

ROCK SOLID

Bible Curriculum

TEACHER'S GUIDE

Keaton Halley
Creation Ministries International

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ROCK SOLID

Bible Curriculum



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TEACHER'S GUIDE: INTRODUCTION

EQUIP YOUR STUDENTS!

This course was created specifically for youth, ages 11 and up, but could also be adapted for other age groups. It is designed to help students: (1) understand how the truth of Christianity is relevant to them, (2) develop a Christian worldview, and (3) learn to defend their faith. In 33 lessons, students will become familiar with the entire sweep of the Bible's chronological history and, along the way, they will become equipped to respond to various challenges to the Christian faith. The goal is to give students a deeper understanding of Scripture, greater confidence in its truth, and the ability to apply it to their own lives as they navigate the world around them.

This walk through the Bible's history is intentionally not achieved by spending equal time in every Bible book or time period, marching through at a steady pace as some might expect. Rather, a significant proportion of the teaching time in the beginning is spent laying a 'rock solid' foundation.

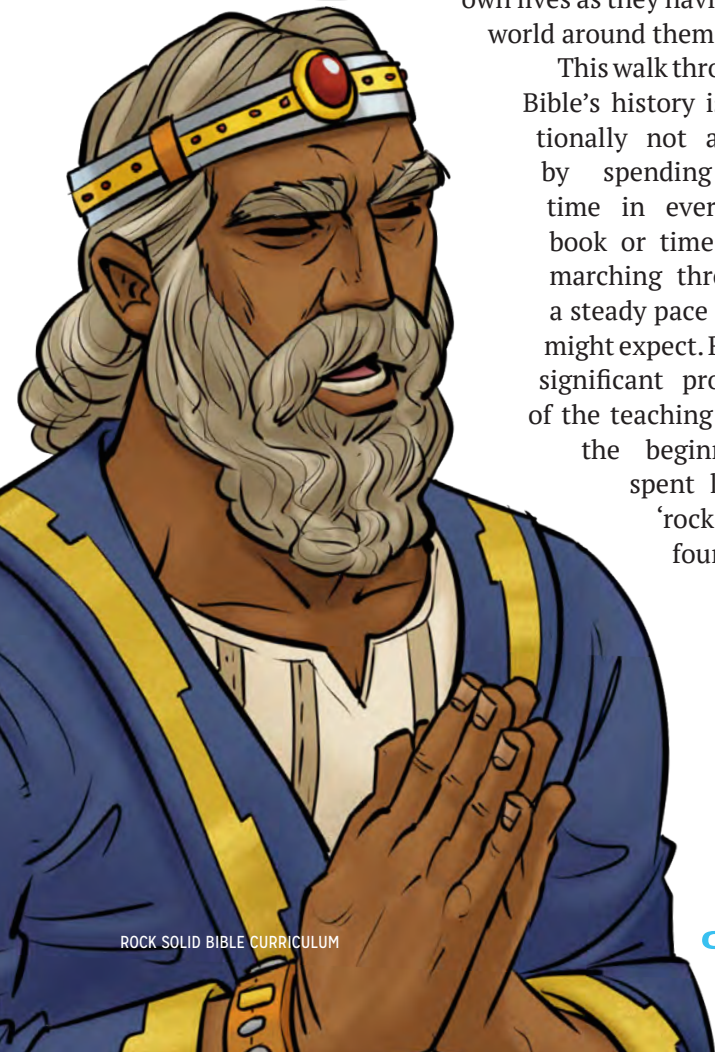
The first several lessons (1–4) deal with introductory concepts such as truth, worldview, and whether the Bible is trustworthy as the Word of God. Lessons 5–20 are devoted to the history described in Genesis. Topics covered include God's existence from eternity past, the creation of the world, mankind as God's image-bearers, sin and the Fall, Noah's Flood, the Tower of Babel, and God's covenant promises to Abraham and his offspring (the people of Israel). After establishing these essential foundations, the pace of the course accelerates. Lessons 21–29 show how God kept His promises throughout history—in the Exodus from Egypt, during Israel's time in the promised land, during the exile in Babylon, and up until the promised Messiah arrived—Jesus Christ. The lessons show Christ is the Saviour who died and rose again to save sinners. The final lessons (30–33) explore the growth of the church—the body of Christ that includes both Jews and Gentiles—and how believers can look forward to God's future work as He continues to fulfill His promises. These promises include the return of Christ and the creation of a new heavens and new earth.

