

Illuminate Bible Series

Volume 1

God Our Savior

Discovery Guide | 1st - 6th



For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts
to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:6



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CURRICULUM OVERVIEW



What Is the *Illuminate Bible Series*?

Do you want your children to gain a firm knowledge of Scripture? The Bible exposition veterans at Union Gospel Press want to help. *Illuminate Bible Series* has a unique approach that will enrich their studies with intelligent, reliable, and stimulating Bible knowledge. Your children will genuinely enjoy these engaging Bible lessons and fun activities. All that is needed is for you to pick up the *Discovery Guide* and start teaching—we have worked hard so that you can avoid costly preparation time.

“They received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily” (Acts 7:11)

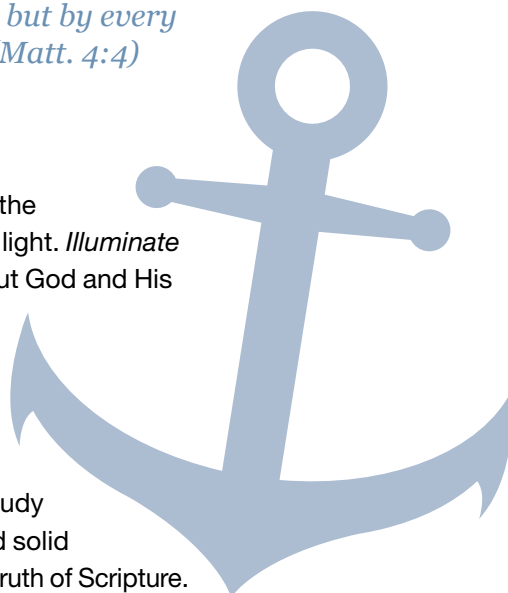
The Most Important Class of the Day!

Science and math and spelling are necessary and valuable topics of study, but nothing can surpass the value of consistent time devoted to learning God’s Word. Numerous studies paint a painful picture of the state of biblical literacy and Christian conduct among “churched” teens and college students. “Good kids” who attend church regularly all their lives for some reason are reaching college with minimal knowledge of Bible basics, having no serious interest in Bible study or prayer, and lacking the spiritual discipline to live in accordance with biblical truth. If Scripture truly is the only source for authoritative truth, then our children need to study it and know it well. No other study or pursuit of knowledge can have the eternal impact that Bible study does. It should never be ignored or treated as a matter of secondary importance.

“It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God’” (Matt. 4:4)

Going Deep

Some scriptural truths seem simple on the surface, and yet the deeper you explore, the more spiritual riches are brought to light. *Illuminate Bible Series* is intended to help children to think deeply about God and His Word. The number of Bible learning aids available for kids today is enormous. Yet, on average, children and teens today manifestly know less about the Bible than children and teens a generation ago. The best way to combat this uncomfortable reality is to draw kids into meaningful engagement with Scripture. Our robust, kid-friendly Bible study materials help children wrestle with vital Bible teachings and solid doctrine. We want to anchor Christian families in the bedrock truth of Scripture.



How Does the *Illuminate Bible Series* Work?

Learning Together

Do you envision your children gathered around you as you study the Bible together every day? We do too. That is why we have created a teaching guide that will hold your children's interest with colorful graphics and eye-catching designs. The *Discovery Guide* is meant to be experienced together.

Each study provides five half-hour lessons for each day of the school week. A Bible passage is provided each day to be read aloud together at the start of each lesson. The weekly memory verse can also be reviewed together throughout the week as you see fit.

A Typical Day

Here is a simple outline of how a day's lesson is designed to work.

- **Bible**—Read the Scripture text for the day.
- **Daily Lesson**—Remind the children of the Day 1 Bible story, then read the *Discovery Guide* lesson together. Some older children may even want to read the lesson themselves.
- **Prayer Point**—Pray together using the *Prayer Point*, which connects with some aspect of the daily lesson.

Prayer Point

Thank God for never forgetting His people or His promises.
- **Christ Focus**—Read the *Christ Focus* and encourage thinking about how the Scripture passage and lesson point to our loving Savior.

Christ Focus

Just as God brought the Hebrews victory over and freedom from Egypt, He will one day bring victory and freedom to all Christians (Rev. 21:1-4).
- **Student Workbooks**—Let the children answer the questions and do the activities in their workbooks.

For grades 1 and 2, we suggest you use a more hands-on approach. At the beginning of every week (or each day!), along with the *Discovery Guide* lesson, read the Bible story to them from their workbooks. Then ask them the review questions and help them do the activity.

How To Use The *Discovery Guide*

This **Discovery Guide** is the teaching manual that can be used to teach children in 1st through 6th grade—all with one book. It is a two-semester study that includes 8 units spread over 32 weeks.

