

## The Schoolyear Bible Reading Plan Year 1

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 1	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Psalms 1-4	1:1-3; 3:1-8	1	Ps. 1: What is a tree like? How does that image help us when we think about what Jesus has done for us? Ps. 3: What adversity faces David (vv. 1-2)? How does David react (vv. 3-4)? What are the consequences of his trust in the Lord (vv. 5-8)?	
			2	Ps. 1: Compare and contrast the righteous and the wicked in this Psalm. Ps. 3: What adversity faces David (vv. 1-2)? How does David react (vv. 3-4)? What are the consequences of his trust in the Lord (vv. 5-8)?	
Day 2	Genesis 1	1:1-31	1	What does this story of creation tell us about God? What was so different about the man and the woman that God made?	Part 1: The Very Good Beginning
			2	Why is it so important to understand that God made the world? According to this passage, what are aspects of God's likeness, or image, that we as humans share?	
Day 3	Genesis 2	2:1-25	1	How is this passage similar to what we read yesterday? How is it different? How does God show that He cares for the man that He has made?	Part 1: The Very Good Beginning
			2	What is the emphasis of the creation account of Genesis 1? And of Genesis 2? Describe God's relationship to Adam.	
Day 4	Genesis 3	3:24	1	Why do you think Eve chooses to listen to the serpent rather than God? How does God show His love to Adam and Eve despite their sin?	Part 2: A Very Sad Day
			2	Describe all the effects of Adam's and Eve's sin. How do you experience these same things as a result of your own sin? Find evidence of God's mercy and grace in this passage. Look especially at verse 15.	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 2	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Genesis 4-5	4:1-16	1	Why is it that Abel's sacrifice was acceptable to God but Cain's was not? How does God punish sin in this chapter? How does He show mercy?	Part 3: Life Outside the Garden
			2	If you could see inside Cain's heart in this chapter, what would you find? How is God merciful in this chapter? How is God just in this chapter? Does it seem strange that He can be both just and merciful?	
Day 2	Psalms 5-6	5:1-8; 6:6-10	1	Ps. 5: What do you learn about God's character from this psalm? Ps. 6: David is struggling. How do you know he still trusts in the Lord even during his struggle?	
			2	Ps.5: Because of what David knows about God's character, how does that influence the way he prays? What do you learn from that to guide your prayers? Ps.6: Describe how you have assurance of God hearing and answering your prayer. How does David's example help you in this regard?	
Day 3	Genesis 6-7	6:5-14; 7:11-16, 22-24	1	How does God feel about His creation in this passage? How is this different from Genesis 1? Like the story of Cain and Abel, can you find evidence here of God both punishing sin and showing mercy?	Part 3: Life Outside the Garden
			2	Describe God's relationship to human beings in chapter 6. What has happened since Genesis chapter 1? What do you think of God's decision to punish sin in this chapter - does it seem fair or unfair? What does it reveal about God's feeling towards sin?	
Day 4	Genesis 8-10	8:1-5, 20-22; 9:8-17	1	How does Noah show his love for God and God His love for Noah? What is a covenant? Who makes a covenant in this chapter, Noah or God?	Part 3: Life Outside the Garden
			2	What is the importance of 6:1? "But God remembered Noah. . ." Do you think it seemed to Noah that God had forgotten him? Does it ever seem that God has forgotten you? What do you learn about God's covenant with Noah? And what does it reveal about God that He initiates a covenant with His people?	
Day 5	Genesis 11-12	11:1-9; 11:27-12:9	1	Why was God displeased with the people building the tower? What was their sin? Does the Bible name a special reason why God would show favor to Abram? Can we earn God's love?	Part 4: God's Big Promise
		11:1-9; 12:1-9	2	How is the sin of building the tower like the sin of eating the fruit? Did the blessings promised to Abram depend upon him being good or were they unconditional? Were they blessings intended only for him or for others?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 3	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Psalms 7-8	7:1-17	1	What kind of persecution is David facing; what are the clues in this Psalm? What do we learn about how prayer should end (v. 17)?	
			2	On what grounds does David make his appeal to God (vv. 1 - 11)? There is a model for prayer here: humility, acknowledging God's righteous judgement and then rejoicing and giving thanks (v. 17). What do you learn from that?	
Day 2	Genesis 13-14	13:1-13; 14:17-20	1	Why would Abram let Lot choose first? Would that have been hard or easy for you to do? Why? Who is Melchizedek? What is a priest?	Part 4: God's Big Promise
		13:8-18; 14:17-20	2	How does Abram demonstrate faith in this chapter? How is his faith rewarded? Why does faith please God? Who is Melchizedek? Why might he be important to this story (and later in the New Testament)?	
Day 3	Genesis 15	15:1-6	1	What does God tell Abram not to do? Of what might Abram be afraid? According to this passage, what is righteousness? Is that still true today? Are we righteous by believing God?	Part 4: God's Big Promise
		15:1-6, 12-21	2	Would it have been difficult for Abram to believe God's incredible promises? Why/why not? Would it have been difficult for you? What does God predict in this passage? What does this reveal about the nature of God's promises?	
Day 4	Genesis 16	16:1-6*	1	Does Sarah seem to doubt or to trust God's promises? Explain. How do we know that Sarah's actions weren't God's best in this situation?	
		16:1-15*	2	Who is guilty in this chapter and of what are they guilty? What does Hagar's interaction with God reveal about His character?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 4	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Genesis 17	17:1-8*	1	Why does God change Abram's name? What does his new name mean? What does it mean that God is holy? What evidence of God's holiness do we see in this chapter?	
		17:9-27*	2	What is the significance of circumcision? Does Abraham seem to falter in his faith in this chapter? How does God respond?	
Day 2	Psalms 9-10	9:7-11; 10:15-18	1	What do we learn about the Lord in both Psalms 9 and 10? Psalm 9:9 says that the Lord is a refuge for the oppressed and a stronghold in times of trouble. Where ultimately does our refuge lie? Who is our stronghold?	
			2	Make a detailed list of the truths about the Lord in Psalms 9 and 10. Psalm 9 describes the actions and longings of David and his experience with the Lord. Contrast that with the experiences and longings of the wicked in Psalm 10.	
Day 3	Genesis 18-19	18:9-21	1	What was Sarah's response to the news brought by the three visitors? How do you answer the question, "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" Describe the kind of person that God intends for Abraham to become. Does God choose us because we are good or because He wants to make us good? What's the difference?	
		18:22-33; 19:15-22	2	What role does Abraham play in this chapter? What does this say about the dignity of human beings and their relationship to God? What similarities do you see in Lot's rescue compared with the stories of the Adam and Eve, of Cain, and of Noah?	
Day 4	Genesis 20-21	21:1-7	1	What do we see of God's character revealed in this chapter? Should we see laughter as a gift from God? Why/why not?	Part 5: God's People Grow
		21:1-21	2	Recall the circumstances surrounding Ishmael's birth. What is now the result of that sinful choice? How is God showing His mercy to Hagar once again? What does this reveal about God's nature?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 5	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Genesis 22	22:1-14	1	<p>What do you think Abraham was thinking and feeling as he made the three day journey with his son to Moriah?</p> <p>What New Testament story does this foreshadow? How are these stories similar?</p>	
			2	<p>What evidence is given to indicate Abraham's faith in this chapter? How is he confident in God?</p> <p>Why would God have tested Abraham in this way?</p>	
Day 2	Genesis 23	23:1-9	1	<p>How old was Sarah when she died?</p> <p>Why is it important to know that Abraham bought the burial place here in Canaan?</p>	
			2	<p>What might Abraham have been feeling when Sarah died?</p> <p>Why is it important to know that Abraham bought the burial place here in Canaan?</p>	
Day 3	Genesis 24	24:1-4, 42-49	1	<p>Why was it so important for Abraham that Isaac's wife be from his homeland rather than from Canaan?</p> <p>How is it evident that God was in charge of all that happened in this chapter?</p>	
		24:1-8, 57-67	2	<p>Why does Abraham insist on sending his servant back to his homeland?</p> <p>How does Rebekah respond to Abraham's servant? Are you surprised by this? What was Isaac's response like when he for the first time met Rebekah?</p>	
Day 4	Genesis 25-27	25:19-28; 27:30-41	1	<p>What was predicted of the future of Rebekah's children? How do you think the boys felt toward each other and their parents in light of verses 27 and 28?</p> <p>What do you think of Jacob's actions in this chapter? Would it seem strange that God would indeed bless him rather than Esau?</p>	
		25:29-34; 27:30-41	2	<p>What does Esau's willingness to sell his birthright tell you about him?</p> <p>Does Esau bear any responsibility for the blessing that he loses in this chapter? Why/why not?</p>	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 6	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Genesis 28-30	28:10-19; 29:15-30*	1	<p>What promise does God make to Jacob? Are you surprised at God's goodness towards Jacob? Why?</p> <p>What similarities do you see in the Rachel/Leah narrative compared with the Sarah/Hagar story and the Jacob/Esau story? What might God want to teach us about rivalry?</p>	Part 5: God's People Grow
		29:31-30:24*	2	<p>Does the fact that Leah could bear children while Rachel could not mean that God favored Leah more than Rachel?</p> <p>When we prosper, does it mean that God is always blessing us? Or when we suffer, does it mean that God is always cursing us? Give examples.</p>	
Day 2	Genesis 31-33	31:1-3; 32:9-12; 33:1-11	1	<p>Why is Jacob fleeing from Laban? Who does he meet on his return trip?</p> <p>Does Jacob's prayer in 32:9-12 indicate that Jacob has in some way changed from the young man we knew a few chapters back?</p>	Part 5: God's People Grow
		31:1-3; 32:9-12; 33:1-12	2	<p>How does Jacob show humility as he prays? Has Jacob changed from the young man we knew at the beginning of his story? How?</p> <p>Do you think that this is the end of the Esau/Jacob rivalry? Are you surprised by Esau's willingness to forgive Jacob?</p>	
Day 3	Psalms 11-13	11:1-7; 12:1-8	1	<p>Ps. 11: Does the Lord see the wicked's actions and hearts? What does He do to them in judgement?</p> <p>Ps. 12: How does the psalmist describe the "words" of the Lord?</p>	
			2	<p>Ps. 11: What gives David confidence to (not flee and) and stand firm?</p> <p>Ps. 12: How are the word of man and the Word of God contrasted in this Psalm?</p>	
Day 4	Genesis 34	34:1-12*	1	<p>Was it right for Jacob and his sons to defend the honor of their sister/daughter? Was it right for them to devise a plan of revenge based on deception?</p> <p>How should we handle our anger toward other people?</p>	
		34:1-30*	2	<p>Why would Jacob and his sons be opposed to marrying into the family of Hamor and his sons? (Think back to how Isaac's marriage was arranged.)</p> <p>Were the actions of Dinah's brothers justified? Why/why not?</p>	
Day 5	Genesis 35-36	35:1-15	1	<p>What significant thing had happened earlier at Bethel (28:10-22)?</p> <p>How does Jacob describe his relationship with God? What is the significance of Jacob's new name in this chapter?</p>	
			2	<p>Explain how Jacob has seen God provide for and protect him and his family.</p> <p>What command does God give Jacob that parallels a command He gave Adam and Eve in the garden? Why might this be important?</p>	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 7	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Genesis 37-38	37:1-35	1	<p>What would have been some of the causes for the hatred Joseph's brothers felt toward him?</p> <p>What role does Reuben play in this chapter? What would have happened had he remained silent because of fear? Have you ever had an opportunity to be a Reuben in a crowd?</p>	Part 5: God's People Grow
			2	<p>Why was the hatred Joseph's brothers felt for him so intense? What does this chapter teach us about some of the root causes of hatred?</p> <p>If Joseph's brothers could treat him with such cruelty and lie to their father, what does that indicate about their hearts? How do you think they felt to see their father, Jacob, so devastated over Joseph's apparent death?</p>	
Day 2	Genesis 39	39:1-23*	1	<p>How is God's hand of blessing evident in Joseph's life?</p> <p>Did God's blessing on Joseph prevent his suffering? Explain.</p>	
			2	<p>What does it mean to fear God? How does Joseph demonstrate his fear of God?</p> <p>God was blessing Joseph, and yet He didn't intervene in his suffering. Why would God allow us to suffer injustice?</p>	
Day 3	Psalms 14-16	14:1-7; 15:1-5; 16:1-11	1	<p>Ps. 14: If v. 1 says that "no one is good," how can we be saved?</p> <p>Ps. 16: What do vv. 1-2 tell us about how we should believe and have faith in the Lord?</p>	
			2	<p>Ps. 14: What can we learn from Psalm 14 about why people might say there is no God (v. 1; cf. 2 Cor. 4:3-4)?</p> <p>Ps. 16: What are the marks of a believing person (vv. 1-4)? What are the privileges (vv. 5-7)? What are their prospects (vv. 9-11)?</p>	
Day 4	Genesis 40-41	41:1-16, 28-40	1	<p>How long has it been since Joseph has been in prison since the cupbearer and baker left? Do you imagine he might have been tempted to lose hope?</p> <p>By what power did Joseph interpret the dreams? Did Joseph give God credit for this power?</p>	Part 5: God's People Grow
		41:37-57	2	<p>Why does Pharaoh place trust and confidence in Joseph? Is it true today that even as we interact with unbelievers, we can gain their trust and confidence because of our own faith in Christ? Give examples.</p> <p>Is Joseph's ability to interpret dreams a supernatural spiritual gift?</p>	
Day 5	Genesis 42-43	42:1-25	1 1 2 2	<p>How does Joseph treat his brothers when he meets them in Egypt?</p> <p>Do you sense that the brothers are remorseful for what they did to Joseph? Explain.</p> <p>How does Joseph initially treat his brothers? And when he later cries, does this indicate a change of heart? Explain.</p> <p>Explain what it means, "a reckoning for his blood." Does God demand a reckoning for all of our sins?</p>	Part 5: God's People Grow

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 8	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Genesis 44	44:1-34	1	Why would Joseph have intentionally planted his silver cup in Benjamin's sack of grain? How do we know that the brothers have really changed?	
			2	Who was the brother who offered himself in place of Benjamin? Why is it significant that Judah was this brother? (Jesus descended from Judah.)	
Day 2	Genesis 45	45:1-13	1	Why does Joseph cry at the beginning of this chapter? Why does Joseph refuse to blame his brothers for what they did to him?	Part 6: God's People Become Great
		45:1-13, 25-28	2	Why might Joseph's brothers have been "dismayed at his presence" (v. 3)? What purposes has Joseph discovered in all of his suffering? Is it easy or hard to see God's plan when our lives are difficult? Give examples.	
Day 3	Genesis 46-47	46:1-4, 28-34	1	Why would Jacob need God's reassurance to be unafraid to go down to Egypt? Describe the reunion between Joseph and his father. Imagine how they were both feeling. How long has it likely been since they last saw each other? (Probably 15 years.)	Part 6: God's People Become Great
		47:7-22	2	How are Jacob's actions a fulfillment of God's covenant promise to Abraham? Consider Joseph's crucial role during the famine. How could his suffering in the past now be seen as an expression of God's mercy?	
Day 4	Genesis 48-49	48:1-16	1	Why would Jacob want to remind Joseph of God's promises to him and to his father, Abraham? How does Jacob bless Joseph?	Part 6: God's People Become Great
		49:8-12, 28-33	2	What prophetic blessing does Jacob pronounce on Judah? Why is this significant? What instructions does Jacob give regarding his burial, and why is he so specific in these instructions?	



School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 9	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Genesis 50	50:1-26	1	<p>What do we learn about Joseph's character in this passage?</p> <p>If God can change evil in our lives into good, how should we handle it when bad things happen to us?</p>	Part 6: God's People Become Great
			2	<p>Describe Joseph's relationship to the Pharaoh. What might prevent him from leaving Egypt for the Promise Land?</p> <p>How could Joseph so easily forgive his brothers? What can we learn from this passage which will help us to forgive others?</p>	
Day 2	Exodus 1-2	1:8-17; 2:11-25	1	<p>What did the Egyptians do to try and harm the Israelites? Did it work?</p> <p>What motivated Moses to act as he did? Can your motives be right while your actions be wrong?</p>	Part 6: God's People Become Great
			2	<p>How do we know from chapter 2 that Moses is not yet ready to lead God's people? What will need to happen to him?</p> <p>What makes you expect God to intervene and rescue His people?</p>	
Day 3	Exodus 3	3:1-15	1	<p>Is there anything significant about God appearing as a fire? What does this reveal about His character?</p> <p>By what name should Moses make God known to the Israelites? What does this name mean?</p>	Part 6: God's People Become Great
			2	<p>How does this passage reveal the holiness of God? How should we respond to God's holiness?</p> <p>How long ago did God give His promise to Abraham? Do you think the Israelites have sustained their faith in the hundreds of years between the promise and now? What might renew that faith if it indeed is wavering?</p>	
Day 4	Exodus 4	4:1-14	1	<p>Do you think Moses wants this job God is asking him to do? Why or why not?</p> <p>What was the purpose of the miraculous signs which God gave Moses the ability to perform?</p>	Part 6: God's People Become Great
			2	<p>Why was Moses so reluctant to take on the job for which God was commissioning him?</p> <p>What was the purpose of the miraculous signs which God gave Moses the ability to perform?</p> <p>Does God always produce a sign when our faith wavers? Think of other biblical examples.</p>	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 10	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Exodus 5	5:1-23	1	What was Pharaoh's response to Moses? And to the Israelites? How does Moses feel at the end of this chapter?	Part 6: God's People Become Great
			2	Why does the suffering of the Israelites increase in this chapter? Who do they blame? And how does Moses respond? Put yourself in the place of Moses. How difficult would it be to lead this people? How would you sustain your faith in the midst of these difficulties?	
Day 2	Psalms 17-18	17:1-7; 18:1-3	1	Ps.17: David prays to God in vv. 1-7. Who is it that he feels will save him and why? Ps.18: How does David describe his trust in the Lord?	
			2	Ps.17: On what grounds does David make his plea (see 1 John 3:21-22)? Ps.18: Describe how David expresses his trust in the Lord in vv. 1-3. Where do people today put their trust (see Hab. 3:17, Heb. 13:5-6)?	
Day 3	Exodus 6	6:1-13	1	What promises does God make to the Israelites? What aspect of God's character is emphasized in this chapter?	Part 6: God's People Become Great
			2	By what name had God revealed Himself to the patriarchs? And now to Moses? Why might this be important? What prevented the Israelites from believing all of God's good promises? Can these same obstacles stand in our way today of grasping God's goodness to us?	
Day 4	Exodus 7	7:1-25	1	Did God tell Moses that it would be easy or difficult to persuade Pharaoh? Why would God not soften Pharaoh's heart immediately? Why was Pharaoh's heart hardened?	Part 6: God's People Become Great
			2	Were the magicians able to replicate the signs Moses and Aaron performed? By what power? What does this tell us about sources of supernatural power? Does everything miraculous happen by God's command? Why would God delay His rescue plan and allow Pharaoh to harden his heart repeatedly?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 11	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Exodus 8	8:1-2, 8-15, 18-19, 20-23	1	Name the second, third and fourth plagues. What important change came about with the third? Did the plagues come upon the Israelites? Why not?	Part 6: God's People Become Great
			2	When the magicians could not replicate the gnats, what was their conclusion? And Pharaoh's? What does this tell us about "signs" - do they always compel us to faith? How was God demonstrating the "holiness," or separation, of His own people?	
Day 2	Exodus 9	9:1-35	1	Name the fifth, sixth and seventh plagues. How was God's mercy evident in the seventh plague? How did Pharaoh respond after the seventh plague? What caused him to again harden his heart?	Part 6: God's People Become Great
			2	Recall some of the phrases used which describe God's purposes for all of the plagues. What does God want to make known about Himself? Pharaoh appears repentant immediately after the hail but then changes his mind once again. How can you tell that his is not genuine repentance?	
Day 3	Psalm 19	19:1-14	1	How does God reveal Himself in creation? How does God reveal Himself through His written word (vv. 7 - 11)?	
			2	What do we learn about God from vv. 1 - 6? What reaction should the revealed knowledge of God in general revelation (creation) AND His word produce in us (vv. 12-14)?	
Day 4	Exodus 10	10:1-11, 15-29	1	With the eight and ninth plagues, Pharaoh agrees partially to Moses' terms. Explain. How does each plague end? Why is it important that Moses' prayer brings the plagues to an end?	Part 6: God's People Become Great
			2	Verses 1 and 2 describe more about God's purposes behind the plagues. What kind of story does He want to write for the future generations of Israelites? How do you know that there is only one final plague to go? What can you expect about this plague? Will it be significantly increased in intensity?	
Day 5	Exodus 11	11:1-10	1	What would be the 10th and final plague? What kind of reputation had Moses gained in Egypt?	Part 6: God's People Become Great
			2	What would be the 10th and final plague? It is undoubtedly severe, but how is God's mercy yet evident? How would the Lord give favor to the Israelites as they left Egypt?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 12	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Exodus 12-13	12:1-13, 33-42	1	Why was the ritual described here called the "Passover?" Why is the Passover a foreshadowing of Easter?	Part 6: God's People Become Great
		12:1-13, 33-42; 13:17-22	2	Describe the elements of the Passover. How does this foreshadow Easter? What route did God choose for the Israelites and why? How did He lead them out of Egypt?	
Day 2	Exodus 14-15	14:1-30	1	God planned for it to appear as if the Israelites were wandering around so that Pharaoh would pursue them. Why? How did the Israelites react to the obstacle before them? Did they have little or great faith?	Part 6: God's People Become Great
		15:1-21	2	What qualities about God does Moses exalt in his song? Why is it important to celebrate God's victories in our lives? What are practical ways that we can do this? Tell about a time recently where you have seen God's strength in your life. Have you celebrated it?	
Day 3	Exodus 16-17	16:1-8; 17:1-7	1	What was the sin of the Israelites in both of these passages? Why was their complaining a sin against God? Instead of complaining, what would have been a proper response of trust and faith?	
			2	Why is complaining a very grievous sin in the eyes of God? Why is it clear in these passages that the Israelites don't yet trust in God's goodness? Should they already? Why? About what are you tempted to complain and doubt God's goodness?	
Day 4	Exodus 18	18:1-12	1	Who is Jethro? How do we know that he worships the one true God? What were the names of Moses' sons and what do those names mean?	
		18:13-27	2	What change did Jethro suggest to Moses and why? What might have happened if Moses didn't have Jethro's advice? Why do we need the counsel of older people in our lives? Whom do you trust in that role?	
Day 5	Exodus 19	19:1-20	1	What preparations did the people have to make to meet God at Mount Sinai? Why? What evidence is there for God's holiness in this chapter?	
			2	Who does God say that He intends the Israelites to be? What does this mean? Is the unapproachable God here in Exodus 19 the same God we know and worship? How is it that we can with boldness approach God?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 13	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Exodus 20	20:1-21	1	<p>What is the focus of the first five commandments? And the second five?</p> <p>What does v. 20 tell us about the fear of God? How can we learn to fear God more?</p>	
			2	<p>What does it mean that God is a "jealous" God? How does this explain the first several commandments?</p> <p>Because the second half of the commandments deal with our relationships with one another, what does that tell us about the importance of those relationships to God? Can we be strong spiritually while doing wrong to those around us?</p>	
Day 2	Exodus 21-23	21:33-22:6	1	<p>Explain what "restitution" means.</p> <p>Why would God ask that we make restitution? Should we do this even today? Give an example.</p>	
		22:21-28	2	<p>God identifies Himself by a certain virtue in this passage. Which one?</p> <p>Because God is compassionate, how does He expect His people to act compassionately? Name examples from this passage.</p>	
Day 3	Exodus 24	24:1-14	1	<p>Who were the leaders mentioned in this passage? What special privilege were they granted?</p> <p>Do the Israelites affirm their willingness to obey the covenant? Do you have as much confidence in them as they seem to have in themselves? Why/why not?</p>	
			2	<p>For what purpose were the leaders allowed to go up the mountain? What special privilege was granted to Moses?</p> <p>What was important about the distinctions God made between Moses and the rest of the leaders? How were the Israelites to respect Moses?</p>	
Day 4	Exodus 25-27	25:1-9	1	<p>For what project were the Israelites to contribute their possessions? Remember back to the Exodus. What did the Israelites take from the Egyptians as they fled the country?</p> <p>What will be the purpose of the tabernacle? What does it say about God and His desire to fellowship with His people?</p>	
			2	<p>The following chapters include specific instructions for building the tabernacle. Hebrews 9:23 gives insight into why these instructions were so important. Read this verse and discuss it.</p> <p>Remember back to the Exodus. What did the Israelites take from the Egyptians as they fled? How are those possessions now being used?</p>	
Day 5	Exodus 28-29	28:1-5; 29:38-46	1	<p>What special clothes were the priests to wear? Verse 2 says that the purposes of the clothes would be for "glory and for beauty." Why would beauty matter to God?</p> <p>What would be offered on the altar day and night in the tabernacle?</p>	
			2	<p>The word "consecrate" is often used in this passage. What does it mean? Who is "consecrated" and how?</p> <p>How does God continue to identify Himself in the book of Exodus? (By what past action?) See v. 46. What were the Israelites to understand about God because He had rescued them?</p>	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 14	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Exodus 31	30-31:1-11	1	Who was responsible to make the furnishings for the tabernacle? How do we know that theirs was a special job? Are you surprised that artistic gifts can be "spiritual" gifts? What are other examples of abilities the Holy Spirit can give us?	
			2	With what extraordinary gifts and abilities did God empower Bezalel and Oholiab? Why would God care about the beauty of the tabernacle? What does this reveal about Him?	
Day 2	Exodus 32	32:1-14	1	What commandment did the Israelites disobey in this chapter? Why did they disobey? How does God want to respond at first to their disobedience? What changes His mind?	
			2	What is particularly heinous about saying of the golden calf, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!"? With what argument does Moses "persuade" God to relent from His anger? Have we seen another example from Scripture where God relents from His anger because of someone's intercession? What kind of confidence can these stories give us?	
Day 3	Exodus 33-34	33:1-17	1	What does God refuse the people at the beginning of this chapter? How does He describe the Israelites? What kind of relationship do we see that Moses enjoys with God?	
		34:1-11	2	How does God describe Himself? How do you respond personally to a God who is both just and gracious? Which description of God means the most to you and why?	
Day 4	Exodus 35-39	36:1-7; 38:21-31	1	Were the Israelites generous or stingy when contributing to the tabernacle? How do you know? What kinds of materials were used in the construction of the tabernacle? Were these valuable?	
			2	What kind of problem did they encounter in terms of offerings for the tabernacle? How often do you think churches have this problem? What makes us generous toward God? Consider the intricacy and value of all the furnishings and materials used for the tabernacle. Now imagine moving all of it when God commands. Will this be an easy or difficult task?	
Day 5	Exodus 40	40:1-15, 34-38	1	If you were sitting in the courts of the tabernacle, would you be able to see the ark of the covenant? If this is where God's presence dwells and the people cannot see it or touch it, what does this say about the distance between God and His people? What was the sign of God's presence in the tabernacle? How would the cloud guide the Israelites on their journey?	
			2	Imagine yourself sitting in the court of the tabernacle. What do you see? What symbolized God's presence indwelling the tabernacle? How would the cloud guide the Israelites on their journey?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 15	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	1 Samuel 1:2-11	1:3-20	1	Do you think it was hard for Hannah to keep her promise to God? Have you ever made a promise that was hard to keep?	
			2	Hannah's prayer is very similar to what New Testament song by another mother? In whom do you think Hannah's joy chiefly lies - the boy or the Lord?	
Day 2	1 Samuel 2:12-3:21	2:12-15, 22-26; 3:4-14	1	What do you think the voice of the Lord sounded like? From whom were the sons of Eli stealing - the Israelites or God?	
			2	The text says that Samuel grew up in the "presence of the Lord" and yet he was surrounded by Eli's corrupt family; how do you think God protected him? When we are surrounded by ungodliness how does God protect us and draw us unto Himself?	
Day 3	Psalms 20-22	20:7-9; 21:1-2	1	For what was David asking in Psalm 20? What do we see that the Lord gave him in Psalm 21? (Victory.) Ps. 22: Of what does the suffering described in this psalm remind you? (Jesus Christ's sufferings.)	
			2	Ps. 20 and 21: The Psalms are full of requests to the Lord for help. What do you notice about how the authors respond to the Lord's help? What does this teach you? Ps. 22: (vv. 22-31) What will be the reaction of the people when they are delivered of suffering. Compare that to your own reaction to the resurrection of Jesus Christ. How does this psalm instruct and encourage us?	
Day 4	1 Samuel 4-6	4:10-18, 22; 5:1-12; 6:1-4, 19-20	1	Why is it that the Israelites (God's chosen people) kept losing to the Philistines? How can sin in our lives interfere with God's blessing?	
			2	Why was it significant that the Israelites lost the Ark of the Covenant? Who dwelled in the Ark of the Covenant? Where does He reside today?	
Day 5	1 Samuel 7-8	7:1-4, 10-14; 8:4-9, 11-22	1	Why did God allow the Israelites to defeat the Philistines in this chapter? What did the Israelites do to demonstrate their repentance?	
			2	Why did the Israelites demand a king? What did the desire to have a human king reveal about the Israelites?	
				<b>Christmas Break</b>	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 16	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	1 Samuel 9-10	9:2, 17-27; 10:1, 9-11, 24-27	1	Which of Saul's attributes do you think pleased the Israelites? Which of Saul's attributes do you think pleased God and caused Him to choose Saul as the first king of Israel?	
			2	What events were prophesied by Samuel to Saul following his anointing? Why were these signs important for Saul to witness personally?	
Day 2	1 Samuel 11-13	11:6, 11-15; 12; 13:6-15	1	What conditions had to be met in order for God to bless Israel and their king? Why did it disappoint the Lord that the Israelites wanted a human king?	
			2	Why did Samuel list out all the righteous acts performed by the Lord for Israel? Why was it wrong for Saul to make an offering to the Lord at Gilgal?	
Day 3	Psalms 23-25	23:1-6; 24:1-10	1	Ps. 23: What does it mean for the Lord to be David's (and our) "Shepherd"? Ps. 24: What do we learn about the Lord in this psalm?	
			2	Ps. 23: What effect does knowing that the Lord as his Shepherd have on David's thoughts about the present and the future? Ps. 24: What is required of those who worship the Lord?	
Day 4	1 Samuel 14	14:6-14, 24-30, 43-45	1	What did Saul forbid his troops to do? Did Jonathan intend to disobey his father's command?	
			2	How was Jonathan acting in faith when he attacked the Philistines? Did Saul make a wise decision by forbidding his army to eat before battle?	
Day 5	1 Samuel 15-16	15:1-3, 9-20, 22-29; 16:1, 6-14, 23	1	God commanded Saul to "totally destroy" the Amalakites for what they did to Israel; did Saul obey? In what ways is David different from Saul?	
			2	Why did God command Saul to totally destroy the Amalakites and retain none of the spoils of war? Why did the Lord reject Saul as the king of Israel?	



