

Read Thru The Word™
BIBLE CURRICULUM

LESSON PLANS
YEAR 1 KJV - 170

Genesis through
Ecclesiastes

Five days per week plan
with 170 lessons per school year

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Cover Photo was taken by the author sometime around 1977. The author's father, M.E. "Mike" Stansfield (1912-2007), is in the foreground. The falls is Silver Creek Falls of Josephine County, Oregon. This Silver Creek is a tributary of the Illinois River which joins the mighty Rogue River at Agness, Oregon.

FOREWORD TO THE CLASSROOM TEACHER:

Welcome to ***Read Thru The Word Bible Curriculum***. The lesson plans contained in this book are the product of many years of classroom teaching, teaching Bible at church and Sunday School, and the deep appreciation of having detailed written lesson plans from which to teach in the past. Anyone who has had to create good lesson plans out of “thin air” to use with a textbook should appreciate having these plans.

Prior to the actual in-class use of this lesson plan book the teacher should have carefully read and reviewed the ***Read Thru The Word TEACHER HANDBOOK*** which contains a wealth of information about the details of using these lesson plans. The **TEACHER HANDBOOK** provides helpful answers to many questions which a teacher would have when approaching the teaching of this curriculum. Please take the time to read it first.

These lesson plans were first made for use with the King James Version of the Bible, and then “converted” into lessons for the NIV. A reasonable effort was made to reconstruct the lessons to make them useful for the teacher and classes using the NIV — or other modern translation — of the Bible. However, it was with some sense of urgency to get this curriculum on the market and in use in Christian schools and elsewhere that this work was done. Some errors will be discovered, and some needed changes will occur to teachers in the field — and hopefully reported to the publisher so that the second edition will be significantly improved.

One of the principles followed in writing these plans was to provide great detail for the first number of lessons, and then to abbreviate the plans after several days. May God’s richest blessing be upon you, and may His Holy Spirit be upon you as you assist your young students in the most precious of tasks — the searching of the Scriptures and, for most, the first time to read through the Bible cover to cover.

After lengthy consideration regarding the binding method to be used and the printer to be employed for this work it was concluded that the simplest solution would be to (a) have the Lesson Plan Books printed as softbound/paperbound books, and (b) to suggest that if the teacher prefers a loose-leaf format the book may be taken to a local print shop such as FedExKinkos and have the book first “drilled” (at about ***three-quarters of an inch*** from the spine) with a large three-hole punch, and then have ***approximately one-quarter of an inch*** of the spine trimmed off. Then simply purchase a heavy duty “cover display” style D-ring binder which will accommodate the thickness of the book, insert the front and back cover into the vinyl pockets, and the pages inside — and presto! You have a very useable loose-leaf Teacher Manual. I recommend the **Avery Heavy Duty One Touch EZD** binder.

To God and to His Son Jesus Christ be all the glory!

Leon Stansfield
Stockton, California

May 21, 2009

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LESSON 1: Film: God's Outlaw: William Tyndale (Part 1)

PREPARATION:

Permission for using the DVD **God's Outlaw: Story of William Tyndale** is included in conjunction with this curriculum. The DVD can be purchased through Vision Video: <https://www.visionvideo.com> or by telephone: 1-800-523-0226 or 1-610-584-3500.

1. Preview the entire film and the take-home quizzes. Spend whatever time you have to review this website, www.williamtyndale.com. Write this website on the board or post it some place in the classroom.
 2. Make up or obtain from school office a class roll sheet for temporary use for attendance.
 3. Be sure to set up whatever equipment is necessary to show the film and have the video machine turned on and the video run up to the very beginning point and paused for immediate start-up.
 4. Unless it is otherwise provided by the school, make a list of necessary materials for this class and run off enough copies for each student. Be sure to include the ***exact translation and edition*** of the Bible which will be needed, and whether the student may provide his own, or use one which the school sells as a textbook.
- (5) Decide what kind of classroom rules you will have. Make a large poster and be sure to post these rules and review them on the first day and perhaps occasionally after that.
- (6) Prepare yourself to follow the time schedule as strictly as possible. Once you get used to this you will like the disciplined approach because you will be able to cover all the essentials of each lesson, you will complete the daily lessons, and therefore the year's curriculum within the time frame allowed.

FIRST TWO MINUTES OF CLASS: Teacher will greet the class on this first day of school. Show an interest in each student by telling them you **will learn their names** as quickly as possible. Tell them that to save time today you will pass a **class roll sheet** around for each student to sign.

Open the class with a **brief prayer** focusing upon the **great value of the Word of God** and the many sacrifices, including laborious copying, persecution, and martyrdom, which others have made over the past several thousand years to preserve the Word for us.

If this is the first period of the day, and depending upon school policies, have the class stand and **recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States**.

Tell the class that the **first week of classes will be different** than what is planned for the remainder of the year, but that there is a **special purpose for these first week classes**. Tell them that they will be given an **overview of what this class will be like the remainder of**

the year on the fourth day of classes this week, and that they will begin reading through the Bible during the fifth class. Tell them that the rest of this period will be taken up with the first half of the film **God's Outlaw: William Tyndale**, and that there will be a **take-home quiz to be returned to class tomorrow**. *Students may consult one another in person or by phone when completing any take-home quizzes this year.*

Point out the website address on the board which students may check out this evening if they wish to get a better background about William Tyndale, one of God's truly great men, about which most Christians today know very little. www.williamtyndale.com

Tell them also, that you will pass out the **take-home quiz near the end of today's film**, because the film will be shown right up to the end of the period.

48 Minutes: Film: God's Outlaw: William Tyndale

DURING THE FILM:

1. Be sure the roll sheet gets all around the class and collect it. Save this to record names in your grade book at the end of the first week and the final class list is more certain.
2. Pass out the list of necessary class materials and textbook (Bible)..

END OF CLASS:

1. Remind students to **bring their Bibles to class tomorrow (unless these are issued by the school as textbooks)**.
2. **Dismiss the class on time.**

LESSON 2: Film: God's Outlaw: William Tyndale (Part 2)

PREPARATION:

1. Preview the entire film and the take-home quizzes. Spend whatever time you have to review the website mentioned here and below. www.williamtyndale.com
2. Be sure to set up whatever equipment is necessary to show the film. Have the video machine turned on and the video run up to yesterday's break point and paused for immediate start-up.
3. Make enough copies of today's take-home **Quiz 3**. Have them counted out for this class. Also a roll sheet.
4. If you have any new students (who missed the first class) give them the list of necessary materials for this class. Be sure to include the exact translation and edition of the Bible which will be needed, and whether the student may provide his own, or use one which the school sells as a textbook.

FIRST TWO MINUTES OF CLASS: Teacher will again greet the class on this second day of school. Again show an interest in each student by telling them you **will learn their names** as quickly as possible. Tell them that to save time again today you will pass a **class roll sheet** around for each student to sign.

Open the class with a **brief prayer** focusing upon the **great value of the Word of God** and the many sacrifices which others have made over the past several thousand years to preserve the Word for us.

If this is the first period of the day, and depending upon school policies, have the class stand and **recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States**.

Call for the students to pass in their take-home quizzes. Collect them. Score them during prep time.

Again, tell the class that the **first week of classes will be different** than what to expect for the remainder of the year, but that there is a **special purpose for these first week classes**. Tell them that they will be given an ***overview of what this class will be like the remainder of the year on the fourth day of classes this week***, and that they will begin reading through the Bible during the fifth class.

Tell them that the rest of this period will be taken up with the **second half** of the film **God's Outlaw: William Tyndale**, and that there will be another **take-home quiz to be returned to class tomorrow**.