Each week of the *Discovery Guide* focuses on a prominent **Bible story** to be read the first day. The next four days provide **supplemental passages** and different perspectives that encourage a deeper understanding of the main Bible story in light of other Scripture truths.



DISCOVER (Day 1): A thought-provoking treatment of elements within ***the featured Bible story***



INVESTIGATE (Day 2): Noteworthy information about the featured story's ***context and background***



CONNECT (Day 3): Significant connections between the featured Bible story and other ***related Scriptures and biblical concepts***



FOCUS (Day 4): A kid-friendly discussion of ***doctrinal truth*** related to the featured Bible story



ILLUMINATE (Day 5): A ***review*** of the week's lessons and meaningful ways to ***put truth into practice***

Discovery Guide Extras!

Each week is packed not only with Bible-rich lessons but also additional rewarding insights and helpful learning aids.

- **Focal Point** pages supply extra material related to the weekly passage and include anything from archaeology and world cultures to geography and missions emphases. These topics can be discussed throughout the week as you see fit.
- **Callout boxes** offer unique and valuable ideas to consider that aid in understanding the lesson.
- Important **vocabulary words** in these lessons are highlighted in **green** and reviewed at the end of every week; definitions are in the glossary at the back of this book.
- A weekly **memory verse** is provided to help reinforce the lessons in the students' minds.

Weekly memory verses ensure children hide God's Word in their hearts

Each week centers around a story from the Bible

DAY
3

JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Memory Verse: Matthew 5:16

Isaiah 9:2-3; 42:5-7

CONNECT

Scripture Connections: Isaiah 9:2-3; 42:16; Matthew 4:12-16; Luke 2:25-38

The dark of night. In 2018, world news focused on a team of soccer players in Thailand who were trapped in a cave, some for over two weeks. Experts said it was dangerous for them to live so long without daylight. Such darkness can make people very confused and sad. The Bible speaks of the dangers of spiritual darkness, which is darker than any cave. Like the man blind from birth, people in this kind of darkness have no light. They are kept in darkness by Satan, who loves to make people feel sad and hopeless. It is as if they are in a deep, dark prison without even a glimmer of light. Satan is able to keep people in this dark prison because they have sinned. Sinners truly can do nothing to escape.

The soccer team was in the dark for so long that bright lights could have easily harmed the boys' eyes. Before they came out of the cave, they were given special sunglasses to protect their eyes.

Thankfully, God sent His Son to bring people out of Satan's dark and dreadful prison. Jesus is the Light. The gloom of spiritual darkness cannot withstand His light (John 1:5)! When sinners receive forgiveness from God because of Jesus' sacrifice, spiritual darkness melts away. Satan can do nothing against the light of God's truth!

The glimmer of dawn. Watching a sunrise can be glorious! The dark night first seems to brighten; then the stars disappear as the sky starts to glow; next, the sun's rays shoot out from the horizon. Soon the earth is bathed in the bright, beautiful light of day. The people of Israel had lived in spiritual darkness for many, many years. Their enemies had vexed them for so long that they felt hopeless and very sad. But Israel's prophets had foretold that a new and wonderful time was coming. God's people would see a great light (Isa. 9:2-3). The spiritual darkness would be chased away by the light of God. People who were spiritually blind would see the goodness of God's grace (42:5-7, 16).

Jesus is the Light that the Old Testament prophets had spoken of. When He healed the blind, they went from total darkness to wonderful light. This was meant to remind people about the coming time of light. Wherever Jesus went, His preaching and gracious miracles gave joy and light, which fulfilled what the prophets had predicted (Matt. 4:12-16).

Old Testament prophets were called "seers" because God let them see things as He sees them (1 Sam. 9:9). He gave them dreams and visions that others could not see or understand.

The Light of day. Some insects can see light that humans cannot see. Honeybees can see polarized light, which helps them know their way back to the hive. It is like GPS for bees. Through God's Spirit, Simeon saw what others at the temple did not—a tiny child who was truly the Light of the World. When Joseph and Mary brought Jesus in, Simeon held Jesus up and proclaimed that He was the long-awaited Savior, who would give spiritual light not only to Israel but also to people all over the world (Luke 2:27-32; see Isa. 60:1-3).

Prayer Point

Pray that God will help you to enjoy living in the light of His grace.

Christ Focus

Jesus is the Light of the World; all who trust Him enjoy the light of God's goodness and peace (John 8:12).