School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 17	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	1 Samuel 17	17:4-7, 26, 32-37, 45-49	1	What angered David most about Goliath? Before David even threw his first stone, whom did he credit with the victory?	Part 8: Going into God's Place
			2	Why does David's older brother respond to him with such contempt? What does David's anger towards the Philistines reveal about his heart?	
Day 2	1 Samuel 18	18:5-11	1	What word best captures Saul's feelings toward David? Have you ever felt jealous? Does jealousy lead you to do good things?	
			2	Is it possible to be consumed by jealousy and carry out the will of God? Is this part of Saul's reign characterized by more wisdom or folly? What are some examples?	
Day 3	1 Samuel 19-20	19:1-3, 11-17; 20:3-4, 16-23, 35-42	1	Why does Saul keep pursuing David? What is loyalty? What example of loyalty do you see in this section?	
			2	In this context, was it appropriate for Michal and Jonathan to intentionally deceive their father? What action finally caused Jonathan to realize that his father intended to kill David?	
Day 4	1 Samuel 21-24	21:1-9; 22:1-5; 23:1-4; 24:1-22	1	Why did David cut off a corner of Saul's robe? Why did David keep running from Saul rather than stop and fight him?	
			2	Why was David reluctant to attack and eliminate Saul? What about David's choice to spare Saul is most powerful?	
Day 5	1 Samuel 25	25:1-44	1	How might Nabal have better responded to David's request? Would David have been justified in attacking Nabal's clan?	
			2	Nabal's reaction wasn't just unkind and selfish, it was foolish - why? How did Abigail demonstrate wisdom in her response to the situation?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 18	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	1 Samuel 26-27	26:5-25	1	<p>What does it mean to be the "Lord's Anointed?"</p> <p>Why did David take Saul's spear and water jug?</p>	
			2	<p>Why did David show such reverence for the Lord's anointed when that person had become so evil?</p> <p>What do David's actions reveal about his character?</p>	
Day 2	1 Samuel 28-29	28:1-25; 29:1-11	1	<p>What is a medium?</p> <p>Was it right for the king of Israel to seek guidance from such a person?</p>	
			2	<p>What moral dilemma would David have had if he had joined the Philistines in their fighting?</p> <p>Could it have benefited David in the short-term to defeat Saul even with the help of the Philistines?</p>	
Day 3	Psalms 26-27	26:11-12; 27:1-14	1	<p>Ps. 26: David pledges to be faithful to the Lord, but who is it that he trusts in? His own faithfulness or the Lord?</p> <p>Ps. 27: What does David desire?</p>	
			2	<p>Ps. 27: What do verses 1-6 reveal about David's attitude in life and of his chief desire? On what is this desire based? (cf. 1 Pet. 2:4-5; 1 Cor. 6:19-20.)</p> <p>Ps. 27: What are David's seven petitions in vv. 7-14?</p>	
Day 4	1 Samuel 30-31	30:3-25; 31:1-13	1	<p>In his great sorrow, to whom did David turn and seek guidance?</p> <p>Who buried Saul?</p>	
			2	<p>Was David's mandate, which demanded that all the men would share the plunder alike, fair? What New Testament parable does this remind you of? (cf. Mt. 20:1)</p> <p>Why was it significant that the men of Jabesh Gilead were the ones who gave Saul and his sons a proper burial?</p>	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 19	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	2 Samuel 1-2	1:1-12; 2:1-11	1	Now that Saul is dead, is it clear who will become king of Israel? Who is Abner? Who is Joab?	
			2	David was already anointed by Samuel; why is he anointed again at Hebron? What earlier prophecy of Samuel's is played out immediately after the death of Saul?	
Day 2	2 Samuel 3-4	3:1, 6-11, 22-31; 4:1-11	1	What is it called when you do something to get even? Is this right or wrong? Was it right for Joab to avenge the death of his brother by killing Abner?	
			2	Was David's reaction to Rebaab and Baanah appropriate? How does this decision of David's compare Saul's earlier decision to only "mostly" destroy the Amalakitites? (1 Sam. 15:3.)	
Day 3	2 Samuel 5-6	5:1-5, 9-12, 17-25; 6:1-8	1	What is David's relationship like with God at the beginning of his reign? What happened to Uzzah when he touched the Ark of the Covenant?	Part 9: God's Blessings Grow
			2	Why do you think the Lord responded in such a dramatic way to Uzzah touching the Ark of the Covenant? What message did this send to the Israelites about following God's instructions?	
Day 4	2 Samuel 7	7:1-17	1	What kind of "house" is David talking about? What is David's purpose in building a house for the Lord?	
			2	What kind of "house" is God talking about? When God talks about the "house of David" that will endure forever, what New Testament figure could He be referring to?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 20	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	2 Samuel 8-10	8:1, 15; 9:1-13	1	Who is Mephibosheth? How was David able to keep his promise to Jonathan through Mephibosheth?	
			2	What evidence do we see in this section of God's favor being shown towards David and Israel? David was a promise keeper, reflecting God's character. When has it been difficult for you to keep a promise?	
Day 2	2 Samuel 11-12*	11:1-15, 26-27; 12:1-25	1	Why did Nathan tell David the story about the poor man and the rich man? Was David sorry for his sin? Was he still punished even though he was sorry?	
			2	What are the similarities in the prophecies made about Saul's house and David's house? While David did experience severe consequences as a result of his sin, in what way did God also extend His grace?	
Day 3	Psalms 28-30	28:6-9; 29:1-11	1	Ps. 28: David's prayer is answered by the Lord. How does he respond to that? Ps. 29: vv. 1-10 discuss the majesty and power of the Lord. How does the author respond in v. 11 after reflecting on this?	
			2	Ps. 28: David's prayer is answered by the Lord. How does he respond to that in vv. 6-8? What is his final prayer in v. 9, which is also a response to his original prayer? How does that help you think about how you should pray? Ps. 29: What are some of the characteristics of the Lord that we learn about in vv. 1-10? What is the response of the author in v. 11 after reflecting on this? What do we learn from this?	
Day 4	2 Samuel 13-15*	13:1-29; 14:1, 21-33; 15:1-18	1	When you have been wronged, do you have the right to retaliate? What consequences of David's sin are we seeing in these chapters?	
			2	Why did David leave the Ark of the Covenant in Jerusalem when he fled? While both Saul and David became ensnared in sin, what seems different about David's response to his sin?	
Day 5	2 Samuel 16-17	16:15-23; 17:1-23	1	Who is Absalom? Why would Absalom rebel against his father?	
			2	Does Absalom seem to have Israel's best interest in mind as he attempts to overthrow his father? What fulfillment of prophecy takes place as Absalom attempts to seize power?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 21	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	2 Samuel 18-19	18:1-3, 9-18, 28-33; 19:8-10, 24-30	1	How does the Lord deal with Absalom? What was David's reaction to the news of Absalom's death?	
			2	Was Joab justified in the course of action that he took in dealing with Absalom? David's homecoming is bittersweet because of the conflict between which tribes of Israel?	
Day 2	2 Samuel 20-21	20:1-2, 14-22; *21:1-14	1	What is the name of the person attempting to lead a rebellion against David in this section? What is a famine? Does God ever send famine as a consequence of sin?	
			2	Why is Sheba handed over to Joab in the town of Abel Beth Maacah? Why did God require the death of Saul's descendants in order for the relationship between God and Israel to be made right again?	
Day 3	Psalms 31-32	31:1-5; 32:3-5, 10-11	1	Ps. 31: Many psalms talk about the Lord being a "rock." What does that mean? Ps. 32: What happens when we don't confess our sin and humble ourselves before the Lord (v. 3)? What happens when we do (v. 5)?	
			2	Ps. 31: Why does the Lord save us (v. 3)? Ps 32: According to this psalm, what are the indispensable conditions for enjoying the forgiveness of God?	
Day 4	2 Samuel 22-24	22:1-20; 23:1-7	1	Does David seek to bring glory to himself or to God through the words of this song? What word best summarizes the nature of this song?	
			2	The building of the altar in chapter 24 foreshadows the building of what by David's son Solomon?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 22	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Isaiah 1-2	1:1-4, 11-20; 2:11-22	1	<p>What is rebellion? How and against whom do you typically rebel?</p> <p>What does the Lord promise to do with the proud?</p>	Part 11: God's Promise Remains
			2	<p>What is hypocrisy? What is the solution to Israel's hypocrisy (and yours) in this passage?</p> <p>What does the Lord promise to do with the proud? Why must the Lord alone be exalted?</p>	
Day 2	Isaiah 3-4	3:1-10	1	<p>What does it mean to "defy the Lord's glorious presence?"</p> <p>What is "the branch of the Lord" and how does this passage intersect with John 15:4-5?</p>	
		4:2-6	2	<p>What does it mean to "defy the Lord's glorious presence?"</p> <p>What is "the branch of the Lord" and how does this passage intersect with John 15:4-5?</p>	
Day 3	Isaiah 5-7	5:18-21	1	<p>What does it mean to say "Woe" to someone (hint: the opposite is "Blessed")?</p> <p>What was the answer to Isaiah's unclean lips? What is the answer to your unclean lips?</p>	
		6:1-7	2	<p>What does it mean to say "Woe" to someone (hint: the opposite is "Blessed")?</p> <p>What does it mean that God is holy? What is atonement? Why do we need atonement?</p>	
Day 4	Psalms 33-34	33:1-9; 34:1-5, 15-23	1	<p>Ps. 33: We are called to praise in vv. 1-3; how should we praise Him? We are told why we should praise in v. 4 and later. List some of those reasons.</p> <p>Ps. 34: Read v. 15 - what does that tell you about the Lord?</p>	
			2	<p>Ps. 33: What is the call to praise (vv. 1-3)? What are the reasons why we should praise Him (v. 4 and beyond)?</p> <p>Ps. 34: Who are those that may expect God's blessings? Make a list of those blessings and thank the Lord for them.</p>	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 23	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Isaiah 8	8:11-15	1	<p>What does it mean to fear the Lord? Do you fear the Lord?</p> <p>What does God mean when he says, "If you are not firm in faith, you will not be firm at all"?</p>	
			2	<p>What does it mean to fear the Lord? Do you fear the Lord?</p> <p>What does it mean to "regard the Lord as holy?" How does that relate to the first request in the Lord's prayer?</p>	
Day 2	Isaiah 9-10	9:1-7	1	<p>Who is this child that was born and how did he fulfill these things that were spoken of him?</p> <p>What is the meaning of the metaphors in v. 15?</p>	
		10:12-15	2	<p>What do we learn about the character and purposes of the promised Messiah from these verses?</p> <p>What is the meaning of the metaphors in v. 15? Give some examples of similar pitfalls of pride in your life.</p>	
Day 3	Isaiah 11-12	11:1-9	1	<p>What do we learn about Jesus from these verses? What do we learn about heaven?</p> <p>What are some of the responses to the salvation of God in this passage? Do you find those responses in your life?</p>	
		12:1-6	2	<p>What do we learn about Jesus from these verses? What do we learn about heaven?</p> <p>What are some of the responses to the salvation of God in this passage? Do you find those responses in your life?</p>	
Day 4	Isaiah 13-14	13:9-14	1	<p>Why does God get angry? How does He respond when He gets angry?</p> <p>What does it mean that God is sovereign and omnipotent?</p>	
		14:24-27	2	<p>What is the relationship between God's holiness and His wrath? What is the relationship between God's wrath and the cross of Christ?</p> <p>What does it mean that God is sovereign and omnipotent? What are some implications of these attributes?</p>	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 24	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Isaiah 15-21	17:7-8; 19:19-25	1	<p>What does "in that day" mean? How should we look to our Maker and not to the work of our hands? (cf. Phil. 3:3)</p> <p>How does this passage speak of the fulfillment of Gen. 12:1-3? How will this fulfillment be accomplished?</p>	
		16:3-5; 19:19-25	2	<p>What are some of the practical applications of faith here, and how do these verses relate to the second request in the Lord's prayer?</p> <p>How does this passage speak of the fulfillment of Gen. 12:1-3? How will this fulfillment be accomplished?</p>	
Day 2	Isaiah 22-23	22:8b-11; 23:8-9	1	<p>What is the problem with looking to the weapons and seeking to fix the problems without looking to the Lord? Do you ever do that?</p> <p>Why did God purpose judgment on Tyre? (note the two "to's".)</p>	
		22:8b-13; 23:1-9	2	<p>What is the problem with looking to the weapons and seeking to fix the problems without looking to the Lord? Do you ever do that?</p> <p>Why did God purpose judgment on Tyre? (note the two "to's".)</p>	
Day 3	Isaiah 24	24:1-6	1	<p>What happened to the earth/ground when Adam and Eve sinned? What is happening to the earth here? (See also Rom. 8:18-25 - the Gospel even means goods news for the earth.)</p> <p>What is the fate of Satan and all the other fallen angels? Is that encouraging to you? Why?</p>	
		24:21-23	2	<p>What happened to the earth/ground when Adam and Eve sinned (Gen. 3:17)? What is happening to the earth here? (See also Rom. 8:18-25 - the Gospel even means goods news for the earth.)</p> <p>What is the fate of Satan and all the other fallen angels? Is that encouraging to you? Why?</p>	
Day 4	Isaiah 25-27	25:1-9	1	<p>Can you imagine a feast where God is the chef?! When Jesus comes back, there will be a great (wedding) feast. What do you think it will be like?</p> <p>How do trust, a mind fixed on the Lord, and perfect peace relate? What does it mean to trust in the Lord?</p>	
		26:1-9	2	<p>What does it mean that God will swallow up death? When will these things happen? See 1 Cor. 15:54-57.</p> <p>How do trust, a mind fixed on the Lord, and perfect peace relate? What does it mean to trust in the Lord?</p>	



School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 25	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Isaiah 28-31	29:13-16; 30:1-5, 8-11, 15, 18-22; 31:1-6	1	<p>What does it mean to honor the Lord with your lips while your heart is far from Him? Do you ever do that? How? (See Mt. 15:1-20.)</p> <p>When we put our trust in things or people instead of God, what can they do for us (30:3, 5, 7; 31:3)?</p> <p>What is the answer in 30:15, 21-22 and 31:6?</p>	
			2	<p>How did the Israelites "turn things upside down?" How do we do that?</p> <p>When we put our trust in things or people instead of God, what can they do for us (30:3, 5, 7; 31:3)?</p> <p>What is the answer in 30:15, 21-22 and 31:6?</p>	
Day 2	Isaiah 32-33	32:14-18; 33:17-22	1	<p>What is justice? What is righteousness? What are the effects/results of righteousness, peace, quietness and trust?</p> <p>In what way does this passage say that the Lord is for us?</p>	
		32:9-18; 33:13-22	2	<p>What is complacency? Why is it so out of step with the life of faith in God's universe? What is justice? What is righteousness? What are the effects/results of righteousness, peace, quietness and trust?</p> <p>Explain the different actions of v. 15 (cf. Ps. 15). Can we earn our salvation? Or are these actions the fruit of faith, making visible what is invisible?</p>	
Day 3	Isaiah 34-35	35:1-10	1	<p>Do you think Jesus' disciples might have thought of vv. 5-6 when they followed Him around? Why?</p> <p>What is this "highway of holiness" and when will the redeemed walk on it?</p>	
			2	<p>What does the wilderness/burning sand/desert imagery refer to? What does the waters/streams/pool imagery refer to?</p> <p>Why/how does the promise of salvation and judgment drive away fear and anxiety and infuse our souls with strength (v. 4)?</p>	
Day 4	Isaiah 36-39	36:1-7, 13-22; 37:1-20, 33-38; 38:1-8; 39:1-8	1	<p>Describe the Rabshakah and his message. What do you think God thought of it?</p> <p>How did Hezekiah respond? How did God respond?</p>	
			2	<p>Why did God respond to Hezekiah's prayer?</p> <p>Why was it so foolish for Hezekiah to show off the treasures of the kingdom to the king of Babylon?</p>	
Day 5	Isaiah 40-41	40:1-31	1	<p>What do vv. 3-5 have to do with John the Baptist and Jesus?</p> <p>What does it mean to wait on the Lord and renew your strength?</p>	
		41:1-14, 21-29	2	<p>When people do not trust in the Lord, where does their strength come from? (see vv. 1, 6, 7) How does faith in God free us from fear?</p> <p>Make a list contrasting Yahweh, the living God, with the dead idols.</p>	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 26	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Isaiah 42-44	42:1-12; 43:6-7	1	<p>Explain how vv. 1-4 describe Jesus. What does it mean that a bruised reed He will not break and a fainting wick He will not quench?</p> <p>What is the purpose of our existence? (To glorify God.) What does that mean?</p>	
		43:1-13; 44:6-20	2	<p>What is the purpose of our existence? (To glorify God.) What does that mean? How many ways are there to heaven?</p> <p>What is idolatry? Discuss how foolish it is (vv. 12-20). What kind of idolatry are we tempted by and why is it just as foolish as bowing down to a block of wood?</p>	
Day 2	Isaiah 45-48	45:7, 9, 20-25; 46:1-13; 48:6-11, 17-19	1	<p>What does v. 7 mean? Give examples of the things that God is in charge of (or ask about earthquakes, tornados, etc.).</p> <p>Who carries who when a person worships an idol? Who carries who when a person worships God?</p>	
			2	<p>Why does God have mercy and forgive us?</p> <p>What does it mean that God teaches us to profit? What does this say about His goodness? Do you believe this about Him (cf. Heb. 11:6) or do you think He is a celestial kill-joy?</p>	
Day 3	Psalms 35-36	35:27-28; 36:1-12	1	<p>Ps. 35: Where does David want people to give praise and thanks when they see his own accomplishments? Why?</p> <p>Ps. 36: What are some of the Lord's blessings listed in this psalm?</p>	
			2	<p>Ps. 35: Where does David want people to give praise and thanks when they see his own accomplishments? Why?</p> <p>Ps. 36: Describe God's attributes and the blessings that flow from them.</p>	
Day 4	Isaiah 49-50	49:5-6, 8-16	1	<p>Was Israel a light to the nations? Why or why not?</p> <p>What do vv. 15-16 say about the faithfulness and loyal love of God?</p>	
		49:5-6, 8-16; 50:10-11	2	<p>What does it mean for Christians to be a light for the nations? What will it take for His salvation to reach to the end of the earth?</p> <p>What happens when people try to light their own way? On the other hand, how does v. 10 intersect with the fact that Jesus is the light of the world?</p>	
Day 5	Isaiah 51-52:12	51:1-13	1	<p>Why do we often fear men and forget God? What does it mean to fear man?</p> <p>What does it mean in v. 3 to be redeemed without money? Why are the feet of those who bring good news beautiful?</p>	
		52:3-12	2	<p>Why do we often fear men and forget God? What things in this passage could help us fear God and forget our fear of man?</p> <p>Why do you think that the message of the ones bringing good news is, "Your God reigns"? Do you think that relates at all to the "gospel of the kingdom" that Jesus preached?</p>	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 27	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Isaiah 52:13-53	52:13 - 53:12	1	Can you list some of the things we learn about Jesus the man in this passage? Do you think could have picked Him out of a crowd? What all does this passage say that Jesus did for us?	
			2	Who, ultimately, put Jesus to death (v. 10)? What does it mean that Jesus is our substitutionary sacrifice?	
Day 2	Isaiah 54-55	54:4-10	1	What does it mean that God is the husband of His people? What is His husband-love like? How does Jesus fulfill this? (Eph. 5) Why is the invitation of the Gospel such good news? Can you begin to imagine how much higher God's thoughts and ways are than ours?	
		55:1-13	2	What does it mean that God is the husband of His people? What is His husband-love like? How does Jesus fulfill this? (Eph. 5) Why is the invitation of the Gospel such good news? What does it mean that God's word always accomplishes that which He purposes?	
Day 3	Isaiah 56-58	56:5-7; 57:14-16	1	Jesus quoted v. 7 when he "cleansed" the temple. What made Him so upset? What do we learn about the character of God in these verses? Why does God dwell with the lowly and contrite (note the two "to's")?	
		57:14-16; 58:1-14	2	What do we learn about the character of God in these verses? Why does God dwell with the lowly and contrite (note the two "to's")? What does it mean to fast? Why was God not pleased with Israel's fasts? What was the "fast" that He desired?	
Day 4	Isaiah 59-61	59:1-2; 60:1-3, 11-12, 17-22	1	What does sin do to our relationship with God? What restores that separation? What do we find in chapter 61 that describes the new heavens and the new earth (cf. Rev. 21-22)?	
		60:1-3, 11-12, 17-22; 61:1-3	2	What do we find in chapter 61 that describes the new heavens and the new earth (cf. Rev. 21-22)? What does "I will make your overseers peace and your taskmasters righteousness" mean?  These verses speak clearly of Jesus. How did He fulfill these purposes (e.g. "to bring...to proclaim...")?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 28	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Isaiah 62-64	62:1-5; 63:7-14	1	Back in chapter 54, we saw that God is like a husband to His people. What else do we learn about that theme in vv. 3-5? Why did God redeem Israel from Egypt (see vv. 12, 14)? Why would/should God make His name great?	
		63:7-14; 64:1-5	2	Why did God redeem Israel from Egypt (see vv. 12, 14)? Why would/should God make His name great? How is Christianity different from all other religions (v. 4)? Remember the way in which the living God differed from idols in ch. 46.	
Day 2	Isaiah 65-66	65:17-25	1	What do we learn about life in the new heavens and the new earth from these verses? What does it mean that the Lord promises to "look" to one who is humble and contrite and trembles at His word? What does it mean to tremble at His word?	
		66:1-2, 10-14	2	What do we learn about life in the new heavens and the new earth from these verses? What does it mean that the Lord promises to "look" to one who is humble and contrite and trembles at His word? What does it mean to tremble at His word?	
Day 3	Matthew 1	1:18-25	1	What does the name "Jesus" mean? What does this mean to you personally? How do you think Joseph felt when he saw the angel? Why is Joseph such a good example for us?	Part 12: Many Silent Years
		1:1-25	2	Why do you think Matthew spends so much time detailing the genealogy of Jesus? What can we learn from this and how can it bolster our faith? Describe the godly character qualities you see in Joseph throughout this passage.	Part 13: God's Promised One is Born
Day 4	Matthew 2-3	2:1-12	1	Why did King Herod want to kill Jesus? What did he fear? How do the wise men demonstrate great faith, hope, and love?	Part 15: God's Promised One is Followed
			2	What did Jesus mean when He said that the kingdom of heaven was "at hand?" How did His ministry demonstrate this? According to Jesus, what was wrong with the Pharisees and Sadducees? How might we struggle with the same problem at times?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 29	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Matthew 4	4:1-11	1	<p>What was Jesus' main weapon in His battle with Satan? How can we use this weapon against him as well?</p> <p>Why is it so important that Jesus heard God's voice (3:17) before facing Satan in the wilderness?</p>	
			2	<p>How did Satan's temptations relate to Jesus' identity as our Messiah?</p> <p>In light of Hebrews 4:15-16, why is Jesus' temptation so important for us?</p>	
Day 2	Matthew 5-6	5:1-12, 43-48	1	<p>How can we "lay up" treasure in heaven?</p> <p>What things cause you to worry? Why should we not worry, according to 7:25-34?</p>	
			2	<p>According to 5:1-12, what type of people are blessed in the Kingdom of God? How does this compare to the things valued by this world?</p> <p>What does it mean to "love your enemies" (5:43-48)? Why is this such an important sign of the Kingdom of God?</p>	
Day 3	Psalms 37-38	37:1-11, 38:1-6, 21-22	1	<p>Ps. 37: What things are we told not to do? Why?</p> <p>Ps. 38: David has sinned. How does his reaction help us think through how we should think about our sinfulness? Where does he run to when he has sinned (to the Lord, not to "trying to do better next time")?</p>	
			2	<p>Ps. 37: What are we told not to do? What are the promises that are attached to these?</p> <p>Ps. 38: David has sinned. How does his reaction help us think through how we should think about our sinfulness? Where does he run to when he has sinned (to the Lord, not to "trying to do better next time")?</p>	
Day 4	Matthew 7	7:9-12, 21-23	1	<p>What is the fruit Jesus speaks of in 7:18-20? Give examples of good and bad fruit.</p> <p>What is the real difference between the wise and foolish builders? What does this tell you about the way you should learn and the way you should live?</p>	
			2	<p>What do vv. 21-23 teach us about our relationship with Christ and our good works?</p> <p>Jesus says that, "...whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also for them" (7:12). How does this sum up the Law and the Prophets? How might you begin to live this way at school and at home?</p>	
Day 5	Matthew 8-9	8:23-27, 35-38	1	<p>Why did Jesus accuse the disciples of having "little faith" (8:26)? How are we like the disciples in this way?</p> <p>What is the harvest of which Jesus speaks in 9:37? What does Jesus' command in v. 38 mean for us?</p>	
			2	<p>How did Jesus feel about those who did not know Him (9:35-36)? What does His command in 9:38 mean for you?</p> <p>What is surprising about Jesus' actions in 9:10-13? What does this mean for us as we make choices about those with whom we associate?</p>	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 30	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Matthew 10-11	10:37-39	1	<p>What might it mean for you to take up your cross and follow Jesus?</p> <p>Why do we find our lives by losing them for Jesus' sake? How can we lose our lives each day for Him?</p>	
			2	<p>What reasons does Jesus give for why we should not be afraid to proclaim the gospel? Which is hardest for you?</p> <p>What do you think it might mean to take Jesus' easy yoke upon you? What are some hard yokes we sometimes take on instead?</p>	
Day 2	Matthew 12	12:9-14, 33-37	1	<p>According to 12:34, how are the heart and mouth connected? How have you seen this in your own life?</p> <p>What is Jesus saying here about the importance of our spoken words?</p>	
			2	<p>What was wrong about the Pharisees' rules against healing on the Sabbath? How does Jesus correct them?</p> <p>According to 12:34, how are the heart and mouth connected? How have you seen this in your own life?</p>	
Day 3	Matthew 13	13:18-23, 44-46	1	<p>What kind of "tribulation or persecution" might make someone without strong roots fall away? What is needed to strengthen the roots?</p> <p>What do the parables in vv. 44-46 tell us about the value of living for Jesus?</p>	
			2	<p>Explain how the "cares of the world" and the "deceitfulness of riches" can choke out the word and make it unfruitful in a Christian's life.</p> <p>Following Jesus can seem like a very costly endeavor, but what do the parables in vv. 44-46 show us?</p>	
Day 4	Matthew 14-15	15:3-20	1	<p>Why did Peter begin to sink? What might be the parallel in our own lives?</p> <p>It is easy to see what Peter did wrong, but what did Peter do right in this story?</p>	
			2	<p>What is the difference between honoring God with our lips and honoring Him with our hearts?</p> <p>How does Jesus challenge our ideas about what makes someone spiritually "clean?"</p>	
Day 5	Matthew 16	16:13-20, 24-28	1	<p>What does it mean that Jesus is "the Christ?" What does that mean in your life?</p> <p>Why would gaining the "whole world" result in losing one's soul?</p>	
			2	<p>Why is Peter's confession of Christ so important? What does it mean for you that Jesus is "the Christ?"</p> <p>Why would gaining the "whole world" result in losing one's soul?</p>	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 31	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Matthew 17	17:1-9	1	<p>What does it mean that Jesus was "transfigured?" What does this tell us about Jesus?</p> <p>How do you think Peter, James, and John felt on the mountain? Should we feel this way too?</p>	
			2	<p>Why did Moses and Elijah appear with Jesus? What does this tell us about Jesus?</p> <p>Describe the reaction of Peter, James, and John in your own words. What does this tell us about our own feelings about Jesus?</p>	
Day 2	Matthew 18	18:7-14	1	<p>Why would Jesus say that only those who "become like little children" will enter the kingdom of heaven? In what ways should we be like children?</p> <p>What does the parable of the lost sheep tell us about our value in the eyes of God?</p>	
			2	<p>What does Jesus mean when He says that we should cut off hands and feet and tear out our eyes if they cause us to sin? What might this mean as we face various temptations to sin in our lives?</p> <p>What does the parable of the lost sheep tell us about the heart of our Shepherd?</p>	
Day 3	Matthew 19-20	20:24-28	1	<p>How can a servant be "great?"</p> <p>What can we learn from Jesus about what it means to be a servant?</p>	
			2	<p>Why would Jesus ask the rich young man to sell all of his possessions? Is that a requirement for all of us?</p> <p>Explain in your own words what it means that "many who are first will be last, and the last first." Can you think of any examples of this truth?</p>	
Day 4	Matthew 21-22	22:37-40	1	<p>How can we love God with all of our mind? How can we do this at school? When doing homework?</p> <p>What are some practical ways that you can "love your neighbor as yourself?"</p>	Part 16: Jesus Restores God's Place
			2	<p>Explain how you can love God with all of your mind.</p> <p>According to 21:39, are we to love ourselves? What might this mean? How might this help us to love others more effectively?</p>	
Day 5	Matthew 23-24	24:36-44	1	<p>In practical terms, how can we "stay awake" and "be ready" for Jesus' return?</p> <p>Why does Jesus compare His return to what took place in the days of Noah?</p>	
			2	<p>Explain the image of a cup or dish that is clean on the outside but dirty inside. How did this apply to the Pharisees? How might it apply to us?</p> <p>What does Jesus mean when He says that the Pharisees were "straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel?" How does this relate to the "weightier matters of the law" described in v. 23?</p>	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 32	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Matthew 25	25:34-46	1	How are we ministering to Jesus when we minister to "the least of these?" What are some ways that you can minister to those who are hungry, thirsty, naked, sick, or imprisoned?	
			2	If we are saved by grace through faith in Jesus' atoning sacrifice, why does Jesus say that these people are welcomed into the kingdom because of what they did? What are some ways that you can minister to those who are hungry, thirsty, naked, sick, or imprisoned?	
Day 2	Matthew 26	26:36-42; 26:47-56	1	Why was Jesus sad at Gethsemane? Even though Jesus could have called thousands of angels to rescue Him from the soldiers, He didn't. Why do you think He chose not to?	Part 20: Jesus Wears God's Kingly Crown
			2	What was Jesus' struggle at Gethsemane? Why did Jesus choose being arrested over calling thousands of angels to His rescue?	
Day 3	Matthew 27	27:45-56	1	Why did God forsake Jesus when He was dying on the cross? Why did the curtain in the temple tear from top to bottom when Jesus died?	
			2	Why did God forsake Jesus when He was dying on the cross? What was the significance of the curtain in the temple being torn from top to bottom? What does that mean for us?	
Day 4	Matthew 28	28:1-10, 16-20	1	Who rolled the stone away from Jesus' tomb and what did they look like? List the things Jesus told His disciples to do in vv. 18-20.	Part 22: A Brand-New Day
			2	List the instructions Jesus gave His disciples in vv. 18-20. How are you obeying Jesus' instructions in your life right now?	
Day 5	Romans 1	1:8-17	1	To whom is Paul writing this letter and by what title does he address them? For what reason does Paul want to go to Rome? What does this say about the basis of our Christian friendships?	Part 25: Letters to Live By
			2	Why is Paul not ashamed of the gospel? Does this reflect the basis of our own confidence and conviction? How are the unrighteous described? How did God respond to their evil ways?	