Point out again the **website address** posted on the board which students may check out this evening if they wish to get a better background about William Tyndale, one of God's truly great men, about which most Christians today know very little. www.williamtyndale.com

Tell them also, that you will pass out the **take-home quiz during the film**, because the film will be shown right up to the end of the period.

48 Minutes: Film: God's Outlaw: William Tyndale (Part 2)

DURING THE FILM:

1. Be sure the roll sheet gets all around the class and collect it. Save the list to record attendance later.
2. Pass out the take-home **Quiz 3** and the list of necessary class materials and textbook (Bible)..

END OF CLASS:

1. Remind students to **bring the take-home quiz to class tomorrow**. It will be turned in at the beginning of class. *Tell them that they may discuss any take-home quiz outside of class or by telephone if they wish.*

Dismiss the class on time.

LESSON 3: LECTURE: HOW WE GOT OUR BIBLE – Part 1

PREPARATION:

1. Study the lecture notes and the take-home quiz. Spend whatever time you have to review the website www.kencollins.com mentioned in the lecture notes.
2. No quiz today. Quiz over Parts 1 & 2 of How We Got Our Bible will be after Lesson 4.
3. If you have any new students (who missed the first and second classes) give them the list of necessary materials for this class. Be sure to include the exact translation and edition of the Bible which will be needed, and whether the student may provide his own, or use one which the school sells as a textbook.

[NOTE: Time used to read the *lecture notes* of this lesson aloud, with expression: 13 minutes. This should allow time for student questions and some discussion, but you must keep track of time so that you can complete the entire lesson before the end of the period.]

FIRST TWO MINUTES OF CLASS: Teacher will again greet the class on this **third day** of school. **CALL THE ROLL** from your previously used class list. **Add any new students. Subtract any dropped students.**

Open the class with a **brief prayer** focusing upon the **great value of the Word of God** and the many sacrifices which others have made over the past several thousand years to preserve the Word for us.

If this is the first period of the day, and depending upon school policies, have the class stand and **recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States.**

Again, tell the class that the **first week of classes will be different** than what to expect for the remainder of the year, but that there is a **special purpose for these first week classes.** Tell them that **tomorrow's class will consist entirely of an overview of what this class will be like during the remainder of the year,** and that they will begin reading through the Bible on the following class day (Day #5).

Write on the board for later reference by students: www.kencollins.com or enter **“Bible Translations”** in your computer search engine and review one or more of the links.

Tell them also, that you will pass out the **take-home quiz near of end of this class period.** **Students may discuss the quiz outside of class, but must bring it to class tomorrow.**

LECTURE: **HOW WE GOT OUR BIBLE**

- I. **Divine inspiration of all the original authors.** The actual writing of the Bible began around 1520 B.C. with Job and around 1490 B.C. with Moses. This was not dictation, but God-breathed — God, using the vocabulary of each specific writer, his education, or lack thereof. God caused the writers to put on parchment the exact words which He wanted to communicate to Israel, and also to the whole world.

In the case of the Ten Commandments, these were actually written by the finger of God on the stone tablets given to Moses. Essentially all of the Old Testament was written in the **Hebrew language**, with a very small amount of Chaldee used in several books.

II. The word **testament** is another word for **covenant**, or **will**. Even today when people die, they often leave what is called their “**last will and testament**” or simply their **will**. This document describes in more or less detail, depending upon the size and value of the person’s property or estate at their death, how it will be divided among the heirs. The **heirs** are those persons to whom the dead person has left some part of his or her estate. The **Old Testament** is therefore called a **Testament**, because it contains primarily the **will** of God for his people. It is also called the **Old Covenant, the covenant of the Law — the Ten Commandments** and all the other commands given by God to Moses — which was an **agreement** made between God and Israel as a nation. The Old Testament, or Old Covenant is considered to include all the other writings during that period from Moses until about 397 B.C. when the last book of the Old Testament was written. At the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, a **New Covenant** was begun, a **New Testament** was put into force, and the Old Covenant had fulfilled its primary purpose.

III. The divine inspiration to write God’s Word was continued at various times throughout the history of Israel from the time of Moses until the last OT prophet spoke, which was Malachi at about 397 B.C. The internal witness of the Bible, from many prophets, including the testimony of Jesus Christ himself supports the truths contained in all of the OT as well as the fact that it was fully inspired by God. The Old Testament is divided into several groups of writings based upon the type of writing:

<u>Section of Old Testament</u>	<u>Authors</u>	<u>No. of Books</u>
Pentateuch: Genesis to Deuteronomy	Written by Moses	5
Historical Books: Joshua to Esther	Written by a number of authors	12
Poetical Books: Job to Song of Solomon	Written by a number of authors	5
Major Prophets: Isaiah to Daniel	Written by a number of authors	5
Minor Prophets: Hosea to Malachi	Written by a number of authors	12
	TOTAL O.T.	39

IV. Jewish writings during the period 400 B.C. until the time of Jesus Christ are not considered to be inspired by fundamental, evangelical, orthodox Christian scholars. These are called **Apocryphal writings**. They record some of the history of Israel during that period, but they also contain information which is contrary to the rest of the divinely inspired books of the Bible. None of them are quoted by Jesus or any of the New Testament writers.

For purposes of this class we will define the three words: fundamental, evangelical, and orthodox. **Fundamental** means those professing Christians who have placed very high in priority for preaching and teaching, the basic, most important doctrines of the Bible. **Evangelical**, includes the idea of fundamental, but focuses upon the absolute necessity of a person experiencing the new birth, based upon the grace of

God extended to mankind through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, and the necessity of personal repentance toward God and faith toward Jesus Christ. **Orthodox**, means to ascribe to those essential Bible doctrines which have been held by true believers down through the ages from the times of the Apostles. Orthodox also assumes all rejection of those doctrines which have been condemned as heresy. Heresy is a word meaning not true to the scriptures, false, misleading, or even devilish.

- V. All of the NT writings, except Luke (who was not Jewish) are considered to be authored by Jewish believers in Jesus Christ, beginning some time around 35 or 40 A.D. and continuing until about 90 A.D. when Revelation was given to the Apostle John. The New Testament was originally written in the **Greek language** common everywhere in the Roman empire which ruled much of the world at that time.
- VI. The **original writings** of all of those who wrote were called the **autographs**. These autographs were carefully preserved, but they were also carefully copied. During OT times this was the job of some of the Levites (the descendants of Levi). They were later called **scribes**. With time the original autographs decayed and disappeared, leaving behind the copies made of them.
- VII. As an interesting side note, many years before Israel had a king, God directed Moses regarding a specific obligation **required of kings**:

18 And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, **that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book** out of that which is before the priests the Levites:

19 **And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life:** that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them:

20 That his heart be not lifted up above his brethren, and that he turn not aside from the commandment, to the right hand, or to the left: to the end that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he, and his children, in the midst of Israel. (Deut 17:18-20 KJV)

At the time this command was given, the inspired Word consisted of the five books of Moses: Genesis to Deuteronomy. These books were collectively referred to as "The Law." **There is no record in the Bible of any king of Israel who fulfilled this obligation.**

- VIII. These specialized Levites, these **scribes**, during Old Testament times took their work of copying the Holy Scriptures very seriously. They handled the Word of God with the respect due it. You can read about this in detail in books which discuss how we got our Bible. Because these copyists were human, we can understand that occasionally they did make minor errors in copying the manuscript, and that down through the ages they also made every effort to find and correct these errors so that they would not accumulate and distort the original message. Still, with all their efforts, some minor errors undoubtedly did remain uncorrected. These would not have any large destructive effect upon the meaning of the Word to the reader. Thus, we, today, owe a great debt of gratitude to those who, down through the OT times and during the nearly two thousand years since the New Testament was written,

spent their days making copies of the books (or scrolls) of the Old Testament, which they called The Law, the Prophets, the Writings, and the Psalms, and of the New Testament.

