timothy 1:14)

When we live by the Spirit, we produce the fruit of the Spirit. “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” (Gal.5:22-23) These characteristics should be evident for every Christian and we can ask God for more of His Spirit to help us develop every one of these “fruits”.

Bible

- God’s inspired Word (2 Peter 1:20-21)
- Our guide book for daily living (2 Timothy 3:14-17)
- The Holy Scriptures can make “you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus”. (2 Timothy 3:15)
- The Bible contains 39 books of the Old Testament and 27 books of the New Testament. We can further divide the books into ten major divisions–OLD TESTAMENT LAW Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy HISTORY Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1&2 Samuel, 1&2 Kings, 1&2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther POETRY Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs MAJOR PROPHETS Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel MINOR PROPHETS Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi
- NEW TESTAMENT GOSPELS Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, HISTORY Acts PAUL’S LETTERS Romans, 1&2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1&2 Thessalonians, 1&2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon GENERAL LETTERS Hebrews, James, 1&2 Peter, 1,2&3 John, Jude PROPHECY Revelation
- Explanation of how to locate book, chapter, and verse-The Table of Contents in the front of your Bible will tell you where to find the different books of the Bible by page numbers. References for passages of scripture in the Bible might look like this: Hebrews 12:1 & 2. Hebrews tells us that our verse is located in the book of Hebrews. The 12 represents the chapter and the 1 &2 are the verse numbers. If you see the letter a or b following a reference, it means to read the first or last part of that verse. You may want to highlight or underline important verses.
- Review the abbreviations used to refer to books of the Bible
- Timeline of Bible Translation History-Brief overview from 1,400 BC: The first written Word of God: The Ten Commandments delivered to Moses to Modern Day Literal Translations.

Kingdom	• Will be set-up on the earth (Lk. 13:29, Mt. 5:5), future for those who love and follow God and Jesus (Dan.7:27) • The LORD's temple will be established on Mount Zion, Jerusalem and under Christ's rule the nations will live in peace (Isa.2:1-4, Micah 4:1-5) • A full description of the capital city of the Kingdom, New Jerusalem is given in Revelation 21. Details such as its 1,400 mile length and width as well as the 200 foot walls decorated in precious jewels. • Christ will reign 1,000 years governing the nations which is referred to as the Millennium reign (Rev.20:1-7) before the coming of New Jerusalem (the capital city of the Kingdom of God).

- Nature

of Humans: God created human beings in His image and likeness (Gen.1:27), therefore we respect others and respect human life.

Created, blessed and named by God (Gen. 5:1-2)

Humans are mortal now, but Christ's followers will be changed to immortal beings and receive eternal life at the second coming of Christ (Rom.2:7, 1 Cor.15).

Sinful from birth (Rom.8:28), but can be reconciled to God (2 Cor. 5:17-21)

Christians want to act like Jesus and follow God's commands giving them a "new identity" in Christ (New Self Eph. 4:20-24)

We can become children of God (Rom. 8:14-17)

Our bodies are the temple of God and God's Holy Spirit lives in us. (1 Cor. 3:16-17, 1 Cor. 6:19) Encourage students to have healthy lifestyles. Encourage sexual purity and drug-free lifestyles by including lessons on Sexual Purity (http://www.premaritalsex.info/#benefits) and Drug prevention (Red Ribbon Week with the observance of Faith Day Sunday is the last week in October). Students need to understand that drug use carries significant safety, health, and legal

risks. Explain that though tobacco use may be common, because of the harmful health risks associated with its use, it is best to be avoided. The scriptures also warn about alcohol abuse (Eph. 5:18, Rom. 14:21) and over-eating. Encourage students to have a balanced life that includes time for building their relationship with God and with Christ. Encourage them to plan time that allows for building positive social relationships, exercise and activities, proper nutrition, community outreach, rest and coping with and identifying emotions.

God has a plan to restore human beings. Faithful followers of Christ will be rewarded for what they have done at the second coming of Christ (Mt. 16:27, Rev.22:12)

Christian Followers continue to grow and enjoy the relationship they have with God, Christ and other believers throughout their life time (Rom. 15:5-6).

- Explore the

Meanings: Baptism-Immersion of the believer in water shows that he has entered into a personal relationship with Christ and desires to follow his example. Jesus was baptized as our example (Mk.1:9). When we experience water Baptism we are identifying with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection. Through the act of baptism, we put to death our old sinful nature and rise from the water in newness of life. We begin to live a new life in Christ to glorify our Heavenly Father. (Romans 6:4).

Consider why baptism is an important part of becoming a follower of Christ.

Expand on

the meanings

Communion- Communion is sometimes referred to as the Last Supper or the Lord’s Supper. of the words

Christ celebrated this Passover meal with his twelve disciples. We remember Christ’s sacrifice in bold. Add

Biblical	by eating the bread and drinking the cup. At the first communion, Jesus took the bread, gave	stories that
thanks and broke it. He said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me."		

support your

In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my definitions

blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and discuss as

and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes (1 Cor. 11:23-26). Communion a class.

also reminds us of our hope that someday we will celebrate a feast with our Lord Jesus in the Kingdom of God. (Mt. 26:26-30)

Sin- Doing something that is against the commandments of God or neglecting to do something right. It can be thought of as missing the mark. We are offered the opportunity to be forgiven of our sins through the acceptance of Jesus Christ (Acts 13:38). For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23

Passover Feast- Celebration and remembrance of the Hebrews' deliverance/exodus from Egypt where they served as slaves (Ex.13:3, 9) and specifically when the Hebrews were passed over on the night of the 10th plaque of the death of the firstborn. The Passover lamb symbolized the sacrifice that Christ would provide through his death. The Passover was observed by Christ and his disciples and became our communion (see above). Unlike the annual feast, the communion is observed throughout the year during worship services. Communion also reminds us of our hope that someday we will celebrate a feast with our Lord Jesus in the Kingdom of God. (Mt. 26:26-30, Mk.14:25, Lk.22:18)

- Science and

the Bible: Science and the Bible do not conflict.

Helpful Resources: The Case for a Creator-Student Edition by Lee Strobel with Jane Vogel available as a DVD or book. Investigates scientific proof for intelligent design of the universe. The Answers in Genesis organization provides many resources looking at creation research. Visit www.answersingenesis.org.

Teachers Note: Preview all resources before presenting to the class.

Prayer

- The Prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective (James 5:16)
- Prayers should be made for everyone-self, family, the church, and others (1 Tim. 2:1-4)

Christian prayer lives should include group (Acts 4:31), and private prayer time (Lk. 5:16, Mt. 6:6-8).

Church	• God has appointed Christ to be head over everything for the church which is his body (Eph. 1:22-23) • The Church is made up of people-“you are the church” (Acts 14:27, 15:3) • Unity of the people of the church is important (John 17:23, Rom. 15:5, 1 Cor. 1:10) • Referred to as the church of God (Acts 20:28, 1 Cor. 1:2) • Importance and respect for God’s house (1 Tim.3:15, Mk. 11:17, 2 Chr. 24:1-2). • Respect for each person of the church (Phil. 2:3, 1 Cor. 10:24)
Service	• Begin serving in ministry areas of the church. Students should explore using their God given talents and abilities in service to God and others. Help students discover how they can serve or minister to others by using the gifts and talents that God has given them. (1 Cor.12:28)

- Students should memorize the 66 books and ten major divisions of the Bible

Ten major divisions –OLD TESTAMENT LAW Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy HISTORY Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1&2 Samuel, 1&2 Kings, 1&2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther POETRY Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs MAJOR PROPHETS Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel MINOR PROPHETS Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

NEW TESTAMENT GOSPELS Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, HISTORY Acts PAUL’S LETTERS Romans, 1&2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1&2 Thessalonians, 1&2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon LETTERS Hebrews, James, 1&2 Peter, 1,2&3 John, Jude PROPHECY Revelation

- Students should know where to locate these topics in the Bible

Life of Christ in the Gospels and in Acts 1

Biblical Church History based on Acts, the Epistles and the writings of John (95-98 A.D.)

Encourage students to gather and share advice on Christian Living from the scriptures (examples may be found in the Sermon on the Mount, James, Romans, etc.)