School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 33	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Romans 2	2:28-29	1	Why are we not suppose to judge others? What ought the kindness of God produce in people? Does God's kindness have this effect on us?	
			2	Are actions important to God? What are the consequences for righteous deeds, and the consequences for evil deeds? Do religious systems give us an advantage in our standing before God? What about us is God primarily concerned with?	
Day 2	Romans 3	3:21-26	1	What do all people, both Jews and Greeks, have in common? How can people come to know that they are sinners?	
			2	How did God respond to the universal problem of sin? Do we have the right to boast about who we are or what we do? Why would this be a great offense against God?	
Day 3	Romans 4	4:16-25	1	Who are the two great Old Testament examples of the truths we saw in chapters 2-3? Why are they such good examples? Was Abraham considered 'righteous' before or after he was circumcised? How does this make him an example for both Jews and Gentiles?	
			2	Was the promise that God made to Abraham and Sarah easy to believe? Why was this a demonstration of true faith? What should our faith in God look like, and why is this kind of faith important?	
Day 4	Romans 5	5:6-11	1	Which is the more powerful force: our sin or God's grace? Did we deserve what Christ did for us?	
			2	What are the results of having a relationship with God through Jesus Christ? How does this affect our interaction with God and our perspective on life? How does the obedience of Christ counter the sin that came into the world through Adam?	
Day 5	Romans 6	6:5-11	1	How is being baptized a symbol of coming to believe in Jesus Christ? (Death and re-birth.) In what ways are we dead, and in what ways are we alive? For what purpose do we share in Christ's death and resurrection?	
			2	Why should we be very careful not to offer our bodies to sin? What image does Paul use to express this in vv. 12-14? Slaves belong to the ones they serve. What are the major differences between being slaves to sin and slaves to God?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 34	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Romans 7	7:4-6	1	How does Paul explain the law's inability to give life? Does he blame the law God gave Israel, or the sin which takes advantage of that law? How does what Jesus said in Matthew 15:19 teach us the real nature of our problem?	
			2	Why is it important for Christians to recognize that we have been released from the law? What do we depend upon instead (v. 6)?  Is there hope against the struggle with sin? Who deserves thanks for the wonder of salvation?	
Day 2	Romans 8	8:31-39	1	Will believers in Jesus Christ face a judgment like those who do not know Him? How does the Holy Spirit make us a new kind of people? What are His effects on our lives?	
			2	What privileges come from being a child of God? Can anything ever separate us from the love God has for us?	
Day 3	Romans 9	9:14-16	1	Why is Paul full of sorrow? Do you feel this kind of sorrow? What things belong uniquely to the people of Israel?	
			2	What stories in the Old Testament prove that God is faithful to His word? For what purpose did God make "vessels of mercy"?	
Day 4	Romans 10	10:8-13	1	What is Paul's chief desire for the Jewish people? Where does true faith reside in us, and what does it confess?	
			2	How will people from all over the world learn about Jesus Christ? How does faith come into our lives?	
Day 5	Romans 11	11:33-36	1	What is the proper response of Gentiles who share Israel's heritage? Though Paul is an apostle to the Gentiles, what effect does he hope his ministry will have on the Jews?	
			2	How is God both severe and kind?  Can anyone fully understand the mind and thinking of God?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 1 Discussion Questions - Week 35	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Romans 12	12:1-2	1	What does Paul call us to do with our whole lives/bodies? Why? How is the church like a big body? (vv. 4-5)	
			2	In what ways are we to demonstrate love to one another? How should we act when we are mistreated? How does our role differ from God's role in dealing with sins committed against us?	
Day 2	Romans 13	13:8-10	1	How should we treat people in authority? What are the responsibilities for those who are in authority?	
			2	What commandment will help you keep all the other laws? What does it mean to put on the 'armor of light'? (v. 12)	
Day 3	Romans 14	14:7-9	1	How does Paul describe the kingdom of God? (v.17) Who do we belong to, whether we are dead or alive? How does this affect how we think about our brothers and sisters in the faith?	
			2	When we practice things we think are good and even important, who else should we be thinking about? Paul talks about eating and drinking. Are there certain foods that are okay to eat and others that aren't? How do we know?	
Day 4	Romans 15-16	15:30-33	1	What is one reason for which the Old Testament was written? Who causes us to live in harmony with others?	
			2	What reason does Paul give for why Christ became a servant to the Jews? Which people should the church be careful to watch out for?	

The Schoolyear Bible Reading Plan Year 2

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 1	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Leviticus 1-4	1:1-17; 4:13-35	1	what did God require of His people so that they and their worship would be acceptable to Him? Why? What steps are necessary to make atonement for sins? How does Jesus fulfill these requirements?	
			2	What are some ways that our worship is similar to and different from the worship described in Leviticus? Why do we no longer offer sacrifices for sin when we worship God? Do we have a sacrifice for sins?	
Day 2	Leviticus 5-7	5:14-19; 7:11-15	1	Why do you think there is a sacrifice for guilt? Why do you think there is a sacrifice of peace for thanksgiving?	
			2	Why do you think there are different sacrifices for sins and for guilt? How are the sacrifices for guilt and of peace fulfilled in Jesus?	
Day 3	Leviticus 8-9	8:1-36; 9:6, 22-24	1	What seven things did the Lord command for the consecration of His priests? How did Jesus fulfill these seven things? What was not done in their consecration ceremony? What oath did the Lord swear concerning the priesthood of His Son?	
			2	Why did all the people shout for joy and fall facedown? Why was God pleased with that worship service? Why were the people pleased?	
Day 4	Leviticus 10	10:1-20	1	What were some ways in which Nadab and Abihu acted "contrary to God's command"? Give three main reasons why it was absolutely necessary for the regulations of worship to be perfectly obeyed by the priests.	
			2	Why were Aaron and his remaining sons not allowed to leave the tabernacle to bury Nadab and Abihu or grieve for them? Is there anything you should change in your life to make your worship more pleasing to God?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 2	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Leviticus 11-15	14:1-9	1	What was the moral law? What was the civil law? What was the ceremonial law? How can we be made holy? How can our unclean heart be made clean?	
			2	How does Jesus fulfill the law? Why is there an emphasis on the blood of Jesus in the Gospels?	
Day 2	Leviticus 16	16:29-34	1	How many times a year did atonement need to be made for the sins of the Israelites? How do we know that the animal sacrifices of the Old Testament were insufficient for real cleansing from sin?	
			2	What was the purpose for these animal sacrifices? In the Day of Atonement, how was the scapegoat a shadow of Christ?	
Day 3	Psalms 39-40	39:4-5, 6-9; 40:1-3	1	Ps. 39: How do you put your hope in the Lord? Ps. 40: How do you praise the Lord?	
			2	Ps. 39: What does the author mean by "being silent" before the Lord? Ps. 40: How can you "wait patiently for the Lord" while you need "rescue" or are "in trouble"?	
Day 4	Leviticus 17-22	18:1-6; 19:1-18	1	Most of Leviticus deals with what kind of laws? What other kinds of laws are found in Leviticus? What six words did the Lord tell the people over and over?	
			2	Why were they to obey all of His commandments? Can you find the Ten Commandments expanded and explained in Leviticus?	
Day 5	Leviticus 23	23:1-14	1	What was the reason for the Sabbath day? What does this tell us about God's will for us? How was Passover the shadow of a greater deliverance? Why was Christ called "our Passover Lamb"?	
		23:1-14, 26-32, 37-44	2	Explain what "atonement" means. How does the Feast of Firstfruits foreshadow Christ? Feast of Weeks? Feast of Trumpets? Feast of Tabernacles?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 3	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Leviticus 24-27	26:1-20	1	Name five blessings that would come from the Lord if the people obeyed His commandments. What was God's just reward for disobedience?	
			2	For what purpose did God free the people from bondage? Where did the money come from to support the work at the temple?	
Day 2	Numbers 1-6	1:1-15; 3:11-13; 6:1-12	1	Why didn't God take the Israelites directly to the Promised Land? What had they been doing in the desert for over a year? In the census commanded by God, who was counted? Why?	
			2	Which son of Jacob was missing from this census? Why? How did the Nazarites separate themselves? What three things did God command them to do?	
Day 3	Numbers 7-10	9:1-23; 10:3-36	1	Why did God say, "The Levites are mine!"? How long had the Israelites been camping at Mount Sinai?	Part 6: God's People Become Great (pp. 136-9)
		10:1-36	2	How did the Israelites know it was time to leave? How did the Levites transport the tabernacle? How did they transport the holy things?	
Day 4	Numbers 11	11:1-35	1	Why did life become harder for the Israelites when they left Mount Sinai? What were the blessings that Israel should have counted in the wilderness?	
			2	What did God hear that aroused His anger? What kind of "bread" does Jesus call Himself?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 4	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Numbers 12	12:1-16	1	Why did Miriam and Aaron oppose Moses' marriage to a Cushite? Why was it so wrong for Moses' sister and brother to begin to speak against Moses?	
			2	Why did Miriam's leprosy so perfectly fit her sin? How did God demonstrate His love in this story?	
Day 2	Numbers 13	13:1-33	1	Why was it exciting for the Israelites to arrive at Kadesh Barnea? Why did the spies travel all the way to Hebron and what did they find?	
			2	Was the report of the ten spies true? Why did the ten spies report what they did?	
Day 3	Psalms 41-43	41:1-2; 42:4, 8, 11	1	Ps. 41: How can we be kind to the poor? Ps. 42: Does praising the Lord help you have hope in Him?	
			2	Ps. 42: Who is it that gave the author life? Ps. 42 and 43: Why can we still praise Him in the midst of discouragement?	
Day 4	Numbers 14	14:1-45	1	Why was the soldiers' idea of returning to Egypt foolish? Did God change His mind to destroy the Israelites because of what Moses said?	
			2	When God sent the Israelites back into the desert, what did they do instead and why weren't they successful? Why must the Israelites wander in the wilderness for forty years?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 5	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Numbers 15-17	16:1-11, 25-35, 41-50; 17:1-13	1	Why did Israel rebel against God? What was their complaint? What should have been the people's response to the death of these rebels?	
			2	How did Aaron's role foreshadow Jesus Christ? How does the budding of Aaron's staff remind you of Jesus? What does it prove about Jesus?	
Day 2	Numbers 18-19	18:1-28	1	What important work were the Levites called to do? How did the Israelites escape the punishment of death when they sinned?	
			2	Why did the Levites have no inheritance? Or did they? How were the Levites consecrated for their new work?	
Day 3	Psalms 44-45	44:3-8, 26; 45:6	1	Ps. 44: Why do you think Israel knew that it was the Lord who was fighting for them and winning the battle? Ps. 44: What is the reason that God continues to help Israel?	
			2	Ps. 44: Why is it so important to "remember" what the Lord has done? Ps. 45: Describe the characteristics of God's kingdom.	
Day 4	Numbers 20	20:1-29	1	What three foolish and wicked things did the Israelites say in response to this crisis? Why was it especially important for Moses to do exactly what God told them to do?	
			2	How did God reveal Himself to Israel as holy? What was the "missing miracle" because of Moses and Aaron's disobedience?	
Day 5	Numbers 21	21:1-35	1	Why did God send serpents? What was He trying to teach Israel? What was the only way to be healed?	
			2	How have we all been bitten by a serpent? What is our only hope for healing? How did Moses lifting up the serpent in the wilderness point us to Jesus Christ?	



School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 6	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Numbers 22-24	22:7-14, 22-35	1	Does Balaam really serve God? What made him a false prophet? Was Balaam pleased when God spoke to him in the night? What did Balaam want more than anything else?	
			2	What does Proverbs 21:27 say about Balaam's sacrifice? Why didn't it please God? How does Balaam's fourth oracle fit Jesus?	
Day 2	Numbers 25	25:1-18	1	What characterizes the zeal of Phineas? Why was it not wrong for Phineas to kill Zimri and Cozbi?	
			2	Do you think Balaam and Balak were pleased with the results of their new scheme? Do you think Balaam received his handsome reward?	
Day 3	Numbers 26-27	26:1-2, 63-64; 27:1-12	1	Who was to be included in the census that the Lord told Moses to take? What did Moses do with the conflict that the people wanted him to solve?	
			2	On whom did the Lord have Moses lay hands? What was the job he was commissioned to do?	
Day 4	Numbers 28-30	28:16-25	1	What is an 'aroma pleasing to the Lord' that we can offer to Him? What makes things pleasing to the Lord?	
			2	Did Moses tell the Israelites everything the Lord told him to tell them? Compare chapters 28-29 to chapter 30. Why was it necessary for the lamb to be without defect? What did this foreshadow?	
Day 5	Numbers 31	31:1-54	1	Why did God command the Midianites to be killed? Why was it so important that the Israelites kill the women as well?	
			2	How were the items of plunder to be purified? Among whom were the items dispersed?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 7	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Numbers 32-33	32:1-14	1	Why was the Lord's anger aroused? What does it mean when it says, "Your sin will find you out" (32:23)?	
			2	What reason did Reuben and Gad give for staying in the land of Gilead? What problems did this cause for all Israel? What was the solution? Is God always faithful to bring our sin to light? Why is that faithful of Him? Which tribe in Israel had the greatest number of soldiers? Why was this tribe so blessed by the Lord?	
Day 2	Numbers 34-36	35:1-7	1	Moses was concerned that when he died, the people of Israel would be like "sheep without a shepherd" with no one to lead them into the Promised Land. Whom did God choose as the new shepherd?	
			2	What preparations were made by God for dividing up the land? What is a city of refuge?	
Day 3	1 Kings 1-2	1:37; 2:1-4, 12	1	Why must Solomon, not Adonijah, be the next king in Israel? What must define the characteristics of Israel's kings, and why are these so important for the future of Israel as a nation?	Part 9: God's Blessings Grow (pp. 174-185)
			2	What differences do you observe between Adonijah's attempted coronation and the processional of the real king (1:5-8, 1:41-44)? If Solomon follows the advice David gives in 2:1-4, will he be a good king? Why or why not?	
Day 4	1 Kings 3-4	3:10-14; 4:29-34	1	Why does Solomon pray for wisdom, and why is this favorable in God's sight? What does the story of the two women demonstrate?	Part 9: God's Blessings Grow (pp. 174-185)
			2	How does the narrative describe the kingdom of Israel under Solomon's rule? Where does this language come from in the Old Testament (Gen. 2; 12:1-3)? What are the outcomes of Solomon's wise rule for the nation?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 8	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	1 Kings 5-6	5:1-6; 6:37-38	1	What qualified Solomon, rather than David, to build the temple? Before Solomon builds the temple, what does the Lord say to him? Where else does the Lord give this command to Solomon (2:3, 3:14)?	Part 9: God's Blessings Grow (pp. 174-185)
			2	Why might the narrator be so interested in the detailed construction of the temple and the value of its pieces? What other major vision of God's holiness shows angels with wings in the inner-court of God's presence (Isaiah 6)?	
Day 2	1 Kings 7-8	8:20	1	What have Solomon and Hiram done that is pleasing to God? After building such a magnificent temple, how does Solomon act wisely and humbly in respect for God's kingship?	Part 9: God's Blessings Grow (pp. 174-185)
			2	What does Solomon repeatedly ask of God, and based on what promises (2 Sam. 7:12-17)? If God resides in heaven and the people of Israel reside on earth, how does the temple help the relationship of God and His people?	
Day 3	1 Kings 9-10	9:1-9	1	What is the relationship between the actions of the king and the fate of the nation? For what is Solomon famous, according to the Queen of Sheba (10:1)?	Part 9: God's Blessings Grow (pp. 174-185)
			2	To whom does the Queen of Sheba attribute Solomon's great reign (10:9)? What does the text indicate about the nation of Israel under the reign of Solomon?	
Day 4	1 Kings 11	11:6,9	1	What Old Testament principle (obedience = blessing, disobedience = cursing) is reflected in Solomon's actions? How does Solomon move from true faithfulness unto God to idolatry?	Part 10: Another Very Sad Day (pp. 187-189)
			2	How is God's unrelenting faithfulness shown through the judgment poured upon Solomon? What does this teach us about God's character and His commitment to His kingdom? For whose sake does God keep a person on Israel's throne?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 9	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	1 Kings 12-14	11:7-9; 12:20	1	<p>What do we learn from Rehoboam's bad decisions and how can we apply it to our lives?</p> <p>What important principle is established in the story of the disobedient prophet that is also established through the rest of Scripture?</p>	
			2	<p>Why was Rehoboam's plan foolish?</p> <p>What reasons does Jeroboam give for his plans to build temples in Isreal? Why was Jeroboam's plan foolish?</p>	
Day 2	Psalms 46-48	46:8-11; 47:1-2; 48:1-2	1	<p>Ps. 46: How powerful is God? Why do we need to "be still" (46:10) to remember that?</p> <p>Ps. 47 and 48: What is the reason that the people praise God? How can that help us praise the Lord?</p>	
			2	<p>Ps. 46: How powerful is God? Why do we need to "be still" (46:10) to remember that?</p> <p>Ps. 47: Is it a comfort to you or does it make you uncomfortable that "God reigns over the nations" that "the kings of the earth belong to God?"</p>	
Day 3	1 Kings 15-16	15:4; 16:2	1	<p>What do these reigns without God have in common, and what principle can we draw from them?</p> <p>What character traits does Asa share with Solomon, and how do they influence the way the nation is ruled?</p>	
			2	<p>How do you think Matthew 26:52 relates to the events in these passages?</p> <p>Looking at the characteristics of the kings of Judah and Isreal, are things getting better or worse for each nation? Why?</p>	
Day 4	1 Kings 17	17:24	1	<p>What do you think God's purpose was for Elijah?</p> <p>How is God's faithfulness shown to Elijah and the ones that follow His commands?</p>	Part 10: Another Very Sad Day (pp. 192-198)
			2	<p>What do we learn about God's abilities and His character?</p> <p>What is the significance of the words the widow speaks to Elijah at the end of the chapter and how does it compare to Jesus (John 1:14)?</p>	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 10	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	1 Kings 18-19	18:36-40	1	Is Elijah a man of his word? How do you know this from chapter 18? What does Elijah's contest with the priests of Baal prove?	Part 10: Another Very Sad Day (pp. 192-198)
			2	How does the narrative demonstrate the folly of calling upon any other god than Yahweh? God's prophets are not perfect, but God still faithfully reveals Himself to them and directs them to do His will. In which ways does Elijah respond to God in these chapters? What does this demonstrate about his character and the nature of his God?	
Day 2	1 Kings 20-21	21:25-29	1	What were the military victories of Ahab supposed to accomplish? Which of the Ten Commandments do Ahab and Jezebel break in the story of Naboth's vineyard?	
			2	What signs of cowardice does Ahab display in these chapters? How does this lead Israel into further idolatry? Who notices Ahab's humility? Is this momentary turn of events surprising?	
Day 3	Psalms 49-50	49:5-8; 50:1-3, 10-13	1	Ps. 49: Instead of wealth, in what should we trust? Ps. 50: The Lord is mighty, He knows every bird in the mountains. In what other ways do you notice the Lord's might and how He knows everything?	
			2	Ps. 49: How does this psalm help our trust in the Lord? Ps. 50: The Lord wants thankfulness to be our sacrifice. Talk about the things for which you are thankful.	
Day 4	1 Kings 22	22:41-44	1	What do we learn about Jehoshaphat by his suggestions to the king of Israel? How is this different than the nameless prophets in the preceding chapters? What differentiates a true prophet of the Lord from the rest? How will the king and the people finally know who is a true prophet?	
			2	How does Micah describe the people of Israel under Ahab's kingship? Who else views God's people in this way, and what does it mean about Israel's leaders (Matt. 9:36)? What are similarities between Asa's kingship and that of Jehoshaphat? Was Jehoshaphat fully faithful to the Lord's will for His people?	
Day 5	2 Kings 1-2	1:10	1	What was different about the approach of the third captain? What vow does Elisha take in front of Elijah?	
			2	What would not have happened if Elisha had not followed Elijah? Is making fun of a prophet of the Lord a light matter?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 11	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	2 Kings 3-4	4:43	1	Is Jehoshaphat loyal to Jehoram? How so? What does Elisha think of Jehoshaphat?	
			2	In which ways do we see Elisha's wisdom in relationship to a widow? How do the stories in chapter 4 characterize Elisha?	
Day 2	2 Kings 5-6	5:8-14	1	How many times does Elisha tell the captain to bathe? What was the captain expecting and how was his expectation unfulfilled?	
			2	What did Gehazi do that was not pleasing to Elisha? What lesson does Elisha's servant learn when his eyes are opened to the horses and chariots of fire?	
Day 3	Psalms 51-52	51:1-10, 16-17; 52:7-10	1	Ps. 51: What do we learn from David about how he repents and asks God for forgiveness? Ps. 52: God has given us many strengths, but what does David say in this psalm about mighty warriors who trust their strength instead of the Lord?	
			2	Ps. 51: What does it mean for you to have a broken and contrite heart (51:17)? Give an example recently of when you did that before the Lord. Ps. 52: What do we learn from David about what God does to the proud and mighty? How can you guard against that in your life?	
Day 4	2 Kings 7-8	7:16; 8:19	1	Why were the lepers sitting outside at the city's gate? What caused the royal officer not to enjoy the cheap food?	
			2	Did people believe what the prophet Elisha said? How is that shown through the encounters with Israel? What image is used to describe God's covenant promise made to King David, and how is this image used in the New Testament?	
Day 5	2 Kings 9-10	10:11, 28	1	How is it evident that the Lord of Lords was at work in the anointing of Jehu? How does Jehu live by faith?	
			2	How is God's mercy shown once again through Jehu's sin? What does the author foreshadow in 10:32?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 12	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	2 Kings 11-12	12:17-18	1	Why did Athaliah try to kill all the royal offspring when she found out that her offspring was dead? How is this story similar to the one that took place long before in the land of Egypt?	
			2	What seems to be a common characteristic for a good ruler in Israel? What is the significance of caring for the repair of God's house before taking money for oneself?	
Day 2	2 Kings 13	13:22-23	1	Why did God give Israel into the hands of Hazael? What principle can we learn about human nature through this passage?	
			2	What is another example of the double portion of the Holy Spirit in Elisha? How do we see God's faithfulness abound and His mercy flow?	
Day 3	Psalms 53-55	53:1-3; 54:4; 55:16-18	1	Ps. 53: What problem does David describe in this psalm? What is his hope? Ps. 54: How are we kept alive?	
			2	Ps. 54: what kind of situation is David describing? How has the Lord responded to David's situation? Ps. 55: How are we to call on the Lord (55:16-18)? How does He answer us?	
Day 4	2 Kings 14-15	14:1-6	1	What was good about Amaziah's reign? What was lacking in Amaziah's rule?	
			2	Is partial obedience in the life of Amaziah a light matter? What does it cost him? What do we notice in these chapters as a correlation between the length at one's reign and their success in pleasing God?	
Day 5	2 Kings 16-17	17:7-13	1	What abomination does Ahaz commit to get help from the king of Assyria? Why does Israel fall?	
			2	What is the reoccurring sin in the lives at the rulers and the people? Is tradition always positive? How is it reflected in the context of these chapters?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 13	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	2 Kings 18-19	18:1-8	1	What actions show that Hezekiah did what was right in the eyes of the Lord? How is God's favor manifested in the life of Hezekiah?	
			2	How did the people of Israel do wrong, even when ruled by a righteous man? How does Hezekiah demonstrate strong confidence and trust in the Lord?	
Day 2	2 Kings 20-21	21:1-5	1	What did Manasseh do to provoke God to anger? How does the sin of a ruler have more impact than the sin of a common person?	
			2	How long had God been provoked? What does this demonstrate about His patience (21:15)? How is God going to punish Judah?	
Day 3	2 Kings 22-23	23:26-27	1	How does Josiah use the offering money wisely and differently from most of his predecessors? Why did God show grace to Josiah?	
			2	How was Josiah a man of action? Did all the good assessments and decisions that Josiah made quench the wrath of God toward Judah?	
Day 4	2 Kings 24-25	25:13-17	1	How is the Word of the Lord through the prophets fulfilled in these chapters? How does poor leadership affect a nation? How does Jehoiachin's leadership affect Judah?	Part 10: Another Very Sad Day (pp. 200-210)
			2	How is God's wrath poured out on Judah through the hands of evil men? How are the words of Jedaliah ironic?	
Day 5	Jeremiah 1	1:1-10, 17-19	1	The final form of this book was put together after the prophet Jeremiah had finished prophesying. According to 1:1-3, what major event happened to Jerusalem before this book was constructed?	Part 11: God's Promise Remains
			2	Look at 1:4-10 (especially v.10). How does God describe Jeremiah's mission? What kind of message was Jeremiah's prophecy? Look at 1:17-19. Why do you think the kings of Judah will fight against Jeremiah?	



