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Tyndale House Publishers and Wycliffe Bible Translators share the vision for an understandable, accurate translation of the Bible for every person in the world. Each sale of the *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, benefits Wycliffe Bible Translators. Wycliffe is working with partners around the world to accomplish Vision 2025—an initiative to start a Bible translation program in every language group that needs it by the year 2025.

CONTENTS

The Books of the BibleA4
The Books of the Bible in Alphabetical OrderA5
How to Use Your Boys Life Application Study Bible A6
A Note to Readers
Quick Answers IndexA10
AcknowledgmentsA23
Old Testament
New Testament
The Greatest Stories Reading Plan1511
I Survived Index
Is It OK? Index1519
Spotlight On Index1520
What Now? Index
Index to Charts1523
Index to Maps1524
Topical Index to Life Application Notes
Life Lessons Quick Reference List

FOUNDATIONS FOR YOUR FAITH

All About the Bible	1.1
The Bible's Big Story: Old Testament.	2.1
The Bible's Big Story: New Testament	3.1
Jesus the Son of God	4.1
First Steps to Following Jesus	5.1
How Can I Share What I Believe?	6.1
Faith Skills.	7.1
Life Skills	8.1

THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

The Old Testament

he O	ld Testamei
3	Genesis
66	Exodus
118	Leviticus
155	Numbers
207	Deuteronomy
249	Joshua
280	Judges
311	Ruth
317	1 Samuel
358	2 Samuel
391	1 Kings
428	2 Kings
466	1 Chronicles
504	2 Chronicles
548	Ezra
563	Nehemiah
583	Esther
595	Job
634	Psalms
732	Proverbs
770	Ecclesiastes
781	Song of Songs
789	Isaiah
869	Jeremiah
943	Lamentations
952	Ezekiel
1011	Daniel
1031	Hosea
1046	Joel
1052	Amos
1063	Obadiah
1067	Jonah Micab
111/1	NUCOD

- 1071 Micah
- 1080 Nahum

- 1084 Habakkuk
- 1089 Zephaniah
- 1094 Haggai
- 1098 Zechariah
- 1110 Malachi

The New Testament

Matthew 1119 1165 Mark 1195 Luke 1244 John 1281 Acts 1325 Romans 1346 1 Corinthians 2 Corinthians 1365 1379 Galatians **Ephesians** 1388 Philippians 1396 1403 Colossians 1410 1 Thessalonians 2 Thessalonians 1415 1418 1 Timothy 2 Timothy 1426 1432 Titus 1436 Philemon 1439 Hebrews 1455 lames 1462 1 Peter 1470 2 Peter 1474 1 John 1481 2 John 1483 3 John 1485 lude Revelation 1488

THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

- 1281 Acts
- 1052 Amos
 - 466 1 Chronicles
 - 504 2 Chronicles
- 1403 Colossians
- 1346 1 Corinthians
- 1365 2 Corinthians
- 1011 Daniel
 - 207 Deuteronomy
- 770 Ecclesiastes
- 1388 Ephesians
- 583 Esther
- 66 Exodus
- 952 Ezekiel
- 548 Ezra
- 1379 Galatians 3 Genesis
- 1084 Habakkuk
- 1094 Haggai
- 1439 Hebrews
- 1031 Hosea
- 789 Isaiah
- 1455 James
- 869 Jeremiah
- 595 Job
- 1046 Joel
- 1244 John
- 1474 1 John
- 1481 2 John
- 1483 3 John
- 1067 Jonah
- 249 loshua
- 1485 Jude

- 280 Judges
- 391 1 Kings
- 428 2 Kings
- 943 Lamentations
- 118 Leviticus
- 1195 Luke
- 1110 Malachi
- 1165 Mark
- 1119 Matthew
- 1071 Micah
- 1080 Nahum
 - 563 Nehemiah
 - 155 Numbers
- 1063 Obadiah
- 1462 1 Peter
- 1470 2 Peter
- 1436 Philemon
- 1396 Philippians
 - 732 Proverbs
 - 634 Psalms
- 1488 Revelation
- 1325 Romans
- 311 Ruth
- 317 1 Samuel
- 358 2 Samuel
- 781 Song of Songs
- 1410 1 Thessalonians
- 1415 2 Thessalonians
- 1418 1 Timothy
- 1426 2 Timothy
- 1432 Titus
- 1098 Zechariah
- 1089 Zephaniah

How to Use Your *Boys Life Application Study Bible*

GOD'S WORD is meant for you. Whatever your life situation is today, and whatever circumstances you may encounter in the future, God's Word is here to guide you, counsel you, encourage you, and help you. The features in this Bible are designed to help you connect with God's Word in a way that is meaningful, fresh, and fun!

SD GET READY FOR THE ADVENTURE THAT WILL LAST A LIFETIME getting to know God through his Word.

FOUNDATIONS FOR YOUR FAITH

Inside you will find eight Foundations for Your Faith full-color sections that are designed to help you learn about the Bible, understand the Bible's big story, meet Jesus and know what it means to follow him, learn how to share your faith with others, and gain practical skills for living out what you believe.

I SURVIVED

I SURVIVED!

As you encounter new experiences, feelings, and situations, it helps to know that someone else has made it through those very same circumstances—and survived! These personal survival stories, collected from older teens across the country, tell how they made it through the situations that you are facing or may soon face. Each story includes a Life Application note and additional Bible verses that you can look up to find out more about that topic. (Note: When you look up these additional verses, you will find a Life Application note or a What Now? feature accompanying each one. Be sure to read those as well!)

Check out the first one on page 69!

LIFE APPLICATION NOTES

The Life Application notes help explain specific Bible passages, show why they are important today, and help you apply them to your life.

Check out the first one on page 4!

TRUE WORTH (1:1-27) God created everything there is—the (11:-27) God retete everytning there is—nite heavens, earth, Jants, and animals. When God finished creating everything else, he then chose to make people in his image. This doesn't mean that God made us exactly like himself. It means that we are reflections of God's glory. We can reflect his characteristics, like love, patience, forgiveness, kindness, and faithfulness. our worth is not defined by possessions, achieve

Our worm is not aerined by possessions, achieve ments, physical attractiveness, or popularity. Instead, it is based on knowing that God created us in his likeness. Putting ourselves down is finding fault with what God has made. Because we are like God, we can feel good about ourselves and our abilities. Knowing that you are a person of infinite worth aives you the freedom to love God. know him

WHAT NNW?

SETBACKS

yler and Cody spent weeks working on their English project. Finally, they pulled everything together and made what Tyler thought was a fantastic poster. When Tyler walked into English class on their presentation day, he couldn't believe his eves! Cody looked horrified. "My little sister got into my room and 'colored' the poster," Cody whispered. "I'm sorry." Tyler was starting to panic. They couldn't turn in a scribbledup poster!

WHAT NOW?

Have you ever wondered what to do when life gets complicated and you are faced with making difficult decisions? These stories will take you through a variety of real-life situations in which someone must make a decision, then point you to Bible verses that relate to the situation. Each What Now? also includes a Life Application note on the verses it refers to. These notes will help you learn how to apply the Bible and make good choices in tough times.

Check out the first one on page 7!

IS IT OK?

Is it OK to avoid people who are different from you? Is it OK not to like your life? What about listening to certain types of music or dating? This feature is designed to give you a clear picture of what the Bible has to say about the questions that are really on your mind.

IS IT NK7

Check out the first one on page 8!

braham had a choice to God had called him to leave his home and move far away And all Abraham had to go on was God's promise to guide and bless him. Abraham had faith and chose to obey God. His decision set events in motion that would lead to the establishment of the nation of Israel and eventually to

SPOTLIGHT ON

This feature gives you a window into the lives of men in the Bible. Each one tells a story and includes a question to help you apply what you learn from their experiences to your life. You can respond right in your Bible by writing on the lines provided.

Check out the first one on page 19!

BOOK INTRODUCTIONS

These overviews give you a summary of each Bible book and also include key points that are covered in each book, key facts about each book (who, where, when, why), and a key verse from each book.

Check out the first one on page 3!

GENESIS

ave you ever turned on a TV in the middle of a show? You probably turned it off because you couldn't figure out what was going on. To fully understand the plot, you needed to see the beginning of the show.

That applies to the Bible, too. Genesis is the right place to begin if you want to know the plot. Why? Because Genesis means "beginnings." In Genesis you see the creation of the universe, the first sin, the beginning of God's plan to rescue this people from sin, and how the nation of Israel began.

how the nation of trade began. Genvis is the first place we learn about God's character. God dich't have a beginning, the has always existed. Charpters 1 and 2 abow his creativity and power, while charpter 3 reveals his holiness and judgment of sin. Through the story of Adam and Eve and their descendants, we see God's incredble love for his people even when they constantly disobey him.

As you read Genesis, what other beginnings do you see? How do those beginnings change how you view God? THEN GOD LODKED OVER ALL HE HAD MADE, AND HE SAW THAT IT WAS VERY GODD! SENESIS 1:31

KEY POINTS

EEGINNINGS Carresis intoduces Cod as Creator of all that people. All people was created in Golfs roon image. DisoBeDIENTES in neurols when people chosen their com way instand of oblying God. Adam and Eve learned this the hand way. Only God can revene the consequences of similal choices. PRIOMISES Cod promised to protect and provide for



LIFE LESSONS

Each book of the Bible has important lessons to teach us. The life lesson you find at the beginning of each book is one important idea to remember from that book. As you read each lesson, think about how you can apply it to your life! Check out the first one on page 5!

MEMORY VERSES

Throughout this Bible you will notice places where the Scripture text is highlighted and has a star next to it. Try to memorize these important verses. This is a way to let God's Word fill your life (see Colossians 3:16).

Check out the first one on page 4!

this would happen while we were still in Egypt? We said, 'Leave us alone! Let us be slaves to the Egyptians. It's better to be a slave in Egypt than a corpse in the wilderness!"

¹³But Moses told the people, "Don't be afraid. Just stand still and watch the LORD rescue you today. The Egyptians you see today will never be seen again. "The LORD himself will fight for you. Just stay calm."

ESCAPE THROUGH THE RED SEA

¹⁵Then the LorD said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to me? Tell the people to get moving! ¹⁶Pick up your staff and raise your hand over the sea. Divide the water so the Israelites can walk through the middle of the sea on dry ground.



CHARTS AND MAPS

Be on the lookout for special maps to help you locate important Bible places and charts to help you visualize big ideas.

Check out the first chart on page 5! Check out the first map on page 15!

A NOTE TO READERS

The *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, was first published in 1996. It quickly became one of the most popular Bible translations in the English-speaking world. While the NLT's influence was rapidly growing, the Bible Translation Committee determined that an additional investment in scholarly review and text refinement could make it even better. So shortly after its initial publication, the committee began an eight-year process with the purpose of increasing the level of the NLT's precision without sacrificing its easy-to-understand quality. This second-generation text was completed in 2004, with minor changes subsequently introduced in 2007, 2013, and 2015.

The goal of any Bible translation is to convey the meaning and content of the ancient Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek texts as accurately as possible to contemporary readers. The challenge for our translators was to create a text that would communicate as clearly and powerfully to today's readers as the original texts did to readers and listeners in the ancient biblical world. The resulting translation is easy to read and understand, while also accurately communicating the meaning and content of the original biblical texts. The NLT is a general-purpose text especially good for study, devotional reading, and reading aloud in worship services.

We believe that the New Living Translation—which combines the latest biblical scholarship with a clear, dynamic writing style will communicate God's word powerfully to all who read it. We publish it with the prayer that God will use it to speak his timeless truth to the church and the world in a fresh, new way.

The Publishers

A full introduction to the NLT can be found at www.TheNLT.com/NLTintro. A complete list of the translators can be found at www.TheNLT.com/scholars.

QUICK ANSWERS INDEX

Looking for answers to important questions? Check out the Scriptures under each topic.