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THE SAVIOR REVEALED :: JESUS' LIFE AND MINISTRY

Callout boxes highlight interesting facts and connections

Vocabulary words are highlighted

A Prayer Point and Christ Focus keep God and the gospel at the center

Student Workbooks

Three separate student workbooks (for younger, middle, and older elementary age groups) make it possible to measure your students' learning progress. These creative and colorful resources contain **daily review questions and unit tests**. You will find the answers to the workbook questions at the end of each weekly study; the test answers are in the back.

The workbooks also include hands-on **activities and crafts** with the review questions. Typically the same activity is used for every age group; but occasionally, younger students (grades 1 and 2) will do a similar but simpler activity. All crafts are designed to be done with common household items.

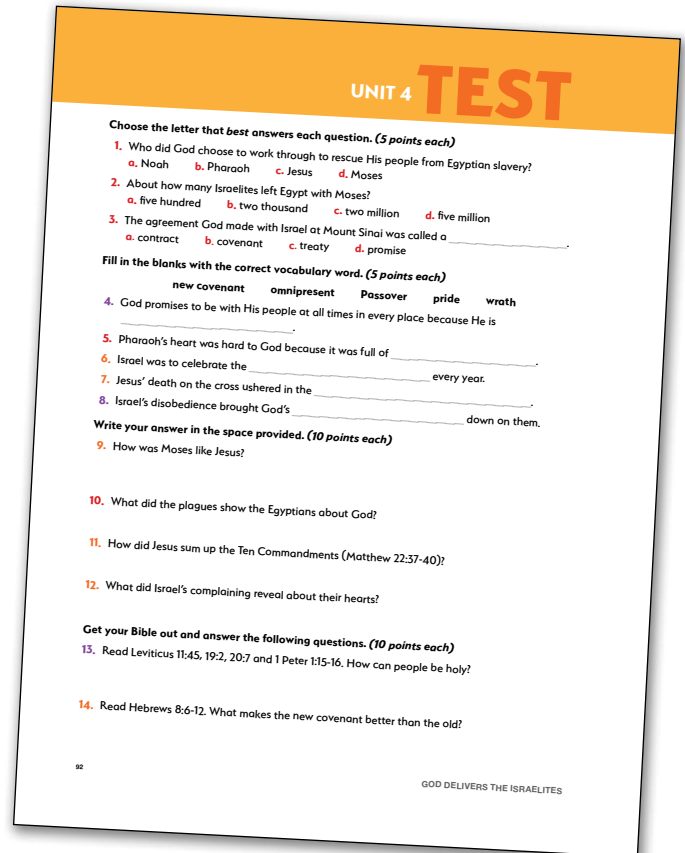


Flexibility!

Because this curriculum has been designed with the busy homeschool family in mind, flexibility is built in. If there is a need to reduce this to a four- or even three-day course, whichever day's study you choose can be combined with another or skipped altogether. The **tests are coded** so that any questions about material students have not studied can be excluded from their grade. (Each test is worth a total of 100 points; simply deduct from this original number any points related to the skipped material to establish a new starting total.)

The **ILLUMINATE** lesson (Day 5) in the **Discovery Guide** provides review questions for each daily lesson as well as a get-up-and-go **application activity** to wrap up the week of study. You may find it best for your students to finish each day by quizzing with these review questions, giving you more flexibility for the last day of your school week.

As you can see, your students can develop a deeper understanding of Scripture on a schedule you choose, and the curriculum can be adapted to fit your plans.



The Logic of the Scope & Sequence

There are a couple of common pitfalls regarding God's Word that we wanted to avoid in creating our overall plan for *Illuminate Bible Series*:

Pitfall #1: seeing the Bible as merely a collection of heroic stories, miracles, and principles

Pitfall #2: treating the Bible primarily as a history book by using a strictly chronological approach

We believe the best way to study the Bible is through a careful presentation of its central message—the story of God's grace and glory, which is ultimately expressed in Jesus Christ.

Realities to Remember

- God is at the center of the Bible. It was He who superintended and empowered the exciting lives of the characters in the Bible.
- Each book of the Bible is tied to the great central theme of God's grace and glory, even though we seek to understand each book in its historical context.
- Seeing Jesus is essential. Instead of wading through nearly five years of chronological studies to finally get to Jesus, He is featured prominently in all six years of study.

What Is the Plan?

Each year of the curriculum highlights an important attribute of God, using the stories of Scripture to place Him at the center of all things while continually highlighting the work and Person of Jesus.

1. **God Our Savior**—an exploration of God's work of salvation
2. **Our Faithful God**—a focus on God as one who keeps His promises
3. **Our God of Mercy and Grace**—a study of the wonderful mercy and grace God shows His people
4. **Jesus, Our Prophet, Priest, and King**—a discussion of how the Old Testament points to Jesus
5. **Jesus, God's Son**—a survey of how Jesus is fully God
6. **God Will Triumph**—a review of how God prevails for all eternity

But I Want a Chronological Study!