School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 14	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Jeremiah 2:1-4:4	3:1-18	1	What are different ways in which Israel and Judah are described? Why is God angry with them? Chapter 3 speaks of a time when Judah's and Israel's punishment will be over (vv. 14-18). How will things be different then?	
			2	When Judah has been so unfaithful to God, can God take them back? What does Jeremiah's message to faithless Israel teach us about God?	
Day 2	Jeremiah 4:5-5:31	5:1-13	1	Look at vv. 1-5 in chapter 5. What does God send Jeremiah to look for? Does Jeremiah find it? What thoughts do the people have (5:12-13)? How does this explain their lack of repentance?	
			2	What are the emotions expressed in 4:19-12? What does this reveal about God? What are the reasons given for God's judgment in 5:21-31?	
Day 3	Jeremiah 6:1-7:29	7:1-15	1	Do you think the people are taking Jeremiah's words seriously and are scared of being punished? Why or why not? Why will God punish them?	
			2	Why does God's house make them feel safe? Should God's house make them feel safe? God says the temple is not going to keep them safe from being punished. What would have kept them safe from being punished?	
Day 4	Jeremiah 7:30-9:26	8:4-12; 9:12-14, 23-24	1	What's wrong with these people according to 8:4-12? Do you think they know something is wrong with themselves? Now look at 9:12-14, 23-24. What are these people trusting in and listening to? What do these verses say they should be trusting in and listening to?	
			2	Look at 8:4-12. Judging from these verses, do you think it's possible to be doing something displeasing to God without even knowing it? Look at 9:23-24. These verses tell us that what matters most to us (our "boasting") should not be how good we are at something or how smart we are, but that we know the Lord. What does it	
Day 5	Jeremiah 10-13	10:1-16	1	Why might some people be impressed with idols? How is God more impressive than idols?	
			2	What are the questions Jeremiah is concerned about in his complaint to God? What does 13:15-27 tell us about the nature of the exile?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 15	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Jeremiah 14-17	14:11-16; 17:5-10	1	What is the difference between the message of the false prophets and Jeremiah's message? What is the problem with trusting in the false prophets?	
			2	Despite the promise of exile, God also gives the promise of restoration. What does this teach us about God? What are Jeremiah's concerns in his prayer for deliverance?	
Day 2	Jeremiah 18-20	18:1-12; 19:1-4, 10-11	1	What happens at the potter's house in 18:1-4? What does God say this story tells us about the way He works with nations? The story of the clay jar/pot in chapter 19 happens a little later in time. What happens to the jar this time? What does this story tell us about what was going to happen to God's people?	
			2	How was Jeremiah persecuted? What does this teach us about how God's message will be received? What are the emotions Jeremiah feels as he reflects on the difficulties he has encountered in his prophetic ministry?	
Day 3	Psalms 56-57	56:8-12; 57:1-11	1	Ps. 56: How does it make you feel to know that God has bottled all your tears - and knows every one of them? Ps. 57: How can you give thanks to the Lord among the peoples and praise Him among the nations?	
			2	Ps. 56: David knows deeply that he can trust the Lord. How does his faith in the midst of suffering encourage you? Challenge you? Ps. 57: David knows that "heaven will save him" and he draws strength from that which in turn allows him to praise the Lord. What is it that was ultimately sent from heaven to save us? How is that the source of our praise and thanksgiving?	
Day 4	Jeremiah 21-23	22:13-17; 23:1-8, 11-14	1	If the shepherds of God's people are the kings of Israel and Judah, what does 23:1-2 tell us about how well they've done? God promises better shepherds. How will they be different?	
			2	What kind of king does God promise to raise up from the line of David? How does God describe Himself in 23:23-24? What does this teach us about God?	
Day 5	Jeremiah 24-25	25:1-14	1	Why did God send His people into exile? Why would these words be good news for the people who read it when they already are in exile?	
			2	What does this passage say is the reason for the exile? How do these verses actually give them hope for their future?	
				<b>Christmas Break</b>	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 16	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Jeremiah 26-27	27:1-15	1	What is Jeremiah telling the leaders of the nations by wearing this yoke? What does 27:1-15 tell us about God's relationship with the nations?	
			2	What is the message of the false prophets in 27:16-22? How is it different than Jeremiah's message? What is the message of hope at the end of chapter 27?	
Day 2	Jeremiah 28-29	29:4-14	1	What does God tell the exiles sent from Jerusalem to do for Babylon? Why does God tell them this? Do you think the exiles are always supposed to seek the good of Babylon? How will things change?	
			2	What does Hananiah prophesy? How does Jeremiah respond to Hananiah? A principle is given in chapter 28 that helps tell the difference between true and false prophets. Describe what this principle is.	
Day 3	Jeremiah 30	30:1-22	1	How does the message of Jeremiah change in chapter 30? What does the message of restoration teach us about God's character?	
			2	What are the reasons given for God's judgment? What are the reasons given for God's restoration?	
Day 4	Jeremiah 31	31:3-6, 27-37	1	What are the emotions described in this chapter? What actions will the people do when they are restored to their land?	
			2	What is the difference between the old covenant and the new covenant? Why is a new covenant needed?	
Day 5	Jeremiah 32	32:26-41	1	Notice all the "I will" statements in 32:36-41. What does God promise to do for His people? What do the "I will" statements teach us about God?	
			2	Why did Jeremiah buy land in Anathoth? When Jeremiah prays to the Lord, how does he talk to God? What does this teach us about prayer?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 17	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Jeremiah 33	33:12-26	1	What are some of the promises the Lord makes in this passage? What do these promises teach us about God?	
			2	Why is it important for the houses of Israel and Judah to have a king and priests? What does it mean for God to have a covenant with the day and with the night?	
Day 2	Jeremiah 34-36	36:1-3, 20-32	1	Describe the Rechabites. How do they show obedience? How are they different from the rest of God's people? How does the Lord bless the Rechabites? Why does He do this?	
			2	Why was Jeremiah supposed to write down all of his prophecy on a scroll? Why did Jehoiakim burn Jeremiah's scroll? What is the consequence of this action?	
Day 3	Psalms 58-59	58:10-11; 59:7-10, 13-17	1	Ps. 58: Why is it important for us to know that God judges the earth? Ps. 59: What are some of the characteristics of God that David highlights in this psalm?	
			2	Ps. 58: What does this psalm teach about justice? Ps. 59: When David prays to the Lord, how does he talk to God? What does this teach us about prayer? Why was it pointless to call upon the power of the Egyptians to defend Jerusalem against the Chaldeans?	
Day 4	Jeremiah 37-39	37:1-21	1	Why was Jeremiah imprisoned? How is the treatment of Jeremiah different than the treatment of the false prophets?	
			2	Describe the character of Ebed-melech. What does he do in chapter 38? How is Ebed-melech rewarded in chapter 39?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 18	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Jeremiah 40:1-43:7	40:1-6; 42:1 - 43:7	1	What choice does Nebuzaradan give Jeremiah? Why is he given this special privilege? What was the word that came to the remnant from God? How did they respond? What does this teach us about how people sometimes act?	
			2	Describe Gedaliah. Do you think he was a good ruler? Why or why not? Why are Jeremiah and the remnant taken to Egypt?	
Day 2	Jeremiah 43:8-45:5	44:7-28	1	What does Jeremiah prophesy about Egypt? Will Egypt be a protector for the remnant? What reasons does God give for the disasters He will send the Judeans in Egypt?	
			2	How does Baruch, Jeremiah's assistant, feel? Why do you think he feels this way? How does God show grace to Baruch?	
Day 3	Jeremiah 46-49	46:1-2, 25-26; 48:1, 46-47; 49:1-2, 6	1	What pattern do you see for each of these prophecies about these countries? Why do you think these judgments are given for these countries?	
			2	In what way are these countries like Judah/Israel? If you have a Bible map, look up the place names in these chapters. What does this tell you about how wide Babylon's kingdom will be?	
Day 4	Jeremiah 50-52	50:1-3; 51:59-64; 52:31-34	1	Why is it happy news that Babylon is being destroyed? Why is God punishing her? How does the story end for Jehoiachin? Why do you think the book of Jeremiah ends with this story?	
			2	What does the text say will be the downfall of Babylon? The book of Jeremiah concludes with a recap of the fall of Jerusalem. Thinking back on the issue of true and false prophecy, why do you think this recap was included?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 19	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Lamentations 1-2	1:1-4, 14, 16-18; 2:13-14	1	Why is there so much crying in this book? How does God feel about sin? How should people feel? Why is it not a good idea to disobey God (1:18)?	
			2	What has happened to Jerusalem? Was God right to bring so much sadness on His people (1:14, 18)? Why is there so much crying in this book? How does God feel about sin? Does this make you take sin more seriously?	
Day 2	Lamentations 3-5	3:19-25, 31-33; 5:19-21	1	What are some things you need every single day? Is it good to know that there is fresh mercy from God for every new day? Will His mercies ever run out (3:22-23)? Is it ever too late to ask God to forgive your sins (5:19-21)?	
			2	What are the two different things that the writer remembers or "calls to mind"? How can this teach you what to do in difficult times? Think about the hope in this section compared to the sorrow of the whole book. Is there ever a situation too sad to hope in God? Should you ever give up on God's goodness (3:22-25; 5:21)?	
Day 3	Psalms 60-62	60:4-5; 61:1-8; 62:1-2	1	Ps. 61: Why does David trust God? Ps. 62: How does David compare the trustworthiness of humankind and of God?	
			2	Ps. 61: What are the different ways David talks to God? What does this teach us about prayer? Ps. 62: David concludes this psalm by focusing on power and steadfast love. How do you think these relate to one another?	
Day 4	Ecclesiastes 1-2	1:12-14; 2:9-10	1	Vanity is a word that means something that comes to nothing. What are some of the things the Preacher describes as vanity? What does the Preacher think of things accomplished in his life, whether good or bad?	
			2	Who is the central person in these two chapters? What does this tell you about the Preacher's outlook on life? Does the Preacher seem to have a good, growing relationship with God? Do you think this would change his perspective about knowledge and activity?	
Day 5	Ecclesiastes 3-4	3:9-15	1	Of all things, what has eternal endurance and value? Despite all the vanity the Preacher notices in life, what is the grace he finds in life?	
			2	How might "eyes of faith" bring a different perspective on events, both good and bad, which happen in our lives? How important is the legacy which we leave behind, and what might we do to assure an honorable heritage?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 20	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Ecclesiastes 5-6	5:1-7	1	What does the Preacher advise as a good way to present oneself to God? What are the underlying themes emphasized in these chapters?	
			2	What does the Preacher consider a "severe affliction" in the lives of people? Will the love of money ever bring true satisfaction?	
Day 2	Ecclesiastes 7-8	7:14-18; 8:10-15	1	How does the principle of 7:14 help us in the ups and downs of life? What does the Preacher state about wisdom and its effect on a wise man?	
			2	Why do you think the Preacher says, "eat, drink and be joyful"? How does joy, or deep satisfaction, help us deal with the vanity, or emptiness, of life? What does the Preacher notice about those who do good and evil? How do his observations help us understand fairness and justice in life?	
Day 3	Psalms 63-65	63:1-2; 64:1-10; 65:1-4	1	Ps. 63: David was in the desert, lonely and thirsty for God. God revealed Himself there (see 2 Sam. 15:24-30) and David rejoiced. Why was he able to rejoice? Ps. 65: What are the actions of God that David describes in this psalm? What do these tell us about God?	
			2	Ps. 63: What are the ways David describes his relationship with God? What does this teach us about a mature relationship with God? Ps. 64: How does David describe God's enemies (64:1-6)? What is the purpose and result of God's judgement? What can we learn from this?	
Day 4	Ecclesiastes 9-10	9:11-18	1	What lesson does the Preacher learn in the story of the poor, wise man? Why do you think wisdom is better than might?	
			2	What lesson does the Preacher learn from the nets and snares when they gather fish and birds? Discuss some of the ways the Preacher describes folly and wisdom. What lessons about life can be learned from these descriptions?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 21	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Ecclesiastes 11-12	11:9; 12:1, 13-14	1	How are we to live if we don't know the outcome of all events? Will everything we do be one day judged by God? How does this help us do what we ought to do?	
			2	What advice should be given to the youth of today? How should the conclusion of Ecclesiastes correct an overly friendly approach to God in worship?	
Day 2	Mark 1-2	1:1, 16-20, 40-44; 2:1-12	1	Who does Mark tell us Jesus is? Why is that important? What do the miracles of healing tell us about who Jesus is? When Jesus healed the paralytic, He tells him his sins are forgiven. What does this tell us about Jesus?	Part 15: God's Promised One is Followed
			2	What are some of the different ways people respond to Jesus in these chapters? Why do you think Jesus is receiving these responses?	
Day 3	Mark 3-4	3:1-6; 4:1-20	1	Who opposes Jesus? Why do you think this might be? What is the parable of the sower about?	
			2	What is the purpose of parables according to Jesus? Choose one of the shorter parables and discuss how it reveals secrets about the Kingdom of God.	
Day 4	Psalms 66-67	66:1-7; 67:1-7	1	Ps. 66: How does the psalmist describe the worship of the ancient Israelites? What does this teach us about worship? Ps. 67: What does the author want for the peoples of the earth? Do you think God wants that too?	
			2	Ps. 66: What deeds of God does the psalmist describe? What does this teach us about God? Ps. 67: By what means does the author suggest that all the nations would know God and His salvation?	



School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 22	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Mark 5-6	5:35-42; 6:30-52	1	Who does Jesus heal in chapter 5? What does this tell us about Jesus? What miracles does Jesus do in chapter 6? What does this tell us about Jesus?	
			2	Why was Jesus rejected at Nazareth? Why do you think that is? Why was John the Baptist persecuted? What does this teach us about the leaders during Jesus' time?	
Day 2	Mark 7-8	7:14-23; 8:27-38	1	Why do you think Jesus said "the things that come out of a person are what defile him"? Jesus asks the disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" Having studied this far in Mark now, what is your answer?	
			2	How does Jesus describe traditions? How can traditions sometimes cause disobedience to God? What does Jesus predict about His future? Why do you think Peter responds the way he does?	
Day 3	Mark 9-10	9:30-41; 10:17-31	1	What do we learn from the example of the little child? Why was it hard for the rich young ruler to follow Jesus?	
			2	Why do you think the disciples followed the conversation about Jesus' death with a discussion about who is greatest? How does Jesus respond? Contrast Jesus' teaching on children and the rich young ruler. How would you characterize the person who receives the Kingdom of God?	
Day 4	Mark 11-12	11:20-25; 12:28-34	1	What does Jesus teach about prayer? What are the two greatest commandments? Why do you think Jesus chose these two?	Part 16: Jesus Restores God's Place
			2	How does Jesus' teaching on prayer challenge our ideas about prayer? What does Jesus say about the widow's offering? What does this teach us about giving?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 23	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Mark 13-14	13:3-13; 14:12-31, 53-65	1	Describe the signs of the close of the age. How does Jesus comfort His disciples? What does Jesus say about Himself before the council? What does this teach us about Jesus?	Part 20: Jesus Wears God's Kingly Crown
			2	What does Jesus teach about the close of the age? What are some of the principles He gives His disciples? What happens at the last supper? Why do you think this meal was so important? What charges are brought up against Jesus at the council? How would you characterize the leaders? What is the role of justice?	
Day 2	Mark 15-16	15:21-41; 16:1-8	1	Why does Jesus say, "My God, my God, why have You forsaken Me?" What are the emotions people feel at the resurrection? Why do you think that is?	Part 22: A Brand-New Day
			2	Why do you think the curtain was torn in two? How is the ending of Mark changed by the inclusion or exclusion of the longer ending?	
Day 3	Acts 1-2	1:6-11; 2:1-4	1	What promises are given in chapter 1? Are any of the promises fulfilled in chapter 2? How?	Part 24: God's New Kingdom Spreads
			2	Why do you think it was necessary to replace Judas? What does Peter say about Jesus in his sermon at Pentecost?	
Day 4	Acts 3	3:1-8, 16, 19	1	Who empowered Peter and John to perform miracles? In response to the miracle just performed, what does Peter urge the amazed crowds to do?	Part 24: God's New Kingdom Spreads
			2	What was the purpose of the apostles' ability to perform miracles in the days of the early church? Peter is preaching to the same Jews who crucified Christ. How does this passage emphasize once again God's commitment to His chosen people, the Jews?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 24	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Acts 4-5	4:1-4, 8-12, 32-35	1	Why were the Jewish leaders disturbed by Peter and John? What was the early church like?	
			2	Compare and contrast Barnabas with Ananias and Saphira. What were some characteristics of the early church? How does this compare to the church today?	
Day 2	Acts 6:1-8:3	6:7-15; 7:51-57; 8:1-3	1	Why did the Jewish leaders stone Stephen? What do we learn about young Saul in this passage?	
			2	Why were the seven chosen to serve? The author describes Stephen as "a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit" (6:8). What words, actions, and attitudes of Stephen support this description? What are some examples of Philip's obedience and boldness in this chapter, and what were the results?	
Day 3	Acts 8:4-40	8:4, 26-31, 35-38	1	How was Simon misguided in his thinking about the Holy Spirit?	
			2	How did the persecution of the early church and the scattering of believers ultimately help the church to grow? How does Philip explain the passage from Isaiah to the Ethiopian eunuch?	
Day 4	Acts 9	9:1-8, 17-20	1	Do you think Saul would ever have chosen to follow God if God had not stopped him on the road to Damascus? How did God change Saul's heart?	
			2	What does Saul's conversion teach us about God's sovereignty in salvation? What happens to Saul after his conversion? Why do you think people reacted to him the way they did?	
Day 5	Acts 10-11	10:1-5, 23b-25, 34-35, 44-45	1	How did God respond to Cornelius' prayers and his genuine desire to know God? What can we learn from Cornelius about the power of prayer?	
			2	How does Cornelius' story demonstrate the coming of the New Covenant and the truth in 10:34 that God does not show partiality? Why do you think it was important to describe the Gentiles hearing the gospel and receiving the Holy Spirit?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 25	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Acts 12	12:1-7, 11-16	1	What does Peter's escape from prison teach us about God? Why do you think it was so dangerous for the leaders of the early church?	
			2	What were some of the results of Herod's attempts to persecute the church? What impact do you think the death of James and the imprisonment had on the early church? How might it have challenged the faith of believers?	
Day 2	Acts 13	13:2-5, 44-51	1	Why did Paul and Barnabas preach the gospel to the Gentiles? How did the Gentiles respond to the Gospel?	
			2	Describe the difference between the Jewish leaders and the Gentiles in their responses to the gospel. If you have a Bible map, look up the place names in this chapter. How far has the gospel reached at this point?	
Day 3	Psalms 68-69	68:1-6; 69:1-3, 13-17, 27-28	1	Ps. 68: How do different kinds of people respond to God? Ps. 69: The author is in deep despair. What does he do?	
			2	Ps. 68: How does this psalm describe God? Ps. 69: How does David pray in his despair? What does this teach about about prayer?	
Day 4	Acts 14	14:1-4, 8-20	1	Who gave Paul and Barnabas the ability to speak boldly and perform miracles? Why? Why did the people of Lystra think that Paul and Barnabas were gods?	
			2	This chapter concludes Paul's first missionary journey. How would you summarize Paul's goals in this journey? If you have a Bible map, look up the place names in this chapter. How far has the gospel reached at this point?	
Day 5	Acts 15	15:1-11	1	Why did Paul and Barnabas go to Jerusalem? How does Peter respond to the debate Paul and Barnabas described?	
			2	What does Peter say is the basis of salvation? Why do you think it was so important for the debate to be resolved in Jerusalem?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 26	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Acts 16	16:16-31	1	For what crime were Paul and Silas thrown into jail? Why was the slave girl's owner angry that she had been cured? How did Paul and Silas respond to being unfairly imprisoned? How does their response show that they had complete trust in God?	
			2	What lessons can we gain from Paul and Silas about how to respond to adversity and about God's sovereignty in the midst of difficulty? If you have a Bible map, look up the place names in this chapter. How far has the gospel reached at this point?	
Day 2	Acts 17	17:10-11, 22-31	1	What characteristics of the Bereans should we imitate as Christians? What are some of the differences between the gods of the Athenians and the one true God that Paul spoke to them about?	
			2	How did the Bereans respond to God's word? What can we learn from them? What is the difference between being religious, like the Athenians, and having true faith in God, according to Paul's speech?	
Day 3	Psalms 70-71	70:1-5; 71:1-3	1	Ps. 70: What does David say about God in this psalm? Ps. 71: How does this psalm teach us to pray?	
			2	Ps. 70: What are some different ways that deliverance and salvation could be understood in this psalm? Ps. 71: What are the different characteristics of God mentioned in this psalm? How do these relate to the psalmist's requests?	
Day 4	Acts 18	18:1-11	1	How did God reassure Paul that He would protect him during his time in Corinth? What were some of the results of Paul's stay in Corinth?	
			2	How do you think Paul's ministry would have been different without the support of other believers such as Priscilla, Aquila, Silas and Timothy? If you have a Bible map, look up the place names in chapters 17-18. How far has the gospel reached at this point?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 27	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Acts 19	19:1-10	1	What great gift did God give the believers at Ephesus through Paul? What was the result of Paul's preaching in Ephesus?	
			2	Explain the different types of baptism that are mentioned in this passage. What went wrong with the sons of Sceva? Why do you think this happened?	
Day 2	Acts 20	20:17-24	1	How does Paul characterize his ministry? What was Paul's main purpose during his life on earth?	
			2	What kind of advice did Paul give to the elders of Ephesus? Why do you think he gave them this special message? If you have a Bible map, look up the place names in chapters 19-20. What do you observe about Paul's travels?	
Day 3	Acts 21-22	21:10-14, 27-31; 22:1-21	1	What is the meaning of Agabus' prophecy and how does Paul respond to it? How is Agabus' prophecy fulfilled in chapters 21-22?	
			2	Why do you think Paul was so intent on traveling to Jerusalem? What details does Paul highlight when he makes his defense?	
Day 4	Acts 23-24	23:1-7, 11-14; 24:1-9, 22-27	1	How did God encourage Paul during his difficult time of trials in Jerusalem? What do you think about the character of Felix?	
			2	Why did the Jews in Jerusalem take an oath to kill Paul? How did God deliver Paul from the Jews in Jerusalem?	
Day 5	Acts 25-26	25:1-12; 26:2-29	1	What do you think about the character of Festus? How did Paul show courage when he was brought before King Agrippa?	
			2	Why do you think the Jewish leaders were so opposed to Paul? What details does Paul highlight when he makes his defense before Agrippa?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 28	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Acts 27-28	27:13-14, 20-26; 28:1-6, 28-30	1	What trials did Paul face in these chapters? How did God use each of Paul's trials for His purposes?	
			2	How did Paul respond to the trials he faced? If you have a Bible map, look up the place names in these chapters. What does this tell you about how far the gospel has gone?	
Day 2	1 Corinthians 1	1:26-31	1	Who wrote the this letter and to whom was it directed? What is the writer exhorting his audience to do? Why?	
			2	How does the message of the cross make this exhortation possible? How is the cross both foolishness and wisdom at the same time?	
Day 3	1 Corinthians 2	2:6-10	1	What does Paul say about where we should rest our faith? What kind of wisdom does God want us to have? How does it compare or contrast to the wisdom of the world?	
			2	Where does the wisdom of God come from? How is learning about God and His ways possible? How does Paul's method of persuading others about the message of Christ compare to the methods of the world?	
Day 4	1 Corinthians 3	3:5-17	1	How are the Corinthian Christians still like infants? What was the problem in the church at the time which was causing division in the body of Christ?	
			2	To what does Paul compare the Christians? What does Paul say about pride and boasting towards the end of the chapter?	
Day 5	1 Corinthians 4	4:14-21	1	What does Paul write about being an apostle? What does Paul caution the Corinthian Christians against?	
			2	How does Paul's language demonstrate a heart of humility toward the believers in Corinth? How does this function as an example to pastors and ministers today? In which two manners could Paul come on his next visit, and what would make the difference?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 29	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	1 Corinthians 5	5:6-8	1	How does immorality affect the church? How does the illustration of leaven and bread apply to the sin that remains undetected in the church?	
			2	How is dealing with sin in the church different than dealing with sin outside the church? How does the sin of one person affect the people around them?	
Day 2	1 Corinthians 6	6:9-11	1	What is the shame of the church at Corinth? What does Paul suggest they should do instead of participating in this shameful problem? What does this passage teach us about how we enter the kingdom of God?	
			2	How are bodies used correctly? What does Paul say about immorality with respect to other sins?	
Day 3	1 Corinthians 7	7:2-5	1	What is different between a Christian marriage and a non-believing marriage? What does it mean in v. 23 that you were bought with a price?	
			2	What is the advantage of remaining single according to Paul? Paul talks about both the married and unmarried life as a gift. How are these both gifts?	
Day 4	1 Corinthians 8	8:7-13	1	What is often the result of interacting with others according to our "knowledge"? What is the result of doing so out of love instead? What does it mean to make a brother stumble? Why do you think this is an important rule?	
			2	How is sinning against a brother or sister in the church also sinning against Christ? What principle does Paul demonstrate by not eating meat?	
Day 5	1 Corinthians 9	9:23-27	1	Why does Paul emphasize the fact that he saw Jesus, and was called by Him to be an apostle? How does Paul say we should run the race?	
			2	How does Paul describe his strategy in ministering to different kinds of people? Why should a local church support its ministers, even as Paul had the right to gain from his churches? Why do you think Paul did not make use of his right to such provisions?	



School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 30	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	1 Corinthians 10	10:13-21, 31	1	How does Paul use the example of Israel to teach the believers at Corinth? What does it mean that God will provide a way of escape from temptation?	
			2	Why are idols still powerful even though they are not real gods? What is the difference between the ethic "Do all to the glory of God" and a set of "Do not" rules? Why do you think Paul gave the Corinthians this ethic? In which Christian practice have the Corinthians been dishonoring the Lord? How does Paul respond? What do the Christians proclaim by taking communion?	
Day 2	1 Corinthians 11	11:23-26	1	How does the relationship between husband and wife reflect the relationship between God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ? How should the believers act when they come to celebrate what Christ has accomplished on the cross for their sins?	
			2	Ps. 72: Do you think a king who prays this prayer would be a good or bad king? Why? Ps. 73: Why do you think Asaph was able to understand only when he entered the sanctuary of God? Ps. 72: While the author no doubt is describing Solomon's attributes as a king, what do these attributes tell us about the ultimate King? Ps. 73: Describe how Asaph observes the problems in the world. Why do you think he was so troubled by what he saw?	
Day 3	Psalms 72-73	72:1-2, 12-14; 73:3, 16-17, 27-28	1	What stays the same even though gifts vary? Why does the Spirit give so many different gifts?	
			2	How does Paul use the parts of the body to illustrate foolish problems in the church? How should the different parts of the "body" view each other?	
Day 4	1 Corinthians 12	12:14-20	1	What does Paul emphasize in this chapter? What is love, and what is it not?	
			2	What does love never do? Of the three primary values, which is the greatest? Why?	
Day 5	1 Corinthians 13	13:8-13	1		
			2		

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 31	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	1 Corinthians 14	14:1-5	1	What is the difference between prophecy and tongues? What was the problem with speaking in tongues in the church at Corinth?	
			2	Whom should we be trying to edify through our spiritual gifts? Describe what orderly worship would have looked like if the Corinthian church followed Paul's instructions.	
Day 2	1 Corinthians 15-16	15:20-26	1	How does 15:1-5 help us summarize the message of the gospel? Why is the resurrection of the dead a necessary part of the Christian faith? What is lost without it?	
			2	How does chapter 15 describe the relationship between Christ's resurrection and the future resurrection of believers? Why does Paul describe the future resurrection of believers as a mystery?	
Day 3	Psalms 74-75	74:1-2, 12-14, 22-23; 75:1-10	1	Ps. 74: Why do you think it is important to remember God's past work when we are confronted with difficulties? Ps. 75: What characteristics of God's judgment are described? What is the psalmist's response?	
			2	Ps. 74: How does Asaph use remembrance in this psalm? What does this teach us about prayer? Ps. 75: How does Asaph describe God's judgment? Why do you think Asaph gives thanks for this?	
Day 4	2 Corinthians 1	1:3-7	1	How does Christian comfort work? Who is the ultimate source of that comfort? When Paul and Timothy were pushed to the edge of their own strength, in what did they place their hope?	
			2	What is Paul's boast? Why did Paul want to visit the church a second time? For what purpose was Paul working with the Corinthians? How is this an example of serving in the church?	
Day 5	2 Corinthians 2	2:12-17	1	Why was Paul's spirit not at rest when he went to Troas? How are Christians an aroma of Christ?	
			2	If a sorrowing Christian is not comforted, how could this negatively affect the whole church? What does Paul teach about forgiveness?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 32	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	2 Corinthians 3	3:1-6	1	What is it that qualifies Paul to minister to the church in Corinth? What happens when someone turns to the Lord?	
			2	How are the Christians like a letter written on the hearts of the apostles? How is the new covenant greater than the old one? What story does Paul tell to illustrate this truth even in the Old Testament?	
Day 2	2 Corinthians 4	4:7-12	1	How does Paul live out his ministry? What has the "god of this world" done to unbelievers?	
			2	How has God revealed His glory to believers? In what ways are our lives like clay pots?	
Day 3	2 Corinthians 5	5:16-21	1	If our present bodies are like tents, what will our future bodies be like? How do we know that what God has promised He will accomplish in us?	
			2	For what purpose did Christ die? How does Paul describe the identity and purpose of those who are in Christ?	
Day 4	2 Corinthians 6	6:11-13	1	What appeal does Paul make to the Corinthians? What evidence does Paul give for why the Corinthians should listen to him? How do his experiences as a servant follow the example of his Master?	
			2	What reason does Paul give the Corinthians for not uniting with unbelievers? In matters of worship and service to God, how should we view the influence of non-believers?	
Day 5	2 Corinthians 7	7:10-11	1	How does Paul want the Corinthians to respond to him? What good result came from Paul's previous letter, even though it brought them grief?	
			2	What two kinds of griefs are there, and what do they produce? How did the Corinthians' treatment of Titus demonstrate their maturity in the faith?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 33	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	2 Corinthians 8-9	8:9; 9:6-15	1	Who was the first recipient of their giving? What do we learn about giving? What was the remarkable example from the church in Macedonia? What kind of attitude does God want to see in our hearts when we give? Giving does not just help the needs of others. What else does Paul say it does?	
			2	How did Christ Himself demonstrate the ultimate act of giving? How does God use different churches to meet the needs of other believers around the world? What will our generosity produce in others? How is God involved in the process of giving?	
Day 2	2 Corinthians 10	10:1-12	1	What battle are believers fighting? What are our weapons, and what are we trying to do with them? What is Paul being accused of by his opponents?	
			2	Why is Paul's ministry more authoritative than those who are opposing him? Why does Paul have to defend his ministry? How does he go about defending it? What does this teach us about ministry?	
Day 3	2 Corinthians 11	11:1-2	1	To whom did Paul present the church in Corinth? What does this teach us about the aim of church leaders? How did the church at Corinth stray from the truth?	
			2	Why did Paul not burden the church at Corinth when he came for the first visits? What is the only acceptable thing to boast about? Who receives glory in this boasting?	
Day 4	2 Corinthians 12-13	12:8-10; 13:11-14	1	How does Paul speak of his experience when he was taken up to heaven? Why do you think he speaks this way? What happened as a result of Paul being taken up to heaven? What does Paul mean when he says, "Test yourselves?" What is the advice Paul gives in his final greetings?	
			2	What finally caused Paul to be content with his weakness? What is Paul's fear about the Corinthians? Why do you think he has these concerns? How would you characterize Paul's concerns as he anticipates his next visit to Corinth? How do Paul's final words of instruction summarize the message of the entire letter?	
Day 5	Galatians 1	1:10-12	1	Why is Paul astonished? What does Paul say about himself? What details does he emphasize?	
			2	For what did God set Paul apart? Why do you think Paul has to defend himself to the Galatians?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 34	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Galatians 2	2:15-21	1	What is the difference between works of the law and faith in Jesus Christ? What does Paul mean when he says he has been crucified with Christ?	
			2	Why had Paul opposed Cephas/Peter? How were Peter's actions "not in step with the truth of the gospel"? What does Paul say about justification?	
Day 2	Galatians 3-4	3:7-14; 4:1-7	1	What were the Galatians foolishly believing? What does Paul say about Abraham? Why do you think he writes about Abraham? What rights do slaves have? When people are slaves to sin, are they able to set themselves free by their own power? What is the difference between being a slave and being a son? Why do you think Paul focuses on this difference?	
			2	Why do you think it was important for Paul to discuss this topic of Gentiles, the law, and justification? Why is Paul frustrated with the Galatians for listening to those who are telling them a different gospel? What difference does Paul see between Hagar and Sarah (the free woman)? How does this relate to the promise?	
Day 3	Psalms 76-77	76:1-2, 10-12; 77:1-3, 12-20	1	Ps. 76: How does Asaph describe God in this psalm? Ps. 77: What does Asaph remember about the Lord? Why is it important that he remember these things?	
			2	Ps. 76: What are the characteristics God seeks in His people? What response is appropriate toward God? Ps. 77: This psalm explores two opposite ideas - despair and remembrance. How does remembrance help despair?	
Day 4	Galatians 5	5:22-26	1	How would you describe each item in the fruit of the Spirit? What does it mean to live by the Spirit?	
			2	What does Paul mean when he says that the Galatians have been hindered from obeying the truth? What are we supposed to use our freedom for?	
Day 5	Galatians 6	6:9-10	1	How are we supposed to respond when we see someone else carrying a heavy burden? What does it mean to bear one another's burdens?	
			2	Why should we not become weary in doing good? What does the Lord promise if we don't give up? What is the only thing we should boast in? Why?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 2 Discussion Questions - Week 35	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Ephesians 1-2	1:15-23; 2:8-10	1	<p>What does it mean to be adopted into God's family through Jesus Christ? When Paul prays for the church in Ephesus, what does he focus on? What does this teach us about prayer?</p> <p>What does it mean to be "dead in your sins"? When people are dead in their sins, who are they following? Who can make us alive and how does He do it?</p>	
			2	<p>Find all the places in this passage where inheritance is mentioned. What do you learn about inheritance? What does Paul say about Christ in his prayer for the Ephesians?</p> <p>Read v. 10 carefully. Are we saved by good works or for good works? What is the difference? How does Paul describe the church in vv. 19-22? What does this teach us about the church?</p>	
Day 2	Ephesians 3	3:4-12	1	<p>What is the mystery Paul has been entrusted with?</p> <p>What does it mean when Paul says we have boldness and access in Christ?</p>	
			2	<p>Why do you think Paul talks about the Gentiles as a mystery?</p> <p>How does Paul pray in vv. 14-21? What does this teach us about prayer?</p>	
Day 3	Ephesians 4-5	4:1-16; 5:1-10	1	<p>What things should the church do to make sure it stays united?</p> <p>How does the body of Christ work?</p> <p>In what ways can we be imitators of God?</p> <p>What does Paul encourage us to avoid, since we are children of "the light" and not "the darkness"?</p>	
			2	<p>What is our "new self"? Who enables us to change our old ways and live in a new way?</p> <p>Why should we forgive one another?</p> <p>Why does Paul say to make the best use of the time? How can we make the best use of the time?</p> <p>How should a marriage reflect the church's relationship to Christ?</p>	
Day 4	Ephesians 6	6:10-11	1	<p>What is the promise for children who honor their father and mother?</p> <p>What are fathers supposed to do for their children?</p>	
			2	<p>What are all the pieces of the "armor of God"? Why do you think he uses military armor to talk about perseverance?</p> <p>How should we pray for people that are in Christian ministry?</p>	

The Schoolyear Bible Reading Plan Year 3

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 1	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Deuteronomy 1	1:1-8, 26-40	1	How long have the Israelites been in the wilderness? How long should the journey from Egypt have taken them? (Three months to Mount Horeb/Sinai - Exodus 19:1 + 11 days from Horeb to Kadesh Barnea) Did the Israelites have any reason to disbelieve God's promises to them? In fact, what evidences of God's power and goodness had they ignored when they refused to go into the Promised Land?	
			2	Is distrust in God's Word a sin? How was this the essential sin of the Israelities in the wilderness? What might this new generation, poised to enter the Promise Land, think of God in light of this history recounted by Moses?	
Day 2	Psalm 78	78:5-8, 19-22, 37-38	1	What does the psalm writer say that parents should pass on to their children? Why is this important? What does he want them to remember? In what ways did the people of Israel forget what they were supposed to remember? How did God respond?	
			2	The psalmist states that the people of Israel sinned against God. What are the specific ways they did this? (17, 22, 58) Did God respond to His peoples' sin the same way every time? What does this tell us about who He is? (i.e., patience, grace, just wrath)	
Day 3	Deuteronomy 2	2:1-37	1	With whom were the Israelites not permitted to fight? Why? What does this reveal about God's character?	
			2	How does God reveal His faithfulness to His promises here in this chapter? How does Sihon the king of Heshbon remind you of the Egyptian Pharaoh who had refused to let the Israelites go? What does v. 30 say about God's control over our own choices?	
Day 4	Deuteronomy 3	3:1-11, 23-29	1	How do we know that God was fighting for the Israelites? (Consider how well defended their enemies were.) What was Moses' punishment? Why was he being punished? Does this seem fair? Again, what does it say about God's character?	
			2	Explain what the phrase "devote to destruction" means. Does Moses' punishment seem harsh? Is it true that God expects more of His leaders than He does of followers?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 2	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Deuteronomy 4	4:1-14	1	How would the Israelites' obedience to God's law set them apart from the nations around them? What were they to diligently teach their children and their children's children?	
		4:15-31	2	How is God described in this passage? How can God's jealousy be a part of His holy character? What consequences will the Israelites face if they do not obey God's covenant? Will their punishment be final or will there remain hope of God's mercy?	
Day 2	Deuteronomy 5	5:1-6, 22-32	1	How had God appeared to His people at Mount Horeb/Sinai? What are the purposes of God's commandments?	
			2	How is the fear of the Lord related to obedience? Explain the word "mediator." How was Moses a mediator between God and the Israelites? Do we have a mediator between us and God now?	
Day 3	Psalm 79	79:8-9, 14	1	What does it mean for God to act "for His name's sake?" How is this related to His glory? (79:8-9).	
			2	What actions does the psalm writer ask God to take? What is the connection between asking for help and forgiveness of sins? How do believers receive this from God? (Discuss OT and NT believers)	
Day 4	Deuteronomy 6	6:1-15	1	Verse 1 explains the book of Deuteronomy. What is the purpose of this book? What is the most important commandment? Why would all the other commandments follow from this one?	
		6:1-9, 20-25	2	How would the Israelites be sure to follow God's commandments? What were they supposed to do? What event needs to live forever in the memory of the Israelites? Why would this be so important?	
Day 5	Deuteronomy 7	7:1-11	1	How were the Israelites supposed to treat the inhabitants of the Promised Land? Why? Why has God chosen Israel from among all the other nations to be His people?	
		7:17-26	2	What would give the Israelites the confidence they needed to conquer the Promised Land? What would they need to remember? Explain how God would help them defeat the peoples of the land and His reasoning behind this.	