ABILITIES

Matthew 25:14-30	1157
Luke 12:48	1224
1 Corinthians 12	1358
1 Timothy 4:14-16	1422
(see also POTENTIAL)	

ADVICE

Psalm 16:7-8
Psalm 25:4-7
Psalm 119:105
Proverbs 3
Proverbs 13:10, 13
(see also believing in God, future, God's will,
PRAYER)

ANGELS

Matthew 18:10.								.1147
Acts 12:5-7								.1298

ANGER

Numbers 22:29
1 Kings 21:4-10
Proverbs 12:16
Mark 3:5-6
John 2:13-17
Romans 1:18-32
James 3:5-6
(see also hatred, revenge)

APPEARANCE

Proverbs 19:22	.754
Matthew 6:25-34	1129
Matthew 22:11-12	1153
1 Timothy 2:8-10	1420
1 Peter 3:1-5	1466

APPROVAL

Joshua 23:12-14		. 277
Matthew 10:32-33	'	1135
John 5:41-42	'	1252
John 7:18	'	1256
Acts 5:29		1288

ATTITUDES

Exodus 14:11-14	. 84
Numbers 13:25–14:38	173
Numbers 16:41-50	180
Proverbs 15:13-15	749
Matthew 5:3-12	124
(see also thankfulness)	

AUTHORITY

udges 21:23-25
Proverbs 21:1
Matthew 28:18
Romans 13:1-7
Ephesians 5:22-32
Ephesians 6:1-3
1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 1414
(see also marriage, parents)

BELIEVING IN GOD

Genesis 15:6
2 Kings 5:13-15
Luke 12:8-91222
ohn 20:24-31
Romans 1:18-20
Romans 10:9-10
(see also advice, bible, eternal life/salva-
TION, GOD'S WILL, OBEDIENCE, PRAYER, TIME WITH
30D)

BIBLE

Deuteronomy 17:18-20
2 Kings 22
Psalm 119
Matthew 4:1-11
John 20:30-31
Romans 1:16-17
2 Timothy 2:151428
2 Peter 1:16-211471
1 John 2:1-17
Revelation 22:18-19
($see \ also$ advice, god's will, time with god)

OLD TESTAMENT ***

GENESIS

ave you ever turned on a TV in the middle of a show? You probably turned it off because you couldn't figure out what was going on. To fully understand the plot, you needed to see the beginning of the show.

That applies to the Bible, too. Genesis is the right place to begin if you want to know the plot. Why? Because Genesis means "beginnings." In Genesis you see the creation of the universe, the first sin, the beginning of God's plan to rescue his people from sin, and how the nation of Israel began.

Genesis is the first place we learn about God's character. God didn't have a beginning. He has always existed. Chapters 1 and 2 show his creativity and power, while chapter 3 reveals his holiness and judgment of sin. Through the story of Adam and Eve and their descendants, we see God's incredible love for his people even when they constantly disobey him.

As you read Genesis, what other beginnings do you see? How do those beginnings change how you view God?

WHO Adam, Eve, Cain, Abel, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Lot, Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob, Esau, Joseph, and many others.

WHERE Genesis begins with the story of Adam and Eve. Their story takes place in the Garden of Eden. Other stories in Genesis take place in the parts of the world that today are called Iraq, Israel, and Egypt.

WHEN Moses probably wrote this book between 1450 and 1410 BC while leading God's people to the Promised Land of Israel.

WHY To tell about God's creation of the world and to show that God wants people to worship and obey him.

THEN GOD LOOKED OVER ALL HE HAD MADE, AND HE SAW THAT IT WAS VERY GOOD!

GENESIS 1:31

KEY POINTS

BEGINNINGS Genesis introduces God as Creator of all that exists, from planets to plants to people. All people were created in God's own image.

DISOBEDIENCE Sin results when people choose their own way instead of obeying God. Adam and Eve learned this the hard way. Only God can reverse the consequences of sinful choices.

PROMISES God promised to protect and provide for his people. He made specific promises known as *covenants*, which are binding agreements. God made a covenant with his people as a guarantee of what they could expect from him.

OBEDIENCE AND PROSPERITY

Obedience to God keeps our relationship with him intact and causes us to prosper like Abraham. Prosperity doesn't necessarily mean wealth or other material possessions. Rather, true prosperity means living life as God created it to be lived—in his presence.

4 // GENESIS 1

THE ACCOUNT OF CREATION

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.* ²The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.

³Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. Then he separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light "day" and the darkness "night."

And evening passed and morning came, marking the first day.

⁶Then God said, "Let there be a space between the waters, to separate the waters of the heavens from the waters of the earth." ⁷And that is what happened. God made this space to separate the waters of the earth from the waters of the heavens. ⁸God called the space "sky."

And evening passed and morning came, marking the second day.

⁹Then God said, "Let the waters beneath the sky flow together into one place, so dry ground may appear." And that is what happened. ¹⁰God called the dry ground "land" and the waters "seas." And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, "Let the land sprout with vegetation—every sort of seed-bearing plant, and trees that grow seed-bearing fruit. These seeds will then produce the kinds of plants

TRUE WORTH

(1:1-27) God created everything there is—the heavens, earth, plants, and animals. When God finished creating everything else, he then chose to make people in his image. This doesn't mean that God made us exactly like himself. It means that we are reflections of God's glory. We can reflect his characteristics, like love, patience, forgiveness, kindness, and faithfulness.

Our worth is not defined by possessions, achievements, physical attractiveness, or popularity. Instead, it is based on knowing that God created us in his likeness. Putting ourselves down is finding fault with what God has made. Because we are like God, we can feel good about ourselves and our abilities. Knowing that you are a person of infinite worth gives you the freedom to love God, know him personally, and make a valuable contribution to the lives of those around you. and trees from which they came." And that is what happened. ¹²The land produced vegetation—all sorts of seed-bearing plants, and trees with seed-bearing fruit. Their seeds produced plants and trees of the same kind. And God saw that it was good.

¹³And evening passed and morning came, marking the third day.

¹⁴Then God said, "Let lights appear in the sky to separate the day from the night. Let them be signs to mark the seasons, days, and years. ¹⁵Let these lights in the sky shine down on the earth." And that is what happened. ¹⁶God made two great lights—the larger one to govern the day, and the smaller one to govern the night. He also made the stars. ¹⁷God set these lights in the sky to light the earth, ¹⁸to govern the day and night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

¹⁹And evening passed and morning came, marking the fourth day.

²⁰Then God said, "Let the waters swarm with fish and other life. Let the skies be filled with birds of every kind." ²¹So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that scurries and swarms in the water, and every sort of bird—each producing offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²Then God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply. Let the fish fill the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth."

²³And evening passed and morning came, marking the fifth day.

²⁴Then God said, "Let the earth produce every sort of animal, each producing offspring of the same kind—livestock, small animals that scurry along the ground, and wild animals." And that is what happened. ²⁵God made all sorts of wild animals, livestock, and small animals, each able to produce offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good.

^{1:1} Or In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ... Or When God began to create the heavens and the earth, ...

GENESIS 2 // 5

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make human beings* in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth,* and the small animals that scurry along the ground."

²⁷ So God created human beings* in his own image.

In the image of God he created them;

male and female he created them.

²⁸Then God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground."

²⁹Then God said, "Look! I have given you every seed-bearing plant throughout the earth and all the fruit trees for your food. ³⁰And I have given every green plant as food for all the wild animals, the birds in the sky, and the small animals that scurry along the ground—everything that has life." And that is what happened.

³¹Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good!

And evening passed and morning came, marking the sixth day.

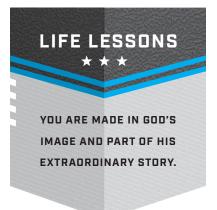
2 So the creation of the heavens and the earth and everything in them was completed. ²On the seventh day God had finished his work of creation, so he rested* from all his work. ³And God blessed the seventh day and declared it holy, because it was the day when he rested from all his work of creation.

⁴This is the account of the creation of the heavens and the earth.

THE MAN AND WOMAN IN EDEN

When the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, ⁵neither wild plants nor grains were growing on the earth. For the

1:26a Or man; Hebrew reads adam. 1:26b As in Syriac version; Hebrew reads all the earth. 1:27 Or the man; Hebrew reads ha-adam. 2:2 Or ceased; also in 2:3. 2:6 Or mist.



LORD God had not yet sent rain to water the earth, and there were no people to cultivate the soil. ⁶Instead, springs* came up from the ground and watered all the land. ⁷Then the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground. He breathed the breath of life into the man's nostrils, and the man became a living person.

⁸Then the LORD God planted a garden in Eden in the east, and there he placed the man he had made. ⁹The LORD God made all sorts of trees grow up from the ground—trees that were beautiful and that produced delicious fruit. In the middle of the garden he placed the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

DAYS OF CREATION

DAY	1: Light (so there was light and
	darkness)
DAY	2: Sky and water
DAY	3: Seas and land
DAY	4: Sun, moon, and stars
DAY	5: Fish and birds
DAY	6: Animals, man and woman
DAY	7: God rested and was pleased
-	

¹⁰A river flowed from the land of Eden, watering the garden and then dividing into four branches. ¹¹The first branch, called the Pishon, flowed around the

6 // GENESIS 3

entire land of Havilah, where gold is found. ¹²The gold of that land is exceptionally pure; aromatic resin and onyx stone are also found there. ¹³The second branch, called the Gihon, flowed around the entire land of Cush. ¹⁴The third branch, called the Tigris, flowed east of the land of Asshur. The fourth branch is called the Euphrates.

¹⁵The LORD God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it. ¹⁶But the LORD God warned him, "You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden—¹⁷except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die."

¹⁸Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him." ¹⁹So the LORD God formed from the ground all the wild animals and all the birds of the sky. He brought them to the man* to see what he would call them, and the man chose a name for each one. ²⁰He gave names to all the livestock, all the birds of the sky, and all the wild animals. But still there was no helper just right for him.

²¹So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep. While the man slept, the LORD God took out one of the man's ribs* and closed up the opening. ²²Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib, and he brought her to the man.

²³"At last!" the man exclaimed.

"This one is bone from my bone, and flesh from my flesh! She will be called 'woman,' because she was taken from 'man.'"

²⁴This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.

²⁵Now the man and his wife were both naked, but they felt no shame.

THE MAN AND WOMAN SIN

The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the LORD God had made. One day he asked the woman, "Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?"

²"Of course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden," the woman replied.

³"It's only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God said, 'You must not eat it or even touch it; if you do, you will die.'"

⁴"You won't die!" the serpent replied to the woman. ⁵"God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil."

⁶The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too. ⁷At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves.

⁸When the cool evening breezes were blowing, the man* and his wife heard the LORD God walking about in the garden. So they hid from the LORD God among the trees. ⁹Then the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

¹⁰He replied, "I heard you walking in the garden, so I hid. I was afraid because I was naked."

¹¹"Who told you that you were naked?" the LORD God asked. "Have you eaten from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat?"

¹²The man replied, "It was the woman you gave me who gave me the fruit, and I ate it."

¹³ Then the LORD God asked the woman, "What have you done?"

"The serpent deceived me," she replied. "That's why I ate it."

¹⁴Then the LORD God said to the serpent,

- "Because you have done this, you are cursed
 - more than all animals, domestic and wild.

You will crawl on your belly, groveling in the dust as long as

you live.

¹⁵ And I will cause hostility between you and the woman,

2:19 Or *Adam*, and so throughout the chapter. **2:21** Or *took a part of the man's side*. **3:8** Or *Adam*, and so throughout the chapter.



THE VIDEO GAME

itchell had invited his friends to stay over Friday night in the downstairs family room of his house. After Mitchell's parents went to bed, Peter said, "Hey, I brought a video game we can play." Mitchell looked at the game. "This is rated *M*," Mitchell said. "I'm not allowed to play *M*-rated games." Peter answered, "Oh, come on. My older brother gave it to me. He said it's awesome!" Mitchell thought, *Well, it does look pretty cool*. The other guys were up for it, and Mitchell didn't want them to think he was lame. His parents would never know.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO? CHECK OUT GENESIS 3:1-7.

Satan tempted Eve and succeeded in getting her to sin. How could Eve have resisted temptation? By following the same guidelines we can follow: (1) Pray for strength to resist, (2) say no to things we know are wrong, and (3) run—sometimes literally! James 1:12 says that God blesses those who don't give in when tempted.

and between your offspring and her offspring. He will strike* your head, and you will strike his heel."