We hope that this comprehensive course will allow you to assist your students in growing closer to Christ.

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

Each lesson includes:

- Instructor's lesson plan
- Student comprehension tool worksheet (you may make copies from the set provided, or print from the digital files (A4 or letter size), or buy in bulk at creation.com/rock-solid-worksheets)
- Instructor's answer key for student comprehension tool worksheets (at the back of this notebook)
- Visual presentation slides (for use in software such as PowerPoint® 2007 or later, or Keynote®)
- A few lesson plans also direct the instructor to use the activity sheets found in the activity folder.



LESSON FORMAT

A typical lesson plan contains the following sections:

Overview

The lesson content and goals are briefly summarized.

Preparation

Materials: Any materials necessary for the lesson are listed. *Note: these may include some items not provided that you will need to locate or acquire in advance.*

Before the lesson: Instructions are given for anything that needs to be prepared in advance of teaching, besides the usual slides and familiarizing yourself with the lesson plan. For example, you may need to set up a room for a game before students arrive.

Opening Activity (5–10 minutes)

The activity typically includes scripted lesson content and unscripted instructions for you, the presenter of the lesson. It also includes an application which serves as a bridge to the lesson content.

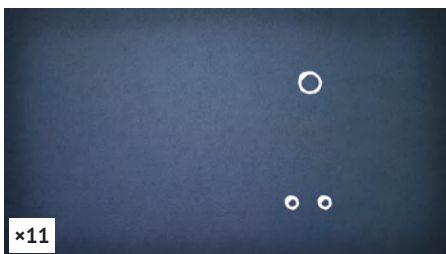
Scripted lesson with slides (30–35 minutes)

Each lesson contains an introduction, two main points, and a conclusion that briefly connects to the person of Christ (see *Recognize Jesus* below). The lessons are mostly scripted, but non-scripted portions are indicated either by placement of the term: ‘**(Unscripted)**’ in bold at the beginning of the applicable section, or by the placement of brief instructions—as well as possible answers to questions—in italicized parentheses. (*Like this.*)

The lessons occasionally include additional activities besides the opening activity.

Slides: All slides are fixed images, so no fonts will need to be installed on your computer in order to correctly display them. You will only need a computer with presentation software properly connected to a TV or projector.

Thumbnails of each slide appear in the scripted lesson at the moment they should be displayed on the screen. If a slide thumbnail on the lesson plan has a number in the lower-left corner (as in the example shown here),



you should understand that additional slides (which are not pictured as additional thumbnails) are present in the PowerPoint® file. These additional slides provide animation. The numeral refers to the number of times the instructor will need to ‘click’ to go through that series of animations. Advance instructor practice for familiarity with the animation slides is highly recommended. This only occurs in a handful of lessons (7, 20, and 33).

Yellow highlights: If your group uses the student comprehension tool, be sure to distribute the sheet prior to the beginning of the lesson. Students should work toward independent completion of the tool during the lesson.

Scripted text directly related to something on the student comprehension tool will be highlighted in yellow. You should be sure to cover, and perhaps emphasize, the highlighted material. It may also be helpful to encourage students to engage with their worksheets at these specific times in the lesson. After a few lessons, as students learn to use the worksheet as a comprehension tool, less oversight may be needed.