Each week is designed to thoroughly explore Bible passages that exalt our great God. The first year of study, **God Our Savior**, shows how God has redeemed His people. God's work of salvation is traced from Genesis to Revelation as students see how He is carrying out His plan for Creation. Notice that the individual units progress chronologically while connecting to the grand story of Scripture:

1. CREATION (Garden of Eden)
2. FALL (Adam and Eve, Sodom and Gomorrah, the Tower of Babel, Noah)
3. REDEMPTION (God's deliverance of the Israelites and Jesus' life, death, and resurrection)
4. RESTORATION (God's final victory and the believer's glorious future)

Though each year is not fully chronological, many of the units in the six books are structured chronologically. So, far from ignoring the chronology of Scripture, we believe it is helpful for students to see the central themes of Scripture as collections of stories are explored.

This approach will so equip elementary students that at the end of these studies, they will discover many prominent stories in the Bible and their great truths. But besides mastering academic content and historical facts, hopefully your child will also have a close relationship with our glorious God!

PLAN FOR THE YEAR

God Our Savior

God existed before there was anything we can see. He is eternally holy, existing in a perfect relationship between the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He did not need to create anything.

And yet, God chose to create the universe. He thought of the sun, stars, oceans, trees, and sharks and created them simply by speaking. To finish His creative work, He formed man and woman in His own image. Everything He created was good, and He delighted in creating everything. Mankind was given everything they needed in a beautiful garden paradise. They simply had to obey the One who had made them.

But man turned their back on their Creator. Listening to the lies of Satan and thinking they could rule themselves, Adam and Eve disobeyed God. The rebellion against God had begun. From that point forward, Adam, Eve, their children, and the earth they lived in would be under a curse. They would be separated from God and would one day die. But in this garden, God gave a wonderful promise. The curse would not last forever. God Himself would one day save His people from their fallen state.

Adam and Eve, however, could no longer stay in God's garden. They were banished. And as they soon found out, their children, grandchildren, and every child born in the days ahead would be under the same curse. They would each sin against God and deserve punishment. God's judgment against sin would be revealed in the Flood, in Babel, and in the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. God revealed His perfect law to the Israelites, but He knew they couldn't keep it. It showed them their great sin against Him. God's creation was in trouble. They needed someone to save them from their sin.

God could have left the Israelites and all mankind in their rebellious ways. But, instead, He showed mercy. Time after time, even though the Israelites complained, He delivered them. He used Moses to rescue His people. Moses was a part of the promise, a sign of the One who would one day come to deliver His people forever.

Many years later, the ultimate Deliverer was revealed. Jesus—God Himself—came to earth to be born as a man. He was a man like Adam, but He lived a very different life. He taught others about His wonderful Father. He always obeyed God, even though mankind could not. He died for their sins, even though He had done nothing wrong. God, out of His great mercy, sent Jesus as the promised Savior. When Jesus died and rose from the grave, the curse had no power on God's children.

Because of this wonderful Savior, those who trust Him can live with God forever! Jesus will one day return to earth to bring His children into eternal presence with God.

This is the story of God keeping His promise to send us the Savior we so desperately need.



Semester 1: The Need for a Savior

In these four units, we explore the greatest need every person has:
we all need a Savior to rescue us from our sin.

UNIT 1

GOD CREATES THE WORLD

God spoke, and the world was created. The source of everyone and everything is in the beginning, as the infinite God chose to create the world for His glory. The best of His work is His creation of man and woman, made in His image.



THE FIRST FIVE DAYS OF CREATION

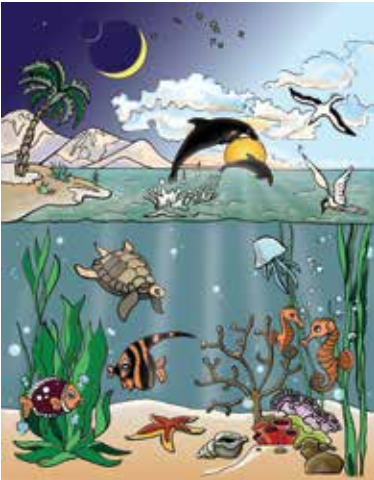
 Memory Verse: Genesis 1:1



Have you ever wondered why this world is here?

A whole lot of nothing. What if you got a big present for your birthday, but when you tore off the wrapping and opened the box, there was nothing inside? Would you be excited? What could you do with nothing? You can't eat it. You can't wear it or play with it. And how would you show it to your friends? You don't even know what it looks like! Nothing is certainly nothing to get excited about.