- IX. Between 300 B.C. and 200 B.C. a group of Jewish scholars gathered in Alexandria, Egypt and made a Greek translation of the entire Old Testament from the Hebrew. This is called the **Septuagint**, because it is attributed to **seventy scholars**. This is often abbreviated as LXX, the Roman numeral for seventy. The Septuagint translation made the Scriptures more accessible to the many Jews throughout the Roman empire, including Judea, who spoke, wrote, and read Greek as their primary language..
- X. Since the time of Jesus Christ, the careful copying of both the OT and the NT books was carried on by those who honored and loved the Word of God. Mostly this came to be done by men who devoted their lives to this service. Among the Jews these people came to be known as the **Masoretes**. Among Christians the most noted among those who did this work were some of the **monks** of the Roman Catholic Church and the Eastern Orthodox Church, who copied not only the Scriptures but also the ancient classic literature. At about 400 A.D. the Roman Catholic Church (primarily St. Jerome) translated the Bible from the Hebrew into Latin. This came to be known as the **Latin Vulgate** which is still used today in some places.

Down through the New Testament times translations were made into other languages of both the Old and New Testaments, but these were rare and besides this, the Roman Catholic Church, until the time of the reformation — and even after that so some extent — forbid the translation of the scriptures into the languages of the people, holding that only the priests who knew Latin were qualified to read and study the Holy Scriptures, and that it was therefore the priest's job to interpret and explain the Word of God to the people. The idea of two separate classes within the church, the **clergy** and the **laity**, the educated and the uneducated figured into this mindset. From the Protestant perspective, this permitted a great danger, in that the church could control the people by controlling who read and knew the Word and how it was interpreted. The student will recall that one reason the first settlers came to America was so that they could, in freedom, teach all children to read, with the primary purpose of reading being to read the **English Bible**. The word Protestant comes from the word "protest." It was those who protested against the many heretical abuses of Biblical doctrines by the leadership of the Roman Catholic church which came to be called Protestants. Today essentially all believers who are not of the Roman Catholic faith are considered to be Protestants, especially if their church has originated from the Lutheran or other early Protestant denominations.

XI. The New Testament, like the Old Testament is also divided into several groups of writings based upon the *type* of writing:

<u>Section of New Testament</u>	<u>Authors</u>	<u>No. of Books</u>
The Gospels: Matthew to John	Written by four eyewitnesses	4
The Historical Book: Acts	Written by Luke, a doctor	1
The Pauline Epistles (Letters): Romans to Philemon	Written by Paul the Apostle	13
The General Epistles (Letters): Hebrews to Jude	Written by a number of authors	8
Prophecy: Revelation	Written by John the Apostle	$\frac{1}{27}$
	TOTAL N.T.	27

❖ *There are 39 books in the OT and 27 in the NT totaling 66 books in our Bible.*

XII.. There has also been, since the Garden of Eden, an adversary, the devil, who does not want people to know the Word of God. Thus, down through the ages there have been evil people, inspired by the devil, who have done everything possible to (1) destroy the written Word by confiscating and burning it, etc., (2) keep the written Word from being translated into the heart language of the people, (3) kill those who worked at translation or who helped them, and (4) to introduce error into the Word through additions, subtractions, “higher criticism,” and spurious (uninspired) writings. Some of these people have been very highly educated religious leaders, *working within the church* as a whole, and sometimes even involved in the translation of the Scriptures! There are many books and Internet web sites available which discuss all these things for those who have the desire to do further research.

END OF CLASS: During class tomorrow we will finish the lesson on How We Got Our Bible. We will also take a brief survey on your own personal relationship to the LORD and present an opportunity for you to discuss this with your teacher or someone else with whom you relate well.

TAKE HOME QUIZ: No quiz today. Take-home quiz tomorrow will cover both day’s lessons.

DISMISS CLASS ON TIME. Thank the class for their attention and participation during today’s lecture.

LESSON 4: LECTURE: HOW WE GOT OUR BIBLE – Part 2

PREPARATION:

1. Study the lecture notes and the take-home quiz. Spend whatever time you have to review the website www.kencollins.com mentioned in the lecture notes.
2. Make enough copies of today's take-home **Quiz 5** and have them counted out for this class.
3. If you have any new students (who missed the first, second, and third classes) give them the list of necessary materials for this class. Be sure to include the exact translation and edition of the Bible which will be needed, and whether the student may provide his own, or use one which the school sells as a textbook.

[NOTE: Time used to read the *lecture notes* of this lesson aloud, with expression: **11 minutes**. This should allow time for student questions and some discussion, but you must keep track of time so that you can complete the entire lesson before the end of the period, including the New Birth Survey.]

FIRST TWO MINUTES OF CLASS: Teacher will again greet the class on this **fourth** day of school. **CALL THE ROLL** from your previously used class list. **Add any new students. Subtract any dropped students.**

Open class with a **brief prayer** again focusing upon the **great value of the Word of God** and the many sacrifices which others have made over the past several thousand years to preserve the Word for us.

If this is the first period of the day, and depending upon school policies, have the class stand and **recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States**.

Again, tell the class that the **first week of classes will be different** than what to expect for the remainder of the year, but that there is a **special purpose for these first week classes**. Tell them that **tomorrow's class will consist entirely of an overview of what this class will be like during the remainder of the year**, and that they will begin reading through the Bible on the following class day (Day #6).

Write on the board for later reference by students: www.kencollins.com or enter "**Bible Translations**" in your computer search engine and review one or more of the links.

Tell them also, that you will pass out the **take-home quiz near of end of this class period**. **Students may discuss the quiz outside of class, but must bring it to class tomorrow.**

LECTURE: **HOW WE GOT OUR BIBLE – (concluded)**

- XIII. During the twentieth century a great number of translations and paraphrases of the Bible have been made. Most of these have the avowed purpose of making the Word easier to understand, correcting previous errors, and giving to the reader the most

accurate copy of the Word of God possible. **Some** of these translations are considered by godly fundamental, evangelical, and orthodox scholars to be worthy of regular reading and study. Others are considered to be perhaps “on the fringe of” or even “outside of” truth because of the translator’s known bias or prejudice. To review this topic online you can go to www.kencollins.com or simply put “Bible Translations” into your search engine and get hundreds of possibilities. For your regular reading and study we recommend that you use one of the following translations:

- ❖ King James, or Authorized Version (KJV)
- ❖ The New American Standard Bible (NASB)
- ❖ The New King James Version (NKJV)
- ❖ The New International Version (NIV) (not the gender-neutral edition)
- ❖ The New Living Translation (NLT)
- ❖ God’s Word Translation (God’s Word)

While Christian believers may sometimes gain new insights into the true meaning of the Word of God by reading other translations or even paraphrases (which are not strictly speaking, translations, but rather interpretations of the original texts), we recommend that you **avoid, for serious study** or for memorization the following paraphrases:

- ❖ The Living Bible
- ❖ The Message

NOTE: For this Bible class your instructor and school administrator will have already determined which translation and edition will be used as the text for this course.