Bible passages: Many Bible verses are included on the slides. Occasionally, however, a lesson plan may call for students to look up a passage instead of reading it from a slide. This is intentional and is meant to provide students with a valuable opportunity to practice looking up and reading portions of Scripture. In some cases, it is also due to the practical consideration of covering a passage which is too lengthy for a slide. You should feel free to omit additional Bible verse slides in support of having students look up and read more passages aloud to the group, but keep in mind that this will add time to the lesson.

Outline of biblical history: Lesson 1 introduces students to a four-part summary of biblical history. Gradually, more events will be added to this list so that it will eventually total 15 by the end of the course (as shown here). By reviewing this timeline during each lesson, the students will be able to more firmly grasp the Bible’s big picture and see where its



major events fit into the overarching story. Consider being creative with this expanding timeline in order to help students retain it. Set it to music, play ‘ping pong’ with two halves of the group—each naming the next event in sequence, or create a contest to see which team can recite it best from week to week.

Review: Review sections are interspersed at various places to help students recall material they have been taught previously in the lessons. These sections often contain a few questions about the material just covered to clarify and emphasize main points and help students retain important truths.

Recognize Jesus: At the end of every lesson, this section will help to show how the teaching for that day points to Christ, just as Jesus Himself indicated to His disciples that the whole of Scripture pointed to Him (Luke 24:27; John 5:39).

Discussion questions (15–20 minutes)

Discussion questions for each lesson are located at the end of the lesson plan and on the bottom of the student comprehension tool and on the final presentation slide(s). You may use the questions in the large group setting; however, if additional adult facilitators are available, breaking up into small discussion groups may allow for better participation, interaction, and application. Discussion leaders should not feel like they necessarily have to get through every question, but may choose an appropriate number based on the time available.

Discussion leaders should remember to encourage:

- Active participation by each member of the group: turn-taking, offering thoughtful responses, and valuing the contributions of others;
- Contributions of more than one response for each question;
- Freedom to expound upon what others have shared, ask related questions, and offer additional insights;
- Moving beyond simple answers, attempting to evaluate and explain;
- Sharing of personal experiences and how the truth may apply to a specific situation.

Discussion leaders may also find it meaningful to end their small group time with prayer.

Master level

Each lesson includes a Bible memory passage on the student comprehension tool sheet. This passage could be

assigned as homework and recited the following week. Instructors may wish to add an incentive prize for those who complete it.

Go deeper

For presenters who would like to gain a deeper understanding of the subject matter, each lesson supplies links to related articles on **creation.com**. Occasionally other relevant resources are recommended as well.

COURSE OUTLINE

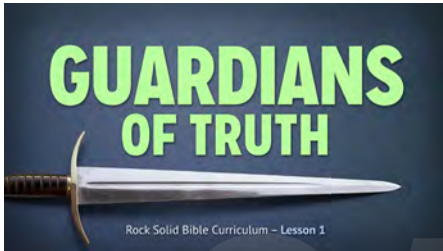
This course includes 33 complete lessons. The titles are as follows:

1. Guardians of truth
2. Worldviews in conflict
3. Where did the Bible come from?
4. Can we trust the Bible?
5. The everlasting Creator God
6. The goodness of God
7. Creation in six days
8. The age of the earth
9. Creatures after their kinds
10. Adam & Eve: image bearers
11. Fossils defy evolution
12. The Fall
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14. Navigating Noah’s Flood
15. Noah’s Flood: fact or fiction?
16. Noah’s Flood: record in the rocks
17. Babel dispersal
18. One human family
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21. Out of Egypt
22. God’s Law
23. Promised land
24. Divided kingdom
25. Babylonian exile
26. Foreign empires
27. Arrival of the Saviour
28. Sacrifice of the King
29. He Arose
30. Spread of the Gospel
31. Letters to the church
32. The return of Christ
33. All things new

May God bless your faithful teaching!