School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 3	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Deuteronomy 8	8:1-20	1	<p>What lessons did the Israelites learn during their 40 years in the wilderness?</p> <p>What did God caution them against once they will have entered the Promise Land?</p>	
			2	<p>How did God take care of His people during their 40 years in the wilderness? What lessons did they learn?</p> <p>What would be a temptation for the Israelities once they entered the Promised Land? Why is it sometimes easy to forget God when things are good?</p>	
Day 2	Psalms 80-81	80:7-8, 14, 16-17 81:8-10, 15-16	1	<p>What does God want His people to do (81:8, 13)? To what does God say that they are to listen? (81:9-10).</p> <p>The psalm writer asks for the same thing three times (80:3, 7, 19)—what is it? What does it mean for God's face to shine on His people?</p>	
			2	<p>Who do the vine and the "son" represent? (Israel/God's people, the king). Who does the strong "son of man" make you think of?</p> <p>What would God love to do if His people listened? (81:10, 14-16) Compare how believers in Israel and today benefit from listening to God. Do you trust God to satisfy you when you listen to Him?</p>	
Day 3	Deuteronomy 9	9:1-12	1	<p>Why was God displacing the inhabitants of Canaan from the land? Were the Israelites more righteous than they?</p> <p>What words are used to describe the sin of the Israelites? Are those words ever true of you? When?</p>	
		9:6-29	2	<p>Describe why God had been angry with the Israelites. Does God's anger seem to contradict His love and kindness? Explain.</p> <p>Describe how Moses had once again been a mediator between the Israelites and God.</p>	
Day 4	Deuteronomy 10	10:12-22*	1	<p>How is God described in this passage?</p> <p>What are the Israelites asked to do in obedience to God?</p>	
			2	<p>The expression, "circumcise your heart" is used in this passage. Explain what God might mean by this (and think back to His covenant with Abraham).</p> <p>How does God show special concern for the "outcasts" of society? Do you have a heart for "outcasts?" Who are they in our culture? How can we show love for them?</p>	
Day 5	Deuteronomy 11	11:1-7, 13-28	1	<p>What blessings are promised to the Israelites for their obedience? What curses for their disobedience?</p> <p>Does obedience always bring blessing and disobedience always cursing? Think of examples.</p>	
			2	<p>What might happen to the Israelites if they forgot God's great deeds of the past? Would they lose courage for entering the Promised Land? Would they become proud?</p> <p>What does this passage have to say about Scripture memorization? How will the verses and passages we've memorized as recitations help us in the future?</p>	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 4	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Deuteronomy 12-13	12:1-7, 29-32, 13:6-11*	1	How were the Israelites to treat the places of Canaanite worship? Why? How seriously does God take the sin of idolatry? Which of the Ten Commandments addresses the sin of idolatry?	
			2	How were the worship practices of the Israelites different than the worship practices of the Israelites? What was the punishment for someone who tried to lead his friends/family into idolatry? Does that seem too severe?	
Day 2	Psalms 82-83	82:1-4, 7-8. 83:1-3	1	What job did God give the human judges He set up? How did they fail at doing their job? When earthly judges don't do their job, who can we look to to make things right? (83:8)	
			2	How high of a standard does God hold for the people He appoints as judges (82:2-4, 6)? All of the human judges failed to live up to the standard of "sons of the Most High" except for one. Compare Jesus as God's appointed Judge to the judges in this psalm. What underlying motive makes people attack the people of God (83:2-3)? Do you ever receive opposition for being part of the people of God? Who is your ultimate example?	
Day 3	Deuteronomy 14-17:13	14:1, 2, 22-28	1	Chapter 14 explains the reasoning behind God's Law for His people (vv. 1-2). What is it? What is a tithe? What were the Israelites required to tithe? What was one practical purpose of the tithe?	
		16:1-8, 17:1-7	2	Describe how the Israelites were to observe the Passover feast. What were they to remember by observing this feast? What was the punishment for anyone worshipping false gods? What was the provision given to ensure justice in capital cases?	
Day 4	Deuteronomy 17:14-18:22	17:14-20, 18:15-22	1	Describe how a future Israelite king would act: what should he do and not do? And what were the reasons behind these? What is the job of a prophet? How are prophets tested to find out whether they are true or false?	
			2	How would an earthly Israelite king reflect the justice and righteousness of the King of Kings? Does this prophecy about a future prophet have any fulfillment in Jesus? Explain.	
Day 5	Deuteronomy 19-26	22:1-8	1	This passage explains that sin isn't just what we do but includes what we don't do. Name the example this passage gives. How does God's concern for justice show in these laws?	
		24:5-22	2	How do God's laws here ensure justice for the poor? How can we show God's love and concern for the poor, the orphan, and the immigrant?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 5	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Psalms 84-85	84:1-2, 10-12; 85:9-13	1	Where does the psalmist want to be? Is he there now? Why does he want to get there? (84:1-2, 7, 10) Where do good things come from (84:11, 85:12)? Who gets them? (84:11, 85:8) What does this tell us about God?	
			2	What word pictures do the Sons of Korah use to paint life in God's presence (84:5-7, 85:9-13)? Is this abundant life available now? How are God's presence and His gifts related (84:1-2, 11; 85:7, 12)?	
Day 2	Deuteronomy 27-28	28:1-10, 15-22	1	How would other nations regard the Israelites if they obeyed His commandments? What will happen to the Israelites if they don't obey the Lord?	
			2	Why does God want His people to be holy? How can we be holy in our lives? Verse 20 describes what would happen if the Israelites chose to rebel against God's law. What role would curses, confusion and frustration play? Are they merely to punish or is there a restorative function these have?	
Day 3	Deuteronomy 29-30	30:1-20	1	Here Moses foresees a future time. Where are the Israelites in this time he foresees? Why are they there? How does God reach out to His rebellious people? Is this always true of God, that He makes the first move with people who have rejected Him?	
			2	What is the significance of God as the active force in this sentence: "The Lord will circumcise your heart." What role does God have in our own obedience? What essentially is our part and what is God's part as we follow Him?	
Day 4	Deuteronomy 31	31:1-15	1	How might the Israelites have felt knowing that Moses would not cross over with them into the Promised Land? What would happen every seven years at the Feast of Booths? Why?	
			2	What lesson was God teaching the Israelites by Moses' death before they crossed over to the Promised Land? Look at verse 8. Why would God commission Joshua in this way for the Israelites to see?	
Day 5	Deuteronomy 32	31:19-22, 32:1-18	1	What was the purpose of the song Moses taught the Israelites before his death? How do you think they reacted to prediction that they would rebel against God? Did they deny they would? Did they despair? Did they not care?	
			2	What images of God's tender care are given in this chapter? Explain this image, "Jeshurun grew fat." How can we, in the midst of blessings given by God, forget Him?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 6	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Psalms 86-87	86:1-5, 14-15; 87:1-4	1	Does David think he needs help? Is he afraid to ask? Who does he think will help him? (Ps 86) What kind of God does David say the Lord is?	
			2	What can you learn about God from the way David asks him for help? About David? What keeps people from asking God for help? (Ps 86) What makes Zion (Jerusalem) so special to God? (The home of His king, His temple. Discuss NT ideas about the new Jerusalem: Heb. 12:22-24; Rev. 21:1-5.)	
Day 2	Deuteronomy 33-34	34:1-12	1	Even though Moses doesn't get to go into the land, God grants him a privilege nonetheless. What is it? What made Moses such a great leader? Think back to what you learned in Exodus.	Part 8: Going into God's Place (pp. 141-155)
			2	How was Moses described at the end of his life. How did he avoid growing "old" in this sense? Words of extraordinary praise are ascribed to Moses at the end of this chapter. Does he deserve such acclaim? Why/why not?	
Day 3	Joshua 1	1	1	What made Joshua an ideal leader to take over after Moses? In what state was the Jordan at this point in the year?	Part 8: Going into God's Place (pp. 141-155)
			2	Why is it so important for Joshua to meditate on the Book of the Law? What was the Israelites' response? Did they respond the way they should have?	
Day 4	Joshua 2	2	1	Why did Rahab hide these spies? How did she know they were good? What had Rahab heard about Israel? Would she have had the same opinion of Israel's God if He had destroyed them?	Part 8: Going into God's Place (pp. 141-155)
			2	What did the spies report? Why did the people of the country "faint" because of Israel? What is symbolic about a red cord?	
Day 5	Joshua 3-4	3	1	If Egypt signifies God freeing us from enslavement to sin, what is crossing the Jordan? This being the case, why does the ark cross ahead?	Part 8: Going into God's Place (pp. 141-155)
			2	In what way is crossing the Jordan the climax of Israel's story? Like the Israelites, how do we know where to go?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 7	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Psalms 88-89	88:1-5, 13-14; 89:5-8	1	How does the psalm writer feel about his troubles? (88:1-5, 13-14) Are you honest with God when you feel this way? Is there anything you can't tell God? Is there any person or thing greater than God? (89:6-8) What about angels or evil angels? Does that help you trust God more?	
			2	How does the psalm writer feel about his troubles? (88:1-5, 13-14) Are you honest with God when you feel this way? Can you trust God to be with you when He feels far away? What does the name "God of Hosts" mean? (89:5-8) Does it help you trust God to know that He is the commander of Heaven's armies?	
Day 2	Joshua 5	5	1	Why are the Canaanites so afraid? What did circumcision symbolize? Why are these Israelites circumcised now?	Part 8: Going into God's Place (pp. 141-155)
			2	Why did the manna stop coming every morning? Who was this heavenly visitor who met with Joshua?	
Day 3	Psalms 90-91	90:1-6, 91:1-2, 14-15	1	How long has God been alive (90:1-2)? What are people like compared to Him (90:5-6)? Where is the safest place to be according to this psalm (91:1-2)? Is there anything God can't protect His people from?	
			2	What does Moses explain about God and people in this psalm? How does knowing this lead to wisdom (90:12)? What kind of people does God help and protect (91:1-2, 14-15)? What does Jesus save and protect us from?	
Day 4	Joshua 6	6	1	What are some reasons God commanded this unusual means of waging war? Why did the ark go in front?	Part 8: Going into God's Place (pp. 141-155)
			2	What can we learn about God in this chapter? Why was Rahab and all her house saved?	
Day 5	Joshua 7-8	7:1-21, 8:10-23	1	Why was it wrong for Achan to take these treasures? Was it overly harsh to punish Achan and his family this way?	Part 8: Going into God's Place (pp. 141-155)
			2	How is this situation for a nation similar to us as individuals? Did the stolen plunder please Achan like he had hoped? How did he probably feel after hiding them?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 8	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Joshua 9	9	1	Were the Canaanites usually united? Why did they unite now? In what way did the Gibeonites act wisely to accept slavery? What might have happened if they had fought Israel instead?	Part 8: Going into God's Place (pp. 141-155)
			2	Were the Gibeonites wise or deceptive? When Joshua discovered that he was deceived, should he have broken the agreement with the Gibeonites?	
Day 2	Joshua 10-12	10:1-15, 11:16-23	1	Why were the other kings so angry at Gibeon? Did Joshua's decision to help the Gibeonites please God? How do we know?	Part 8: Going into God's Place (pp. 141-155)
			2	How is Joshua's conquest like that of Jesus at the end of time? How is the rest from war similar to the Christian life?	
Day 3	Psalms 92-94	92:1-4, 93:3-4	1	How does God and the things He does make the psalm writer feel? (92:1-4) How does he let God know? Have you ever been in a storm? How about one on the ocean? Is God strong enough to control a storm? (Ps 93:3-4) Who once told a storm to be quiet and it did?	
		93:1-5, 94:1-2, 22-24	2	The Lord reigns. What does Psalm 93 say about what kind of King He is? What kind of subjects should that make us? Where does the psalmist find hope when he sees so much wickedness (94:19, 22-23)? Has God or will God finally deal with all the wickedness in the world? How? Through whom?	
Day 4	Joshua 13-19	14:6-15	1	Why was it so important that the land be divided? Why should they not live by the maxim, "Might makes right"? Was it just for God to drive out the inhabitants of Canaan by force?	Part 8: Going into God's Place (pp. 141-155)
		19:17-51	2	Why couldn't the Israelites settle wherever they pleased? Why was Caleb's choice okay? Why did Joshua wait until all the other tribes were given inheritance? How is Joshua like the Second Joshua in lacking "a place to lay his head"	
Day 5	Joshua 20	20:7-9	1	Why was it so important that there be a place to which the manslaughterer could flee? What was the longest distance one would have to run anywhere in Israel?	
			2	Why were the cities chosen from among those assigned to the Levites? What do each of the city's names mean? How do these point to Jesus?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 9	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Joshua 21	21:43-45	1	Why did God need to give the Levites a place to live? Did they not have land allotted to them? Why did God spread all the Levites throughout Israel?	Part 8: Going into God's Place (pp. 141-155)
			2	How much of God's promises had been revealed by this point? What do we learn about God in this portion?	
Day 2	Joshua 22	22:20	1	Why were the Israelites so dismayed by their brothers across the Jordan? How is their reaction different than their times of apostasy in the past?	Part 8: Going into God's Place (pp. 141-155)
			2	Why did Israel bring up the example of Achan? Was Achan the only one who suffered for his rebellion? What was the altar intended to be?	
Day 3	Psalms 95-96	95:1-5, 96:1-4	1	What does it mean to make a "joyful noise"? What does that tell you about your heart and your mouth when you sing to God (95:1)? Besides telling God how great He is, who else should you tell? What should you tell them about His salvation (96:1-3)?	
		95:3-4, 6-8, 96:5, 7-9	2	What is the difference between God and the other gods (95:3-5, 96:5)? What is the right and wrong response to this truth (95:6, 8-9)? What does it mean to "ascribe" something to God (96:7-8)? Hint: It's similar to verse 3. Who is to be the audience for this?	
Day 4	Joshua 23	23	1	Why were the idols such a temptation to the Israelites? How do we accept images of God in our imagination?	Part 8: Going into God's Place (pp. 141-155)
			2	Do we fall into idolatry all at once or slowly through carelessness? Why is it so important to cleave to Jesus? How can we do this?	
Day 5	Joshua 24	24:1-28	1	Why was Joshua recounting the Lord's goodness to Israel? Why was it so important that Israel serve God with a willing mind?	
			2	Is it impossible to serve God? How does God strengthen us for the task? From where does this fear of the Lord come? Though these three leaders were useful for God's work, they died. How is Jesus different?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 10	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	1 Chronicles 1-9	6:31-32, 9:1-2	1	<p>What kinds of people are included in this long list of names? Are they all good people?</p> <p>What kind of events are remembered in between the list of names? What does this indicate about what our lives will be remembered for?</p>	
			2	<p>Why is it important to have a recorded history all the way back to Adam and Eve?</p>	
Day 2	1 Chronicles 10-12	10:13-11:3	1	<p>From where does this list of families start, and where does it end up? What is the major change in scenery between these two places?</p> <p>How does Saul die? Is this a noble death for the king of Israel?</p>	
			2	<p>What does God say about why Saul died?</p> <p>What two titles are used to describe David's kingship by God, and what does this imply about the role of a true King in Israel?</p>	
Day 3	Psalms 97-98	97:1, 6-9; 98:1-3	1	<p>Both psalms talk about all the peoples in every country seeing and worshipping God (97:1,6; 98:2-3). Is that the way it is now? What could make that happen?</p> <p>What are idols? Who does this psalm say will be happier, people who worship idols or people who worship God? Why (97:7-9)?</p>	
			2	<p>What marvelous things has God done? What is His greatest mighty work of salvation (98:1-2)?</p> <p>How is God revealing His righteousness in the sight of all nations and people groups today (97:6, 98:1-3)?</p>	
Day 4	1 Chronicles 13:1-16:7	14:16-17, 16:1-7	1	<p>What impressions about David's kingship do you get by reading these first reports about the nation and its mighty men?</p> <p>What does David bring back to Israel?</p> <p>Was David right to be angry at God? How could have Uzzah's life been spared?</p>	
			2	<p>What two emotions arise out of these chapters concerning God's manifested presence in the Ark of the Covenant?</p> <p>What do we learn about God's character in these events?</p>	
Day 5	1 Chronicles 16:8-17:27	17:11-15	1	<p>What do we learn about God's presence through David's song of praise?</p> <p>Why does David want to build a house for the Ark?</p>	
			2	<p>Looking beyond Solomon, who is the ultimate King for whom God will be a Father (v. 13)?</p> <p>What overriding quality emerges through David's prayer, and how should that be central in our own prayers?</p>	



School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 11	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	1 Chronicles 18-20	18:1-14	1	How is David's relationship to the Philistines different than that of his father? How did David treat the people in his own kingdom? How does this anticipate the kingdom of the Messiah at the end of the age?	
			2	Who really defeats Israel's surrounding enemies? Besides the great wars, what else is David concerned with (18:4-5)?	
Day 2	1 Chronicles 21-22	22:6-10	1	Who tempts and who warns David to number Israel? Why does David choose the third punishment that God offers?	
			2	What is David's attitude about his sin? For what purpose does David make preparation before his death? What does this tell us about the ultimate focus of David's life?	
Day 3	Psalms 99-101	Ps. 99:3-5, 8-9; Ps. 100	1	What does God want His people to bring when they come into His presence (Ps. 100)? What should be making them so happy? What does it mean that God is holy? How should people respond to God's holiness (Ps. 99:3-5)?	
		99:3-4, 8-9; 101:1-5	2	What three things does Psalm 99:8-9 say about God? What does it mean that the Lord is holy? How can God be holy, and still be a forgiving God (i.e., Who made this possible and how)? What does Psalm 99:3-4 tell you about who God is and what He loves? Check back to last week's psalms in verse 97:10. What should God's people love? What should they hate? How is David an example of this in Ps. 101 (esp. vv. 1-4)?	
Day 4	1 Chronicles 23-27	23:25-32	1	What was the role of the Levites in Israel's worship of the Lord? What does this long list of able men and women tell you about the importance of service to God?	
			2	Is it a privilege to serve God? What gives you that impression in these chapters? Why did David not count the people under twenty years of age (27:23)? In which promise of Genesis was David trusting and seeing come to fruition (Gen. 15:5)?	
Day 5	1 Chronicles 28-29	28:9-10	1	To whom is David speaking these parting words? What is David's final and central concern for the future king?	
			2	Why did the people of Israel and David rejoice (29:9)? The construction of the temple was a key moment in Israel's history. Do you know why this was so significant, and what it communicated about God's relationship to Israel? How does the charge David makes to Solomon apply to our relationship to the Lord, even though we are not building a physical temple?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 12	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	2 Chronicles 1-5	1:7-13	1	What request did Solomon make of God and how did God respond? For what righteous reason did Solomon ask this?	
			2	After the temple was finished, what amazing event took place? What did the song of Israel reflect about the glory of God?	
Day 2	2 Chronicles 6-7	6:18-20	1	What promise is fulfilled for which Solomon gives thanks? When did God first make this promise? How does Solomon's prayer cover the whole story of Israel's history, and what does this tell us about how God deals with His covenant partners?	
			2	What is the only request Solomon makes for himself in this marvelous prayer (6:42b)? What was the nation's response to the arrival of God's glorious presence in the temple (7:3)? How should this inform our corporate worship today?	
Day 3	Psalms 102-103	102:19-20; 103	1	What kind of trouble were the people in in 102:19-20? How did God help? Compare this to how Jesus sets people free. How does David feel about everything God's done for him? Has God done any of these things for you? How do or should you feel (Ps. 103)?	
			2	To whom is David talking in Psalm 103? What is he telling himself? What do you forget about God's goodness, and what can you learn from David's example? What do vv. 10-13 tell us about God? Why doesn't God treat us like we deserve? Is that something to be excited about?	
Day 4	2 Chronicles 8-9	9:22-28	1	Solomon lives in such a way as to keep the commandments given through two men. Who are they, and why is this so important? According to Sheba, why was Solomon made king over Israel?	
			2	These chapters give us a glimpse into Solomon's amazing splendor. To what does Jesus compare all of Solomon's glory in Matt 6:29-30, and what does this mean for believers? Are the nations attracted to the lives of believers in the same way that they are attracted to the wealth of Solomon?	
Day 5	2 Chronicles 10-12	12:1, 6	1	What unwise choice did Rehoboam make? If David and Solomon were concerned with God's glory, what glory was Rehoboam concerned with?	
			2	In Solomon's reign, nations were bringing things to Israel. What happens under Rehoboam reign? When the people repent, what do they also confess about God's punishment?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 13	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	2 Chronicles 13-16	15:8-15	1	Where was the real majority between Abijah and Jeroboam? Why did Abijah's army succeed (13:18)?	
			2	In which way was Asa similar to Abijah? What kind of things characterize someone who is "wholly true all his days" (15:17)?	
Day 2	2 Chronicles 17-18	18:12:17	1	What made the surrounding kingdoms afraid of Israel (17:10)? Who is the true prophet in this narrative, and how do you know? What does Jesus say about Himself as God's final and ultimate prophet (John 12:49)? How is Jesus greater than all the OT prophets (Heb. 1:1-2)?	
			2	Why was Micaiah viewed as a unpleasant prophet? What does Micaiah see and describe that Jesus also sees and prays for Israel (Matt. 11)?	
Day 3	Psalms 104-105	104:27-28, 31-34; 105:1-6	1	Skim Psalm 104 for things God is taking care of. Are they big? Small? Alive? Can you think of anything God's not able to take care of (104:27-28)? Have you or someone you know ever been rescued? What was it like? How did God rescue His people (105:37-38, 43)?	
			2	Skim Psalm 104 for ways God is involved in His creation. Does God care what happens with them? How does God feel about them (v. 31)? How does this make the psalmist feel and act toward God (33-34)? Psalm 105 is about how God worked in the history of His people (105:5-6). What are the responses that His people should have to these works (v. 1-4)? When you think of what Jesus has done for you, what can you do to respond?	
Day 4	2 Chronicles 19-20	20:5-12	1	How can one believing person spare the other person from punishment? In the prelude of Jehoshaphat's prayer, what does he recall about God? Who ultimately rules over all nations (see also the vision in Dan. 7:13-14)?	
			2	To whom belongs the war? (20:15) Repeatedly God is telling His people to take confidence. What other unlikely area of ministry is personal?	
Day 5	2 Chronicles 21-22	21:7 (*)	1	Why did God not immediately destroy the wicked Jehoram? What was the message that came from Elijah?	
			2	What is the nation like under a king who does wickedness in the eyes of God? Who is the child of promise hidden away at the end of these chapters, and why is this so important? (Preserved the line of Christ; only one child left)	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 14	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	2 Chronicles 23-24	23:16-21	1	What kind of reform did Jehoiada bring? How did the nation act after the righteous Jehoiada died?	
			2	Who killed Zechariah, and why was this so incredibly grievous? With what kind of attitude did the people of Israel have when partaking in the building of their temple?	
Day 2	2 Chronicles 25	25:5-13	1	How did Amaziah exert courage in his surrounding society? Will God ever fail to keep His covenant?	
			2	How does Joash become proud? What makes this passage like a roller coaster of good and bad kings?	
Day 3	Psalms 106-107	107	1	What are the situations that people found themselves in? What did they do about it? How did God rescue them? How did God help the people in ships? Can you think of another time God told the waves of the sea to be quiet?	
			2	Who was responsible for the storm at sea? Who was responsible for calming it down? What does this tell you about God (107:23-29)? Compare and contrast the things God does in 107:33-38. How does this display God's steadfast love (see v. 43).	
Day 4	2 Chronicles 26	26:16-21	1	Did Uzziah finish well in his life? What was the cause of his downfall, and how can that happen even today?	
			2	How did Uzziah first come to fear the Lord (26:5)? What was Uzziah not allowed to do when he was made a leper?	
Day 5	2 Chronicles 27-28	28:22-27	1	What was Jotham's main accomplishment for Israel? How did Ahaz respond to the judgment that God brought on Israel because of his idolatry (28:31)?	
			2	Despite Israel's idolatry, God is still at work among the nation. How is God working on their behalf? From where did Jotham seek help? Where does true help come from?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 15	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	2 Chronicles 29	29:10-11	1	For what does Hezekiah rebuke the Levites? What did Hezekiah restore for Israel?	
			2	What is the natural response of a consecrated life before God? How did Jesus show His passion for the purity of the Temple in His ministry?	
Day 2	2 Chronicles 30-32	30:18-19	1	How does Hezekiah's prayer emphasize the true significance of the Passover? How should we view working for the Lord, based on Hezekiah's model (31:21)?	
			2	What words does Hezekiah speak to the nation when Assyria is about to attack? Are these like some other famous military figure in Israelite history? Does the narrative wait for the end to tell us of Hezekiah's great wealth and possessions?	
Day 3	Psalms 108-109	108:1-6, 109:1-5	1	How do you praise God with your whole being (108:1)? How far is it from the ground to the clouds? How huge must God's love be to fill up that distance (108:4)?	
			2	What does David start Ps 108 with? What does he do next (v. 6, 12-13)? How does praising God relate to asking Him for help? (v. 5-6) Are David's enemies right to attack him? Does he fight back? (109:1-5) Who else in the Bible got hatred in return for His love?	
Day 4	2 Chronicles 33	33:10-14	1	What was Manasseh's first response to God's Word? How does the narrator describe Manasseh's conversion experience?	
			2	Why did God forgive Manasseh? Being the son of Manasseh, did Amon walk in his ways?	
Day 5	2 Chronicles 34	34:26-28	1	What was the faith of the young Josiah like, and how did it affect the nation? How was Josiah convicted of the evil that was taking place in Israel?	Part 10: Another Very Sad Day (pp. 200-210)
			2	After many older and evil kings of Israel, how does Josiah's faithfulness restore the nation? What quality does God see in Josiah? How might we be a manifestation of similar faith and character for the people around us?	
				<b>Christmas Break</b>	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 16	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	2 Chronicles 35-36	35:16-19	1	<p>What great worship service and festival did Israel celebrate under Josiah's reign?</p> <p>While biblical worship was reinstated, in which way was Josiah still immature and disobedient?</p>	
			2	<p>What prophet ministered during the time of Josiah and Jehoahaz?</p> <p>What are the consequences of not listening to God's word through the prophets?</p>	
Day 2	Ezekiel 1-3	1:28b, 2:8-10	1	<p>In which context does Ezekiel prophecy, and how might that affect his message?</p> <p>Ezekiel's first vision is a fantastic depiction of God's glorious presence. The book of Revelation (1:9-20) begins with a similar vision of God and then a proclamation. What similarities do you notice between the two?</p>	
			2	<p>Why does Ezekiel eat a book, and what do you think this actually means?</p> <p>Why will Israel not listen to Ezekiel's preaching (3:7), and what is the prophet's primary responsibility?</p>	
Day 3	Psalms 110-112	110:1-7; 111:1-4	1	<p>In Ps. 110, the LORD is addressing David's Lord. Who do you think he's talking to? (Matt 22:41-46)</p> <p>What two offices does this individual hold according to the psalm? (king and priest)</p> <p>What will God do for this king-priest according to 110:5-7?</p>	
			2	<p>Notice how many times the word "work" or "works" comes up in Ps. 111. What are the different works of the Lord mentioned in this psalm? How does it instruct us to respond to God's works?</p> <p>In Ps. 112, how is the one who fears the Lord contrasted with "the wicked man"?</p>	
Day 4	Ezekiel 4-5	5:5-12	1	<p>How does Ezekiel's life become a visual sermon?</p> <p>Against which city does Ezekiel prophesy? What is the significance of prophesying against this one rather than another?</p>	
			2	<p>Why is Israel being punished (5:6-7)?</p> <p>Why does God ask Ezekiel to perform such dramatic acts?</p>	
Day 5	Ezekiel 6-7	6:8-10	1	<p>What is the primary sin for which Israel is being judged by God? (idolatry)</p> <p>Will everyone in Israel be killed in judgment? If not, what happens to the other people?</p>	
			2	<p>What is the nature/form of the desolation upon Israel? Has Israel been in this state before?</p> <p>Even though God is the subject of the judgment, who will actually execute Israel's punishment? (7:24) Why is this shocking, and what does it mean about God's authority?</p>	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 17	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Psalms 113-115	113:4-8, 115:2-8	1	<p>What is the difference between God and the idols (115:3-7)? Which one does it makes more sense to worship?</p> <p>What does it mean for God to do "all He pleases" (115:3)? Is that good news to you?</p>	
			2	<p>How does 113:4 describe God? How about vv. 7-9? Would you expect the God described in v. 4 to act like that? What is the greatest way God showed his love for the needy? (i.e., the incarnation, see Phil. 2:5-8).</p> <p>What happens to people who worship idols (115:8)? Could the same be true for people who worship the true God?</p>	
Day 2	Ezekiel 8-9	9:3-8	1	<p>What happens before God shows Ezekiel the second phase of his ministry? (He beholds a vision of God's glory, 8:1-4).</p> <p>God brings Ezekiel to see firsthand the idolatry of the people. All of these places have something in common. What is the significance of the place of their idolatry?</p>	
			2	<p>On which people does God put a sign, and for what purpose?</p> <p>Why does Ezekiel plead with God for the remnant?</p>	
Day 3	Ezekiel 10-11	11:9-20	1	<p>Where is the first glimmer of hope that the Lord gives Ezekiel?</p> <p>Who is responsible for moving Ezekiel to various places?</p>	
			2	<p>How will Israel's relationship be different with God in the future?</p> <p>What is new for the people who returned to the land?</p>	
Day 4	Ezekiel 12-14	13:9-11	1	<p>What are the symptoms of idolatry (12:2)?</p> <p>Who else looks at the "house of Israel" and sees her true spiritual condition? (Matt 13:13)?</p>	
			2	<p>What is the title by which God continually calls Ezekiel? Jesus uses this same title to identify Himself. What might be the significance of this title for Jesus? (Suffering prophet - God's messenger to a hardened people)</p> <p>How have Israel's leaders deluded the nation (13:10)? What is radically different about what Jesus says in Matthew 10:34-39?</p>	
Day 5	Ezekiel 15-17	16:59-63 (*)	1	<p>How does God make alive a baby that is already living?</p> <p>Was Israel satisfied by her faithless pursuit of idols?</p>	
			2	<p>What reason does God give for his redemption of the few remaining Israelites?</p> <p>Based on this passage, how serious do you think rebelling against the Lord is, and what are some possible consequences of a rebellious heart?</p>	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 18	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Psalms 116-118	116:1-2, 8-14; 118:22-27	1	What did God save the psalm writer from (116:8-9)? Who has saved you from death? How does the psalm writer respond to God's salvation? (116:1-2)	
			2	What does the short little psalm, 117, command us to do? Who is supposed to participate? On what basis does it ask us to do this? Who is the stone in v. 118:22-24? Who rejected him? What did he come to do (25-27)?	
Day 2	Ezekiel 18-19	18:1-9	1	What is the final consequence of sin and righteousness? What command and consequence of Genesis 2, is repeated in Ezekiel 18?	Part 11: God's Promise Remains
			2	What in this chapter proves that God is both just and merciful? (clear consequences for sin and righteousness, yet the offer of forgiveness for repentance 18:30-32). Of what did Israel accuse God? Do we sometimes accuse Him of the same?	
Day 3	Ezekiel 20-24(*)	22:17-22 (*)	1	How did Israel respond to the Lord's activity for them? Who did Israel want to be like? (20:32) Why was this such a bad thing?	
			2	The Israel of Ezekiel's day is similar to the generation that wandered in the wilderness. How did the Lord use the experience in the wilderness for Israel? In which way does God's punishment resemble a fiery furnace? (22:17-22).	
Day 4	Ezekiel 25-27	25:6-7 (*)	1	What was the response of the other nations when God punished Israel? (25:6-7). What other nations are punished by God?	
			2	If God can hold every nation accountable, not just Israel, what does that mean about God's authority? For what prevalent sin is Tyre judged?	
Day 5	Ezekiel 28-30	28:25-26	1	What was the main sin of the prince and king of Tyre? Reading Genesis 1-2, who do you think is the King of Tyre?	
			2	Why is Egypt being judged, and to what does God compare this nation? (29:6-9). When Israel's enemies are judged, God promises to raise up a "horn" (29:21). According to Daniel 8, what does this mean?	