XIV. The above six recommended translations may be read with the assurance that you are getting an accurate and faithful English translation of the original Hebrew and Greek texts. If you set your mind to learning the Word of God keep in mind that there are five ways to take the Word into your life. Each of these five ways is both more intense and more rewarding to you: (1) HEAR the Word through preaching, teaching, recordings, etc. (2) READ the Word as you will do in this course. (3) STUDY the Word using books, your own notes, and online study sources. (4) MEMORIZE the Word, using a planned approach. You will memorize 33 carefully selected Bible verses this year, and (5) MEDITATE on the Word. Make it your daily habit to **think about** what you have read that very day, to apply what you have been taking in through the five methods, and make application of what you have been taking in by taking action, making decisions, and relating to others in specific ways which you have learned from the Word of God. Finally, for some, even perhaps a student in junior high school, there is another excellent way to learn the word: (6) TEACH the word at church, Sunday School, Bible club, or wherever you have the opportunity. There are always those younger than you and those who know less than you do who need to hear the Word explained and discussed. Opportunities abound for you to enter this way to serve God. To teach the Word of God is a great privilege, an honor, a responsibility, and a challenge. The reward is that, while teaching, (and especially while preparing to teach) you will learn even more than you could ever learn on your own. You can begin to learn to teach the Word as a teacher assistant or helper, and

then, as you gain confidence, you can become a teacher.

XV. There is one final but very important note. While anyone who understands English can read the English Bible, learn from it, and profit themselves by this, ultimately **the Bible is a spiritual book** and can only be truly understood in its deepest and most significant meanings by those who are truly spiritual. To become truly spiritual one must, in the sense in which Jesus taught this truth, **be born again**, which is to say, be born from above. **Because it is an act of God which causes the new birth, it cannot be primarily an act or decision of a person, as is commonly taught in many fundamental, evangelical churches.** The point here is that as we begin our task of reading through the entire Bible, it is the purpose of the authors of this curriculum that the student shall gain the most possible from the study, beginning right here at the start of the project. It is not our purpose to make a count of those who profess to be born again, or of those who willingly recite a “sinner’s prayer,” or of those who “decide” to follow Jesus Christ.

We wish to make absolutely clear that we strongly urge each student, right here at the beginning of this course, to examine himself or herself and determine before God whether or not he or she has truly experienced the spiritual birth which God, and only God, can bring about in one’s life. Have you obeyed God’s command to repent of your sin, and to turn to Him? Have you made restitution for wrongs you have done toward others? Have you begun to experience a new life through faith in Jesus Christ? If you have truly had this experience and you are genuinely born again we do not wish to raise any doubts in your mind, but rather to rejoice that you know Him and to help you understand the infinite value of this gift of God. If you are unsure, if you have perhaps prayed the “sinner’s prayer,” or made a “decision” to follow Jesus Christ, but still have doubts about whether you have been truly born again, it is our purpose to make very clear what God has commanded you to do, and how you can reach the full assurance that you have been born again, that you are a new creation in Christ.

The necessity of the new birth ***in order to understand the Scriptures*** is made clear throughout the Bible by such passages as the following:

[1]

26 But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you.
27 ***My sheep hear my voice***, and I know them, and they follow me:
28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. (John 10:26-28 KJV)

In this passage, when Jesus said that his sheep ***hear his voice***, he is saying that some people cannot really hear, or understand, what he is saying, but that those who are his sheep — that is, those who have truly been born again, those who have truly believed in him — can, and will hear and understand what he says — that is, what he has now said by his Spirit through the entire Word of God. His sheep will be able to understand the spiritual and true meaning of his Word.

[2]

14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. (1 Cor 2:14 KJV)

This passage makes very clear that the *natural* man — that is, a person who has never been born from above — will not receive or understand the spiritual things from God. He cannot know what they mean, and these things will even seem like foolishness to him. In the words of a song made popular by the NewsBoys they are “on the outside looking in.”

[3]

7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction. (Prov 1:7 KJV)

In the Old Testament there were several ways of describing those who were outside of God’s covenant and mercy. One of them was to designate the person as a *fool*. Only a person in right relationship with God through a spiritual birth can truly understand what the fear of the LORD is. Those who don’t fear God despise God’s true wisdom and instruction. They are simply natural, unregenerated men, without God’s Spirit, lacking in the ability to understand God’s Word. The word “unregenerated” is another way of saying that the person has not been made a new creation in Jesus Christ. To be “*re-generated*” in Biblical terms is to be born anew, to be made a new creation through faith in Jesus Christ.

Beyond the basic ability to understand spiritual truth the believer in Jesus Christ needs to know that there are several, perhaps even many, *levels of understanding the Word*. The two basic levels outlined in the New Testament are based upon a believer’s maturity in spiritual things. Persons who are new believers are considered to be “**baby Christians,**” and are in need of **spiritual milk** — things easy to be understood by a new believer and then taken into one’s life. Assuming that you are truly born again, as you read through the Bible this year and next, you will find some parts easy to understand, and which bring encouragement to your life as a follower of Jesus Christ. There are other parts which will have little meaning to you — until you grow spiritually.

Beyond the spiritual babies there are **mature believers**, including “young men and women” and “fathers and mothers.” These are able to handle “**the meat**” of the Word — that is, the more difficult things taught by the Word. Beyond these two levels of maturity there are **the “deep” things** of God, which are difficult to be understood even by many mature believers. These kinds of things can only be comprehended by those who use all five (or six) methods of taking in the Word on a consistent basis over a period of time, probably many years.

NOTE TO TEACHER: The following activity is optional, but highly recommended. To carry it out you will need to make copies of the following page, preferably on card stock, cut them in half (since there are two survey forms per page), and have them ready to pass out at the end of this class period. After collecting these survey cards, it will be your responsibility to (1) review each card and determine to what extent your class has perhaps three distinct groups of students:

- * those who profess to be truly born again
- * those who profess NOT to be born again, but who want to have the experience
- * those don't know and don't care

This activity provides a basis from which you, the teacher can initiate your first effort of the year to reach and evangelize students who are not born again. After prayer you need to determine in which order you will follow up the survey with each one of the students. May God direct your choices and give you a great reward for doing this special work among your class. *A suggested method of dealing with each group of students — on an individual basis — will be found in the curriculum files for this program.*

END OF CLASS: (Allow at least 3-5 minutes for this activity) To conclude this class today I am asking each student to respond to a **survey card** which I am passing out. Please fill out these cards now. I will collect them at the door as you leave. I will follow them up with you individually in a brief one-on-one conference over the next several days or weeks — at my first opportunity.

As students turn in the survey cards, give each of them **Quiz 5 on How We Got Our Bible** as a take-home quiz. Don't forget to **bring the take-home quiz to class tomorrow**. It will be turned in at the beginning of class. You may discuss the quiz outside of class or by telephone if you wish. *Quizzes not returned will score zero.*

Dismiss the class on time.

READ THRU THE BIBLE ---- STUDENT SURVEY REGARDING THE NEW BIRTH Lesson 4

Name: _____ Date: _____

Grade: _____ Church affiliation, if any: _____

Please check the ONE most appropriate response, after considering today's lesson/lecture and your own heart. Your teacher will discuss your response with you privately at his/her first opportunity. Thank you.

- I know I have experienced the new birth as something God has done in me, and that I am a new creation in Jesus Christ. I have repented of all my sins. I have made restitution for wrongs done to others as far as possible and appropriate. My old natural life is behind me. I have believed in and received Jesus Christ.
- I've been brought up in church. I've heard many sermons and lessons about being born again. I've prayed the sinner's prayer one time or several times, but I still don't really know if I have experienced the new birth, but I want to very much.
- I have not been brought up in church. I have not heard sermons or lessons about being born again, but I would like to learn more about it. Reading the Bible this year may help.
- I believe everything in the Bible is true. However, I don't think I have been born again. Tell me more.
- I've been brought up in church. I've heard sermons and lessons about being born again. However, I've never prayed the sinner's prayer. I'm not really interested in or ready to do this.

