

Introduction to Apostolic Scriptures

Welcome to *Foundations of the Apostolic Scriptures*. We have been praying that this study of the New Testament will draw you closer to YHWH and give your children the spiritual foundations they need for life.

Foundations of the Apostolic Scriptures is a one-year plan to studying the Apostolic Scriptures (New Testament), the gospel record of Yeshua the Messiah and the instructions of the apostles on how believers should conduct themselves in daily living and look forward to the hope of His return.

The Parent-Teacher Lesson Plans are a stand-alone curriculum designed to be used by parents with their entire family from kindergarten through 12th grade. Daily lessons include verse-by-verse readings through the New Testament, with complete discussion questions, memory verses, and suggestions for additional activities.

We compiled this curriculum with several objectives in mind:

1. To study the **Gospels**, so your children will see how the Messiah was the fulfillment of all the Torah and the Prophets.
2. To study the book of **Acts**, so your children will understand how the message of the Messiah was spread to both Jews and Gentiles in the first century and will learn how to conduct themselves in daily living.
3. To survey the **Epistles** and the book of **Revelation**, to have the necessary framework to study systematic theology as well as character traits that are taught in the Epistles, and to look forward to the hope of His return.
4. To give our children a **rich heritage of Scripture memory**, for the Bible says, “Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee” (Psalm 119:11).
5. To help our children learn to **navigate God’s Word easily**, by frequent use of their Bibles.
6. To help our children learn to **understand the language of the Bible**, by hearing it read aloud to them each day and by learning to read and understand it for themselves.

A Typical Day of Bible:

We’d like to show you what a typical study of the Bible looks like in our home.

1. First, if we haven’t already done so, **we start our day with prayer**.
2. Now **we work on learning the week’s Bible memory verse**.
3. Mom, or an older student, then **reads the day’s Bible passage aloud**. You may use the Bible translation of your choice.
4. Often our book will suggest **discussion questions and activities for you to do**. You will find many of the activities listed on the page after the lesson plans. Please feel free to add to or subtract from our suggestions, depending on the needs and interests of your family. Listen to the prompting of the *Ruach haKodesh* (Holy Spirit) as you teach your children.
5. Each Tuesday and Thursday, we like to have a **“Bible Drill.”** This is a game in which children race each other to find passages of Scripture in their own Bibles. We urge you to play this game often so your children will gain the essential skill of finding passages in God’s Word

quickly! You might want to wait until your children are old enough to read fairly well on their own (typically 2nd or 3rd grade). At this age, we purchase a good-quality Bible for our children, one which lies flat when opened.

- To have a Bible Drill, have each child raise his Bible in the air, totally extending his arm (it's only fair). Have him hold his Bible by the back binding, with no fingers poking into the pages to keep his place for him.
- Mom announces the reference to be found (for instance, "Genesis 1:1").
- The children then *repeat* the reference orally, so that Mom is sure everyone knows where to go.
- Mom shouts, "Go!"
- At this point, each child pulls his Bible down and begins searching for the Scripture reference as quickly as possible.
- The first child to find the reference stands. He then reads it out loud.

If one child always wins, simply because he is older, take heart! The less-experienced children will quickly improve with frequent practice and a good dose of healthy competition. However, you can add Dad to the game in the evenings for extra spice!

6. On Fridays, our notes suggest that your children **write in their journals**. Our children each have a spiral or 3-ring notebook that is their Bible Journal. Once a week, they review what they've learned that week by telling about it in their journal. Young ones might draw a picture and have Mom write about it below. They might copy their memory verse. Older ones might tell what they have learned in their private Bible reading. This journal will not only provide a record of their education; it will also become a priceless treasure that helps to cement God's truth in their hearts.
7. If your students are in high school, we strongly recommend having them **write a "title" for each chapter in the New Testament**, something that tells them briefly what the chapter is about. They could do this directly in their Bibles, or in a separate notebook, or you could even purchase a special Bible for this purpose, such as *The New Inductive Study Bible*.
8. **Please be open to the Holy Spirit as you work through this book.** Always be ready to discuss important concepts with your children and answer their questions. We have added notes and teaching ideas for some of the lessons but not all. (Note: These are all *optional* and will vary in difficulty). If you come up with additional learning ideas, record them so that you'll remember them next time you cover this material. Ask YHWH to make His Word meaningful to each of your children.

