

# Introduction to Nakh

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

*Foundations of Nakh* is a one-year plan to studying the *Tanakh* (Old Testament), specifically the Prophets and Writings.

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

What Christians refer to as the Old Testament is referred to as the *Tanakh* by Jews. It comes from an acronym for the three parts of the Hebrew Scriptures — the *Torah* (Teaching), the *Nevi'im* (Prophets), and the *Ketuvim* (Writings).

T-N-K, or Tanakh

Some Jews refer to the *Torah* and the *Nakh* – referring to the *Nevi'im* and *Ketuvim* as separate from the *Torah*.

Since this curriculum draws from passages from both the *Nevi'im* and the *Ketuvim*, we've decided to title it *Nakh*.

We compiled this curriculum with several objectives in mind:

1. To give our children a firm understanding of the **chronological history** of the people of Israel in the Old Testament, as well as a strong understanding of **prophecy**, 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 Messiah 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**.
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 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. 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 entire Old Testament in chronological order this year. (The entire Old Testament is *not* covered in the daily readings together with your entire family.) If your students are 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*.
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.

## Nakh Foundations | Week 1

(Joshua 1-11)

	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 Nakh	<input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 1-2	<input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 3-4	<input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 5-6	<input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 7-8	<input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 9-11
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*
Optional Reading	Psalms 1-2	Psalms 3-4	Psalms 5-6	Psalms 7-8, 11	Psalms 9-10

### Mom's Notes:

Memory Verse:

Joshua 1:8 – “This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.”

Bible Drills:

#### Day 2 – “Sanctify”

- Leviticus 20:7
- Genesis 2:3
- Job 1:5
- Jeremiah 1:5
- John 17:17

#### Day 4 – “The eyes of YHWH”

- Genesis 6:8
- 2 Chronicles 16:9
- Psalm 34:15
- Proverbs 15:3
- 1 Peter 3:12

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

## **Joshua 1-11 – Discussion and Activities**

### **Day 1**

- Why should we never be afraid?
- How old do you think Rahab was when she first about the God of Israel? (2:9-11)
- You may wish to make a map of the territory of Israel (1:4). See [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tribal\\_allotments\\_of\\_Israel](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tribal_allotments_of_Israel) or [http://www.generationword.com/ot\\_maps/map\\_imgs/64\\_js.1.jpg](http://www.generationword.com/ot_maps/map_imgs/64_js.1.jpg)

### **Day 2**

- What does it mean to sanctify\* yourself? (3:5) Look up Exodus 19:10-13 and Leviticus 11:44.
- Why did they erect 12 stones? (4:6-7)
- What does it mean when you read “to this day” in the book of Joshua? (4:9)
- What else were the Israelites to do on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the first month? (4:19) See Exodus 12:1-3.

### **Day 3**

- What did the Torah say must be done before the celebration of Passover? See Exodus 12:48-49.
- Why do you think the captain of YHWH’s army [*host*] told Joshua that the ground was holy? (5:15) Who do you think this person was?
- What are accursed things (6:18)? See Leviticus 27:28-29.
- What curse did Joshua make in 6:26?

### **Day 4**

- Try to read Psalm 11 today as well.
- How much of the Torah did Joshua read? Is there any part of the Torah that has not been written down since the time of Moses? (8:34-35)

### **Day 5**

- Why did Joshua and the men of Israel make this mistake? (9:14)
- You may wish to read a short article about today’s event: <http://www.icr.org/article/19053/>
- When does a day begin? (10:27-28)
- Who were the *Anakim*? (11:22) You may wish to look them up in your Bible and learn more about their history.

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



## Nakh Foundations | Week 2

(Joshua 12-19)

	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 Nakh	<input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 12-13	<input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 14	<input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 15-16	<input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 17	<input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 18-19
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*
Optional Reading	Psalms 12-13	Psalms 14-15	Psalms 16-17	Psalm 18	Psalms 19-20

### Mom's Notes:

Memory Verse:

Isaiah 43:1 – “But now thus saith YHWH that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.”