3:15 Or bruise; also in 3:15b. 3:16 Or And though you will have desire for your husband, / he will rule over you. 3:20 Eve sounds like a Hebrew term that means "to give life." 3:22 Or the man; Hebrew reads ha-adam. 4:1a Or the man; also in 4:25. 4:1b Or I have acquired. Cain sounds like a Hebrew term that can mean "produce" or "acquire." ¹⁶Then he said to the woman,

- "I will sharpen the pain of your pregnancy,
- and in pain you will give birth. And you will desire to control your husband,

but he will rule over you.*"

- ¹⁷And to the man he said,
 - "Since you listened to your wife and ate from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat.
 - the ground is cursed because of you. All your life you will struggle to scratch a living from it.
- ¹⁸ It will grow thorns and thistles for you, though you will eat of its grains.
- ¹⁹ By the sweat of your brow will you have food to eat until you return to the ground from which you were made. For you were made from dust, and to dust you will return."

PARADISE LOST: GOD'S JUDGMENT

²⁰Then the man—Adam—named his wife Eve, because she would be the mother of all who live.* ²¹And the LORD God made clothing from animal skins for Adam and his wife.

²²Then the LORD God said, "Look, the human beings* have become like us, knowing both good and evil. What if they reach out, take fruit from the tree of life, and eat it? Then they will live forever!" ²³So the LORD God banished them from the Garden of Eden, and he sent Adam out to cultivate the ground from which he had been made. ²⁴After sending them out, the LORD God stationed mighty cherubim to the east of the Garden of Eden. And he placed a flaming sword that flashed back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

CAIN AND ABEL

4 Now Adam* had sexual relations with his wife, Eve, and she became pregnant. When she gave birth to Cain, she said, "With the LORD's help, I have produced* a man!" ²Later she gave birth to his brother and named him Abel.

When they grew up, Abel became

8 // GENESIS 4

a shepherd, while Cain cultivated the ground. ³When it was time for the harvest, Cain presented some of his crops as a gift to the LORD. ⁴Abel also brought a gift—the best portions of the firstborn lambs from his flock. The LORD accepted Abel and his gift, ⁵but he did not accept Cain and his gift. This made Cain very angry, and he looked dejected.

⁶"Why are you so angry?" the LORD asked Cain. "Why do you look so dejected? ⁷You will be accepted if you do what is right. But if you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you. But you must subdue it and be its master."

⁸One day Cain suggested to his brother, "Let's go out into the fields."* And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother, Abel, and killed him.

⁹Afterward the LORD asked Cain, "Where is your brother? Where is Abel?"

"I don't know," Cain responded. "Am I my brother's guardian?"

¹⁰But the LORD said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground! ¹¹Now you are cursed and banished from the ground, which has swallowed your brother's blood. ¹²No longer will the ground yield good crops for you, no matter how hard you work! From now on you will be a homeless wanderer on the earth."

¹³Cain replied to the LORD, "My punishment* is too great for me to bear! ¹⁴You have banished me from the land and from your presence; you have made me a homeless wanderer. Anyone who finds me will kill me!"

¹⁵The LORD replied, "No, for I will give a sevenfold punishment to anyone who kills you." Then the LORD put a mark on Cain to warn anyone who might try to kill him. ¹⁶So Cain left the LORD's presence and settled in the land of Nod,* east of Eden.

THE DESCENDANTS OF CAIN

¹⁷Cain had sexual relations with his wife, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Enoch. Then Cain founded a city, which he named Enoch, after his son. ¹⁸Enoch had a son named Irad. Irad became the father of * Mehujael. Mehujael became the father of Methushael. Methushael became the father of Lamech.

¹⁹Lamech married two women. The first was named Adah, and the second was Zillah. ²⁰Adah gave birth to Jabal, who was the first of those who raise livestock and live in tents. ²¹His brother's name was Jubal, the first of all who play the harp and flute. ²²Lamech's other wife, Zillah, gave birth to a son named Tubal-cain. He became an expert in forging tools of bronze and iron. Tubal-cain had a sister named Naamah. ²³One day Lamech said to his wives,

"Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; listen to me, you wives of Lamech. I have killed a man who attacked me, a young man who wounded me.

²⁴ If someone who kills Cain is punished seven times, then the one who kills me will be punished seventy-seven times!"

THE BIRTH OF SETH

²⁵Adam had sexual relations with his wife again, and she gave birth to another son. She named him Seth,* for she said, "God has granted me another son in place of Abel, whom Cain killed."

4:8 As in Samaritan Pentateuch, Greek and Syriac versions, and Latin Vulgate; Masoretic Text lacks "*Let's* go *out into the fields.*" **4:13** Or *My sin.* **4:16** *Nod* means "wandering." **4:18** Or *the ancestor of*, and so throughout the verse. **4:25** Seth probably means "granted"; the name may also mean "appointed."

IS IT OK IF I MOPE AROUND?

oes God really care if you have a bad attitude? Take a look at Genesis 4:6-7. Cain was a walking bad attitude. He didn't care what others thought, and he certainly didn't try to correct his attitude problem. But look at God's warning. A bad attitude is the first step toward bigger, uglier problems. Does your attitude need adjusting?



²⁶When Seth grew up, he had a son and named him Enosh. At that time people first began to worship the LORD by name.

THE DESCENDANTS OF ADAM

5 This is the written account of the descendants of Adam. When God created human beings,* he made them to be like himself. ²He created them male and female, and he blessed them and called them "human."

- ³When Adam was 130 years old, he became the father of a son who was just like him—in his very image. He named his son Seth. ⁴After the birth of Seth, Adam lived another 800 years, and he had other sons and daughters. ⁵Adam lived 930 years, and then he died.
- ⁶When Seth was 105 years old, he became the father of* Enosh. ⁷After the birth of* Enosh, Seth lived another 807 years, and he had other sons and daughters. ⁸Seth lived 912 years, and then he died.
- ⁹When Enosh was 90 years old, he became the father of Kenan. ¹⁰After the birth of Kenan, Enosh lived another 815 years, and he had other sons and daughters. ¹¹Enosh lived 905 years, and then he died.
- ¹²When Kenan was 70 years old, he became the father of Mahalalel.
 ¹³After the birth of Mahalalel, Kenan lived another 840 years, and he had other sons and daughters. ¹⁴Kenan lived 910 years, and then he died.
- ¹⁵When Mahalalel was 65 years old, he became the father of Jared. ¹⁶After the birth of Jared, Mahalalel lived another 830 years, and he had other sons and daughters. ¹⁷Mahalalel lived 895 years, and then he died.
- ¹⁸When Jared was 162 years old, he became the father of Enoch. ¹⁹After the birth of Enoch, Jared lived another 800 years, and he had other sons and daughters. ²⁰Jared lived 962 years, and then he died.

- ²¹When Enoch was 65 years old, he became the father of Methuselah.
 ²²After the birth of Methuselah, Enoch lived in close fellowship with God for another 300 years, and he had other sons and daughters.
 ²³Enoch lived 365 years, ²⁴walking in close fellowship with God. Then one day he disappeared, because God took him.
- ²⁵When Methuselah was 187 years old, he became the father of Lamech.
 ²⁶After the birth of Lamech, Methuselah lived another 782 years, and he had other sons and daughters.
 ²⁷Methuselah lived 969 years, and then he died.
- ²⁸When Lamech was 182 years old, he became the father of a son. ²⁹Lamech named his son Noah, for he said, "May he bring us relief* from our work and the painful labor of farming this ground that the LORD has cursed." ³⁰After the birth of Noah, Lamech lived another 595 years, and he had other sons and daughters. ³¹Lamech lived 777 years, and then he died.
- ³²After Noah was 500 years old, he became the father of Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

A WORLD GONE WRONG

Then the people began to multiply on the earth, and daughters were born to them. ²The sons of God saw the beautiful women* and took any they wanted as their wives. ³Then the LORD said, "My Spirit will not put up with* humans for such a long time, for they are only mortal flesh. In the future, their normal lifespan will be no more than 120 years."

⁴In those days, and for some time after, giant Nephilites lived on the earth, for whenever the sons of God had intercourse with women, they gave birth to children who became the heroes and famous warriors of ancient times.

⁵The LORD observed the extent of human wickedness on the earth, and he saw that everything they thought or imagined was consistently and totally evil. ⁶So the LORD was sorry he had ever made them and put them on the earth. It broke his heart. ⁷And the LORD said, "I will wipe this human race I have created

^{5:1} Or man; Hebrew reads adam; similarly in 5:2. 5:6 Or the ancestor of: also in 5;9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 25. 5:7 Or the birth of this ancestor of; also in 5:10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 26. 5:29 Noah sounds like a Hebrew term that can mean "relief" or "comfort." 6:2 Hebrew daughters of men; also in 6:4. 6:3 Greek version reads will not remain in.

10 // GENESIS 7

from the face of the earth. Yes, and I will destroy every living thing—all the people, the large animals, the small animals that scurry along the ground, and even the birds of the sky. I am sorry I ever made them." ⁸But Noah found favor with the LORD.

THE STORY OF NOAH

⁹This is the account of Noah and his family. Noah was a righteous man, the only blameless person living on earth at the time, and he walked in close fellowship with God. ¹⁰Noah was the father of three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

¹¹Now God saw that the earth had become corrupt and was filled with violence. ¹²God observed all this corruption in the world, for everyone on earth was corrupt. ¹³So God said to Noah, "I have decided to destroy all living creatures, for they have filled the earth with violence. Yes, I will wipe them all out along with the earth!

¹⁴ "Build a large boat* from cypress wood* and waterproof it with tar, inside and out. Then construct decks and stalls throughout its interior. ¹⁵Make the boat 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high.* ¹⁶Leave an 18-inch opening* below the roof all the way around the boat. Put the door on the side, and build three decks inside the boat—lower, middle, and upper.

¹⁷"Look! I am about to cover the earth with a flood that will destroy every living thing that breathes. Everything on earth will die. ¹⁸But I will confirm my covenant with you. So enter the boat—you and your wife and your sons and their wives. ¹⁹Bring a pair of every kind of animal—a

WHY WORRY?

(7:13-16) How did this animal kingdom roundup happen? Did Noah and his sons spend years collecting them? Actually, God took care of that job while Noah and his sons were building the boat. They didn't have to worry about how the animals would arrive. Often we do just the opposite of Noah. We worry about details in our lives over which we have no control, while neglecting specific areas (such as attitudes, relationships, responsibilities) that are under our control. What task has God given you? What aspects of your life seem out of your control? Concentrate on what God has given you to do, and leave the rest to him. male and a female—into the boat with you to keep them alive during the flood. ²⁰Pairs of every kind of bird, and every kind of animal, and every kind of small animal that scurries along the ground, will come to you to be kept alive. ²¹And be sure to take on board enough food for your family and for all the animals."

²²So Noah did everything exactly as God had commanded him.

THE FLOOD COVERS THE EARTH

When everything was ready, the LORD said to Noah, "Go into the boat with all your family, for among all the people of the earth, I can see that vou alone are righteous. ²Take with you seven pairs-male and female-of each animal I have approved for eating and for sacrifice,* and take one pair of each of the others. 3Also take seven pairs of every kind of bird. There must be a male and a female in each pair to ensure that all life will survive on the earth after the flood. ⁴Seven days from now I will make the rains pour down on the earth. And it will rain for forty days and forty nights, until I have wiped from the earth all the living things I have created."

⁵So Noah did everything as the LORD commanded him.

⁶Noah was 600 years old when the flood covered the earth. ⁷He went on board the boat to escape the flood—he and his wife and his sons and their wives. ⁸With them were all the various kinds of animals—those approved for eating and for sacrifice and those that were not along with all the birds and the small animals that scurry along the ground. ⁹They entered the boat in pairs, male and female, just as God had commanded Noah. ¹⁰After seven days, the waters of the flood came and covered the earth.