Hints for Memorizing Scripture:

Our tips for memorizing verses each day are based on the following principles:

- **It's easier to memorize a verse if you know what it means.** That's why we spend the first day of each week talking about what the verse means. Your children will illustrate the verse also, so you'll know from their pictures if they truly understand it.
- **It's easier to memorize a verse if the verse is meaningful to you.** Your job as a parent is to help your children relate the verse to their own lives. What promise does it make, what advice should they follow, what sin will it help them overcome? Try to talk about the verse at other times during the day, too. Ask the Holy Spirit to apply it to all of your lives.
- **It's easier to memorize a verse if you use many of your senses to learn it.** We use our eyes when we look at a verse visual, we use our arms and legs when we make up motions, we use our ears when we hear each other saying it together, and occasionally a verse is just the right kind to taste or smell something.
- **It's easier to memorize a verse if you repeat it many, many times.** That's why you should make it your goal to have everyone say the verse out loud at least *five times* each day. We'll help you come up with ways to keep it from being boring, but you can always try shouting, whispering, singing, standing, marching, lying down, writing, drawing, telling it to Dad, and calling Grandma.
- It's easier to memorize a verse if you say it with a "sing-songy" voice. Kids love this! For instance, try saying this verse, emphasizing the *italicized* words:

Psalm *One-nineteen* Eleven
Thy *word* have I *hid* in my *heart*,
That *I* might not *sin* against *thee*.
Psalm *One-nineteen* Eleven

Each day, recite the verse (including reference) as a group five times. As the week progresses, allow the children to say it more and more without dependence on your voice, until they can say it independently by the end of the week.

If you're learning an extended passage of Scripture over many weeks, try to say the entire passage you've learned thus far at least once a day. For instance, if you're learning Deuteronomy 6:4-9 but you're only on verse 7 this week, you would review verses 4-7 once a day.

Before the week starts, take a moment to write the verse (using a Sharpie marker) on a spiral-bound set of 3×5 index cards. You will use this set of verses to review in coming weeks.

As a general rule, we'll stick to the following schedule:

Day 1 – Discuss what a verse means and illustrate it. Give your children sheets of paper, and ask them to illustrate the verse. Later, you can use these drawings to review verses you've already memorized. (Insert these papers into plastic sheet protectors and place in a notebook.)

Day 2 – Copy the verse. For young writers, give them the copywork sheet we have provided. Preschool children will not write the verse, but you may want to have them point to letters or numbers in the verse. Older children may copy the verse directly from their Bible into a notebook.

Day 3 – Make up motions. Obviously, some verses will be easier to come up with motions for than others, but you'll be surprised how creative your kids can be! You'll probably notice that they will use motions when they say it the rest of the week as well. That's fine. Note: If it seems impossible to come up with motions, try stomping your feet in rhythm, clapping, or marching around the kitchen table as you say it – anything to get you up and moving!

Day 4 – Today is a good day for contests, since by now your kids should have nearly memorized the verse. “Everyone with blue eyes, say the verse,” “Everyone wearing green, say the verse,” boys against girls, younger versus older, etc.

Day 5 – Today, have each child say it individually. After saying the verse several times as a group, I often start with the oldest child so that the youngest ones can hear it a few more times. I also “help” the younger ones more than I do the older ones, whom I expect to say it perfectly. You may wish to have a “verse recital” on *Erev Shabbat* (Friday evening), where the kids can show Dad how well they've learned their verse. You could also exhibit their drawings and writings. Make it memorable!

All of the above hints are helpful for other types of memorization as well, such as the Books of the Bible, or memory work in other subjects.

Foundations of the Apostolic Scriptures | Week 1

(Mark 1-5)

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Memory Verse*	<input type="checkbox"/> illustrate	<input type="checkbox"/> write	<input type="checkbox"/> motions	<input type="checkbox"/> contests	<input type="checkbox"/> test
Read the Apostolic Scriptures	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 5
Discussion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Activities		<input type="checkbox"/> Bible Drill*		<input type="checkbox"/> Bible Drill*	<input type="checkbox"/> Journals*

Mom's Notes:

Memory Verse:

Romans 1:16 – “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Messiah: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.”