But that is what God started with—nothing! Before there was a world, a sun, or people, there was absolutely nothing. Only God **existed**. And since we can see that this world exists now, we can be pretty sure God's desire was to share His goodness. It pleased Him to create this world (Rev. 4:11).



Nothing to it! But how could God make anything at all from *nothing*? The Bible says that nothingness gave way to *something* when God simply spoke and the earth came to exist: "The worlds were framed [made] by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible" (Heb. 11:3). For God, this was easy.

But God's earliest command did not create things as we see them now. At first, the earth He created was just a dark, formless blob; it awaited further work from Him. His Spirit was there to begin the work (Gen. 1:2). The very next thing God did was command light to exist; then He separated day from night. All that was on just one day.

God continued giving order to His creation on days two and three by spreading out the sky and forming seas and dry land. When He commanded grass and trees to grow, the land brought forth the first living, growing things in the world. Even though God created light on the first day, and there was already day and night, it was not until day four that the sun, moon, and stars were made. The purpose of these things, He said, was to separate day from night and to mark off the days, seasons, and years.

Once the skies, seas, and land were ready, God began to fill them with living **creatures**. On day five, He called for sea creatures to abound in the waters, and flying animals of all sorts were commanded to fill the air. This totally shoots down the idea that fish evolved hundreds of millions of years before birds. Although no human being was alive when these things happened, the truth about how this world began is clearly explained in Scripture. And it shows that there is nothing too hard for God!

Nothing but good. After God created each new thing, He looked at what He had made and called attention to something very important: it was good! This teaches us not only that God's work was brilliant and amazing, but also that He Himself is good. His goodness shines through in all of creation because He made nothing that was evil or that had an evil purpose. Praise God for His goodness!

Prayer Point

Praise God for His great power and goodness.

Christ Focus

John 1:1-3 teaches us that Jesus Christ was there in the beginning and that all things were made through Him.

FOCAL POINT



Psalm 33:7 says that God gathers up the waters of the sea. Here is an activity to gather your own sea.

Items you will need to make your own sea in a jar:

- clean, empty, clear glass jar or bottle with lid
- water
- vegetable or baby oil
- blue food coloring
- seashells

Fill 2/3 of the jar with water. Add a few drops of food coloring at a time to get the shade of blue that you want. Add a few seashells, and then fill the jar the rest of the way with the oil. Put the lid back on the jar tightly so

that the “sea” does not leak out of the jar.



Hold the jar in both hands and turn it on its side. Move the jar from side to side to get a wave effect. This happens because oil and water do not mix.


As you watch the sea that you made, remember that you made it with things that already exist. God made the seas with just a word (Ps. 33:9).

100 BILLION GALAXIES

We live in the Milky Way galaxy, which contains Earth, the sun, and other planets. Scientists believe there are over 200 billion stars in our galaxy, each with its own planets surrounding it. If you think that is hard to imagine, scientists have used telescopes to estimate that there are over 100 billion galaxies in the universe.

Amazingly, our Creator can measure all of this with His hand (Isa. 40:12) and created each of the galaxies to praise Him (Ps. 148:1-4). Even the best telescopes in the world can never truly capture the magnificence of our awesome God.

DID YOU KNOW?



Nothing is faster than light. It travels at a speed of 186,282 miles per second. If you could run that fast, you could get to the sun in about 8 minutes. You would be able to run to the moon in about 1.3 seconds. God made light that fast. His power is unlimited.

WHAT HAPPENED IN THE BEGINNING

The Bible says that in the beginning, God created everything in six days. Only He has the power and the wisdom to just speak and create everything from nothing.

GOD IS ELOHIM

A Hebrew name for God is Elohim. This name gives the idea of strength and power. It is the most commonly used name for God in the Old Testament (used over 2,500 times). God has infinite power and greatness. He made everything by just speaking it into existence. He is the Supreme Ruler of all the universe.