¹¹When Noah was 600 years old, on the seventeenth day of the second month, all the underground waters erupted from the earth, and the rain fell in mighty torrents from the sky. ¹²The rain continued to fall for forty days and forty nights.

¹³That very day Noah had gone into

^{6:14}a Traditionally rendered an ark. 6:14b Or gopher wood. 6:15 Hebrew 300 cubits [138 meters] long, 50 cubits [23 meters] wide, and 30 cubits [13.8 meters] high. 6:16 Hebrew an opening of 1 cubit [46 centimeters]. 7:2 Hebrew of each clean animal; similarly in 7:8.

the boat with his wife and his sons— Shem, Ham, and Japheth—and their wives. ¹⁴With them in the boat were pairs of every kind of animal—domestic and wild, large and small—along with birds of every kind. ¹⁵Two by two they came into the boat, representing every living thing that breathes. ¹⁶A male and female of each kind entered, just as God had commanded Noah. Then the LORD closed the door behind them.

¹⁷For forty days the floodwaters grew deeper, covering the ground and lifting the boat high above the earth. ¹⁸As the waters rose higher and higher above the ground, the boat floated safely on the surface. ¹⁹Finally, the water covered even the highest mountains on the earth. ²⁰rising more than twenty-two feet* above the highest peaks. ²¹All the living things on earth died-birds, domestic animals, wild animals, small animals that scurry along the ground, and all the people. ²²Everything that breathed and lived on dry land died. 23 God wiped out every living thing on the earth-people, livestock, small animals that scurry along the ground, and the birds of the sky. All were destroyed. The only people who survived were Noah and those with him in the boat. 24And the floodwaters covered the earth for 150 days.

THE FLOOD RECEDES

But God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and livestock with him in the boat. He sent a wind to blow across the earth, and the floodwaters began to recede. ²The underground waters stopped flowing, and the torrential rains from the sky were stopped. ³So the floodwaters gradually receded from the earth. After 150 days, ⁴exactly five months from the time the flood began,* the boat came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. ⁵Two and a half months later,* as the waters continued to go down, other mountain peaks became visible.

⁶After another forty days, Noah opened the window he had made in the

boat ⁷and released a raven. The bird flew back and forth until the floodwaters on the earth had dried up. 8He also released a dove to see if the water had receded and it could find dry ground. 9But the dove could find no place to land because the water still covered the ground. So it returned to the boat, and Noah held out his hand and drew the dove back inside. ¹⁰After waiting another seven days, Noah released the dove again. 11 This time the dove returned to him in the evening with a fresh olive leaf in its beak. Then Noah knew that the floodwaters were almost gone. ¹²He waited another seven days and then released the dove again. This time it did not come back.

¹³Noah was now 601 years old. On the first day of the new year, ten and a half months after the flood began,* the floodwaters had almost dried up from the earth. Noah lifted back the covering of the boat and saw that the surface of the ground was drying. ¹⁴Two more months went by,* and at last the earth was dry!

¹⁵Then God said to Noah, ¹⁶"Leave the boat, all of you—you and your wife, and your sons and their wives. ¹⁷Release all the animals—the birds, the livestock, and the small animals that scurry along the ground—so they can be fruitful and multiply throughout the earth."

¹⁸So Noah, his wife, and his sons and their wives left the boat. ¹⁹And all of the large and small animals and birds came out of the boat, pair by pair.

²⁰Then Noah built an altar to the LORD, and there he sacrificed as burnt offerings the animals and birds that had been approved for that purpose.* ²¹And the LORD was pleased with the aroma of the sacrifice and said to himself, "I will never again curse the ground because of the human race, even though everything they think or imagine is bent toward evil from childhood. I will never again destroy all living things. ²²As long as the earth remains, there will be planting and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night."

GOD CONFIRMS HIS COVENANT

9 Then God blessed Noah and his sons and told them, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth. ²All the animals

^{7:20} Hebrew 15 cubits [6.9 meters]. 8:4 Hebrew on the seventeenth day of the seventh month; see 7:11. 8:5 Hebrew On the first day of the tenth month; see 7:11 and note on 8:4. 8:13 Hebrew On the first day of the first month; see 7:11. 8:14 Hebrew The twenty-seventh day of the second month arrived; see note on 8:13. 8:20 Hebrew every clean animal and every clean bird.

12 // GENESIS 10

of the earth, all the birds of the sky, all the small animals that scurry along the ground, and all the fish in the sea will look on you with fear and terror. I have placed them in your power. ³I have given them to you for food, just as I have given you grain and vegetables. ⁴But you must never eat any meat that still has the lifeblood in it.

⁵"And I will require the blood of anyone who takes another person's life. If a wild animal kills a person, it must die. And anyone who murders a fellow human must die. ⁶If anyone takes a human life, that person's life will also be taken by human hands. For God made human beings* in his own image. ⁷Now be fruitful and multiply, and repopulate the earth."

⁸Then God told Noah and his sons, ⁹"I hereby confirm my covenant with you and your descendants, ¹⁰and with all the animals that were on the boat with you the birds, the livestock, and all the wild animals—every living creature on earth. ¹¹Yes, I am confirming my covenant with you. Never again will floodwaters kill all living creatures; never again will a flood destroy the earth."

¹²Then God said, "I am giving you a sign of my covenant with you and with all living creatures, for all generations to come. ¹³I have placed my rainbow in the clouds. It is the sign of my covenant with you and with all the earth. 14When I send clouds over the earth, the rainbow will appear in the clouds, ¹⁵and I will remember my covenant with you and with all living creatures. Never again will the floodwaters destroy all life. 16 When I see the rainbow in the clouds. I will remember the eternal covenant between God and every living creature on earth." 17Then God said to Noah, "Yes, this rainbow is the sign of the covenant I am confirming with all the creatures on earth."

NOAH'S SONS

¹⁸The sons of Noah who came out of the boat with their father were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Ham is the father of Canaan.) ¹⁹From these three sons of Noah came all the people who now populate the earth.

20 After the flood, Noah began to culti-

vate the ground, and he planted a vineyard. ²¹One day he drank some wine he had made, and he became drunk and lay naked inside his tent. ²²Ham, the father of Canaan, saw that his father was naked and went outside and told his brothers. ²³Then Shem and Japheth took a robe, held it over their shoulders, and backed into the tent to cover their father. As they did this, they looked the other way so they would not see him naked.

²⁴When Noah woke up from his stupor, he learned what Ham, his youngest son, had done. ²⁵Then he cursed Canaan, the son of Ham:

"May Canaan be cursed!

May he be the lowest of servants to his relatives."

²⁶Then Noah said,

"May the LORD, the God of Shem, be blessed,

and may Canaan be his servant!

- 27 May God expand the territory of Japheth!
 - May Japheth share the prosperity of Shem,*

and may Canaan be his servant."

²⁸Noah lived another 350 years after the great flood. ²⁹He lived 950 years, and then he died.

10 This is the account of the families of Shem, Ham, and Japheth, the three sons of Noah. Many children were born to them after the great flood.

DESCENDANTS OF JAPHETH

- ²The descendants of Japheth were Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras.
- ³The descendants of Gomer were Ashkenaz, Riphath, and Togarmah.
- ⁴The descendants of Javan were Elishah, Tarshish, Kittim, and Rodanim.* ⁵Their descendants became the seafaring peoples that spread out to various lands, each identified by its own language, clan, and national identity.

^{9:6} Or man; Hebrew reads ha-adam. 9:27 Hebrew May he live in the tents of Shem. 10:4 As in some Hebrew manuscripts and Greek version (see also 1 Chr 1:7); most Hebrew manuscripts read Dodanim.

Now that you have this great new Bible, where do you start? You could open the Bible to just any old place and start reading. Or you could start at the beginning and keep going until you reach the end. But if these ideas sound a bit overwhelming, try this reading plan. It is designed to take you through key passages of the Bible in one year. As you read each entry, check it off to mark your progress throughout the year. You can start it at any time, so jump right in!

OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis 1:1–2:3	How It All Started	page 4	
Genesis 2:15-3:24	Adam and Eve	page 6	
Genesis 4:1-16	Cain and Abel	page 7	
Genesis 6:9-22	Noah Gets to Build a Boat	page 10	
Genesis 7:1-24	All Aboard!	page 10	
Genesis 8:1-22	A Long Wait	page 11	
Genesis 9:1-17	Rules and Rainbows	page 11	
Genesis 11:1-9	The Tower of Babel	page 13	
Genesis 12:1-9; 17:1-8	God's Promise to Abraham	pages 14; 19	
Genesis 18:1-15	Unusual Visitors	page 20	
Genesis 19:15-29	Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah	page 22	
Genesis 21:8-21	Hagar and Ishmael	page 24	
Genesis 22:1-19	Abraham's Painful Decision	page 25	
Genesis 24:1-27	A Man Named Eliezer	page 26	
Genesis 24:28-67	Isaac and Rebekah	page 27	
Genesis 25:19-34	Jacob and Esau	page 29	
Genesis 27:1-40	Jacob Tricks His Father	page 32	
Genesis 28:10-22	Jacob Meets God	page 34	
Genesis 29:14-30	Jacob's Marriages	page 35	
Genesis 32:1-33:16	Jacob Returns Home	page 40	
Genesis 37:1-36	Jacob's Children	page 46	
Genesis 39:1-23	Joseph in Trouble	page 49	
Genesis 40:1-23	Dreams in Prison	page 50	
Genesis 41:1-36	Dreams in the Palace	page 51	
Genesis 41:37-57	Joseph in Charge	page 52	
Genesis 42:1-38	Joseph Sees His Brothers Again	page 53	
Genesis 43:1-34	Back to Joseph	page 54	
Genesis 44:1-34	Crisis in the Palace	page 56	
Genesis 45:1-28	Finding a Lost Son	page 57	
Genesis 49:1-33	Jacob's Final Words	page 62	
Exodus 1:8–2:10	Moses Is Born	page 67	
Exodus 2:11-25	Moses on the Run	page 68	
Exodus 3:1-22	God's Burning Bush	page 68	
	-		

Exodus 4:1-17	Moses Isn't Sure	page 71	
Exodus 5:1-23	Resistance	page 72	
Exodus 6:1-13	Rejection	page 72	ŏ.
Exodus 7:1-14	A Stubborn Ruler	page 74	
Exodus 7:15–9:7	Five out of Ten Plagues	page 75	-
Exodus 9:9–10:29	Four More Plagues	page 77	
Exodus 11:1-10; 12:29-36	The Ultimate Plague	pages 80; 81	ö
Exodus 13:17–14:31	A Narrow Escape	page 83	
Exodus 15:22-27; 17:1-7	God Provides Water	pages 86; 88	ö
Exodus 16:1-36	God's Unusual Food Supply	page 86	
Exodus 18:1-27	Helpful Advice	page 88	ö
Exodus 19:1-25	An Appointment with God	page 90	
Exodus 20:1-22	The Ten Commandments	page 91	ö
Exodus 32:1-29	The Golden Calf	page 106	
Exodus 40	Instructions about God's Tent	page 100	- E
Numbers 12:1-16	Moses under Fire	page 171	
Numbers 13:1–14:4	Spying on the Promised Land	page 171 page 173	
Numbers 14:5–45	A Majority That Was Wrong	page 173	
Numbers 21:4-9	Another Hard Lesson	page 185	
Numbers 22:5-38	Balaam and His Donkey	page 185	
Deuteronomy 29:1-29	Moses Reviews God's Actions	page 180 page 240	÷.
Deuteronomy 30:1-20	Moses Challenges the People	page 240	
Deuteronomy 31:1-8	Moses Appoints New Leaders	page 241	
Deuteronomy 34:1-12	The Death of Moses	page 242 page 248	
Joshua 1:1-18	God Takes Over	page 240 page 250	÷.
Joshua 2:1-24	Spies Visit Jericho	page 250	
Joshua 3:1-17	The Invasion of Canaan		
Joshua 5:13–6:27	The Battle of Jericho	page 252 page 254	
Joshua 7:1-26	Ultimate Consequences	page 254	
Joshua 10:1-15	The Longest Day	page 250 page 261	
Joshua 23:1-16	Joshua Warns the Leaders	1 0	
Joshua 24:1-31	Joshua's Last Words	page 277 page 278	
Judges 4:4-24	Judge Deborah	page 278 page 285	
-	Gideon Becomes a Judge		
Judges 6:1-40	Gideon becomes a judge Gideon and the Midianites	page 289	
Judges 7:1-25	The Birth of Samson	page 291	
Judges 13:1-25	Samson's Riddle	page 298	
Judges 14:1-20	Samson and the Jawbone	page 299	
Judges 15:1-20	Samson and Delilah	page 300	
Judges 16:1-21		page 302	
Judges 16:22-31	Samson's Death	page 303	
Ruth 1:1-22	Ruth and Naomi—A Friendship	page 312	-
Ruth 2:1-23	Ruth Meets Boaz	page 313	
Ruth 3:1-18	Ruth Finds a Husband	page 315	-
Ruth 4:1-22	A Happy Ending	page 315	
1 Samuel 1:1-28	A Serious Prayer	page 318	
1 Samuel 3:1-21	God Calls Samuel	page 322	
1 Samuel 8:1-22	The People Want a King	page 326	-
1 Samuel 9:1-21	Saul and the Lost Donkeys	page 326	
1 Samuel 10:1-27	Saul Becomes King	page 327	