READ THRU THE BIBLE ---- STUDENT SURVEY REGARDING THE NEW BIRTH Lesson 4

Name: _____ Date: _____

Grade: _____ Church affiliation, if any: _____

Please check the ONE most appropriate response, after considering today's lesson/lecture and your own heart. Your teacher will discuss your response with you privately at his/her first opportunity. Thank you.

- I know I have experienced the new birth as something God has done in me, and that I am a new creation in Jesus Christ. I have repented of all my sins. I have made restitution for wrongs done to others as far as possible and appropriate. My old natural life is behind me. I have believed in and received Jesus Christ.
- I've been brought up in church. I've heard many sermons and lessons about being born again. I've prayed the sinner's prayer one time or several times, but I still don't really know if I have experienced the new birth, but I want to very much.
- I have not been brought up in church. I have not heard sermons or lessons about being born again, but I would like to learn more about it. Reading the Bible this year may help.
- I believe everything in the Bible is true. However, I don't think I have been born again. Tell me more.
- I've been brought up in church. I've heard sermons and lessons about being born again. However, I've never prayed the sinner's prayer. I'm not really interested in or ready to do this.

LESSON 5:

OVERVIEW OF THE TWO-YEAR COURSE: *The Challenge and the Glory of READING THE ENTIRE BIBLE*

PREPARATION TIME:

1. Have handy or make the following graph (next page) as an overhead transparency.
2. Preview the ***take-home Quiz 6*** which will be given out at the end of this class.
3. Get the ***Quiz 6*** and make copies of the ***year's reading plan***.
4. Study the following lecture notes so as to be able to give the lecture, and have any needed discussion, in a knowledgeable and concise manner.

FIRST TWO MINUTES OF CLASS: Teacher will greet the class. Take roll.

Open the class with a **brief prayer**

Recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States, as appropriate.

Tell the class that today's lesson is an **overview of what this class will be like the remainder of the year**, and that they will begin reading through the Bible during the next class.

Give each class member a ***daily reading plan*** for the year. Urge them to ***not read ahead*** of schedule, because it should not be necessary under this plan, as they will see by the end of the first week of actual Bible reading. ***Tell them that each day they need to sign their initials next to that day's reading, keep the form in a safe place, and turn in the sheet at year end to obtain the special certificate.***

Tell them that today there will be a ***take-home quiz*** to be returned to class tomorrow. Whenever a take-home quiz is given it is to be understood that students may collaborate in person or by phone to complete the quiz.

Usually a quiz will be given during the first part of a class period and will cover the previous day's Bible reading. This is the reason that they should not read ahead of schedule.

Comparing the typical Bible Class with ***Read Thru the Word***:

- ❖ The typical Bible class focuses upon **teacher lecture** to convey orally to the student the content of the lesson.
- ❖ Read Thru the Word™ focuses upon the **student's ability to read** to convey the content of Scripture to the mind and heart of the student.

AMOUNT OF READING REQUIRED: For this Bible course, the entire Bible has been carefully divided up into small parts so that you can successfully read ***one-half of the Bible***

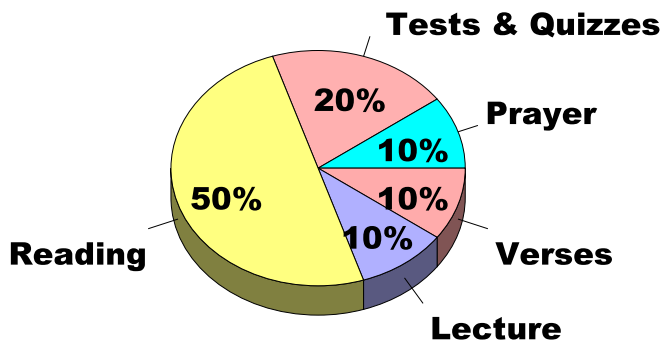
during Bible class ***this year***. Most of you should have no difficulty completing the reading each day during class, as long as we stick to the time schedule shown on the chart we just looked at. Next year the Bible class will read the second half of the Bible. If you are a bit slow in reading, you may need to spend some time finishing the assignment outside of this class, or at home.

DAILY QUIZZES: Normally there will be a quiz during the first part of the class on the day following your reading assignment. These ***quizzes will be multiple choice***. About eight minutes will be given to the daily quizzes. ***Because of time constraints some students may not complete some quizzes***. Some quizzes are short. Others are fairly long. The point is that you just need to do the reading, try your best to understand what you read, and then do your best on the quizzes. About two minutes will be taken to score and hand in the quizzes.

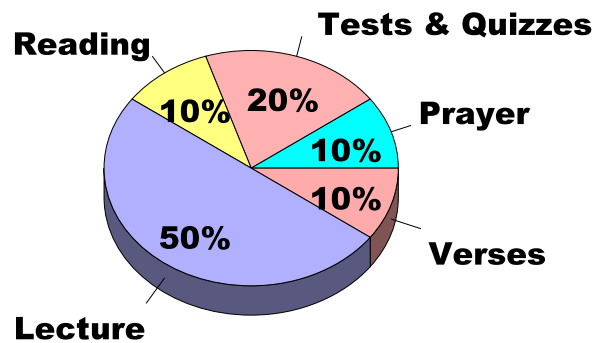
TESTS: At the end of each book of the Bible there will be a test. This will usually be a ***True-False test*** covering the entire book of the Bible which you have just completed. This test will normally be given during the day following the final reading assignment of that book of the Bible. It will be longer and will take ***more class time than the usual quiz***.

[Here briefly discuss pie charts using the overhead projector, beginning with Tests/Quizzes and moving ***clockwise*** around the two circles, comparing Read Thru the Word with Typical Bible Classes.]

Read Thru The Word



Typical Bible Class



PRAYER: Approximately five minutes will be given to prayer in each class. I will do whatever seems appropriate so that this time will be somewhat varied, meaningful, and profitable for all of us.

MEMORY VERSES: A set of thirty-three memory verse passages will be drilled on a daily basis, memorized, and tested during the year. ***This year's topic*** for the verses will be ***salvation by grace through faith***. Approximately five minutes of class time will be given to this important exercise.

LECTURE/DISCUSSION: Only five minutes is scheduled for lecture and discussion. This will usually be in the form of a brief review of selected vocabulary words and a lesson overview of what is contained in that day's reading assignment. It may also include time for questions from the class over any previous day's reading.

READING TIME: Twenty-five minutes is the daily time allotment for reading the Bible assignment. If you are reading at or above grade level you should usually be able to complete the assignment in class.

WHY THIS KIND OF BIBLE CLASS? A number of years ago a Bible class teacher asked this question: ***"Isn't there a Bible curriculum in which the students can simply read through the Bible?"*** That simple question has resulted in this curriculum. If you've ever been in a Bible class where the teacher spent most of the period talking (perhaps like some of your current classes in other subjects) you should appreciate the different approach with this class. In this class the time block which most classes spend for teacher lecture is dedicated to Bible reading. Usually, the class will read silently the entire assignment for the day. Occasionally we will have some other way of doing the reading, such as (1) a guest reader, (2) student readers, (3) teacher will read, (4) a recorded passage of the Bible will be played, or some other similar method will be employed to give some variety to the class.