Creation in Genesis 1 and 2

Ten Commandments in Exodus 20 & Deuteronomy 5

Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5-7

- Writers of N.T. books-

Book Author

Gospels Matthew- Matthew the Tax Collector, one of the 12 disciples of Jesus

(Narratives)	Mark-	John Mark
Luke-	Luke the Greek Historian/Physician	John-
John, one of the 12 disciples of Jesus		

History Acts- Luke the Greek Historian/Physician

Epistles by Romans, 1 Corinthians,

2 Corinthians, Galatians, (Paul's Letters)	Paul	Ephesians, Philippians,

Colossians, 1 Thessalonians, The apostle Paul

2 Thessalonians, 1 Timothy,

2 Timothy, Titus & Philemon-

General Hebrews- unknown

James- James the half brother of Jesus (General Letters)	Epistles	1 Peter- Peter, one of the 12 disciples of Jesus

2 Peter- Peter, one of the 12 disciples of Jesus

1 John- John, one of the 12 disciples of Jesus

2 John- John, one of the 12 disciples of Jesus

3 John- John, one of the 12 disciples of Jesus

Jude- Jude the half brother of James

Prophecy

Revelation- John, one of the 12 disciples of Jesus	(Apocalyptic	

> *Epistle by John)*

- Topics to review and discuss as a class:

-The Ten Commandments-The reasons for the establishment of the commandments

-The parables of Jesus (List of parables and scriptures are at http://www.bcbsr.com/survey/jpbl.html for a resource. Preview material before printing for your class.)

-The miracles of Jesus (Use CTRL + click to follow hyperlinks to www.aboutbibleprophecy.com/miracles.htm for a summary of each miracle.)

Some of the miracles of Jesus include

1. Changing water into wine (John 2:1-11) 2. Healing of the royal official's son (Jn. 4:46-54)

3. Drives out an evil/unclean spirit (Mk. 1:21-28, Lk. 4:33-37) 4. Healing of Peter's mother-in-law (Matthew 8:14-15, Mark 1:29-31, Luke 4:38-39) 5. Catching a large number of fish (Luke 5:3-10) 6. Healing a man with leprosy (Matthew 8:1-3, Mark 1:40-42) 7. Healing a centurion's servant (Matthew 8:5-13, Luke 7:1-10) 8. Healing a paralytic (Matthew 9:1-8, Mark 2:1-12, Luke 5:18-26) 9. Healing a man's shriveled/withered hand at the synagogue (Matthew 12:9-14, Mark 3:1-6) 10. Raising a widow's son from the dead

(Luke 7:11-17) 11, Calming the stormy sea (Matthew 8:23-27, Mark 4:35-41, Luke 8:22-25) 12. Healing the demon-possessed men/man coming from the tombs (Matthew 8:28-34, Mark 5:1-13, Luke 8 26-33) 13. Healing a woman with bleeding ailment (Matthew 9:20-22, Mark 5:25-34, Luke 8:43-48) 14 Raising Jairus' daughter from the dead (Matthew 9:18-19, 23-25; Mark 5:22-24, 35-43; Luke 8:41-42, 49-56) 15. Healing two blind men (Matthew 9:27-31) 16. Healing a mute demon-possessed (Matthew 9:32-33) 17. Healing a 38 year invalid at the pool of Bethesda (John 5:1-17) 18. Feeding 5000 men and their families (Matthew 14:16-21, Mark 6:35- 44, Luke 9:12-17, John 6:5-14) 19. Walking on water (Matthew 14:22-33, Mark 6:45-52, John 6:16-21) 20. Healing a girl possessed by an evil/unclean spirit (Matthew 15:21-28, Mark 7:24-30) 21. Healing a deaf man with a speech impediment (Mark 7:31-37) 22. Feeding the 4000 men and their families (Matthew 15:29-39, Mark 8:1-10) 23. Healing a blind man (Mark 8:22-26) 24. Healing a man born blind (John 9:1-41) 25. Healing a boy with a evil/unclean spirit (Matthew 17:14-21, Mark 9:17-29, Luke 9:37-43) 26. Catching a fish with a coin in its mouth for the temple tax (Matthew 17:24-27) 27. Healing a demon-possessed blind and mute man (Matthew 12:22, Luke 11:14) 28. Healing a woman with an 18 year infirmity (Luke 13:10-13) 29. Healing a man with dropsy (Luke 14:1-6) 30. Healing 10 lepers (Luke 17:11-19) 31. Raising of Lazarus from the dead (John 11:1-44) 32. Healing Bartimaeus of blindness (Mark 10:46-52) 33. Restoring a severed ear (Luke 22:45- 54) 34. Catching a great number of fish after Christ's resurrection (John 21:4-11)

-Jesus Christ as the Messiah. Jesus fulfilled (completed) what was written about him in the Old Testament-He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." Luke 24:44

-The teachings of Christ including the Sermon on the Mount from Mt. 5-7

-The general contents and meanings of the Beatitudes from Mt. 5:3-12

-The Lord's Prayer and Christ's prayer from John 17

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be

done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses (debts), as we forgive them that trespass against us (our debtors). And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. [For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.] Amen. (This is the traditional version from 1662, you may wish to use a later version.) Based on Jesus' words in Mt. 6:9-13 and Luke 11:2-4.

-Psalm 23-A psalm of David, The Lord is My Shepherd

-Psalm 100-A psalm for giving Thanks

-How to become a Christian. The most important act is to reach out to God through Christ (Acts 17:27). (For a more formal presentation of the gospel, a steps to salvation outline is presented in the Objectives for Teen Department (9th-12th Grade) section.)

-The conversion of the apostle Paul and highlights of his missionary journeys

-Chronological order of major Biblical events

-Explore how we are under grace and not the law. Romans 6 with emphasis on verse 14. We are slaves to righteousness.

-God communicates to us through the Bible and gives us direction from the scriptures. The Bible has answers for our daily lives. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work (2 Timothy 3:14- 17).

-Distinctive doctrinal texts and sharing those texts in a positive way with others

BE ABLE TO RECOGNIZE AND HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF THESE BIBLE CHARACTERS

- God, Jesus, Writers of N.T. books, and characters discussed in previous levels.

HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO THESE GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES ON A BIBLE-LAND MAP

- Major countries, cities, mountains, and bodies of water with special emphasis on Israel. The location of Jerusalem and the importance of the future New Jerusalem “capital” in the Kingdom of God (Rev. 3:12, 21:1-3, 10-26, 22:1-5).

Have learned how to use these study helps in book form or online/computer/applications resources:

- Concordance
- Bible Dictionary
- Online Bible (example www.biblegateway.com)
- Audio Bible (examples: Bible on CD, Bible on MP3)
- Bible Applications for portable devices (iPod touch or iPhones)
- Christian Life stories
- Missionary stories
- Systematic Theology by Dr. Alva G. Huffer is available in book and worksheet forms in the Youth Library. There are 29 lessons with explanations and key verses on major Biblical subjects including the Bible, the Attributes of God and the Kingdom of God. Online version is available at

https://mncogconference.org/introduction-orig. (Teachers are encouraged to complete this study for a better understanding of the major Biblical topics.)

A helpful resource for Bible Quizzes can be found online at www.biblequizzes.com. Please review for content before using quizzes in class.

STUDENTS SHOULD MANIFEST THESE ATTITUDES

- Love God and Jesus
- Feel that he is a valuable person as a child of God.
- Love people of all races and nationalities
- Have an awareness of sin and need for salvation
- Feel a part of the church family
- Feel responsibility for spreading the gospel
- Feel concern for those in need
- Feel pride in Biblical believes and the hope found in God, His Son and the Coming Kingdom of God
- Feel joy in the positive activities that are done through the church and youth group
- Desire to worship God

STUDENTS SHOULD EXHIBIT THESE DESIRABLE BEHAVIOR PATTERNS

- Acceptance of Jesus as his personal Savior
- Participate in Sunday School and church activities regularly
- Encourage his friends to accept Jesus
- Pray daily
- Practice the discipline of daily Bible study (Bible on CD, http://www.biblegateway.com, or other Biblical media sources).
- Use words instead of actions to express anger, fear, and frustration
- Treat parents, teachers, and others in authority with respect
- Be a good sport win or lose
- Takes part in church activities, ministries, programs and outreach projects. Encourage the student to join church groups that might interest him-choir, ministry groups, etc.
- Be developing church leadership abilities (encourage shadowing of church leaders)
- Exercises self-control by avoiding internet sites, TV shows, books, movies, and games that contain inappropriate material (hard language, violence, sex, nudity, drug abuse, etc.) and does not use electronic devices that contain any of this material
- Tithes from allowance, gifts, etc.
- Puts the Lord first in his plans and activities
- Enjoys friends, laughter and Christian activities

Please review previous levels for other material that should be included in your lesson plans.