1 Samuel 12:1-25	Samuel Says Good-bye	page 330	
1 Samuel 14:1-23	A Son to Make a Father Proud	page 332	
1 Samuel 16:1-13	Samuel Appoints David	page 337	
1 Samuel 17:1-31	David and Goliath's Challenge	page 338	
1 Samuel 17:32-58	David Kills Goliath	page 339	
1 Samuel 18:1-30	Trouble between Saul and David	page 340	
1 Samuel 20:1-42	David and Jonathan	page 343	
1 Samuel 24:1-22	David Spares Saul's Life	page 348	
1 Samuel 25:1-42	David and Abigail	page 349	
1 Samuel 28:1-25	Saul and the Occult	page 353	
2 Samuel 5:1-12	David Becomes King over All Israel	page 363	
2 Samuel 9:1-13	The King's Kindness	page 368	
2 Samuel 11:1-27	David and Bathsheba	page 369	
2 Samuel 12:1-25	David and Nathan	page 371	
2 Samuel 13:1-19	Family Consequences of Sin	page 373	
2 Samuel 13:20-39	Family Revenge	page 373	
2 Samuel 15:1-37	Family Betrayal	page 375	
2 Samuel 18:1-18	The Death of Absalom	page 379	
1 Kings 1:5-27	Conflict over the Throne	page 392	
1 Kings 1:28-53	David Gives Solomon the Crown	page 393	
1 Kings 3:1-15	Solomon's Wisdom	page 396	
1 Kings 3:16-28	Solomon Solves a Problem	page 396	
1 Kings 6:1-38	Solomon Builds the Temple	page 399	
1 Kings 10:1-13	Solomon and the Queen of Sheba	page 406	
1 Kings 12:1-24	Solomon's Unwise Son	page 410	
1 Kings 17:1-24	God Takes Care of Elijah	page 418	
1 Kings 18:16-46	Elijah versus the Priests of Baal	page 419	
1 Kings 19:1-21	Spiritual Burnout	page 421	
1 Kings 21:1-29	The Stolen Vineyard	page 424	
1 Kings 22:29-40	The Death of King Ahab	page 426	
2 Kings 2:1-12	Elijah's Chariot	page 430	
2 Kings 2:13-25	Elisha's Miracles	page 430	
2 Kings 5:1-27	The Healing of Naaman	page 434	
2 Kings 11:1-21	The King Who Was Seven Years Old	page 443	
2 Kings 22:1–23:3	Discovery of the Lost Book	page 460	
Ezra 3:7-13	Rebuilding the Temple	page 552	
Nehemiah 2:1-20	Nehemiah Returns to Jerusalem	page 565	
Nehemiah 5:1-19	Nehemiah's Concern for the Poor	page 568	
Nehemiah 8:1-18	Reading God's Word	page 573	
Esther 1:1-22	The Fall of a Queen	page 584	
Esther 2:1-23	A Strange Way to Become Queen	page 585	
Esther 3:1-15	The Jews in Danger	page 586	
Esther 4:1-17	The Queen Decides to Help	page 587	
Esther 5:1-14	Esther Risks Her Life	page 588	
Esther 6:1–7:10	God Protects His People	page 590	
Job 1:1-22	The Testing of Job	page 596	
Job 2:1-13	Job and His Friends	page 597	
Job 38:1-41	God Speaks to Job	page 628	
Job 42:1-17	The Rest of Job's Story	page 632	

		<i>(</i>) -	_
Psalm 1:1-6	Two Kinds of Lives	page 635	
Psalm 8:1-9	The Values of Humans	page 638	
Psalm 23:1-6	A Sheep's Song	page 648	
Psalm 51:1-19	A Confession	page 667	
Psalm 103:1-22	What God Is Like	page 701	
Psalm 139:1-24	How Well God Knows Us	page 724	
Psalm 145:1-21	God for All People and Time	page 729	
Proverbs 4:1-27	Wise Words about Life	page 736	
Proverbs 5:1-23	Wise Words about Sex	page 737	
Ecclesiastes 12:1-14	A Summary of Life	page 779	
Isaiah 6:1-13	God Chooses Isaiah	page 796	
Isaiah 53	The Suffering Servant	page 852	
Jeremiah 1:1-9	God Calls a Prophet	page 870	
Jeremiah 36	The Book Burning	page 918	
Jeremiah 38:1-13	Jeremiah in the Well	page 920	
Ezekiel 37:1-14	A Valley of Dry Bones	page 995	
Daniel 1:1-21	Coping with Pressure to Conform	page 1012	
Daniel 2:1-24	A King's Dream	page 1013	
Daniel 2:25-49	The Meaning of the Dream	page 1014	
Daniel 3:1-30	Three Friends in a Furnace	page 1016	
Daniel 5:1-30	The Writing on the Wall	page 1019	
Daniel 6:1-28	Daniel and the Lions' Den	page 1021	
Jonah 1:1–2:10	Bending God's Directions	page 1068	
Jonah 3:1–4:11	Wrong Motives	page 1069	

NEW TESTAMENT

Luke 1:1-14; John 1:1-18	Beginnings	pages 1196; 1245	
Luke 1:5-25	The Angel and Zechariah	page 1196	
Luke 1:26-56	Mary and Elizabeth	page 1196	
Luke 1:57-80	John the Baptist Is Born	page 1198	
Matthew 1:1-25	A Family Tree	page 1120	
Luke 2:1-20	Jesus Is Born!	page 1199	
Luke 2:21-39	Jesus' First Trip to Church	page 1199	
Matthew 2:1-12	Foreign Visitors	page 1121	
Matthew 2:13-23	Escape and Return	page 1121	
Luke 2:41-52	Jesus in the Temple Again	page 1201	
Mark 1:1-13	Baptism and Temptation	page 1166	
John 1:19-34	John the Baptist and Jesus	page 1245	
John 1:35-51	Jesus' First Disciples	page 1246	
John 2:1-25	Jesus and Surprises	page 1247	
John 3:1-21	Jesus and Nicodemus	page 1247	
Luke 3:19-20; John 3:22-36	John Gets into Trouble	pages 1202; 1248	
John 4:1-42	Jesus Changes a Town	page 1248	
John 4:43-54	Jesus Preaching and Healing	page 1250	
Luke 4:16-30	Jesus Rejected	page 1204	
Mark 1:16-39	Jesus Calls People to Follow	page 1166	
Luke 5:1-36	Miracles and a Question	page 1205	

lohn 5:1-47	lasus Damanstratas I la la Cadía San	maga 1251	-
Mark 2:23–3:19	Jesus Demonstrates He Is God's Son	page 1251	
Matthew 5:1-16	Jesus and Disciples Jesus Gives the Beatitudes	page 1169 page 1124	H
Matthew 5:17-30	Jesus on Law, Anger and Lust	page 1124	
Matthew 5:31-48	Jesus on Relationships	page 1120 page 1127	н
Matthew 6:1-18	Jesus on Doing Good Things	page 1127	
Matthew 6:19-34	Jesus on Money and Worry	page 1128	H.
Matthew 7:1-12	Jesus on Criticizing and Praying	page 1128	
Matthew 7:13-29	How Jesus Looks at Us	page 1129 page 1130	н
Luke 7:1-17	•	1 0	
Matthew 11:1-30	Jesus and Foreigners Jesus Describes John	page 1209	H
	lesus and Women	page 1136	_
Luke 7:36–8:3	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	page 1211	
Matthew 12:22-50	Troubles for Jesus	page 1138	
Mark 4:1-29	Jesus Teaches about Seeds	page 1171	
Matthew 13:24-43	More of Jesus' Parables	page 1140	
Matthew 13:44-52	Even More Parables	page 1141	
Luke 8:22-56	Jesus in Control	page 1213	
Matthew 9:27-38	The Concerns of Jesus	page 1134	
Mark 6:1-13	Some Don't Listen; Some Need to Hear	1 5	
Matthew 10:16-42	Jesus Prepares His Disciples	page 1135	
Mark 6:14-29	Herod Kills John the Baptist	page 1174	
Matthew 14:13-36	Jesus: Cook, Water Walker, Healer	page 1142	
John 6:22-40	Jesus Is the Bread from Heaven	page 1254	
John 6:41-71	Jesus Criticized and Deserted	page 1255	
Mark 7:1-37	Jesus Teaches and Defines Purity	page 1176	
Matthew 15:32–16:12	Jesus Feeds and Warns	page 1144	
Mark 8:22–9:1	Peter Identifies Jesus	page 1178	
Luke 9:28-45	Jesus Is Transfigured	page 1215	
Matthew 17:24–18:6	Who's the Greatest?	page 1147	
Mark 9:38-50	Who's on Our Side?	page 1180	
Matthew 18:10-22	Jesus as He Teaches	page 1147	
John 7:1-31	Jesus Out in the Open	page 1256	
John 7:32-53	A Warrant for Jesus' Arrest	page 1257	
John 8:1-20	Jesus: Forgiveness and Light	page 1258	
John 8:21-59	Jesus: Giver of Freedom	page 1258	
Luke 10:1-24	Jesus Sends Seventy Messengers	page 1217	
Luke 10:25-42	Jesus Tells a Story and Visits Friends	page 1218	
Luke 11:1-13	Jesus Teaches about Prayer	page 1219	
Luke 11:14-32	Accusations and Unbelief	page 1220	
Luke 11:33-54	Real Spirituality versus Unreal	page 1221	
Luke 12:1-21	Religious and Rich Fools	page 1222	
Luke 12:22-48	Jesus Warns about Worry	page 1222	
Luke 12:49-59	Jesus Warns about Troubles	page 1224	
Luke 13:1-21	Jesus and the Kingdom of God	page 1224	
John 9:1-41	Jesus and a Blind Man	page 1259	
John 10:1-18	Jesus Is the Good Shepherd	page 1261	- E
Luke 13:22-35	Jesus: The King Who Grieves	page 1225	
Luke 14:1-14	Jesus on Seeking Honor	page 1225	
Luke 14:15-35	Jesus on Being His Disciple	page 1225 page 1226	
Luke 15:1-10	Two Parables of Losing and Finding	page 1220	
Luke 13.1-10	Two I arables of Losing and Finding	page 1227	