THE PRECIOUS WORD: You have seen in the ***God's Outlaw*** film the true story of the high cost which was paid by some of our forefathers so that we could have the Word of God to read in our own language. There are many other similar true stories which you can find if you are interested.

BIBLE STATISTICS: [Note to Teacher: a number of Bible ministries were queried regarding the accuracy of the following statements. None were able to either confirm or deny the following statements. Thus, they are probably within the ball park for accuracy.]

It is estimated that of all people in the world today who claim to be true believers in Jesus Christ only ***one in every thousand*** (1 per 1,000) has a complete Bible of their own.

It is also estimated that of all people in the world who actually own a Bible only ***one in every hundred*** (1 per 100) has actually read it from cover to cover at least one time.

WHY SO FEW READ THE BIBLE ALL THE WAY THROUGH, COVER TO COVER:

1. We in America, relatively speaking, are rich compared to the rest of the world and we just ***don't see the need*** to read the Bible.
2. Because we have everything we need, physically speaking, ***we don't realize that we are lacking anything, including spiritual food.***

3. Because we lead busy lives, we tell ourselves that we just don't have the time to read the Bible.
4. We ***live busy lives***, with all kinds of activities, cell phones, email, and television. It is hard to make time to just read — anything, including the Bible
5. Some of us have been raised in church. We know many of the Bible stories, and we tell ourselves that ***we already know what's in the Bible***.
6. The ***Bible is a rather long book***. It has over a thousand pages. It's kind of like climbing Mt. Everest. It seems impossible from where we are standing at the foot of such a tall mountain.
7. ***We lack a specific daily plan. This course solves that problem for the beginner.***

BIBLE KNOWLEDGE ACCORDING TO GALLUP POLL (1990)

The sad fact is that actual knowledge of what is in the Bible is at an all time low. Gallup's 1990 Bible survey revealed that:

- ❖ Only half of adults interviewed nationwide could name ***any*** of the four Gospels of the NT.
- ❖ Just 37% of those interviewed could name all four of the Gospels.
- ❖ Only 42% of adults were able to name as many as five of the Ten Commandments correctly.
- ❖ Seven in ten (70%) were able to name the town where Jesus was born, but just 42% could identify him as the person who delivered the Sermon on the Mount.

BIBLE KNOWLEDGE ACCORDING TO George Barna's Bible Surveys during the 1990s came up with some other interesting facts:

- ❖ 38% of Americans believe the entire Bible was written several decades after Jesus' death and resurrection. (1994)
- ❖ 12% of adults believe that Noah's wife was Joan of Arc. (1997)
- ❖ 49% believe that the Bible teaches that money is the root of all evil. (1994)
- ❖ 75% believe that the Bible teaches that God helps those who help themselves. (2000)

[The above quotations from Gallup and Barna were taken from www.theologicalstudies.citymax.com/page/page/1572910.htm. (9/24/2007)]

OVERCOMING ALL THE OBSTACLES:

It takes discipline to read through the Bible. However, you should know that a few Christian believers read through the Bible ***every year***, and that by the time they are fifty years old they have read through the Bible perhaps ***thirty times, or more***. Why do they keep reading through the Bible, year after year? ***Because no one can ever exhaust the spiritual riches which are contained in it. It is like a gold mine in which the gold ore veins keep getting richer the deeper you dig. This class is designed to help you form that extremely important discipline early in life, so that, hopefully, you will continue it throughout your life in spite of all of the obstacles which we face every day.*** Some goals of this class are to help you ***overcome***

- ❖ the enormity — the sheer size — of the challenge
- ❖ your fear of failure at such a large task
- ❖ the unfamiliarity of the task

ONE FINAL NOTE: As the teacher of this class I hope that you will take up the challenge and give it your very best efforts. If you have any difficulty completing the daily reading

assignments, or understanding what you are reading, or any other problem with this course, please come and see me at a mutually convenient time, and I will do everything I can to help you overcome whatever obstacle seems to be in the way. The daily quizzes are designed to help you and me know that the daily reading has been completed. At the end of the school year there will be a certificate given to each student who remains in this class for the entire year and completes the course in a satisfactory or better manner.

WHAT IS THE BIBLE?

1. **It is the very Word of God**, our Creator. It is God's message to each of us. Every person who ever lived or ever will live will be judged by what is contained in God's message to us.

2. **It is the only Word from God**. No other book which may be called a "holy book" by some, contains the Word of God. This Bible is the only authentic, unquestionable, veritable, bona fide, documented, faithful and reliable WORD OF THE LIVING AND TRUE GOD, our Creator.

3. As you read through the Bible you will come to realize that it contains the truth of God.

END OF CLASS:

1. Pass out **take-home Quiz 6** and remind students to **bring the quiz to class tomorrow**. It will be turned in at the beginning of class. Tell them that they may discuss the quiz outside of class or by telephone if they wish. **Quizzes not returned will score zero.**

Dismiss the class on time.

LESSON 6: Genesis 1-4

PREPARATION: (1) Read the first four chapters of Genesis.
(2) Study and have ready the quiz to be given out, so as to try to point out anything needed during the introductory remarks today.
(3) This lesson, as do a number of lessons in the first five books of the Bible, has quite a large number of vocabulary words. List up to five key vocabulary words which you think need explanation. Make an overhead transparency, write words on the board, or make a chart of the words and be prepared to give a simple definition of each word.
(4) Introduce your class to the *KJV Glossary & Bible Dictionary* (a special textbook for this class) and encourage students to make full use of it to find meanings of difficult words and phrases.
(5) Prepare an overhead transparency or chart to display the week's Bible memory verse for class recitation in unison.

5 MINUTES: BEGIN CLASS ON TIME. TAKE ROLL. MAKE ANY NECESSARY ANNOUNCEMENTS. SAY THE PLEDGE, IF APPROPRIATE.

Open with prayer by teacher or any student whom you believe will lead the class in a serious and meaningful prayer.

INTRODUCTION: REVIEW: Our typical Bible class this year will be divided in time blocks as follows. We will endeavor to follow this daily time schedule, although it may vary a bit according to the needs of each lesson.

Prayer:	5 minutes	
Verse Drill:	5 minutes	
Daily Quiz:	10 minutes (includes scoring time)	
Introduction to new reading:	5 minutes	
Reading:	25 minutes	Total: 50 minutes

3 MINUTES: **Bible Verse Drill/Memorization:** Week 2 Verse:

16 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.

17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. (John 3:16-17 KJV)

Each day we will recite in unison the Bible verse for that week. As weeks go by we will do **cumulative review of all prior verses**, so that at year end you will be able to pass a test over all the 33 passages (a total of 59 verses) learned during the year — and you will have the verses memorized for life. We will use overhead transparencies or large charts for this activity.

2 MINUTES: No quiz today, but have students exchange the take-home quiz from the prior lesson. Collect, score, and record during reading or after class.