GUARDIANS OF TRUTH



OVERVIEW

This course is designed to help students: (1) understand how the truth of Christianity is relevant to them, (2) develop a Christian worldview, and (3) learn to defend their faith. We begin this introductory lesson by talking about the value of truth. Students will be encouraged to see biblical teachings as invaluable truths worth defending against falsehoods.

PREPARATION

Materials:

- 5 slips of paper per student
- Several pens or pencils
- 2 desirable raffle prizes
- 1 undesirable raffle prize
- 3 containers made of transparent material, to hold raffle tickets
- Consolation prizes (optional)
- Student worksheets

Before the lesson: Purchase or create three inexpensive raffle prizes. Two of the prizes should be items you think the students would want to win, such as a candy bar or a small toy. The

third prize should be an item they will not find desirable, like a roll of toilet paper or a piece of burnt toast. Label each container with the name of one prize.

ACTIVITY: RAFFLE

(Unscripted): Display the prizes on a table, each next to its associated container for collecting tickets. When students arrive, explain that they will be participating in a raffle. Hand each student five slips of paper and ask them to write their full name on each slip. These will be their raffle tickets.

(Scripted): Each ticket represents one chance to win a prize. You can distribute your tickets however you prefer among the containers. You may put all five into one container or spread them out by putting just one or two tickets into each container.

(Unscripted): Give the students a minute or two to place all their tickets in the containers.

(Scripted): We will draw winners at the end of the lesson. You can only win one prize so, in case of a duplication, I will simply draw another name out of the container until there is a unique winner.

Application

(Scripted): I want to begin our time by talking about *value*.

- By looking at how many tickets were submitted for each prize, would you say that this group valued some prizes more than others? (*Allow students to answer.*)
- Which item appears to be the most valuable to our group? (*Allow students to answer.*)
- Which appears to be the least valuable? (*Allow students to answer.*)
- Why do you think that is so? (*Allow students to answer.*)



INTRODUCTION

(Scripted): People often go to great lengths to protect what they value.

Illustration #1

Consider all the gold at Fort Knox—a US storage center. The US government has a massive security system in place to prevent people from stealing that gold. This facility has:

1. 30,000 soldiers with tanks and attack helicopters
2. Two electrified fences and a mine field

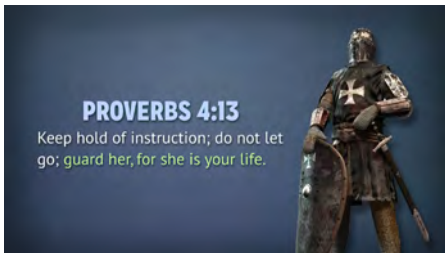
3. Granite walls that could survive an atomic bomb
4. Camera surveillance over every square inch
5. Corridors that can be flooded

People protect gold because it is valuable. But in this lesson, we will be talking about something that is much more valuable than gold and much more valuable than any of the prizes you are hoping to win. We are going to talk about *truth*.



We must guard the truth.

The Bible encourages us to guard the truth, just like Fort Knox guards gold. For example, consider two verses in the Bible that tell us to acquire wisdom and then protect it.



Proverbs 4:13 Keep hold of instruction; do not let go; guard her, for she is your life.

What do you notice about how valuable good instruction is, according to this verse? (*Allow students to answer.*)

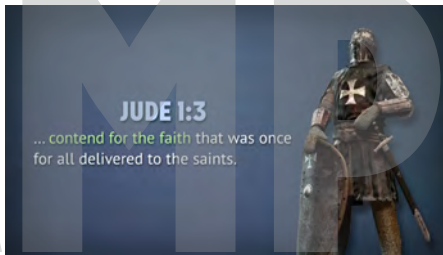
It says that instruction is very valuable because our lives depend on it. We ought to hold on to the knowledge we gain from good teachers because following their instructions can save us from harm.