Luke 15:11-32	A Son Who Was Found	page 1227	
Luke 16:1-18	The Parable of the Shrewd Accountant	page 1228	
Luke 16:19-31	The Rich Man and the Beggar	page 1229	
John 11:1-36	Lazarus Dies	page 1262	
John 11:37-57	Jesus Raises Lazarus	page 1264	
Luke 17:11-19	Jesus and Ten Lepers	page 1230	
Luke 17:20-37	Jesus and the Kingdom of God	page 1230	
Luke 18:1-14	Jesus Teaches about Prayer	page 1231	
Mark 10:1-16	Jesus on Family Matters	page 1181	
Mark 10:17-31	Jesus and the Rich Man	page 1181	
Matthew 20:1-16	A Parable about Equal Pay	page 1149	
Mark 10:35-52	Jesus on Serving Others	page 1182	
Luke 19:1-27	Jesus and Zacchaeus	page 1232	
John 12:1-11	A Woman Anoints Jesus	page 1264	
Matthew 21:1-17	Jesus Rides into Jerusalem	page 1151	
John 12:20-36	Jesus Explains Why He Must Die	page 1265	
John 12:37-50	Jesus and his Message	page 1266	
Mark 11:20-33	Permission to Pray for Anything	page 1183	
Matthew 21:28-46	Two Parables	page 1152	
Matthew 22:1-14	Jesus Tells about the Wedding Feast	page 1153	
Luke 20:20-40	Jesus Answers Questions	page 1235	
Mark 12:28-37	Questions Given and Taken	page 1185	
Matthew 23:1-39	Jesus: Warnings and Grieving	page 1154	
Luke 21:1-24	Jesus Talks about the Future	page 1236	
Luke 21:25-38	Jesus on Being Prepared	page 1237	
Matthew 25:1-30	Parables and Being Prepared	page 1157	
Matthew 25:31-46	Jesus on the Final Judgment	page 1158	
Luke 22:1-13	Preparing the Last Supper	page 1237	
John 13:1-20	Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet	page 1266	
John 13:21-38	A Sad Prediction	page 1267	
John 14:1-14	Jesus Is the Way	page 1267	
John 14:15-31	Jesus Promises the Comforter	page 1268	
John 15:1-16	Jesus Teaches about the Vine		
	and the Branches	page 1270	
John 15:17–16:4	Jesus Warns about Troubles	page 1270	
John 16:5-33	Jesus on the Holy Spirit and Prayers	page 1271	
John 17:1-26	Jesus Prays	page 1272	
Mark 14:26-52	A Repeated Prediction	page 1189	
John 18:1-24	Jesus Betrayed and Abandoned	page 1273	
Matthew 26:57-75	Trial and Denial	page 1161	
Matthew 27:1-10	The Religious Trial and Judas's Death	page 1161	
Luke 23:1-12	Two Political Trials	page 1239	
Mark 15:6-24	Sentencing and Torture	page 1191	
Luke 23:32-49	Jesus Crucified	page 1240	
Matthew 27:57-66	Jesus' Body Laid in a Guarded Tomb	page 1163	
John 20:1-18	Jesus Is Alive!	page 1278	
Matthew 28:8-15	Reactions to the Resurrection	page 1164	
Luke 24:13-43	Appearances of Jesus	page 1242	
John 20:24–21:14	More Appearances of Jesus	page 1278	
John 21:15-25	Jesus Talks with Peter	page 1279	

Matthew 28:16-20	Jesus Gives the Great Commission	page 1164	
Luke 24:44-53	Jesus Says Farewell	page 1243	
Acts 1:1-11	The Departure of Jesus	page 1282	
Acts 1:12-26	First Things First	page 1282	
Acts 2:1-13	An Amazing Gift	page 1283	
Acts 2:14-40	Peter's First Sermon	page 1283	
Acts 2:41–3:11	Daily Life in the Early Church	page 1284	
Acts 3:12-4:4	Peter's Second Sermon	page 1285	
Acts 4:5-22	Hostile Reactions	page 1286	
Acts 4:23-37	Praying and Sharing	page 1286	
Acts 5:1-16	Strange Events	page 1287	
Acts 5:17-42	Arrested!	page 1288	
Acts 6:1-15	Stephen: Special Servant	page 1288	
Acts 7:1-29	History Review I	page 1290	
Acts 7:30-60	History Review II	page 1290	
Acts 8:1-25	Benefits of Persecution	page 1292	
Acts 8:26-40	Unexpected Appointment	page 1293	
Acts 9:1-19	Paul Meets Jesus	page 1293	
Acts 9:20-31	Paul's New Life	page 1294	
Acts 9:32-42	God Uses Peter	page 1295	
Acts 10:1-23	Peter Sees a Lesson	page 1295	
Acts 10:24-48	Peter Learns a Lesson	page 1296	
Acts 11:1-18	Gentiles Get a Chance	page 1297	
Acts 11:19-29	Christians Helping One Another	page 1298	
Acts 12:1-25	A Great Escape and Capital		
	Punishment	page 1298	
Acts 13:1-12	Paul and Barnabas: Travel and		_
	Preaching	page 1300	
Acts 14:1-28	Response and Reaction	page 1302	
Acts 15:1-21	A Church Conference	page 1304	
Acts 15:22-41	The Gentiles Are Accepted	page 1305	
Acts 16:1-15	Paul, Silas, and Timothy	page 1306	
Acts 16:16-40	Adventures in Jail	page 1307	
Acts 17:1-15	Different Responses in Two Cities	page 1308	
Acts 17:16-34	Paul in Athens	page 1308	
Acts 19:1-20	Paul in Ephesus	page 1311	
Acts 19:21-41	The Riot	page 1312	
Acts 20:1-12	Sleeping in Church	page 1313	
Acts 20:13-38	Saying Good-bye in Ephesus	page 1313	
Acts 21:1-17	Difficult Decision	page 1314	
Acts 21:18-36	Paul in Jerusalem	page 1315	
Acts 21:37–22:29	Paul Speaks	page 1316	
Acts 22:30–23:22	A Plan to Kill Paul	page 1317	
Acts 23:23–24:27	Paul in Prison	page 1318	
Acts 25:1-27	Paul Speaks to Festus	page 1319	
Acts 26:1-32	Paul Speaks to Agrippa	page 1320	
Acts 27:1-26	The Storm at Sea	page 1321	
Acts 27:27-44	The Shipwreck	page 1323	
Acts 28:1-14	The Winter on Malta	page 1323	
Acts 28:15-31	Paul in Rome	page 1324	

Romans 5:1-11	Faith Brings Joy	page 1330	
Romans 8:1-8	Truly Free from Sin	page 1333	
Romans 8:19-39	How God Loves	page 1334	
Romans 12:1-21	Living Sacrifice	page 1339	
1 Corinthians 13:1-13	Real Love	page 1359	
1 Corinthians 15:1-20	The Basic Gospel	page 1361	
1 Corinthians 15:42-58	Destiny!	page 1362	
2 Corinthians 4:1-18	Weak Containers: Strong Content	page 1368	
Galatians 5:13-26	Two Radically Different Lives	page 1384	
Ephesians 1:3-23	God's Action	page 1389	
Ephesians 2:1-22	God's Plan	page 1390	
Ephesians 4:1-16	Picture of the Church	page 1392	
Ephesians 6:10-20	Armor of God	page 1395	
Philippians 2:1-18	The Mind of Jesus	page 1398	
Philippians 3:1-21	Learning Joy	page 1399	
Colossians 2:1-15	What We Have in Christ	page 1405	
Colossians 3:1-17	Christian Relationships	page 1406	
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	Spiritual Reputation	page 1411	
1 Thessalonians 4:1-18	Living for God	page 1412	
2 Thessalonians 1:1-12	Encouragement	page 1416	
2 Thessalonians 3:1-18	Final Requests	page 1417	
1 Timothy 4:1-16	Always Going Forward	page 1421	
1 Timothy 6:3-21	A Friend's Final Words	page 1423	
2 Timothy 1:1-18	The Importance of Examples	page 1427	
2 Timothy 3:1-17	Last Days	page 1429	
Titus 3:1-11	Good Counsel	page 1434	
Philemon 1:4-7	Paul's Plea for His Friend	page 1437	
Hebrews 10:19-39	The New Life	page 1449	
Hebrews 11:1-40	A Review of Faith	page 1450	
Hebrews 12:1-13	Our Turn	page 1451	
James 1:2-27	Tough Times, Happy People	page 1456	
James 2:1-13	Valuing Other People	page 1456	
James 3:1-12	Words as Weapons	page 1458	
1 Peter 2:1-25	Living Stones	page 1464	
1 Peter 3:1-22	Relationships and Pain	page 1466	
2 Peter 1:2-21	Knowing God	page 1471	
1 John 1:1-10	The Way of Forgiveness	page 1475	
1 John 3:1-24	God Is Love	page 1476	
2 John 1:4-6	Love One Another	page 1482	
3 John 1:5-8	Care for the Lord's Workers	page 1484	
Jude 1:17-25	Build Each Other Up	page 1487	
Revelation 1:1-20	Jesus the King	page 1489	
Revelation 21:1-27	Everything Made New	page 1508	
Revelation 22:1-21	Life in the New City	page 1509	
	,		

I SURVIVED! INDEX

торіс	REFERENCE	PAGE
Authority	1 Timothy 3:14-15	1425
Complaining	Numbers 11:1-6	175
Differences	John 13:34-35	1269
Discipline	Leviticus 20:22-23	141
Encouraging others	Isaiah 40	839
Faith	2 Kings 23:36-37	451
God's Word	2 Chronicles 34:14-33	521
Humility	1 Samuel 18:5-23	335
Life: new	Ezekiel 11:18-19	959
Opposition	Esther 3:2	589
Parents: listening to them	Exodus 20:12	69
Parents: wisdom from them	Proverbs 6:20-23	743
Peer pressure	lsaiah 42:1-4	859
Rejection	John 1:10-11	1253
Self-worth	1 Peter 5:7	1467
Serving God by using your gifts	Nehemiah 2:16-18	571
Serving others	2 Corinthians 9:10-13	1377
Worship that is true	Psalm 96	727

IS IT OK? INDEX

TOPIC	REFERENCE	PAGE
Anger at God	Job 2	597
Anger at your parents	Ephesians 6:1-3	1394
Appearance	Esther 2:7	585
Attitude	Genesis 4:6-7	8
Beliefs	Ezekiel 18:19-22	970
Cheating	Proverbs 19:1	753
Chores	Philippians 2:14-16	1398
Church attendance	Hebrews 10:25	1449
Competition	Proverbs 24:17	760
Conforming	Daniel 3:13-28	1017
Contentment	Deuteronomy 5:21	216
Dating and kissing	Song of Songs 8:4	787
Dating non-Christians	2 Corinthians 6:14-15	1371
Death	Isaiah 57:1-2	857
Divorce	Malachi 2:16	1113
Doubts about God	John 20:24-25	1276
Evolution	Acts 17:24	1309

1520 SPOTLIGHT ON INDEX

Family	2 Kings 11:1-3, 21	443
Friends	Ecclesiastes 4:9-12	773
Goals	Judges 4–5	287
Gossip	Proverbs 26:20, 22	764
Hating life	2 Samuel 18	380
Jokes to avoid	James 3:7-12	1460
Laughing at others	Obadiah 1:12	1065
Love for God	1 John 2:15-17	1477
Love for those who aren't "cool"	Luke 19:1-10	1233
Lying	2 Chronicles 18:13	523
Messiness	Leviticus 13:47-52	133
Music	Colossians 3:5-15	1406
Occult	Isaiah 8:19	799
Parents	1 Samuel 19:1-3	342
People who are different	Acts 10	1296
Pornography	Luke 11:34	1220
Praying about little stuff	Nehemiah 1:5-11	564
Praying anytime, anywhere	1 Thessalonians 5:17	1414
Relaxing	Genesis 31:38-42	39
Religions	Jeremiah 10:5-6	886
Revenge	Deuteronomy 32:35	244
Secrets	Galatians 6:2	1386
Self-doubt	1 Samuel 10:21-22	328
Sibling rivalry	Numbers 12:1-16	171
Smoking	Leviticus 11:44	130
Stepparents	Exodus 20:12	90
Strangers online	Joshua 9:3-15	260
Swearing	Matthew 15:16-20	1143
Thoughts	Romans 6:12-14	1332
Weight concerns	Psalm 139:14	725
Working hard	Colossians 3:23	1408
Worrying	Psalm 37:9	658

SPOTLIGHT ON INDEX

BIBLE CHARACTER	PAGE
Aaron (Numbers)	172
Abraham (Genesis)	19
Ahab (1 Kings)	417
Balaam (Numbers)	194
Barak (Judges)	286
Barnabas (Acts)	1306
Boaz (Ruth)	312

