

4th Grade: Lesson 7: The Bible and Our Relationship with Christ

Lesson Objective:

These outcomes help the child not only better understand the parts of the Bible, but also understand the importance of the Sacred Scriptures in their relationship with Christ. Children should be encouraged to read and pray with the Bible on a daily basis. The Bible narratives show that God enters into history and wants to be known by His people. Children should be led to understand that by virtue of their Baptism, they too are in a covenant with God and the story of salvation history continues in and through them. The accounts of God's interaction with His people aren't just stories of the past but speak into the present to those who read and pray with the Scriptures in every age. The covenants should be reviewed at a high level.

Learning Outcomes: Students will ...

- Understand that God speaks to us through the Bible stories and that it is used for personal prayer.
- Find Scripture passages and reference them by citing book, chapter and verse.
- Discuss the idea of covenant using the Bible narratives about Adam (Gen 1:26-2:3; 2:15-17), Noah (Gen 9:8-17), Abraham (Gen 17:1-14), Moses (Exodus 19:3-6), David (2 Sam 7:8-19), and Jesus (Matt 26:28).
- Interpret the significance of Genesis 2:18 "It is not good for man to be alone; I will make a helper fit for him."⁴
- Define original unity as the unique relation between male and female.
- Narrate the story of Moses in Exodus, as it unfolds the history of our covenant relationship with God.
- Compare Adam's joy at the creation of Eve to his response to the creation of the animals.

Materials Needed:

- Prayer space items, Bible, pens/pencils
- Copies needed: Salvation History Timeline,

As Students Enter Class:

- Give them a copy of the Salvation History Timeline that will be used during class. Ask them to look it over and to be ready to share their thoughts or any questions they may have.

Beginning of Class:

- Invite students to your prayer space and pick a student to choose a prayer to pray together. Remind students this can be traditional Catholic prayer or a spontaneous prayer.
- Ask students to share their thoughts of the Timeline. Consider doing a KWL activity. (Please refer to the page at the end of the lesson plan for more information about this learning activity).

Lesson Order	Implementation Ideas
Lesson 7 Video	<p>This video is 1:38 in length.</p> <p>Highlights: Review last weeks' lesson: The Liturgical Calendar of the Church, the priests' vestments, etc...</p> <p>This week, we are going to explore the Bible, and our relationship with God. The Bible is the living word of God. God speaks to us through the Bible. By your Baptism, you have entered into a covenant relationship with God. A covenant is a solemn promise that binds two parties together. They become one. A human example of a covenant is the Sacrament of Marriage. God promises His faithfulness to you and to all of us through a covenant. The final everlasting covenant God shared with us, is through Jesus.</p>
The Books of the Bible	<p>This video is 8:24 in length. Carla reviews the books of the Bible and their purposes and significance. She has a wooden display that opens up to show all the books of the Bible; the OT is in red and the NT in Green.</p> <p>Highlights: The Bible is one book that contains a whole library of books on the inside. Each book is written in a different time in history with a different human author, who worked with God, inspired by the Holy Spirit, to bring it about.</p> <p>The Old Testament has 4 sections. It was written nearly 3,000 years ago! It is inherited</p>

from our Jewish brothers and sisters in the faith. The first 5 books are called the Pentateuch (Torah). It tells how God called them to be His people and how he entered into a covenant with them. God promised the early people: I will be your God and you will be my people. This section also tells the stories of the earliest days of their covenant relationship with God. The journeys they took and the lessons that were learned along the way.

Historical books tell the history of the people of the early Church. We read about building of temples, coming of Kings, and rising of prophets in Israel.

The Wisdom books are written by our Jewish ancestors in the faith and helps us learn what it means to live a really good life. It contains the messages they wanted to share with their children and future relatives.

The Prophetic books gives us messages about the Kingdom of God, particularly, what the Kingdom of God would look like in its fullness, especially after all of God's dreams have been realized.

Next, Carla discusses how our Jewish brothers and sisters keep the OT books on scrolls and treat them with reverence. There are nice visuals that accompany this.