Bible Drills:

Day 2 – Yeshua is Lord

- Psalm 2:1
- Psalm 110:1
- Acts 10:36
- 2 Thessalonians 3:16
- Revelation 17:14

Day 4 – Ears to Hear

- Deuteronomy 5:1
- Psalm 115:6
- Isaiah 6:10
- Ezekiel 12:2
- Zechariah 7:11

*See tips for Bible memory, Bible drills, and journals [on our website](#).

Mark 1-5 – Discussion and Activities

Day 1 – The Good News of the Kingdom

- John the Baptist is called a “messenger”, who would prepare the way before the coming of YHWH. (See Malachi 3:1-4.) What kind of “coming” does Malachi talk about (Mal. 3:2)? Where was YHWH promising to come (Mal.3:1), and why would He do it (Mal. 3:3b)?
- Isaiah 40:3-5 talks about a voice of a messenger crying in the wilderness. What was his message? Was his message only to those from Judah? (No, it was for “all flesh,” Is. 40:5.) Why do you think highways to Jerusalem would be built? (So that all mankind would be able to worship YHWH in His holy temple.)
- Based on these two prophets’ messages, what does Mark say is the theme of his book? (Mark 1:1 – the gospel of Yeshua the Messiah, the Son of God) What does “gospel” mean?
- What kind of message did John give to the people? (v. 4)
- What kind of message did Yeshua preach? (v. 14-15)
- Why does Mark tell us about how Yeshua taught with authority in the synagogues, cast out unclean spirits, and healed the sick? Read Isaiah 35.

Day 2

- In Mark 2, Yeshua shows that He is master (“lord”) of several different things. Can you name these?

Day 3

- According to Jewish tradition, the Messiah would perform 3 miracles: heal a leper, cast out a dumb demon-possessed man, and heal a man blind from birth.
<http://www.letusreason.org/Juda5.htm> How many of these miracles has Yeshua already performed?
- Did the crowds and the Pharisees recognize who Yeshua was? Did the unclean spirits recognize Him? (v. 11)

Day 4

- What does Yeshua mean in verse 9? How can you tell if someone is really hearing?
- Did the waves listen to Yeshua? (v. 39-41)

Day 5

- What does the raising of the little girl from the dead tell us about Yeshua?
- Why do you think Yeshua told the demon-possessed man to tell others what YHWH had done for him (v. 19), but he didn’t want the ruler of the synagogue to tell others (v. 43)?

**Our activities are based on the King James Version. If you’re using another translation of the Bible, feel free to adapt these activities.*

Foundations of the Apostolic Scriptures | Week 2

(Mark 6-10)

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Memory Verse*	<input type="checkbox"/> illustrate	<input type="checkbox"/> write	<input type="checkbox"/> motions	<input type="checkbox"/> contests	<input type="checkbox"/> test
Read the Apostolic Scriptures	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 7	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 8:1-9:1	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 9:2-9:50	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 10
Discussion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Activities		<input type="checkbox"/> Bible Drill*		<input type="checkbox"/> Bible Drill*	<input type="checkbox"/> Journals*

Mom's Notes:

Memory Verse:

Bless YHWH, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless YHWH, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits." (Psalm 103:1-2)

Bible Drills:

Day 2 – tradition

- Matthew 15:3
- Mark 7:13
- Colossians 2:8
- 2 Thessalonians 3:6
- 1 Peter 1:18

Day 4 – child

- 1 Samuel 1:27
- Proverbs 20:11
- Hosea 11:1
- Matthew 18:5
- 1 Corinthians 13:11

*See tips for Bible memory, Bible drills, and journals [on our website](#).

Mark 6-10 – Discussion and Activities

Day 1 –

- Why couldn't Yeshua do many miracles in his own hometown? (v. 1-6)
- What was the message that Yeshua's twelve disciples preached? (v. 12)
- How much of his kingdom did Herod promise to Herodias' daughter? (v. 23)
- If he were a king, would Yeshua have been richer than King Herod? Think about the miracle He did in vs. 39-44.
- Why didn't Yeshua's disciples trust Him? (v. 52)

Day 2

- Was it a law of God that hands needed to be washed before eating? (v. 3) What other traditions did they have? (v. 4) What kinds of rules were they? (v. 7-8) Is it ever okay to have traditions? (v. 9, 13)
- Were the people healed in Tyre (vs. 24-27) and the coasts of Decapolis (vs. 31-36) from Israel? Why was this such an amazing thing? See Ephesians 3:2-6.