Illustration #2

Has anyone ever told you to look both ways when you cross the street? Why is this a good rule to follow? (*A: Because it might save our lives from being hit by a car.*)

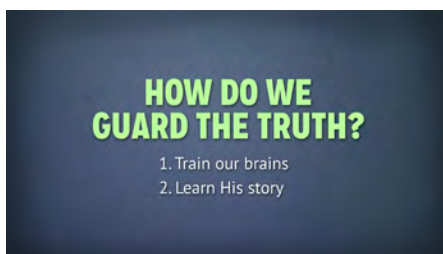
We could do something foolish if we do not listen to those with wisdom. So it is good to hold on to wise instructions.



Next, Jude says:

Jude 1:3 ... contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.

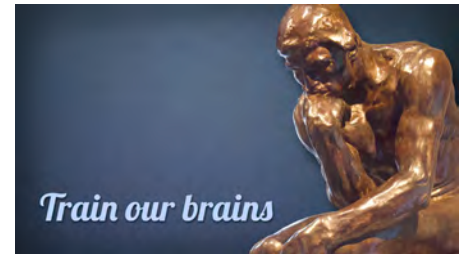
This verse also tells us to guard truth. While Proverbs told us to guard truth against our own forgetfulness, Jude says we must also guard truth against attacks from the outside. He says that Christians were given the truth of our faith “once for all”. The Bible preserves this truth. We have to fight to hold on to the Bible’s truth because it has many enemies.



How do we guard the truth?

There are two things we must learn to do.

1. Train our brains
2. Learn His story



1. TRAIN OUR BRAINS

We have to train ourselves to think like a Christian ought to think. The world should not shape our minds. They should be shaped by God’s Word. Did you know the Bible commands us to have our *minds* disciplined? Here are three passages which give us this instruction.



Romans 12:2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

What does it mean to be conformed? (*A: to become similar to, or to become like something*) So, we should not ‘become similar to’ this ungodly world with its ungodly ways of thinking. One paraphrased translation of this verse says we should not let the world squeeze us into its mold.

What does this verse say we are to do instead? (A: *be transformed by the renewal of our minds*)

This means we need to make sure we have our thinking shaped by God’s Word. This will transform—or change—us, and allow us to know God’s will.

We also need to demolish lies and seek to control our thoughts.

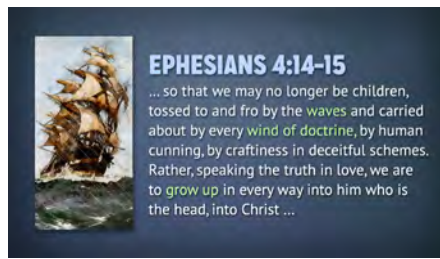


2 Corinthians 10:5 We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ ...

What does this verse say we should do with arguments and opinions that go against the knowledge of God? (A: *destroy them*) Lies undermine the truth and hurt people, so it is our job to demolish lies. We will talk later about how to do this in a godly manner.

Also, who can tell me what a captive is? (A: *a prisoner*) That’s right. A prisoner is under the control of someone else. So this verse is saying we should control our own thoughts, as if they are our prisoners, to make sure they are obedient to Jesus. Our thinking can tend to go astray from the truth. That is why we need to both detect lies and demolish them, making sure that our thoughts follow Jesus instead.

Third, we should not be swept along by bad ideas. Instead, we need to grow in maturity to become more like Jesus.



Ephesians 4:14–15 ... so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ ...

This verse creates a visual picture. People are like boats on the sea. Little children cannot keep their ship steady. Wind and waves can easily toss them about instead. Can you figure out what the wind and waves represent? (*Allow students to answer.*)

Notice the phrase “wind of doctrine.” What does the word ‘doctrine’ mean? (A: *something believed and taught*) So, the wind and waves represent the ideas and teachings of the world. Just as wind and waves move ships, ideas move people, causing them to go in various directions.

For example, you may be influenced by friends at school, by commercials on TV, by celebrities or political figures. Unfortunately, these often turn out to be bad influences, like waves pushing us away from what is good and what is true. The world tries to carry us along in all kinds of directions, rather than the right one—the direction of the truth.