This will ensure that all themes have been covered with your students.

OBJECTIVES FOR

Young Teen Department

7th-8th Grade

The typical student leaving the Young Teen Department should have been exposed to these major themes and doctrines:

- The eight attributes of God from Exodus 34:6-7. 1.Compassionate 2.Gracious 3.Slow to anger 4.Abounding in love 5.Abounding in Faithfulness 6.Maintaining love to thousands 7.Forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin 8.He does not leave the guilty unpunished (Just)
- Nature and work of God through the Holy Spirit and how God's Holy Spirit is evidenced in our lives (see Spirit section of previous Junior Department 5th and 6th grade level).
- Life of Christ
- History of the Biblical early church
- Personal Evangelism –Positively sharing the Good News with others
- Principles of Jesus' Discipling-Teaching people to obey everything that Jesus commanded while imitating the actions of Christ.
- Developing Spiritual Disciplines-Use examples from the gospels of Jesus teaching and practicing disciplines such as solitude, silence, fasting, worship, prayer, secrecy (Mt.6:1), simplicity, celebration, fellowship, and service. Chose one of the Gospels and read through it while making notes of examples you find.
- Biblical principles for choosing a vocation- We partner with God in discerning our calling when we work through a reasoned process of evaluating options in light of Scripture and our design. With each step, we seek God's guidance in His Word and through prayer. We remain receptive to the Lord's instruction should He choose at any point to indicate specifically what He wants us to do. When we are willing to be obedient, regardless of what God calls us to do, we become people He can guide and use to fulfill His purposes here on earth. (www.cbn.com/finance/brennflecks_Godguides.aspx)
- God desires to be connected to humans. He created human beings in His image and gives us the special privilege of "willingly" choosing to build a relationship with Him and worship Him. He reveals Himself to human beings through the Bible and nature (Rom. 1:18-32). God provided Christ in order to reconcile us to Him. He explains that He will live with humans someday in the Kingdom (Rev. 21:3-4) and at that time God's people will be perfected and given eternal life.

Prayer

- A few Biblical examples to consider are Solomon's prayer of Dedication in 1 Kings 8:22-53, Nehemiah's prayer life from the Book of Nehemiah especially chapter 1, Jesus prayer for himself, his disciples and all believers in John 17, etc.

Prayer for self, family and others

Effectual group prayer

The Lord's Prayer- Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses (debts), as we forgive them that trespass against us (our debtors). And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. [For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.] Amen. (This is the traditional version from 1662, you may wish to use a later version.) Based on Jesus' words in Mt. 6:9-13 and Luke 11:2-4.

Bible

- "God-breathed" (2 Tim. 3:16) or God's words to us.

Discuss the assurance that God's Word is true by discussing the historical, scientific, and prophetic accuracies presented in the scriptures. (www.christiananswers.net/courtesy-archaeology.html)

Jesus placed importance (Lk. 2:46-47) and relied on the word of God (Mt. 4:4) in his life.

The scriptures explain what God is like (Ex. 34:6-7, Jn. 14:6), the plan God has for each of us (Eph. 2:1-10), and the reason for the gift of Jesus Christ (Rom.5:1-11, 6:23, 10:9-13). God's Word explains how much God loves us (Rom.5:6-8, Jn. 3:16) and understanding this love, we are drawn to love Him in return (1 Jn. 4:19). The Bible also explains how we should live to express our love to God and others through obeying the greatest commandment to love God and to love others as ourselves (Mk. 12:28-34).

The Bible equips us to serve God (2 Timothy 3:17; Ephesians 6:17; Hebrews 4:12). It helps us know how to be saved from our sin and its ultimate consequence (2 Timothy 3:15). Meditating on God's Word and obeying its teachings pleases God with our actions (Joshua 1:8; James 1:25).

God's Word helps us see sin in our lives and helps us get rid of it (Psalm 119:9, 11). It gives us guidance

and understanding (Psalm 32:8, 119:99; Proverbs 1:6). The Bible gives us the words of Jesus. When we put the words of Christ into practice, we become wise because we are building our lives on something that will last forever, which is referring to building on the rock (Mt. 7:24-27). The Bible presents Christ-like actions to follow and attributes that we can develop.

Helpful Resource: The Forbidden Book, The History of the English Bible (DVD, running time 1 hour, preview before viewing)

- "Types" of Christ from the Old Testament- A "Type" is a representation or foreshadow of something. We might think of it as a template, a shadow or a prediction of something. The Old Testament is full of "Types" of Christ. These are intentionally placed in the Scripture to describe and identify the Messiah when He came. Some "types" are people, such as Melchizedek (Gen. 14:18, Heb. 6:20), or Isaac. Some "types" are things such as Noah's Ark. Some "types" are events or ceremonies such as Passover. Each of them beautifully picture the life and ministry of Jesus Christ hundreds of years before His birth. The Old Testament prophecies also predict Christ Jesus. The Old Testament has many prophecies concerning the Messiah and the life of Jesus Christ. The purpose for this is explained in Rom. 16:25-27. It states, "Now to him who is able to establish you by my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past, but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all nations might believe and obey him-to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen."
- Define Biblical Covenants – example: A biblical covenant is an agreement found in the Bible between God and human beings in which God makes certain promises and requires certain behavior from his people in return. Consider some covenants in the scriptures such as the Noahic (Gen.8&9), Mosaic (Ex. 24) or Israel (Deut.29&30) covenants.

One covenant of the Old Testament is the Abrahamic Covenant. God promised faithful Abraham that he would make him into a great nation and bless him, that he would make his name great and make him a blessing. God promised that He would "bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." (Gen.12:2-3)

God also promised Abraham numerous descendants, Canaan land and that through his offspring all nations on earth would be blessed (Gen.15). "I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me." Gen.22:17-18 The covenant was later confirmed to Isaac. "The LORD

appeared to Isaac and said, "Do not go down to Egypt; live in the land where I tell you to live. Stay in this land for a while, and I will be with you and will bless you. For to you and your descendants I will give all these lands and will confirm the oath I swore to your father Abraham. I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and will give them all these lands, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because Abraham obeyed me and kept my requirements, my commands, my decrees and my laws." Gen.26:2-5

And we can also be a part of that covenant today by having faith in God and following Him.

> *"Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all."Rom.4:6 This faith placed in God and the promises God made are sometimes called Abrahamic Faith.*

Abrahamic faith is presented through New Testament scriptures. Consider Rom.9:8 (…it is not the natural children who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise who are regarded as Abraham's offspring). Galatians 3:6-9 states, "Consider Abraham: "He believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness." 7Understand, then, that those who believe are children of Abraham. 8The Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: "All nations will be blessed through you." 9So those who have faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith".

And Gal. 3:14 explains that we have been redeemed so that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

Some of the promises made to Abraham and to us will be given when Christ returns and in the Kingdom of God.

> *Hebrews 11:39-40 explains, "These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised. God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect."*

> *"There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out. Lk.13:28*

This is the reason that churches may have the name "Abrahamic Faith" or "Faith of Abraham". They want to show that they have faith in God. They know that God will fulfill His promises to Abraham and to each of us when Christ returns.

The Davidic Covenant established that David, the second king of Israel, would have a descendant who would rule forever. This covenant promise will be accomplished through the rule of Jesus Christ, a descendent of David. (2 Sam.7:16)

- Review Creation scriptures. Science and the Bible do not conflict. You may also want to include ideas and scientific demonstrations from the books Science and the Bible. The experiments in this three volume set illustrate scriptural truths from science.

Other Helpful Resources include the online video entitled Science, the Bible and Belief in the 21st Century. http://publicchristianity.com/Videos/scibel.html

The Case for a Creator-Student Edition by Lee Strobel with Jane Vogel available as a DVD or book. Investigates scientific proof for intelligent design of the universe.

The Answers in Genesis organization provides many resources looking at creation research. Visit www.answersingenesis.org.

"Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed" DVD is available for your use. It exposes the widespread persecution of scientists and educators who are pursuing legitimate, opposing scientific views to the reigning orthodoxy. Discuss the difference of "micro-evolution," or changes on a small level between species from "macro- evolution." He used the evidence from the first half of his book on micro-evolution to suggest that the same mechanism could produce all life forms. However, this concept of

macro-evolution is not supported by modern scientific evidence. Although we can explain and understand the mechanism behind micro- evolution, we still can only theorize about possible explanations for macro-evolution – since it has no scientifically valid occurrences.

