

Foundations 1: **Preparation for Christ**

Homeschooling Bible Curriculum

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Introduction

Welcome to *Foundations 1: Preparation for Christ!* We have been praying that this study of God's Word will draw you closer to Him and give your children the spiritual foundations they need for life.

Objectives:

We compiled this book with several objectives in mind:

1. To give our children a firm understanding of the **chronological flow** of the Bible so that later study of the Bible would have a framework in which to fit.
2. To give our children a **firm understanding of why Christ came to earth**, by first learning of their need for a Savior as presented in the Old Testament.
3. 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).
4. To help our children learn to **navigate God's Word easily**, by frequent use of their Bibles.
5. 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.** You can read some of our methods in Appendix A. Keep in mind that you might like your older children to learn verses in addition to the ones we assign. See Appendix B for additional memory verses.

3. For the first part of the year, **we also work on memorizing the books of the Bible.** As we recite them each day, even the older children who already know them will have a sound review.
4. Mom, or an older student, then **reads the day's Bible passage aloud.** You may use the Bible translation of your choice. We have even enjoyed reading from the *Living Bible*, which isn't a translation but is rather a paraphrase.
5. While Mom reads, **our children enjoy coloring and/or doing Bible puzzles.** We found an excellent resource for these online, offered by Calvary Chapel at calvarycurriculum.com/childrens-curriculum-original. Their free website allows you to download coloring pictures, worksheets and puzzles, but only for your own family's personal use. You may wish to look at them ahead of time (maybe each weekend) and only print the ones your children would use. Our children tend to enjoy coloring through first grade, then they tend to enjoy doing word searches and mazes. As they mature, they like to try the fill-in-the-blank worksheets. Finally, many mothers have asked whether children can effectively pay attention to what Mom is reading if they are busy coloring or filling in worksheets. We've found that – at least in our home – they can! An easy way to check, however, is simply to ask them to tell the story back to you when you've finished reading.
6. 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. The symbol ☞ will alert you to look there! Please feel free to add to or subtract from our suggestions, depending on the needs and interests of your family.
7. 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!

8. 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've 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.

9. Each day lists an **optional "Extra Reading" assignment for children who are older.** This assignment is intended to be read privately by the child. By following this schedule, your child will read through the Old Testament in chronological order this year. If your student is in high school, we strongly recommend having them write a "title" for each chapter in the Old 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*.
10. **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 God to make His Word meaningful to each of your children.

This book is only the first in a series of three. *Foundations 2: Christ Our Messiah* covers the Gospels and the book of Acts. *Foundations 3: Christ Our Hope* covers the remainder of the New Testament and discusses important Bible doctrines and character qualities. When you finish *Foundations 3*, go back to *Foundations 1*. Your children need the review, and you can always add more memory verses or reading assignments for older children (see Appendix B).

Helpful Materials

Books

The following is a list of books that could be read by your children, in addition to the assignments we've included:

- The New Bible in Pictures for Little Eyes*, by Kenneth Taylor
- Egermeier's Bible Story Book*
- From God to Us – How We Got Our Bible*, by Norman Geisler and William Nix
- Adam and His Kin*, by Ruth Beechick
- The Bible Knowledge Commentary: Old Testament*, edited by Walvoord and Zuck
- The New Inductive Study Bible*

We strongly recommend that you have access to a good Bible dictionary, so your family can look up words that are difficult to understand or so you can add extra meaning to what you're studying. We recommend:

- The New Unger's Bible Dictionary*
- Visit blueletterbible.org if you would prefer to access a Bible dictionary, concordance, or other study tools online.

Other Materials

You may enjoy having the following:

- A box of Bible dress-up clothes, consisting of old bed sheets to be used as robes and turbans, sandals, etc.

Appendix A: Tips for Bible Memory

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

1. **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.
2. **It's easier to memorize a verse if the verse is meaningful to you.** Your job as mom 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. Ask the Holy Spirit to apply it to all of your lives.
3. **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.
4. **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.
5. **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 on Friday.

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 Psalm 1 (weeks 13-18), during week 16, you'll say Psalm 1:1-4 once a day.

Before the week starts, take a moment to write the verse (using a Sharpie marker) on a spiral-bound set of 3x5 index cards. You will use this set of verses to in coming weeks.

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

Monday – Discuss what a verse means and illustrate it. Give your children sheets of card stock (for durability), and ask them to illustrate the verse. Later, you can use these drawings to review verses you've already memorized.

Tuesday – Write the verse. For primary children, you may give them worksheets from Appendix B. Preschool children will not write the verse, but you may want to have them point to letters or numbers in the verse. Save all written work on a clipboard or in Junior or Middler's notebooks.

Wednesday – 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!