As we grow, we need to be anchored to the truth and tell others about that truth, in love. That way, we grow to become more and more like Jesus, who is the captain of our ship if we are Christians.

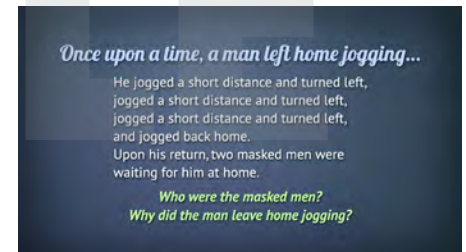
Avoid being fooled by the world.

It is important to train our brains to think like a Christian—to build our thinking on the Bible—because it is really easy to be fooled by the world.

Illustration #3

Have you ever been tricked? Let me give you a little test showing how easy it is to fool someone. Don’t worry; this will be a harmless exercise.

I am going to read you a short story. At the end of the story I will ask you two questions. If I have succeeded in tricking you, you will not be able to answer the questions. If you have heard this before, please don’t shout out the answers, okay? I will ask for a show of hands to see who knows the answers.



Once upon a time, a man left home jogging. He jogged a short distance and turned left, jogged a short distance and turned left, jogged a short distance and turned left, and jogged back home.

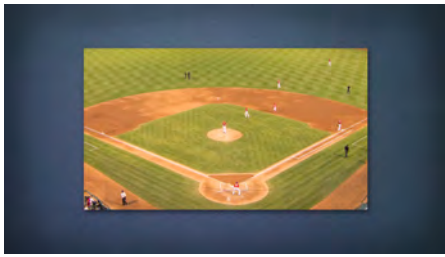
Upon his return, two masked men were waiting for him at home.

Two Questions:

1. *Who were the masked men?*
2. *Why did the man leave home jogging?*

Don’t say the answers out loud, but raise your hand if you know the answers to both questions.

In a moment I will show you a single picture that will instantly allow you to solve this puzzle. Ready? Here’s the picture.



Now can you figure it out? Who were the masked men? (A: the catcher and the umpire) Why did the man leave home jogging? (A: He hit a home run.)

When I told the story and used the word ‘home’ without giving you the full picture, I knew you would start thinking about a house, not home plate on a baseball field. But when you saw the picture, it gave you the key information you were missing and corrected your wrong thinking.

In the same way, the Bible gives us a bigger picture—important information we need to understand the world. If we don’t have a biblical picture of reality to start with, then the devil’s lies might fool us. But if we have a biblical worldview, then the devil’s lies will not so easily work on us.



Biblical worldview

A biblical worldview is like wearing a pair of glasses. When we know the Bible well, it helps us to see the truth about the world around us.

Illustration #4

How many of you wear glasses or contact lenses? How many of you have ever tried on somebody else’s glasses? What happens if you put on the wrong glasses? (A: It’s hard to

see.) That’s right. The world becomes less clear.

When you get to know the Bible, it is like putting on a pair of glasses with the perfect prescription! They help you to see the world clearly.

Do you remember, those of you who wear glasses, the first time you got them? (Allow students to answer.) If your vision is impaired, you may not even have realized that you saw a blurry picture instead of a clear one. But then, when you first got glasses, you were probably amazed at all the details that you missed before. Now, you were able to see the crisp, clear, individual blades of grass and individual leaves on a tree, instead of blurry green patches.

The Bible similarly helps us. When you get to know God’s Word, it helps you to see and understand our world correctly, not with eyes that distort the image. If we look at the world through the lens of Scripture, we will see the world as it truly is.



Review

What is the first way to guard the truth? (A: We train our brains to think like a Christian.) Good! We do not want to let the world shape our thinking. Let’s not let the world squeeze us into its mold or toss us about by wind and waves of false ideas. Instead, let’s put on our biblical glasses. Then we will not be led astray, but will develop a biblical worldview.