Teachers Note: Preview all resources before presenting to the class.

- The 66 Bible books and categories of the bible should be memorized.

Ten major divisions

–OLD TESTAMENT

LAW Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy HISTORY Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1&2 Samuel, 1&2 Kings, 1&2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther POETRY Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs MAJOR PROPHETS Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel MINOR PROPHETS Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

–NEW TESTAMENT

GOSPELS Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, HISTORY Acts PAUL'S LETTERS Romans, 1&2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1&2 Thessalonians, 1&2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon LETTERS Hebrews, James, 1&2 Peter, 1,2&3 John, Jude PROPHECY Revelation

- Verses for personal evangelism should be memorized. Allow students the experience of preparing their own way of sharing the Good News from the scripture with others. Explore how this fulfills the command of the Great Commission of Christ (Mt. 28:19-20). A suggested Steps to Salvation is presented in the 10-12th grade material for your use.
- Students should know where to locate the:

Ten Commandments-Ex. 20 & Deut. 5

Jesus Christ's Sermon on the Mount-Mt.5-7

The Beatitudes-Mt. 5:3-12

The Great Commission-Mt.28:19-20

The Faith Chapter–Heb. 11

The Love Chapter-1 Cor. 13

The Resurrection Chapter-1 Thess. 15

- Steps to Salvation-Discuss the steps to Salvation (Romans 10:9-13) A suggested Steps to Salvation is presented in the 9th-12th grade material for your use.

Kingdom

- On earth, future. Rewards will be given to those who love and follow God and Jesus. The Bible has a lot of information about the Kingdom of God. God wants us to look forward to the kingdom and has given descriptions of that kingdom throughout the Old and New Testament scriptures. Jesus taught many Kingdom parables and explained the coming of the Kingdom of God (Lk.17:20-37, Mt.24 and 25). Christ will rule over the nations (Gen.49:10, Isa.42:1-7, Isa.2:1-5, 9:6-7, Luke 1:31-33, Rom.15:12, John 5:25-29). The earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD and even the wild animals will live in peace (Isa.11). The Kingdom of God should be shared with others because it is Good News (Mt. 4:23, 9:35, Lk. 4:43, 8:1, 16:16, Acts 8:12).

Helpful resources: Systematic Theology Lesson 26 (visit the Youth Library or online resource

(https://mncogconference.org/introduction-orig).

Nature of Man

- God created human beings in His image and likeness (Gen.1:27), therefore we respect others and respect human life.

Created, blessed and named by God (Gen. 5:1-2)

Humans are mortal now, but Christ's followers will be changed to immortal beings and receive eternal life at the second coming of Christ (Rom.2:7, 1 Cor.15).

Sinful from birth (Rom.8:28, Titus 3:14), but can be reconciled to God (2 Cor. 5:17-21)

Christians want to act like Jesus and follow God's commands giving them a "new identity" in Christ (New Self Eph. 4:20-24)

Our bodies are the temple of God and God's Holy Spirit lives in us. (1 Cor. 3:16-17, 1 Cor.6:19) Encourage students to have healthy lifestyles. Encourage sexual purity and drug-free lives by including lessons on Sexual Purity (http://www.premaritalsex.info/#benefits) and Drug prevention (Red Ribbon Week with the observance of Faith Day Sunday is the last week in October). Students need to understand that drug use carries significant safety, health, and legal risks. Premarital sexual activity is harmful. God forbids premarital sex because it harms us. God wants us to enjoy sex with our spouses in marriage. (http://www.allaboutworldview.org/Premarital-Sex.htm)

Students should understand that they should avoid anything with sexual content. Sexual websites, sex-ting on phones or computers, pornography, and heavy petting are all considered sexual immorality and should be avoided. Sexual activity also opens the students to exposure of sexually transmitted diseases, the possibility of unplanned pregnancy, risk of sexual addictions and emotional pain (1 Cor. 6:13, 18, Gal. 5:19). Homosexuality also has risks of which students should be aware. More information on the consequences of homosexuality are stated at

http://www.theroadtoemmaus.org/RdLb/22SxSo/PnSx/HSx/StatsSdmy.htm.

God designed sex to be enjoyed within the marriage relationship. When we exploit sex in any other way, it is sexual immorality. As stated in Ephesians 5:3, "But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people". Explain that though tobacco use may be common, because of the harmful health risks associated with its use, it is best to be avoided. The scriptures also warn about alcohol abuse (Eph. 5:18, Rom. 14:21) and over-eating (Prov.23:2&2). Encourage students to have a balanced life that includes time for building their relationship with God and Christ. Encourage them to plan time that allows for Bible study, building positive social relationships, exercise, recreational activities, proper nutrition, community outreach, rest and coping with and identifying their emotions.

God has a plan to restore human beings. Faithful followers of Christ will be rewarded for what they have done at the second coming of Christ (Mt. 16:27, Rev.22:12)

Christian Followers continue to grow and enjoy the relationship they have with God, Christ and other believers throughout their life time (Rom. 15:5-6).

Service

- Acts performed for God and others because we love God and Jesus and want to show our appreciation to them for all they have done for us (John 13:3-17). At least one service project is planned for the church and youth department for each month. Please encourage your students to be involved in these activities as well as encouraging them to serve God and others everyday.

- The Conversion and Baptism Experiences of:

Saul who was also called Paul the Apostle (Acts 9:1-31, Acts 22:1-21)

The Ethiopian Eunuch (Acts 8:26-39) An important official in charge of all the treasury of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians.

Lydia (Acts 16:11-15 and v. 40) A dealer in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira.

The Philippian Jailer (Acts 16:22-34)

- The Eight Attributes of God from Ex. 34:5-7 The LORD is the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished.
- The declaration of One God and how we should acknowledge God through our lives-Deut. 6:4-9 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates. The Jewish people include these scriptures in their prayers and it is called Shema (listen, or hear & do) Yisrael (Israel).

BE ABLE TO RECOGNIZE THE BIBLE CHARACTERS PRESENTED IN PREVIOUS LEVELS, AS WELL AS

- Jesus (an in-depth understanding of his work, provision of salvation through his death, Ruler at his Second Coming, He is the Messiah, that we should be building a close relationship with Him and His Heavenly Father, etc.)
- Characters from Early Church History

HAVE LEARNED ABOUT THESE STUDY HELPS AVAILABLE IN PRINT, ONLINE, APPLICATIONS, ETC.

- A Study Bible (contains notes on text, concordance, maps, etc.)
- Bible dictionary
- Bible encyclopedia
- Bible atlas
- Bible handbook
- Commentaries
- Concordances
- Online Bible (example www.biblegateway.com)
- Audio Bible (examples: Bible on CD, Bible on MP3)
- Systematic Theology by Dr. Alva G. Huffer is available in book and worksheet forms in the Youth Library. There are 29 lessons with explanations and key verses on major Biblical subjects including the Bible, the Attributes of God and the Kingdom of God. Online version is available at

https://mncogconference.org/introduction-orig. (Teachers are encouraged to complete this study for a better understanding of several major Biblical topics.)

- Memorization of Scriptures-Scripture Memory System can be downloaded from

http://www.memoryverses.org/smsw.shtml or http://www.bibleinverse.org, Memory verse cards-create your own or print them from online sites, VersePack application for IPhone users, become a Quizzer in a our local or national quiz program-talk with our Youth Director or visit http://www.tpym.com/Quizzing.

- Atlanta Bible College and Church of God General Conference website with many links to other websites http://www.abc-coggc.org
- Atlanta Bible College –ABC offers classes in Biblical studies including distance learning and block classes.
- Conferences, Camps and Retreats sponsored by the Church of God (http://www.abc-coggc.org) or check with a Youth Worker or the Youth Director.