Thursday – By now your kids should have nearly memorized the verse. Today is a good day for contests. "Everyone with blue eyes, say the verse." "Everyone wearing green, say the verse." Boys against girls, Primaries against Juniors, etc.

Friday – Today, after saying the verse several times as a group, have each child say it individually. 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, who I expect to say it perfectly. You may wish to have a "verse recital" on Friday evenings at supper, where the kids can show Dad how well they've learned it and 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.

Bible Time - Week 1

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Memory Verse	<input type="checkbox"/> illustrate	<input type="checkbox"/> write	<input type="checkbox"/> motions	<input type="checkbox"/> contests	<input type="checkbox"/> test
Books of the Bible	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Read the Bible	<input type="checkbox"/> Ps. 119:1-16	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen. 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen. 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen. 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen. 4:1-16
Calvary Chapel*		<input type="checkbox"/> #1	<input type="checkbox"/> #2	<input type="checkbox"/> #4	<input type="checkbox"/> #5
Other Activities	<input type="checkbox"/> ☞	<input type="checkbox"/> ☞ <input type="checkbox"/> Bible drill	<input type="checkbox"/> ☞	<input type="checkbox"/> ☞ <input type="checkbox"/> Bible drill	<input type="checkbox"/> ☞ <input type="checkbox"/> Journals
Extra Reading	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen. 1-6	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen. 7-12	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen. 13-17	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen. 18-22	<input type="checkbox"/> Job 1-4

Mom's Notes:

Memory Verse:

2 Timothy 3:16-17 – “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”

Say the Books of the Bible:

Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus
Numbers
Deuteronomy

Bible Drills:

Tuesday

- Genesis 1:1
- Genesis 3:15
- Exodus 1:8
- Exodus 11:3
- Leviticus 16:19
- Leviticus 23:2
- Numbers 9:2
- Numbers 20:8
- Deuteronomy 6:5
- Deuteronomy 10:12

Thursday

- Genesis 5:27
- Numbers 14:8
- Leviticus 1:3
- Exodus 19:5
- Deuteronomy 28:13
- Genesis 50:20
- Deuteronomy 26:15
- Numbers 2:2
- Exodus 3:2
- Leviticus 23:3

☞ This symbol means that you should check the next page for notes or activity suggestions.

* Download free activity pages from calvarycurriculum.com/childrens-curriculum-original.

Week 1 - Notes:

Memory Verse: See tips for Bible memory in Appendix A.

Activities:

Monday -

- Today your family is going to discuss some important Bible facts. Have each child open his Bible and take a look at the many things inside:

- Table of Contents
- Old Testament - How many books? Count them!
- New Testament - How many books? Count them!
- Chapter numbers and verse numbers
- Footnotes, Appendices, and other helps.

God spoke to men called “prophets” the exact messages He wanted written down. Read 2 Peter 1:20-21 together. God wrote the Bible over 1,600 years. He used at least 40 different men to write His words down.

The Bible was written in three different languages: Hebrew (the Old Testament), Greek (the New Testament), and Aramaic (small portions of the Old Testament).

Why should we study the Bible? How will it help us? Read Hebrews 4:12 together.

- Make a list of things you each want to learn from your study of the Old Testament this year. Keep the lists in your Bible Journals.
- Older children could make a list of all the verbs used in Psalm 119:1-16.

Tuesday -

- Draw pictures illustrating what God did each day of creation week.
- Older children could discuss the meaning of the plural pronoun “us” used in Genesis 1:26.

Wednesday -

- Make a map of where the Garden of Eden may have been located, marking the rivers mentioned in Genesis 2:8-14.

Thursday -

- Define the word “subtil” used in Genesis 3:1 (KJV)*.
- List the characteristics of the tree in Genesis 3:6. Compare with 1 John 2:15-16.
- Discuss the meaning of Genesis 3:15.

Friday -

- Discuss the meaning of Genesis 4:7.

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

Bible Time - Week 2

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Memory Verse	<input type="checkbox"/> illustrate	<input type="checkbox"/> write	<input type="checkbox"/> motions	<input type="checkbox"/> contests	<input type="checkbox"/> test
Books of the Bible	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Read the Bible	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen. 4:17-5:32	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen. 5:28-6:22	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen. 7	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen. 8:1-9:19	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen. 11:1-9
Calvary Chapel	<input type="checkbox"/> #6	<input type="checkbox"/> #7	<input type="checkbox"/> #8	<input type="checkbox"/> #9	<input type="checkbox"/> #10
Other Activities	<input type="checkbox"/> ♪	<input type="checkbox"/> ♪ <input type="checkbox"/> Bible drill	<input type="checkbox"/> ♪	<input type="checkbox"/> ♪ <input type="checkbox"/> Bible drill	<input type="checkbox"/> ♪ <input type="checkbox"/> Journals
Extra Reading	<input type="checkbox"/> Job 5-10	<input type="checkbox"/> Job 11-16	<input type="checkbox"/> Job 17-21	<input type="checkbox"/> Job 22-27	<input type="checkbox"/> Job 28-31

Mom's Notes:

Memory Verse:

Exodus 20:1-3 "And God spake all these words, saying, I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other gods before me."