That leads to the next step we should take to guard the truth. We must ...



2. LEARN HIS STORY

A vital part of a biblical worldview is understanding what God has done in history. Since God is in charge of all things, somebody once said that history is really ‘His story’—the true story of how God is working out His plan over time. Knowing biblical history, or His story, helps us to figure out which beliefs about the world are true and which are false.



Biblical history

In fact, the Bible reveals God’s grand plan for the world by giving us a basic outline of history. That is, the Bible tells us what God has done in the past, some things He will do in the future, and even what roles we play within His plan. Here are the four most important events of history, according to the Bible:

1. CREATION
2. FALL
3. REDEMPTION
4. RESTORATION

Let’s spell these events out in a bit more detail.



1. **God created.** God made the whole universe in the beginning, including the first people, Adam and Eve.
2. **Man sinned.** Soon after creation, Adam and Eve rebelled against God, and their sin affected everything that was to follow. It separated them from God, and He told them that they would now have to die as a result.
3. **Jesus saved.** Much later, God took on human nature, lived a sinless life, and died on a cross to save us from our sins. The Gospel message is that Jesus the Saviour came to pay our debts, rescue us from the punishment we deserved, and make us clean in God's sight.
4. **God restores.** Based on what Jesus did, one day sin and death will be done away with completely, and God will restore the world to a state of perfection.

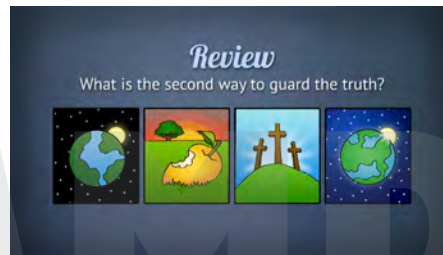


The entire message of the Bible hangs on the truth of that history. Even our **salvation** from sin and death depends on history. For example, if Adam and Eve had never sinned, we would not need a Saviour. Or, if the Saviour, Jesus, had not come to this earth, died

on a cross for our sins, and risen from the dead, we could not be saved.

Summary

The Bible's history is a key to understanding its message. That is why, starting in this lesson and throughout this course, we will walk through all of history as the Bible presents it, in order, from the beginning. This will help us to develop a Christian worldview and train our brains to think like a Christian about every part of reality.



Review

The first way to guard the truth is to train our brains to think like a Christian. What is the second way to guard the truth? (*A: Learn His story.*)

Let's also review the Bible's outline of history once more. If you recall, when I put these four pictures on the screen earlier, each had two words underneath—a person and an action. Which of you thinks you can remember those words and recite our four-part outline of biblical history for the group? (*Allow students to answer.*)

Answers:

1. God created
2. Man sinned
3. Jesus saved
4. God restores

(*Have the group recite this sequence aloud together with you several times.*)

This four-part history presents the Bible's big picture of 'His story'. In

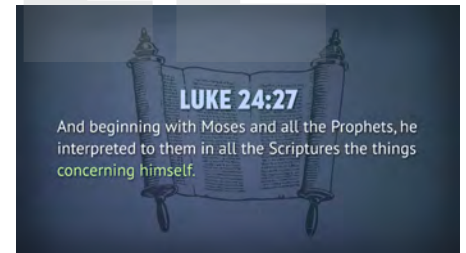
future lessons, we will be adding more events to this outline and filling in even more details of biblical history.



3. RECOGNIZE JESUS

As we learn about the Bible's history, it is important to understand that **all Scripture—both the Old and the New Testament—points to Jesus.** That is why we will conclude every lesson by explaining how we can recognize Jesus in what we have been studying.

Jesus Himself once showed some of His disciples how Scripture pointed to Him.