MANIFEST THESE ATTITUDES

- Love for God and respect for His Word
- View himself as a person worthy of giving and receiving love
- Be able to disagree with others without getting angry
- Identify with godly Bible characters as models for behavior
- Feel a deep concern for the lost and a desire to lead them to the Lord
- Be able to express questions and doubts without embarrassment
- Experience joy in his Christian life
- Feels confident to lead his peers into acceptable activities
- Feel that adolescence is a worthwhile and exciting period of life
- Have positive attitude toward parents, teachers, and other significant adults in his life
- Be respectful and courteous toward everyone
- Be able to express appreciation and praise for others
- Appreciate his body as being created by God; self-acceptance of appearance; respectful use of his body
- Value his own God-given individuality and ability to think for himself
- Be loyal to God and Christ. Maintain loyalty to Christian friends and the church
- Be willing to express convictions to other teens
- Desire to serve Jesus in response to what He has done for him
- Be humble in the presence of Almighty God
- Appreciate his Christian heritage
- Capable of locating Biblical support for the Church of God doctrinal positions
- Assurance of salvation
- Confidence of complete forgiveness

EXHIBIT THESE DESIRABLE BEHAVIOR PATTERNS

- Contributes to group Bible study and discussion
- Seeks to maintain strong positive relationships with parents, people of the church and other family members
- Talks to God in a sincere, conversational manner
- Invites friends to church services and activities
- Accepts others with their faults and quirks

- Encourages others
- Forgives those who have wronged him
- Prays regularly to praise God, thank Him, and ask for His help
- Exercises self-control by avoiding internet sites, TV shows, books, movies, and games that contain inappropriate material (hard language, violence, sex, nudity, drug abuse, etc.) and does not use electronic devices that contain any of this material
- Talks over matters of importance with parents or other Christian adults
- Gives time and money for evangelism and service projects (Encourage your students to take advantage of the opportunities for involvement in service projects, outreach and missions that are provided throughout the year for students through the Youth Department.)
- Worships God regularly and reverently (Youth should be allowed worship times that allow them to express their heartfelt worship through songs, media presentations, drama, etc.)
- Contributes to ministry through his own abilities and gifts
- Enjoys Christian friends, laughter and Christian activities

Please review previous levels for other material that should be included in your lesson plans.

This will ensure that all themes have been covered with your students.

OBJECTIVES FOR

Teen Department

9th-12th Grade

Please review previous levels for Biblical material that should be included in your lesson plans. The typical student leaving the Youth Department should be exposed to the following topics.

- Christian living- (ideas you may wish to include) Christianity is a total life-style that incorporates every aspect of life. A Christian reaches out to build a relationship with God through His Son, Jesus Christ. A disciple of Christ imitates the actions of Christ (But if anyone obeys his word, God's love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him: Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did. 1 John 2:5-6). A Christian acts as God and Christ direct. A disciple of Christ daily develops a closer relationship with God and His Son, Jesus Christ.

A Christian practices the spiritual disciplines including prayer and exploring the scriptures to discover more about our Heavenly Father and His Son. A Christian also follows the commands of God found in the scriptures, but is no longer under the law-he is under grace. Christian living is practicing the Greatest Commandment by loving the Lord your God with all your heart (emotions), all your soul

(personality/abilities), all your mind (intellect/reasoning) and all your strength (physical action). Christ also added that the second most important commandment is to, “Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these”. (Mk. 12:28-34)

The scriptures of the New Testament provide the follower of Christ with the example of Jesus and the examples of the early Christians. The first four books often referred to as the Gospel contain the life-story of Christ and his teachings. Christ often used parables in his teachings and sometimes explanations of those parables are included. Christian principles are presented in the New Testament letters. For instance, Colossians 3:1-17 provides guidelines for holy living for Christians. The New Testament encourages the Christian with wonderful truths of God and His Son. The New Testament also gives us information about the second coming and the amazing kingdom of God. God can speak to us through the scriptures as we live in day-to-day fellowship with Him and Christ Jesus.

- Rejection of negative anti-Christian social groups such as gangs, neo-pagan religions (Wiccans), hate groups (Ku Klux Klan) or any other group that teaches something in opposition to the Bible.
- Science and the Bible - Science and the Bible do not conflict.

Science, the Bible and belief in the 21st Century http://publicchristianity.com/Videos/scibel.html Helpful Resources: The Case for a Creator-Student Edition by Lee Strobel with Jane Vogel available as a DVD or book. Investigates scientific proof for intelligent design of the universe.

The Answers in Genesis organization provides many resources looking at creation research. Visit www.answersingenesis.org.

“Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed” DVD is available for your use. It exposes the widespread persecution of scientists and educators who are pursuing legitimate, opposing scientific views to the reigning orthodoxy. Teachers Note: Preview all resources before presenting to the class.

- Body as the temple of the Holy Spirit-Our bodies are the temple of God and God’s Holy Spirit lives in us. (1 Cor. 3:16-17, 1 Cor.6:19)

A note to Teachers: Encourage students to have healthy, balanced lifestyles. Encourage sexual purity and drug-free lifestyles by including lessons on Sexual Purity (http://www.premaritalsex.info/#benefits) and Drug prevention. 4parents.gov is a great resource to review at

http://www.4parents.gov/talkingtoteen/index.html.

Be prepared to help students that choose to become sexually inactive. Review the material provided at http://www.4parents.gov/talkingtoteen/whatifsex/whatifsex.html. This section entitled What if My Teen Has Already Had Sex? is written for a parent that has discovered that their teen is sexually active and the necessary steps that should be taken to ensure that the student remains in good health. Be prepared to help the student make a re-commitment to purity. Review the importance of a lifelong marriage commitment that is established by the principles God gives us in the Bible. Also be prepared to minister to students that struggle with same-sex attraction. A good resource to review is the Exodus website especially the Youth Workers section at http://exodusyouth.net/youth-workers. You may also find the stats on homosexual risks helpful (http://www.theroadtoemmaus.org/RdLb/22SxSo/PnSx/HSx/StatsSdmy.htm). Many students do not realize that homosexuality has several risks.

Pornography addiction is a growing problem for many students. The Sexual Recovery Institute provides basic information on pornography addiction at http://www.sexualrecovery.com/pornography-addiction.php. www.TroubledWith.com is a web site of Focus on the Family also provides valuable information.
http://www.troubledwith.com/AbuseandAddiction/A000000779.cfm?topic=abuse%20and%20addiction%3
a%20pornography%20and%20cybersex

To reach Focus on the Family's counseling service by phone, call (719) 531-3400 ext. 7700 or 1-800-A-Family (800-232-6459) weekdays 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (MST). Please mention the TroubledWith Web site when you call. If a counselor is not immediately available, you can leave your contact information and a counselor will call you back as soon as possible. This one- time consultation is available at no cost to you.

God gives us His Holy Spirit because He loves us. God has a plan to restore human beings when Christ returns. Faithful followers of Christ will be rewarded for what they have done at the second coming of Christ (Mt. 16:27, Rev.22:12). He will give us a perfect, happy existence with no more pain, illness or death in the Kingdom of God (Rev. 21).

Christian Followers continue to grow and enjoy the relationship they have with God, Christ and other believers throughout their life time (Rom. 15:5-6).

- Sin and society- Define sin biblically. How does this view of sin differ from what society might call moral standards? (You may find this article helpful, “How Does the Bible Define Sin?” by Scott Ashley. http://www.gnmagazine.org/issues/gn09/bibledefinesin.htm)
- Biblical life purpose –Sharing the five purposes from the Purpose Driven Life by Rick Warren may offer guidance for your students. 1.Evangelism 2.Worship 3.Fellowship 4.Discipleship 5.Ministry
- Explore historical groups who have suffered for truth. Historical martyrs and modern day Christian persecution.

Church of God history http

- //www.abc-coggc.org/jrad/volume11/issue1/The%20Development%20of%20the%20Church%20of%20God.pdf

- Define Christian Apologetics- An example might be: Christian apologetics aims to present a rational basis for the Christian faith, defend the faith against objections, and expose the perceived flaws of other world views. Practice methods of critical Bible Study to defend Scripture. Allow opportunities for students to role play in this area as well as with evangelism. Stress the importance of respect for others and positive presentation to others.