BIBLE CHARACTER	PAGE
Daniel (Daniel)	1012
David (2 Samuel)	370
Elisha (2 Kings)	435
Esau (Genesis)	44
Gideon (Judges)	288
Hosea (Hosea)	1034
Isaac (Genesis)	31

WHAT NOW? INDEX 1521

Jacob (Genesis)	37
James (Matthew)	1133
Job (Job)	598
John Mark (Acts)	1299
John the Baptist (Luke)	1200
Jonathan (1 Samuel)	341
Joseph (Genesis)	51
Joseph (Matthew)	1122
Joshua (Joshua)	255
Judas (John)	1263
King Josiah (2 Chronicles)	543
Luke (Acts)	1311
Mordecai (Esther)	590
Moses (Exodus)	70

Nehemiah (Nehemiah)	575
Nicodemus (John)	1249
Paul (Romans)	1344
Peter (Matthew)	1144
Pilate (Mark)	1191
Samson (Judges)	303
Samuel (1 Samuel)	320
Saul (1 Samuel)	349
Solomon (1 Kings)	407
Stephen (Acts)	1294
Timothy (2 Timothy)	1428
Zacchaeus (Luke)	1217
Zechariah (Luke)	1198

WHAT NOW? INDEX

TITLE	REFERENCE	PAGE
Accused!	1 Peter 2:12	1465
Admit One	Psalm 24:3-4	649
All Alone	2 Corinthians 1:3-7	1366
Baseball Burnout	Philippians 4:11-13	1401
Best Friends?	Judges 3:5-7	284
Birthday Present, The	2 Timothy 3:14-17	1430
But I Don't Want To!	Jonah 1:1-17	1068
Buyer Beware?	Ezekiel 45:9-10	1007
Call for Help, A	Isaiah 52:7	853
Class Picnic, The	James 2:1-7	1458
Clean!	Joel 2:12-13	1049
Cool Clothes	Isaiah 3:16-26	793
Cut Up and Cut Down	Luke 6:37-38	1209
Dirt-Bike Racing	John 15:12-13	1271
Down, but Not Out	Isaiah 49:14-15	849
Earning Trust	Luke 16:10	1229
Final Exam, The	Psalm 101:2	700
Flat Out	Matthew 5:14-16	1127
Freedom	Galatians 5:13	1385
Friends	Psalm 1:1	636
Future Plans	Jeremiah 29:11	909
Giving and Getting	2 Corinthians 9:7	1373
Good Advice?	1 Kings 12:1-19	411
Greatest!, The	Jeremiah 9:23-24	885
Guilty Goalie, The	Jeremiah 17:11	895
Gym Dandy	Colossians 3:15	1407
Home Sweet Home	1 Corinthians 6:19-20	1352

1522 WHAT NOW? INDEX

I Spy	Joshua 22:10-34	276
I'll Do It Later	Proverbs 26:13-16	763
l've Got It All!	Revelation 3:15-19	1493
Instant Gossip	Judges 15:7-11	301
ls That Your Best?	Malachi 1:6-8	1112
It's a Miracle!	1 Chronicles 16:7-36	487
Just Kick It	1 Thessalonians 5:9-11	1413
Ketchup Caper, The	Exodus 20:16	93
Leader of the Pack	2 Chronicles 19:4-10	525
Listen!	Job 2:11-13	599
Looking Good	1 Samuel 16:7	337
Make a Choice	Mark 12:31	1185
Make Up Your Mind	Ruth 2:10-12	314
Making a Good Impression	Acts 5:1-11	1289
Making Fun	Psalm 82:3-4	689
Moving Up	1 Samuel 23:16-18	347
New and Different	Romans 12:2	1341
No Big Deal?	Ezra 9:5-15	559
No One Will Ever Know!	1 Chronicles 28:9	500
No One Will Know	Hebrews 4:13	1443
Old and Funny	Joshua 13:1	265
On Top of the World	Psalm 27:1-14	650
Paper Chase, The	Isaiah 40:29-31	835
Party On!	Ecclesiastes 12:1, 13-14	779
Party Poopers, The	Numbers 22:21-34	187
Passing Notes	Proverbs 21:3	756
Payback Time?	Matthew 18:21-35	1149
Pet Project	Genesis 43:8-9	55
Pool Party, The	Proverbs 22:24-25	759
Pray for What?	2 Chronicles 1:11-12	506
Prayer Habit, The	Daniel 6:10-23	1023
Private Garden, A	Song of Songs 4:12	786
Quitting Time	Numbers 32:16-19	201
Revenge?	Genesis 45:1-18	58
Right Choice, The	1 Timothy 1:19	1421
Rules Are Rules?	Hosea 12:6	1043
Scared Silly	Joshua 1:9	250
Science Fair?	Matthew 5:21-22	1129
Serves Him Right!	Matthew 7:12	1131
Setbacks	Genesis 39:19-23	49
Something Borrowed, Something New	Matthew 25:31-46	1159
Speak Up!	Mark 8:38	1179
Star Player, The	Isaiah 9:8-10	801
Sticks and Stones	Luke 6:27-36	1207
Stolen Fun	Micah 7:1-6	1078
Sub Way	Proverbs 1:10-19	735
Success?	Acts 20:24	1315
Taking a Stand	Esther 3–4	587
Third Chair	Psalm 42:11	662
To Pray or Not to Pray	1 Timothy 2:8	1423

INDEX TO CHARTS 1523

Too Hard to Handle?	Jeremiah 32:17-27	915
Troubled Thoughts	Isaiah 26:3	817
Truth Hurts, The	2 Samuel 12:1-13	372
Unjust Criticism	1 Samuel 1:6-16	318
Unknown Future, The	Deuteronomy 4:19; 18:10-12	213
Video Game, The	Genesis 3:1-7	7
Who Hears? Who Cares?	2 Kings 19–20	457
Who's Different—You or Me?	John 4:1-26	1251
Wishing Well	Luke 12:13-21	1223
Write On?	Ephesians 5:11	1393
You've Got a Friend	Ezekiel 2:3-7	955

INDEX TO CHARTS

REFERENCE	TITLE	PAGE
Genesis 2	Days of Creation	5
Exodus 10	The Plagues	78
Exodus 14	Doubters in the Bible	84
Exodus 26	Jesus and the Ten Commandments	99
Numbers 2	Arrangement of Tribes around the Tabernacle While in the Wilderness	158
Deuteronomy 8	Obedience	219
1 Samuel 28	Simple Objects	354
1 Chronicles 24	Ideas to Live By	501
Job 38	How Suffering Affects Us	627
Psalm 17	Finding Christ in the Psalms	642
Psalm 35	Psalms to Learn and Love	656
Psalm 51	Reasons to Read Psalms	668
Psalm 128	How God Is Described in Psalms	720
Proverbs 6	People Called "Wise" in the Bible	739
Isaiah 48	Today's Idolatry	840
Daniel 8	Nebuchadnezzar's Dream	1014
Jonah 3	Miracles in the Book of Jonah	1070
Matthew 7	The Beatitudes	1126
Matthew 9	Seven Reasons Not to Worry from Matthew	1130
Mark 1	The Twelve Disciples	1168
Mark 14	Key Characteristics of Christ	1188
Luke 2	Don't Be Afraid	1201
Luke 8	Jesus and Women	1212
Luke 10	A Collection of Attitudes	1218
John 18	Who Saw Jesus After His Resurrection?	1273
Acts 15	Great Escapes in the Bible	1303
Romans 2	Salvation's Freeway	1328
Romans 8	Important Ideas in Romans	1334

1524 INDEX TO MAPS

Ephesians 2	God's Armor for Us	1391
1 John 2	A Book of Contrasts	1479
Revelation 2	The Beginning and the End	1491
Revelation 13	The Names of Jesus in Revelation	1501
Revelation 20	What We Know about Eternity	1507

INDEX TO MAPS

REFERENCE	TITLE	PAGE
Genesis 12	Abraham's Journey	15
Numbers 14	Israel's Route in the Book of Numbers	176
Joshua 7	Conquering Canaan	257
2 Kings 17	Israel and Judah Exiled	453
2 Chronicles 10	Kings of Israel and Judah	515
Ezra 3	Returning to the Promised Land	551
Matthew 5	Jesus' Early Ministry	1125
John 18	Jesus' Last Week	1274
Acts 13	How Far Paul Traveled	1301

TOPICAL INDEX TO LIFE APPLICATION NOTES

ABILITIES

"From Ordinary to Extraordinary"
Exodus 4:2-4 71
"The Ways God Blesses"
Deuteronomy 33:6-25
"Talents" 1 Chronicles 6:31-32 474
"Pitch In" 1 Chronicles 25:1-7
"Available" Esther 9:29-31 593
"Special Privileges" Ezekiel 16:8-16967
"Use What You've Got"
Mattheward and an

Matthew 25:14-30 115/
"Opportunities" Mark 15:40–16:8 1192
"Kindness" Acts 9:36-42 1295
"Gifts" Romans 12:4-8 1340
"Useful" 1 Corinthians 1:1 1347
"The Body" 1 Corinthians 12:4-31 1358
(see also potential)

ACHIEVEMENTS see ABILITIES, POTENTIAL, SUCCESS

ADVICE

"Obstacles" Exodus 13:17-1883
"In the Right Spot" Numbers 9:23 168
<i>"Advice"</i> Numbers 14:6-10 174
"Good Advice" Ruth 3:1-5 315
"Decisions" 1 Samuel 23:2 347
"Battles" 2 Samuel 5:17-25
"Whispers" 1 Kings 19:11-13 421
"A Good Influence" 2 Kings 12:1-2445
"Ask God First" 1 Chronicles 14:10485
"Good Advice" 2 Chronicles 22:4-9 528
"The Guide" Psalm 48:14 665
"Too Young to Serve?" Jeremiah 1:1-8 870
"Corruption" Jeremiah 23:9-14 900
"Submit" Lamentations 3:25-33 948
"False Teaching" 1 Timothy 1:3-11 1419
"Run!" 2 Timothy 2:22 1429 (see also believing in god, future, god's will, prayer)

ANGER

"Appropriate Anger" 1 Samuel 11:6 329
<i>"Keep Your Cool"</i> Proverbs 12:16 746
"Make Things Right" Proverbs 14:9748
"A Quiet Response" Proverbs 15:1 749
"Useful Anger" Mark 3:1-6 1170
<i>"Upset"</i> Mark 11:15-17 1183
"Anger" John 2:15-16 1247
(see also hatred, revenge, conflict/
CONFRONTATION)

1157 APPEARANCE

"Inner Beauty" Genesis 24:15-16 27
<i>"Me First"</i> Genesis 37:29-10
"Character" 1 Samuel 31:3-4 356

APPROVAL

"Consequences" Joshua 23:12-16 277

ARGUMENTS *see* ANGER, REVENGE, CONFLICT/CONFRONTATION

ASTROLOGY/HOROSCOPES see OCCULT, THE

ATTITUDES

"Totally Holy" Leviticus 8:36 127
"Be Prepared" Leviticus 11:24-27 130
"Only the Best" Leviticus 22:19-25 146
"Getting Ready for Worship"
Numbers 28:1-2 195
"Songs" Judges 5:1-31 287
"Exhaustion" Judges 15:18
"Nagging" Judges 16:16-17
"Listening" 1 Samuel 3:1-15 322
"A Change of Perspective"
1 Samuel 17:26-37 339
<i>"The Crowd"</i> 2 Samuel 19:8-10 381
"Part of the Collection?"
2 Kings 17:24-29
<i>"Nagging"</i> Proverbs 27:15-16764
"Put On" Joel 2:13 1049
"Responses" Matthew 13:18-23 1140

1526 TOPICAL INDEX TO LIFE APPLICATION NOTES

<i>"Love and Truth"</i> Luke 17:3-4 1230
"The World: In It but Not Of It"
John 17:15-18 1272
<i>"Your Attitude"</i> Acts 15:23-29 1305
<i>"The Best"</i> 1 Corinthians 10:33 1356
"Servant Attitude" Philippians 2:5 1399