Luke 24:27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

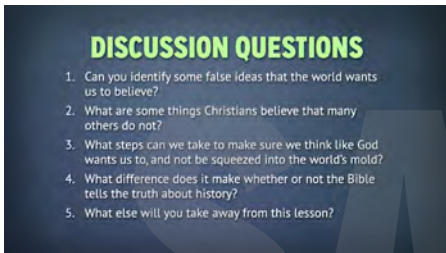
What does this verse mean when it says Jesus began "with Moses"? (*Allow students to answer.*) Do you know who wrote the first five books of the Bible? (*A: Moses*)

In this Bible study led by Jesus, He started from Genesis, the beginning of the Bible. Then He went right through the books in the Old Testament, including the Prophets, to show that the Bible was all about Him. Only the Old Testament had been written at the time that Jesus spoke, but clearly

the New Testament is all about Jesus as well. So all the books in the Bible point us to Jesus, the Saviour of the world!

Conclusion

It is exciting to learn about the Bible's history and how it points to Jesus. As we walk through the Bible together, I encourage you all to become 'guardians of truth'. Hold on to the things you learn, especially the truth about who Jesus is, because the truth about Jesus is a priceless truth.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Can you identify some false ideas that the world wants us to believe?
2. What are some things Christians believe that many others do not?
3. What steps can we take to make sure we think like God wants us to, and not be squeezed into the world's mold?
4. What difference does it make whether or not the Bible tells the truth about history?
5. What else will you take away from this lesson?

ACTIVITY: RAFFLE DRAWING

(Unscripted): Draw one unique name from each container to determine the raffle winners, and award them their prizes. If you wish, you may also award consolation prizes to the other

students, so that everyone goes home with something.

MASTER LEVEL

Memorize Romans 12:2.

GO DEEPER

Links for more information:

- **Why Bible history matters**
creation.com/bible-history
- **Truth decay**
creation.com/truth-decay

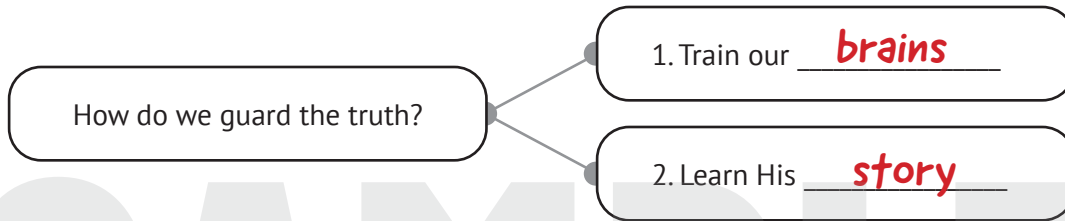
SAMPLE

Lesson 1

GUARDIANS OF TRUTH



What is more valuable than gold? truth



1. Train our brains

Draw lines to match each Bible verse reference to its summary sentence.

Romans 12:2	Don't listen to lies that go against God, but control your thoughts so you will obey Him.
2 Corinthians 10:5	Be careful so bad influences don't push you away from the truth. Become more like Jesus.
Ephesians 4:14-15	Don't be squeezed into the world's mold. Instead let God's Word transform your mind.

Being tricked:

Listen, then respond:

- Who were the masked men?
catcher & umpire
- Why did the man leave home jogging?
He hit a home run

When you saw the picture, it gave you key information that was missing. It corrected your wrong thinking.



They help you to see the world clearly.



It helps you see and understand our world correctly.

2. Learn His story

Fill in the blanks below the graphics below to record your own outline of Biblical history:



Creation:

God

created



Fall:

Man

sinned



Redemption:

Jesus

saved



Restoration:

God

restores

The entire message of the Bible hangs on the truth of history!



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+



=



Recognize Jesus!

All Scripture points to Jesus.

Master Level:

Memorize Romans 12:2.

Discussion Questions

1. Can you identify some false ideas that the world wants us to believe?
2. What are some things Christians believe that many others do not?
3. What steps can we take to make sure we think like God wants us to, and not be squeezed into the world's mold?
4. What difference does it make whether or not the Bible tells the truth about history?
5. What else will you take away from this lesson?



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