The green section is the New Testament, which is after the time of Jesus and then after his death. The New Testament is especially treasured by those of us who follow Jesus, called Christians. The New Testament has 4 sections. The 4 Gospels are foundational texts, and contain stories of how our earliest

	<p>ancestors lived their faith with Jesus and what they learned and discovered along the way. There is 1 historical book called Acts, which teaches us how the earliest Christians lived the covenant with God after Jesus died on the cross.</p> <p>The Letters/Epistles share the passion, wisdom, knowledge, and advice on how to live a good life.</p> <p>There is 1 prophetic book called Revelation, which depicts, in a coded way, what the Kingdom of God will look like. It gives us a picture of Parousia, the time when Jesus returns to Earth. Our Bible is a great treasure that we all need to appreciate.</p>
The Bible Song Video	<p>This video is .48 in length and is a Christine in Action Song.</p> <p>Highlights: There are two Latin inscriptions: Nihil Obstat and Imprimatur. Nihil Obstat means nothing hinders and Imprimatur means let it be printed. Anything written about the Church needs to have these to inscriptions.</p>
<p>Covenants of the Bible</p> <p>Please note: The Covenants and this lesson are lengthy. You may not be able to complete in one class time. If needed, finish the following week.</p> <p>Take movement and discussion breaks as</p>	<p>This video is 20:25 minutes long. Carla uses images to help explain this topic.</p> <p>Highlights: Covenants of the Bible unite the entire Bible throughout scripture. A covenant is a relationship God established with human beings. God gradually prepares people for the coming of Christ as His ultimate covenant. God's covenants often have stipulations or conditions. These details bind God and His people together.</p> <p>The 4 parts that accompany the making of a covenant are:</p>

needed to keep students engaged.

- 1) Sacrifice
- 2) Oaths or Promises
- 3) Shared Meal
- 4) Reminders or Signs

Let's look at these more closely:

Sacrifice:

In the OT an animal was often used as a sacrifice; sometimes it was other valuable items, such as grain or oil.

In the NT, sacrifice is shown through prayer, almsgiving, and praise. It is important to note that Jesus is the supreme sacrifice and is ever present in the Eucharist.

Oath:

An oath is a way for people to call upon God to make a guarantee of God's faithfulness. Both God and people promise to abide by the covenant.

Shared Meal:

The covenant meal means **to share in the blessings of God's work in Christ**, and the meal means that we come before him as the one covenant people of God.

Example: Abraham's covenant meal was bread and wine.

In Moses's covenant meal, God gave the Israelites meat for dinner and then all the bread they could eat in the morning.

Reminder/Sign:

These could be physical objects or words written down, such as the 10 Commandments

God gave to Moses. The purpose of this component is to remind us of our covenant relationship with God.

Major Covenants:

1. Adam/Eve - creation
2. Noah – after the flood
3. Abraham – in his land and people
4. Israel – through Moses
5. David – through his dynasty
6. Jesus – through His blood, which and completes the previous covenants

In each covenant, we see a growth pattern.

- 1) Adam and Eve – a couple
- 2) Noah – extends to a family
- 3) Abraham – effects a tribe
- 4) Moses – impacts an entire nation
- 5) David – the nation grows into a kingdom
- 6) Jesus – impacts all people world-wide; universal

The Covenant with Adam and Eve:

Read Genesis 1:26 – 2 and Genesis 2:15-17: God made human beings in His likeness. He gave them power over the Earth and animals. He made male and female (Adam and Eve). We see how God marries Adam and Eve, blesses them, and encourages them to have many children. Later we will learn how Adam and Eve break their covenant with God by eating the forbidden fruit off a tree God told them not to use.

Discussion: Encourage students to share their thoughts and questions they have about covenants. Try to tie in the fact that even at the very beginning of creation, God gave Adam and Eve a choice to follow his rules.

The Covenant with Abraham:

The next covenant is with Abraham is 99 years old and God said I will make a covenant with you and give you many descendants. I promise you will be in ancestor of many nations. The sign of this covenant is land. Also, all males had to be circumcised, which is a physical sign of the new covenant.

The Covenant with Moses:

This covenant with Moses also covers all of Israel, one holy nation. In Exodus 19: 3-6, Moses went up the mountain to meet with God. He is to tell the Israelites, Jacob descendants, that they saw what God did to the Egyptians and how he brought them here (to the promised land). If you obey this covenant, you will be my chosen people. A people dedicated to me alone and you will serve me as priests. The covenant continues up to Chapter 24. God gives Moses the 10 Commandments, as a means to help the Israelites follow God's will.

In Exodus, Ch. 24, signs of prayer and a meal are revealed. Moses built an Alter at the foot of the mountain. Animals were sacrificed. He saved half of the blood and placed it into bowls. When the time came, he tossed the blood on the people as a seal of the covenant they made with God.