School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 19	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Psalm 119:1-88	119:9-16, 57-64	1	<p>What does it mean to "store up" God's word in your heart? (v. 11) In what way can this help us? (vv. 9-10)</p> <p>How fast does the psalmist want to obey God's commands? (v. 59-60)</p>	
			2	<p>What does the psalmist want in v. 9? How can it be gained? How is delighting in God's word part of fighting sin?</p> <p>How can the Lord be your "portion"? (v. 57) How is this related to delighting in God's word?</p>	
Day 2	Ezekiel 31-32	31:1-14, 32:1-15	1	<p>How is Egypt like a great tree?</p> <p>Many nations are glorious for a time, but what is their ultimate end?</p>	
			2	<p>How does God's description of judgment on Egypt seem like the end time judgment of Matthew 24:29?</p> <p>In which way does ch. 32 fulfill a promise of 31:14?</p>	
Day 3	Ezekiel 33-35	33:1-7	1	<p>In God's eyes, for what is Ezekiel accountable as a prophet? (33: 1-7)</p> <p>In the eyes of the people, what is Ezekiel's role? (33:30-33)</p>	
			2	<p>Who are the shepherds of Israel in Ezekiel's day, and how have they failed?</p> <p>Jesus also rebukes the "shepherds of Israel" like Ezekiel did. How is the ministry of Jesus different from the wicked shepherds and similar to the Lord's love for His people in Ezekiel 34? (Here see the description of Jesus ministry in Matt. 11, 15:29-31 and the condemnation of the Pharisees in Matt. 23; notice also the role of Jesus' disciples when He commissions them in Matt. 10:5-15).</p>	
Day 4	Ezekiel 36-37	36:26-27	1	<p>Why is Israel promised a future restoration?</p> <p>What is the central change that causes this restoration within Israel?</p>	
			2	<p>How does the New Testament understand the fulfillment/development of this promise (See Paul's development of this theme in 2 Cor. 3)</p> <p>In order for a new heart to be given to Israel, what is necessary and how does the vision of ch. 37 illustrate this? (Resurrection, the dead bones coming to life; New Testament theme of new life in Christ by the Spirit after having been "put to death" in our sinful bodies).</p>	
Day 5	Ezekiel 38-39	39:21-29	1	<p>Ezekiel prophecies about judgment to come "in the latter days"? What similarities do you note with the judgment in Revelation ch.8?</p> <p>Why does God bring these judgments on Israel and her enemies? (39:7)</p>	
			2	<p>What great event takes place after Israel's punishment as a sign of God's love and faithfulness? Do you note this in any other passages? (Great banquet - Psalm 23)</p> <p>How is God jealous for His people? Describe His jealousy from ch. 39:25-29?</p>	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 20	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Psalm 119:89-176	119:97-112	1	Does it make sense for words to be sweet? Can you think of words you've heard that were sweet? What promises of God are sweet to you? (vv. 103-104) Have you ever needed a flashlight? How did it help? What are some ways that the Bible is a light to your path? (v. 105)	
			2	How do you feel about God's word in your heart? Do you need it? Do you desire it? Can you say with the psalmist, "O how I love your law!" (v. 97) or "Your testimonies...are the joy of my heart!" (v.111)? What does it mean to "incline my heart"? (v. 112) Who inclines the psalmist's heart elsewhere in this psalm (check v. 36)?	
Day 2	Ezekiel 40-42	42:15-20	1	What great vision is given to Ezekiel as a promise of God's restoration? Where is Israel when Ezekiel sees this vision? (40:1) How might this have encouraged the hearts of the nation?	
			2	Do you know what happens in this building? Ezekiel describes a vision that God also gave to the Apostle John in Revelation 21:9-27. What are similarities in their description?	
Day 3	Ezekiel 43-45	43:1-5	1	After the building is established, whose presence comes to dwell in it? What is Ezekiel's response to His arrival? Do other people in the Bible respond in this way?	
			2	What is the purpose of describing this building to Israel? (43:10-12) Rather than land and possession, what is the inheritance of the Levites? (44:28). In the New Testament Peter calls the church a "royal priesthood, a nation, a people for his own possession" (1 Pet. 2:9). How does he relate our deliverance from sin and restoration in the pattern of Israel?	
Day 4	Ezekiel 46-48	47:1-2, 48:35	1	What was one of the purposes for which Israel sacrificed in the temple? (46:20) Since Jesus is our Passover Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, how do we communicate the same truth that Israel believed?	
			2	What is coming out of the temple?	
Day 5	Luke 1	1:26-38	1	Who was Mary? Who was her baby?	Part 12: Many Silent Years
			2	What miracle occurs in this passage? How does Mary show obedience?	Part 13: God's Promised One is Born Part 14: God's Promised One is Announced

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 21	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Psalms 120-121	121	1	Why do you think God doesn't sleep? (121:3-4) Is it a comfort to know this about Him?	
			2	How did people get around before cars and planes? If you had to walk, what would be scary about hiking through the hills to get somewhere? (121:1) What are some things that make God the perfect source of help in this situation? (121:2-8)	
Day 2	Psalms 122-123	122	1	How does David feel about Jerusalem and God's house?	
			2	Where is God's dwelling place today? (His people/the church.) Do you love and seek its good?	
Day 3	Luke 2	2:1-20	1	How would you feel if you were one of the shepherds in this passage? Why does this story make a difference in your life?	Part 15: God's Promised One is Followed
			2	Why is this story important? How does it demonstrate God's grace to us?	
Day 4	Luke 3-4	4:38-44	1	Explain the miracles in this passage. Why does Jesus go to a solitary place?	
			2	What types of healing does Jesus do? What is Jesus' mission?	
Day 5	Luke 5-6	5:1-11	1	What is a disciple? Why do the men follow Jesus?	
			2	Why does Jesus call disciples? How can we show our discipleship today?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 22	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Luke 7	7:1-10	1	What is a centurion? Why was Jesus amazed?	
			2	What is a centurion, and how did the centurion show his faith? Why was Jesus amazed at this?	
Day 2	Psalm 124	124	1	What is your favorite team sport? Does it help to have a star player on your team? How did having God on their team make a difference for Israel? (124:1-3)	
			2	Why is it important for Israel to say this (124:1)? Who gets the credit when God rescues His people? (124:2-6)	
Day 3	Luke 8	8:40-56	1	Why did the woman touch Jesus? What powerful miracle does Jesus perform?	
			2	How does the sick woman prove her faith in Jesus? Why did Jesus want to keep the miracle of the raising of the dead girl a secret?	
Day 4	Luke 9	9:10-17	1	What did the disciples want to do late in the day? What did Jesus want to do? How did Jesus show the disciples they could trust Him?	
			2	Explain how this culture is different than ours with regard to food. Jesus surprises the people with food. Give an example of a time when God has surprised you with an answer to prayer.	
Day 5	Luke 10-11	10:25-37	1	Why didn't the first two men stop to help the man? What is the answer to the question in v.29, "Who is my neighbor?"	
			2	What is mercy? According to Jesus, who is your neighbor? What does it mean for you to be a good neighbor?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 23	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Luke 12	12:22-34	1	What does it mean to worry? Why don't we need to worry?	
			2	What does the term, "treasure in heaven" mean? What should our treasures be? How does God provide us with these treasures?	
Day 2	Psalms 125-127	125, 127	1	How does Ps. 125 describe those who "trust in the Lord?" What does this imagery communicate about God's power at work in those who depend upon him?	
			2	What does it mean to do something "in vain"? (127:1-2) Do you depend on the Lord to enable you to do all the things you do? How does He help?	
Day 3	Luke 13-14	13:10-17	1	Why are the people upset with Jesus?	
			2	How does Jesus explain his actions to the people?	
Day 4	Luke 15-16	15:1-9	1	How are the sheep and the coin alike? How are the shepherd and the woman alike? How do they feel when their lost items are found? How does God feel when someone turns to Him?	
			2	What do the sheep and the coin symbolize? What do the shepherd and woman symbolize? How does this passage illustrate God's amazing love for us?	
Day 5	Luke 17-18	17:11-19	1	What does it mean to be thankful? Is thankfulness an attitude, an action, or both? Who is thankful in this story?	
			2	Why do you think the other healed men don't return to thank Jesus? Why is it important for us to be thankful? Think about times you've demonstrated thankfulness, like the one leper. Think about times you haven't shown thankfulness, like the nine who didn't return.	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 24	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Luke 19	19:28-44	1	How do we celebrate this triumphal entry today? Why do the people praise Jesus? (v. 37)	
			2	What is Jesus' purpose in entering Jerusalem? How can we joyfully praise God as these people did?	
Day 2	Psalms 128-129	128:1-4	1	What does it mean to fear the Lord? Why is this a good idea? (128:1-4)	
			2	What does it mean to fear the Lord? Why is this a good idea? (128:1-4)	
Day 3	Luke 20-21	21:1-4	1	What is the widow's gift? Why does it please Jesus?	Part 20: Jesus Wears God's Kingly Crown
			2	What does it mean to give out of wealth? What does it mean to give out of poverty?  What would it mean for us to give out of poverty, as the widow did?	
Day 4	Luke 22	22:7-23	1	Why is this called the Last Supper? What does the cup of wine symbolize? What does the bread symbolize?	Part 21: Jesus' Followers are in the Dark
			2	What was the Passover meal, and why was it important to the Jewish people?  Discuss the meaning of the cup and the bread. Why do we still celebrate the Last Supper today?	
Day 5	Luke 23	23:26-49	1	Why is this story important to us? Why did Jesus have to die? Do you believe this story is true? If so, talk to God about it. Have you asked Him to be your personal Savior? You can do that today.	Part 22: A Brand-New Day; Part 23: God's Promise is Explained
			2	Why is this story important to us? Why did Jesus have to die? Do you believe this story is true? If so, talk to God about it. Have you asked Him to be your personal Savior? You can do that today.	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 25	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Psalms 130-131	130	1	What do you look forward to? Is it hard to wait for? What did the psalmist wait for? (130:5-6)	
			2	Have you ever felt "in the depths"? Who do you cry to at those times? Is it hard to wait for an answer? (Ps. 130) What is the answer to the question in 130:3? How does God forgive people, then? (4, 8)	
Day 2	Luke 24	24:1-12, 36-44, 50-53	1	Does Jesus stay dead? What happens to Jesus in v. 50 to prove he rules over death?	
			2	What difference does it make that Jesus rose from the dead? How does/can this fact change your life, and how you live today?	
Day 3	Philippians 1	1:3-13, 21, 27-30	1	What exactly is the "gospel" of Christ (See I Cor. 15:1-4), and how did this gospel shape Paul's life? In what ways should this gospel shape our lives? Does it?	
			2	How do you explain Paul's "joy" and "rejoicing" in spite of imprisonment? In verse 29, Paul says they were granted not only to believe, but to suffer for Christ's sake. How might we understand suffering for Christ as a gracious gift, much like faith?	
Day 4	Philippians 2	2:1-16	1	How did Christ demonstrate humility and why? How are we to follow His example?	
			2	What does it mean to "work out your salvation with fear and trembling"? How do we shine as lights in the world?	
Day 5	Philippians 3	3:1-16	1	What two kinds of righteousness does Paul describe? Which one is true righteousness? (vv. 3, 9) How is Paul's joyful satisfaction in Jesus described? How might this kind of joyful satisfaction free us to partner together in advancing the gospel (as in 1:27-30)?	
			2	Why do you think Paul encourages others to imitate him? What is the believer's heavenly hope in Christ versus those that are "enemies of the cross of Christ"? How do their desires and minds differ?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 26	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Psalm 132	132:8-14	1	Did God really live in Jerusalem or in the temple? (132:13-14) Where does God live now?	
			2	What two promises are "forever" in 132:8-14? How has or how will God fulfill these promises? (King Jesus, heavenly Jerusalem)	
Day 2	Philippians 4	4:1-20	1	Verses 2-3 describe a conflict between two women in the church. How might Paul's instructions in vv. 4-7 ("rejoice" in the Lord Jesus, be reasonable, cast your anxieties on God) help resolve such conflicts in the church?  Read v. 8. What does it look like to focus our minds on whatever is true, honorable, just pure, and so on? What difference might that make at home or in school?	
			2	How was Paul encouraged by the Philippians? Do we serve missionaries in similar ways? Paul seems to indicate that the peace of God and contentment can be found in all situations. How? Do you agree? Describe a time where you resisted anxiety.	
Day 3	Colossians 1	1:9-23	1	Who and what is Paul thanking God for in verses 3-4? What does he ask God to do for these people in vv. 9-12? How is the Lord Jesus supreme? After reading verses 15-20, describe the supremacy of Christ in your own words.	
			2	Why was Paul suffering? What was his attitude about his sufferings? According to vv. 28-29, what was Paul's goal for the church, and with what power did he hope to see it accomplished?	
Day 4	Colossians 2	2:6-15	1	What is the next step after receiving Christ Jesus the Lord? What does it look like to follow him?  What do we learn about who Jesus is in vv. 9-10? Read verse 8 carefully. What are "deceptive philosophies" that we have to watch out for today? How should you guard yourself against believing worldly ideas?	
			2	According to vv. 13-15, what did Christ accomplish through the cross?	
Day 5	Psalms 133-134	133	1	What does it mean for "brothers to dwell in unity"? Is it pleasant to you when this happens? (133:1)	
			2	In what way did God dwell with His people in Jerusalem in the OT? How about today?	



School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 27	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Colossians 3	3:1-17	1	How can we set our hearts on things above and not on earthly things? What are you pursuing now? Does it have eternal, kingdom value? Make a list of the things that we are commanded to "put to death," and another of the things that we are to "clothe" ourselves with. Go through each list and humbly ask the Lord enable you to live as His child.	
			2	How can the word of Christ "dwell" among us? Do you share psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit with others? Verses 17 and 23 make it very clear that we are to do everything (both our words and our actions) in the name of the Lord Jesus, working for him with all of our heart! How will this affect how you do your schoolwork, your household chores, your job, and your ministry?	
Day 2	Colossians 4	4:1-18	1	How can we be wise in the way we treat "outsiders"? Paul reminds us to "make the most of every opportunity". Think of a time when you used an opportunity the Lord gave you to show His love to a nonbeliever. Pray that your eyes would be opened to the opportunities that the Lord will give you this week.	
			2	What does it mean to have our conversations be "seasoned with salt"? Who is Paul sending to the church in Colossae? Why is he sending them?	
Day 3	1 Thessalonians 1	1:2-10	1	What does Paul commend the Thessalonians for? The gospel has the power to change lives because it comes with the Holy Spirit and with conviction. How has the power of the gospel changed your life? What role did the Holy Spirit play in the Thessalonian church's coming to Christ?	
			2	How does Paul describe the church's entrance into faith? From what did they turn? To whom did they turn? What are they now waiting for?	
Day 4	1 Thessalonians 2	Ch 2:9-14	1	What do verses 3-8 teach us about how we should act when sharing the gospel? What should our motive be? How should we handle the message? Whom should we aim to please? How did Paul care for the Christians in Thessalonica? (verses 7 and 11)	
			2	Paul is writing this letter to encourage the church to stand strong in the midst of persecution. In what ways are Christians persecuted today? What was Paul's great satisfaction in his ministry? (verses 19-20)	
Day 5	Psalms 135-136	135:8-11, 136:10-22	1	What can you remember about how God brought Israel out of Egypt? What does the psalm writer do when he remembers? (Ps. 135, 136) What does Ps. 136 say over and over? Why is this so important to remember?	
			2	Compare 135:8-22 to 136:10-22. Why are these events so important to Israel? How do they demonstrate God's steadfast love? How does God continue to rescue his people today? How does this demonstrate his "steadfast love" to us?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 28	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	1 Thessalonians 3	3:11-13	1	Whom did Paul send to encourage the Thessalonians? Did God ever promise that believers would escape suffering? How should we view suffering?	
			2	What should we be doing constantly for people who are facing persecution and suffering? (verse 10) What does Paul pray that God would do in the Thessalonians' lives? (vv. 11-13)	
Day 2	1 Thessalonians 4	Ch 4:13-18	1	Whose authority did the instructions come by? It is God's will that we be sanctified, or made holy and set apart for the Lord. How is holiness described here?	
			2	Paul commends them for their brotherly love. How does he encourage them to continue to express that love (vv. 9-12)? What were the Thessalonians worried about? (v.13) What was the comfort that the Lord gave them through Paul? (verses 14-18)	
Day 3	1 Thessalonians 5	5:9-11	1	How do verses 1-4 describe the Lord Jesus' return? Why should we not be fearful of the Lord's return? How should we think about it instead? (Verse 9-11)	
			2	What are the specific ways we are to encourage each other? (see verses 11-23) In v. 23, Paul prays that God would sanctify them completely. How does he describe what he means by that in the rest of the verse?	
Day 4	2 Thessalonians 1-2	1:11-12; 2:13-17	1	When Jesus returns, what happens to people who do not trust in the Almighty Savior? (1:6, 9) What happens to those who do trust him? (1:7) What does Paul warn the people against in 2:1-2? What are they not to get too worried about?	
			2	What are some things that will happen before Christ returns? How are God's people supposed to live in the meantime? (2:13-17)	
Day 5	Psalms 137-138	137-138	1	What can you remember about how God brought Israel out of Egypt? What does the psalm writer do when he remembers? (recall Ps. 135 and 136)	
			2	How does God continue to rescue his people today? How does this demonstrate his "steadfast love" to us?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 29	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	2 Thessalonians 3	Ch 3:1-3	1	What should we pray for even today? (verse 1) Why should we not fear the "end times" and the evil one? (verses 3-5)	
			2	What does Paul teach here about work (such as a job, or even household chores or homework)? What does Paul not want us to grow weary of doing in the midst of our work? (verse 13) What kind of peace does Paul pray for in v. 18?	
Day 2	1 Timothy 1	1:12-17	1	What specific advice does Paul give Timothy for leading the church at Ephesus? (vv. 3-5) What kind of person was Paul before the grace of the Lord saved and changed him? (vv. 12-14)	
			2	As Paul comments on what God has done in his life, how does he respond in v. 17? What is the major problem in the church where Timothy is serving?	
Day 3	1 Timothy 2	2:5-6	1	Who should we be praying for? (vv. 1-2) According to vv. 5-6, how is it possible for people to come into a right relationship with God?	
			2	How should Christians pray? Why? (verse 8) What part of our life should we really be trying to make more beautiful?	
Day 4	1 Timothy 3	3:14-16	1	Paul lists several qualities that overseers (leaders in the church, elders) should have. What are they? What qualities should deacons have?	
			2	What is one of the key roles of the church in the world according to v. 15? What is the "mystery of godliness"? Who is this saying about?	
Day 5	Psalms 139-140	139:1-6, 13-16, 23-24	1	Can you read minds? Can God (vv. 2, 4)? Is that good news to you? Can you believe that God pays so much attention to you? Do you remember being a baby in your mom's tummy? What was God doing with you during that time (vv. 13-16)?	
			2	Think about all the things you did and thought and said yesterday. How is God able to keep track of all that? Why does the psalmist ask God to do this (vv. 23-24)? How should knowing that God is so involved in your life make you feel about yourself? About the things you do?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 30	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	1 Timothy 4	4:6-16	1	How does Paul describe what he means by a "good servant of Christ" (v. 6)? What kind of training should we all be seeking (vv. 7-8)?	
			2	In what ways are we to set an example, even in our youth (v. 12)? What does Paul exhort Timothy to keep a close watch on? Why (v. 16)?	
Day 2	1 Timothy 5	5:17-25	1	Why is it important to know how to address different people? What key values are evident in Paul's instructions for caring for widows in vv. 3-16?	
			2	What does Paul say about rebuking a leader in public and its effects? What does Paul charge leaders, and by extension, all Christians to do (v. 21)?	
Day 3	1 Timothy 6	6:11-16	1	How does Paul describe someone who does not agree with the sound words of Jesus and the teaching that accords to godliness? What two virtues, when joined together, bring about great gain?	
			2	Instead of pursuing money, what should we be striving for? By what means ought a Christian to fight the good fight of the faith?	
Day 4	2 Timothy 1	1:8-14	1	Who were the people who shaped Timothy's life, and taught him about Christ? Where was Paul when he wrote this letter to Timothy? Was this a "shameful" place?	
			2	What does Paul command Timothy to guard? (v. 14) Why did God save Paul and Timothy (v. 9)	
Day 5	Psalms 141-142	142	1	What does your body need the most in order to live? To what did David compare his need for God? (142:5) Do you ever feel alone? How was David feeling in the cave? (142:3-4) What did he do? (5-7)	
			2	Who are David's enemies? Who are our enemies as Christians? How does God deliver us? (142:6-7)	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 31	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	2 Timothy 2	2:14-26	1	What three kinds of people does Paul use to describe a faithful servant of the gospel? Why is Paul happy to suffer, and for what purpose?	
			2	What does Paul warn Timothy to stay away from because of its destructive power? What qualities must characterize a servant of the Lord (vv. 24-25)?	
Day 2	2 Timothy 3	3:14-17	1	What will happen in the "last days"? What does Paul promise for those who desire to live a godly life?	
			2	How was Timothy able to become wise unto salvation? (v.15) Whose words are contained in the Bible?	
Day 3	2 Timothy 4	4:1-5	1	Why will people one day not want to hear true teaching? What does Paul think about the outcome of his life?	
			2	Who was with Paul when all his other companions left him? (verse 17) Where will the Lord bring Paul and all those who loved the Savior Jesus Christ?	
Day 4	Titus 1	1:5-9	1	Why did Paul leave Titus in Crete? Why is it important to have leaders in the church who bear the qualities Paul lists here and in 1 Timothy?	
			2	What does it mean to be "a lover of good"? Is it important to invite people into our homes?	
Day 5	Psalms 143	143:3-12	1	What does your body need the most in order to live? To what did David compare his need for God? (143:6)	
			2	Who are David's enemies? Who are our enemies as Christians? How does God deliver us? (143:3) What is it that David asked God for as he faced a terrible trial? (143:7-12)	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 32	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Titus 2-3	2:11 - 3:7	1	What instructions does Paul give for older and younger men? Older and younger women? What effect should the grace of God have on our lives? (2:11-14)	
			2	What are good works? Why are they so important to Paul in this letter? (2:7, 14; 3:8, 14) What does 3:3-7 teach us about how and why God saves us?	
Day 2	Philemon	1:8-16	1	What was Onesimus's occupation? What was Philemon's reputation among the believers? (vv. 4-7)	
			2	How did Paul want Philemon to view Onesimus? (v. 16-17) On what basis does Paul want Philemon to be reconciled with Onesimus? (v. 6, 9, 16)	
Day 3	Hebrews 1	1:1-4	1	How is God's speech both similar and different in the Old Testament and in the New Testament? What things does the author of Hebrews tell us that Christ accomplished?	
			2	How is Christ greater than the angels, and how does the author of Hebrews prove this point? What is the difference between the role of angels (v. 14) and the role of Jesus?	
Day 4	Psalm 144	144	1	What does David want God to do in 144:5-8? Why? When did God actually come down to earth, and what did He come for?	
			2	What does David ask God to do for his people in 144:12-15? What do these blessings remind you of? (God's covenant blessings) When will they be true for us? (God's new creation) What does David conclude about those who know God? (v. 15)	
Day 5	Hebrews 2	2:14-18	1	Why is it all the more necessary to be careful to obey all that Christ has spoken? How was the message of Christ revealed and confirmed by God? (vv. 3-4)	
			2	Why was Jesus crowned with glory and honor? For what purpose did Jesus become human, being made like us in every way? Is it necessary to believe that Jesus was fully man and fully God? How is this at the center of our Christian faith?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 33	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Hebrews 3	3:1-6	1	In which way is Jesus like Moses, and in which way is Jesus greater than Moses? For a Jewish audience, whose heritage was largely focused on Moses, why would this have been a really helpful illustration?	
			2	How should the readers of Hebrews live differently than the Old Testament saints of Moses' day? What has a strong power to deceive? (v.13)	
Day 2	Hebrews 4	4:11-13	1	Why did the message not benefit the saints in the days of Moses? How is this different than the way believers can hear the Bible today? What should the believers still be seeking to enter, that the Old Testament saints did not fully enter?	
			2	To what does the author of Hebrews compare the Word of God? What does this reveal about the purpose of God's Word? For what purpose do believers draw near to the throne of grace? How do we do so?	
Day 3	Hebrews 5	5:7-10	1	What was the job of the high priest? In the last days of Jesus life, what did He do as a high priest? What was God's response? (v.7)	
			2	For how long will Jesus be a high priest? What does this mean for our lives as believers? For our confidence of eternal salvation? How does one mature from being a infant in the faith to a full grown disciple? (v.14)	
Day 4	Psalm 145	145	1	Do you know anyone famous? Do they deserve to be famous? What does Ps. 145 say about God that makes him worthy of being famous? (vv. 4-7)	
			2	What is God's glorious, everlasting kingdom? (145:11, 13) Who is its King? How is making it known related to God's glory and fame? (vv. 6-7, 11-12)	
Day 5	Hebrews 6	6:9-20	1	What is the difference between the two types of soils in verses 7 and 8? Why would it be a great danger to be like the thorny soil after hearing about Jesus?	
			2	Will God ever overlook the work and love which you do for Him? How should this motivate us to live? How did the author of Hebrews want this to motivate the church to live and serve God? Where does our hope in God's promise find its true security?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 34	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Hebrews 7	7:26-28	1	How is Melchizedek a unique kind of priest? From what line is Jesus' priesthood, and how does this make Him greater than all the other high priests?	
			2	What is the difference between the ministry of the former priests and the ministry of Jesus Christ, the final high priest? Jesus had no need for a certain kind of sacrifice. Which kind was it?	
Day 2	Hebrews 8	8:1-2, 6	1	Where is our High Priest? According to what pattern was Moses to build the tent?	
			2	Why is Christ's ministry far superior to the ministry of the former covenant? How is the new covenant in Christ described in the words of Jeremiah (vv. 8-12)? How does this shape our daily life and relationship with God?	
Day 3	Psalms 146-147	146:3-9; 147:2-6	1	Does God care about people who are sad or discouraged? How does He take care of them? (146:8-9, 147:2-3) How does that make you feel about God?	
			2	What does it mean to trust in man? (146:3-4) Why is it not a good idea? Who should you trust instead? Compare what 146:6 and 147:4-5 have to say about God with 146:7-9 and 147:3, 6. Is it surprising that this is the same God?	
Day 4	Hebrews 9	9:11-15	1	What was the Holy Spirit indicating through the symbolism of the temple/tabernacle? (v.8) What were the Old Testament sacrifices and rituals incapable of doing? (v. 9) How is this dealt with in the New Covenant?	
			2	By what means did Jesus Christ offer the sacrifice before God? (v. 12) What can Christ accomplish through the offering of His own blood on behalf of the sinner?	
Day 5	Hebrews 10	10:19-25	1	How is Christ's sacrifice different than the sacrifices of the old covenant? What did Christ do after offering the sacrifice of His own body for sin? What does this say about who had the final victory?	
			2	Since Christ has accomplished this marvelous salvation on our behalf, what should be our response? (vv. 22-25) Do we have any reason to doubt our salvation of God's promises? Do we have any right to not fulfill our own commitment to His Word?	