Say the Books of the Bible:

Genesis	Joshua
Exodus	Judges
Leviticus	Ruth
Numbers	1 & 2 Samuel
Deuteronomy	1 & 2 Kings
	1 & 2 Chronicles
	Ezra
	Nehemiah
	Esther

Bible Drills:

Tuesday

- Joshua 1:8
- Judges 6:1
- Ruth 3:18
- 1 Samuel 7:3
- 2 Kings 22:2
- 1 Chronicles 21:17
- 2 Chronicles 7:5
- Ezra 3:11
- Nehemiah 4:6
- Esther 8:6

Thursday

- Genesis 1:26
- 1 Chronicles 16:29
- Judges 20:16
- Leviticus 19:11
- Ruth 1:16
- Exodus 20:12
- 2 Kings 2:11
- 1 Samuel 17:37
- Nehemiah 8:8
- Numbers 14:41

Week 2 - Notes:

Activities:

Monday –

- Make a timeline for the descendents of Seth listed in Genesis 5:3-32. Show when each was born and how long he lived.

Tuesday –

- Figure out the dimensions of the ark if 1 cubit = 18 inches.

Wednesday –

- Using Monday's timeline, show when the flood started. Save this timeline and add to it when you'd like to as you continue to read in Genesis.

Thursday –

- On your timeline, show when the flood ended, when the waters receded, and when everyone left the ark.

Friday –

- Read Genesis 10 and add the names to your timeline or make "Noah's Family Tree."

Bible Time - Week 3

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Memory Verse	<input type="checkbox"/> illustrate	<input type="checkbox"/> write	<input type="checkbox"/> motions	<input type="checkbox"/> contests	<input type="checkbox"/> test
Books of the Bible	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Read the Bible	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen. 11:26-12:9	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen. 12:10-13:1	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen. 13:1- 18	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen. 14	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen. 15- 16
Calvary Chapel	<input type="checkbox"/> #11	<input type="checkbox"/> #12	<input type="checkbox"/> #13	<input type="checkbox"/> #14	<input type="checkbox"/> #15
Other Activities	<input type="checkbox"/> ♪	<input type="checkbox"/> ♪ <input type="checkbox"/> Bible drill	<input type="checkbox"/> ♪	<input type="checkbox"/> ♪ <input type="checkbox"/> Bible drill	<input type="checkbox"/> ♪ <input type="checkbox"/> Journals
Extra Reading	<input type="checkbox"/> Job 32-35	<input type="checkbox"/> Job 36- 40	<input type="checkbox"/> Job 41-42, Gen. 23-24	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen. 25- 28	<input type="checkbox"/> Gen. 29- 32

Mom's Notes:

Memory Verse:

Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth... Exodus 20:4

Say the Books of the Bible:

Genesis	Joshua	Job
Exodus	Judges	Psalms
Leviticus	Ruth	Proverbs
Numbers	1 & 2 Samuel	Ecclesiastes
Deuteronomy	1 & 2 Kings	Song of Solomon
	1 & 2 Chronicles	
	Ezra	
	Nehemiah	
	Esther	

Bible Drills:

Tuesday

- Job 2:2
- Psalms 104:1
- Proverbs 11:13
- Ecclesiastes 10:18
- Song of Solomon 6:1
- Job 42:2
- Psalms 29:11
- Proverbs 3:27
- Ecclesiastes 3:1
- Song of Solomon 2:1

Thursday

- Job 19:25
- Ezra 7:10
- 1 Kings 3:9
- Ecclesiastes 3:12
- Esther 4:14
- Joshua 24:15
- Exodus 32:26
- 2 Chronicles 28:9
- 2 Samuel 10:12
- Song of Solomon 8:7

Week 3 - Notes:

Activities:

Monday –

- Read Genesis 11:10-32 and add these names to your list from Week 2, Friday.

Tuesday –

- Begin making a map of Abram's travels.
- Discuss God's covenant with Abram in Genesis 12:1-3, 7.

Wednesday –

- Add the cities mentioned in Genesis 13 to Monday's map.

Thursday –

- Add the cities mentioned in Genesis 14 to your map.
- Read Hebrews 7 and discuss it in light of Genesis 14:18-24. Note: The Levitical priests will be discussed in Exodus, Week 11 and after.

Friday –

- Discuss God's promises to Abram in Genesis 15.
- Discuss God's promises to Hagar in Genesis 16:10-12.