10 MINUTES: Introduction to Genesis 1-4. (Only time you have 10 minutes)

VOCABULARY WORDS:

SPIRIT (Ghost), (used several hundred times); **SPIRITUAL** (used 28 times, 27 times in NT) (Gen 1:2; 6:3; Hos 9:7; John 3:6; 4:24) - When used with a capital **S** the word refers to the Holy Spirit, who is usually referred to as "the third part of the Trinity." The Holy Spirit is God. The Holy Ghost is an equivalent term. In the Genesis passage the Holy Spirit was active in the creation of the world. Jesus taught us that **God is spirit**. (John 4:24) This means that, in essence, God occupies a dimension other than the physical in which we live. Jesus said, *after his resurrection*: "Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for **a spirit hath not flesh and bones**, as ye see me have." (Luke 24:39 KJV) Man is, like God, a tripartite being — that is, three part — body, soul, spirit. God is tripartite as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Bible makes this clear in a number of places. Apparently, man is tripartite from the point of conception. However, man's human spirit is dead toward God until he is spiritually born, or born again. Especially in the NT a man is considered to be a *natural man* prior to the new birth and a *spiritual man* after the new birth. Jesus taught us "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." (John 3:6 KJV) The challenge for the believer is to go on to maturity after being born again, by being filled with the Holy Spirit, and by walking in the Spirit — that is, living each day in obedience to the Word of God, and producing the fruit of the Spirit. [LS] **FIRMAMENT** - a dome, the sky, the heavens, an expanse of space, the first heaven, clouds.[Gen. 1:6]

LORD, LORD, Lord - (Gen 2:4, and nearly 60,000 times throughout the Bible) The word **LORD** (with large beginning capital and small capitals for the rest of the word) is used uniformly in the KJV — throughout the OT and in the NT where an OT scripture is quoted) as the translation of the Hebrew YHWH, the tetragrammaton (tetra = 4). The word **Lord** (with beginning capital followed by lower case letters) is used throughout the OT for the Hebrew word *'Adhōn*; [usually rendered Adonai in English - LS] proprietor, master, lord, Lord (exclusively applied to Jehovah God), owner, ruler, commander. The Ugaritic and Akkadian cognate words carry the meaning of "lord," "father," and "mighty." In the NT the Greek word *kúrios* is translated Lord. The meaning is lord, master, owner. It is the NT equivalent of the OT Jehovah or LORD. [AMG]

MEET - (Gen 2:18 and used about 280 times in OT and NT) (*yashar*; *axios*): Various words are employed to express **meekness, the sense of what is proper, worthy, or fit**. We have *yashar*, "straight," "upright," "right" (2 Kings 10:3, "meetest"; Jeremiah 26:14, the Revised Version (British and American) "right"); *yashar* (Jeremiah 27:5, the Revised Version (British and American) "right"); *yosher* (Proverbs 11:24, the Revised Version margin "what is justly due"); *'arikh*, Aramaic "meet" (Ezra 4:14); *bene*, "sons of" (Deuteronomy 3:18, the King James Version "meet for the war," margin "Hebrew sons of power," the Revised Version (British and American) "men of valor"); *kun*, "to be right" etc. (Exodus 8:26); *'asah* "to be made," "used" (Ezekiel 15:5 twice, the Revised Version margin "made into"), *tsaleach*, "to be good or fit for" (Ezekiel 15:4, the Revised Version (British and American) "profitable"); *ra'ah*, "seen," "looked out," "chosen" (Esther 2:9); *axios*, "worthy" (Matthew 3:8 Acts 26:20, the Revised Version (British and American) "worthy"; 1 Corinthians 16:4 2 Thessalonians 1:3); *dikaiois*, "just," "right" (Philippians 1:7 the Revised Version (British and

American) "right"; 2 Peter 1:13 the Revised Version (British and American) "right"); *euthetos*, "we set" (Hebrews 6:7); *euchrestos*, "very useful," "profitable" (2 Timothy 2:21, "meet for the master's use"); *hikanos*, "sufficient" (1 Corinthians 15:9); *hikanoo*, "to make sufficient" (Colossians 1:12); *kalos*, "beautiful," "honest" (Matthew 15:26 Mark 7:27); *dei* "it behooveth" (Luke 15:32 Romans 1:27, the Revised Version (British and American) "due"). For "meet" (supplied) (Judges 5:30), the Revised Version (British and American) has "on"; for "Surely it is meet to be said unto God" (Job 34:31), "For hath any said unto God?" W. L. Walker [ISBE]

SUBTIL - in a bad sense: Genesis 3:1, `arum, "crafty," "Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field," the American Standard Revised Version "subtle." [Easton's]

KNEW, KNOW - as used in the Bible, and considering the context, these words are often used to denote sexual intimacy between a husband and wife, by which a child is conceived. [Gen 4:1]

SIN, SINS - (Gen 4:7; Matt 12:31; used approximately 780 times in OT and NT) **1. Sin as Disobedience:** A fairly exact definition of sin based on Biblical data would be that sin is the transgression of the law of God (1 John 3:4). Ordinarily, sin is defined simply as "the transgression of the law," but the idea of God is so completely the essential conception of the entire Biblical revelation that we can best define sin as disobedience to the law of God. It will be seen that primarily sin is an act, but from the very beginning it has been known that acts have effects, not only in the outward world of things and persons, but also upon him who commits the act. **2. Affects the Inner Life:** Hence, we find throughout the Scriptures a growing emphasis on the idea of the sinful act as not only a fact in itself, but also as a revelation of an evil disposition on the part of him who commits the act (Genesis 6:5). **3. Involves All Men:** Then also there is the further idea that deeds which so profoundly affect the inner life of an individual in some way have an effect in transmitting evil tendencies to the descendants of a sinful individual (Psalm 51:5, 6 Ephesians 2:3). . . . Hence, we reach shortly the conception, not only that sin is profoundly inner in its consequences, but that its effects reach outward also to an extent which practically involves the race. Around these various items of doctrine differing systems of theology have sprung up. Francis J. McConnell [ISBE]

VAGABOND - (Gen 4:12,14; Acts 19:13) A wanderer with no fixed dwelling, and usually without the means of honest livelihood; a vagrant; a tramp. [NW]; *vag'-a-bond* (*nudh*, "to wander"): The word is used in the curse pronounced on Cain (Genesis 4:12, 14). the Revised Version (British and American) substitutes in each case "wanderer," but in Psalm 109:10 it retains "vagabonds." "Vagabond Jews" (*perierchomai*; the Revised Version (British and American) "strolling Jews") were persons who traveled about as professional exorcists (Acts 19:13). [ISBE]

ENMITY - a condition of being enemies with one another; a deep-seated positive hatred toward another. [Gen 4:15]

BEGAT, BEGET, BEGOTTEN - (Gen 4:18 and many others) This word is used perhaps 100 times in both the OT and NT. It means that a child was usually conceived and born as a result of a union of a father and mother. When the Bible says "*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*" (John 3:16 KJV) it is saying that Jesus Christ is God's only begotten Son, that is, that Jesus Christ is the only human son whom God ever fathered. This is a very important fact. Jesus Christ was fully human as he was physically conceived by the Holy Spirit in the womb of Mary. This apparently means that God caused the Spirit of Jesus Christ — that person who existed with the Father from all eternity — to be placed into the

womb of Mary and to cause her to conceive a son. Jesus Christ was the Spirit who indwelt that conception in place of a human spirit. The child that was born did not have a human spirit, but rather was God in the flesh. He did have a human soul and body, which made him fully human. The Scriptures make very clear that Joseph was not the father of Jesus Christ in the usual sense of being the man who caused the conception in Mary. Thus, any translation of the Bible which takes away the word **begotten** is, in this author's opinion, in great error on this important point which relates to the deity of Jesus Christ. Many modern translations or paraphrases do this. **Jesus Christ is both fully human and fully God.** One additional thought. Paul, in preaching to a crowd of people in the synagogue at Antioch used the word **begotten** in another way. He quoted Psalm 2:7 in which the word **begotten** is used, and applied **begotten** to **Christ's resurrection**. It would be correct then, to say that Christ was begotten from the dead. Thus, Jesus Christ is the **only begotten son of God** through his conception and birth, and Jesus Christ is **the first begotten**, or **firstborn from among the dead**, making him the head of all the redeemed of all ages. [LS]

ORGAN - (Gen 4:21) pipe [NASB] [NRSV] [AMP]; flute [TLB] pipe = flute [LS]

ARTIFICER - a skilled or artistic worker or craftsman. [Gen. 4:22]

HEARKEN - (Gen 4:23; Mark 4:3) (pronounced "harken" [LS] To listen; to lend the ear; to attend to what is uttered; to give heed; to hear, in order to obey or comply. [NW]

LESSON OVERVIEW: This section begins with the details of the (1) six days of creation of all things including Man and Woman by our God and Creator. Other topics in this section include (2) the appearance of the devil in the Garden of Eden, (3) the temptation of Eve, (4) the failure of Eve and Adam to obey the one and only commandment which God gave them, which is called the Fall of Man, the consequences of which brought death into the world. (5) The first Sabbath of rest taken by God as an example for all mankind, (6) some details about the Garden of Eden, (7) the loss of the use of the Garden of Eden by Adam and Eve, (8) the first children, and (9) the first murder.