Day 3

- At what other time (besides by Yeshua) were a large number of people fed miraculously? See 2 Kings 4:42-44.
- Who does Peter say Yeshua is? What does "Christ" mean?
- What does it mean to "take up your cross and follow" Yeshua?

Day 4

- What did Peter do when he was afraid? (See vs. 5-6.) Do you ever do that, too?
- What were they discussing as they came down from the mountain? (See vs. 9-10.)
- Who did Yeshua say was "Elijah"? (See Mark 6:14-29.)
- What were the disciples still discussing in vs. 31-32?
- What are some ways we could cause someone else to sin? (v. 42) How can we be more careful about this?

Day 5

- Why did the Pharisees come to Yeshua in verse 2?
- What did Yeshua say in v. 18? Was Yeshua "good"? See Hebrews 4:15. What does this tell us about Yeshua? See John 1:1-2, 14.
- What did Yeshua *again* try to teach the disciples in vs. 32-34?
- What kinds of leaders should we be to others? See vs. 42-45.
- What did the blind man call Yeshua in v. 47? What did he mean by this?

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Foundations of the Apostolic Scriptures | Week 3

(Mark 11-15)

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Memory Verse*	<input type="checkbox"/> illustrate	<input type="checkbox"/> write	<input type="checkbox"/> motions	<input type="checkbox"/> contests	<input type="checkbox"/> test
Read the Apostolic Scriptures	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 11	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 12	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 13	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 14	<input type="checkbox"/> Mark 15
Discussion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Activities		<input type="checkbox"/> Bible Drill*		<input type="checkbox"/> Bible Drill*	<input type="checkbox"/> Journals*

Mom's Notes:

Memory Verse:

Psalm 118:22-23 – “The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner. This is YHWH's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.”

Bible Drills:

Day 2 – “widow”

- Exodus 20:22
- Deuteronomy 10:18
- Psalm 146:9
- Zechariah 7:10
- 1 Timothy 5:4-5

Day 4 – “forsake”*

- Deuteronomy 31:17
- Joshua 24:20
- 1 Samuel 12:22
- 2 Chronicles 15:2
- Jeremiah 23:39

**remembering that Yeshua was forsaken in our place, for our sin.*

*See tips for Bible memory, Bible drills, and journals [on our website](#).

Mark 11-15 – Discussion and Activities

Day 1 –

- Look up the word “Hosanna” (v. 9) in a Strong’s concordance.
- Verse 9 is a reference to Psalm 118:19-29. Read these verses, and see what similarities you can see.
- Did the leaders of the people believe that Yeshua was the Messiah? (see vs. 27-33)

According to the *Bible Knowledge Commentary*, “This psalm completes the group of Hallel songs (Ps. 113-118). Possibly Psalm 118:1-29 was written for the Feast of Tabernacles, perhaps even the first celebration of that Feast when the people returned from the Exile. The contents certainly suggest that God, in reestablishing His nation, triumphed over the nations and their plans. At least it can be said that the contents describe a festal procession to the sanctuary to sacrifice to and praise YHWH. Because the song was sung at the festivals, expressions in the psalm were on the lips of the people at Yeshua’s entry into Jerusalem.”¹

Day 2

- What are some ways that the leaders tried to trap Yeshua?
- What are some ways that the poor widow lived differently from the leaders? (See also Mark 11:15-17 and Mark 12:33.)

Day 3

- Look up the word “earthquakes” (v. 8) in a Strong’s concordance.
- Look up the word “generation” (v. 30) in a Strong’s concordance.
- What promise is given in v. 31? What do you think Yeshua was trying to say?

Day 4

- Do you remember how many times Yeshua tried to tell His disciples what would happen to Him? Do you see what He said again in verse 8? Do you think His disciples understood?
- What did He predict in verse 27? Did you notice how He used Scripture to back up His prediction? See also verses 48-50.
- What did Peter remember in verse 72?

Day 5

- For what crime was Yeshua crucified? (v. 2)
- See Psalm 22:1, 6-7, 14-15, 17-18. Compare to what you read today.

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¹ Notes on Psalm 118.