- Steps to salvation-Form your own or use this example: 1. Hear the word of God, the Good News (Romans 10:17, 10:14). One must be exposed to the gospel before he can believe it. This is the reason it is so important that the Gospel be preached to the whole world-The Great Commission (Mark 16:15). 2. Believe The jailor at Philippi asked Paul and Silas, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” They told him to “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household” (Acts 16:30, 31). Jesus also said: “He who believes and is baptized will be saved, but he who does not believe will be condemned” (Mark 16:16). 3. A person must repent of his sins in order to be saved (Acts 17:30, 31). Jesus commanded that “repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem” (Luke 24:47). Repentance is a result of being sorry for one’s sins (2 Corinthians 7:10). When the Jews on Pentecost Day learned from Peter that they had crucified the Son of God, they “were cut to the heart” (Acts 2:37). They wanted to be forgiven of their sins, so they asked, “What shall we do?” They were told to “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins...” (Acts 2:37,38). When one repents, he turns away from his sins (1 Thess. 1:9). He shows he has repented by doing good works (Mt. 3:8). 4. One must confess that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God (Matthew 16:16). This great truth is the very foundation upon which the church of Christ is built (Mt. 16:18; Acts 4:11, 12; 1 Cor. 3:11). Jesus said that we must be willing to confess Him before men if we want Him to confess us before the Father (Mt. 10:32, 33). The apostle Paul wrote: “But what does it say? ‘The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart’ (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation” (Rom. 10:8-10). When Philip preached Jesus to the Ethiopian eunuch, the eunuch asked, “What hinders me from being baptized?” Philip told him he could be baptized if he believed. The eunuch then confessed, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God” (Acts 8:35-38). We must make this important, yet

simple confession also in order to be saved. 5. Baptism is a public confession of commitment to becoming a follower of Christ and a child of God. Jesus said: “He who believes and is baptized will be saved” (Mark 16:16). On Pentecost Day, Peter told those who asked what to do to be saved to “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized...” (Acts 2:38). Baptism symbolizes a burial in water where the new believer puts the old nature to death and rises from the water in newness of life in Christ Jesus (Rom. 6:3, 4; Col. 2:12). Baptism is an important part of our salvation (Mk. 16:16; 1 Pet. 3:21). Baptism is “for the remission (forgiveness) of sins” (Acts 2:38). Just as Jesus shed His blood for the remission of sins (Mt. 26:28), so we are baptized in order to receive the remission of sins. In baptism, the sinner’s sins are washed away by the blood of Jesus (Acts 22:16). New believers are baptized into Christ. Galatians 3:26 and 27 states, “You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. We become connected to Christ and become a part of the church. We have a new standing before God in Christ. 6. We live a new life of obedience to God by loving God and others. We eagerly serve while we look forward to the second coming of Christ and the establishment of the Kingdom of God. We spread this Good News to others so they can have a part in the Kingdom of God.

So the steps of Salvation might be thought of as to (1) Hear the Good News/the Gospel; (2) Believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God; (3) Repent of all his past sins; (4) Confess that Christ is God’s Son; (5) Be baptized for the remission of sins and to put on Christ; (6) Live a new life of obedience to God by loving God and others. Luke 10:27-28 states, “He answered: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live." The New Believer is added by the Lord to His church (Acts 2:41, 47). He is born again (John 3:3-5; 2 Cor. 5:17). He is in Christ where all spiritual blessings are to be found. (Ephesians 1:3; Galatians 3:26, 27). In short, he is a Christian (Acts 11:26; 26:28; 1 Peter 4:16). We share this Good News with others so they can have a new life. They can enjoy a relationship with God and with His Son. They also have the hope of the Kingdom of God in the future.

- The importance of the Kingdom of God in light of the statement of Christ in Luke 4:43, "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent.” Describe how the Kingdom of God offers us hope

when we face difficult circumstances. Explore why it important to spread the Good News of the Kingdom? How will you convey this Good News to others?

- Plan of ages-Create a Biblical event list

An example might be: God always existed, He Created the heaven, earth and humans, He worked through the nation of Israel, He planned and provided His son, Jesus for our Savior, Jesus died for our sins, He was resurrected, Jesus Christ will come again and will reward his followers, Jesus will establish the Kingdom of God, The thousand year reign of Christ, God will create a new heavens and new earth (Isa. 65:17-25; 66:22- 23, 2 Pet.3:13), God will dwell with human beings-they will be His people and God himself will be with them and be their God (Rev. 21:3) from the Kingdom description in Revelation 21 and 22:1-6.

- Create definitions and Biblical explanations for the following Christian principles. A few references are suggested, but develop your own reference lists and definitions. Make sure that students understand that these concepts are very broad and complex and that they will develop even more over time.

Faith-

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. Heb. 11:1 The Faith Chapter of Hebrews 11

God is faithful. Deut. 32:4, 7:9 We are to be faithful. 2 Sam. 22:26, 2 Chron. 20:20, Mark 11:22, Eph. 3:12 Grace-

Rom.5:15, 17, 21; Acts 20:32, 24, 15:11; Rom. 3:23-25, 4:16, 5:2

Inspiration of Scriptures-

2 Tim. 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:20-21

Justification–

Rom. 3:22-26, chapter 4, 5:16 and 18

Reconciliation-

Rom.5:9-11, 2 Cor. 5:18-21 Christians are all involved in reconciling people to God through Christ. (As seen in this portion of our reference text, 19 that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 20We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.)

Sanctification/sanctify-

Jn. 17:6-21 Set apart for sacred use or make holy, Greek hagiazo.

1 Thessalonians 5:23-May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Redemption-

Eph. 1:7-8 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.

Eph. 1:14, Col. 1:13-15, Heb. 9:12, Rom. 8:23

- Explore the relationship between faith, grace, law, and works
- Encourage students to memorize the 66 books of the Bible in order (see previous levels)

- Should know where to find these items in the Bible:

Ten Commandments-Exodus 20, Deuteronomy 5

Sermon on the Mount-Matthew 5-7

Beatitudes-Matthew 5:1-12

Great Commission-Matthew 28:19-20

Faith Chapter-Hebrews 11

Love Chapter-1 Corinthians 13

Resurrection Chapter-1 Corinthians 15

Fruit of the Spirit-Galatians 5:22-23 (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control)

Armor of God-Eph.6:13-17

Conversion Experiences of: Saul (Acts 9), Ethiopian Eunuch (Acts 8:26-39), Philippian Jailer (Acts 16:16- 36)

Proof Texts/Scriptural passages that explain your views and beliefs. Explain that these will increase and develop over time as you study. Discuss and practice highlighting, color coding, cross-referencing and underlining passages while studying the scriptures.

- Remember and understand the reasons for the Ten Commandments. Exodus 20 & Deuteronomy 5

> *1. You shall have no other gods before me. Put God first in your life. Jesus said that the most important commandment was to "love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength."*

2. You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them. (Do not make or worship idols.) Idols can be things or people that we put above God in our lives. Maybe money, work, acceptance by others, superstars, divas, internet use (even Facebook), gaming, material things... Worshipping something other than God is called idolatry.

> *3. You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God. Cursing with the name of God or any other name of the Lord or treating His name with disrespect is called blasphemy. In this commandment we are told that the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses His name (verse 11). Therefore, we want to treat God's name with respect.*

> *4. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Keep one day out of the week to acknowledge God. Attending worship services allows you the opportunity to acknowledge God, offer your worship, give Him your undivided attention, and much more. 5. Honor your Father and Mother Respecting and listening to parents and guardians because they are concerned about the well- being of their children makes sense. Ephesians 6:1-3*

> *6. You shall not murder. Human life should be respected because human beings are created in the image of God. Our feelings toward others are also important. In 1 John 3:15 it states that anyone who hates his brother is a murderer. This instructs us that we should rely on God to have the proper feelings toward others.*

> *7. You shall not commit adultery. Marriage is to be honored and there should be no sexual relationships outside of marriage. (Hebrews 13:4) Christ taught us that if you look at someone lustfully, you have committed adultery in your heart. We need to keep our hearts and minds sexually pure.*

> *8. You shall not steal. We should never take anything that does not belong to us.*

9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. We need to speak the truth. (Leviticus 19:11)

10. You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor. We should not desire something or be envious of what others have. Other sins will result from envy including theft and adultery so the Lord wants us to be in control of our thoughts. We should be glad for the good things in others' lives, not envious.