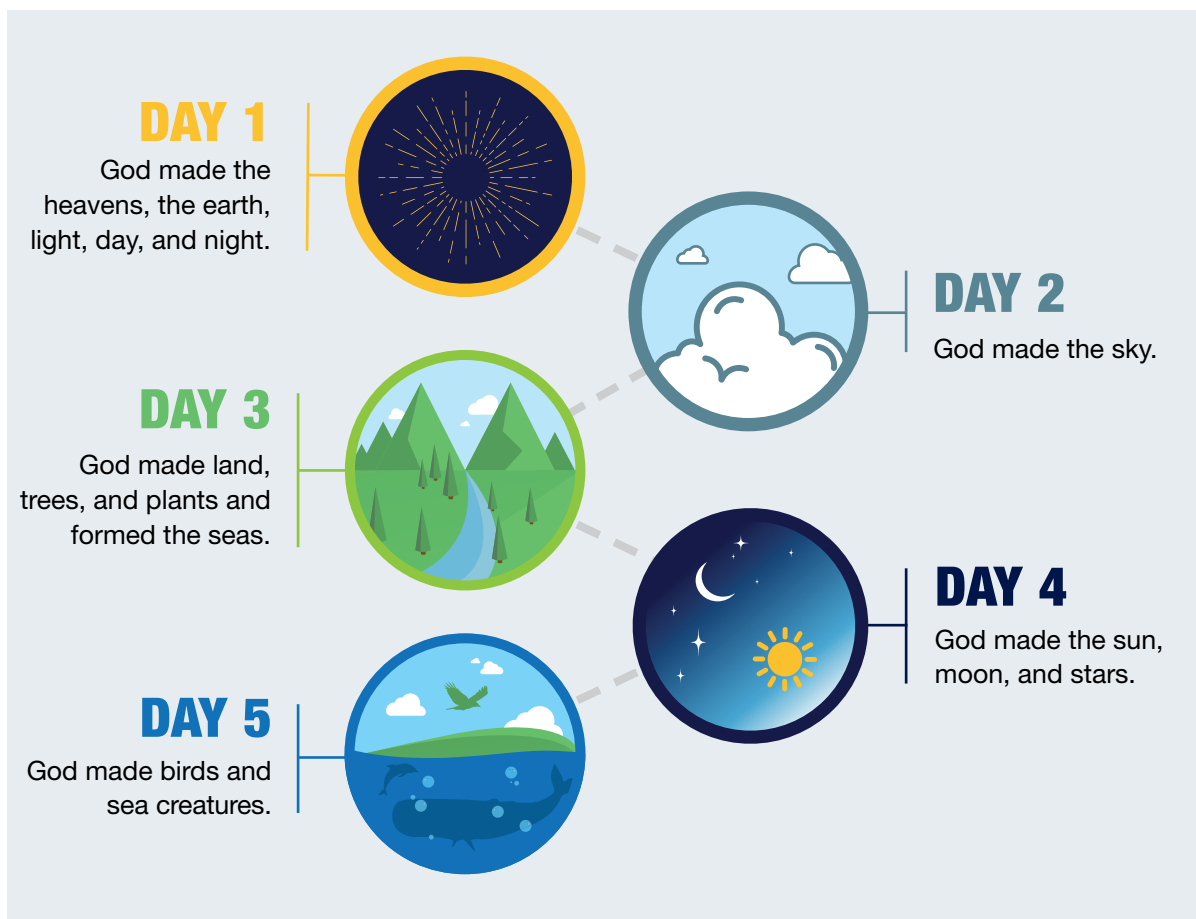


GOD SUSTAINS

When you go to bed at night, you should not worry about whether the sun will rise the next day. God created everything in His great power, and with that amazing power, He keeps everything in its place. God sustains all that He created.

THE FIRST FIVE DAYS

God created everything in six, twenty-four-hour days, with no time period in between the days. During the first five days of creation, God made the heavens, the earth, light, the sky, water, the seas, land, plants, the sun, moon, stars, sea creatures, and birds.



When you see a snowman, do you think that the snowflakes got together and created it by chance? Of course not! You know someone built it. It is the same with creation. The Lord God is to be praised for His greatness in creation. In six days, all things that exist were made by Him. He spoke and created everything from nothing.

Prayer Point

Praise God for His power and wisdom.

Christ Focus

Jesus Christ is God. All things were made and exist through the Word, who is Jesus Christ (John 1).

THE FIRST FIVE DAYS OF CREATION

 Memory Verse: Genesis 1:1


Scripture Connections: 1 Chr. 29:11-12; Ps. 19:1-3; 96:11-12; 104:24-32

It all starts with God. The light bulb was invented in 1874. But do people remember the inventors, Henry Woodward and Matthew Evans? No, they think of Thomas Edison. The truth is that this bright idea came from Woodward and Evans. Edison took what they did and made it better. But Edison did not invent the light bulb.

God made this world. The Bible tells us that. But many people look at our beautiful world and do not think of God as the one who made it. Does it really matter who or what made the world? Yes! It matters very much who made the world. Let's think about a few of the reasons.

First, creation teaches us about who God is. Pretty flowers and rugged mountains, bald eagles and woolly mammoths, tiny mice and massive whales all point to a brilliant, imaginative, astonishing Creator! The sun, the sky, and the sea are like dazzling neon signs telling of God's wisdom and power (Ps. 19:1-3). And since no creature can live without God's help and care (104:27-29), we know that He is a good God.