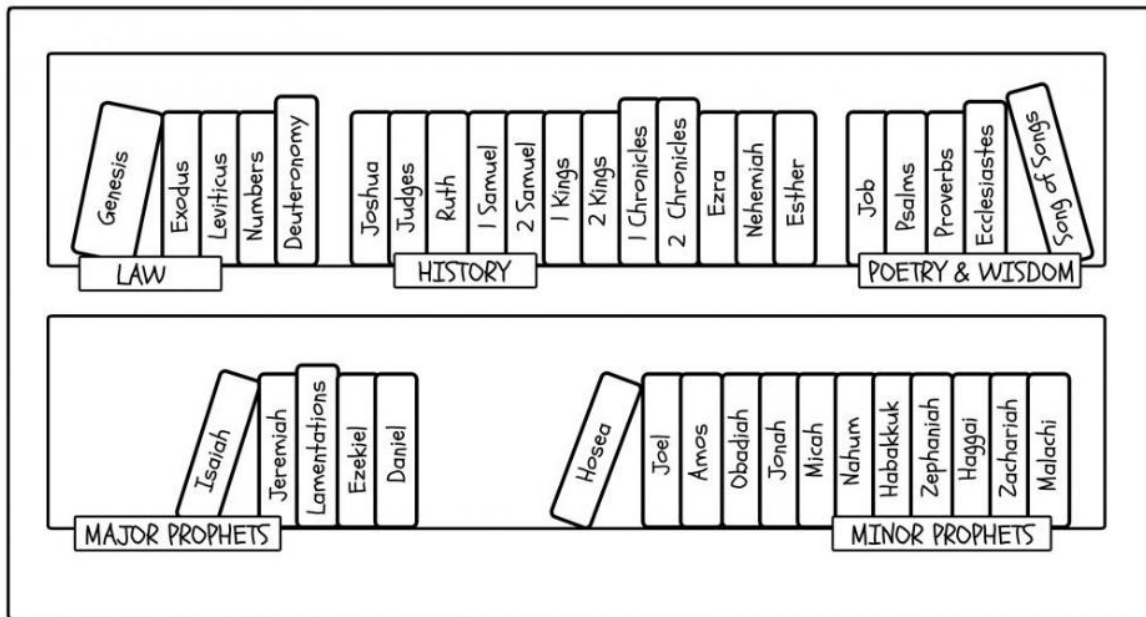
God's Covenant with David:

2 Samuel 7: 8-19

I took you from the fields and made you the leader of Israel. I promise to keep you safe from enemies. One of your sons will build me a temple and I will make your kingdom last forever. This covenant blesses David and his kingdom. The sign of this covenant is David's throne and a promise for future descendants.

	<p>In all of the covenants we read, the people were unfaithful and broke the covenant in some way. However, God never gives up and he loves them with an everlasting covenant: JESUS.</p> <p>JESUS:</p> <p>Read Luke 22:14-20 This describes the Lord's Supper also known as the Last Supper on Holy Thursday. Jesus establishes the Catholic Church and shares how in every Mass, the consecrated host is truly Jesus, present in the Eucharist.</p>
<p>Activities</p> <p>Since this is a long lesson, consider choosing one of the covenants for students to complete and share their thoughts. This can be done in writing or verbally.</p>	<p>The Covenants in Salvation History Timeline – you may have handed this out at the beginning of class. If not, please hand it out and give students time to look it over. Encourage them to make connections to what they learned today to where it is on the timeline.</p> <p>The Covenants of the Bible Activity – Working together, encourage students to write their thoughts about each covenant. Have them put it in their own words.</p>
Closing Prayer	<p>Model a spontaneous prayer, thanking God for His final covenant, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Thank God for allowing us to share in this covenant meal every time we receive Holy Communion.</p>

The Old Testament



BOOKS OF THE BIBLE



NEW TESTAMENT

THE GOSPELS

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John



HISTORY

Acts



EPISTLES - Paul's Letters

Romans
1 Corinthians
2 Corinthians
Galatians
Ephesians
Philippians
Colossians
1 Thessalonians
2 Thessalonians
1 Timothy
2 Timothy
Titus
Philemon



EPISTLES - General Letters

Hebrews
James
1 Peter
2 Peter
1 John
2 John
3 John
Jude



PROPHETICAL

Revelation



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KWL Chart

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Select a topic you want to research. In the first column, write what you already know about the topic. In the second column, write what you want to know about the topic. After you have completed your research, write what you learned in the third column.

What I K now	What I W ant to Know	What I L earned