Bible Drills:

#### Day 2 – “inheritance”

- 1 Samuel 10:1
- 1 Kings 8:51
- Job 42:15
- Psalm 94:14
- Colossians 1:12

#### Day 4 – “cast lots”

- Leviticus 16:8
- Nehemiah 10:34
- Psalm 22:18
- Jonah 1:7
- John 19:24

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



## **Joshua 12-19 – Discussion and Activities**

### **Day 1**

- If you didn't last week, you may wish to make a map of the territory of Israel, as it was allotted to the various tribes: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tribal\\_allotments\\_of\\_Israel](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tribal_allotments_of_Israel) or [http://www.generationword.com/ot\\_maps/map\\_imgs/64\\_js.1.jpg](http://www.generationword.com/ot_maps/map_imgs/64_js.1.jpg)
- Underline the following words (KJV): 13:1 – “there remaineth yet very much land to be possessed” and 13:6 – “them will I drive out from before the children of Israel.” What was YHWH trying to remind the people?
- Why did they kill Balaam? (13:22) Do you remember the story of Balaam? (See Numbers 22:24.)

### **Day 2**

- What were the two tribes of Joseph? See Genesis 48.
- According to 14:8, how did Caleb follow YHWH? What is the opposite of following YHWH?
- What request did Caleb make? Why? Was it wrong for Caleb to ask this? See Hebrews 4:16.

### **Day 3**

- Read 15:18-19. Where did Ascah learn to be bold in her requests? Why did a woman not usually receive an inheritance?
- According to 15:63, why couldn't the children of Judah drive out the inhabitants of Jerusalem? What should they have done?
- Remember – who are the children of Joseph in 16:1? (see 16:4)
- Was it obedient for the people not to drive out the Canaanites? See Deuteronomy 20:16-18. Why did YHWH tell them to destroy them?

### **Day 4**

- Why didn't the children of Joseph want to clear the hill country? Did Joshua change his mind? Read 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13.

### **Day 5**

- Where was the ark set up? Can you find this place on the map?
- Why is casting lots a good way for Joshua to divide up the land (18:10) See Proverbs 16:33 and Proverbs 18:18.
- Note on Joshua 19:47 – We will read more about this later in Judges 18.

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## Nakh Foundations | Week 3

(Joshua 20-24)

	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 Nakh	<input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 20	<input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 21	<input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 22	<input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 23	<input type="checkbox"/> Joshua 24
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*
Optional Reading	Psalms 21-22	Psalms 23-27	Psalms 28-30	Psalm 31-32	Psalms 33-34

### Mom's Notes:

Memory Verse:

Joshua 24:15 – “And if it seem evil unto you to serve YHWH, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve YHWH.”

Bible Drills:

#### Day 2 – “refuge”

- Deuteronomy 33:27
- 2 Samuel 22:3
- Psalm 9:9
- Isaiah 28:15
- Jeremiah 16:19

#### Day 4 – “snare”

- Exodus 23:33
- Psalm 106:36
- Proverbs 29:25
- Ecclesiastes 9:12
- 2 Timothy 2:26

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

## **Joshua 20-24 – Discussion and Activities**

### **Day 1**

- The cities of refuge were explained in detail in Numbers 35:6-34, if you need a review.
- How many of us are guilty of wanting to murder others? See Matthew 5:21-22.
- According to Hebrews 6:18, where can we flee for refuge? (You might also want to see Philippians 3:9 and Romans 8:1. Why doesn't our righteousness come from the law? Because we do not obey it as we should.)

### **Day 2**

- The cities to be given to the Levites were explained in detail in Numbers 35:1-8, if you need a review.
- How are we to care for those who minister before YHWH? See 1 Corinthians 9:1-14 and 1 Timothy 5:17-18.

### **Day 3**

- Why did Joshua tell the soldiers to return home and share the plunder with their brothers who had stayed at home? Were the soldiers better than the brothers who had remained behind to care for the women and children and to care for their farmlands? What can this teach us?
- Was it right for the heads of the tribes of Israel to be worried about the altar that the tribes built on the east side of the Jordan? (Yes! Sin has costly consequences!) See 1 Corinthians 5:9-13.
- Should we be too quick to judge on just the evidence we see with our eyes? What explanation did the tribes on the east side of Jordan give?

### **Day 4**

- What does it mean to turn aside to the right or to the left? (v. 6)
- Look up the word “courageous” in a Strong’s concordance (v. 6). Can you explain what it means?
- Look up “snares” and “traps” in a Strong’s concordance (v. 13).

### **Day 5**

- What is a covenant? With whom were the people entering into a covenant?
- Who were the witnesses to the covenant? (vs. 22-27)
- Older students and adults might like to study more about covenants in the Scriptures at <http://www.setapartpeople.com/introduction-covenants-part-1>

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