



What Do We Believe?

Lesson 6

What Do We Believe?

Lesson 6: The Bible: It Tells Us About God's People

Scriptures:

Genesis 1 and 2; Genesis 6:1 – 9:1; 1 Samuel 17:34-51; 1 Kings 2:10 – 12; Mark 1:9 – 11; Mark 1:14 – 20; Matthew 28:18—20; Acts 2:1 – 41

Lesson Goals:

To lead learners to see that the Bible provides a history of God's people.
To assist learners to see God's guidance of His people through history.
To assure learners that they can depend on God's word, the Bible.

Scripture Memory:

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:1)

The Lesson:

The Bible is God's revelation of Himself to us. It is also a history book about God's people. It begins by saying that God was there in the beginning and that He made everything that we know about. As we have studied previously, the Bible tells us how God has related to humans since the very beginning.

The Bible tells us that from the very beginning, people disobeyed God. In the third chapter of Genesis, the first man, Adam, and the first woman, Eve, did what God had told them **not** to do.

We are told that people who descended from these first two humans continued to sin against God and that, ultimately, His only choice was to destroy the world. He sent a flood and rescued only a few people. This is found in the sixth, seventh, and eighth chapters of Genesis.

God continued to call people like Abraham, as recorded in Genesis 12. Abraham became the father of the nation of Israel. He had a son named Isaac, who had a son named Jacob, who had several sons who became the leaders of the twelve tribes of Israel. The children of these twelve sons were rescued from slavery in Egypt by God. They went toward, and ultimately lived in, what is sometimes referred to now as the Holy Land. This is a strip of land east of the Mediterranean Sea. It was a very important place because the traders of that time traveled through it on their way to other countries to sell their wares. It was a beautiful country and one in which the people of God could become safe, and even prosper.

The Bible tells us that these people, even though God continued to help them, were often disobedient. They had many troubles, including wars in which they were defeated and sometimes taken away to be slaves in the countries that had defeated them.

They had good leaders and bad ones. Among the good leaders was David, the king who helped them to become a great and wealthy nation. His son, Solomon, was one of the wisest men who ever lived and he expanded the Kingdom. Their stories are in First and Second Samuel, First and Second Kings, and First and Second Chronicles.

The Bible tells us that the Kingdom of Israel divided and that the northern kingdom was destroyed around 700 BC. The southern kingdom continued to exist for many years, even after Jesus Christ was born.

God continually spoke to His people through writings, and we have many of these in our Bibles. He spoke to them through preachers called prophets who even told them about the future. According to the Bible, God warned his people many times that their bad behavior would hurt them and what it would

cost them. Much of this can be found in the books that are in the last part of the Old Testament.

The Bible tells us about a new kind of God's people in the New Testament. When Jesus came, He called disciples whose job it was to go and make other disciples. These disciples were called the church. And so, the Bible tells us that God is now going to relate to this new nation. The people of God were ultimately called Christians, or Christ-like ones.

We are told that the new people of God began to do what Jesus told them to do. He commissioned them to go into all the world and make disciples of all nations. This commission is found in Matthew 28:18-20.

Beginning with the book of Acts, the Bible tells us about the work these Christians did in response to the Great Commission. The Apostle Paul, and others, began to spread the Good News to all the world.

The Bible is a history book about God's people. It speaks the truth to us about how God loves and cares for His people. We can depend on the Bible. It is God's word.

Life Application:

The Bible tells us that from the very beginning, people disobeyed God. What is that disobedience called? Sin. Have you ever sinned, been disobedient? Be careful if you are thinking "no." The Bible says that everyone has sinned and in 1 John 1:10 it says that if we say we haven't sinned, we call God a liar! So, we have all disobeyed, but what can we do about it? Well, **we** can't do anything, but God loved us so much that He sent His One and Only Son. His Son, Jesus, died and paid the penalty for our sins. We become a child of God when we accept that wonderful gift from God. Now, it is not so much about whose family you are born into, like Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. What is important is that you have been re-born into the family of God because of what Jesus has done for us.

Maybe that's a decision you have already made. Just like the disciples and early Christians obeyed Jesus and spread the Good News to all the world so that you could know about Him, **you** can do the same to tell others about Jesus. Maybe they haven't heard yet because you haven't told them.



Planning for Lesson 7
God the Father:
He is Unique



- ◆ **Memory Verse Activity** - Let creative juices flow by encouraging your students to turn the memory verse into a song. For example: “In the beginning, in the beginning; God, God, God. In the beginning, in the beginning; God, God, God. Created, created, created heavens and earth. Created, created, created heavens and earth. Genesis 1:1”
- ◆ Make accordion paper people. Fold strips of paper accordion style. The number of folds determines the number of “people” that will be made. Draw the form of a person on the top of the folded paper, making sure that the hands reach all the way to the fold. Carefully cut through all folds, being sure to leave the people “holding hands.” When people are unfolded, write the names of God’s people from the Bible. Be sure to leave the last person for writing each student’s own name.
- ◆ Read through the Scriptures listed on page two. Make a list of God’s people who are mentioned. What can we learn from them through the passages given. How did they interact with God? Were they obedient? Disobedient? What was God’s response to them?
- ◆ Continue practicing the books of the Bible as well as the divisions. Offer activities that will strengthen your students in this activity.
- ◆ Play BINGO. Rather than using numbers and letters, affix pictures of God’s people to Bingo boards. To play, describe each character rather than giving their name. For example: If you want to describe King David, begin with, “I was shepherd boy.” Continue with, “I killed a giant with a sling and a stone.” When all clues have been given, share the name of the character before moving on to the next character.
- ◆ **Dig Deeper:** Read through the supplementary passages given on page two and make a list of **who** the character is, **how** they disobeyed, and **what** the consequence of their sin was. Discuss “The Roman Road” [Romans 3:23, 6:23, 5:8, 10:9-13] and the mercy God offers us.
- ◆ **Dig Deeper Still:** Read “The Great Commission” in Matthew 28:18-20. Discuss the charge we have been given as believers.

In the beginning

GOD

created

the heavens and the earth.

Genesis 1:1

The Bible
is God's revelation of

H___ms___f

to ___s.

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revelation**history****beginning****Adam****Eve****flood****Israel****Father Abraham****Bible**

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