BE ABLE TO RECOGNIZE

- Bible characters from all previous levels

HAVE EXPOSURE TO THE FOLLOWING THEMES

- **Basic Church History Timeline The Apostolic Period: 35-120 The Apologists: 120-220 The Third Century: 220-305 The Imperial Church: 305-476 The Early Middle Ages: 476-999 The High Middle Ages: 1000-1299 The Late Middle Ages: 1300-1499 The Reformation: 1500-1599 The Puritans: 1600-1699 The Great Awakening: 1700-1799 The 2nd Great Awakening: 1800-1899 The Modern Period: 1900-Present**
- **Great people of church history and the leaders of the Church of God- www.abc-**

coggc.org/jrad/volume11/issue1/The%20Development%20of%20the%20Church%20of%20God.pdf

- **Understands that Bibles are available in translations and paraphrases. The advantages of word for word literal translations which provide more accurate information from the scriptures and the advantage of hearing a viewpoint provided through paraphrases which provide interpretation.**
- Bible Translators Explore highlights from 500 BC: Completion of All Original Hebrew Manuscripts which make up The 39 Books of the Old Testament. / 200 BC: Completion of the Septuagint Greek Manuscripts / 1st Century AD: Completion of All Original Greek Manuscripts which make up The 27 Books of the New Testament. / 382 AD: Jerome's Latin Vulgate Manuscripts Produced / 1384 AD: Wycliffe is the First Person to Produce a (Hand-Written) manuscript copy of the Complete Bible / 1455 AD: Gutenberg Invents the Printing Press; Books May Now be mass-Produced Instead of Individually Hand- Written. The First Book Ever Printed is Gutenberg's Bible in Latin. / 1516 AD: Erasmus Produces a Greek/Latin Parallel New Testament / 1522 AD: Martin Luther's German New Testament. / 1526 AD: William Tyndale's New Testament; The First New Testament printed in the English Language. / 1535 AD: Myles Coverdale's Bible; The First Complete Bible printed in the English Language (80 Books: O.T. & N.T. & Apocrypha). / 1537 AD: Tyndale-Matthews Bible; The Second Complete Bible printed in English. Done by John "Thomas Matthew" Rogers (80 Books). / 1539 AD: The "Great Bible" Printed; The First English Language Bible Authorized for Public Use (80 Books). / 1560 AD: The Geneva Bible Printed; The First English Language Bible to add Numbered Verses to Each Chapter (80 Books). / 1568 AD: The Bishops Bible Printed; The Bible of which the King James was a Revision (80 Books). / 1611 AD: The King James Bible Printed; Originally with All 80 Books. The Apocrypha was Officially Removed in 1885 Leaving Only 66 Books. / 1782 AD: Robert Aitken's Bible; The First English Language Bible (KJV) Printed in America. / 1791 AD: Isaac Collins and Isaiah Thomas Respectively Produce the First Family Bible and First Illustrated Bible Printed in America. Both were King James Versions, with All 80 Books. / 1808 AD: Jane Aitken's Bible; The First Bible to be Printed by a Woman. / 1833 AD: Noah Webster's Bible; After Producing his Famous Dictionary, Webster printed his Own Revision of the King James Bible. / 1841 AD: English Hexapla New Testament; an Early Textual Comparison showing the Greek and 6 Famous English Translations in Parallel Columns. / 1846 AD: The Illuminated Bible; The Most Lavishly Illustrated Bible printed in America. A King James Version, with All 80 Books. / 1885 AD: The "English Revised Version" Bible; The First Major English Revision of the KJV. / 1901 AD: The "American Standard Version"; The First Major American Revision of the KJV. / 1971 AD: The "New American Standard Bible" (NASB) is Published as a "Modern and

Accurate Word for Word English Translation" of the Bible. / 1973 AD: The "New International Version" (NIV) is Published as a "Modern and Accurate Phrase for Phrase English Translation" of the Bible. / 1982 AD: The "New King James Version" (NKJV) is Published as a "Modern English Version Maintaining the Original Style of the King James." / 2002 AD: The English Standard Version (ESV) is Published as a translation to bridge the gap between the accuracy of the NASB and the readability of the NIV. Have learned about these study helps available in print, computer programs, applications and online:

- A Study Bible (contains notes on text, concordance, maps, etc.)
- Online Bible (example www.biblegateway.com)
- Audio Bible (examples: Bible on CD, Bible on MP3)
- Electronic Bible (Franklin, NowBible, GoBible Traveler)
- Bible dictionary (book forms or online at www.christiananswers.net/dictionary/home.html or www.biblegateway.com/resources/dictionaries)
- Bible encyclopedia (WebBible Encyclopedia)
- Bible atlas
- Bible handbook
- Interactive Bible (Glo contains video, photographs, maps, 360-degree virtual tours, etc.)
- Commentaries
- Concordance
- A broadcast ministry of the Church of God at http://www.cogcast.org/
- Atlanta Bible College and Church of God General Conference website with many links to other websites http://www.abc-coggc.org/
- Atlanta Bible College –ABC offers classes in Biblical studies including distance learning and block classes.
- Conferences, Camps and Retreats sponsored by the Church of God (http://www.abc-coggc.org) or check with a Youth Worker or the Youth Director.
- Systematic Theology by Dr. Alva G. Huffer is available in book and worksheet forms in the Youth Library. There are 29 lessons with explanations and key verses on major Biblical subjects including the Bible, the Attributes of God and the Kingdom of God. Online version is available at

https://mncogconference.org/introduction-orig. (Teachers are encouraged to complete this study for a better understanding of the major Biblical topics.)

RESOURCES AVAILABLE

The youth library has many Study Guides with DVD's available from Bluefish tv, Modern Parables, etc. You may also download illustrations using the Bluefish tv license from the youth director.

ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO MANIFEST THESE ATTITUDES

- Loyal to family, youth group, and other Christians
- Trust that the way of life taught in the Bible is the most fulfilling of all lifestyles and leads to eternal life
- Senses the dignity of honest, helpful labor
- Feels compassion for those experiencing physical or psychological anguish
- Feels appropriate guilt and remorse when he says or does something wrong
- Feels secure enough to resist pressure to do wrong and to redirect a peer group into appropriate activities

- Feels contentment and joy with the Christian life
- Shows respect for others at home, school, church or in dating
- Expresses appreciation and praise for the accomplishments of others
- Feels a burden to share the gospel with the lost
- Views sex and marriage as a good aspect of life that must be kept in line with God's principles
- Shows a deep appreciation for what God has done for him through the death of Jesus
- Has an aversion to anything pertaining to the occult
- Shows concern for the safety and convenience of others in his driving habits
- Considers Christianity a total life-style that incorporates every aspect of life
- Appreciate heritage
- Confidence in Church of God doctrinal position
- Loyalty to church
- Assurance of salvation
- Confidence of complete forgiveness

ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO EXHIBIT THESE DESIRABLE BEHAVIOR PATTERNS

- Give a good witness of his hope and faith
- Prepared to deal with the atmosphere and studies typical in secular colleges
- Makes important life decisions by seeking God's will through prayer and Bible study
- Helps those in need
- Reads the Bible and prays daily
- Makes restitution whenever possible for anything he has said or done that is wrong
- Carries a New Testament in pocket or purse
- Is working in or preparing for a vocation that will glorify God and help people
- Takes good care of his body by eating well, getting adequate rest, exercising, keeping sexually pure and refraining from drug use. Finds joy in his Christian lifestyle and friendships.
- Tries to lead others to the Lord.
- Prayerfully supports his local church, state conferences, national work and missions.

Please review previous levels for other material that should be included in your lesson plans.

This will ensure that all themes have been covered with your students.

OBJECTIVES FOR

Adult Department

Please review previous levels for other material that should be included in your lesson plans. Offering encouragement and new information to long-term members while being sensitive to new believers will ensure that all class members are being encouraged in their Christian walk. The typical adult should

- Make God and Jesus Christ the most important relationships in his life.
- Lives each day with the goal of loving God completely (Mk.12:30, Deut. 6:5) and loving others as he loves himself (Lk.10:27). Practicing the Golden Rule will result in actions of
- Is a follower of Christ and practices a Biblical Christian lifestyle.
- Understands the importance of and practices daily Bible study.
- Continues to discover what the Bible states about these important ideas (previous levels contain definitions and verses on this information)

1. The nature of God

2. The nature of Christ

3. The nature of man

4. The message of the kingdom of God

- Knows what the Bible states about the “steps to salvation”.

Develop your own as a class or follow this model.

1. Hear the Good News, the Gospel of the love God has for us, the life and death of Christ, and the eternal plan God has made for us in His Kingdom.

2. Believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God

3. Accept Christ as Savior

4. Repent of all his past sins

5. Be baptized for the remission of sins and to put on Christ

6. Live a new life of obedience to God by loving God and others. Living daily as a follower of God and Christ while spiritually growing – Rom. 12:1-2

- Has an understanding of basic prophetic information.
- Knows the Bible instruction concerning the church and our role in the body of Christ. 1. The priesthood of all believers

2. Every member is a minister

3. Using our Spiritual gifts

- Has an understanding of the Bible teaching concerning evangelism. Prepared to share his faith and present the Good News with others in a positive way. Understands how to present the Good News, lead someone to Christ and connect

them with the body of Christ-the church.