Second, when we know that God made the world, we know that everything belongs to Him! He owns every part of this universe—every planet, star, flower, tree, and animal. He is in charge, and He gets to make the rules for our world (1 Chr. 29:11-12). What the Bible teaches is very important because its words come from God (2 Tim. 3:16-17).

Finally, knowing that God is the Creator of this world helps us understand the new creation. The same God who said "Let there be light" in the beginning commands the light of His truth to shine in our hearts (2 Cor. 4:6). In this way we become a new creation (5:17). Although the world we live in has been spoiled by sin and evil, God has said He would create new heavens and a new earth (Isa. 65:17). This new creation is completely pure and holy.

A scientific study published in 2011 said that we know of about 8.7 million different species of animals that exist on earth—and more are being discovered all the time!

Wonder and worship. The wonder of all creation is meant to move our hearts. The reason everything exists is to show how glorious God is! When we marvel at the wings of a butterfly or thrill at the sight of snowy mountain peaks, our hearts should well up with worship and praise for God. It is good to speak of God's greatness!

The Bible pictures the sky, the sea, the fields, and trees rejoicing in the Lord (Ps. 96:11-12). We can do the same (Neh. 9:6). Although there are many bad things in this world that can make us sad, we can always rejoice that our good and loving God made this world. Not only that, but He is watching over it and working out His good will in it (Prov. 16:4; Rom. 8:28).

Not only was everything created by God, but all of creation depends on Him (Ps. 147:9; Isa. 42:5).

Prayer Point

Think about God's amazing creation and praise Him!

Christ Focus

Christ is the Creator and Head over all creation (Col. 1:15-17).



Doctrine: Jesus Was at Creation

One of a kind. If you see a turtle on top of a fence post, you can be sure he did not get there on his own. Think about our amazing, beautiful world. It should be easy to see that it did not get that way on its own. John 1:1-5 is an important Scripture linked to the story of Creation in Genesis 1. It tells us something surprising about the One who started and guides our world. Let us learn more about who He is.

God is very different from every other being in the universe. John 1 teaches us that there was more than one Person present at Creation. Jesus is called the Word, and not only was He with God when the world was created, but also Jesus was and is actually God (vss. 1, 3). Trying to think that through can make your head hurt. How can Jesus be *with* God and *be* God at the same time? We have to admit: that is not something we can really figure out.

One person can be different things all at the same time. A man might be a chef, a store clerk, and the town mayor all at once. What he cannot be is three different *people* all at once.* But the Bible teaches that God is actually more than one person at the same time.

The truth is that God is the only being in the universe who is like this (Isa. 46:9). We cannot fully understand Him. Many Bible verses call Jesus God (see Matt. 1:23; Col. 1:15). Other verses show that the Heavenly Father is God (1 Cor. 8:6; Eph. 4:6). But while both Jesus and His Father are God, Jesus is not the Father, and the Father is not the Son (see Matt. 3:17; John 20:17).

“What’s the difference between an orange?” This question can’t be understood because it makes no sense. God can’t be understood, either, but not because He makes no sense. It is because He is too great and wonderful!

The New Testament was written in the Greek language. Jesus called Himself the Alpha and Omega, which are the names of the first and last letters in the Greek alphabet (Rev. 22:13). This world starts and finishes with Him in control!

Creation and redemption. So why is it important that we know Jesus is God? It is important because He is the one who created this big world and the one who controls what will happen to it. Although the world was pure and good at the beginning, people sinned. Sad and sinful things then spread throughout the world. Everyone was sinful, and no one could make the world right again.

It is very wonderful news, then, that God *Himself* chose to **redeem** this world (Isa. 59:14-16). Jesus, the Creator of this world, sacrificed His life on the cross to set this world free from the power of sin (Rom. 8:19-23). Our Savior is making all things new (Rev. 21:5)! All who trust in Him are part of His new creation (2 Cor. 5:17-21). Jesus is the only link between this world and the next. He is the beginning and the end of everything (Rev. 21:6).

* The Trinity will be discussed more extensively in a later study.

Prayer Point

Thank God for the life we find in Christ (John 1:4).

Christ Focus

Jesus is both our Creator and our Savior from sin and death.

THE FIRST FIVE DAYS OF CREATION

 Memory Verse: Genesis 1:1


REVIEW

God **created much of the world in the first five days**. Let's do some review. For each day, begin by narrating the lesson.