School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 3 Discussion Questions - Week 35	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Hebrews 11	11:13-16, 39-40	1	How does the author of Hebrews define faith? What kinds of people does he use as an example of true biblical faith?	
			2	What was true of all these saints in terms of their perspective on life? (v. 13) Where was their true home? The author of Hebrews wants his church to see the radical faith of saints who have believed in the promises of God without seeing the fulfillment of those promises in their lives. How can we exert that kind of faith?	
Day 2	Psalms 148-150	148, 149:1-4	1	What things and people should praise the Lord? What do they all have in common? (Ps 148) How should you feel about praising the Lord? (149:1-4) Why?	
			2	How does God "adorn the humble with salvation?" (149:4) Why is it the humble that he does this for? What attitude should people have when they praise the Lord? (149:2-3) What attitude does the Lord have when this happens? (149:4)	
Day 3	Hebrews 12	12:1-2	1	How is living a faithful life before God like running a race? How does the author make this comparison? Who is surrounding us as we live out our faith in Christ? How does that help us persevere?	
			2	How did Jesus respond to the hostility of evil people? How does knowing that God is our Father help us understand and endure both discipline and trial in our lives?	
Day 4	Hebrews 13	13:1-6	1	What final commands does the author of Hebrews not want his people to forget? What promise is a comfort to the believers who are worried about money? (v.5)	
			2	Whom should we be imitating in the Christian faith? With what attitude should the leaders be serving the church? How is that a benefit to the flock? (v.17)	

The Schoolyear Bible Reading Plan Year 4

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 1	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Judges 1-2	2:6-23	1	What does it mean to obey? In this passage, the Israelites didn't obey. Why should we obey?	Part 8: Going into God's Place (pp. 156, 157)
			2	Who were the judges? Why were they important? Who are some people of authority in your life who can lead you to know God better?	
Day 2	Proverbs 1-2	1:1-6, 33; 2:1-8	1	What are the purposes of this book (1:1-6)? How do we obtain wisdom (ch. 2)?	
			2	What does 1:33 tell us of the consequences of listening or of not listening to Solomon's advice? What are the directions given in ch. 2 for obtaining wisdom?	
Day 3	Judges 3	3:7-11	1	What happened to the Israelites when they did evil? When they cried out to God? What happens when we cry out to God?	Part 8: Going into God's Place (pp. 156, 157)
			2	This is one of the "sin cycles" in the book of Judges. Briefly explain the basic cycle. (disobedience, sold into slavery, cry out to God, God raises up a judge, people follow God for a while) Think about your own sin cycles, that is, sins you struggle with over and over again. How can you change those cycles?	
Day 4	Judges 4-5	4:1-16	1	Who was Deborah? What was her job? Why did Barak not get the honor of defeating the army?	
			2	Describe Deborah's many roles in Israel. Barak was too timid to completely follow God's command. Describe a time you felt timid in following God's Word. What would help you feel more bold in your obedience?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 2	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Judges 6	6:11-23, 36-40	1	How was Gideon feeling when the angel came to him? How did God prove his faithfulness to Gideon?	
			2	Why does Gideon doubt God? Describe a time when you struggled with God's will for your life? How did you figure it out?	
Day 2	Judges 7-8	7:1-8, 16-21	1	Why do you think God wants to use very few men to defeat the Midianites? In the last passage, Gideon doubted God. How does he show faith in God in this last passage? How can we show faith in God in challenging times?	
			2	Why do you think God wants to use very few men to defeat the Midianites? In the last passage, Gideon doubted God. How does he show faith in God in this last passage? How can we show faith in God in challenging times?	
Day 3	Proverbs 3-4	3:1-7; 4:23-27	1	How do you "trust in the Lord with all your heart"? And "lean not on your own understanding"? Discuss not "swerving to the right or to the left." What are some ways that you can help avoid "swerving"?	
			2	What is the attitude that these proverbs suggest? (humility, the Lord's work) Heart, lips, eyes, feet (ch. 4): what are the directions given for each?	
Day 4	Judges 9-10	10:6-16	1	How did the Israelites disobey God? How did they obey Him again? How can we stand strong against sin in our world today?	
			2	How did the Israelites disobey God? What are some "idols" we put before God in our culture? How do the Israelites repent, and how does that make God feel?	
Day 5	Judges 11-12	13:1-14, 24, 25 (chapters 12, 13*)	1	Explain the miracle that led to Samson's birth. A Nazirite is someone set apart to do God's work. What are some ways you can do God's work?	
			2	What is a Nazirite? See Numbers 6:1-21. In what ways could you dedicate yourself to do God's work right now, where you are in your life?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 3	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Judges 13-14	16:4-22	1	Why did Delilah want to know the source of Samson's strength? Who was really the source of Samson's strength? Can we count on that strength today?	
			2	Why was Samson's hair so important to his strength? (Nazirite vow) Who was really his source of strength? What are some ways in which you can see God's strength in your life today?	
Day 2	Proverbs 5-6	5:21-23 (*); 6:16-19	1	What happens when we neglect wisdom (5:21-23)? List the six things that God hates (ch. 6) and talk about what they mean.	
			2	What are the directions given for heart, lips, eyes and feet? Test your life against 6:16-19.	
Day 3	Judges 15-16	16:23-31	1	What miracle did Samson perform in this passage? How does God show his grace and forgiveness to Samson?	
			2	Review Judges 16:22. Why is this significant in today's passage? Where in this story do you see evidence of God's forgiveness?	
Day 4	Judges 17-18	17:1-13	1	What does Micah's mother make with the silver? What does the Bible say to us about making idols?	
			2	What do the 10 commandments say about making idols? What are some things and people in our culture today that we wrongly "idolize?" How can we stand firm in our faith against these things?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 4	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Judges 19-21	21:25	1	What does this concluding verse tell us about the primary sin of the Israelites in this book? How can we guard against the sin of doing "what is right in our own eyes?"	
			2	What does this concluding verse tell us about the primary sin of the Israelites in this book? How can we guard against the sin of doing "what is right in our own eyes?"	
Day 2	Ruth 1-2	Judges 2:7-19	1	Why were "judges" ruling? Who were the Moabites?	
		Gen 19:36-39	2	What was the profound choice Ruth made in leaving her homeland? What clues do we have to the godliness of Boaz?	
Day 3	Proverbs 7-8	7(*):1-3	1	What do we learn about how long wisdom has been around? Discuss v. 35. What should our response be?	
			2	What is said of wisdom regarding its existence from the beginning? What is said of wisdom regarding its part in creation and its interest in man?	
Day 4	Ruth 3-4	Matt 1:5	1	Who was Boaz's mother? How did this fact help Boaz to show kindness to Ruth?	
			2	Why might Naomi have told Ruth to uncover Boaz's feet? How does this story move from emptiness to fullness, death to life, sorrow to joy?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 5	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Daniel 1-2	1:8-17	1	Why did Daniel and his friends choose to abstain from the privileges of the Babylonia kingdom? In which way does God honor Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah?	Part 11: God's Promise Remains
			2	How did Daniel respond to the tyrannical demands of the king? Daniel gives honor to God in two ways. What are they? (private prayer and public proclamation).	
Day 2	Daniel 3-4	3:16-17	1	Do Daniel and his friends seem intimidated by King Nebuchadnezzar's threats? Where is their confidence? Who does Nebuchadnezzar see in the flames with the three prophets?	
			2	What petition does Daniel make of Nebuchadnezzar after being given the interpretation of his dream? How did Nebuchadnezzar learn the lesson that "God opposed the proud but gives grace to the humble" (James 4:6)?	
Day 3	Proverbs 9	9:1-6, 13-18	1	Do you want to follow wisdom or folly? Give reasons from this proverb as to why.	
			2	Compare vv. 1-6 and vv. 13-18. In what respect are wisdom and folly alike? How are they different?	
Day 4	Daniel 5-6	5:17-24	1	What message had Nebuchadnezzar's son neither believed nor practiced? Who is the focus of Daniel's words and admonitions?	
			2	How did Daniel demonstrate his total allegiance to God's kingdom? How did God demonstrate the magnificence of His kingdom?	
Day 5	Daniel 7-8	7:18, 22	1	Who are the two main people in this marvelous vision, and how are they described? What happens to the saints in this prophetic vision?	
			2	What are the main words used to describe God's kingdom, and how does that compare to the vision of other kingdoms? When will the visions take place? What phrases give an indication as to the time of these prophetic visions?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 6	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Daniel 9-10	9:15-19	1	Why does Daniel begin to pray? What is the central theme of his prayer, and how should this instruct us in both corporate and private prayer?	
			2	Whom does Daniel see after his prayer? How does this description correlate with Revelation 1:12-20? How did Daniel respond to the vision and the visitor? What happened to Daniel after the vision which is similar to Isaiah's calling (ch. 6)?	
Day 2	Daniel 11-12	12:1-13	1	How will the king of the South come to power, and what will be his seductive strategy? What two kinds of people are described in the final chapter, and what are their ends?	
			2	What does God promise to those faithful who die during the period of judgment? How is 12:3 an evangelistic verse?	
Day 3	Proverbs 10	10:1-32	1	What can we learn about wickedness from this chapter? What are some examples of righteousness in this section?	
			2	What does it look like to walk with integrity (v. 9)?	
Day 4	Ezra 1-3	3:10-13	1	For what purpose did Ezra lead a group of people back to Jerusalem? What type of people was this first wave coming out of the captivity in Babylon?	Part 11: God's Promise Remains
			2	What was the attitude of the people for the house of God, the temple? Once the foundation was constructed, why were there two opposite reactions?	
Day 5	Ezra 4	4:1-3	1	Why did Zerubbabel not allow any other help for the rebuilding of the temple? For what purpose were the surrounding nations discouraging the people of Judah?	
			2	How is Jerusalem perceived by the surrounding nations? What is the tragic irony about this reality? (Jerusalem biblically was the city of righteousness and peace) Did the opposition succeed?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 7	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Ezra 5-6	6:16-18	1	How does the letter to Darius compare to the letter to Artaxerxes? Who issued the first decree that the captives could come back from Babylon? (Cyrus - see the historical background in 2 Chron. 36:22-23).	
			2	What differences do you note between the dedication of Israel's temple 6:16-18, and the religious worship of Baal priests, 1 Kings 18:20-29? How do political events and the wellbeing of God's people relate?	
Day 2	Ezra 7-8	7:10, 27-28	1	What phrase is used repeatedly to describe Ezra in these chapters? How does Ezra relate to the Law of the Lord (v.10), and what pattern should be drawn from his example?	
			2	How does Ezra respond to the letter from Artaxerxes, and to whom does he give praise? In what ways do Ezra and his fellow travelers prepare themselves for the journey?	
Day 3	Proverbs 11	11:1-31	1	What does it mean to have integrity (v. 3)? What rewards come with generosity (vv. 24, 26)?	
			2	Observe the contrast between the righteous and the wicked in this chapter. Why do you think Proverbs returns to this theme so frequently?	
Day 4	Ezra 9-10	9:6-9	1	How does Ezra respond to the intermarriage of the people? How does Ezra address the Lord, and what does he say about his people?	
			2	What is the immediate consequence of Ezra's prayer before the people? Is the sin of the nation a serious matter to the future of Israel? (They just arrived from the exile, which was a consequence of their sin!)	



School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 8	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Proverbs 12	12:13-20	1	What does this section teach us about God's view of lying? In what ways does lying harm us?	
			2	What is the connection between our words and our heart (vv. 19-20)? Other than lying, what are some other ways that we use our words in ways that are dishonoring to God?	
Day 2	Nehemiah 1-2	2:1-8	1	How do you know the depth of Nehemiah's love for the returned exiles? What was Nehemiah's job in the kingdom, and who did that put him in contact with?	Part 11: God's Promise Remains
			2	What was Nehemiah most concerned about in his prayer? Where do you see the hand of God's providence and the wisdom of Nehemiah working at the same time?	
Day 3	Nehemiah 3	3:1-2	1	Why is it important to name the individual workers and the tasks they were performing? (A historical construction record would be of great encouragement for the future.) Which people would not stop to help the construction (3:5)?	
			2	Was the re-building of the wall a project for only a few people? How did they view the building of the walls? (A sacred activity; 3:1-2.)	
Day 4	Nehemiah 4	4:4-5	1	How did Sanballat and Tobiah try to discourage the Israelites? To whom did Israel respond, and what did they say?	
			2	How did Nehemiah make provision for the possible attacks of unfriendly neighbors? How did Nehemiah and his men demonstrate that they were prepared for both the rebuilding and protection of the wall?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 9	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Nehemiah 5	5:6-13	1	Against whom does Nehemiah bring a word of rebuke for their stinginess? What final appeal does Nehemiah make, and what does it reveal about his ultimate concern? (v.9)	
			2	Why did Nehemiah not act like the rest of the governors (v.15)? When Nehemiah asks God to "remember him for good," what is he seeking? How should we also make the same prayer?	
Day 2	Proverbs 13	13:1-25	1	What can we learn about the importance of wisdom and discipline in this chapter?	
			2	Why are heeding instruction and experiencing discipline important to God (vv. 18, 24)?	
Day 3	Nehemiah 6-7	6:15-16	1	Other than from physical attack, Nehemiah also protects himself from another kind of attack. What is this, and how does Nehemiah respond (6:12-13)? Why were the nations afraid when the walls were finished (6:16)?	
			2	What did God put on Nehemiah's heart after the walls were built? What do you think would have been the outcome of this action?	
Day 4	Nehemiah 8-10	9:6-8	1	What took place in this great worship service? Why was the reading of the Scripture complemented with translators/interpreters?	
			2	How does Nehemiah pray on behalf of the nation? What picture of God is derived from Nehemiah's prayer of dedication?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 10	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Nehemiah 11-13	12:43	1	Who did Nehemiah invite to the dedication of the city walls? What was the response to the completion of the walls (12:43)?	
			2	Why did Nehemiah again have to reprove the nobles? How did Nehemiah view himself? (As an agent of change.)	
Day 2	Esther 1	1:12	1	What type of literary genre is this? (Historical narrative, or poetry, or prophecy.) Why did Queen Vashti refuse to come to the king?	
			2	What was her consequence? How can you see God's hand over these events?	
Day 3	Proverbs 14	14:14	1	What does it mean for a person to be "filled with the fruit of his ways" (v. 14)? What can we do to bear good fruit?	
			2	What does it mean for a person to be "filled with the fruit of his ways" (v. 14)? What can we do to bear good fruit?	
Day 4	Esther 2	2:15	1	Why did Esther keep her Jewish identity a secret? What did Mordecai overhear?	
			2	Is Esther willing to follow directions? How can we be willing and ready to hear and obey the word of God?	
Day 5	Esther 3-4	4:12-17	1	What evil report did Haman bring to king Ahasuerus and how did Ahasuerus respond? What was the response of Mordecai to the decree that Haman issued against the Jews?	
			2	Against all hope of survival, how did Esther and Mordecai agree to react? What does all the fasting demonstrate about the placement of their hope?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 11	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Esther 5	5:7-8	1	With what symbol did the king allow Esther into his presence? Why might Esther have not requested for favor during the first banquet? (To build anticipated favor and to increase the dramatic irony of Haman's hatred of Mordecai.)	
			2	What characterization is made of Haman in this chapter? Who is the invisible power directing the course of events?	
Day 2	Esther 6-7	6:11-13	1	Do you think the timing of the king's restlessness, the remembrance of Mordecai, the visit of Haman are mere coincidences? How is 1 Samuel 2:30 dramatically represented in this narrative: "Those who honor me I will honor, and those who despise me shall be lightly esteemed"?	
			2	How did the prophecy spoken by Haman's family (6:13) prove to be a wise and true word? Where was the fate of the wicked publicly displayed?	
Day 3	Proverbs 15:1-16	15:1-7	1	Why should we be careful about what we say? What does it mean to "heed reproof"? Why is this important for us to do (vv. 5, 10)?	
			2	What does this chapter say about how we use our words (vv. 1-7)? What are ways that your words have helped or hurt you?	
Day 4	Esther 8-10	9:20-22	1	How does the dramatic reversal between Haman and Mordecai bring the story to a marvelous conclusion? How does Esther speak about the Jews in both requests which she makes before the king?	
			2	What did Esther think about her own life and safety in relationship to the state of God's people, the Jews? There could hardly be a book in the Bible which better demonstrates the providence of God and His oversight of events (political and personal) for the salvation of His people. Why then, does the book never mention the name of God?	
Day 5	Hosea 1-3	1:2-3; 2:14-23; 3:1-2	1	What was Israel guilty of and how are we similar to Israel? How is Hosea like Jesus? How does Jesus "buy" us like Hosea buys Gomer?	
			2	How are we similar to Israel and and what other "lovers" do we chase after? What does God do to bring Israel back to Himself and how is this like what He does to lead us back to Himself when we wander away? How is Hosea like Jesus?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 12	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Hosea 4-7	4:1-3; 6:1-3, 6	1	What happened in Israel when there was no acknowledgement of God in the land? What would God do for those who returned to Him? How can you return to God when you sin?	
			2	What were the effects in Israel of "no acknowledgement of God in the land"? How is our culture similar to Israel and what effects can we see? How can we press on to acknowledge the Lord?	
Day 2	Hosea 8-10	10:1-2, 12-14	1	As Israel prospered, what did they do? How can we "sow for yourselves righteousness" and what will happen if we do?	
			2	How can prosperity lead to denying the Lord as it did in Israel? What is "unplowed ground" in your life? What does the Lord want to do for us?	
Day 3	Proverbs 15:17-33	15:31-33	1	Why does ignoring instruction hurt us (v. 32)? Have you ever been hurt by ignoring instruction?	
			2	Why does ignoring instruction hurt us (v. 32)? Have you ever been hurt by ignoring instruction?	
Day 4	Hosea 11-14	11:1-4; 14:1-2	1	Describe what God did for His people and how His people responded. Did God's love for His people ever change?	
			2	Describe how God loved His people and how His people loved Him. What similarities are there between us and Israel? What "words" can we take with us when we want to return to the Lord?	
Day 5	Joel 1	1:1-4, 10-15	1	How do you feel about bugs? What if there were bugs that ate all your food (vv. 2-4)? Who would you ask for help (v. 14)? How should the people act when they've sinned against God? Should they be happy or sad (vv.13-14)?	
			2	What were the consequences of Israel's sin (vv. 2-4, 10-12)? How did it affect the rest of the things God created? What was the way to ask for God's forgiveness for this sin? Who should be involved in this repentance (vv. 13-15)?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 13	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Joel 2-3	2:1-2, 11-14, 25-29	1	Does the day of the Lord sound like a day we should look forward to (2:1-2, 11)? Does God want His people to be sorry on the inside or on the outside? What is the difference? Will being sorry help them escape God's anger (2:12-13)?	
			2	How scary does the day of God's judgment sound? How certain (2:1-2, 11)? How serious do His people need to be about repenting (2:12-14)? What are the blessings of returning to the Lord (2:25-27)? When did God pour out His Spirit on people (2:28-29)?	
Day 2	Amos 1-4	2:4-5; 3:1-2	1	Describe the key sins of Judah (2:4) in your own words. How do you see those same sins at work today? In 3:2, God links His need to punish Israel to their "chosenness." What does this tell you about God's nature? How would you compare this with Hebrews 12:5-6?	
			2	Describe the key sins of Judah (2:4) in your own words. How do you see those same sins at work today? In 3:2, God links his need to punish Israel to their "chosenness." What does this tell you about God's nature? How would you compare this with Hebrews 12:5-6?	
Day 3	Proverbs 16:1-16	16:8, 16	1	What is considered better than wealth in this chapter (v. 8, 16)? Why do these things matter more to God than our riches?	
			2	What is considered better than wealth in this chapter (v. 8, 16)? Why do these things matter more to God than our riches?	
Day 4	Amos 5-9	5:12-15, 21-24	1	Does 5:21-23 surprise you? How could God be displeased with religious ceremonies and songs? According to 5:24, what did God want them to do instead? What is justice and how can our hearts be attuned to the importance of this?	
			2	What do these verses tell us about the relationship between individual and social righteousness? What does this show us about God's heart? Practically, how can we "let justice roll on like a river" (5:24)?	
Day 5	Obadiah	1-4, 10-12, 15-17	1	How were the people of Edom prideful? How does God respond to this heart problem (vv. 1-4)? What did Edom do wrong in vv. 10-12? Does someone else's trouble ever make you happy? What does God think of this?	
			2	How were the people of Edom prideful? Did they think anyone could punish them? How did God respond to this heart problem (vv. 1-4)? What will people get on the day of the Lord (v. 15)? Will this day be bad news for everyone (v. 17)? How can people escape from God's judgment?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 14	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Jonah 1-2	1:1-4, 1:15-17; 2:7-10	1	Who was Jonah really running away from when he sailed for Tarshish? How did God rescue Jonah?	
			2	What do you think Jonah learned about running away from God? What similarities do you see between Jonah and Jesus?	
Day 2	Jonah 3-4	3:1-3, 5-6, 10; 4:1-11	1	How did the Ninevites respond to Jonah's preaching and how did God respond to them? Why was Jonah angry that God did not destroy Ninevah?	
			2	How did the Ninevites respond to Jonah's preaching and how did God respond to them? What lesson was God trying to teach Jonah through his experience with the vine?	
Day 3	Proverbs 16:17-33	16:17-33	1	Why do you think Proverbs refers to gray hair as a "crown of glory" (v. 31)? What do you think it means to have "sweetness of speech"? Why is this important (v. 21)?	
			2	How does the world view getting old? How does God (v. 31)? "Pride goes before a fall" is often repeated, but what does this verse mean (v. 18)? Why is it important to remain humble?	
Day 4	Micah 1-2	1:1-7; 2:1-4	1	Can you imagine mountains melting or splitting open (1:3-4)? What does that tell you about God's power? Does this make you want to be on His side? What do the evil people think about when they go to bed (2:1-2)? Do you ever wish you could take things that aren't yours away from others? How does God feel about this?	
			2	Imagine what it would be like for God to come down from heaven in anger at peoples' sin. How would people react (1:1-4)? What will it be like when Jesus comes back? What are two ways God's people sinned and deserved God's judgment (1:7, 2:1-2)? Do people today sin with idols or coveting?	
Day 5	Micah 3-4	3:9-11; 4:1-5 (3:2-3**)	1	Who were rulers supposed to love and serve in Israel? Did these rulers have more love for God or for money (3:9-11)? Who does God say will come to His high mountain (4:1-2)? What will He do for them there (4:2)? Is there anyone who shouldn't get to learn about God?	
			2	Were these rulers serving God in their hearts (3:9-11)? Were they helping the people? What made them think God would be okay with this?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 15	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Micah 5-7	5:1-5a; 6:6-8; 7:18-20	1	Compare what will happen in "the latter days" (4:1-2) with verse 5. Does God care about people from other countries and religions? How does God draw them to Himself today? Who is the ruler prophesied to be born in Bethlehem (5:2)? Will this be good news for God's people (5:4-5a)? What will God do with people's sins (7:19)? What kind of God does that make Him (7:18)?	
			2	Who is the ruler prophesied to be born in Bethlehem (5:2)? What will He be like (5:4-5a)? How did Jesus fulfill these verses? What does and doesn't God want from people who have sinned (6:6-8)? Are people able to make things right? What is their only hope (7:18-20)?	
Day 2	Nahum 1-3	1:1-7; 1:15-2:2; 3:19	1	Would you ever pick a fight with a tornado? How does God respond to those who pick on His people (1:3, 5, 7)? Does this make you want to be on His side? What is the good news that the people of Israel hear (1:15, 2:2)? (Nineveh, their worst enemy, will fall.) What is the best news that you know?	
			2	What does it mean that God is slow to anger (1:3)? Does this mean He will never punish His enemies? Where is the best place to run from God's powerful anger (1:7)? How will people who are enemies of God ultimately end up (3:19)? What about those who worship Him (1:15-2:2)?	
Day 3	Proverbs 17	17:12	1	What does this chapter say is better to meet than a "fool in his folly" (v. 12)? What is so dangerous about foolishness?	
			2	What does this chapter say is better to meet than a "fool in his folly" (v. 12)? What is so dangerous about foolishness?	
Day 4	Habakkuk 1	1:2-11	1	Summarize Habakkuk's first complaint in your own words. Have you ever felt this way? What is God's answer to Habakkuk's first complaint? Does this surprise you? What does this tell us about God and His character?	
			2	What does it mean that Babylon's might was their god (v.11)? What other false gods do individuals and nations worship? What is God's answer to Habakkuk's first complaint? Does this surprise you? What does this tell us about God and His character?	
Day 5	Habakkuk 2-3	3:16-19	1	What do vv. 17-18 tell us about faith in God during hard times? What does it mean for God to "make my feet like the deer's"?	
			2	What do vv. 17-18 tell us about faith in God during hard times? According to v. 19, what is the source of Habakkuk's great faith? Since "the righteous shall live by his faith" (2:4), what can we learn from Habakkuk's example?	