Does anyone have any questions about any of these events before we begin our reading?

[Allow time for questions and discussion, but cut this off in time so that today the students will have **a full 25 minutes of reading time.**]

25 MINUTES: READING TIME. The room will be quiet, with no moving around by students, no talking, no whispering, so that everyone may concentrate. [NOTE: You should have thought out what consequences you will give to students who do not follow this rule during reading — and, in kindness, but with firmness, stick with upholding the rule, especially the first day and the first week of school. Once students know what you expect, they will be far more likely to follow your rules.]

END OF CLASS Tomorrow there will be a quiz over today's reading. The quiz is designed so that if you read and understand most of what you read, you should be able to do well. It is not intended that you master all the content of these seven chapters, but that you gain a good general understanding of what is given to us by God in them.

DISMISS CLASS ON TIME.

LESSON 7: Genesis 5-9

PREPARATION: (1) Read Bible chapters
(2) List any vocabulary words which you think need explanation
(3) Study and have ready **Quiz 7**
(4) Transparency or chart of Bible memory verse

5 MINUTES: BEGIN CLASS ON TIME. TAKE ROLL. ANNOUNCEMENTS.
PLEDGE

Open with prayer. Express appreciation to class or individuals, as appropriate.

5 MINUTES: **Bible Verse Drill/Memorization:** Week 2

16 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.
17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. (John 3:16-17 KJV)

❖ **cumulative review of all prior verses**

10 MINUTES: Take **Quiz 7. Score, Collect, and Record quiz scores.**

5 MINUTES: **Introduction to Genesis 5-9:**

Vocabulary words:

REPENTED - as in “it repented the LORD” He was very sorry, heartbroken, and grieved. It also often means a change of mind. [Gen 6:6]

GRACE - (Gen 6:8; Luke 2:40) A common definition of grace is **God’s unmerited favor**. Another one uses an acronym: **God’s Riches At Christ’s Expense**. Noah, his wife, his three sons, and their wives found grace in the eyes of the LORD. The grace of God was upon Jesus Christ even as a child. Everything we have is a gift from God, beginning with our physical lives, our breath, and all that we see around us. We have done nothing to merit or deserve all of these things. And most importantly, our eternal salvation is by grace through faith and not of ourselves. The word is used about 175 times in the Bible, of which about 40 times are in the OT and 135 times in the NT. [LS]

ROOM (S) - (Gen 6:14; 24:23; Matt 2:22; 23:6) As used in the Bible in various places the word **room** or **rooms** can refer to (1) a room in the modern sense, a part of a house, or building, which might be used for sleeping, an office, storage or other purpose. Noah was commanded to make the ark with **rooms**, or spaces, or perhaps pens for the multitude of different kinds of animals. The word **room** or **rooms** may in the KJV also be used in reference to a place at a table, or a position of rulership. [LS]

ARK - (Gen 6:14; Ex 2:3; Ex 25:10; Rev 11:19) a container, small or very large, such as the ark built of timbers by Noah which was approximately 450 feet long; the ark, or basket, into which Moses’ mother placed baby Moses, placing it in the River Nile; the ark of the covenant, a gold-covered box, into which were placed the tablets of stone upon which the

Ten Commandments were written; and the true Ark of the Covenant which is in heaven, of which the ark of the covenant built under Moses' direction was only a copy. [LS]

PITCH - The sap from trees. Different trees have different kinds of pitch, or sap. It is usually very sticky, and somewhat glue-like in nature. It was good for sealing the cracks in Noah's ark, as it would withstand the sea water and keep the water out of the ark. Not easily dissolved by water. [Gen 6:14]

CUBIT - as used in Gen 6:16: "in a cubit shalt thou finish it" apparently means that Noah was told to leave a space of a cubit, which is 18" to 25" between the lower edge of the roof and the sides of the ark, thus providing for ventilation of the ark and all its animals and eight people.

HOUSE - (7:1) A family of ancestors, descendants, and kindred; a race of persons from the same stock; a tribe; especially, a noble family or an illustrious race; as, the house of Austria; the house of Hanover; the house of Israel. [Noah Webster's] The foregoing definition of *house* is perhaps the most common use of the word in the Bible, although the traditional modern use of the word to refer to a *dwelling place* is also used in the Bible. [L.S.]

CUBITS - as used in Gen 7:20: "Fifteen cubits upward did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered." This means that a depth of 15 cubits = 19 to 31 feet above the top of the highest mountain was reached at the flood's greatest depth.

ABATED - [Gen. 8: 3,8,11; Lev. 27: 18; Deut. 34: 7; Jude 8: 3] Reduced to a lower state; decreased; subsided; declined.

ASSWAGED - [Gen.8: 1; Job 16: 6] abated; subsided; decreased; reduced.

ARARAT, MOUNTAINS OF - A mountain located in the nation of Armenia, near the east end of Turkey, which is 16, 945 feet in elevation at its peak. [Gen. 8:4]

COVENANT - a covenant is a solemn promise to engage in or refrain from a specified action. There are one-sided covenants such as those which God established between himself and Abraham, and between himself and David. In these God makes specific promises which will be fulfilled based upon only the fact that the person receiving the covenant **believes** the promise made by God. There are also two-sided covenants such as those made between a man and woman in the marriage ceremony. A covenant is considered more of a vow than an agreement or contract. [Gen 9:9]

BOW - (Gen 9:13, and used about 90 times throughout Scripture) The first use of the word **bow** is in reference to the **rainbow** which God used as a sign of his covenant with Noah and with all of creation that he will never again destroy all flesh with a world-wide flood, as he did in Noah's time. The usual use of the word bow is in reference to the weapon used with arrows, which is found in both OT and NT. The third use of the word bow is as a verb, which means to bow down, to worship, to kneel, or to prostrate oneself before God, or even before an idol. Here it is used as a verb, rather than a noun. [LS]

LESSON OVERVIEW:

(1) **Chapter 5** names of many of the first people to inhabit the earth, (2) the godly line of men from Seth down to Noah, (3) **Chapter 6:** Noah's call and preparation for the Flood, and (4) **Chapter 7:** the main events surrounding the Flood of Noah up to the middle of the flood period. **Chapter 8** of Genesis begins with Noah in the middle of the flood period. The flood had already lasted 150 days by this time. (1) Consider the actual size of Noah's ark and the fact that it had taken about one hundred years for Noah and his three sons (and possibly some hired help) to build this very large barge. It was equivalent in size to about 600 modern railroad freight cars! It was about 600 feet long, 100 feet wide, and 60 feet high. That's larger than a football field in length and width, and equal to about six stories. . .