- Has an understanding of the Bible teaching concerning the Christian witness and service to the people in the church, community and world.
- Understands the importance of Daily Bible Study and has a basic understanding of the Scriptures including 1. How we got the Bible

2. The Books of the Bible and what they are about (central themes)

3. The divisions of the Bible

4. Understands that the Bible is important because it is the message God wants us to have from Him. It explains who God is, who Jesus Christ is, gives us examples of others lives and gives us instructions (laws) on how we should live. (Deut. 29:29, 2 Tim. 3:16-17).

- Should be familiar with the Statement of Faith of the Church of God and doctrines (refer to previous levels)
- Has a basic understanding of Church History and Church of God History

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Church_of_God_General_Conference

- Understands the Biblical explanation of the Faith of Abraham (Abrahamic Faith). An explanation is given in the Objectives for the Young Teen Department (7th-8th Grade)

> *Our relationship with God and Christ should be our top priority. Here are some Biblical truths about God, Jesus Christ and God's plan for the human race that you may wish to cover as a class.*

- **The LORD God Almighty - Our relationship, knowledge and understanding of who God is will grow**

throughout life.

Our first priority in life should be to love God completely. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength". Mark 12:30 What is God like?

There is One God, who is the Creator and Father of all mankind. (Isa.44:6-8, Eph. 4:6, 1 Cor. 8:6, Deut. 6:4); The LORD is described as compassionate, gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, forgiving and just (Ex. 34:5-7).

God tells Moses His Name is "I AM" (Ex. 3:13-15).

The Holy Spirit is God's Power (Acts 1:8) and the Spirit of God is given to believers and is manifested (or shown) for the common good (1 Cor.12).

God gives the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him (Lk.11:13). God performs His mighty works through His Power. Through His Spirit He created the universe (Gen. 1:1-2, Heb.11:3), gave strength to Samson (Judges 14:6; 15:14), wisdom to Solomon, inspiration to the writers of scripture (2 Pet.1:20-21), the Spirit of the LORD rested on Jesus Christ and gave him wisdom, understanding, counsel, power, knowledge and the fear of the LORD (Isa. 11:1-5), etc.

Believers have life through the Spirit of God (Romans 8).

The Holy Spirit lives in us as followers of Christ (2 Timothy 1:7&14).

When we live by the Spirit, we produce the fruit of the Spirit. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." Gal.5:22-23

We should be “poor in our own spirit” (Mt.5:3), but rich (filled) with God’s Spirit (Eph.5:18). We rely on God not on ourselves for doing what is right.

God gives us abilities/gifts and talents for doing good. Some of these spiritual gifts are in 1 Cor. 12:1-14 Wisdom, Knowledge, Faith, Healing, Miraculous powers, Prophecy, Distinguishing between spirits, Speaking in tongues (languages), and Interpretation of tongues (languages). Gifts given to the body (people) of Christ from Rom. 12:6-8 include prophecy, serving/ministry, teaching, encourage/exhortation, giving, leading, showing mercy (compassion).

Our relationship with God will continue through life and we will learn more about how amazing He is over time. It should be our top priority to grow in our relationship with God.

- **Jesus Christ is our personal Savior and we build a lifelong relationship with Him.**

He is God’s Son (Mt.16:16), the promised Savior (Acts 13:23), and the coming King (Lk. 21:26-28). We are to repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of our sins (Acts 2:38-39). Jesus provided forgiveness of sins through the sacrifice of his life on the cross. Christ took our sin upon Him self and died in our place. As 2 Corinthians 5:21 says, “God made him [Jesus] who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” We can receive forgiveness through faith in what Jesus Christ accomplished on the cross (Jn. 3:16). He was obedient to God even though it meant his death. We follow Christ’s example by dying to selfishness and doing what benefits others and serves our God. Jesus Christ is the only mediator between God and humanity (1 Tim. 2:5, Gal.3:20, Heb.8:6 & 9:15) His life, miracles, parables and teachings are recorded in the Gospels.

Jesus Christ was foretold by the prophets. Examples include Isa. 42:1-9 and Isa. 9:6&7

His name Jesus Christ-Jesus is the Greek form of the Hebrew name Joshua, which means the LORD saves. “The Christ” (Greek) and “the Messiah” (Hebrew) both mean “the Anointed One.”

Jesus Christ is our Great High Priest (Hebrews 4:14-16)

He was tempted in every way, yet did not sin (Hebrews 4:14-15)

Jesus Christ will return (Acts 1:11) and we should be prepared for the Second Coming of Jesus (Mt.24, Lk.12:35&48, Rev.19:7).

Our lives are focused on Christ who is seated at the right hand of God. (Col. 3:1-17)

There will be life granted through Jesus Christ, the son of God (Jn. 5:16-30). A literal resurrection of the dead will occur at the Second Coming of Christ (1 Cor. 15) and the righteous will be made immortal. Jesus must remain in heaven until the time comes for God to restore everything (Acts 3:21-26). The Final Restoration of Israel as the Kingdom of GOD will occur (Acts 1:6-8) and “the time comes for God to restore everything as he promised long ago through his holy prophets” (Acts 3:21).

The Kingship of Jesus Christ the Son of the Most High will never end (Lk.1:31-33, Isa.11).

Israel will be made head over the Gentile nations (Isa. 2:3, Chapters 35 and 60, Ps.110:2). The Church (the people of God) will be co-heirs with Christ (Rom.8:14-17). Christ will rule from Mount Zion (Micah 4:1-7, Isa.2:1-5).

“The LORD will be king over the whole earth. On that day there will be one LORD, and his name the only name” according to Zech. 14:9.

The destruction of the wicked referred to as the second death (Rev.21:8, Mal.4) will happen in the lake of fire (Rev.20:14-15) after the 1,000 year reign of Christ (Rev. 20:1-9).

Revelation 21 and 22 contains a detailed description of New Jerusalem, the Holy City where the throne of God and of the Lamb will be. We will be with our God and Jesus in this capital city of the Kingdom of God. One of our most important goals as Christians is to literally be with our Heavenly Father and our Savior Jesus Christ for eternity.

Each adult should be aware of some of the resources available for continued Christian growth:

- Interactive Bibles (example Glo Bible-this resource is highly recommended. This Bible computer program displays scripture with resources and media related to each verse including virtual tours, videos, maps, etc.)
- Bible reference books
- Bible dictionaries
- Bible commentaries, etc.
- Online Bible (example www.biblegateway.com)
- Audio Bible (examples: Bible on CD, Bible on MP3)
- Portable Electronic Bibles, Bible applications available through iTunes, Quick Verse Bible Suite
- Systematic Theology by Dr. Alva G. Huffer is available in book and worksheet forms in the Youth Library, from the Church of God General Conference or online in the site below. There are 29 lessons with explanations and key verses on major Biblical subjects including the Bible, the Attributes of God and the Kingdom of God. Online version is available at https://mncogconference.org/introduction-orig. This study gives a better understanding of major Biblical topics. Teachers are strongly encouraged to complete these lessons.
- Cogcast A broadcast ministry of the Church of God at www.cogcast.org
- Atlanta Bible College and Church of God General Conference website with many links to other websites http://www.abc-coggc.org/ Address Church of God General Conference, 2020 Avalon Parkway, Suite 400, P.O. Box 2950, McDonough, GA 30253

Atlanta Bible College –ABC offers classes in Biblical studies including distance learning and block classes. Participation in Conferences, Christian Workers Seminar, Theological Conference, Camps and Retreats sponsored by the Church of God (http://www.abc-coggc.org) are encouraged to keep us developing in our Christian lives.

Class members should be encouraged to love and support each other. Ensure that you are plugging your class members into church wide programs and activities. Encourage members that are not yet volunteering to complete a church volunteer form.

Please review previous levels for other material that should be included in your lesson plans.

This will ensure that all themes have been covered.

Teachers Tip-Visit www.biblegateway.com for a free online Bible program. You can search the scriptures for key words and every instance that the word is used in the scriptures. It also makes copying and pasting verses very easy and ensures that they are accurate. Several versions are available including the New International Version and audio.

Review the Group's Ministry Makeover DVD for practical ways to engage your adult class members. 2014 ggrove/RD resources.abc-coggc.org