"Be Holy" 1 Peter 1:13-16 1463 (see also LIFESTYLE, THANKFULNESS)

AUTHORITY

"Heroes" Judges 21:25 309
"Respect" 1 Samuel 24:5-7
<i>"All about God"</i> Job 38:1 628
"Arguing with God" Job 40:1-5 631
"Dealing with Conflict"
Philemon 1:8-9 1437
(see also marriage, parents)

BELIEVING IN GOD

"Great Expectations"
Deuteronomy 10:12-13 221
<i>"Help!"</i> 1 Samuel 2:2 319
"An Ingredient or the Source?"
1 Samuel 6:9
"First Priority" 2 Kings 15:34-35449
"Take Him Seriously"
1 Chronicles 28:1-10
"Battles" 2 Chronicles 20:1-17 525
"Never Enough Knowledge" Job 36:26627
"Limited Knowledge" Job 39:1-30630
<i>"In God We Trust?"</i> Psalm 33:4654
"Wholehearted" Psalm 86:11-13 691
"Family Name" Psalm 99:3699
<i>"Ridiculed"</i> Isaiah 51:7850
"Revolution" Jeremiah 31:33 912
"A Mystery" Daniel 7:1-15 1022
"Warnings" Amos 5:21-24 1058
"Testing" Matthew 9:27-31 1134
<i>"Believe"</i> Matthew 17:22-23 1146
"Troublemaker or the Son of God?"
Luke 9:7, 20
<i>"An Active Belief"</i> John 4:43-54 1250
<i>"The Way"</i> John 6:26-27 1255
<i>"The Source"</i> John 6:60-68 1256
"Don't Jump!" John 7:37-44 1257
"Proof" John 20:29-31 1279
"Changed" Acts 1:3-5 1282
<i>"The Whole Package"</i> Acts 8:18-24 1292
<i>"Test Them"</i> 1 Corinthians 12:3 1358

(see also advice, Bible, eternal life/ Salvation, expectations, god's will, Obedience, prayer, time with god)

BIBLE

"Harmful Hearsay" 1 Kings 13:1-32 412
"Apply It" Nehemiah 8:1-5 573
"Act on It!" Nehemiah 8:1-18 573
"Truth Hurts" Nehemiah 9:1-3 574
"Deterrent" Psalm 119:11 713
"Rules" Psalm 119:12-18 713
"Wiser" Psalm 119:97-104716
<i>"Medicine for Life"</i> Psalm 119:125 716
"God's Word" Jeremiah 36:21-32 919
"Faithful" Ezekiel 33:1-6990
"Truth Hurts" Daniel 9:6 1026
"Applying the Word" Hosea 8:11-12 1039
"An Appetite for Answers"
Amos 8:11-141060
(F 1 1 1 1 () (

<i>"Frauds"</i> Matthew 24:11, 23-26 1156
"All Checked Out" Luke 1:1-4 1196
<i>"Scripture"</i> Luke 24:13-34 1242
"Silence" Romans 14:23–15:6 1342
"Smooth Talk" 2 Corinthians 11:3-4 1375
"Twisted Truth" Galatians 1:6-7 1380
"Changed" Colossians 1:61404
"Divine Inspiration" 2 Timothy 3:16 1429
"What's True" Jude 1:4 1486
"Watch Out!" Jude 1:8-10 1486
(see also advice, godly living, god's will,
тіме with god)

BLAME

"Scapegoat" 1 Samuel 30:1-9 355 (see also excuses, judging others)

BLESSINGS

"Curses and Blessings"

Deuteronomy 27:15-26 237
"Prosperity" 2 Chronicles 24:17-18 531
"Showered" Nehemiah 9:35-36 576
"Chosen" Malachi 1:111111
"A 'Blessed' Life" Matthew 5:1-12 1124
(see also thankfulness)

CHANGE

"Progress" Joshua 11:16-23	263
"Real Regret" Hosea 6:1-3 1	037
"A Life-Changing Message"	
Acts 24:24-25	1319

"No Worries" Philippians 4:6-20 1401 (see also FEAR, SUFFERING)

WORSHIP

Deuteronomy 12:12, 18 223
"An Object of Worship" 2 Kings 18:4 454
<i>"Be Prepared"</i> 1 Chronicles 9:22-32 479
"Living Worship" 2 Chronicles 5:2-14 509

"Timing" Ezra 6:16-22 555
"Panic and Praise" Psalm 70:1-5 679
<i>"Holidays</i> " Psalm 81:1-5688
"Ways to Praise" Psalm 149:3-5 731
"An Empty Ritual" Jeremiah 7:1-8880
"True Worship" Lamentations 2:1-7945
"You Are What You Worship"
Hosea 9:10 1039
"Real Worship" 1 Corinthians 14:26 1360
"True Worship" Revelation 19:1-10 1506
(<i>see also</i> believing in god, honor,
THANKFULNESS)

LIFE LESSONS QUICK REFERENCE LIST

GENESIS

YOU ARE MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE AND PART OF HIS EXTRAORDINARY STORY.

EXODUS

THEN AND NOW-GOD TAKES CARE OF HIS PEOPLE!

LEVITICUS

LIVING A HOLY LIFE PLEASES GOD.

NUMBERS

LISTEN TO GOD'S DIRECTIONS-HIS WAY IS ALWAYS THE RIGHT WAY!

DEUTERONOMY

GOD ALWAYS KEEPS HIS PROMISES. WE SHOULD ALSO KEEP OURS.

JOSHUA

A GOOD LEADER TRUSTS GOD AND OBEYS HIM.

JUDGES

REMEMBER WHAT THE ISRAELITES FORGOT-TO TRUST GOD AND OBEY HIM.

RUTH

THE LORD PROVIDES EVEN WHEN OUR SITUATION IS MOST DESPERATE.

1 SAMUEL

LISTENING TO AND OBEYING GOD IS ALWAYS THE RIGHT THING TO DO.

2 SAMUEL

PUT AWAY PRIDE; GET RIGHT WITH GOD.

1 KINGS

BUILD YOUR REPUTATION ON OBEDIENCE TO GOD.

2 KINGS

BE DETERMINED TO TELL GOD'S TRUTH, NO MATTER WHAT.

1 CHRONICLES

GOD HAS A LOVING PLAN FOR HIS FAMILY-THROUGHOUT THE GENERATIONS.

2 CHRONICLES

GOD PUNISHES SIN BUT FORGIVES HIS PEOPLE WHEN THEY TURN TO HIM.

EZRA

GOD WANTS US TO SERVE HIM WHOLEHEARTEDLY.

NEHEMIAH

DO WHAT GOD WANTS YOU TO DO, NO MATTER THE OBSTACLES.

ESTHER

GOD GIVES US SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE HIM.

JOB

STAY CLOSE TO GOD, EVEN IN THE TOUGH TIMES.

PSALMS

YOU CAN TALK TO GOD ABOUT ANYTHING, ANYTIME, NO MATTER WHAT.

PROVERBS

SEEK GOD'S WISDOM, NOT JUST KNOWLEDGE.

ECCLESIASTES

ONLY GOD CAN GIVE YOUR LIFE TRUE MEANING.

SONG OF SONGS

LOVE IS SPECIAL AND SHOULD BE PROTECTED.

ISAIAH

GOD WILL GIVE YOU THE COURAGE TO SPEAK OUT FOR HIM.

JEREMIAH

PLEASING GOD IS THE ONLY SUCCESS THAT MATTERS.

LAMENTATIONS

GOD CAN GIVE YOU COMPASSION FOR THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU WHO DON'T KNOW HIM.

EZEKIEL

OBEDIENCE TO GOD IS A CHOICE—THE MOST IMPORTANT CHOICE OF ALL.

DANIEL

GOD WANTS YOU TO BE COURAGEOUS AND FAITHFUL.

HOSEA

GOD LOVES YOU NO MATTER WHAT.

JOEL

FORGIVENESS COMES WHEN WE TURN AWAY FROM SIN AND TOWARD GOD.

AMOS

GOD HAS A PASSION FOR JUSTICE.

OBADIAH

GOD WILL PUNISH THOSE WHO HARM HIS CHILDREN.

JONAH

NO ONE IS BEYOND REDEMPTION.

MICAH

YOU CAN DECIDE TO BE A PERSON WHO LIVES THE WAY GOD WANTS.

NAHUM

GOD WILL TRIUMPH OVER HIS ENEMIES.

HABAKKUK

GOD HEARS YOUR QUESTIONS; LISTEN FOR HIS ANSWER.

ZEPHANIAH

WHEN YOU CONFESS YOUR SINS AND TRUST IN GOD, HE WILL FORGIVE YOU.

HAGGAI

GOD WANTS TO BE NUMBER ONE IN YOUR LIFE.

ZECHARIAH

YOU CAN TRUST GOD WITH YOUR FUTURE.

MALACHI

HOW WE LIVE AND WHAT WE GIVE SHOWS WHETHER OUR LOVE FOR GOD IS GENUINE.

MATTHEW

BELIEVING IN JESUS WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE FOREVER.

MARK

JESUS CALLS US TO SERVE OTHERS.

LUKE

JESUS CAME TO SEEK THE OUTSIDERS.

JOHN

GOD SENT JESUS TO GIVE US LIFE.

ACTS

GOD WILL GIVE YOU THE COURAGE TO TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT JESUS.

ROMANS

WE ALL ARE SINNERS, BUT THROUGH CHRIST'S DEATH WE CAN BECOME FORGIVEN CHILDREN OF GOD!

1 CORINTHIANS

IN CHRIST AND THE SPIRIT, GOD HAS PROVIDED EVERYTHING WE NEED TO LIVE FOR HIM.

2 CORINTHIANS

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE IS FULL OF STRUGGLES, BUT GOD COMFORTS US THROUGH THEM ALL.

GALATIANS

IN CHRIST, WE ARE FREE TO LIVE LIVES OF LOVE.

EPHESIANS

GOD DESIRES FOR US TO LIVE IN UNITY WITH ALL FELLOW BELIEVERS.

PHILIPPIANS

THE SECRET TO JOY IS A RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

COLOSSIANS

CHRIST IS THE FULLNESS OF GOD AND OUR SOURCE FOR TRUE WISDOM.

1 THESSALONIANS

BECAUSE OF CHRIST, WE NO LONGER NEED TO FEAR DEATH.

2 THESSALONIANS

CHRISTIANS MUST PATIENTLY WATCH FOR CHRIST'S RETURN AND WORK FOR HIS KINGDOM WHILE THEY WAIT.

1 TIMOTHY

WHATEVER YOUR AGE, YOU CAN BE A GOOD EXAMPLE OF HOW TO FOLLOW CHRIST.

2 TIMOTHY

A STRONG FOUNDATION IN CHRIST ENABLES US TO KEEP GOING WHEN TIMES ARE TOUGH.

TITUS

GOD WANTS US TO BE LIVING EXAMPLES OF OUR FAITH.

PHILEMON

BECAUSE WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD THROUGH CHRIST, WE MUST SEEK RECONCILIATION WITH OTHERS.

HEBREWS

CHRIST IS GREATER THAN EVERYTHING AND IS THE ONLY ONE WORTHY OF OUR DEVOTION.

JAMES

GENUINE FAITH LEADS TO LOVING ACTION.

1 PETER

IN CHRIST WE HAVE HOPE FOR THE FUTURE, EVEN IF WE FACE SUFFERING NOW.

2 PETER

GROWING IN FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE OF CHRIST HELPS US GUARD AGAINST FALSE TEACHING.

1 JOHN

WE CAN HAVE COMPLETE

CONFIDENCE IN GOD. HE IS LIGHT, LOVE, AND LIFE.

2 JOHN

WHEN WE LIVE IN THE TRUTH, WE ARE NOT EASILY FOOLED.

3 JOHN

CHRISTIANS SHOULD BE HOSPITABLE AND GENEROUS IN SUPPORTING GOD'S WORK.

JUDE

WE ARE CALLED TO DEFEND GOD'S TRUTH AGAINST THOSE WHO OPPOSE AND TWIST IT.

REVELATION

JESUS WILL RETURN ONE DAY AS THE VICTORIOUS KING! GOD WINS!