School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 16	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Zephaniah 1-3	1:4-6; 3:1-4	1	How would you summarize the sins of Judah and Jerusalem in 1:4-6 and 3:1-4? How do these relate to the ten commandments? Why is the failure to accept correction (3:2) such a sign of rebellion?	
			2	Those in Judah were guilty of worshipping the Lord and Milcom (an Ammonite god). How might we be guilty of the same kind of syncretism in our own lives? How would you summarize the sins of Judah and Jerusalem in 1:4-6 and 3:1-4? How do these relate to the ten commandments?	
Day 2	Haggai 1-2	2:1-9	1	What was neglected by self-centered Israel? What promise did the Lord make with Israel as an encouragement in their great task?	
			2	When Israel left Egypt, the Lord provided the gold and silver of Egyptians for their wealth. How will the Lord provide for the filling of His house? What image of blessings does the Lord give to Israel? How does Jesus use this image in the Sermon on the Mount?	
Day 3	Proverbs 18	18:1-8	1	What can we learn about our words from this passage? Why do you think what we say is so important to God?	
			2	What can we learn about our words from this passage? Why do you think what we say is so important to God?	
Day 4	Zechariah 1-2	2:9-12	1	What three images arise in chapter 1 which also are common themes in Revelation? (Riders on horses, measuring line over Jerusalem, horns.) Is the vision one of salvation or judgment, and how does this help us understand the prophecies in Revelation (vv. 16-17)?	
			2	What is God's inheritance (v.12)? God calls the people to sing and shout (2:10), but Zechariah tells the people to be silent (2:13). When are each of these expressions appropriate, and what do they communicate?	
Day 5	Zechariah 3-4	3:8-10	1	What is the symbol of Joshua's sinful impurity and how does God deal with it? How does this image become a major New Testament theme of regeneration? (See Paul's use of "unclothed" and "clothed" language in Ephesians and Colossians.) The angel of the Lord spoke of a coming messenger who would be both a "branch" and a "stone." How are these images used in Jeremiah 23:5 and 1 Peter 2:4-10?	
			2	What is communicated through the vision of the golden lampstand? (See also Rev. 1:12, 4:5, add 11:4, two witnesses.) How will the great day be brought about? Will God's kingdom advance by the agency of human force (4:6)?	
				Christmas Break	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 17	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Zechariah 5-6	6:15	1	What two major sins are identified as being condemned by the flying scroll? Would these have been the two sins that we would have seen as the most grave? What will the Branch do?	
			2	Why would Israel be overflowing with hope when other nations came to help to build the temple? (Read Isaiah 60:1-10.) Upon whom was the crown of kingship placed? What could be the significance of this leadership according to Hebrews 7?	
Day 2	Zechariah 7-8	8:9-13	1	Who are the two people who give tithes to Melchizedek? What is the significance of giving a tithe to Melchizedek?	
			2	What two signs of obedience must be visible in the nation to activate God's age of blessings (8:16-17)? Why might the Lord command to Israel that they should "have strong hands"?	
Day 3	Proverbs 19	19:3, 17	1	Why is it important to be generous to those who have less than you do? What does God say about generosity? Have you had a time in your life where you have blamed God for something that was your own fault? Why do you think we have a tendency to do so (v. 3)?	
			2	Why is it important to be generous to those who have less than you do? What does God say about generosity? Have you had a time in your life where you have blamed God for something that was your own fault? Why do you think we have a tendency to do so (v. 3)?	
Day 4	Zechariah 9-10	9:9, 16-17	1	How does Zechariah describe the coming of Israel's King? When Jesus enters Jerusalem, how does the Apostle John describe His entry? (See John 12:12-19.)	
			2	Since John quotes Zechariah's prophecy, what can be said about the day of salvation in 9:16-17? Why are the sheep of Israel afflicted (10:2)?	
Day 5	Zechariah 11-12	12:7-10	1	What do the two rods represent in chapter 11? The sheep traders gave thirty pieces of silver to the Shepherd, so that he would no longer shepherd the sheep (11:12). From whom does Judas receive thirty pieces of silver?	
			2	When God judges the enemies and delivers Israel, what will He pour out upon them? (See Jer. 31:9 and John 19:37.) How will the people see the Great Shepherd on the day when He pours out His Spirit? (See John 19:37.)	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 18	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Proverbs 20:1-15	20:4, 13	1	What does it mean to be a sluggard (v. 4)? What consequences are described for laziness (v. 4, 13)? Have you experienced any additional consequences of laziness?	
			2	What does it mean to be a sluggard (v. 4)? What consequences are described for laziness (v. 4, 13)? Have you experienced any additional consequences of laziness?	
Day 2	Zechariah 13-14	14:1-5	1	What will God's cleansing of His people accomplish? (Their renewal or covenant faithfulness - 13:9) After the terrible judgment on the earth, what will take place for those who survive?	
			2	Who will come with the Lord on the day of judgment (14:5b)? Where will the feet of the Lord touch down when He comes in judgment?	
Day 3	Malachi 1-2	1:11	1	How have the priests religiously dishonored the Lord? Though God has chosen to love His specific people, is there a purpose for the nations?	
			2	Israel's teachers were the Levites. In which way had they failed in their responsibility over time? In which ways did the nations love for their wives reflect their love for God?	
Day 4	Malachi 3-4	3:1-4	1	Does God want just beautiful prayers and nice actions? What does He really expect from His people? Who is the "messenger" that God is sending?	
			2	What will take place when the "messenger" comes? (See Matt. 11:10 and Mark 1:2.) What will the "Day of the Lord" be like and who will appear in that time? (Moses, Elijah - Mount of Transfiguration; see also many parallels with the Malachi 4 and the Epistle of James.)	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 19	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Job 1	1	1	What is Job like? (Tell me about his family, his possessions, his character.) What has happened to Job by the end of this chapter? Does this seem fair?	
			2	Why did Satan believe that Job feared God? Was this true? How do you know? Can you imagine being in Job's situation? How would you have responded?	
Day 2	Proverbs 20:16-30	20:16-30	1	What is revenge? What does this chapter say about revenge (v. 22)?	
			2	Why does God ask us to "wait on the Lord" (v. 22) rather than repay evil ourselves? What does waiting on the Lord look like in relation to vengeance?	
Day 3	Job 2	2	1	What did Job's wife tell him to do? Was that good or bad advice? Why? How did Job's friends respond to him? Would you have wanted your friends to do something different? What?	
			2	How did Satan augment the suffering in Job's life? Would this have indeed been more tragic suffering than that of the first chapter? Why or why not? What would you have done or said as one of Job's friends?	
Day 4	Job 3	3	1	How does Job feel in this chapter? What words does he use to describe his suffering? Do you think his attitude has changed from that of 1:20-21?	
			2	What is Job wishing for in this chapter? Is he sinning in this chapter by longing for his own death?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 20	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Job 4-7	4:1-9; 6:1-13	1	What explanation does Eliphaz give for Job's suffering? Is he right according to what we know from chapter one? Does Job admit that he deserves this suffering because of sin or does he defend his righteousness?	
		5:1-17; 7:1-11	2	What portrait of God does Eliphaz paint? Is it accurate? Why or why not? Is it helpful for Job? Why or why not? What symbols/images does Job use to describe his suffering?	
Day 2	Job 8-10	8:1-7; 9:1-12	1	Who does Bildad blame for the tragedies which Job has suffered? What attributes of God does Job describe? Is he right about what God is like?	
		8:11-22; 10:1-15	2	How does Bildad describe a "godless man or woman?" What images/words does he use? Why is Job especially bitter in this chapter? What is it about God that makes it impossible for Job to understand his suffering?	
Day 3	Proverbs 21:1-15	21:1-15	1	What does it mean that "the Lord weighs the heart" (v. 2)? What are ways we can work to have a righteous heart?	
			2	Why is it important to work diligently and not hastily (v. 5)? When have you personally found this to be true?	
Day 4	Job 11-14	11:1-6; 12:1-12	1	What does Zophar mean in 11:6? Explain what Job means when he says that he is a "laughingstock" (12:4).	
		11:1-20; 13:1-15	2	What errors can you find Zophar's speech to Job (ch. 11)? What does he counsel Job to do? Does Job demonstrate that he still has faith in this chapter? And if so, what does he say?	
Day 5	Job 15-17	15:1-15; 16:1-17	1	Eliphaz does say something true about human beings in this chapter: explain v. 14 in your own words. With what words or images does Job use to describe how he feels he's being treated by God?	
		15:17-35; 16:18-17:16	2	How does Eliphaz describe the future of one who is wicked? Is it always true that the wicked suffer and the godly prosper? Explain. For what does Job plead in 16:18-21? Is he right to demand this?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 21	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Job 18-19	18:1-12; 19:1-11, 23-29	1	Bildad describe the wicked as walking in darkness: How is this true? Does Job demonstrate that he still has faith in this chapter? And if so, what does he say?	
		18:13-21, 19:12-29	2	Bildad describes the wicked person again. Does any part of his description fit Job? Does that mean that Job is wicked? What is ironic about Job's desire expressed in vv. 23-24? What hope for justice does Job express at the end of this chapter?	
Day 2	Job 20-21	20:1-11; 21:1-17	1	Zophar explains why it is that sometimes the wicked do seem to prosper. What is his explanation? Does Job agree with him? Explain. Have you ever wondered why some people get away with doing bad things? Give an example.	
		20:12-29; 21:17-34	2	What image does Zophar use to explain the temporary enjoyment of sin? Have you ever done something sinful where you felt good at first but later, grew sick about what you'd done? Job doesn't think God's punishment of the wicked, if only reserved for their children but never experienced personally, is sufficient. Why?	
Day 3	Proverbs 21:16-31	21:16-31	1	Why is it important for us not to love pleasure too much (v. 17)? In what ways does seeking after pleasure take us further from God?	
			2	Look at the contrast between vv. 17 and 20. How do we own things but not "love" them? Why is this difference important?	
Day 4	Job 22-24	22:1-11; 23:1-17	1	What false accusations does Eliphaz level against Job? How do you feel when you are falsely accused? What does Job think the outcome would be if he could argue his case with God? Has Job forgotten something about himself and about God? What?	
		22:12-30; 24:1-25	2	When Eliphaz tells Job to "agree with God," what is he asking Job to confess? Could you do that if you were Job? Why or why not? What are some of the sins Job accuses God of overlooking? Do we commit these same sins today? Give examples.	
Day 5	Job 25-31	25:1-6; 26:1-14	1	To what does Bildad compare a human being? Read Psalm 8:3-8. Does the psalmist agree with Bildad? Who is right? Does Job think that we can fully understand God's power and majesty? Why is it that we can't completely understand God?	
		31:1-40	2	With what examples does Job defend his integrity? How has he lived a godly life? Would God expect the same of us today? According to Job, why is it that we sometimes choose to conceal our sin? How would it feel to live your life trying to hide from God and from others?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 22	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Job 32-37	32:1-22; 34:1-12	1	What has Elihu thought about Job's conversation with his three friends up until this point? Why has he waited to speak? Upon what attribute of God does Elihu insist? Has Job accused God of being unjust? Explain.	
		34:21-37; 37:14-24	2	Does Elihu acquit or condemn Job? What does he mean in 34:35? Why is it appropriate to fear God? How does it make you feel that God is above and beyond our understanding? Does this mystery surrounding God challenge you to pursue Him or frustrate you before you've gotten started?	
Day 2	Job 38-39	38:1-41	1	How have the tables turned in this chapter? What point is God making about Himself by all the questions He poses to Job?	
		39:1-30	2	What does it say about God when we declare Him to be Lord of all creation, such as in this chapter? What would happen to our faith if we didn't believe God made the world?	
Day 3	Proverbs 22	22:1-29	1	What do you think it means to have a "good name"? Why do you think God calls us to education and discipline (v. 6, 15)? Why is it important for us to keep wise words with us (vv. 17-18)? Why are wisdom and knowledge important to have in our lives?	
			2	When have you found v. 6 to be true in your own life? Why is it important to have a "good name"? How do we earn a good name? Why is it important for us to keep wise words with us (vv. 17-18)? Why are wisdom and knowledge important to have in our lives?	
Day 4	Proverbs 23	23:1-25	1	What does it mean to practice restraint? Why does God require us to refrain from certain things? What are the reasons given for the commands in v. 10 and v. 13? Do they seem like good reasons to you? According to vv. 15-16, when should parents delight over their children?	
			2	What reasons are given to be cautious and practice restraint with a ruler? When is it important to practice restraint? How does the fear of God undergird vv. 10-14? Why are wisdom and instruction so important for a child's life?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 23	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Job 40-42	40:1-24; 42:1-17	1	Does God find fault with Job? What? What realization does Job make at the end of the book? Has God been just or unjust with Job? Explain.	
Day 2	John 1	1:19-42	1	What did John the Baptist believe he was called to do? How does what happened at the baptism of Christ testify to who He is?	
			2	What did John the Baptist believe he was called to do? How did Jesus demonstrate His being God's Son as He picked His disciples?	
Day 3	John 2	2:1-17	1	What does the miracle of turning water into wine show about who Jesus is? What temple is Jesus referring to in v. 17 when He says, "I will destroy this temple and in three days I will restore it"?	Part 16: Jesus Restores God's Place
			2	How does Mary's approaching Jesus and her instructions to the servants show her understanding of who Jesus was? How is the cleansing of the temple a fulfillment of Old Testament prophesy?	
Day 4	John 3	3:16-36	1	Who does Jesus say is the Son of God, sent to the world to save everyone? According to John the Baptist, who was Jesus?	Part 17: Jesus Reveals God's Kingdom
		3:9-15, 22-36	2	What is the link between Jesus' role in the redemption plan and Moses' lifting up the serpent (see Numbers 21:4-9)? According to John the Baptist, who was Jesus?	
Day 5	Proverbs 24	24:1-25	1	What is wisdom like (vv. 13-14) and what things does it help you do well? Why is integrity so important? What aspects of integrity are discussed here?	
			2	The proverbs proclaim over and over that it is better to be righteous than wicked. What are some reasons given for this? What does v. 27 teach us about proper planning? How does the proverb writer model the type of acute observation that leads to wisdom?	



School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 24	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	John 4	4:7-26, 46-54	1	How does Jesus demonstrate His power as the Son of God with the woman at the well? How did the official demonstrate his faith in God?	
			2	What does it mean to worship in spirit and truth (vv. 21-24)? How did the official demonstrate his faith in God?	
Day 2	John 5	5:19-24	1	In v. 19, Jesus refers to doing God's will. How does He set the example for us to obey God? According to v. 24, how does Jesus say we receive eternal life?	
			2	According to the passage, how does Jesus view His relationship with God the Father? According to v. 24, how does Jesus say we receive eternal life?	
Day 3	John 6	6:1-15, 35, 53-58	1	How did the people respond after being fed by Jesus? Who is the bread of life?	
			2	What OT example did Jesus use to show that "bread" comes from God? What was Jesus referring to when He said, "Eat my flesh and drink my blood" (vv. 53-58)?	
Day 4	John 7	7:25-34	1	To whom did Jesus give credit for His teaching? Why were the officials unable to arrest Jesus?	
			2	To whom did Jesus give credit for His teaching? What is Jesus referring to in vv. 33-34?	
Day 5	Proverbs 25	25:1-28	1	What does the role of a king involve? How should we act before a king, according to Solomon? What advice to the proverbs give for how to relate to different kinds of people? Can you think of an example from your own life?	
			2	Do vv. 6-10 remind you of any teachings of Jesus? What might that teach you? Many of the proverbs address the issue of tact. What does it mean to be tactful in the variety of different situations listed here?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 25	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	John 8:12-59	8:31-36, 58	1	What freedom is Jesus referring to in vv. 31-32? Who is the "Son" referred to in vv. 34-36?	
			2	What freedom is Jesus referring to in vv. 31-32? What does Jesus mean by "I am" in v. 58?	
Day 2	John 9	9:1-7, 13-17, 30-34	1	Why did Jesus say the man was born blind? Why were the Jewish leaders upset by Jesus' healing of the blind man?	Part 18: A Blind Man Sees
			2	Why did Jesus say the man was born blind? Even though the Jewish leaders thought Jesus was a sinner for doing this on the Sabbath, why did the formerly blind man know that Jesus was not (vv. 30-34)?	
Day 3	John 10	10:1-11	1	In Jesus' example, who do the sheep represent? In His example, what does Jesus say about the shepherd?	
			2	Who is Jesus referring to when He talks about those not going in the front of the sheepfold? As His sheep, what are some of the things Jesus says we will do as His followers?	
Day 4	John 11	11:38-44	1	How did Lazarus' death bring glory to God? Who did Jesus pray to when seeking to raise Lazarus from the dead and why did He do that?	Part 19: A Dead Man is Raised to Life
			2	How did Lazarus' death bring glory to God? How does this story show that Jesus was both 100% human and 100% God?	
Day 5	Proverbs 26	26:1-28	1	What is a sluggard and what do these proverbs teach you about this kind of person? What does the sluggard spend his energy doing instead of work (coming up with excuses not to work, sleeping, etc.)? What do these proverbs say about quarrelling and "joking"? What are improper uses of speech?	
			2	Think about the similes in vv. 7-11. How do each of the analogies express something different about the nature of folly? Why is speech so tricky? What does it have the ability to do? What point does v. 27 make for those who think they can get away with deception?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 26	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	John 12	12:1-8, 25	1	Why did Judas want to sell the perfume Mary had used? What did Jesus mean when He said, "Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in the world will keep it for eternal life" (v. 25)?	
			2	How did Mary anointing Jesus' feet with perfume point to Jesus' death and resurrection? What did Jesus mean when He said, "Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in the world will keep it for eternal life" (v. 25)?	
Day 2	John 13	13:12-20, 31-34	1	What was the significance of Jesus washing the feet of the disciples? What was the new commandment given to the disciples and what was the purpose of the commandment?	
			2	What was the significance of Jesus washing the feet of the disciples? Why was this so revolutionary for the disciples?	
Day 3	Proverbs 27	27:1-10	1	How does v. 1 help us think properly about our plans for the future? In what (or whom) should we trust instead of our own plans? (See also James 4:13-17.) Notice how often the word "friend" occurs in this passage. What do we learn here about true friendship?	
			2	What does v. 2 teach us about how we should speak about ourselves and our accomplishments? Why do you think it encourages this? Why is an open rebuke better than hidden love (v. 5)?	
Day 4	John 14	14:1-6, 25-31	1	According to Jesus, who is only the way to Father? What is the help that Jesus promises to each believer to help us keep His commands?	
			2	What is the significance of the promise Jesus offers to us in vv. 13-14 regarding prayer? What is the help that Jesus promises to each believer to help us keep His commands?	
Day 5	John 15	15:1-8, 18-19	1	How does the example of Jesus being the vine, God the vine dresser, and us the branches show the relationship between God, Jesus and us? According to v. 5, what can we accomplish for God on our own?	
			2	How does the example of Jesus being the vine, God the vine dresser, and us the branches show the relationship between God, Jesus and us? Why did Jesus say that the world will hate the disciples?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 27	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	John 16	16:5-24	1	What are some of the roles of the Holy Spirit as talked about in vv. 5-15? Where did Jesus say He was going to go?	
			2	What are some of the roles of the Holy Spirit as talked about in verses 5-15? What was Jesus referring to when He said "A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me again"?	
Day 2	John 17	17:6-19	1	What comfort can the follower of Christ take from Jesus' prayer? According v. 17, what is one way we become more like Christ?	
			2	What comfort can the follower of Christ take from Jesus' prayer? According to v. 4, how did Jesus glorify God? That being said, how do we glorify God?	
Day 3	Proverbs 27	27:11-27	1	Why is it important to consider not only what we say, but when we say it (v. 14)? Look at the analogy in v. 17. How can our friendships and interaction with each other sharpen us and make us more mature in the Lord? What effect do your friendships tend to have on you?	
			2	What does v. 26 teach us about covetousness? (The appetite of our eyes is as unsatiable as the grave.) How does Jesus help us become content with what God has given us? (See Phil. 3:7-11; 4:10-13.) If the crucible is used to test the genuineness of silver and the furnace for gold, then how does the praise that someone receives from others test the genuineness of their work or words (v. 21)?	
Day 4	John 18	18:1-11	1	How is Jesus' power demonstrated during His arrest (v. 6)? How does v. 11 show Jesus' great love for God the Father and for us?	Part 20: Jesus Wears God's Kingly Crown
			2	How is Jesus' power demonstrated during His arrest (v. 6)? How does v. 11 show Jesus' great love for God the Father and for us?	
Day 5	John 19	19:33-42	1	What prophecies were fulfilled in v. 24 and vv. 33-37? Who was the person who came and prepared Jesus body for burial?	Part 20: Jesus Wears God's Kingly Crown
			2	What prophecies were fulfilled in v. 24 and vv. 33-37? How was Jesus buried?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 28	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	John 20	20:1-18	1	To whom did Jesus appear first? What were some of the characteristics of Jesus' new body?	Part 22: A Brand-New Day
		20:11-29	2	Who did Mary think Jesus was when He appeared to her outside the tomb? What did Jesus say about those who have believed, even though they have not physically seen the risen Christ?	
Day 2	John 21	21:1-8, 15-19	1	What did Jesus say to Peter on the shore of the lake? How did Jesus restore His relationship with Peter after Peter had just denied Him three times?	Part 22: A Brand-New Day
			2	How many fish did the disciples catch before and after they followed Jesus' instructions? How did Jesus restore His relationship with Peter after Peter had just denied Him three times?	
Day 3	Proverbs 28:1-10	28:1-10	1	What do we learn about the proper conduct of "the poor" (vv. 3, 6)? Several proverbs in this passage mention God's rule or "law." What do we learn about those who keep it and those who forsake it? Why should we keep God's law?	
			2	According to v. 5, what does it take to understand "justice" (that is, doing what is right and making right what is wrong)? When it comes to helping out the poor, what guiding values do we learn in v. 8?	
Day 4	James 1	1:19-25	1	According to James, what should be our response when we experience trials? What does James say to do if you are lacking wisdom?	
			2	According to James, why is important not only to hear God's word but to do it? How does James define "true religion"?	
Day 5	James 2	2:14-26	1	What does the Bible say about making distinctions in the church between the rich and the poor? What is the "royal law" according to Scripture?	
			2	How much of the law are you held accountable for if you fail in just one area? How should genuine faith in the Lord be evident in our lives?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 29	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	James 3	3:1-12	1	Why do you think James says that those who teach will be judged with greater strictness? What do the three illustrations about the tongue have in common?	
			2	Why is how we use our tongue such an important part of our spiritual life (v. 9)? What does James say about wisdom from above? How is that different from worldly wisdom?	
Day 2	James 4	4:1-10	1	What are the two reasons why we ask but "do not have"? If you choose to be a friend of the world, to whom are you choosing to be an enemy?	
			2	How should we respond to our sin and the influences of the world in our lives? What does God say in this chapter about judging our neighbors?	
Day 3	Proverbs 28:11-28	28:11-28	1	According to vv. 13-14, what must we do when we sin? What are the results of doing this? What are the consequences of concealing our sin? What does v. 19 tell us about the importance of working hard at what God has given us to do?	
			2	According to v. 23, which way of speaking to others about themselves is more likely to result in true favor in their eyes? What does v. 26 tell us about trusting in our own minds? What do we need in order to know what is good and to live in such a way that honors God?	
Day 4	James 5	5:7-11, 16	1	What will happen one day to all the wealth in the world? Verses 7-11 encourage us to be patient. What are we waiting for, and how shall we live in the meantime?	
			2	James makes a reference to the steadfastness of which Old Testament person? Why do you think he does this? What does the Bible say about the prayer of a righteous person?	
Day 5	1 Peter 1	1:3-9, 13-16	1	To whom is Peter writing this epistle? What kind of inheritance awaits those who have been born again? What does life typically look like as we wait for that inheritance?	
			2	Who was at work in the Old Testament prophets giving them the ability to speak about days still in the future? What does that mean about how God put the Bible together? On what shall we set our hope during this time? How should this hope shape the way we live?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 30	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	1 Peter 2	2:9-12	1	Chapter 2 describes believers as "living stones." In a construction there is one stone that is the most important. Which stone is it? If the church is this great building/temple, who is this special stone? What do vv. 9-12 tell us about who we are and what mission God has given us? How might our Christian conduct affect others around us?	
			2	There are two ways in which we can suffer: one honorable and one dishonorable. What reasons are given for each kind of suffering? Who is our ultimate example in suffering for what is right? How did He respond in the midst of suffering?	
Day 2	1 Peter 3	3:8-9	1	How did the women in the Old Testament make themselves beautiful? How can we learn about true beauty from them? In what ways will our good behavior "put to shame" those who accuse Christians?	
			2	How did Christ suffer, and what did His suffering accomplish? Though Christ died, He was raised. Where is Christ presently?	
Day 3	Proverbs 29	29:1-21	1	What does v. 1 teach us about the importance of learning from those who correct us? What are the differences between the wise and the foolish?	
			2	In what sorts of situations might you apply some of what you have learned about wisdom and righteousness? What is lacking when people "throw off restraint" (v. 18). Why do you think this is so? How does God's prophetic revelation and law help us live orderly and righteously?	
Day 4	1 Peter 4	4:7-11	1	How does Christ's suffering function as an example to us? What can love accomplish in these times of evil?	
			2	Why should Christians not be surprised when evil comes upon them? To whom do we entrust ourselves in times of trial?	
Day 5	1 Peter 5	5:6-11	1	How should a leader/shepherd of God's people take care of his church? What virtue is of supreme importance for God's people? (humility)	
			2	How will God respond to His people who are experiencing temporary suffering? How are the testimonies of other believers a source of hope for us in our trials?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 31	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	2 Peter 1	1:3-11	1	In what way does God give us the strength we need for life and godliness? Paul lists several virtues in vv. 5-7. What are they? What difference will these virtues make in our lives according to vv. 8-11?	
			2	How do we know the things that Peter is saying are not just clever stories but the truth? Peter says the things he is reminding them of are things they already know. Why do you think he is bothering to write these things again?	
Day 2	2 Peter 2	2:1-10	1	Who secretly introduces destructive heresies? How do we guard against this? How does Peter describe the lives of the false teachers?	
			2	Peter tells us that both Noah and Lot were rescued by God from wicked places. What does this tell us about how God treats His people? What will happen to the false teachers and their followers, those who despise authority and indulge in the flesh?	
Day 3	Proverbs 30	30:1-33	1	What do vv. 5-6 teach us about God's word? What do they warn against? What examples of wisdom do we see in nature according to the sage (vv. 24-28)? What do we learn from them?	
			2	Verses 11-14 describe different kinds of people. What do they all have in common (pride)? According to v. 20, what is one of the core problems with people who are unfaithful to their marriage covenants (no sense of guilt or acknowledgement of sin)? What do vv. 32-33 bid us do if we have been foolish, proud, or planning evil?	
Day 4	2 Peter 3	3:8-18	1	Why does Jesus allow time before His second return? What does this chapter teach you about God's outlook on time? Why do you think the Lord is described as coming as a thief when He returns again?	
			2	How is heaven described in this chapter (v. 13)? How should we as Christians be found at Christ's return? What does that mean for how we are to live in the meantime?	
Day 5	1 John 1	1:5-10	1	What is John referring to when he talks about the "word of life" being manifested or made known? Who is the Word of Life?	
			2	What do we learn in vv. 5-10 about who God is and how we should interact with Him? What must we do to be cleansed from all unrighteousness?	



School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 32	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	1 John 2	2:21-25	1	John is writing this letter so that they don't sin. But if they do, what has God provided for them and for us to help us in our sin? What does John say about hypocrisy? How much importance does John place on the actions of people?	
			2	John talks about a "new commandment" to love. Whom does John want us to love? What does he not want us to love? What should be the Christian attitude toward the "Son" in respect to the "Father"?	
Day 2	1 John 3	3:23-24	1	What do you learn about love in this chapter? How is God's love expressed to us? How are we in turn to express love to God? To others? What does v. 2 tell us to expect to happen to us when Christ returns? What difference should that hope make in our daily lives now according to v. 3?	
			2	What emphasis does John place on actions, and how do they identify where a person's loyalties lie? What two commandments does John clearly outline at the end of the chapter?	
Day 3	Proverbs 31:1-9	31:1-9	1	In this advice from Lemuel's mother, what are some of the key threats to being a good king? Do we see these being a problem for some of Israel's kings? What do vv. 8-9 teach us about one of the key roles of a king? How did Israel's rulers tend to do with this part of their job?	
			2	Why do you think God wants rulers to defend the rights of the poor and needy? How does our world usually treat them? How does God treat them (Deut. 10:17-18)? How can we as God's servants take up His concern for the afflicted, destitute, poor, and needy?	
Day 4	1 John 4	4:7-21	1	Can there be a good kind of skepticism? What is the importance of loving?	
			2	What is the result of God's love being perfected in us? What is the relationship between loving God and loving our brothers and sisters in the Lord?	
Day 5	1 John 5	5:1-21	1	What is the result of believing in Christ and being born of God? If we have the Son, what else does John say we have?	
			2	Why did John write this letter? Can you find a verse that sums it up? What does the last verse mean in respect to the book as a whole?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 33	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	2 John, 3 John	2 John 1:7-9; 3 John 1:11	1	Notice how often the word "truth" occurs in 2 John. What is the importance of truth in this book? Against what should we guard ourselves and our children? (2 John)	
			2	What is John's greatest joy according to verse 4 of 3 John? What does John encourage readers to imitate in v. 11? Why?	
Day 2	Jude	Jude 20-25	1	Verses 3-19 give warning against false teachers in the church. What are these false teachers teaching (v. 4)? In v. 5, who does it say saved a people out of the land of Egypt? What does this teach us about our triune God?	
			2	How does Jude encourage the believers to persevere in their faith (vv. 20-21)? What is Jude's advice for helping people who have been influenced by false teachers and are doubting (v. 22)?	
Day 3	Proverbs 31:10-31	31:10-31	1	What are the key characteristics of the godly woman the writer describes? Why do you think the author contrasts physical beauty (v. 30) with the fear of the Lord?	
			2	What are some of the ways an "excellent wife" cares for her husband? Her family? How do the values displayed here compare or contrast to what the world thinks about wives and women?	
Day 4	Revelation 1:1-8 (Prologue)	1:1-8	1	According to vv. 1-3, where does this "revelation" come from? How was it given? Why was it given? How is God the Father described in this passage? God the Son? God the Spirit?	Part 26: The Very Good Ending
			2	What do we learn about Jesus' ministry in vv. 5-6? Is the thought of Christ's coming a joy to you?	
Day 5	Revelation 1:9 - 3:22 (Vision of Christ)	1:17-20; 3:14-22	1	What does Jesus say about Himself? How is this a comfort to persecuted Christians (1:17-20)? How is the church in Laodicea described (3:14-22)?	
			2	How do you think the church in Laodicea had become so blind to its true spiritual conditions (3:14-22)? What encouragements or warnings do the letters to the seven churches have in common?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 34	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Revelation 4:1 - 5:14 (Vision of the throne of God)	4:1-5:10	1	What does John see first when he looks into heaven (4:1-6)? What do we learn from the creatures and the elders about worship (4:7-11)?	
			2	Who does John hear is able to open the scroll? What does John see when he turns to look? Who is this figure (5:1-6)? Why is the Lamb worthy to open the scroll? Why is he worshiped alongside God the Father (5:6-14)?	
Day 2	Revelation 6:1 - 8:5 (Vision of the 'seal' judgements)	6:12-17; 7:9-17	1	As we read about the 'seals', what do they all point to? (Judgement from the Lamb.) What imagery is used to describe these judgements?	
			2	In ch. 7, who is protected from the judgment of the seals and how? Before the final seal in ch. 8, what great hope is given to the people of God in 7:9-17?	
Day 3	Revelation 8:6 - 11:19 (Vision of 'trumpet' judgements, comfort)	8:6 - 9:21; 11:15-19 (*)	1	What similarities do you see between the seven seals and the seven trumpets? Contrast the first four trumpets with the fifth and sixth. Why do you think so much more detail is given with the latter two?	
			2	What does the angel with the little scroll say will happen with the seventh trumpet (10:5-7)? What do we learn from the seventh trumpet about the final establishment of God's kingdom (11:15-19)?	
Day 4	Revelation 12:1 - 14:20 (Vision of male child, comfort)	12:7-12; 14:6-13	1	How does the vision of the dragon and the woman help us understand the spiritual battle that went on during Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection (12:1-6, 13-17)? The spiritual battle continues today. By what power are the saints of God able to overcome the dragon (12:11)?	
			2	What are the dragon and the beasts trying to do? Will they be successful? How does John want readers to respond to these visions (13:9-10; 14:12)?	
Day 5	Revelation 15:1 - 16:21 (Vision of the 'bowl' judgements)	15:1-4; 16:1-21	1	What is the comfort that John gives to believers in the first four verses of ch. 15? What similarities do you see between the seven bowls and the earlier seals and trumpets?	
			2	As John describes the final battle with the sixth bowl, what warning does Jesus give us in the midst of that vision (16:15)? What is your own personal reaction to reading this vision of judgment?	

School Day	Passage	Selected Portions	Cycle	Year 4 Discussion Questions - Week 35	Big Picture Story Bible
Day 1	Revelation 17:1 - 19:10 (Visions of Babylon)	18:21-19:8 (*)	1	These chapters discuss the judgement on "Babylon." What do you think that refers to? How quickly is God's judgment going to come on Babylon? How powerful does Babylon look now in light of that judgment?	
			2	Notice how many times "no more" or "never again" appears in 18:21-24. What does this tell us about the whole system of godless luxury and lust that "Babylon" represents? What truths about God's character are acknowledged in 19:1-5?	
Day 2	Revelation 19:11 - 20:15 (Vision of Christ's return)	19:11-16; 20:11-15	1	How is Christ's second coming different than His first coming (19:11-21)? How is Jesus described in ch. 19?	
			2	What is the final end for Satan and his beasts? What happens to our bodies just before God's final judgment? What happens to those who denied Jesus after the verdict is given?	
Day 3	Revelation 21:1 - 22:5 (Vision of new heaven and new earth)	21:1-26	1	This chapter paints a picture of the "new heaven and new earth," what we often call heaven. Even though we need not assume all the details are literal, what does this teach us about the spiritual realities of the New Jerusalem? What is the great comfort and hope given in 21:3-4? How does that help us face trials today?	
			2	What are the differences between Babylon and the New Jerusalem? The great prostitute and the bride of Christ? Why do you think there is no temple on the new earth? What does that mean about where God's presence is?	
Day 4	Revelation 22:6-21 (Epilogue)	22:6-21	1	What words of Christ are repeated three times? Even though he hasn't come yet, how should these words of Christ change the way we think, act, and pray?	
			2	What phrases does Christ use to describe himself? What does that teach us about him? How does this passage describe the book of Revelation in particular and the Bible in general? What does it say about adding to it or taking away from it?	