- How did God create all that **exists**? *He spoke creation into existence out of nothing.*
- What did God call His creation? *Good.*
- How do we see God's goodness in creation? *Nothing He made was evil; no sin existed.*



- What does Elohim mean? *God is full of infinite power.*
- What did God create in the first five days? *Heavens, light, sky water, land, trees, plants, the sun, the moon, stars, birds, and the sea.*
- How long was each day? *Twenty-four hours.*



- What does creation teach us about God? *He is creative, powerful, wise, and good.*
- Why doesn't creation fall apart? *It belongs to God, and He sustains it all, including every living **creature**.*
- How should we respond to God's creation? *In worship, praise, and wonder.*



- Who is Jesus? *God, Himself, but not the same person as the Father or the Holy Spirit. He was present at Creation.*
- How did God **redeem** His creation? *Through Jesus Christ and His death on the cross.*
- Who controls the universe? *Jesus, the Beginning and the End.*

APPLY

God made everything, and He made everything to praise Him. Everything you see reflects something about God that is worthy of praise. Sunrises proclaim God's mercy every morning; the stars show God's wonder and creativity. Take a walk outside and look around. Quietly observe God's creation and then write down some of what you see. Praise Him for those things, for He made everything!

Prayer Point

Thank God for creating you.

Christ Focus

When He calmed the storm (Matt. 8:26), Jesus spoke, and creation responded much like when God spoke the world into existence.

WEEK 1 ANSWERS (3rd-6th Grade)

3rd-4th

DAY 1 | DISCOVER

1. b
2. heavens; earth; day; night.
3. the water
4. verses 10 and 12
5. rule the day; rule the night
6. Answers will vary.

DAY 2 | INVESTIGATE

1. d
2. twenty-four hours
3. God is King and rules from His throne; God is great; God is in heaven and does whatever He wants.
4. Answers will vary.

DAY 3 | CONNECT

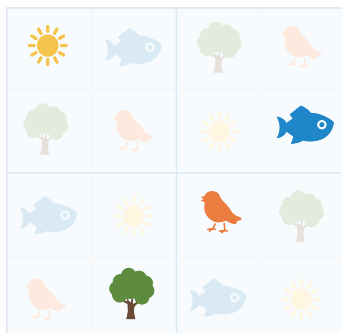
1. a person or animal created by God
2. false
3. God made it, so He owns it.
4. The world we live in has been spoiled by sin and evil.
5. Answers will vary.
6. Songs will vary.

DAY 4 | FOCUS

1. c
2. the Word
3. c
4. to buy back; to pay the debt of
5. a. God redeemed the Jews from slavery in Egypt; b. God redeemed our souls from the grave; c. Jesus redeemed us from our sinful ways.
6. Answers will vary.

DAY 5 | ILLUMINATE

Puzzle Key:



5th-6th

DAY 1 | DISCOVER

1. d
2. It was good.
3. 1. a; 2. e; 3. c; 4. e; 5. c; 6. d; 7. a; 8. b; 9. b; 10. d.
4. to be real
5. God's voice is gentle; God's voice thunders; God's voice roars like rushing water; God joyfully sings.
6. Answers will vary.

DAY 2 | INVESTIGATE

1. a
2. creation of the heavens and seas
3. Answers will vary.
4. God is in control of the earth and its resources. He will determine how long they will be available to use.

DAY 3 | CONNECT

1. d
2. God provides all the animals need to survive, and they will die without His provision.
3. God created the world, and He will do what He has said.
4. God created everything. There are no "new" discoveries for Him.
5. Answers will vary.
6. Answers will vary.

DAY 4 | FOCUS

1. d
2. Jesus is God and was with God from before time began.
3. John 6: Jesus walked on water; John 9: Jesus heals man blind from birth; John 11: Jesus raised Lazarus.
4. the devil, the power of sin
5. Sin's power is stronger than we are able to overcome on our own.
6. Answers will vary.

DAY 5 | ILLUMINATE

Puzzle Key:



Use this *Discovery Guide* to teach all your students from
1st to 6th grade at the same time.

"For it is the God who commanded **light** to shine out of darkness, who has **shone** in our hearts to **give the light** of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ"
(2 Cor. 4:6).

The Lord has illuminated glorious truths to His children through His Word, and they are worth a lifetime of study. **Enough with the fluff! Illuminate Bible Series** introduces students to important theology, engaging both their hearts and their minds. Each day, students are led **to praise God and exalt Jesus as they see the riches of His grace and glory throughout Scripture**. In each year of study, students will explore a variety of stories and passages of the Bible, examine them in their context, connect them to related Scriptures, mine them for doctrinal truth, and apply them to daily living. In volume 1, students will see how God's salvation plan flows from Genesis to Revelation, revealed ultimately in Jesus Christ.

The unchanging truth of God's Word illuminates our path (Ps. 119:105). Whether in the classroom or around the dining room table, **Illuminate Bible Series** can lead students from grades 1 through 12 into daily, in-depth discovery of God's truth.

